2021

Project Implementation Review (PIR)

Forest Landscape Restoration in the Mayaga

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	NIM
Project Implementing Partner	Government
Joint Agencies	*(not set or not applicable)*
Project Type	Full Size
Implementation Status	1st PIR
GEF Fiscal Year	FY21
Trust Fund	GEF Trust Fund

Project Description
(not set or not applicable)

Project Contacts	
UNDP-NCE Technical Adviser	Mr. Faris Khader (faris.khader@undp.org)
UNDP-NCE Programme Associate	Ms. Adey Tesfaye (adey.tesfaye@undp.org)
Project Manager/Coordinator	Philbert Nkurunziza (pnkurunziza@rema.gov.rw)
UNDP Country Office Programme Officer	Mr. Bernardin Uzayisaba (bernardin.uzayisaba@undp.org)
UNDP Country Office Deputy Resident Representative	Varsha REDKAR (varsha.redkar-palepu@undp.org)
UNDP Regional Bureau Desk Officer	*(not set or not applicable)*
GEF Operational Focal Point	*(not set or not applicable)*
Project Implementing Partner	Juliet Kabera (julietkabera3@gmail.com)
Other Partners	*(not set or not applicable)*

B. Overall Ratings

Overall DO Rating	*(not set or not applicable)*
Overall IP Rating	*(not set or not applicable)*
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 2020	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.	*(not set or not applicable)*	4 thematic groups on FLR under the JADF has been established in each district of project interventions as FLR coordination committees and they had quarterly meetings and they meet as stakeholders working groups in each district.
Mandatory indicator 2: Number of people benefitting financially from FLR initiatives (fruit/tree cropping and one cow per family initiative, improved cookstoves) : - GEF Core Indicator 11	Various to be established during year one and reported in the first PIR (number of farmers engaged in plantation farming under contract; number	179,050 additional - At least 50 tree famers under contract; at least 25,000 participating in FFS, 1,000 engaged in consolidated tree crop farming as cash	362,144 additional - At least 100 tree famers under contract; at least 50,000 participating in FFS, 5,000 engaged in consolidated tree crop farming as	*(not set or not applicable)*	During this period 93,634 people benefited financially from FLR initiatives and among them 55,000 people are using improved cookstoves (49% of them are female); 15,878 project beneficiaries have been employed in forest landscape restoration activities; 13,227 people received grafted fruits

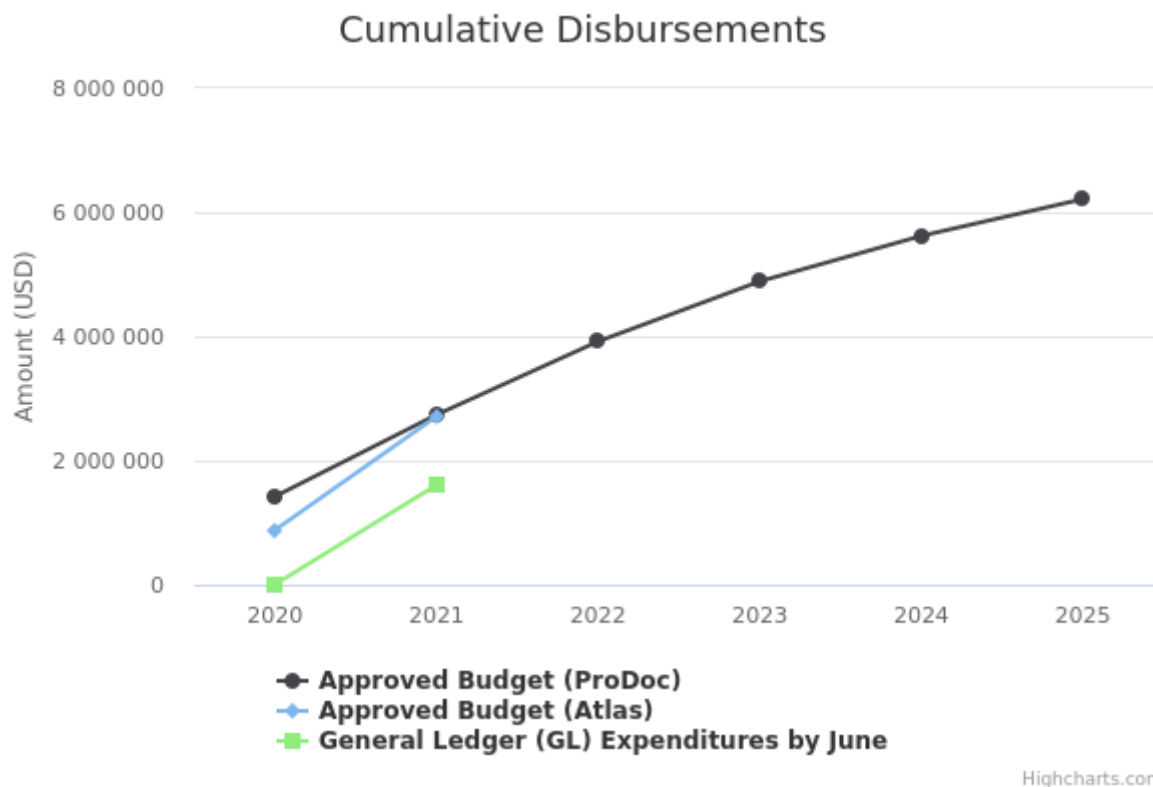|		crops, 3,000 benefiting from one cow per family and 150,000 using improved cookstoves (48.3:51.7 male to female ratio on gender for all numbers)	cash crops, 10,000 benefiting from one cow per family and 300,000 using 60,000 improved cookstoves (48.3:51.7 male to female ratio on gender for all numbers)		trees and 500 of them are engaged in consolidated tree crop farming as cash crop and 9,529 people are participating in FFS.
participating in FFS, number engaged in consolidated tree crop farming as cash crops, number benefiting from one cow per family and number using improved cookstoves;					
Mandatory indicator 3: Tons of carbon mitigated - GEF Core Indicator 6	To be determined in Year one, reported in the first PIR	At least 2,060,000 tCO2e	At least 4,700,825 tCO2e	*(not set or not applicable)*	No tCO2e were mitigated this year

The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	**On track**
Evidence uploaded:	**YES**

Outcome 1

Forest restoration plans with institutional and legislation frameworks guiding afforestation, natural resources management and agriculture, covering 263,270 ha in 4 districts

Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2020	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;	*(not set or not applicable)*	2 FLR plans guiding restoration at landscape level were designed covering atleast 131,635 ha for Ruhango and Nyanza Districts.
Indicator 5: Definitions of SFM and FLR clarified in the National Forest Policy (2018)	SFM and FLR definitions clear at international level,	Recommendations for policy amendment to clarify	Addendum clarifying SFM and FLR definition part	*(not set or not applicable)*	Nothing was done for this indicator this year.

	not clear in the National Forest Policy	SFM and FLR definitions available in an addendum to the National Forest Policy	of the National Forest Policy (2018).		

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 2020**	**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	*(not set or not applicable)*	No target was set in this year for this indicator, however the trainings have started for project beneficiaries on improved techniques of tree husbandy and intensive trainings are planned to start this coming year.
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.	*(not set or not applicable)*	During this period two news article were put on Rema website with project activities and an M&E plan was already designed this year with an adequate participatory and gender inclusive process.

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	*(not set or not applicable)*	No target was set for this indicator in this year.

The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	**On track**

Evidence uploaded:	**N/A**
	This objective is more about capacity building and this year we were concentrating to looking for basic trainings on tree husbandry and use of improved cookstoves and the intensive trainings are starting with this coming fiscal year.

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 productivity of agriculture and plantation forests on 25,000 ha and reduces wood consumption by at least 25%

Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	Midterm target level	End of project target level	Level at 30 June 2020	Cumulative progress since project start
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 Forest Management agreements and levels of degradation of the whole 555 ha forest are high (to be	Restoration of the 555 ha of natural forest started: Nomination file for the 354 ha Forest Reserve completed upgrading it to PA IUCN Category IV status, with business management plans (354 ha); At least 5 Participatory Forest Management	Restoration of the 555 ha of natural forest advanced: Nomination file for the 354 ha Forest Reserve submitted to Cabinet upgrading it to PA IUCN Category IV status, with business management plans (354 ha); At least 10	*(not set or not applicable)*	No target was set in this year for this indicator, however the 2 community level awareness campaigns for enhancement of management of Kibirizi-Muyira natural forest of 354 ha were organized in Nyanza District together with project management team and local leaders.

	confirmed during inception)	agreements completed and under implementation	Participatory Forest Management agreements completed and under implementation		
Indicator 10: Area of landscapes under sustainable land management in production systems - GEF Core Indicator 4.3	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.	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)	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)	*(not set or not applicable)*	4,820ha of landscapes have been additionally put under sustainable land management in production systems and for recovery of the ecosystems which were degraded.
The progress of the objective/outcome can be described as:	**On track**				
Evidence uploaded:	**YES**				

D.   Implementation Progress

Cumulative Disbursements

Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc):	25.9%
Cumulative GL delivery against expected delivery as of this year:	58.74%
Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June:	1,609,346

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

Key Project Dates	
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	*(not set or not applicable)*
First Disbursement Date	May 8, 2020
Expected Date of Mid-term Review	Aug 6, 2022

Actual Date of Mid-term Review	*(not set or not applicable)*
Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation	Sep 9, 2025
Original Planned Closing Date	Dec 9, 2025
Revised Planned Closing Date	*(not set or not applicable)*

Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (30 June 2020 to 1 July 2021)
2021-07-13
2021-01-29

A) It is mandatory for the **CO Programme Officer** and **NCE RTA** to each provide an IP rating. See related guidance further below.

B) The **Project Manager** must provide comments on any milestone delays after reviewing the Key Project Dates table.

C) The **NCE RTA** and **CO Programme Officer** must provide comments on specific measures to manage the project's implementation performance

D) The **CO Programme Officer** must also complete the co-financing table below.

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'.
Not applicable
CO Programme Officer: Please include specific measures to manage the project's implementation performance
(not set or not applicable)
NCE RTA: Please include specific measures to manage the project's implementation performance.
(not set or not applicable)

E. Project Governance

The **CO Programme Officer** must complete this entire section:

- Enter dates of all Project Board/Steering Committee meetings during the reporting period

- Upload minutes from each Project Board/Steering Committee meeting using the FILE LIBRARY button in the top right of the PIR

- Answer all questions below

1) Is the Project Board/Steering Committee functioning effectively?
Yes
If no, please explain.
(not set or not applicable)
RTA comments (optional)
(not set or not applicable)
2) Have there been any changes to the implementation modality during this reporting period (i.e. from full NIM to assisted NIM, or NIM to DIM, etc.)?
No
If yes, please explain
(not set or not applicable)
RTA comments (optional)
(not set or not applicable)
Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021). Please also upload all meeting minutes using the FILE LIBRARY button.
2021-07-13
2021-01-29

F.   Ratings and Overall Assessments

Role	2021 Development Objective Progress Rating	2021 Implementation Progress Rating
UNDP-NCE Technical Adviser	*(not set or not applicable)*	*(not set or not applicable)*
UNDP Country Office Programme Officer	*(not set or not applicable)*	*(not set or not applicable)*

Role	2021 Overall Assessment
UNDP-NCE Technical Adviser	*(not set or not applicable)*
UNDP Country Office Programme Officer	*(not set or not applicable)*
Project Manager/Coordinator	During this first year of Forest Landscape Restoration in the Mayaga Region Project, the quick project activities' implementation was a result of high engagement of all stakeholders in project activities from planning up to the implementation and monitoring. The development and signature of Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) for togetherness in implementation of activities between partners have been a corner stone for achieving and rating the Development Objectives to be On track. The signed MoUs between Rwanda Environment Management (REMA), Rwanda Forestry Authority (RFA) and Districts of project beneficiaries highly contributed to the speed up of forest landscape restoration activities implementation by putting together all efforts on mobilization and awareness of project activities for all stakeholders more specifically for the engagement of project beneficiaries (community) towards building the sustainability of project intervention. Although project' achievements were on track in this period, but the COVID-19 outbreak has been a challenge for implementation of some project activities like conducting awareness meetings and workshops for project interventions and training workshops and which in turn, negatively affected the intensive trainings.
GEF Operational Focal point	*(not set or not applicable)*
Project Implementing Partner	*(not set or not applicable)*
Other Partners	*(not set or not applicable)*

G.   Gender

Progress in Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

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

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.
PIMS 5702 Rwanda Mayaga Gender Analysis and Action Plan.doc
Gender Analysis and Action Plan: PIMS 5702 Rwanda Mayaga Gender Analysis and Action Plan.doc   **Gender Analysis and Action Plan:** PIMS 5702 Rwanda Mayaga Gender Analysis and Action Plan.doc
Atlas Gender Marker Rating
GEN2: gender equality as significant objective
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):
Contributing to closing gender gaps in access to and control over resources: Yes
Improving the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance: Yes
Targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women: Yes
Not applicable: No
3) Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and the empowerment of women.   **Please explain how the results reported addressed the different needs of men or women, changed norms, values, and power structures, and/or contributed to transforming or challenging gender inequalities and discrimination.**
During this period, the first focus was to commission a study for updating the baselines of the project and development of indicators and during consultations with women and youth representatives, they revealed as needs of women the following: • Lack of full access to forest value chains (e.g., their husband can only inform them how they decided) – women referred in FGDs that despite their participating in planting trees, weeding them,

they are not much consulted in the harvesting phase, neither in selling them. There were even comments of women saying their husbands keep the profits fully for themselves.

•   Lack of mobility from home to their daily work – lack of enough public transport connecting farms to their homes. Women usually return home carrying babies on the back and firewood on the head through long distance whereas men can use bicycles; currently few women ride in the area, due to the existent cultural barriers.

To address those 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 and are consulted and participate effectively in the planning of project interventions from grassroots level.

All gender groups were provided equal opportunities to participate in all project activities;

special effort was made to reach women farmers to participate in the Forest Landscape

Restoration activities either in their own farms or nearby their homes to easy their mobility to work

and increase their participation and facilitate them to benefit from project intervention related

to ecosystems restoration.

For livelihoods improvement, during this period the distribution of 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 40% of project beneficiaries who

received improved cook stoves were women and 39% of women received grafted fruits trees.

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 period, 8 awareness campaigns for promoting awareness of gender-sensitive legislations at community level, highlighting that equal control over resources, especially land and assets incorporated thereon, is an obligation not a favor were organized in different sites of 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.

H.   Risk Management

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

CO Programme Officer: Before updating the PIR, the Country Office must update the project's Atlas Risk Register in line with UNDP's enterprise risk management policy.

- The CO's update to the Risk Register should involve updating the state (action needed; treatment status; treatment activity description) of each risk, as appropriate.

- Please include COVID-related risks, where relevant.

- Please ensure all risks in the project's current SESP are also in the Risk Register.

Once the above is done, the CO Programme Officer and RTA should then jointly review and discuss the project risks reported in the Risk Register and the project's risk tab in PIMS+.

The overall risk rating identified in the project's risk tab in PIMS+ will be reported to the GEF Secretariat.

NCE RTA:
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+.
(not set or not applicable)

B) Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards) Risks

Project Manager and/or Project Safeguards Officer: Please answer the 5 questions in this section with support from the UNDP Country Office

CO Programme Officer: Please review the responses to ensure they are reflected in the project's Risk Register

NCE RTA: Please review the responses and discuss with the CO, as necessary. Reflect on any specific challenges in your assessment on project risk management (above).

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.
If the project has updated its SESP during implementation, then please upload that file below.
(not set or not applicable)
SESP: [Signed PIMS 5702 Annex 5 SESP Rwanda MFA FLR of Mayaga Region.pdf](#)
1) Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during the reporting period?

Yes

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.

ESS 8: Labour and working conditions.

This standard aims to promote, respect and realize fundamental principles and rights at work through: supporting freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining; preventing the use of child labour and forced labour; and preventing discrimination and promoting equal opportunity of workers.

It also aims to protect and promote the safety and health of workers, ensure applicable parties comply with employment and labour laws, applicable rules and regulations and international commitments, and strives to leave no one behind by protecting and supporting workers in disadvantaged and vulnerable situations, including a special focus, as appropriate, on women workers, young workers, migrant workers and workers with disabilities.

This safeguard is triggered, as this project will employ people from within the local communities to undertake many of the project activities, to increase ownership and provide income opportunities. Fair wages must be paid in accordance with updated norms and worker organization must be enabled.

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 high.

No

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.

(not set or not applicable)

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.

Yes

If yes, please upload the document(s) above using the FILE LIBRARY button. If no, please explain when the required documents will be prepared.

(not set or not applicable)

4) Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential) during the reporting period?

No

If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail including the status, significance, who was involved and what action was taken.

(not set or not applicable)
5) Is the preparation and./or implementation of the project's safeguards management plan(s) on track, including monitoring?
Yes
If no, please explain:
(not set or not applicable)

I.   Knowledge Management & Communications

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

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.   **This text will be posted to the GEF Portal.**
During this project implementation period, there were no Knowledge Management approach developed because the Knowledge Management Plan is planned to be developed in the year 2021-2022. However, in order to facilitate the capture and dissemination of project best practices and lessons learned, with facilitation of REMA staff (Communications Specialist under Single Project Implementation Unity of REMA and REMA Communications Officer), the REMA annual communication plan was developed including information sharing related to Forest Landscape Restoration in the Mayaga Region Project interventions and during this period, information sharing has been through activities such as on field farmers/community training forums, radio and TV programmes (with use of TV & Radio broadcast already booked on local media), video production, exchange visits among different districts, information on REMA website portal and brochures.
CEO Endorsement Request: [PIMS 5702 Rwanda FLR CEO Endorsement addressing GEF Comments July 25.doc](#)
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.)   **(This field is pre-filled from the 2020 PIR. Please edit, as needed).**
Website: www.rema.gov.rw; News paper : New times Social media: Youtube
3) In the PIR platform, please upload any supporting files, including the project's Communications Strategy, photos, videos, stories and other communication/knowledge materials.
[Pictures of different FLR in the mayaga region project interventions for the period.docx](#)

J.   Stakeholder Engagement

Project Manager: Please provide an update on engagement with stakeholders (government, civil society, NGOs, indigenous peoples, private sector, etc.) as outlined in the project's Stakeholder Engagement Plan. This informaton is used by the GEF and UNDP for reporting and is therefore very important.

- 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.

- 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.

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

The CO Programme Officer and NCE RTA must review this section.

This text will appear in the GEF Portal.

(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.**
The implementation of the project during this period was based on extensive engagement with stakeholders at all levels across the landscape in the project areas in the Four District of Kamonyi, Ruhango, Nyanza and Gisagara.   As the project is set up to advance the uptake 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 Stakeholders Working Groups (Thematic working Groups on Forest Landscape Restoration) in each District of project interventions which supported integration across sectors and scales and increased coordination among stakeholders under Joint Action Development Forum of each District.   The Stakeholders Working Groups that include government, civil society, NGOs, private sector and chaired by the Vice Mayors in charge of Economic Affairs of each District, through their regular (quarterly) workshops, ensured the harmonization of planning, implementation and monitoring processes at the landscape, to enable different stakeholders to negotiate their management objectives, to maximize synergies, increase productivity of the landscape and minimize negative trade-offs.

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 (Inama Rusange y'Abaturage)) 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

•   maximisation of 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 2 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 and Five of its 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);

•   Ministry of Local Government;

•   MINECOFIN;

•   Districts Decentralized Structures and Academia.

CEO Endorsement Request: PIMS 5702 Rwanda FLR CEO Endorsement addressing GEF Comments July 25.doc

Stakeholder engagement plan (Annex): *not available*

K.   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.