Project Implementation Report (PIR)

06/2019 – 05/2020

Protection and Restoration of Mangroves and productive Landscape to strengthen food security and mitigate climate change, Guinea Bissau

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A. Basic Data

Project Information	
IUCN Project ID	IUCN: P02395
GEF ID	GEF ID: 9521
Title	Protection and Restoration of Mangroves and productive Landscape to strengthen food security and mitigate climate change
Country(ies)	Guinea Bissau
Regional Programme	PACO
Global Thematic Programme	Programme Area 2: Promoting and supporting effective and equitable governance of natural resources Programme Area 3: Deploying nature-based solution to address societal challenges including climate change, food security
Joint Agency (if relevant)	
Executing Agency(ies)	Implementing Agency: International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Executing Agency: Institute for Biodiversity and Protected Areas (*Instituto da Biodiversidade e das Areas Protegidas)*
Project Type	FSP

Project Description

From the project document, please provide overall context, project expected objectives, outcomes and outputs

The project objective is to support the restoration and rehabilitation of degraded mangroves ecosystems functionality and services for enhanced food security and climate change mitigation. [This will be accomplished by supporting the development and adoption of enabling policies for mangrove ecosystem restoration using the forest landscape approach, building capacity of national institutions and finance mobilisation, piloting the restoration of 2,7000 ha of degraded mangrove ecosystems and rice field, generating and exchanging knowledge both scientific and indigenous, and developing livelihood resources and strategies for local communities. Achieving this objective implies the adoption of an integrated landscape and resources management approach closely associating local communities and stakeholders in the identification of local restoration opportunities and strategies, and backed with a relevant institutional, scientific and policy framework.

The restoration of mangrove forests and productive landscape, including mangrove rice fields and lowland rice fields, will be done based on the following principles as described by IUCN "A guide to the Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM): Assessing forest landscape restoration opportunities at the national or sub-national level":

- Planning will be conducted at the landscape level, which allows identifying necessary trade-offs regarding potential conflicting interests between natural habitat restoration and the rehabilitation of agricultural production systems;
- Local stakeholders and communities will actively be engaged in all decision-making processes that are of relevance to their situation, including definition and implementation of the preferred restoration solution. An equal participation of women and men community members is encouraged and it should be further ensured that all relevant social groups are engaged and that no sectors of the society are marginalized or discriminated.
- Decision making about restoration measures and potential restrictions on the use of natural resources should be entirely voluntary and be based on informed consensus. Ensuring effective participation and informed decision may require special arrangements or additional capacity building for specific groups.
- When assessing costs and benefits of restoration activities, this should be broken down by social groups; it needs to be ensured that restoration activities do not affect economic, social or cultural livelihood conditions of vulnerable groups or indigenous peoples; where impacts cannot be avoided these should be mitigated or compensated.
- Natural resource management plans and restoration activities should benefit men and women equally; opportunities to increase voice, representation and influence of women in relevant decision-making bodies and to strengthen the rights of women (including land rights) should be sought.
- Restoration strategies will need to be forward-looking, tailored to each local conditions and problems, and adaptively managed over time;
- Restoration strategies will be defined according to an improved knowledge on mangrove ecosystems and restoration opportunities;
- Landscape functionality will be restored and managed to improve and maintain all ecosystem goods and services;
- Although natural regeneration of mangroves will be promoted in abandoned rice fields, breaking the ring-dike to allow seawater flow again, a wide range of restoration strategies will need to be considered, ranging from natural mangrove regeneration to mangrove tree planting;
- Site restoration activities will feed into an improved mangrove management and restoration policy framework.

As part of component 1, the project will contribute to strengthening the knowledge base on mangrove ecosystems and mangrove restoration opportunities; this in turn will contribute to the identification and development of policies that support mangroves and forests restoration and the replication and prioritization of restoration initiatives in Guinea Bissau.

As part of component 2, using a participatory and land use planning and management approach at the landscape level, the project will support field actions to restore degraded natural mangrove habitats and agricultural land. Through the restoration of 1500 ha of mangroves, the project's expected impacts include:

- The enhancement and maintenance of various and strategic ecosystem services,
- The improvement of national carbon sequestration capacity,

- The strengthening of protection of coastal rice field against seawater flooding and extreme climate events, and
- The enhancement and conservation of coastal and marine biodiversity.

Through the rehabilitation of 1200 ha of degraded rice fields and the improvement of rice post-harvest technologies, the project expected impacts include:

- The improvement of local populations food security and livelihoods,
- Reduced pressure on neighbouring forests currently threatened by expansion of itinerary slash-and-burn agriculture and cashew tree plantations,
- The enhancement of traditional farming systems resilience, and
- Improved local communities' climate change adaptation capacities.

As part of component 3, the project will contribute to improving the institutional and financial context of mangroves and forests restoration in Guinea Bissau. It will contribute to strengthening the national stakeholders fundraising capacities for scaling-up and replicating restoration initiatives in other regions of the country based on lessons learnt and successful approaches experimented in the field by the project.

In component 4, the project will develop an efficient monitoring and evaluation system, allowing national stakeholders to measure and monitor the actual climate change mitigation and food security impacts from the restoration activities. Through this component, the project will also collect and disseminate nationally and internationally good practices and lessons learnt nationally and internationally, encouraging partners and countries facing similar realities to engage into restoration programs.

Project Contacts	
Task Manager (Implementing Agency)	IBAP
Global Thematic Lead (Implementing Agency)	
Project Manager (Executing Agency)	
GEF Operational Focal Point	

B. Overall Ratings

Overall Development Outcomes Rating[1]	
Overall Implementation Rating[2]	
Overall Risk Rating[3]	

[1] This section will use the scale used by the GEF and outlined in Annex L of this document: 1) Highly satisfactory, 2) Satisfactory, 3) Moderately Satisfactory, 4) Moderately Unsatisfactory, 5) Unsatisfactory, 6) Highly Unsatisfactory

[2] Idem

[3] This section will use the scale used by the GEF and outlined in Annex L of this document: 1) High Risk, 2) Substantial Risk, 3) Moderate Risk, 4) Low Risk

C. Outcomes achievements and project effectiveness

Provide overview of achievement of key outcome indicators target to date achieved against inception to date targets. Explain overall reasons for deviations across the objectives.

Objective 1. identification and development of policies that support mangroves and forests restoration and the replication and prioritization of restoration initiatives in Guinea Bissau

Outcome Indicators	Baseline	Periodic Result	Result to Date	Target to Date	Project Target
1.2 policies and regulatory frameworks in TRI countries {Guinea Bissau] that support forest and landscape restoration while incorporating biodiversity conservation, accelerated low GHG development and emissions reduction, and sustainable livelihood considerations.	A draft law on mangrove was developed in 2014 but is not yet finalized nor approved No strategy on mangrove restoration available	01 & 02/2020 Local operational strategies on the 10 intervention sites within the 3 regions for the 1st year of the project	Procedures and agreements for the implementation of restoration actions are defined with the communities at the local level.	The preparation of the draft Mangrove Law is planned to start only in years 2 and 3. The elaboration of the mangrove restoration strategy is planned in year 3 of the project.	1 law on mangrove is finalized and approved 1 strategy on mangrove restoration is developed

Narrative description of the achievements under this objective and how the outputs contributed to these changes. Describe evidence for changes in policy, regulation, standards, awareness, capacity, behaviors, and practices.

Evidence can come in the form of a timeline of key events and outcomes, trends in outcome indicators before, during and at the end of the project, or a comparison between stakeholders or areas supported by the project against those not supported by the project with proper accounting for baseline differences between these. In addition, you should explain whether other plausible explanation for the change can be rejected.

The year under review officially started in May 2019. It was devoted to project start-up, partnership building, business planning, formulation of sectoral strategies, and acquisition of operational resources. The measurement of the project's progress must take into account the fact that the concrete implementation of the objectives in the field is only foreseen from year 2 of the project.

A series of 4 field missions has been undertaken in all 3 regions and with the participation of all project partners, between October 2019 and February 2020, as part of a process of identifying priorities and intervention modalities according to the following sequence:

- Oct. 2019: resumption of contact with the 10 villages pre-identified during the formulation of the project for information and confirmation of the interest of the communities on the objectives and modalities of implementation.
- Nov 2019: Theoretical training in participatory territorial diagnosis tools (PTD) and field missions to carry out the diagnosis with the participation of communities in all villages.
- January-February 2020: Field mission for the definition of the first priorities of intervention on the basis of the PTD and agreements in principle on the areas and modalities of intervention with the communities of all villages.
Mission reports and corresponding maps were produced by the Project Management Unit (PMU).

On the basis of these results, maps were produced using images obtained by drone and using OvitalMap software and Google Earth. A consensus was obtained from almost all the stakeholders involved in the project regarding the operational objectives and modalities for rice field rehabilitation and mangrove restoration. However, it was noted that the mangrove restoration objectives identified during the formulation of the project were considered by some villages as too ambitious. This leads us to reconsider the areas of mangroves to be restored or to integrate new villages and, possibly, to replace villages with which an agreement has not been confirmed.
The needs for hydraulic equipment have been identified and are the subject of a call for bid sollicitation for the supply of equipment in preparation.
Mangrove restoration operations have not yet begun, as they can only take place in the middle of the rainy season (July-September).

The re-launch of the formulation of the law, foreseen from year 2 of the project, will have to wait until the results of the studies, strategies and field experiences obtained during the first 2 years can be used as a basis for the principles of the law.
The strategy for the restoration of mangroves on a national scale is planned in year 3 of the project. It will benefit from the preliminary studies and restoration experiments previously carried out in the field and will be supported, at the same time as the law, by the actions implemented under the policy influence programme.

Objective 2. support field actions to restore degraded natural mangrove habitats and agricultural land

Outcome Indicators	Baseline	Periodic Result	Result to Date	Target to Date	Project Target
2.1 Area of land restored (hectares).	0	Nil	Nil	Not foreseen in year 1 of the project	1,500 ha of mangroves are restored, rehabilitated or replanted 1,200 ha of degraded rice fields are rehabilitated
2.2 Area of landscapes under improved practices (hectares; excluding protected areas)	0	Nil	Nil	Not foreseen in year 1 of the project	At least 2,700 ha of land are under improved management as a result of the TRI Guinea Bissau project, including 1,500 ha of mangroves and 1,200 ha of lowland rice fields in former mangrove or fresh water wetlands

2.4. Number of direct project beneficiaries (from capacity building, trainings, equipment, jobs, revenue and income, products such as sustainably harvested timber, NTFP, etc.) by women and men.		3 x 10 field trainings with administration staff, NGOs and Communities 2 technician trainings. Total of 950 people	Community representatives received initial training on the rehabilitation of mangrove rice fields. Women received training on income-generating activities (improved stoves and solar salt). Managers and technicians received training on participatory territorial diagnosis methodologies.	65% of women in relation with their specific and exclusive involvement in income-generating activities.	TBD, 50% women

No rice field rehabilitation or mangrove restoration activities were planned in year one of the project. It is therefore not possible to consider the benefits that would result from these activities. The first mangrove restoration actions are planned to start in July 2020 because the germination period of mangrove plants corresponds to the rainy season. Rice field rehabilitation actions are planned to start as soon as the 2019 harvests end, i.e. from January 2020, since the work cannot take place during the rice production period.

During this 1st year, the categories of beneficiaries relate to training and capacity building actions.
Two types of training were provided for the Planning of interventions. Technical trainings intended for the executives of the administration and partner NGOs on participatory territorial diagnosis techniques, tools for interpreting the environment, image processing, and video production. These trainings concerned a total of about 80 people both in the field and in the classroom, with a proportion of women of about 30%.
Training was delivered in the field to communities in all the villages, concerning on the one hand territorial diagnosis and techniques of hydraulic management of rice fields and, on the other hand, income-generating activities, in particular concerning improved stoves and solar salt production. A total of approximately 950 people have benefited from this training, mainly women (about 65%) involved in economic activities. The part of the training relating to water management concerns the exclusive domain of men. Indicators 2.1 and 2.2 are not relevant for the 1st year of the project as these activities are planned from the 2nd year only.
The baseline assessments are still partial in several areas because the definition and implementation of the monitoring-evaluation system could not be carried out for several reasons, among which the instability of staff within the partner administrations, and then the health crisis of COVID-19.

Objective 3. contribute to improving the institutional and financial context of mangroves and forests restoration in Guinea Bissau.					
Outcome Indicators	**Baseline**	**Periodic Result**	**Result to Date**	**Target to Date**	**Project Target**
3.1. Number of cross-sectoral (e.g., agriculture, forestry, transportation, energy, etc.) planning mechanisms and/or frameworks incorporating and supporting restoration established/strengthened at national and sub-national levels in TRI countries	An informal mechanism met several times in connection with the formulation of the project		Several informal meetings with initiatives and Organizations working in the same areas, but no formal/official mechanism and no regular periodicity		At least 4 institutions: IBAP, GPC, DGA and DGFF
3.3. Value of resources (public, private, development partners) flowing into restoration in TRI countries	Projet Ianda Arroz (funded by EU)				500 ha of restored mangroves
3.4 Number of bankable projects developed & submitted (according to the scorecard matrix)		Not applicable in year 1			

Concerning indicator 3.1. An informal group met 3 times during the formulation stage of the project at the initiative of IBAP, but not once after the start of the project if the Inception Workshop is excluded.
Periodic meetings were organized with partner projects to strengthen synergies, avoid duplication and promote harmonization of approaches. Among these partners we organized or participated in meetings with:
- The governmental project PADES which intervenes in the Centre and South regions, mainly in the rice sector but with actions in favour of mangrove rehabilitation;
- The DEDURAM project which intervenes on the rehabilitation of mangrove rice fields in a different region from those of our project. There are frequent exchanges with this project for mutual benefit. We benefit from the experience of the NGO Univers-sel in the field of hydraulic management of rice fields and production of solar salt and we support them in their intentions to rehabilitate mangroves (not yet operational);

- The IUCN - Mangroves regional project, one component of which concerns Guinea-Bissau. This project is in its start-up phase and the joint working meetings have aimed at harmonizing approaches and developing synergies.
IBAP and the PMU have solicited from their governmental and non-governmental partners the creation - preferably formal - of a Working Group on the restoration of mangrove landscapes, for the moment without success due to governmental instability.

Objective 4.

Outcome Indicators	Baseline	Periodic Result	Result to Date	Target to Date	Project Target
4.1.1) Child project monitoring system established and providing relevant information to managers	0	Non-started activities		0	TRI project M&E system used and informed in a timely manner 1 Mid-term evaluation (MTE) conducted 1 Terminal Evaluation (TE) conducted
4.3. Number of TRI knowledge products developed, disseminated and accessed through relevant knowledge platforms	0	Nov. 2019 Production of a synthesis of knowledge on mangrove soils Dec. 2019 production of 3 short videos May 2020 production of a draft Environmental Education Manual on Mangroves		Several documents produced in the course of production and distribution	1 knowledge sharing documents on mangrove ecosystems and rice production technologies promoted through the project 1 movie realized on project results

The creation of the monitoring-evaluation system could not be carried out because of the constraints related to the health crisis.
A document summarizing knowledge on mangrove soils has been produced but has not yet been disseminated.
An environmental education manual on mangroves has been produced and circulated to partners for advice and comments.
The videos have been disseminated at local and national level and one of them illustrated a news item on Youtube and on the global IUCN website.
https://youtu.be/2LZU-5EjiJo
https://www.iucn.org/node/31372

D. Output achievements and project delivery

Provide overview of achievement of key output indicators target to date achieved against inception to date targets. Explain overall reasons for deviations across the objectives.					
Objective 1. Title *Mangrove restoration opportunities in the three intervention regions are identified and widely disseminated*					
Output Indicators	**Periodic Result**	**Results to Date**	**Target to Date**	**Project Target**	**Description**
Output 1.1.1: Mangrove restoration opportunities in the three intervention regions are identified and widely disseminated	Oct. 2019: renewed dialogue Nov 2019: participatory territorial diagnosis Jan. Feb. 2020: selection of priorities for action	Mangrove restoration areas at the village level have been identified and mapped for implementation in year 2.	Restoration opportunities have been identified and disseminated at the local level.	All the opportunities for mangrove restoration in the 3 regions have been identified and disseminated.	Restoration opportunities have been identified in the 10 villages involved in the project. Given the potential withdrawal of 2 villages and the downgrading of the restoration ambitions of several other villages in the central and southern regions, additional restoration opportunities will have to be identified in the northern region. These restoration opportunities have been identified at the village level. They will have to be identified at the level of the 3 regions during the implementation of the ROAM process planned in year 2.
Output 1.1.2: Knowledge on mangrove ecosystem and associated resources development is strengthened	Jan. 2020 identification of a team of consultants for the mangrove economic valuation study	Same as periodic Result	0	Study on the economic value of mangroves carried out and national dissemination workshop held	The identification of a team of consultants was carried out late due to several difficulties: - Very limited number of Portuguese-speaking consultants in this field. - Relatively small initial budget - Opportunities for synergy with another IUCN mangrove project sharing the same objective but agreement not finalized This delay was combined with the appearance of the health crisis linked to COVID 19 thus preventing the start of the consultation.
Output 1.1.3: Mangrove restoration is promoted through an improved strategic and regulatory framework	Nov 2019 to Feb. 2020 definition of restoration strategies at village level. Nov. 2019: development of an	Same as periodic Result	The development of a national restoration strategy is planned for year 3. The	A national strategy for mangrove restoration developed and validated;	The cycle of 4 field missions during this year allowed to identify intervention strategies for mangrove restoration for the next year for all the villages. During the ROAM process planned for next year, it is envisaged to elaborate a restoration strategy for the 3 regions of the project in the North (Cacheu), the Centre (Quinara) and the South (Tombali) of the country.

	environmental education strategy Nov 2019 to Feb. 2020 Evaluation of the school situation in the villages where the project is implemented and first environmental education actions. May 2020 Development of an EE Manual on mangroves; design of school materials for 3000 students.		environmental education strategy has been developed and is beginning to be implemented. The finalization of the law is foreseen in year 2.		A census of the schools and their situation (numbers, teachers, available materials, immediate needs) has been carried out for all the villages. Environmental education activities have been conducted in the form of cinema-debates. The Environmental Education Manual has been prepared and is currently being circulated for advice and comments before being finalized. Preliminary discussions are under way with other similar projects to assess the possibility of joint actions in this field.
Objective 2. Title *D**egraded natural mangrove habitats and agricultural land are recovered through the restoration of 1500 ha of mangroves, the rehabilitation of 1200 ha of rice fields and the improvement of rice post-harvest technologies*					
Output Indicators	**Periodic Result**	**Results to Date**	**Target to Date**	**Project Target**	**Description**
Output 2.1.1: 1,500 ha of mangroves are restored, rehabilitated or replanted in the three principal agro-climatic-soil zones of the country (North, Centre and South)	Nov 2019 to Jan. 2020 Participatory territorial diagnosis carried out in all intervention sites; Restoration areas are selected for year 2. Consensus has been reached on management plans for rice fields and	Same as periodic Result	Restoration areas have been identified with the participation of the communities.	1,500 ha of mangroves are restored,	The activities carried out during this first year have made it possible to identify priority restoration areas and implementation modalities. The areas identified cover a total of about 300 ha to be restored. This area is less than expected due to the lower intentions of several villages in relation to the commitments declared during the project formulation phase. The implementation of restoration activities can only take place during the rainy season and should start in July 2020 if the health crisis of COVID 19 allows it.

	mangroves to be restored.				
Output 2.1.2 1,200 ha of mangrove rice fields or lowland rice fields are rehabilitated in the three principal agro-climatic-soil zones of the country (North, Centre and South)	Nov Dec.2019 Synthesis of knowledge on mangrove soils Jan.Feb.2020 Diagnosis on the rehabilitation of rice fields carried out; exchange visit of 9 producers and 5 technicians on hydraulic management.	Same as periodic Result	The rehabilitation priorities and the modalities of their implementation have been identified for year 2.	1,200 ha of mangrove rice fields or lowland rice fields rehabilitated	The technical expertise carried out with the assistance of the NGO Univers-sel with the participation of the communities and administrations concerned has made it possible to identify the first rehabilitation priorities and the implementation arrangements for an area of about 500 ha. An exchange visit to sites rehabilitated with the assistance of the same NGO in another region enabled representatives of the rice growers associated with the project and the leaders of our NGO partners to familiarize themselves with water management techniques. The list of equipment to be acquired has been drawn up and the call for bid sollicitation is about to be issued in June. The actual implementation of the rice field rehabilitation actions can only begin after the harvests at the end of 2020.
Output 2.1.3: Adapted post-harvest technologies are identified with local communities and developed according to available means	Not applicable in year 1 of the project.				Supply of processing equipment (threshing machines, huskers) and rice storage (cereal banks) for all villages.
Output 2.1.4: Mangrove restoration and rice-fields rehabilitation technical itineraries	Not applicable in year 1 of the project.				Production and dissemination of technical itineraries for the restoration of mangroves and the rehabilitation of rice fields
Objective 3. Title *The institutional and financial context of mangroves and forests restoration in Guinea Bissau is improved*					
Output Indicators	**Periodic Result**	**Results to Date**	**Target to Date**	**Project Target**	**Description**

Output 3.1.1: National institutions (IBAP, GPC, DGA and DGFF) have the technical skills and required equipment to develop geo-referenced databases and to produce land use and participative management maps	0	0		4 National institutions trained and equipped to develop georeferenced databases, produce maps, and monitor ecological monitoring of landscape restoration.	A consultant has been identified to deliver the training on database creation and management. The crisis at COVID 19 prevented the delivery of this training. The other activities planned in the framework of this output are scheduled to be carried out in the following years
Output 3.1.2.: Capacities strengthened of national institutions to access international funding for mangrove restoration	0	0		Donor field visits carried out; Restoration champions put in touch with potential donors; bankable project writing workshop for the benefit of restoration champions.	The activities foreseen in this output should not start before the 3rd year of the project.

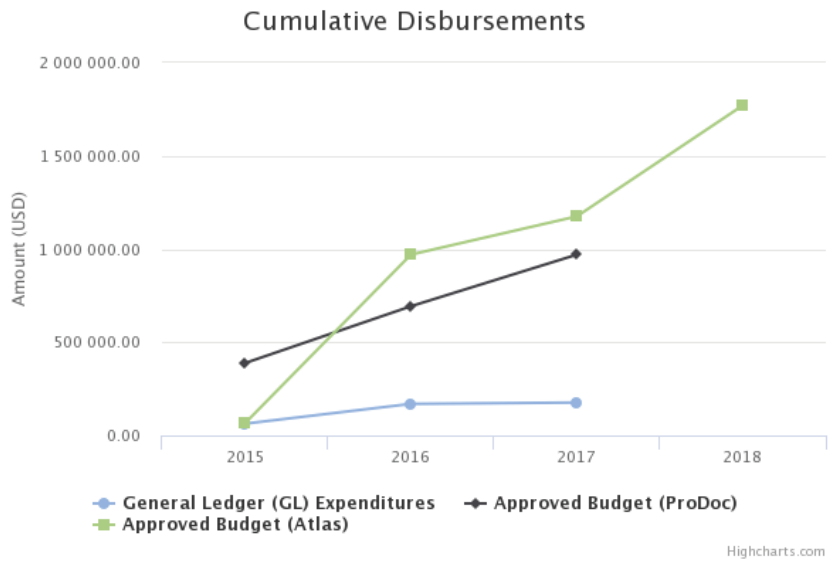
Objective 4. Title *A monitoring and evaluation framework is implemented; Project good practices and lessons learnt are collected and widely disseminated*					
Output Indicators	**Periodic Result**	**Results to Date**	**Target to Date**	**Project Target**	**Description**
Output 4.1.1.: A monitoring and evaluation framework is implemented and	0	0	0	A monitoring and evaluation system for project	No activity could be developed in relation to this output.

provides systematic information on project progress towards expected outcomes and outputs				activities is established and operational.	
4.1.2.: Project good practices and lessons learnt are collected and widely disseminated	Nov. 2019. A training session on video editing was given to the partners involved in communication. 3 short videos were produced. 12/19 production of a Communication strategy. Oct 2019 - March 2020. Radio programmes were broadcast on community radio stations.	Production of a communication strategy. Dissemination of information on project objectives and activities	Some elements of communication produced	Lessons learned on mangrove restoration and rice field rehabilitation techniques are drawn and disseminated. A film and radio programmes are produced that highlight the lessons learned from the project.	The few communications elements produced in the form of videos or radio programs have not, strictly speaking, disseminated lessons learned since we are at the beginning of the project. The activities related to this output are planned mainly from the 2nd year onwards
4.1.3.: South-south knowledge exchanges are facilitated	02/19 and 10/19 participation of project team members in the annual meetings of the Global TRI Programme (Kenya and FAO-Rome) Training or coaching webinars on	Global Knowledge-Sharing workshops to promote knowledge sharing between all TRI countries. Webinars	Participation in 2 meetings of the overall programme	5 TRI Global KS meetings attended by representatives from national child project teams	PMU and representatives of the Executing (IUCN) and Implementing Agency (IBAP) participated in both meetings and webinars.

	elements common to the different national TRI child projects				

E. Implementation Progress **A completer par le service financier**

Insert. Graph on cumulative disbursements on a yearly basis since project launch (example below)



Cumulative Disbursements	
Cumulative general ledger delivery against total approved amount (in Project Document) - %	%
Cumulative general ledger delivery against expected delivery as of this year - %	%
Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June (note: amount to be updated in later August)	USD

Key Financing Amounts	
PPG Amount	USD
GEF Grant Amount	USD
Co-Financing	USD

Key Project Dates	
PIF Approval Date	USD
CEO Endorsement Date	USD
Project Document Signature Date (Project start date)	USD
Date of Inception workshop (Project launch)	
Expected date of mid-term review	
Actual date of mid-term review	
Expected date of Terminal Evaluation	
Original planned closing date	
Revised Planned closing date	

Dates of Project Steering Committee / Board Meetings during reporting period (June to July

F. Critical Risk Management

Current types of critical risks[4]	Critical risk management measures undertaken in this reporting period
Operational: 2 of the 10 project villages have not confirmed their interest in mangrove restoration.	The project partners have planned to select 2 new villages in the Northern region where the opportunities for mangrove restoration are the most important.
Political and institutional: in a context of instability, there have been frequent reshuffles within the Ministries and Directorates General concerned by the project	Informal contacts have been maintained regularly with the authorities concerned as changes have taken place. The stability of IBAP has enabled regular field missions to be carried out
Sanitary: COVID 19 Crisis	A review of all activities was carried out in terms of their operationality in the context of the crisis. The programme was oriented accordingly. Part of the funds originally intended to organize meetings at the local level was used to sensitize communities to the risks of COVID 19 and to provide materials to improve hygiene in villages. Until further notice the meetings and consultations had to be postponed.

G. Adjustments

Comments on delays in key project milestones

Project Manager (EA): Please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure.
Delays in setting up the Steering Committee due to frequent changes of interlocutors within the project's partner administrations. Delay in setting up a monitoring-evaluation system. Delays in carrying out certain consultations and training courses due to difficulties in finding interested or available Portuguese-speaking candidates
Regional / Country Office (IA): Please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure.
Global Thematic Programme (IA): Please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure.

[4] Example: Operational, political, financial, etc.

A. Ratings and Overall Assessments[5]

Role	YEAR Development Objective Progress Rating	YEAR Implementation Progress Rating
Project Manager / Coordinator	The majority of the activities planned in Year 1 of the project have been completed. In spite of the reshuffles observed within the partner administrations, the actors involved at the technical and operational levels (technicians of the administrations, NGOs, communities) were able to operate in an efficient and coordinated manner under the impetus of IBAP and the PMU. Government instability has had a negative impact on opportunities to influence and support restoration policies.	Overall, project management and implementation of activities proceeded as planned until the appearance of COVID 19.
Overall Assessment	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Role	**YEAR Development Objective Progress Rating**	**YEAR Implementation Progress Rating**
IUCN Regional/Country Office (IA)		
Overall Assessment		
Role	**YEAR Development Objective Progress Rating**	**YEAR Implementation Progress Rating**
IUCN Global Thematic Programme (IA)		
Overall Assessment		

[5] Based on ratings from section B

B. Gender

Progress in advancing Gender equality and women's empowerment

Has a gender analysis been carried out this reporting period? Please note that all projects approved since GEF 6 are required to carry out a gender analysis.
No
If a gender analysis was carried out, what were the findings?
Does this project specifically target woman or girls as direct beneficiaries?
Yes, the project has components specifically geared towards women. Economic activities of Income Generating Activities (IGA) type are exclusively oriented towards women's needs. They include horticulture, access to water, solar salt production, improved stoves, oyster farming and rice processing. after harvest. Women are also directly concerned by the preparation and implementation of mangrove restoration activities.
Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and improving the empowerment of women. **Results reported can include site level results working with local communities as well as work to integrate gender considerations into national policies, strategies and planning. 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 first operational year of the project, planning and training activities were distributed equitably in accordance with the roles assigned to women and men. All the interventions relating to territorial diagnosis and the definition of priorities and intervention modalities were carried out collectively with women and men insofar as both sexes are involved in the economy of rice fields and mangroves.
The involvement of women will be mainly at the level of income-generating activities, of which they will be the exclusive beneficiaries. Meetings and field visits have been organized specifically with women who have expressed particular interest in horticulture, access to water, oyster farming, solar salt and improved stoves. The project will take into consideration not only the economic aspects of these activities but also the need to alleviate women's working conditions (access to water, rice threshers and huskers, solar salt vs. traditional saliculture, etc.): these two angles will be considered simultaneously in the selection of micro-projects.
Women will also be specifically involved in mangrove restoration operations, offering them additional income opportunities.
At the technical level, the selection of candidates for the training courses has taken into account the need for gender balance. Despite this precaution, the representation of women is around 30%, due to their weak representation within the partner organisations.

C. Communicating Impact

Tell us the story of the project focusing on how the project has helped to improve people's lives.

(The text will be used for IUCN Corporate Communications, the IUCN-GEF web-site, and/or other internal and external knowledge and learning efforts

Text published on the IUCN website:

Where rice, mangroves, and dykes connect in Guinea-Bissau

A look at the interesting relationship between protecting and restoring mangroves and restoring degraded rice fields for food security and climate mitigation in Guinea Bissau

Guinea-Bissau is a country of mangroves par excellence. Available statistics mention a coverage of 476,000 hectares in 1940, 258,000 ha in 1993 and 326,000 ha in 2017. The current mangrove surface area represents 9% of the national territory, the highest proportion in the world. The evolution of the surface area corresponds to the evolution of mangrove rice-growing, which developed until the early 2000s and then showed a gradual abandonment thereafter. Some of the abandoned rice fields have been spontaneously recolonised by mangroves, which explains the progress observed in recent years. But this could benefit the farmers in the long run.

Mangrove rice cultivation involves building earthen dykes to protect the rice fields from seawater ingress. As the sea level rises, the sea is increasingly likely to overtop the dykes and destroy the crops unless there is a sufficient mangrove barrier. Farmers are finding it difficult to raise the dykes on the edges of their fields and are forced to abandon part of the rice fields. Other factors such as changes in rainfall patterns and the exodus of young people to urban centres are aggravating the situation, depriving the communities of a large labour force.

If the old breeched dykes are kept in place on the margins of the abandoned rice fields, the tide may not penetrate sufficiently into the formerly cultivated areas to encourage the natural restoration of mangroves, and the soil becomes prohibitively salty and acidic. In this situation, both farmers and the environment lose out. A Global Environment Fund project called The Restoration Initiative (TRI) in Guinea-Bissau aims to reverse this trend by strengthening food security on the one hand and restoring the mangroves on the other.

To this end, the project aims to support communities in the rehabilitation of rice fields that they consider the most essential to their security by providing them with the means to reinforce dykes and improve hydraulic management of cultivated areas. In return, the villages commit to flatten the upper part of the dykes of abandoned rice fields to allow the sea - and propagules - to enter again and thus promote a natural restoration of the mangroves (photo).

On part of the project's intervention sites, rice fields are threatened because they do not benefit from a sufficient mangrove margin to protect the dikes from the effects of marine erosion. In order to restore this protection, it is necessary to regain space on the threatened rice fields to plant mangroves (photo).

All these situations of strategic retreat imply a high level of requirement in terms of territorial diagnosis, consultation, negotiation and implementation of solutions. Following several identification missions, the project is currently in a phase of territorial diagnosis carried out with the participation of the communities.

The situation of rice fields and mangroves is analysed during field visits coupled with aerial images taken by drone. During these visits, farmers provide a set of information on the evolution of their territory and the solutions they recommend for the future. These solutions are then discussed and evaluated on a technical and financial level before any decision is taken. In the coming months formal agreements will be signed by the stakeholders before the work on rice field rehabilitation and mangrove restoration can begin.

Compared to other rice field rehabilitation projects in Guinea-Bissau, the TRI project is characterised by an ecosystem focused participatory approach that takes into consideration the issue of mangroves and climate change, exploring nature-based solutions with a view to restoration. These solutions will be systematised and shared for possible replication at the national level. In addition, a draft law on mangrove conservation will be developed with the support of the TRI project.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=18&v=2LZU-5EjiJo&feature=emb_title

-Web story by Rui Andrade and Pierre Campredon (Management project Unit)

https://www.iucn.org/node/31372

What is the most significant change that has resulted from the project this reporting period?

(This text will be used for internal knowledge management in the respective technical team and region.)

- Establishment of the Project Management Unit
- Project inception workshop
- Contractualization of partnerships with NGOs and Public Institutions
- Acquisition of equipment
- Setting the project dynamics in motion in the field
- Established synergies and search for complementarities of the actions discussed with similar projects
- Various theoretical and practical training courses
- Participatory territorial diagnostics carried out in all sites
- Negotiations concluded on areas and modalities for mangrove restoration and rice field rehabilitation
- Identification and mapping of the facilities needed for the rehabilitation of mangrove rice fields and the corresponding equipment
- Identification of the needs expressed by women in terms of income-generating activities and related equipment
- Strategies and First Elements of Environmental Communication and Education
- Participation in global TRI meetings

Describe how the project supported south-south cooperation, triangular cooperation efforts in the reporting year

No initiative in this area this year

Project links and social media

Please include: project website, project page on the IUCN website, any other facebook, twitter, flickr or youtube account related to the project, as well as hyperlinks to any media coverage of the project, for example stories written by an outside source. Please upload any supporting files, including photos, videos, stories, and other documents.

https://www.iucn.org/node/31372
https://youtu.be/2LZU-5EjiJo

D. Partnerships

Give the name of the partner(s), and describe the partnership, recent notable activities, and any innovative aspects of the work. Please spell out all acronyms and make sure the description provides the reader with a better understanding of the work GEF-funded projects are doing with key partners, including the GEF small grant programme, indigenous peoples, the private sector, and other partners. Please list the full names of the partners (no acronyms) and summarize what they are doing to help the project achieve its objective. The data may be used for reporting to the GEF or IUCN web site, and for other internal and external knowledge and learning efforts. The global thematic programme involved should review and edit/elaborate on the information entered here. All projects must complete this section. Please enter N/A in cells that are not applicable to your project.

Civil society organisations/NGOs
Ação para o Desinvolvimento: National NGO direct partner for the implementation of activities in the North and South regions. Tiniguena-Esta Terra é nossa: National NGO direct partner for the implementation of activities in the Centre region Palmeirinha: National NGO partner for the implementation of environmental education actions Univers-sel: French NGO technical partner for expertise in hydraulic management of mangrove rice fields and solar salt production
Indigenous Peoples
Feloups Communities: project partners for the North region Baiote Communities: project partners for the North region Balante Communities: project partners for the Centre and South regions
Private sector
N/A
GEF small grants programme
N/A
Other partners
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development - Directorate General for Agriculture - Regional Delegations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development - Directorate General of Forests and Wildlife - Directorate General of Rural Engineering - National Agricultural Research Institute Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development - Directorate General for the Environment - Directorate General for Sustainable Development - Coastal Planning Office - Institute of Biodiversity and Protected Areas Support Project for the Economic Development of the South (Rehabilitation of Rice Fields and Associated Sectors)

E. Grievances

Environmental or Social Grievance

This section must be completed if a grievance related to the environmental and social impacts of this project was addressed this reporting period. It is very important that the questions are answered fully and in detail. If no environmental or social grievance was addressed this reporting period, then please do not answer the following questions. If more than one grievance was addressed, please answer the following questions. If more than one grievance was addressed, please answer the following questions for the most significant grievance only and explain the other grievance(s) in the comment box below.

What environmental or social issue was the grievance related to?
How would you rate the significance of the grievance
Please describe the on-going or resolved grievance noting who was involved, what action was taken to resolve the grievance, how much time it took, and what you learned from managing the grievance process. If more than one grievance was addressed this reporting period, please explain the other grievances here.

F. Annex - Ratings definitions

Implementation Progress Ratings

Highly Satisfactory (HS): Implementation of **all** components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised implementation plan for the project. The project can be presented as "good practice".

Satisfactory (S): Implementation of **most** components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan except for only a few that are subject to remedial action.

Moderately Satisfactory (MS): Implementation of **some** components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with **some** components requiring remedial action.

Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU): Implementation of **some** components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan with **most** components requiring remedial action.

Unsatisfactory (U): Implementation of **most** components is not in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.

Highly Unsatisfactory (HU): Implementation of **none** of the components is in substantial compliance with the original/formally revised plan.

Global Environment Objective/Development Objective Ratings

Highly Satisfactory (HS): Project is expected to achieve or exceed **all** its major global environmental objectives, and yield substantial global environmental benefits, without major shortcomings. The project can be presented as "good practice".

Satisfactory (S): Project is expected to achieve **most** of its major global environmental objectives, and yield satisfactory global environmental benefits, with only minor shortcomings.

Moderately Satisfactory (MS): Project is expected to achieve **most** of its major relevant objectives, but with either significant shortcomings or modest overall relevance. Project is expected not to achieve **some** of its major global environmental objectives or yield some of the expected global environment benefits.

Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU): Project is expected to achieve its major global environmental objectives with major shortcomings or is expected to achieve only **some** of its major global environmental objectives.

Unsatisfactory (U): Project is expected **not** to achieve **most** of its major global environment objectives or to yield any satisfactory global environmental benefits

Highly Unsatisfactory (HU): The project has failed to achieve, and is not expected to achieve, **any** of its major global environment objectives with no worthwhile benefits.

Development/Adaptation Objective Ratings (For LDCF/SCCF/GCF Adaptation)

Highly Satisfactory (HS): Project is expected to achieve or exceed all its major development/adaptation objectives, and yield substantial adaptation benefits, without major shortcomings. The project can be presented as "good practice".

Satisfactory (S): Project is expected to achieve most of its major development/adaptation objectives, and yield satisfactory adaptation benefits, with only minor shortcomings.

Marginally Satisfactory (MS): Project is expected to achieve most of its major relevant development/adaptation objectives, but with either significant shortcomings or modest overall relevance. Project is expected not to achieve some of its major development objectives or yield some of the expected adaptation benefits.

Marginally Unsatisfactory (MU): Project is expected to achieve its major development/adaptation objectives with major shortcomings or is expected to achieve only some of its major adaptation objectives.

Unsatisfactory (U): Project is expected not to achieve most of its major development/adaptation objectives or to yield any satisfactory adaptation benefits.

Highly Unsatisfactory (HU): The project has failed to achieve, and is not expected to achieve, any of its major development/adaptation objectives with no worthwhile adaptation benefits.

Risk ratings

Risk ratings will assess the overall risk of factors internal or external to the project that may affect implementation or prospects for achieving project objectives. Risks of projects should be rated on the following scale:

High Risk (H): There is a probability of greater than 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks.

Substantial Risk (S): There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks.

Modest Risk (M): There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.

Low Risk (L): There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.