



2022

## Project Implementation Report (PIR)



*Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.*

### **Forest Landscape Restoration in the Mayaga**

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## A. Basic Data

Project Information	
UNDP PIMS ID	5702
GEF ID	9385
Title	Forest Landscape Restoration in the Mayaga region
Country(ies)	Rwanda, Rwanda
UNDP-NCE Technical Team	Energy, Infrastructure, Transport and Technology
Management Arrangements	CO Support to NIM
Project Implementing Partner	Government
Joint Agencies	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
Project Type	Full Size
Implementation Status	2nd PIR
GEF Fiscal Year	FY22
Trust Fund	GEF Trust Fund

Project Description
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>

Project Contacts	
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GEF Operational Focal Point	Juliet Kabera (julietkabera3@gmail.com)
Project Implementing Partner	Remy SONGA (rsonga@rema.gov.rw)
Other Partners	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>

**B. Overall ratings**

Overall DO Rating	Highly Satisfactory
Overall IP Rating	Satisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	low

## C. Development Objective Progress

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

Description					
Objective					
To secure biodiversity and carbon benefits while simultaneously strengthening the resilience of livelihoods, through forest landscape restoration and upscaling clean technologies in selected Districts of Southern Province					
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2021	Cumulative progress since project start
Indicator 1: Number of new gender-responsive legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks in place in the four districts for the conservation of forests and biodiversity (via FLR)	No FLR coordination mechanism in any of the four districts; by law, only forest exceeding 2 ha need a permit to cut trees ; national laws on forests not well understood by local communities because none available in local languages;	4 FLR coordination committees established under the JADF; area of land requiring a permit to cut trees reduces to 1.5 ha;	4 FLR coordination committees established under the JADF fully functional and exit strategy has secured funds for sustainability of at least four more years.	4 thematic groups on FLR under the JADF have been established, one in each district of project interventions as FLR coordination committees.  The thematic groups are gender balanced, and helped in plantation of new trees and forest, conservation of Biodiversity and forest among other roles. The thematic meeting was held and meet as stakeholder working groups in each district.	The 4 thematic groups on FLR formed under the JADF and on gender balance have served as FLR coordination committees.  The thematic groups have continued to help in project implementation within landscaping interventions (plantation fruits trees and trees and soil erosion control) supporting interventions (distribution of improved cook stoves and livestock) , conservation of Biodiversity and forest among other roles. The thematic meetings were held quarterly and they met as stakeholder working groups in each district.
Mandatory indicator 2: Number of people benefitting financially from	Various to be established during	179,050 additional - At least 50 tree	-362,144 additional - At least 100 tree	During this reporting period, as achievements of this first year of	During this reporting period, as achievements of those two years

<p>FLR initiatives (fruit/tree cropping and one cow per family initiative, improved cookstoves) : - GEF Core Indicator 11</p>	<p>year one and reported in the first PIR (number of farmers engaged in plantation farming under contract; number participating in FFS, number engaged in consolidated tree crop farming as cash crops, number benefiting from one cow per family and consolidated tree crop farming as improved cookstoves; number using improved cookstoves;</p>	<p>famers under contract; at least 25,000 participating in FFS, 1,000 engaged in consolidated tree crop farming as cash crops, 3,000 benefiting from one cow per family and 150,000 using improved cookstoves (48.3:51.7 male to female ratio on gender for all numbers)</p>	<p>famers under contract; at least 50,000 participating in FFS, 5,000 engaged in consolidated tree crop farming as cash crops, 10,000 benefiting from one cow per family and 300,000 using improved cookstoves (48.3:51.7 male to female ratio on gender for all numbers)</p>	<p>project implementation, additional (new) 93,634 people benefitted financially from FLR initiatives and among them 55,000 people were provided with energy saving improved cookstoves (49% of them are female) from the project. 15,878 beneficiaries have been employed in forest landscape restoration in the Mayaga region while 13,227 people received grafted fruits trees from the project and 500 of them are engaged in consolidated tree crop farming as cash crop and 9,529 people are participating in FFS.</p>	<p>(2020-2021 and 2021-2022) of project implementation, additional 113,852 new people to the first number of 93,634 people and in total 207,486 people benefitted financially from FLR initiatives and among new people 50,000 people were provided with energy saving improved cookstoves (47.5% of them are female) from the project. 29,176 beneficiaries have been employed in forest landscape restoration in the Mayaga region while 5,500 people received grafted fruit trees from the project and 2,500 of them are engaged in consolidated tree crop farming as cash crop and 400 people are participating in FFS.</p>
<p>Mandatory indicator 3: Tons of carbon mitigated - GEF Core Indicator 6</p>	<p>To be determined in Year one, reported in the first PIR</p>	<p>At least 2,060,000 tCO2e</p>	<p>At least 4,700,825 tCO2e</p>	<p>The measure of the amount of CO2e was not conducted in this reporting period.</p>	<p>The measure of the amount of CO2e was not conducted in this reporting period however track tool is under development.</p>
<p>The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:</p>	<p><b>On track</b></p>				
<p>Evidence uploaded:</p>	<p>YES</p>				
<p><b>Outcome 1</b>  <b>Forest restoration plans with institutional and legislation frameworks guiding afforestation, natural resources management and agriculture, covering 263,270 ha in 4 districts</b></p>					

Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2021	Cumulative progress since project start
Indicator 4: Number of FLR plans guiding restoration at landscape level	0	2, covering at least 96,000 ha;	4, covering at least 263,270 ha;	2 FLR plans guiding restoration at landscape level were designed and distributed among stakeholders. In total, 131,635 ha were restored by the project in Ruhango and Nyanza Districts.	2 FLR plans guiding restoration at landscape level of 2 areas of 131,635 ha are under design in Kamonyi and Gisagara Districts and they will be distributed among stakeholders for being implemented in this coming year.  NB: Both plans were planned beforehand to cover a specific area (131,635 ha), hence the replication of the exact ha number but for different localities.
Indicator 5: Definitions of SFM and FLR clarified in the National Forest Policy (2018)	SFM and FLR definitions clear at international level, not clear in the National Forest Policy	Recommendations for policy amendment to clarify SFM and FLR definitions available in an addendum to the National Forest Policy	Addendum clarifying SFM and FLR definition part of the National Forest Policy (2018).	In this first year of the project implementation, this activity was not implemented. Nothing was done for this indicator yet.	The clear definitions of SFM and FLR are being worked under ongoing design of FLR Plans guiding restoration at landscape level in Kamonyi and Gisagara Districts. Clear recommendations are also being formulated and will be out by this coming year.
The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	On track				
Evidence uploaded:	YES				

**Outcome 2**  
**Individual and institutional capacities enhancement for planning and implementing gender sensitive forest landscape restoration strategies supported by knowledge management**

Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2021	Cumulative progress since project start
Indicator 6: Aggregated Capacity Score using UNDP Capacity Scoring system for MINILAF, Rwanda Water and Forestry Authority; MINAGRI; Agriculture and NRM departments of Gisagara, Nyanza, Ruhango and Kamonyi districts.	Aggregated score is 36.5 (systemic - 41.67; institutional - 31.25; individual - 36.46)(Annex 2, Capacity Scores)	Aggregated score at least 45, increase can be attributed to the areas specific to the project	Aggregated score at least 57, increase can be attributed to the areas specific to the project	No target was set in this year for this indicator, however the trainings have started for project beneficiaries on improved techniques of tree and husbandry. The intensive trainings related to tree and land husbandry techniques and forests monitoring for staff from different institutions are planned	During this reporting period, through the partnership with hired Civil Society Organization to undertake community capacity building, project beneficiaries (952) were trained on different topics such as environment management and community resiliency on climate changes; climate smart agriculture; tree nursery establishment. Technical staff from different institutions including districts beneficiaries also were trained on tree and land husbandry techniques and forests monitoring. Those trainings improves their level of maintenance of implemented forest landscape restoration interventions in the Amayaga region.
Indicator 7: Number of key project lessons and strategies for FLR, SLM/SFM, land consolidation and clean household and institutional energy documented, disseminated and adopted at local and national levels	None	Initial project results and lessons learned shared through website (one news article per month – at least one/year on gender issues; at least 5 completed technical reports available online);	All project results and lessons learned shared through website with one news article per month – at least one/year on gender issues; at least 15 completed technical reports available online.	During this reporting period two news articles were put on the REMA website.  Communications and outreach activities were organized on national and private media house. The Project's feasibility study was completed. The baseline was updated and an M&E plan was designed. In this reporting period, the number of hectares to be restored in each intervention area were determined through an adequate	During this reporting period 5 news articles were put on the REMA website and many other articles were written on the project through different media platforms, such as top africanews website, IGIHE.com, Kigali today website and the New Times.  Communications and outreach activities were organized with national and private media houses.  The National Technical Advisory Committee workshop was organized for the project and as a result, the

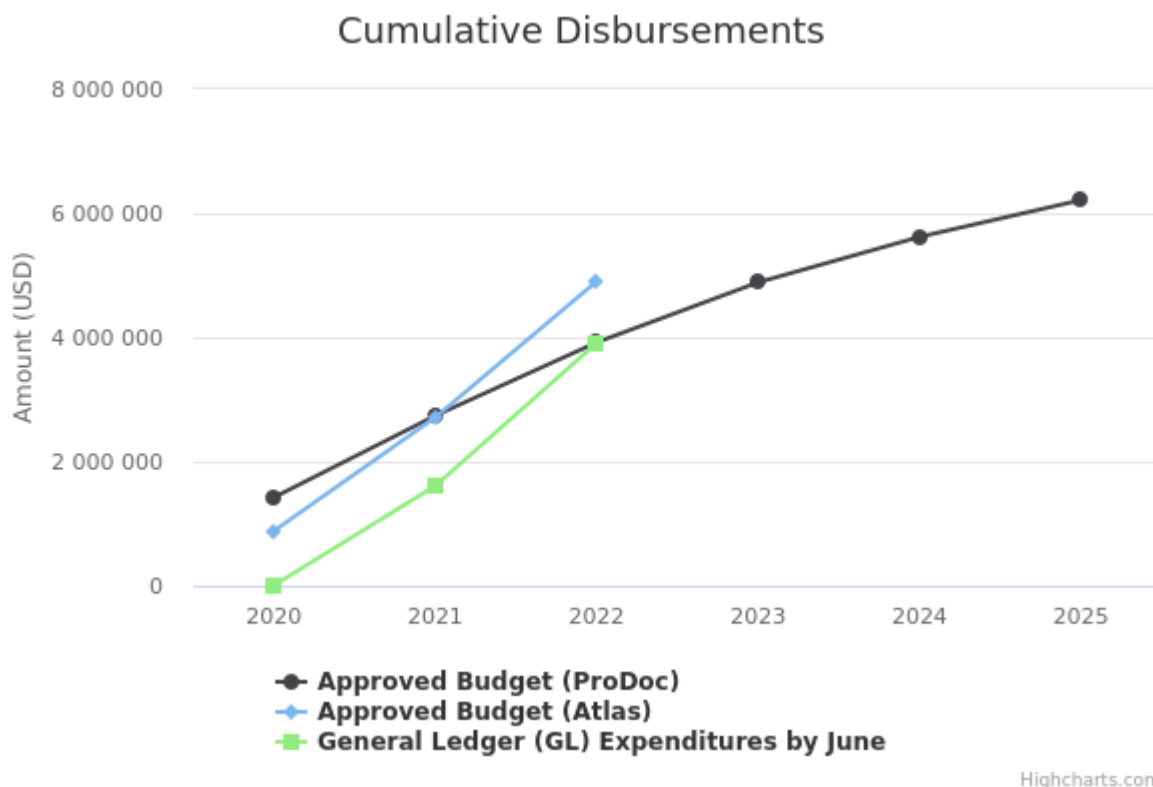
				participatory and gender inclusive process.	number of hectares to be restored in each intervention area was determined through an adequate participatory and gender inclusive process. Lessons learnt were shared to all project stakeholders and this has highly improved the level of planning and good implementation of project activities.
Indicator 8: Funding mobilized for sustaining implementation of FLR plans post project	None	The project exit strategy completed and initial fundraising mobilize up to a million USD	The project exit strategy completed and initial fundraising mobilize enough funds for at least 4 additional years of FLR plans implementation	The local communities were mobilized to plant trees through community work, and in-kind contribution from the Districts beneficiaries of the project was received by the project.	The local communities were mobilized to maintain interventions already made, for their sustainability, through community work. In-kind contributions from the Districts beneficiaries of the project was received by the project.
<b>The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:</b>	<b>On track</b>				
<b>Evidence uploaded:</b>	YES				
<b>Outcome 3</b>					
<b>Implementation of FLR plans secures 555 ha of natural forests, puts 300 ha of forests under participatory forest management, establishes 1,000 ha of plantations under the New Forest Company through co-finance, increases productivity of agriculture and plantation forests on 25,000 ha and reduces wood consumption by at least 25%</b>					
<b>Description of Indicator</b>	<b>Baseline Level</b>	<b>Midterm target level</b>	<b>End of project target level</b>	<b>Level at 30 June 2021</b>	<b>Cumulative progress since project start</b>
Indicator 9: Area of High Conservation Value forest loss avoided - GEF Core Indicator 4.1	354 ha of the 555 ha forest is currently Forest Reserve; there are no Participatory	Restoration of the 555 ha of natural forest started: Nomination file for the 354 ha Forest	Restoration of the 555 ha of natural forest advanced: Nomination file for the 354 ha Forest	In this reporting period, community-level awareness campaigns for enhancement of management of 354 ha of Kibirizi-Muyira (a natural forest in the project's interventions areas )	As evidenced from the project baseline study (2021), the forest cover in Amayaga region in agro-ecosystems, buffer zones and hilltops is totaling 35,950ha, of which



	<p>Forest Management agreements and levels of degradation of the whole 555 ha forest are high (to be confirmed during inception)</p>	<p>Reserve completed upgrading it to PA IUCN Category IV status, with business management plans (354 ha); At least 5 Participatory Forest Management agreements completed and under implementation</p>	<p>Reserve submitted to Cabinet upgrading it to PA IUCN Category IV status, with business management plans (354 ha); At least 10 Participatory Forest Management agreements completed and under implementation</p>	<p>were organized. This awareness raising activities contributed to reducing the intensity of human activities in the natural forest.</p>	<p>34,343ha are forests plantation. In this reporting period, over 9,772 ha of landscapes have been additionally added by the project under sustainable land management in production systems and for recovery of the ecosystems which were degraded by plantation of different tree species and grasses and with creation of ditches as erosion control measures.</p>
<p>Indicator 10: Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems - GEF Core Indicator 4.3</p>	<p>Table 7 gives basic statistics of land under soil conservation and irrigation while Table 2 shows land under plantation. However, these statistics are not specific to the SLM/SFM interventions the project will undertake. These statistics will be refined in year 1 and reported in the first PIR.</p>	<p>Additional 10,800 (10,000 ha under FFS, 500 ha of plantations, 100 ha hilltop forests replanted with indigenous species and cleared of Lantana camara, At least 200 ha put under new or rehabilitated terraces with at least 20% increase in average crop yields)</p>	<p>Additional 26,300 (25,000 ha under SLM/FFS, 1,000 ha of plantations, 300 ha hilltop forests replanted with indigenous species and cleared of Lantana camara, 1,000 ha consolidated land with commercial tree crops, at least 500 ha put under new or rehabilitated terraces with at least 25% increase in average crop yields)</p>	<p>The results for forest management in Mayaga, as evidenced from a recent concluded project baseline study (2021), the forest cover in Amayaga region in agro-ecosystems and buffer zones and hilltops is totaling 35,950ha, of which 34,343ha are forest plantation. In this reporting period, over 4,820ha of landscapes have been additionally put by the project under sustainable land management in production systems and for recovery of the ecosystems which were degraded by plantation of different tree species and grasses and with creation of ditches as erosion control measures .</p>	<p>As evidenced from a project baseline study (2021), the forest cover in Amayaga region in agro-ecosystems and buffer zones and hilltops is totaling 35,950ha, of which 34,343ha are forest plantation. In this reporting period, 4,952 Ha (2021-2022)(9,772 ha since the start of the project), of afforestation woodlots, roadsides protection, complete agroforestry and river buffer zones protection for landscapes restoration has been additionally put under sustainable land management in production systems and for recovery of the ecosystems which were degraded by plantation of different tree species and grasses and with creation of ditches as erosion control measures .</p>
<p>The progress of the objective/outcome described as:</p>	<p><b>On track</b></p>				

<b>Evidence uploaded:</b>	YES
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## D. Implementation Progress



Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc):	62.96%
Cumulative GL delivery against expected delivery as of this year:	99.78%
Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June:	3,912,267

### Key Financing Amounts

PPG Amount	200,000
GEF Grant Amount	6,213,538
Co-financing	26,493,366

### Key Project Dates

Project duration	72 months
PIF Approval Date	May 23, 2017
CEO Endorsement Date	Aug 6, 2019
Project Document Signature Date (project start date):	Dec 9, 2019

Date of Inception Workshop	Oct 20, 2020
First Disbursement Date	May 8, 2020
Expected Date of Mid-term Review	Aug 6, 2022
Actual Date of Mid-term Review	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation	Sep 9, 2025
Original Planned Closing Date	Dec 9, 2025
Revised Planned Closing Date	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>

**Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (30 June 2021 to 1 July 2022)**

2022-01-21

2021-08-20

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

The project is being implemented as it has been planned in accordance with seasons no delays. As per comments on COVID-19, The project was able to continue its interventions under COVID-19 restrictions by facilitating the vaccination against COVID-19 to ensure the health of project labor forces as well as its beneficiaries.

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

During this reporting period, and since the project started, the work with the IP has been going efficiently and effectively. Therefore, the way of managing the project's implementation performance from the Country Office's side has simply been continuous, open communication with the IP. The CO is carefully following the delivery and alerting the IP in time if we see a risk of them not delivering as planned. The same goes for key implementation milestones of the project. Follow-up calls and meetings with the IP on the implementation status of activities are being carried out.

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

Given the project's high implementation performance, there is no specific measure suggested.

## E. Project Governance

Dates of Project Board Meetings during reporting period (1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022). Please also upload all meeting minutes using the FILE LIBRARY button.
2022-01-21
2021-08-20

## F. Ratings and Overall Assessments

Role	2022 Development Objective Progress Rating	2022 Implementation Progress Rating
UNDP-NCE Technical Adviser	Highly Satisfactory	Satisfactory
UNDP Country Office Programme Officer	Highly Satisfactory	Satisfactory

Role	2022 Overall Assessment
UNDP-NCE Technical Adviser	<p>The Objective of this project is to "secure biodiversity and carbon benefits while simultaneously strengthening the resilience of livelihoods, through forest landscape restoration and upscaling clean technologies in selected Districts of Southern Province" of Rwanda.</p> <p>This is the third PIR. The project built on a robust first year of implementation and this year again has made some material progress towards its objectives, which supports a rating of Highly Satisfactory in terms of development objectives progress.</p> <p>Outcome #1 ("Forest restoration plans with institutional and legislative frameworks guiding afforestation, natural resources management and agriculture, covering 263,270 ha in 4 districts") is on track, with an additional two remaining plans for Forest Landscape Restoration ("FLR") designed and distributed that clearly define FLR.</p> <p>Outcome #2 ("Individual and institutional capacities enhancement for planning and implementing gender-sensitive forest landscape restoration strategies supported by knowledge management") is advanced, development of Knowledge management plan for FLR Practices in Rwanda that is helping in implementation of ongoing project and designing of new projects regarding ecosystem recovery. As mentioned in capacity assessment in the green Amayaga project (FLR Mayaga project) area of intervention mid-term review the aggregate score was upgraded from baseline of 36.5 now it was evaluated at 59.85 in March 2023.</p> <p>Outcome #3 ("Implementation of FLR plans secures 555 ha of natural forests, puts 300 ha of forests under participatory forest management, establishes 1,000 ha of plantations under the New Forest Company through co-finance, increases the productivity of agriculture and plantation forests on 25,000 ha and reduces wood consumption by at least 25%") is on track. The Forest Landscape Restoration in Mayaga Region project implementation progress within this last three years, the project is making steady progress towards its objectives through various landscape restoration interventions. These interventions include planting trees in bare soil areas of the top hills (Afforestation Woodlot), protecting roadsides (Afforestation roadsides) with a mix of ornamental, agroforestry, and forestry trees, implementing agroforestry practices in agricultural areas (5 complete agroforestry), protecting river buffer zones, and improving livelihoods through the distribution of fruits and monitoring of distributed livestock and improved</p>

	<p>cook stoves to ensure they are contributing the project achievement. Additionally, the project provides training to enhance the skills and knowledge of beneficiaries in different topics for instance climate smart agriculture, forest management and forest seedlings production (Nursery establishment), aligning with the project's main aim.</p> <p>The implementation of these interventions is carried out in collaboration with Rwanda Environmental Management Authority (REMA) and various government institutions such as Rwanda Forestry Authority (RFA), Rwanda Governance Board (RGB), Districts beneficiaries and APEFA as a Civil Society qualified in community capacity building. These partnerships ensure that the project interventions meet quality standards and adhere to regulations. The engagement of these stakeholders has greatly contributed to the project's achievements.</p> <p>Efforts have been made to raise awareness and enhance project visibility through numerous awareness campaigns and the distribution of promotional materials. These initiatives have resulted in significant improvements in disseminating project information.</p> <p>In conclusion, with the ongoing progress and collaboration with stakeholders, the project aims to achieve its objectives within the designated timeline.</p>
)	<p>The Forest Landscape Restoration in the Mayaga Region Project aims to "secure biodiversity and carbon benefits while simultaneously strengthening the resilience of livelihoods, through forest landscape restoration and upscaling clean technologies in selected Districts of Southern Province". During this reporting period, the activities implemented and the progress reported illustrates that the project continues to work towards the objective of the project, with new activities introduced such as the distribution of livestock. The activities that have been ongoing since project start are continuing to be implemented in more areas, and trainings proceed for deeper and more wide spread knowledge. This shows that project implementation methods are working in a successful manner. The collaboration between the CO and the IP has worked smoothly and activities are on track. Therefore the country office is satisfied with the project implementation, as well as the communication done so far for visibility of the project, as shown in the "KM &amp; Communications" section.</p>
<b>Project Manager/Coordinator</b>	<p>The Forest Landscape Restoration in Mayaga Region project implementation progress within this last three years, the project is making steady progress towards its objectives through various landscape restoration interventions. These interventions include planting trees in bare soil areas of the top hills (Afforestation Woodlot), protecting roadsides (Afforestation roadsides) with a mix of ornamental, agroforestry, and forestry trees, implementing agroforestry practices in agricultural areas (complete agroforestry), protecting river buffer zones, and improving livelihoods through the distribution of fruits and monitoring of distributed livestock and improved cook stoves to ensure they are contributing the project achievement. Additionally, the project provides training to enhance the skills and knowledge of beneficiaries in different topics for instance climate smart</p>

	<p>agriculture, forest management and forest seedlings production (Nursery establishment), aligning with the project's main aim.</p> <p>The implementation of these interventions is carried out in collaboration with Rwanda Environmental Management Authority (REMA) and various government institutions such as Rwanda Forestry Authority (RFA), Rwanda Governance Board (RGB), Districts beneficiaries and APEFA as a Civil Society qualified in community capacity building. These partnerships ensure that the project interventions meet quality standards and adhere to regulations. The engagement of these stakeholders has greatly contributed to the project's achievements.</p> <p>Efforts have been made to raise awareness and enhance project visibility through numerous awareness campaigns and the distribution of promotional materials. These initiatives have resulted in significant improvements in disseminating project information.</p> <p>In conclusion, with the ongoing progress and collaboration with stakeholders, the project aims to achieve its objectives within the designated timeline.</p>
<b>GEF Operational Focal point</b>	<p>The progress of implementation and achievements reported during this reporting period for this Forest Landscape Restoration in the Mayaga Region Project (Green Amayaga Project) aiming at securing biodiversity and carbon benefits while simultaneously strengthening the resilience of livelihoods, through forest landscape restoration and upscaling clean technologies in Kamonyi, Ruhango, Nyanza and Gisagara Districts of Southern Province show that the project is on track and continues to work towards the intended objective. The newly introduced and implemented activities such as the provision of livestock to households of project beneficiaries will highly contribute to their agriculture productivity and boost livelihoods. The forest landscape restoration activities that have been ongoing since project start including provision of energy-efficient cooking stoves to reduce deforestation are continuing to be implemented in more areas and contribute to the restoration of Amayaga region. The partnership with a Civil Society Organization for offering trainings to project beneficiaries during this reporting period contributes to community capacity building and sustainability of project interventions. This shows that project implementation methods are working in a successful manner. Therefore, the project implementation is on track and we are satisfied with the good progress of the project.</p>
<b>Project Implementing Partner</b>	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
<b>Other Partners</b>	<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>



## G. Minor Amendments

<b>A) Results Framework</b>
No
<b>Provide a description of the change(s) to the 'Results framework'</b>
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
<b>B) Components and cost</b>
No
<b>Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Components and cost'</b>
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
<b>C) Institutional and implementation arrangements</b>
No
<b>Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Institutional and implementation arrangements'</b>
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
<b>D) Financial management</b>
No
<b>Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Financial Management'</b>
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
<b>E) Implementation schedule</b>
No
<b>Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Implementation schedule'</b>
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
<b>F) Executing Entity</b>
No
<b>Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Executing Entity'</b>
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
<b>G) Executing Entity Category</b>
No
<b>Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Executing Entity Category'</b>
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
<b>H) Minor project objective change</b>

No
<b>Provide a description of the change(s) to 'minor project objective change'</b>
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
<b>I) Safeguards</b>
No
<b>Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Safeguards'</b>
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
<b>J) Risk Analysis</b>
No
<b>Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Risk Analysis'</b>
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
<b>K) Increase of GEF project financing up to 5%</b>
No
<b>Provide a description of the change to GEF project financing up to 5%</b>
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
<b>L) Co-financing</b>
No
<b>Provide a description of the change(s) to 'Co-financing'</b>
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
<b>M) Location of project activity</b>
No
<b>Provide a description of the change(s) to project location activity</b>
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
<b>Other</b>
No
<b>Please provide a description of other types of minor amendments that do not fall under any of the above categories. For example, minor changes to the project's Gender Action Plan and/or gender activities can be captured here.</b>
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>
<b>Upload any supporting documentation related to responses in this section.</b>
<i>(not set or not applicable)</i>

## H. Gender

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

<p><b>1) Please review the project's Gender Analysis and Action Plan. If the document is not attached or an updated Gender Analysis and/or Gender Action Plan is available please upload the document below or send to the Regional Programme Associate to upload in PIMS+. Please note that all projects approved since 1 July 2014 are required to carry out a gender analysis and all projects approved since 1 July 2018 are required to have a gender analysis and action plan.</b></p>
<p><a href="#">PIMS 5702 Rwanda Mayaga Gender Analysis and Action Plan.doc</a></p>
<p><b>Atlas Gender Marker Rating</b></p>
<p><b>GEN2:</b> gender equality as significant objective</p>
<p><b>2) Please indicate in which results areas the project is contributing to gender equality (you may select more than one results area, or select not applicable):</b></p>
<p>Contributing to closing gender gaps in access to and control over resources: Yes</p>
<p>Improving the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance: Yes</p>
<p>Targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women: Yes</p>
<p>Not applicable: No</p>
<p><b>3) Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and the empowerment of women.</b></p>
<p><b>Please explain how the results reported addressed the different needs of men or women, changed norms, values, and power structures, and/or contributed to transforming or challenging gender inequalities and discrimination.</b></p>
<p>During the period starting from July 2021 to June 2022, the focus was to engage Men and women groups in all the planned activities of project interventions mainly related to Forest landscape restoration with the purpose to assess their performance and constraints.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low participation of women in coaching of Forest Management Plan (e.g., their husbands are the ones to participate at 29%) – women can actually participate in planting trees, weeding them, they are not much consulted in the harvesting phase, they are usually occupied by usual farming activities (Beans, Maize, vegetables, etc...)</li> <li>• Lack of access of information concerning climate change, impacts, vulnerability and adaptation measures for both men and women;</li> </ul> <p>To address the above different needs of men or women, participatory Forest Landscape Restoration planning was given priority in this period to ensure that all gender groups are represented in the coordination mechanism; consulted and participated effectively in the planning of project interventions at all the stages especially for afforestation activities.</p> <p>All gender groups were provided equal opportunities to participate in all project trainings;</p>

A special effort was made to reach women farmers to participate in Climate Smart Agriculture with the purpose to raise awareness and build skills concerning CSA practices to base on increasing productivity and therefore their income.

For livelihoods improvement, during this period the project distributed small livestock to beneficiaries, where by 47% were women. Tree crops like fruits seedlings and agroforestry species under Sustainable Land Management and improved cook stoves gave priority to women and youth headed households whereby 36% of project beneficiaries who received improved cook stoves were women.

In terms of land ownership and benefits from project's interventions, during this period, among the beneficiaries whose lands were treated with project interventions (ditches creation for erosion control, plantation of agroforestry trees and plantation of grasses for erosion control and folder for animals, woodlots, 35% of them were women.

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

During this reporting period, two trainings were conducted as follows:

- i) Environment management and climate change impact, vulnerability and adaptation to promote awareness of gender-sensitive involvement. It highlighted that equal control over resources, especially land use and assets incorporated thereon, is an obligation not a favor. 35% of women participated.
- ii) Climate Smart Agriculture training, to raise awareness on the role of women during CSA implementation, starting from land preparation to harvesting required practices. 33% of women participated.

Both trainings were organized in all 4 Districts of project interventions.

In addition, the access to information on opportunities has been promoted through awareness campaigns and quarterly stakeholder's meetings in all Districts to ensure the close participation of women at all levels in project activities and in natural resource and environmental management, conservation, protection and rehabilitation in general.

## I. Risk Management

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

<b>CO Programme Officer: Has the Atlas Risk Register been updated during this reporting period?</b>
Yes
<b>NCE RTA:</b>
Please provide an assessment of project risk management (including risks reported in Risk Register and risks included in the project's risk tab in PIMS+ ) undertaken in the reporting period and summarize the key risk management measures to be taken in the coming year. This text will be pulled into the risk management action plan in this project's risk tab in PIMS+.
With regards to risks, the project has already demonstrated resilience in facing COVID-19 restrictions and is therefore assessed to be capable of handling (eventual) additional restrictions. No new risk, beyond those associated with (remaining restrictions around) COVID-19, is thus judged relevant for this reporting period.

### B) Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards) Risks

<b>For reference, please find below the project's safeguards screening (Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) or the old ESSP tool); management plans (if any); and its SESP categorization above. Please note that the SESP categorization might have been corrected during a centralized review.</b>
If the project has updated its SESP during implementation, then please upload that file below.
<a href="#">FLR Mayaga Project Environment and Social safeguard Management Plan_security plan_.pdf</a>
<b>1) Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during the reporting period?</b>
No
<b>If any new social and/or environmental risks have been identified during the reporting period please describe the new risk(s) and the response to it.</b>
not applicable
<b>2) Have any existing social and/or environmental risks become more severe and/or has the project's SESP categorization changed during the reporting period? For example, when a low risk increased to moderate, or a moderate risk increased to substantial/high.</b>
No
<b>If any existing social and/or environmental risks have become more severe and/or if the project's SESP categorization has changed during implementation please describe the change(s) and the response to it. Note that any change to the project's SESP categorization should be confirmed by the Project Board and by the NCE PTA (and potentially cleared by the NCE safeguards team).</b>
not applicable

<b>3) Have any social and environmental assessments and/or management plans been prepared or updated, and/or has the SESP been updated in the reporting period, as required? For example, an updated Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) or Indigenous Peoples Plan.</b>
Yes
<b>If yes, please upload the document(s) above using the FILE LIBRARY button. If no, please explain when the required documents will be prepared.</b>
Environment and Social safeguard Management Plan (security plan) for Forest Landscape Restoration in Mayaga project in pdf format.
<b>4) Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential ) during the reporting period?</b>
No
<b>If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail including the status, significance, who was involved and what action was taken.</b>
Not applicable
<b>5) Is this project on track with the preparation and/or implementation of all safeguards measures required for compliance with the UNDP SES?</b>
Yes
<b>If no, please explain:</b>
Not applicable

## J. Knowledge Management & Communications

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

<p><b>1) Please provide progress on the implementation of the project's Knowledge Management approach approved at CEO Endorsement/Approval. If there is no KM approach/strategy, please comment on how the project is capturing and disseminating best practices and lessons learned.</b></p>
<p>REMA develops and implements a comprehensive KM strategy for all the projects implemented through REMA's Single Project Implementation Unit, including the Forest Landscape Restoration in the Mayaga Region (Green Amayaga) Project.</p> <p>Different promotional materials including brochures, signposts, banners, t-shirts and caps among many others were produced and disseminated to raise awareness on the project activities in the project intervention zones namely Kamonyi, Nyanza, Ruhango and Gisagara districts of Rwanda's Southern province.</p> <p>During this reporting period, the information about the project activities was also disseminated through different media channels including REMA website and its social media platforms, public and private media houses including TV, radio and online newspapers.</p> <p>Two radio programmes were broadcasted on Radio Salus, two reports on Rwanda Television and Radio Rwanda, and more than 10 articles in different online newspapers about the progress and lesson learned from the project were published</p> <p>Trainings for project beneficiaries were also conducted to not only raise their awareness on project activities but also provide them with knowledge which will enable them to positively contribute to the implementation of the project during the six years of implementation.</p>
<p><b>2) Please provide URLs specific to this project in the relevant field below. Please categorize the URLs appropriately (for example: project websites, social media sites, media coverage, etc.)</b></p>
<p>REMA Website/ Green Amayaga Project page (<a href="https://www.rema.gov.rw/our-work/projects/green-amayaga">https://www.rema.gov.rw/our-work/projects/green-amayaga</a>)</p> <p><a href="https://www.rema.gov.rw/info/details?tx_news_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&amp;tx_news_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&amp;tx_news_pi1%5Bnews%5D=564&amp;cHash=268c61f7958b3acb34dd3c86dfd457d6">https://www.rema.gov.rw/info/details?tx_news_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&amp;tx_news_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&amp;tx_news_pi1%5Bnews%5D=564&amp;cHash=268c61f7958b3acb34dd3c86dfd457d6</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.rema.gov.rw/info/details?tx_news_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&amp;tx_news_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&amp;tx_news_pi1%5Bnews%5D=563&amp;cHash=781a92376699b35f69b4c735aa0bb44f">https://www.rema.gov.rw/info/details?tx_news_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&amp;tx_news_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&amp;tx_news_pi1%5Bnews%5D=563&amp;cHash=781a92376699b35f69b4c735aa0bb44f</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.rema.gov.rw/info/details?tx_news_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&amp;tx_news_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&amp;tx_news_pi1%5Bnews%5D=562&amp;cHash=28358b9b02a5c5e5f3eae09c38e8be08">https://www.rema.gov.rw/info/details?tx_news_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&amp;tx_news_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&amp;tx_news_pi1%5Bnews%5D=562&amp;cHash=28358b9b02a5c5e5f3eae09c38e8be08</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.rema.gov.rw/info/details?tx_news_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&amp;tx_news_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&amp;tx_news_pi1%5Bnews%5D=481&amp;cHash=9f7ccf3c9787b1a0046a65c7a7f40b75">https://www.rema.gov.rw/info/details?tx_news_pi1%5Baction%5D=detail&amp;tx_news_pi1%5Bcontroller%5D=News&amp;tx_news_pi1%5Bnews%5D=481&amp;cHash=9f7ccf3c9787b1a0046a65c7a7f40b75</a></p> <p>Media Coverage (Online Newspapers)</p> <p>Citizens in the SouthernProvince express confidence in the Green Amayaga Project - TOPAFRICA NEWS <a href="https://www.topafricanews.com/2021/10/25/rwanda-citizens-in-the-southern-province-express-confidence-in-the-green-mayaga-flr-project/">https://www.topafricanews.com/2021/10/25/rwanda-citizens-in-the-southern-province-express-confidence-in-the-green-mayaga-flr-project/</a></p>

How charcoal production and hunting threatened Kibirizi-Muyira Natural Forest - The New Times daily  
<https://www.newtimes.co.rw/business/how-charcoal-production-and-hunting-threatened-kibirizi-muyira-natural-forest>

Over 700,000 seeds in Rwabashyashya tree nursery ready to be planted - TOPAFRICA NEWS  
<https://www.topafricanews.com/2021/10/20/green-mayaga-more-than-700000-trees-in-rwabashyashya-tree-nursery-are-ready-to-be-planted-agronomist-reveals/>

Ruhango: At least 11,000 fruit trees have been planted to fight malnutrition in the project aiming at restoring forests in Amayaga region - IGIHE News  
<https://igihe.com/amakuru/u-rwanda/article/ruhango-hamaze-guterwa-ibiti-by-imbuto-ziribwa-ibihumbi-11-mu-mushinga-wo>

Green Amayaga Project has started restoration process of the degraded Kibirizi-Muyira natural forest - IGIHE News  
<https://igihe.com/amakuru/u-rwanda/article/nyanza-ishyamba-kimeza-rya-kibilizi-muyira-rimaze-igihe-ryangizwa-ryatangiyeye>

Vulnerable families provided with improved cookstoves in Green Amayaga Project intervention zones - IGIHE News  
<https://www.igihe.com/ibidukikije/article/imiryango-ibihumbi-11-imaze-guhabwa-imbabura-zirondereza-ibicanwa-ku-mayaga>

Green Amayaga Project has so far achieved commendable achievements since it was launched - KIGALITODAY News  
[https://www.kigalitoday.com/ibidukikije/ibungabunga/article/umushinga-wa-green-amayaga-ugeze-kuri-25-mu-mwaka-umwe-umaze-utangiyeye#.YXul\\_Onrb0E.whatsapp](https://www.kigalitoday.com/ibidukikije/ibungabunga/article/umushinga-wa-green-amayaga-ugeze-kuri-25-mu-mwaka-umwe-umaze-utangiyeye#.YXul_Onrb0E.whatsapp)

#### Social Media Posts

The National Technical Advisory Committee (NTAC) Meeting for the Forest Landscape to Forest Restoration in the Mayaga Region #GreenAmayaga Project is being held from 31 May to 04 June 2022.

The NTAC guide on technical directions for #GreenAmayaga Project activities  
[https://twitter.com/REMA\\_Rwanda/status/1531556218132647936](https://twitter.com/REMA_Rwanda/status/1531556218132647936)

Did you know, we cannot live without #Biodiversity?

Biodiversity is essential to ending #ClimateChange, achieving sustainable development, halting land degradation and building food security among many other benefits. Learn here what #Rwanda is doing to protect Biodiversity  
[https://twitter.com/REMA\\_Rwanda/status/1529459018997059586?s=20&t=n88uuGbs8ftRE6UkVQsDmA](https://twitter.com/REMA_Rwanda/status/1529459018997059586?s=20&t=n88uuGbs8ftRE6UkVQsDmA)

Today, REMA through #GreenAmayaga Project has resumed the distribution of small livestock to project beneficiaries.

Around 212 households in @NyanzaDistrict are being provided with goats which are expected to help poor families get out of poverty #GreenRwanda  
[https://twitter.com/REMA\\_Rwanda/status/1522165070985318400?s=20&t=n88uuGbs8ftRE6UkVQsDmA](https://twitter.com/REMA_Rwanda/status/1522165070985318400?s=20&t=n88uuGbs8ftRE6UkVQsDmA)

Ikigo REMA cyakomeje gahunda yo koroza amatungo magufi abagenerwabikorwa b&#039; umushinga #GreenAmayaga mu murenge wa Rugarika muri @Kamonyi

Ingurube 40 borojwe ziyongereye ku zindi 140 zatanzwe mu mirenge ya Rugarika, Nyamiyaga na Mugina muri @Kamonyi #GreenRwanda #ClimateAction  
[https://twitter.com/REMA\\_Rwanda/status/1520030986607726592?s=20&t=n88uuGbs8ftRE6UkVQsDmA](https://twitter.com/REMA_Rwanda/status/1520030986607726592?s=20&t=n88uuGbs8ftRE6UkVQsDmA)

REMA through the #GreenAmayaga Project has started distributing livestock to project beneficiaries to improve their livelihoods.



The distribution started in @Kamonyi where 80 households were provided with pigs & their insurance. Veterinary services will also be at their disposal  
[https://twitter.com/REMA\\_Rwanda/status/1517575474402185218?s=20&t=n88uuGbs8ftRE6UKVQsDmA](https://twitter.com/REMA_Rwanda/status/1517575474402185218?s=20&t=n88uuGbs8ftRE6UKVQsDmA)

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

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## K. Stakeholder Engagement

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

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

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

During this period, the implementation of the project was focused to engage stakeholders at all levels across the landscape in the project areas in the Four District of Kamonyi, Ruhango, Nyanza and Gisagara that implement the project the special engagement was made at beneficiaries levels.

Since the starting of the project, the comprehensive engagement is the key of integrated landscape management, which requires long-term collaboration among different groups of stakeholders to achieve the multiple objectives required from the landscape, such as agricultural production, the delivery of ecosystem services, cultural heritage and values, and rural livelihoods, during this period of project implementation, it has been set the environmental clubs in schools located in project intervention areas and awakening environmental committees at districts and sectors levels and Stakeholders Working Groups meeting (Thematic working Groups on Forest Landscape Restoration) in each District of project interventions has continuously supported integration across sectors and scales and increased coordination among stakeholders under Joint Action Development Forum of each District.

The environmental committees that include government, private sector and secretary of each committee is the a District or Sector Staff in charge of environment, The Environmental Committees are responsible for overseeing the implementation of laws, policies, strategies, plans and programs related to the protection, conservation and development of the environment in Rwanda, they are responsible for monitoring environmental awareness and land use and they also responsible for monitoring environmental damage by the competent authorities and they must monitor the functioning of the higher level due to their responsibilities, they have engaged project beneficiaries in project implementation especially in maintenance of interventions already done .

During this period of project implementation, COVID-19 outbreak highly challenged the participation and representation of stakeholders who were supposed to be consulted through governance structures at local levels (e.g. community planning platforms (monthly community work (Umuganda), the parents evening forum (Umugoroba w'Ababyeyi) and general village assemblies and be highly engaged throughout the project implementation phase to:

- Promote understanding of the project's outcomes;
- Promote community ownership of the project through engagement in planning, implementation and monitoring of the project interventions;
- Communication to the public in a consistent, supportive and effective manner; and
- Maximize the linkage and synergy with other ongoing projects at community level.

On the specific participation, the Project Steering Committee was established at national level and had 3 meetings chaired by REMA and co-chaired by UNDP as thematic group on FLR to approve the quarterly and annual project progress reports and plans and provide the overall guidance to project management unity on implementation of the project with the following stakeholders forming the basis of the collaboration:

- The Ministry of Environment (MoE) and Five affiliated agencies: The Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA); the National Fund for Environment in Rwanda (FONERWA); the Rwanda Land Management and Use Authority (RLMUA); Rwanda Water Resources Board (RWB); Rwanda Forestry Authority (RFA)
- The Ministry of Agriculture, including the Rwanda Agriculture and Animal Resources Development Board (RAB);
- The Ministry of Local Government (MINALOC);
- The Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MINECOFIN);
- Districts Decentralized Structures and
- Academia.

## L. Annex - Ratings Definitions

### Development Objective Progress Ratings Definitions

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Implementation Progress Ratings Definitions

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

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

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

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

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

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