Umbrella Programme to Support Development of Biodiversity Finance Plans
GEF Project Implementation Report
1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026

A. BASIC INFORMATION

Country	**Senegal**
Name of Project Coordinator	Thierno Ba
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B. INDICATIVE/EMERGING RESULTS OF THE PROJECT, KEY CHALLENGES, and LESSONS LEARNED

B.1 Top three Key Results of the Project

Guidance: Use the following criteria for selection of key project outcome/output-level results i) results that directly contribute to project indicators; ii) results that contribute to gender equality; iii) results that contribute to capacity development or policy making; iv) result in which significant proportion of the annual budget is spent; and v)) any other result that is important for the project for that year. In selecting key results, think about what your team is most proud of achieving during the year. Disaggregated data (sex, age, social group, etc) must be used to the extent possible when reporting on beneficiaries. Please note that this section is a summary of your key results, details should be indicated in the technical accomplishments section.

Tip: In providing results examples, please consider (i) 'what' was achieved; how' it was achieved; (ii) 'who' it was achieved for and with; and (iii) 'where' it was achieved.

1. Improved understanding of the policy and institutional framework for biodiversity, the financing landscape, and biodiversity trends: In Senegal, the BIOFIN initiative officially started in April 2025. One of the key achievements of this phase is the completion of the Policy and Institutional Review (PIR). The study was finalized and validated during a multi-stakeholder workshop that brought together 36 experts from public administrations, civil society, the private sector, academia, and technical and financial partners in Dakar.

This process made it possible to identify the main biodiversity financing mechanisms, as well as institutional and regulatory gaps in the conservation and sustainable management of natural resources. It also highlighted national biodiversity trends and the main drivers of ecosystem loss and degradation.

One of the key insights from the report is that the real challenge in Senegal is not only the lack of funding, but also the poor allocation of existing resources, the fragmentation of financing mechanisms, and their weak integration into public policies. In this context, priorities should first focus on optimizing available resources, reallocating them toward strategic sectors, reforming existing mechanisms and frameworks, and only then mobilizing additional funding.

In this context, stakeholders have prioritized several financing solutions among 36 existing aimed at sustainably strengthening biodiversity financing in Senegal. The top five financing solutions identified in the PIR are as follows:

1. The reallocation and securing of revenues generated from natural resources, including mining, forestry and water royalties, as well as fishing licenses, through improved traceability and targeted allocation toward biodiversity conservation;
2. The strengthening of green budgeting and the systematic integration of biodiversity into programme-based budgeting, results-based budgeting, and macroeconomic frameworks;
3. The reform of economic incentives, particularly through the reduction of harmful subsidies in the agriculture, fisheries, and energy sectors, as well as the expansion of environmental taxes based on the polluter-pays principle;
4. The deployment of innovative financing mechanisms such as biodiversity trust funds, green bonds, ecological compensation mechanisms, carbon markets/REDD+, and water quality markets;
5. The development of biodiversity public-private partnerships (PPPs) to diversify financing sources, through the involvement of companies from the extractive, tourism, and agricultural sectors, as well as the establishment of appropriate incentive instruments.

In this regard, Senegal has initiated a feasibility study for the establishment of a biodiversity trust fund, which was identified in the Policy and Institutional Review (PIR) as a priority financing mechanism for biodiversity conservation and sustainable management.

2. Improved knowledge on public expenditures and biodiversity : The project made significant progress in the analysis of biodiversity-related expenditures. Sectoral budget data were collected and analyzed from several ministries and public institutions operating in the fields of environment, agriculture, fisheries, water, mining, and tourism. This activity was carried out through a collaborative process involving national experts, public institutions, and technical partners. It contributed to strengthening national capacities in biodiversity finance tracking and evidence-based decision-making. The results will help guide future investment priorities and support the mobilization of innovative financing mechanisms for biodiversity in Senegal.

3. Strengthened stakeholder engagement and awareness on innovative biodiversity financing mechanisms : The BIOFIN programme strengthened the engagement of national stakeholders on sustainable biodiversity financing issues through the organization of technical workshops, consultation sessions, and high-level panels. Discussions highlighted several innovative financing opportunities, including green and blue bonds, payments for ecosystem services, conservation trust funds, and climate finance linked to nature-based solutions. This momentum helped strengthen coordination among public institutions, development partners, and non-state actors, while fostering national ownership of the BIOFIN process. The project also contributed to raising awareness among decision-makers and financial partners on the importance of investing in biodiversity as a driver of sustainable development and climate resilience in Senegal.

B.2 Results on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Guidance: What specific initiatives has your country implemented to ensure women's participation/engagement in biodiversity finance activities.

Highlight concrete outcome/output results achieved or under-achieved towards gender equality and women's empowerment in the year. Analyze what worked well and/or did not work well and why.

The BIOFIN programme in Senegal promoted the participation and engagement of women in biodiversity finance processes through inclusive stakeholder consultations, technical workshops, and policy dialogue sessions. During the reporting period, women represented approximately 30% of participants and contributors to the different technical and consultation processes carried out under the project. Women representatives from public institutions, civil society organizations, academia, and local community structures actively participated in the validation workshop of the Policy and Institutional Review (PIR) and in discussions related to biodiversity finance solutions and priorities.
In addition, the National Parks Directorate organized a dedicated workshop focused exclusively on women's participation in biodiversity conservation. This initiative helped strengthen awareness of the important role women play in the sustainable management of natural resources and in community-based biodiversity conservation efforts. It also facilitated women's participation in BIOFIN activities, as they are now better represented and more actively engaged in biodiversity finance discussions and related initiatives.
The programme also ensured that gender considerations were integrated into consultations and analytical work, particularly in identifying the differentiated impacts of biodiversity loss on women and local communities, as well as opportunities for women's participation in sustainable natural resource management and green economic activities.
A positive outcome during the reporting period was the strengthening of awareness among stakeholders on the importance of integrating gender equality into biodiversity finance planning and decision-making processes. The collaborative and participatory approach adopted by BIOFIN facilitated broader inclusion and ownership of the initiative.
However, challenges remain regarding the systematic collection of sex-disaggregated data and the full integration of gender-responsive indicators into biodiversity finance assessments. Limited availability of gender-specific data in some sectors constrained deeper analysis of women's direct contributions and benefits. Addressing these gaps will remain a priority in the next phase of project implementation.

B.3 Key results achieved through Partnerships and Stakeholder Engagement Strategy

Guidance: Highlight results that the Project achieved through strategic partnership with government, other UN agencies, private sector, IFIs, Vertical Funds, foundations, etc. You may also Include progress in the inception workshop, steering committee establishment, and launch event.

The participatory approach adopted by the project contributed to strengthening national ownership of the BIOFIN process, improving stakeholder engagement, and creating stronger momentum for the development of the future National Biodiversity Finance Plan.
The project also strengthened collaboration with national technical institutions, including the Directorate of National Parks and other sectoral agencies, which actively contributed to analytical work and stakeholder mobilization activities.
BIOFIN Senegal particularly prioritized synergies and coordination with other national and international biodiversity initiatives, including the BIODEV2030 initiative and the national committee responsible for the revision of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP). This collaboration helped ensure alignment between biodiversity policy priorities, financing needs, and national implementation frameworks under the Global Biodiversity Framework.
BIOFIN Senegal was involved in the initial discussions and coordination among key partners—such as the Ministry of Environment, AFD, and Wetlands International—to initiate a feasibility study for the establishment of a Biodiversity Trust Fund in Senegal.
The major achievements of BIOFIN Senegal during the reporting period were made possible through strong institutional support from national authorities and the active engagement and mobilization of stakeholders.

B.4 **Indicative/Emerging results of the project and lessons learned.** ***Identify and provide a short description of key and initial finance solutions identified based on your current progress.***

The implementation of BIOFIN Senegal has generated important emerging results and helped identify several potential biodiversity finance solutions that could support the long-term sustainability of conservation efforts in the country. Based on the findings of the Policy and Institutional Review (PIR) and ongoing biodiversity expenditure analysis, a number of priority financing mechanisms have been identified and are being explored. One of the most significant emerging results is the initiation of a feasibility study for the establishment of a Biodiversity Trust Fund in Senegal. The mechanism was identified through the PIR as a priority solution to ensure sustainable and long-term financing for biodiversity conservation and protected area management. Other indicative finance solutions identified include: Green and blue bonds to support investments in marine and coastal ecosystem conservation and sustainable natural resource management; Payments for ecosystem services (PES) to incentivize local communities and private actors to protect ecosystems and biodiversity; Climate finance opportunities linked to nature-based solutions, particularly in the areas of ecosystem restoration, coastal resilience, and sustainable land management; Environmental fiscal reforms and biodiversity-related taxation mechanisms to strengthen domestic resource mobilization for biodiversity; Public-private partnerships to promote sustainable investment in biodiversity-friendly sectors such as ecotourism and sustainable agriculture. An important lesson learned during the reporting period is that strong institutional ownership and early stakeholder engagement are critical for building consensus around biodiversity finance reforms and innovative financing mechanisms. The participatory and cross-sectoral approach adopted by BIOFIN facilitated collaboration among ministries, technical agencies, development partners, civil society, and the private sector. Another key lesson learned is the importance of aligning biodiversity finance processes with ongoing national policy frameworks and related initiatives, including BIODEV2030 and the revision process of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP). This alignment has strengthened coherence between policy priorities, financing needs, and implementation strategies. However, the project also identified challenges related to data availability, coordination across sectors, and limited technical capacities for biodiversity finance tracking and monitoring. Continued capacity-building efforts and strengthened institutional coordination will therefore be essential for the successful development and implementation of the future National Biodiversity Finance Plan.

B.5 Implementation progress.

5.1 Key Challenges and Enabling conditions in project implementation

Question	Select all the applies	Please provide additional information on key challenges, delays and enabling factors with outputs/activities during the reporting period. If there were no delays, please indicate 'not applicable'.
Has the project experienced any procurement challenges during the reporting period, which may risk the completion of any critical activity within the approved project duration?	☐ Delays in the planned initiation of key procurement processes ☐ Capacity gaps to develop technical requirements (TORs/specifications) ☐ Procurement capacity gaps ☐ None or very limited market response to tenders issued, evaluation delays, rejections/delays on reviews by procurement oversight committees, ☐ Protests/complaints logged by bidders ☐ Incapacity of contractors to deliver on contractual terms ☐ Weak contract management ☐ Weak operational and/or maintenance plans developed ☐ Intellectual property rights issues ☐ Others, please specify:	Not applicable

Question	Select all the applies	Please provide additional information on key challenges, delays and enabling factors with outputs/activities during the reporting period. If there were no delays, please indicate 'not applicable'.
Have you experienced any challenges in the implementation of the project's components and activities in compliance with the project's approved implementation/work plan?	☐Lack of support from the Ministry of Environment (MoE) ☐Lack of support from the Ministry of Finance (MoF) ☐Insufficient human resources, high staff turnover, or lack of expertise in biodiversity finance ☒Weak information systems or a lack of disaggregated financial and biodiversity data ☐Fragmented collaboration among government agencies, civil society, and the private sector ☐Limited uptake of recommendations ☐Capacity building ☐Others, please specify	Indeed, budgetary data on diversity are very poorly disaggregated and sometimes difficult to access, particularly in the private sector.
Are there any enabling factors that helped you achieve your outputs that you want to highlight?	☒Elevated political will and recognition of the national biodiversity agenda ☒Elevated political will and recognition of the global biodiversity agenda ☒Leadership from MoE to work on biodiversity finance ☒Leadership from MoF to work on biodiversity finance ☒Effective technical support received from Global Technical Teams (BIOFIN Technical Advisers) ☐Others, please specify	Senegal is strongly committed to preserving its biodiversity and meeting international biodiversity commitments. BIOFIN benefits from strong support from focal points in the Ministries of Environment and Finance. The BIOFIN team's ability to mobilize resources should also be noted.
If your country faced challenges in ensuring meaningful participation and engagement of diverse stakeholders (e.g. civil society, private sector, Indigenous Peoples, local communities, women's groups, youth) in the project, please select which:	☐Lack of established mechanisms or platforms for stakeholder participation ☐Limited capacity of key stakeholders to effectively engage ☐Inadequate financial resources for stakeholder engagement processes ☐Inadequate human resources for stakeholder engagement processes ☐Difficulty securing high-level political support and cross-sectoral leadership ☐Legal, institutional, or cultural barriers to engagement of certain groups ☐Unable to determine the primary challenge at this stage ☐Physical accessibility constrains in accessing stakeholder groups ☐Language constraints ☐Other - please specify	Not applicable

b.5.2. Risk Management. **Please include specific measures to manage the project's implementation delay and challenges.**

Several measures were implemented to mitigate implementation delays and operational difficulties encountered during the project. These included: Strengthening coordination mechanisms with government institutions, technical partners, and consultants through regular follow-up meetings and a clear division of tasks. Using hybrid consultation approaches (in-person and virtual meetings) to ensure business continuity despite logistical or scheduling constraints. Anticipating potential roadblocks and involving focal points in organizing workshops and consultations. Establishing synergy with other projects and initiatives working on biodiversity. These mitigation measures helped maintain project momentum and ensure progress toward achieving the estimated results despite implementation constraints.

C. TECHNICAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS. Status of Output Indicators.

1. Project Outcome Indicators

Component	Project Output Indicator	Baseline		Targets based on PRODOC			Results	
		Year	Value	2025	2026	2027	Total Result 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026	Cumulative (2024 + 2025 + 2026 + 2027)
Project Outcome	Number of direct beneficiaries disaggregated by gender (including national workshops, webinars and MOOCs)	2023	0	400 people per country; 100 women and 100 men	400 people per country; 200 women and 200 men	400 people per country; 200 women and 200 men	**212 (88 women; 124 men)**	**212 (88 women; 124 men)**

Output 1: National biodiversity finance policy and institutional reviews

Component	Project Output Indicator	Baseline		Targets based on PRODOC			Results	
		Year	Value	2025	2026	2027	Current Report Status	Short summary of key findings (max 500 words)
Output 1.1: National biodiversity finance policy and institutional reviews	Biodiversity-related policy and institutional framework analyses completed	2023	0	1 draft report	1 completed report		**In Progress WITH Draft**	*Through the PIR, we were able to identify 36 existing finance mechanisms.*
Output 1.2: National biodiversity finance policy and institutional reviews	Report on nature-positive and nature-harmful subsidies completed	2023	0	1 draft report	1 completed report		**In Progress WITH Draft**	This section is included in the overall PIR report.
Links to Evidence (Link to completed and draft reports) Upload document in the GEF SharePoint Folder: Policy and Institutional Review Reports **Rename your file to: PIR_COUNTRY NAME**							The report uploaded in the folder will undergo improvements in design and formatting.	

Output 2: National biodiversity expenditure reviews conducted across all relevant sectors

Component	Project Output Indicator	Baseline		Targets based on PRODOC			Results	
		Year	Value	2025	2026	2027	Current Report Status	Short summary of key findings (max 500 words)
Output 2: National biodiversity expenditure reviews conducted across all relevant sectors	Report on national biodiversity expenditures completed	2023	0	1 draft report	1 completed report		**In Progress WITHOUT Draft**	Analyzing biodiversity spending proved more complex than anticipated due to the large amount of data and the sectors involved. The BER report will be available in the third quarter of 2026. Consultation workshops have already been held. The data collection report is available on SharePoint.
Links to Evidence (Link to completed and draft reports) Upload document in the GEF SharePoint Folder: Biodiversity Expenditure Reports **Rename your file to: BER_COUNTRY NAME**								

Output 3: National assessment of financing needs required to achieve Global Biodiversity Framework targets

Component	Project Output Indicator	Baseline		Targets based on PRODOC			Results	
		Year	Value	2025	2026	2027	Current Report Status	Short summary of key findings (max 500 words)
Output 3: National assessment of financing needs required to achieve Global Biodiversity Framework targets	report on national financial needs assessment for biodiversity completed	2023	0	1 draft report	1 draft report	1 completed report	**In Progress WITHOUT Draft**	The FNA report is expected in the third quarter of 2026. Budgeting sessions are underway. The SPANB budget is scheduled to begin on June 23rd.
Links to Evidence (Link to completed and draft reports) Upload document in the GEF SharePoint Folder: Finance Needs Assessment Reports **Rename your file to: FNA_COUNTRY NAME**								

Output 4: Development of National Biodiversity Finance Plans

Component	Project Output Indicator	Baseline		Targets based on PRODOC			Results	
		Year	Value	2025	2026	2027	Current Report Status	Short summary of key findings (max 500 words)
Output 4: Development of National Biodiversity Finance Plans	National biodiversity finance plans completed	2023	0	0	1 draft report	1 completed report	**Not Started**	Click or tap here to enter text.
Links to Evidence (Link to completed and draft reports) Upload document in the GEF SharePoint Folder: Biodiversity Finance Plans **Rename your file to: BFP_COUNTRY NAME**								

Output 5: Global Knowledge and Technical Assistance Platform

Component	Project Output Indicator	Baseline		Targets based on PRODOC			Results	
		Year	Value	2025	2026	2027	Total Result 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026	Cumulative (2024 + 2025 + 2026 + 2027)
Output 5: Global Knowledge and Technical Assistance Platform	Number of women accessing/ participating in technical support	2023	0	At least 200 women per country accessing technical support and capacity building activities	At least 200 women per country accessing technical support and capacity building activities	At least 100 women per country accessing technical support and capacity building activities	**88**	88
Links to Evidence (Attendance Sheets for consultations, zoom registrations for webinars, etc.) Upload document in the GEF SharePoint Folder: Other Country Evidence **Rename your file to: BFP_COUNTRY NAME_Evidence Number**								

D. RISK LOG UPDATE (UPLOAD IN QUANTUM: PROJECT TAB > PROJECT RESULTS AND CLOSURE TAB > SELECT PROJECT > CLICK PROJECT RISK)

After you update the project risk in Quantum, please go to *Projects Risk Dashboard - Power BI* | *C.* ***Project Risk Treatment Tab*** *and download your updated risk matrix and upload here. Rename your file to* ***COUNTRY NAME_Risk Log Update***

E. GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM

Did the project receive any complaints during the reporting period?	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

If your answer to the above question is yes, please download the GRM Log Sheet and upload hre: GRM Log.

F. INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT (Add more rows if applicable)

IEC/Knowledge Product Produced	Type	Date Published/Produced	Target audience	Link Upload IEC materials here *CEPA AND KM*
	Select type.	*Click here to enter date.*		
	Select type.	*Click here to enter date.*		

Was the project cited/quoted/featured in media reports/articles? *If yes, please provide link to article/video below.*	☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Communications and Visibility. List of news articles and other social media posts related to the project. (Add more rows if applicable)

Description	Link
BIOFIN Senegal Launch Ceremony	https://aps.sn/un-financement-de-plus-de-180-milliards-fcfa-pour-la-mise-en-oeuvre-de-linitiative-biofin/
Speech by the Director of National Parks, CBD Focal Point on BIOFIN	https://www.tiktok.com/@aps_senegal/video/7496574932051070263
Senegalese Press Agency on X	https://x.com/APS_Senegal/status/1915107827976228899
Sencafeactu on BIOFIN	https://cafeactu.com/2025/04/24/le-senegal-obtient-un-financement-de-plus-de-180-millions-fcfa-pour-la-mise-en-oeuvre-de-linitiative-biofin/

Consultation Workshop and Identification of Financing Solutions	https://x.com/PNUDSenegal/status/1968623748862374059
Private Sector Speaks About BIOFIN	https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7462096156546793472/
Senegalese Press Agency on Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/p/DI0f5wpuo35/
Poste Consultant on linkdin	https://www.linkedin.com/posts/dr-ndimblane_cdb-ugcPost-7463545688933703680-M9tP?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop&rcm=ACoAABRKWNYBO4X2F5HZWf1f3RV_n6R7xtz3Pu8
Post on 6th global conference Santiago-Chili	https://aps.sn/sixieme-conference-mondiale-sur-le-financement-de-la-biodiversite-a-santiago-du-chili/