



INCEPTION WORKSHOP REPORT

Project Title

“Strengthening the climate resilience of rural communities and ecosystems in Ahuachapán Sur, El Salvador”

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1. Introduction

The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN) of El Salvador identified the need to promote interventions to adapt productive systems, diversify livelihoods and improve the resilience of communities and ecosystems to climate change. In this context, MARN and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) designed the Project “Strengthening the climate resilience of rural communities and ecosystems in Ahuachapán Sur, El Salvador”. The main objective of the Project is to reduce the vulnerability of productive communities and ecosystems, in the municipality of San Francisco Menéndez—located in the department of Ahuachapán, in El Salvador—to the risk of drought, soil erosion and flash floods, due to climate change and climate variability.

The Project will meet its objective through the following four products: 1) To restore 3,865 hectares of forest landscape in San Francisco Menéndez, which will focus on the restoration of critical landscapes and will strengthen its capacity to manage droughts, soil erosion and flash floods; 2) To promote and implement climate-resilient and economically viable productive alternatives in the region that address the economic vulnerability faced by the region as traditional agricultural systems have become less productive due to climate change; 3) To generate climatic and hydrological information products in the region to identify and monitor the impact of climate change on the landscape and also the effectiveness of interventions based on ecosystems, in their management to improve local and national responses; 4) To strengthen local capacity to undertake concerted actions to address the impact of climate change, prioritizing adaptation interventions and mobilizing the necessary financing for their implementation.

The Project conducted an Inception Workshop in the first three months (second fortnight of June to September 1, 2021) that were separated into a set of 5 virtual workshops with two workshops focused on technical and high-level personnel, and three face-to-face workshops with the actors of the Ahuachapán Sur region. The foregoing due to the preventive biosafety measures for the attendees in the face of the COVID 19 contingency. The five workshops aimed to help all the actors to understand and take ownership of the Project and to make an initial re-validation of the conditions in the field. The Workshop included a review of the risks and the measures to be implemented, updated and reviewed the responsibilities of the different actors that participate in the implementation and actors that are beneficiaries, reviewed the results framework, the social and environmental management plan, the project claims mechanisms. Likewise, it allowed updating the current circumstances of the project under a pandemic context and resulted in the approval of the annual work plan for the first year and its budget and the formal start of the Project.

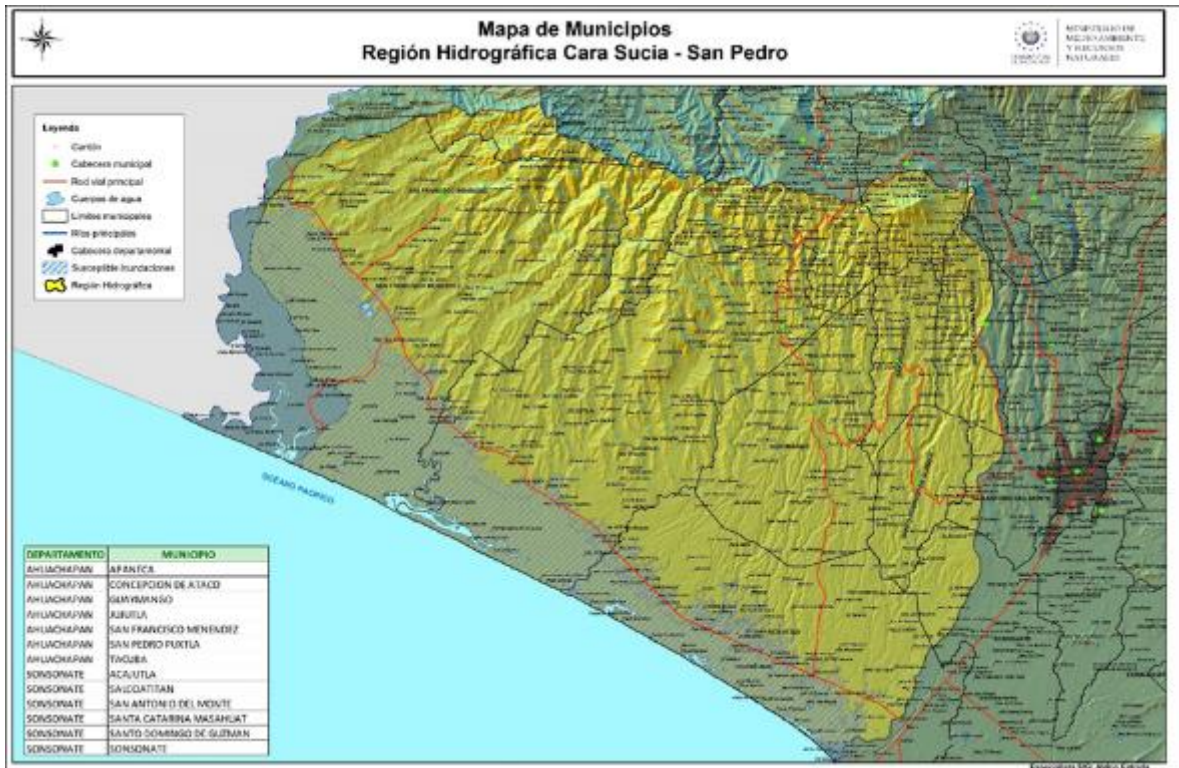
This Report, which reflects the discussions in these workshops, is the result of the participatory process of technicians and local actors, both from the central government and the municipal government, as well as the technicians and leaders of civil society organizations present in the region; the report defines and adjusts the area of intervention of the project; it redefines the participants in the implementation and the beneficiaries: the presence of international development organizations in the same territory; it also proposes adjustments to the project's annual and multi-year budget.

2. Project General Description

El Salvador is affected by the effects of climate variability and change, with highly variable precipitation patterns, both spatial and temporal, causing an increase in climatic events such as tropical cyclones, floods and droughts. Ahuachapán Sur is considered an area of high vulnerability to climate change, and has a population exposed to droughts, a significant increase in average temperatures, erratic rainfall patterns and extreme weather events. Rural communities in the southern region of Ahuachapán have begun to see their productive capacity in basic grains—as well as livestock production—affected and a total loss of production has been caused. The Ahuachapán Sur Landscape has a rich biodiversity and natural assets such as El Imposible National Park, the mangroves, and the Apaneca-Ilamatepec Biosphere Reserve, biological richness that is important for the region and its inhabitants. In Ahuachapán, the rainy season is oppressive and cloudy; the dry season is humid, windy and mostly clear and is hot all year round. During the course of the year, the temperature generally ranges from 17 °C to 30 °C and rarely drops below 15 °C or rises above 32 °C.

The department of Ahuachapán is geographically located in the western part of the Republic of El Salvador, to the NORTH it borders with Santa Ana and Sonsonate; to the SOUTH it borders with a small area of Sonsonate and with the Pacific Ocean; and to the WEST again with Guatemala. The southern zone of Ahuachapán includes the municipalities of San Francisco Menéndez, Jujutla, Guaymango and San Pedro Puxtla, with an area of 591.73 km² and a population of 98,016 where 71% belongs to the rural area. The Project belongs to the hydrographic region “C” called “Cara Sucia - San Pedro Belén”; it comprises a series of drainages from Apaneca-Tacuba, which discharge into the estuaries and mangroves. It covers the southern area of Ahuachapán with 674 km² and the municipalities that share this territory are: San Francisco Menéndez, Jujutla, Guaymango, San Pedro Puxtla.

The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources considers Ahuachapán Sur as an area of high vulnerability to climate change, lacking the necessary resources to adequately prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural disasters. This region has a significant amount of population exposed to frequent droughts, floods, and increases in average temperature with erratic rainfall patterns. The crisis in the hydrographic region is the consumption of water for irrigation activities with a demand of 92.59% in the Cara Sucia sub-basin. This activity is causing a process of desiccation, transformation of wetlands and marshes, with an alteration of salinity gradients and reduction of freshwater flows towards the lower part of the coast and the wetland. During the last eight years, this landscape has suffered tropical depressions, hurricanes and in other years droughts affecting livelihoods and the functioning of ecosystems. This problem was evidenced and exposed by local actors in the discussions of the inception workshops, and the impact caused by the storms that have occurred and also the impact of droughts were established. Forest remnants in the upper basin, riparian forests, secondary forests, agroforestry systems and mangroves have been affected in their water supply and by irregular weather conditions. Therefore, the Project's interventions should help to adapt and build resilience to the impacts of climate change.



Map of location of the hydrographic region Cara Sucia – San Pedro in Ahuachapán Sur Region

2.1 Objective

The Project will integrate forest landscape restoration as a climate change adaptation strategy aimed at increasing forest cover, improving the hydrological cycle, increasing the amount of available water and regulating surface and groundwater flows, while maintaining and improving water supply and quality. The Project's landscape approach will ensure that land degradation is reduced and that productivity is maintained and becomes resistant to the impact of climate change, thus helping to improve food security and community resilience. By ensuring and enabling an institutional and governance environment, the project will generate coordinated and informed actors with the capacity to address adequate adaptation measures in the medium and long term, resulting in local resilience to climate change.

2.2 Components

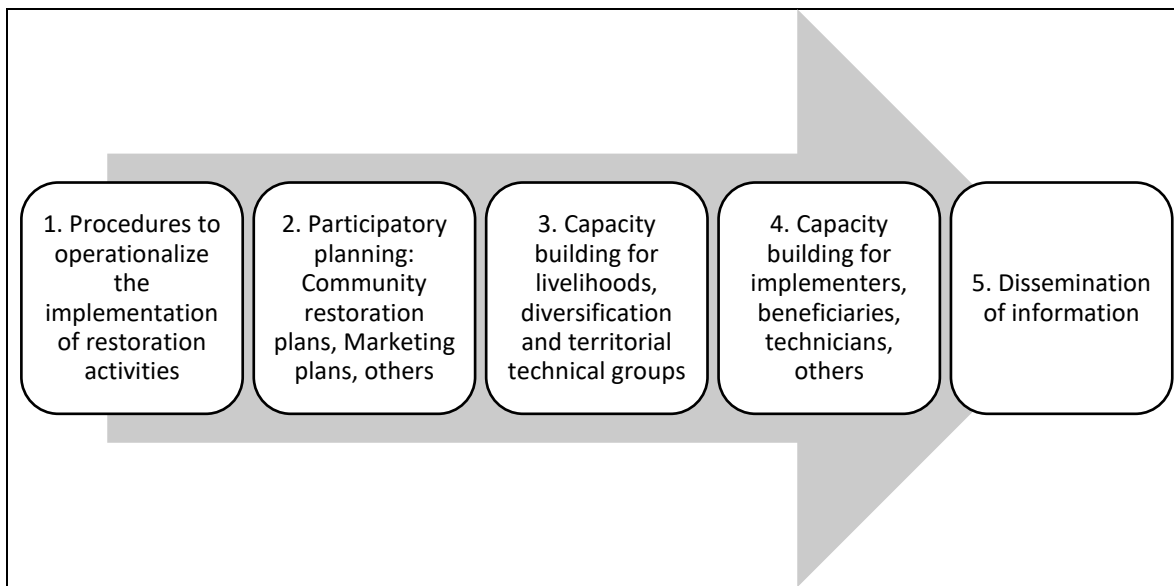
The four components of the Project will be led by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN) and by the Fund of the Initiative of the Americas of El Salvador (FIAES) that will act as responsible for the implementation of one of the components of the Project with the support of regional or local Civil Society Organizations and other local organizations and associations. The implementation of the components requires a strong participatory process and coordination among community members, productive associations, municipal and national governments, and the different local civil organizations.

The components are the following:

- 1 - Ecosystem-based adaptation** through productive management and landscape restoration to increase resilience at the territorial level.
- 2 - Diversified products** positioned in new markets for resilient livelihoods.
- 3 - Monitoring the impact of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA)** on regional hydrology for increased capacity and landscape management and planning for adaptation.
- 4 - Strengthening inter-institutional coordination and local governance**, for sustainable land management, in the face of variability and climate change.

2.3 Main stages of the project (milestones)

During Project implementation, stakeholder participation is a continuous process at different stages and involves the following:



1. The procedures to operationalize the implementation of community restoration plans seek to strengthen and empower local organizations, community members who will work together to define and implement restoration activities.

2. Participatory planning begins in the Project from the Inception Workshop, so that the parties understand and take ownership. Another inclusive participatory process is the development of a Local Adaptation Plan, in addition to promoting dialogue platforms and participation in the committee of the technical group of marketing and diversification of livelihoods, as well as the project will establish a technical team as a territorial technical advisory council and it will be a mechanism for consultation and coordination. Existing social platforms such as the Apaneca Ilamatepec Local Advisory Committee (COAL for its initials in Spanish), which is the committee established for the protection of the Apaneca Ilamatepec Biosphere Reserve, will also be taken into account.

3-4. The development and strengthening of capacities will lead to a better mobilization of organizations and community leaders in order to overcome the barrier of capacities that hinders adaptation to climate change and ecosystems, such as capacities directed to water committees for

the use and integrated water management at the community level. During the implementation of the project in the different components there will be in situ and academic learning exercises, in such a way that local learning is consolidated for the benefit of the users. Passing on ancestral knowledge to present generations is important for the inhabitants.

5. Dissemination of information is part of stakeholder participation activities in such a way that updates will be published on a regular basis to report on their implementation status. Among the members of the community organizations, there are means of communication, such as the community radio, which will be an adequate means to keep the local population and beneficiaries of the Project informed.

2.4. Outcomes

During the Project initiation period, the different community organized actors and sectors were consulted, including Community Development Associations (ADESCO for its initials in Spanish) such as El Refugio, Tamacha, Nuevo Amanecer, ADECOSAM, ADESCONE, from San Francisco Menéndez, and Community Associations such as AMBAS, ACAPAVIS, ACEPROS, AGAS de R.L. and ACMA, UNES, also from San Francisco Menéndez and from Tacuba EMSAGUAT, FUNDESYRAM, ASDERAT, and the ADESCOs of El Sincuyo, El Rosario, El Níspero and the Indigenous Council of Tacuba attended, in addition to the municipal governments of San Francisco Menéndez and Tacuba, and the Agricultural and Forestry Technology Centers (CENTA for its initials in Spanish) of Cara Sucia and Tacuba of MAG, as well as FIAES and MARN. With them, they proceeded to review the components and identify the outputs, as well as specify who will carry out the implementation of each component.

The components and their outputs are detailed below:

Component 1 will be led by the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources (MARN) and will be implemented by the Fund for the Initiative of the Americas (FIAES) with the support of local and national civil society, local associations and other organizations; It will consist of increasing the forest cover, the hydrological cycle and the amount of available water, in addition to increasing the flows of surface and underground water, therefore improving the supply and quality of water in the Municipality of San Francisco Menéndez.

Ecosystem-based adaptation is defined as the use of biodiversity and ecosystem services to help people adapt to the adverse effects of climate change, as part of an adaptation strategy.

Component 1: Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) to improve resilience at the Territorial level in a way that favors community planning through restoration plans. It will be achieved through the following outcomes and outputs respectively.

The specific products are: a) 65 community restoration plans established with a landscape approach; b) Protection and restoration of critical ecosystems: 284.52 ha of riparian forests and 141 ha of mangroves, to improve the supply of ecosystem services for landscape resilience; c) 2,708 ha of agroforestry for sustainable and resilient agriculture practices for basic grains, 664 ha of silvopastoral systems and 67 ha of agroforestry systems for coffee and cocoa in the transition areas; d) promotion of integrated water management and management of wetlands and aquifers in Ahuachapán Sur.

Outcome 1. Critical ecosystem services in forest landscapes are

Output 1.1. Community restoration plans established for the sustainable management of the forest landscape in 3,864 hectares.

restored and enhanced to better manage the impacts of climate change.	<p>Output 1.2. Restoration of critical ecosystems within forest landscapes to enhance ecosystem services for landscape climate resilience.</p> <p>Output 1.3. Critical areas in transition of the forest landscape under sustainable productive management to improve climate resilience.</p> <p>Output 1.4. Improved regulation of water flow in intervention areas measured through community governance mechanisms.</p>
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Component 2 will be implemented by the Directorate of Ecosystems and Biodiversity of MARN, in coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG) and its agency "National Center of Agricultural and Forestry Technology" (CENTA). There is a CENTA office in Cara Sucia that will be linked to the Project and in Tacuba, Ahuachapán there will also be the CENTA office, both offices were present in the face-to-face workshops; they will address existing vulnerabilities as climate change has reduced access to viable livelihoods and they will develop alternative and adapted livelihoods for resilient livelihoods of their farmers and cattle ranchers beneficiaries.

The Project will generate coordinated and informed actors with adequate adaptation measures in the medium and long term. We define adaptation measures such as building safer infrastructures capable of withstanding floods, or reforestation, promoting diversified crops on the same plot, living barriers and tree corridors resistant to drought and high temperatures, winds, etc.

In this component, the productive management of landscapes and diversified products will depend on sustainable soil management that benefits all. This means: 1) recognizing the mosaic of land uses in the Ahuachapán Sur region; 2) recognizing the local and traditional ancestral knowledge existing in the Ahuachapán Sur region; and 3) be framed within a community governance mechanism, as existing adaptation solutions must be systematized in an appropriate way so that they can be communicated and implemented. Therefore, subsistence and small-scale producers require seed varieties and fertilizer techniques that are appropriate to the region, withstanding drought or extreme rains and floods. Effective knowledge on how climate change will affect the region is needed to truly build long-term resilience.

Component 2: Alternative and adapted livelihoods identified and viable for resilient livelihoods; expected to be achieved through the following outcomes and outputs.	
The specific outputs are: a) Identification and promotion of climate resilient products for diversified livelihoods; b) Promote the introduction of these products in markets that generate economic benefits for their adoption as a viable alternative.	
Outcome 2. Local models of livelihood diversification and income generation are implemented to build local resilience to climate change.	<p>Output 2.1. Number of alternative practices and/or crops introduced as a result of project interventions.</p> <p>Output 2.2. Number of high-value market chains identified for diversified livelihood strategies.</p>

Component 3 is regional climate and hydrological monitoring for better adaptation planning; the Ministry of Environment and the Directorate of the Environmental Observatory (National

Meteorological and Hydrological Service), is in charge of generating information on the region's common aquifer and how it interacts with the existing surface water system. Sustainable land management will depend heavily on understanding the link between the hydrological systems in the southern Ahuachapán region and the impact of precipitation patterns and evapotranspiration. Monitoring work in the region will provide communities and actors working as voluntary environmental observers with information on how climate change is impacting their local livelihoods.

Component 3: Regional climate and hydrological monitoring for better adaptation planning; through the following outcomes and outputs respectively.

The specific outputs are: a) Diagnosis of the current state of the aquifer ESA-01 that supplies water to the Ahuachapán Sur area; b) Development of 5 knowledge management products that will be monitored; c) Training local communities in the process of monitoring and early warning in case of extreme rainfall; e) Strengthening the capacity of the Observatory in the use and validation of data sources and techniques for monitoring the impacts of Climate Change.

<p>Outcome 3. Improved capacity to generate relevant climate and hydrological information to address the impact of climate change on natural resources in southern Ahuachapán.</p>	<p>Output 3.1. Capacity to identify and monitor the impact of restoration actions on southern Ahuachapán as effective ecosystem-based adaptation actions.</p> <p>Output 3.2. Capture of hydrometeorological information generated.</p>
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Component 4 will be implemented by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources through the DEB and other agencies of MARN linked to Governance, in addition to FIAES; this component will strengthen governance and interinstitutional coordination for sustainable land management in the face of climate variability and change.

Component 4. Strengthening inter-institutional coordination and local governance for landscape management in the face of climate variability and change.	
The outputs are: a) Establish a territorial Technical Advisory Council (TAC); b) Develop a climate vulnerability assessment of Ahuachapán Sur; c) Develop a local adaptation plan for Ahuachapán Sur;	
Outcome 4. Local institutions and governance mechanisms with improved capacities to implement adaptation measures and manage climate change.	<p>Output 4.1. Number of municipalities with capacity to assess technical information and promote measures to manage climate change at the territorial level.</p> <p>Output 4.2. Planning Tools developed to address climate vulnerabilities of southern Ahuachapán.</p> <p>Output 4.3. Improved capacity to attract climate funding from various sources and identify adaptation investments.</p>

The Project Executing Unit (PMU): it is composed of the Project Manager who was hired in June and the financial administrative specialist and the technical team (the Governance coordinator and the liaison officer with community) who are currently in the recruitment process.

3. Project Initiation Activities and its Progress

3.1. Inception Workshop

The Inception Workshop is the invitation of all the interested parties that participate in the Project, including FIAES, MARN, MAG and the municipal government of San Francisco Menéndez, and the Local Advisory Committee of the El Imposible-Barra de Santiago conservation area (COAL); assigned in the structure of the Project organization. The workshop is important to include and guarantee the ownership of the Project outcomes and for the planning of the annual and multi-year plan, with the budget adjustments to be executed for the first year of the Project and its corresponding correlative years. Also in the Inception Workshop, all the parties involved are communicated about shared responsibilities, tasks, functions and decision-making, in addition to reviewing risks, gender aspects, safeguards and the environmental and social management plan.

3.1.1. Systematization of the Inception Workshop

a) **Organized by:** The implementing partner Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources through the Directorate of Ecosystems and Biodiversity and the office of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) of El Salvador.

b) Modality:

The Inception Workshops were held through Zoom or Teams as virtual platforms. The invitations were sent via the internet in response to contingency measures for COVID 19.

The face-to-face Workshops were convoked in writing through physical invitations and online and two were held in the Municipality of San Francisco Menéndez and one was held in Tacuba.

General Objective of the Workshop: To deepen in the different initial planning processes with the main partners of the Project: MARN, MAG, FIAES and COAL in addition to the municipalities of San Francisco Menéndez and Tacuba. In addition to the local actors of the Ahuachapán Sur territory corresponding to San Francisco Menéndez and Tacuba, civil organizations such as water committees, community development committees, and the indigenous citizen council of Tacuba participated (See Annex X with a list of attendees).

The specific objectives:

- ✓ Begin execution of the Project.
- ✓ Define the roles and responsibilities of the different participants to analyze the objectives and scope of the Project.
- ✓ Analysis of safeguards, environmental social management plan, risks and threats, etc.
- ✓ Give a presentation, at the MARN level, about the objectives at the national level and the complementarity of this project within that vision and complementary initiatives.
- ✓ Explain the environmental and social management plan, risk management, and the implications of covid19 for execution.
- ✓ Validate and/or update the project implementation strategy based on current field conditions.

c) Face-to-Face Inception Workshops:

c.1.) **On June 25, 2021**, it was held in an open room of the ACAPAVIS offices, located in cantón La Ceiba of the Municipality of San Francisco Menéndez. ACAPAVIS is an active member of the Local Advisory Committee (COAL) of the El Imposible-Barra de Santiago conservation area. The attendance was 30 people (detailed list in Annex X).

c.2.) **On July 1, 2021**, a face-to-face Workshop was held in the Municipality of Tacuba, attended by 50 people, including the presence of active members of the council of indigenous peoples of Tacuba (detailed list in Annex X).

c.3.) **On September 1, 2021** with the presence of members of the Municipal Council of San Francisco Menéndez (3) and members of the municipal environmental unit (2), held at the Mayor's Office of San Francisco Menéndez at three o'clock in the afternoon.

The attendance lists of each Workshop and their respective minutes, plus photos are contained in Annexes (#).

Photos of the Inception Workshops held in San Francisco Menéndez: on September 1 and June 25,



2021

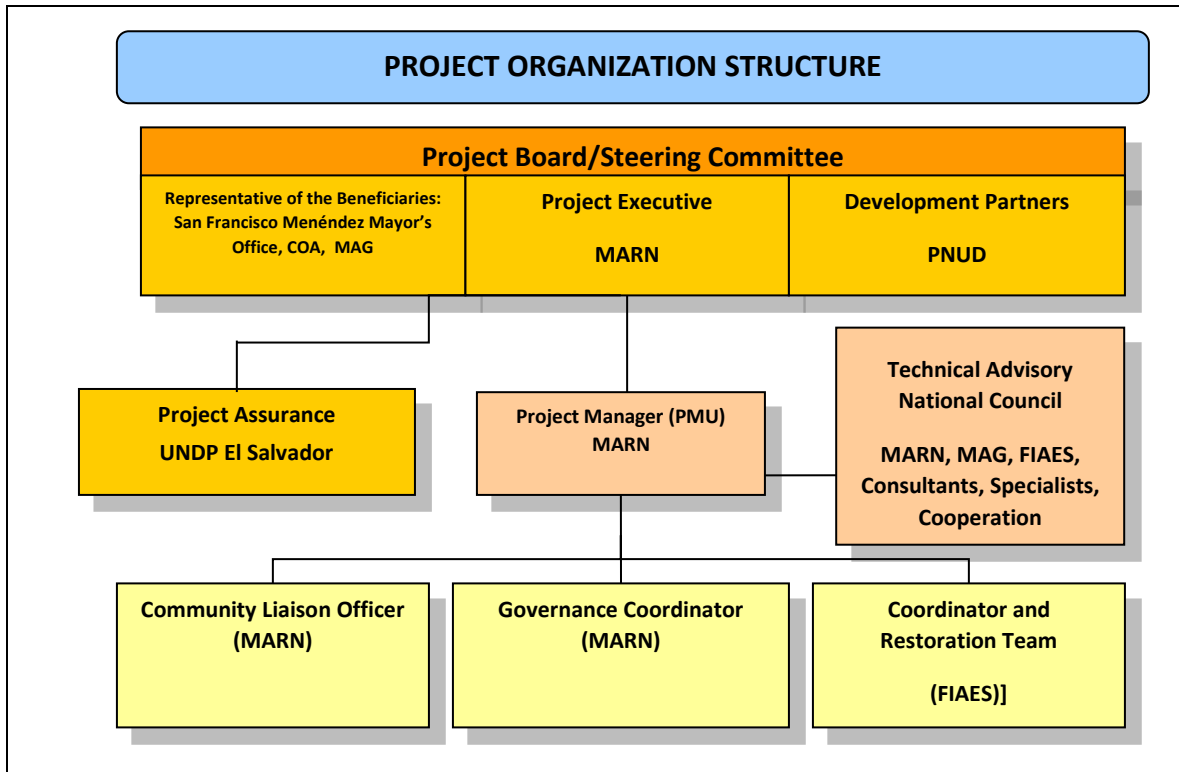


Photos of the Inception Workshop held in Tacuba on July 1, 2021.

3.2. The Project Board

Holding of the first meeting of the Project Board:

The project board and/or Project Steering Committee is responsible for taking the necessary corrective measures to guarantee that the project achieves the desired results. The decisions of the Project Board must be made in accordance with standards that guarantee management oriented towards development results, equity, transparency and effective international competition.



The **project board** is activated and starts with its first work meeting on Thursday, July 29, 2021, through a virtual platform, with the following members of the Project Board's Steering Committee participating.

The Members of the first Project Board are:

Institution being represented:	First and Last Name	Position held:
Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN)	Miguel Gallardo	MARN: Director of Ecosystems and Biodiversity
Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG)	Giosvany Oliva Lucía Gómez	MAG: Eng. MSc. Giosvany Yuriet Oliva Arias General Director of Forest Management, Watersheds and Irrigation. DGFCR and Climate Change Office Technician of MAG: Eng. Lucía Gómez
ACEPROS and COAL	Oscar Escobar Méndez	COAL President and ACEPROS Executive
San Francisco Menéndez Mayor's Office	Fredy Lima	Head of the Environmental Unit of the Mayor's Office
United Nations Development Program	Rafael Pleitez	Assistant Resident of UNDP

The Agreements of the first Project meeting:

- 1) The budget approved by the Project Board for the first year is US \$ 1,192,373.23, corresponding to the period from June 2021 to June 2022.
- 2) The Work Plan and the annual and multi-year Budget were approved.
- 3) Likewise, they are aware that the inception workshops were held.

3.3. Progress in execution

The executing entity of this Project is the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN), who will sign Agreements or Covenants with the relevant responsible parties for the implementation of the Project components. As it is a national execution project (NIM), MARN is the institution responsible for the project for its execution, planning, coordination and evaluation through the annual, final and mid-term reports, as well as the supervision of financial expenses, and the signing of the respective financial reports and annual and multi-year work plans.

MARN, through the General Directorate of Ecosystems and Biodiversity, will lead through the Project Executing Unit (PMU) the implementation of the actions related to components 2 and 4. Component 1 will be led by FIAES, under the direction of MARN-DEB/PMU and likewise, component 3, will be led by MARN-DOA (the Directorate of the Environmental Observatory of MARN), under the direction of the Project Executing Unit (PMU).

To this end, in September 2021, the agreement between MARN and FIAES was signed, to implement the activities related to component 1 of the Project, to receive - allocate funds as low-value grants to approved local organizations and associations, in addition to promoting the activities of restoration established in the Project document. FIAES will establish a project manual for the administrative, accounting, technical and financial processes and procedures for the implementation of component 1.

MARN-DEB/PMU will coordinate actions with MAG-CENTA and MAG-General Directorate of Forest Management, Watersheds and Irrigation, for the matter of seeds and seed banks; in addition to the matter of afforestation with native trees and other matters related to their work areas, which correspond to the implementation of component 2 of the Project.

3.4. Project Structure Organization

The Steering Committee of the Project Board:

a. Project Executive: It is the person who represents the ownership and presides over the Project Board; the Minister holds the Presidency or an official designated by him and representing him at the meetings of the Project Board. The Minister has appointed the General Directorate of Ecosystem and Biodiversity to execute this Project and therefore its Director will represent him in his absence.

b. Representatives of the beneficiaries: It is an individual or a group of individuals representing the interests of those who will benefit from the Project. The representatives of the beneficiaries are:

- **1 representative of the Local Advisory Committee** of the El Imposible - Barra de Santiago Conservation Area: the representative is the president of the COAL. Represented by the president of ACEPROS Mr. Oscar Escobar and in his absence he will be represented by the vice president Mrs. Rosa Lovato of the Association of Women AMBAS. The Local Advisory Committee (COAL) is currently a platform that brings together different organized sectors of

local civil society and it has the presence of the different local actors and bodies associated in cooperatives and other forms of organization such as community development associations (ADESCO). COAL is the main platform for dialogue between the different members of the Project. This is the social platform that is being integrated into the Project instead of the Ahuachapán Sur Microregion. This platform belongs to civil society and does not depend on municipal governments.

- **1 representative of the Mayor's Office of San Francisco Menéndez:** The representative is the Mayor or the person designated by him and representing him at the meetings of the Project Board. The mayor, through a note, has informed that the person he has designated is the head of the Environmental Unit of the Mayor's Office.
- **1 representative of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAG):** The representative designated by the Minister is the Director of Forest Management, Watersheds and Irrigation (DGFCR), present at the meetings of the Project Board. Who, in turn, will be represented by the head of the MAG Climate Change office (Eng. Julio Olano), when required by the Director.

c. Development Partner: UNDP is represented by whoever is designated by the country office Resident Representative and it is the assistant country resident.

3.5. The operational structure of the Project Executing Unit (PMU)

- **Project Manager (PMU):** subordinate to the MARN Executive of the Project and will be responsible for the general management of the Project, including the mobilization of all inputs, supervision of personnel, consultants, as well as updates of the project document during the implementation of the Project, review of financial procedures and budget monitoring and other requirements.
- **Financial Administrative Specialist:** supports the Project Manager and will review project expenses, fund records, have financial information updated and annual budgets and financial progress reports.

The Following are Subordinate to the Project Manager:

- **Community Liaison Officer:** will be responsible for the activities corresponding to component 1 and component 2 of the Project in relation to community plans.
- **Governance Coordinator:** will be responsible for the activities of component 4 of the Project and provide technical support to the territorial technical advisory committee (TAC), in order to ensure the participation of all stakeholders; as well as guaranteeing the completion and implementation of the local adaptation plan of the municipalities of Ahuachapán Sur.
- **Restoration Coordinator and technical team:** will be responsible for the activities of component 1 of the Project in order to guarantee the formulation of 65 community restoration plans for San Francisco Menéndez. The technical team for monitoring the plans in the field will be integrated by FIAES technicians.

The progress of the performance of the operational structure of the Project are:

- The Project Manager has been hired as of the second half of June, 2021;
- Adjusted annual and multi-year budget entered in ATLAS and PIMS;
- Procurement and recruitment plan completed;
- Agreement signed between FIAES and MARN;
- Recruitment process for financial and administrative specialist;
- TORs prepared to hire Governance Coordinator and Community Liaison Officer;
- Project Inception Report prepared.

4. Analysis of the Situation

4.1. Synergies

The project document was signed on January 28, 2021 and due to circulation restrictions and the quarantine period that the entire population of El Salvador entered due to the COVID 19 pandemic from March to June 2020, it could not start until June 2021. Various actions have been developed in the region within the framework of the “Action Plan for the restoration of ecosystems and landscapes with an approach of mitigation based on adaptation” and the “National Plan for Adaptation to Climate Change”. The Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of El Salvador is the governing body of both action plans, which has facilitated the coordination of dialogues between the different initiatives in the field that include international cooperation present in the territory such as the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) with its implementing partner UNES, the German Technical Cooperation (GIZ) with its implementing partner FIAES, the Green Development Fund with its implementing partners FAO and MAG; and, at the national level, the Unión Ecológica Salvadoreña (UNES) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) - El Salvador and the Foundation for Socio-economic Development and Environmental Restoration (FUNDESYRAM) and the Fund of the Initiative for the Americas (FIAES). The government of El Salvador through its State ministries, such as MAG and MARN, has implemented actions through projects focused on resilience to climate change with financing from the Green Fund, Adaptation Fund with its implementing partner UNDP. The dialogue between international cooperation and national implementers seeks to promote complementarity between actions (including the definition of areas of intervention), the exchange of best practices, definition of roles and scope of the respective projects and their alignment with the country's vision.

The Territorial Technical Advisory (TAC) National Council of the Project will be the organizational structure that will bring together the different international development organizations to avoid duplication and guarantee complementarity. The different projects are being developed in various conservation areas of the Ahuachapán Sur Territory, such as in the El Imposible-Barra de Santiago conservation area, in the Barra de Santiago Ramsar Wetland and in the Apaneca-Illamatepec Biosphere Reserve, in addition to the southern region of Ahuachapán.

SYNERGIES that could benefit the Project

RECLIMA: The Project “Increase of climate resilience measures in the municipalities of the dry corridor of El Salvador” which began in 2019 and ends in 2024. It is a project that will be executed in 114 municipalities of 4 departments in the eastern part of the country, 2 departments in the center of the country and 1 department in the west. The components of RECLIMA are focused on: 1) Increased resilience of the livelihoods and production system of family farms; 2) increased resilience

of ecosystem services flows at the landscape level and 3) improve governance and flow of information in support of sustainability. The Project is accredited to FAO with MARN, MAG/CENTA and FIAES as the executing units of the project, managing a donation budget from the Green Climate Fund of US \$35,849,612.

RECLIMA, through its coordinator, showed great interest in what it considers to be the strength of the Ahuachapán Sur Project, such as component 3, due to the knowledge that will be generated through climate monitoring of rainfall and monitoring of surface and groundwater; as well as strengthening the capacities of local users. It was agreed at this first meeting to hold a second meeting in the future in order to establish an accompaniment plan and complement actions in the same territory so as not to duplicate efforts with the same actors within the dry corridor, which is the area of impact of RECLIMA.

The following are the different projects that are being carried out in the Ahuachapán Sur region and with which the project will seek an active dialogue for their coordination:

Project	Cooperant	Goals	Budget	Period
<p>“Restoration of Ecosystems in degraded areas of El Imposible-Barra de Santiago Conservation Area”.</p>	<p>Green Climate Fund for the region SICA/REDD+Landscape financed by the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) of the Federal Republic of Germany, IKI initiative, for which FIAES is administrator and GIZ</p> <p>It is carried out in the municipalities of San Francisco Menéndez, Jujutla, Tacuba.</p>	<p>a) Agroforestry and agro-silvo-pastoral systems. b) Soil rehabilitation in basic grain crops and pastures. c) Restoration of forest in water recharge areas and in 4,510 hectares of agroecosystems vulnerable to landslides in protected areas and gallery forests in the municipalities of Jujutla, Tacuba and San Francisco Menéndez.</p>	<p>US\$1,500.000.00 euros</p> <p>9 projects are being carried out in 3 municipalities and 21 cantons.</p> <p>1-Implement 1510 ha of productive systems with good practices.</p> <p>2-Protect and conserve 3000 ha of tropical forest in 4 protected areas: PN El Imposible, Hoja de Sal, Garita Palmera, Barra de Santiago and Metalío.</p>	<p>To be executed from 2020 to 2021.</p>

Project	Cooperant	Goals	Budget	Period
<p>Biodiversity coastal program.</p> <p>Border Project in the Lower Basin of Rio Paz (Guatemala+El Salvador).</p>	Financial support of USAID+IUCN in coordination with its implementing partners in the territory such as UNES.	<p>d) Development of productive initiatives;</p> <p>e) Application of best practices;</p> <p>f) Recovery of commercial fish species;</p>	US\$	2017 to 2021
Technical Cooperation between IUCN+GIZ	Technical Cooperation in Ahuachapán Sur	Increasing investment in biotrade initiatives to improve local life in Ahuachapán Sur	US\$	Three years
<p>RECLIMA</p> <p>“Increase of climate resilience measures in the municipalities of the dry corridor of El Salvador”</p> <p>“interinstitutional coordination and cooperation in order to optimize resources and for articulated and informed governance”.</p>	<p>FAO+MAG+MARN+FIAES+ Green Climate Fund</p> <p>Beneficiaries: 114 municipalities 4 Departamentos</p>	<p>Action Lines: 1. Increased resilience of livelihoods and production systems on family farms; 2. Increased resilience of landscape-level environmental service flows; 3. Improved governance and flow of information, support for sustainability and scaling up.</p>	U\$35,849.612	2019 to 2024
Biodiversity Program Connecting Central American Landscapes, Barra de Santiago-El Imposible.	IUCN-ORMACC+KFW Germany	<p>The components are:</p> <p>1) Effective management of Natural Protected Areas (ANP for its initials in Spanish) and its connectivity (El Imposible+Bola de Monte+Barra de Santiago) and landscapes.</p> <p>2) Economic alternatives for restoration (biocommerce).</p> <p>3) Governance for landscape management.</p>	US\$1,195.620.00	2021 to 2025 it may be extended to ten years

4.2. Risks

During the inception workshops the project reviewed the initial risks indicated in the proposal and its project document for validation and/or update with the participants.

Assessment of potential Social and Environmental Risks that may affect the Project and were expressed in the Inception Workshops:

Type of Risk	Possible Risk	Description of possible impact
Social and Environmental	Tropical storms that occur in the region of Ahuachapán sur generate delays in the implementation of community restoration plans because it may be necessary to replace infrastructure or replace trees, crops, and soil loss. The question is whether the Project considers reinvestment in disaster sites due to climatic events caused by rain, drought or pests.	The impact of the storms affects the livelihoods of community members who are developing a community restoration plan, as the loss of their crops and trees generates a need to replace what was lost and it means that the community restoration process is delayed, as well as it means a new reinvestment.
Social and Environmental	The presence of drought during the life of the Project will also generate losses in the family economy and in the region.	The project will promote the use of drought-resilient native seeds and seek to establish seed banks, considering the knowledge of the people
Social	The watershed approach in decision making for community restoration plans should consider the communities of the upper basin of Ahuachapán Sur, corresponding to the Municipality of Tacuba which is not included among the municipalities influenced by the Project.	The watershed divider of the upper basin corresponds to the municipality of Tacuba.
Social	The Ahuachapán Sur Microregion's platform was made up of a technical team from the different municipalities of San Pedro Puxtla, Jujutla, Guaymango y San Francisco Menéndez. It has disappeared due to the lack of funds from the municipal governments to give it continuity.	The Local Advisory Committee (COAL) is currently a platform that brings together different organized sectors of the local civil society and the different local actors and bodies associated in cooperatives and other forms of organization such as community development associations (ADESCO), the COAL is the main platform for dialogue of the different members of the Project. This is the social platform that is being integrated into the Project instead of the Ahuachapán Sur Microregion. This platform is from the civil society and does not depend on the municipal governments.
Social	Personal safety and access to the sites is another risk for the technical team carrying out actions in the region, especially in the upper basin, which corresponds to the middle zone of San Francisco Menéndez and the upper zone of Tacuba.	Coordination with local actors and the environmental National Civil Police (PNC) is important when visiting places that are unsafe, hence the importance of considering hiring a local technical team with knowledge of the people, their customs and how to reach the sites.

Social	The current Project mapping has identified a self-designated indigenous population in the municipality of Tacuba in the Upper Basin of “Cara Sucia - San Pedro de Belen” which should be included within the project framework to ensure that they are not excluded from the benefits of the project.	The Tacuba indigenous peoples' committee was present at the meeting of Tacuba and they expressed their request to be included in the Project. A survey and analysis should be carried out to identify groups in order to take the appropriate measures for their participation. Indigenous women also expressed their interest in being included.
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In summary, the project seeks to increase resilience and reduce the vulnerability of people and the environment to the effects of climate change, the social and environmental benefits are expected to outweigh the adverse impacts.

5. General Description of the Project execution process:

5.1 Annual Work Plan for the first year

Project Title: Strengthening the climate resilience of rural communities and ecosystems in Ahuachapán Sur, El Salvador

Project Number: 00112865/00109881

Implementation Partner: Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN)

Start date: June 16, 2021

End date: June 16, 2026

Project cycle milestones:

1. Signing of the project document by UNDP and MARN: January 28, 2021
2. Signing of the agreement between UNDP and the AF was on June 5, 2020
3. Covid 19 pandemic restricts implementation in 2020 due to quarantine restriction measures established by the Government of El Salvador from March to June 2020.
5. Planned start date: October 1, 2020 but starts on June 16, 2021
6. Project manager coordinator hiring date: June 11, 2021
4. Project Workshops start date: June 16 and end date is September 1, 2021
5. Date of the first Project Board meeting: July 29, 2021
6. Delivery date of the inception report: September 20, 2021.
7. Date of entry in Atlas and PIMS of the Adjusted Multi-Year Total Budget and Work Plan year 1: August 24 and 25, 2021

Total Budget and Work Plan			
Proposal ID in Atlas:	00112865	Project ID in Atlas: 000111194	
Proposal Title in Atlas:	Strengthening the climate resilience of rural communities and ecosystems in Ahuachapán Sur. El Salvador		
Business Unit in Atlas	SLV10		
Project Title of Main Output in ATLAS	Strengthening the climate resilience of rural communities and ecosystems in Ahuachapán Sur. El Salvador		
PNUD-CNE PIMS No.	6238		
Implementing Partner	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (MARN)		

Atlas Activity (Component AF)	Implementing Agent in Atlas (Responsible Party/, IP, or UNDP)	Fund ID in Atlas	Donor Name	Budget account code	Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Amount Year 5 (USD)	TOTAL (USD)
COMPONENT 1: Ecosystem based adaptation through productive management and landscape restoration to improve resilience at the territorial level	FIAES	11602	Adaptation Fund	71400	Contractual services – Individuals	61,053.09	61,891.84	61,891.84	61,891.84	24,447.09	271,175.70
				71600	Travel	3,400.00	4,390.00	4,390.00	4,420.00	3,400.00	20,000.00
				72200	Equipment and Furniture	25,000.00	-	-	-	-	25,000.00
				72400	Communications and audiovisual equipment	600.00	-	-	-	-	600.00
				72500	Supplies	-	487.00	487.00	487.00	-	1,461.00
				72600	Grants	258,053.83	1,281,006.97	2,034,181.26	515,095.62	-	4,088,337.68
				73400	Rental and maintenance of other equipment	2,263.00	2,263.00	2,263.00	2,263.00	2,263.00	11,315.00

Atlas Activity (Component AF)	Implementing Agent in Atlas (Responsible Party/, IP, or UNDP)	Fund ID in Atlas	Donor Name	Budget account code	Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Amount Year 5 (USD)	TOTAL (USD)
				74200	Audiovisual production and printing costs	2,106.91	2,256.00	2,176.00	820.00	586.92	7,945.82
				75700	Training workshops and conferences	1,504.00	3,729.16	-	3,000.00	-	8,233.16
				74100	Professional services	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	-	40,000.00
					Total Effect 1	363,980.83	1,366,023.97	2,115,389.10	597,977.46	30,697.01	4,474,068.36
COMPONENT 2: Diversified products positioned in new markets for resilient livelihoods	MARN	11602	Adaptation Fund	71400	Contractual services – Individuals	47,282.40	47,282.40	47,282.40	47,282.40	47,282.40	236,412.00
				71600	Travel	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	5,000.00
				73400	Rental and maintenance of other equipment	4,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00	9,000.00	4,200.00	35,200.00
				75700	Training workshops and conferences	5,000.00	5,000.00	3,600.00	10,000.00	23,588.00	47,188.00
				72100	Contractual Services - companies	52,000.00	147,000.00	376,500.00	93,500.00	93,500.00	762,500.00
					Total Effect 2	109,282.40	209,282.40	437,382.40	160,782.40	169,570.40	1,086,300.00

Atlas Activity (Component AF)	Implementing Agent in Atlas (Responsible Party/, IP, or UNDP)	Fund ID in Atlas	Donor Name	Budget account code	Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Amount Year 5 (USD)	TOTAL (USD)
COMPONENT 3: Monitoring of the impact of the EbA in the Regional Hydrology to Improve the Landscape Management Capacity and the adaptation planning	MARN	11602	Adaptation Fund	71400	Contractual Services - individuals	54,600.00	107,400.00	75,800.00	19,200.00	1,000.00	258,000.00
				72200	Equipment and Furniture	362,250.00	38,000.00	-	-	-	400,250.00
				75700	Training workshops and conferences	-	8,400.00	-	-	-	8,400.00
				72100	Contractual Services - companies	-	155,000.00	55,000.00	-	-	210,000.00
					Total Effect 3	416,850.00	308,800.00	130,800.00	19,200.00	1,000.00	876,650.00
COMPONENT 4: Knowledge Management (KM) and M&E[1] Strengthening inter-institutional coordination and local governance for sustainable land management in the face of climate variability and change	MARN	11602	Adaptation Fund	71300	Local Consultant	8,000.00	18,000.00	22,000.00	5,000.00	1,000.00	54,000.00
				71400	Contractual Services – individuals	65,000.00	65,000.00	65,000.00	65,000.00	65,000.00	325,000.00
				71600	Travel	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	5,000.00
				73400	Rental and maintenance of other equipment	1,160.00	1,160.00	1,160.00	1,160.00	1,160.00	5,800.00
				72200	Equipment and Furniture	6,000.00	-	-	-	-	6,000.00
				72300	Materials and Goods	3,000.00	-	-	-	-	3,000.00

Atlas Activity (Component AF)	Implementing Agent in Atlas (Responsible Party/, IP, or UNDP)	Fund ID in Atlas	Donor Name	Budget account code	Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Amount Year 5 (USD)	TOTAL (USD)
				72400	Communications and audiovisual equipment	20,500.00	9,900.00	-	-	-	30,400.00
				74200	Audiovisual production and printing costs	-	-	2,720.00	5,440.00	5,440.00	13,600.00
				72100	Contractual Services - companies	75,300.00	106,400.00	57,000.00	66,150.00	11,250.00	316,100.00
					Total Effect 4	179,960.00	201,460.00	148,880.00	143,750.00	84,850.00	758,900.00
Project management unit	MARN	11602	Adaptation Fund	71400	Contractual Services – (individual)	80,000.00	80,000.00	80,000.00	80,000.00	80,000.00	400,000.00
				71200	International Consultant	-	-	30,000.00	-	30,000.00	60,000.00
				71600	Travel	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	2,500.00
				73400	Rental and maintenance of other equipment	1,900.00	1,900.00	1,900.00	1,900.00	1,900.00	9,500.00
				72200	Equipment and Furniture	6,000.00	-	-	-	-	6,000.00
				74500	Miscellaneous	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	20,000.00
				72800	Technologies of Information Equipment	5,900.00	-	-	-	-	5,900.00

Atlas Activity (Component AF)	Implementing Agent in Atlas (Responsible Party/, IP, or UNDP)	Fund ID in Atlas	Donor Name	Budget account code	Description	Amount Year 1 (USD)	Amount Year 2 (USD)	Amount Year 3 (USD)	Amount Year 4 (USD)	Amount Year 5 (USD)	TOTAL (USD)
				73100	Rental and Maintenance of facilities	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	5,000.00
				74200	Audiovisual production and printing costs	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	5,000.00
				74100	Professional services (audits)	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	25,000.00
				74956	DPC	17,000.00	17,000.00	17,000.00	17,000.00	17,000.00	85,000.00
					Total Administration	122,300.00	110,400.00	140,400.00	110,400.00	140,400.00	623,900.00
PROJECT TOTAL						1,192,373.23	2,195,966.37	2,972,851.50	1,032,109.86	426,517.41	7,819,818.36

5.3. Monitoring and Evaluation Program

Type of Activity	Responsible	Period
1. Inception Workshop	MARN+PNUD	First two months (June August 2021)
2. Inception Report	Manager	August and September 2021
3. Adjusted annual and multi-year budget	Manager	Second month of start (July and August 2021)
4. Procurement plan	Manager	Third month of start (September 2021)
5. MARN+FIAES Agreement signed	MARN+FIAES	Second and third month of start (July and August 2021)
6. Meetings of Project Board	MARN+MAG+ San Francisco Menendez Mayor's Office +COAL+	Project start in July 2021 and at the end of the first year in June 2022
7. Field visits	Manager	Once a month
8. Meetings with COAL	Technical Team	Once a month
9. Monthly, quarterly and annual technical reports	Technical Team	Monthly, quarterly and annual
10. Financial Reports and Budget	Financial administrative specialist and Manager	Quarterly and annual or when required
11. Auditing Visits d	PNUD	End of the year and mid-year

6. Environmental and social safeguards

It is relevant to mention the indigenous communities present in the upper basin of Cara Sucia - San Pedro Belén. These are towns in the municipality of Tacuba but that live in the “watershed divider”, which borders the Municipality of San Francisco Menéndez; during the mapping of actors, it was indicated that there were no indigenous communities in San Francisco Menéndez. Mitigation measures will be included in the update of the SESP and the Project Management Plan.

The following table describes the safeguards and their mitigation measures, as well as their monitoring during the life of the Project.

SES PNUD	Description	Mitigation measures	Tracking
1. Human Rights	Participation of the local stakeholders and vulnerable groups, their participation in decision-making and that benefits are shared.	a) Broad calls that reach everyone b) Participation plan c) Registry of complaints and Resolutions d) Media disseminating information	Supervision missions and annual reports and monitoring of calls and participation plan activities.
2. Gender equity and women empowerment	Participation of women in decision-making and in community restoration plans.	a) Gender action plan b) Gender Diagnoses c) Disaggregate the number of women participating in the Project	1) Gender Monitoring Reports 2) Training workshops for women 3) Number of women beneficiaries of the Project.

SES PNUD	Description	Mitigation measures	Tracking
3. Biodiversity conservation and natural resources management	Risk identified in the use of exotic species and that the functionality of the ecosystem may be affected.	a) Gather local knowledge of resilient native species b) Guarantee the quality of the seeds and access to the seeds with seed banks	a) Monitoring the evaluation process of native seeds b) Technical reports
4. Indigenous peoples	That indigenous peoples are excluded from the Project activities.	a) Plan for the participation of indigenous peoples b) Survey where they are identified	a) Consultations and participation report
5. Pollution prevention	Pesticides may be used in the agroforestry systems.	a) Adopt environmentally sustainable agricultural techniques in restoration plans	a) Tracking reports on pest management techniques in community plans

The specialist to be hired with the position of Community Liaison in the project, is who will support the Project Management Unit (PMU), in the tracking and reviews and updates of the Environmental and Social Management Plan (PGAS for its initials in Spanish), as well as the Stakeholders Plan and Gender Action Plan.

7. Incorporation of the Gender approach

In the meetings of the face-to-face workshops, both in San Francisco Menéndez and in Tacuba, the representatives of organized and non-organized women expressed their concern that their participation in activities and decision-making would not be included when the Project was implemented. Therefore, the following table details how the Project will guarantee the participation of women from its inception:

Activity	Mitigation measures	Tracking
Component 1	Guarantee the participation of women in community restoration plans.	1) 50% of the beneficiaries of community plans are women. 2) Census of duly registered and identified women's associations.
Component 2	Training will be provided to women who are members of productive cooperatives, so that their livelihoods are benefited and their economy increases. Market research focused on woman producers and women's associations to access markets and add value to their products.	a) Training reports must include women's cooperatives or women's associations. b) One of the products generated must benefit women.
Component 3	The training of local associations includes organized and non-organized women in such a way as to ensure that local knowledge of climate variants is managed and interpreted by them.	45% of the beneficiaries of meteorological training are women.
Component 4	50% of women must be involved in the generation of knowledge and access to markets for their products.	

8. Participation of stakeholders in the Project

The Stakeholder Engagement Plan seeks to ensure that it is carried out in an inclusive manner, to ensure representation of all local stakeholders, including communities, women's associations, youth, and other types of existing organizations such as community development associations and water boards. The following table details the organizations that are currently located in the southern region of Ahuachapán and describes the roles in the implementation of the Project.

Organization	Roles
Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources	The Directorate of Ecosystems and Biodiversity is in charge of the implementation of the Project and will be in charge of coordinating and formalizing collaborations through letters of agreement. The Directorate of the Environmental Observatory is part of MARN and will be in charge of the implementation of component 3 of the project.
Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock	The General Directorate of Forest Management, Watersheds and Irrigation will be in charge of collaborating with technical forestry personnel and the forest seed bank for components 1 and 2 of the Project. The Directorate of the National Center for Agricultural and Forestry Technology "Enrique Álvarez Cordova" (CENTA), will be in charge of supporting component 2 of the Project with technological packages and with the collaboration of technical extension to producers.
Fund of the Initiative of the Americas (FIAES)	It is Responsible for the Project in component 1. It signs an agreement with MARN to administer the grant funds for small donations of the Community Restoration Plan. It will implement the Restoration activities.
Local and national NGOs	These will participate in the different services that the Project is going to carry out for its different components. Civil society organizations are the strength of the territory as they act with knowledge of the variety of organizations and actions carried out over time and the success achieved.
Municipal Environmental Units	They belong to the respective Mayor's Offices of the southern region of Ahuachapán. They are in charge of local governance, in addition to being a reference for territorial actions in their respective municipalities and being managers of environmental projects.
Producer associations, women's organizations, water boards, community development associations, network of local observers.	These are the different local organizations of local men and women that have influence in their respective villages and cantons. They participate in the Project as beneficiaries of the Project in the planning and implementation of community restoration plans and in different training sessions aimed at users from different parts of the territory.
Local Advisory Committee (COAL) of BR Apaneca-Ilamatepec and RAMSAR Committee	It is a structure delegated by MARN for its operation in its territories. These are social platforms of governance for the development of coordinated and expanded actions. It is a beneficiary of the Project and has convening capacity in the territory.

The Platforms for participation in the execution of the Project will be given as detailed below:

- a) **The inception workshop** that was held in the first months of the Project from June to September 2021; the first meeting of the Board of Directors was also held in July 2021.
- b) **The restoration activities of the Project** will be based on the community restoration plans and involve a call, a training process and a process of participation of all sectors, and a selection process; for its subsequent implementation and follow-up through knowledge strengthening processes.

c) **The local adaptation** plan found in component 4 is aimed at the municipalities of the Ahuachapán Sur region (San Pedro Puxtla, San Francisco Menéndez, Jujutla, Guaymango); this implies a coordination mechanism and inter-institutional coordination activities to strengthen management and investment capacity.

d) **Other platforms for participation** and consultation are the national and/or territorial **Technical Advisory Council (TAC)** and also the **Local Advisory Committee known as COAL**, in addition to the different committees that will be formed in the project during its execution as is the case of the **technical committee for marketing and diversification of livelihoods**.

9. Adjustments and variations in the Project based on a validation exercise in the field

The highlights of the changes and variations in the current context in the Project are detailed below:

1. **The Local Advisory Committee (COAL)** of the Apaneca Ilamatepec Biosphere Reserve is a new platform of organized civil society and that, in the governance structure of the Project, is integrated as beneficiary and decision maker. The COAL will also be participating in the Territorial Technical Advisory Council (TAC), in coordination with other agents of change.

2. The intervention of **different cooperants** with projects in the Ahuachapán Sur region has been identified, and a coordination has been established with them, to generate synergies and build with all those involved in the different initiatives, the articulation of actions jointly and avoid duplication of efforts. Such is the case of RECLIMA, which is financed by the Green Development Fund, in administrative and operational cooperation with FAO and MAG, for the dry forest sector. Likewise, IUCN develops, in conjunction with GIZ, actions with the Green Development Fund for the wetlands area of the Ahuachapán Sur region.

3. The strengthening of **local companies** or local NGOs, by hiring their services to carry out Project consultancies is important so that the local knowledge generated by the consultancies themselves, gives rise to sustainability and tracking of the Project once it is completed, due to the management generated by the project for the local financing of the different local development and investment plans that will be established in the Adaptation Plan in the southern region of Ahuachapán, in El Salvador.

6. The **education and promotion** of the actions of the governance mechanisms at the municipal level and in the territory of Ahuachapán Sur will be strengthened through the communication media most frequently listened to in Ahuachapán (social networks, community radios, local television and other existing media with the highest audience in the department of Ahuachapán and Sonsonate).

7. The inclusion of an undetermined group of **indigenous population** present in Tacuba requires to be incorporated into the Project as the upper basin of the Municipality of San Francisco Menéndez, since it is part of the Cara Sucia-San Pedro Belén hydrographic basin in the southern region of Ahuachapán.

8. It had been projected that the Salvadoran Municipal Development Institute (ISDEM) could establish coordination with the project to strengthen capacities at the municipal level and support planning

for the last quarter of 2021. However, surprisingly, the Government¹ has eliminated the institution under the approach of centralizing municipal technical assistance and execution of projects from the presidency.

¹ [Gobierno de Bukele pide eliminar el ISDEM para centralizar obras en una dirección municipal | Noticias de El Salvador](#)

10. ANNEXES: Minute of the Inception Workshops and their respective signed lists.

10.1. Minute: First inception session:

Wednesday, June 16, 2021 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm;

AGENDA

Time: 1:00 to 2:15 pm

Welcome and presentation of the participants **Rafael Pleitez (welcome)** ,
presentation of the participants **(Ryna)**

1-Subject: Introduction to the Project, scope, expectations

Speaker: Maritza Guido Martínez

- a) Background and national context
- b) Presentation of the annual work plan
- c) Review of actors involvement
- d) Results Framework
- e) Questions / interactive session

2-Subject: Introduction to the adaptation fund and requirements

Time: 2:15 to 3:00pm

Speaker: Claudia Ortiz -Regional Technical Advisor

- a) Adaptation Fund
- b) Reports, Disbursements, M&E
- c) Roles and Responsibility of the team
- e) Extensions and Execution Goals

3-Subject: Safeguards, gender policies and mechanisms

Speaker: Safeguard Specialist UNDP

Time: 3:00 to 3:30 pm

Time: 3:30 to 4:00 pm space for comments and questions

Participants

MARN

- Miguel Gallardo - Director of Ecosystems and Biodiversity
- Guillermo Mayorga – Manager of NPA and CB
- Carlos Giovanni Rivera
- Luis Menjivar – General Directorate of the Observatory of Hazards
- Indira Escalante
- Gabriel Cortez
- Cristina Ardon
- Guadalupe Menendez
- Mayra Argueta

FIAES

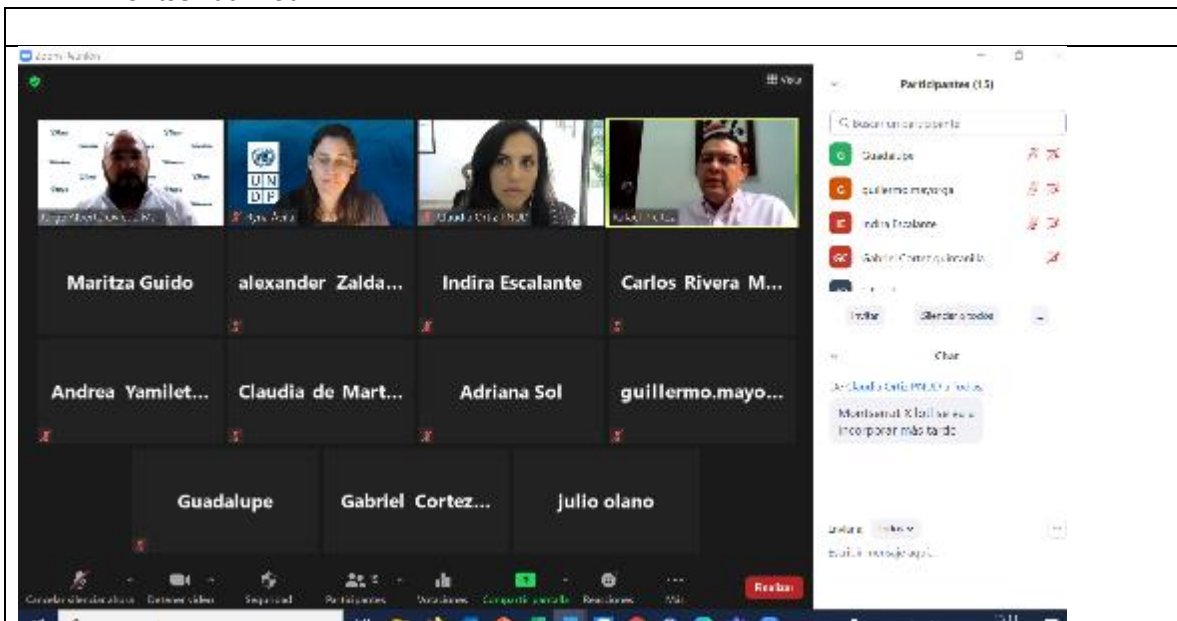
- Jorge Oviedo, Executive Director
- Mariano Pacas, Technical Manager
- Claudia Orellana, General Accountant
- Alexander Zaldaña, Coordinator, Territorial Liaison Unit (UET) Los Cóbano
- Reina Teban, Financial Administrative Technician, Territorial Liaison Unit (UET) Los Cóbano
- Andrea Mendoza, Project Technician

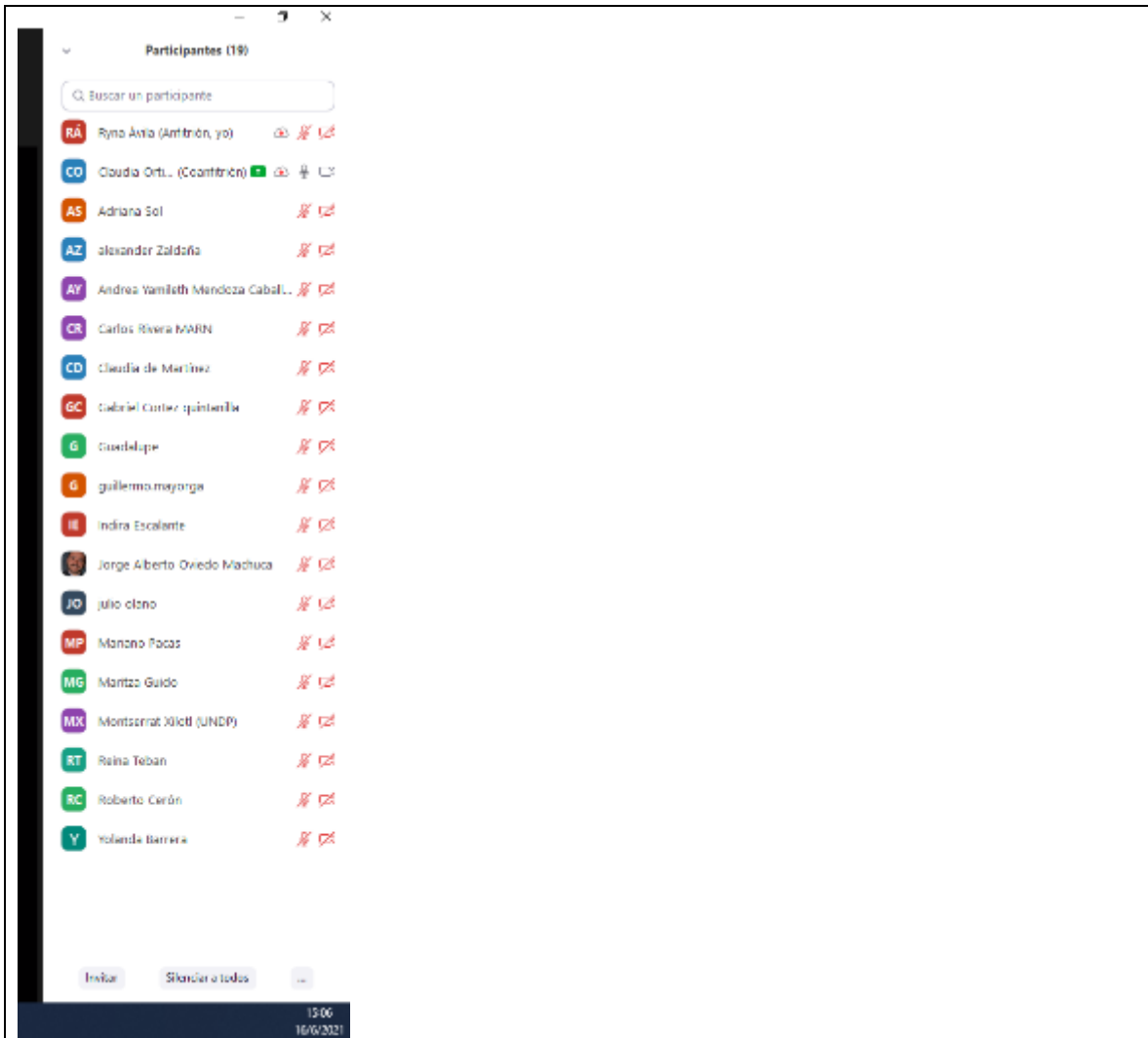
MAG

- Engineer Julio Olano

PNUD

- Ryna Avila
- Claudia Ortiz
- Maritza Guido Martínez
- Rafael Pleitez
- Montserrat Xilotl





10.2. Minute: Second day

PROJECT:

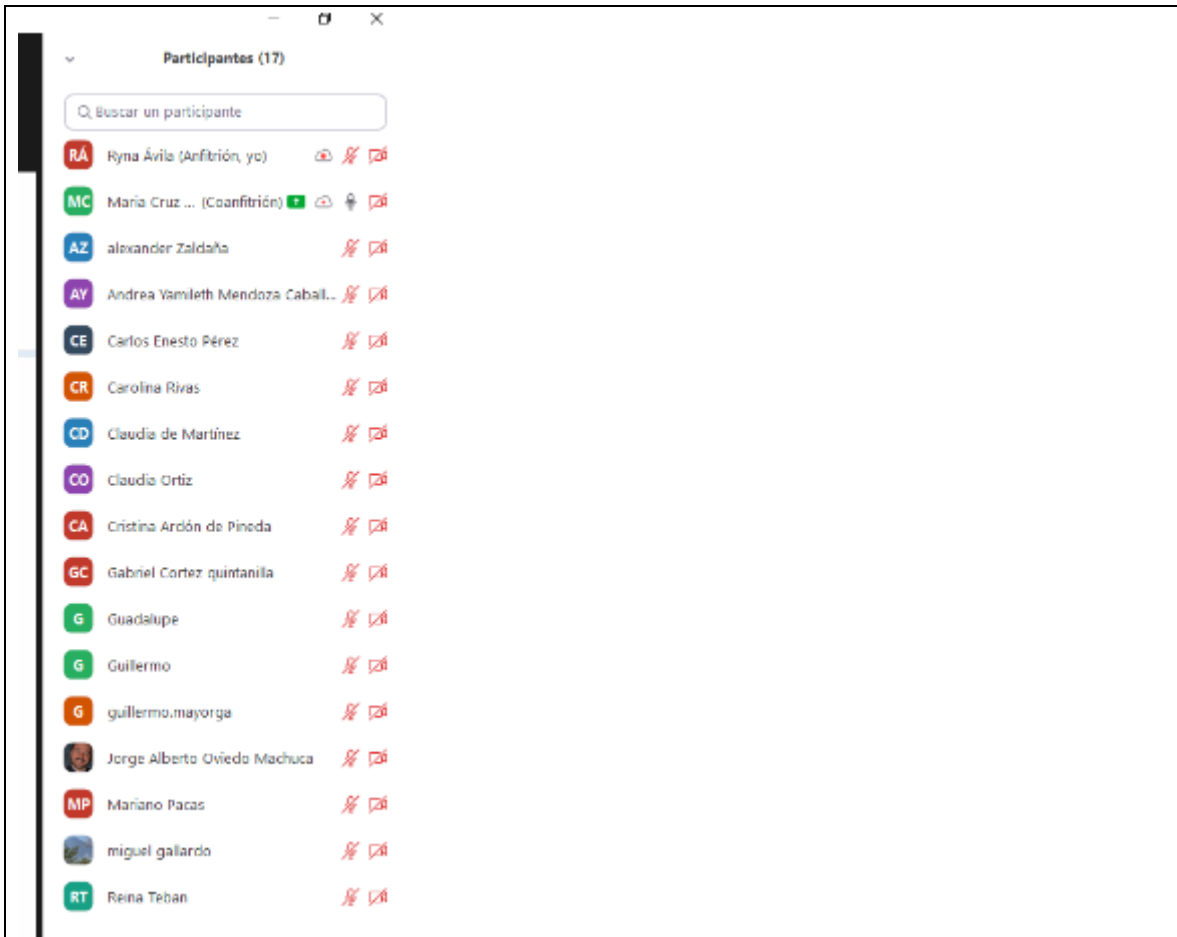
Strengthening the climate resilience of rural communities and ecosystems in Ahuachapán-Sur. El Salvador.

June 22, 2021

Agenda:

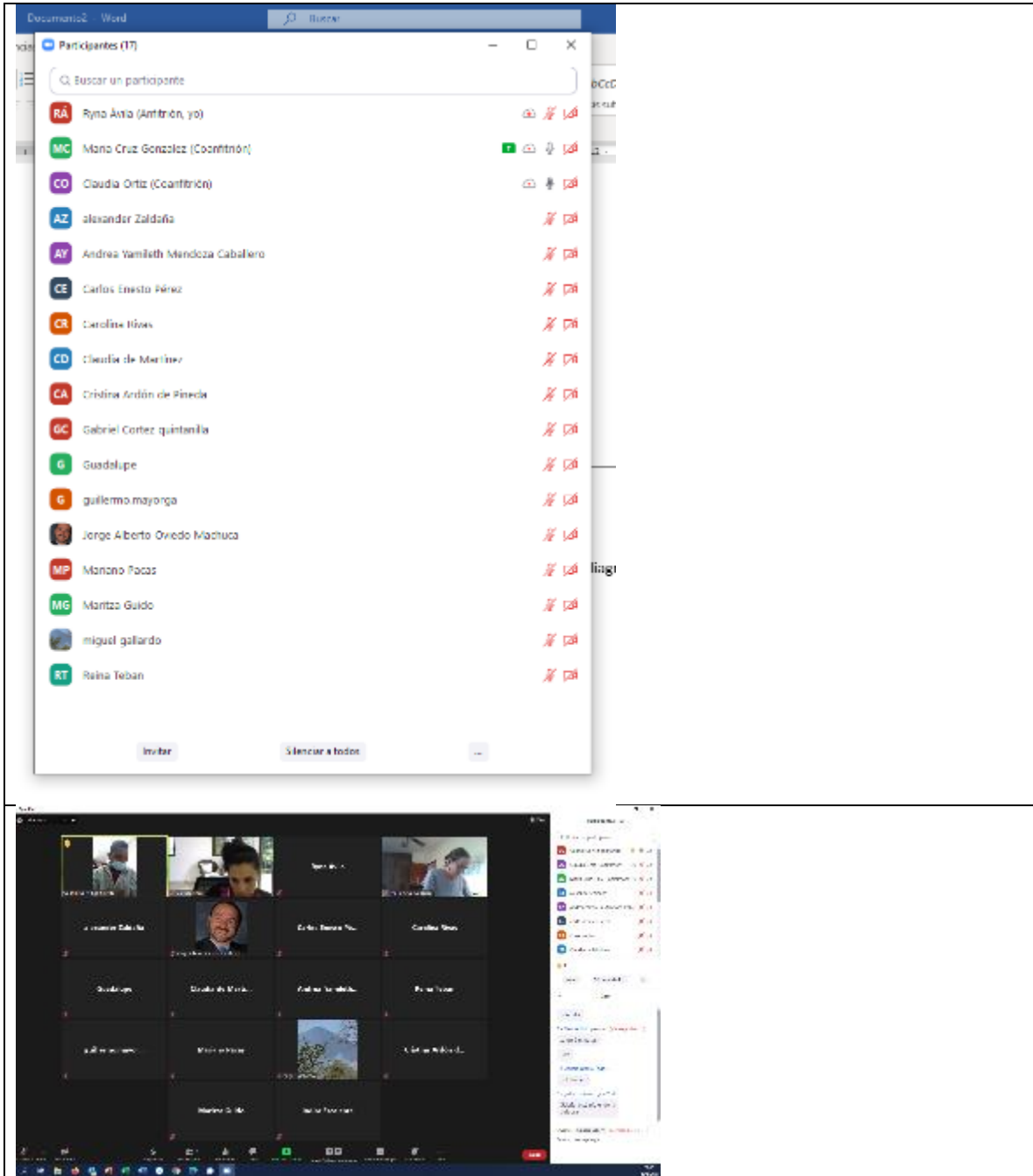
- Environmental and social management plan for the project
- Results framework
- Proposals from FIAES, MARN and MAG
- Risk Matrix
- Others

Participants:



The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting participant list window titled "Participantes (17)". At the top, there is a search bar with the placeholder text "Buscar un participante". Below the search bar, a list of 17 participants is displayed. Each entry includes a colored square with initials, the participant's name, and three small icons: a microphone, a video camera, and a speech bubble. The participants listed are:

Initials	Name	Microphone	Video	Speech
RA	Ryna Ávila (Anfitrión, yo)	On	Off	Off
MC	María Cruz ... (Coanfitrión)	On	Off	Off
AZ	alexander Zaldaña	Off	Off	Off
AY	Andrea Yamileth Mendoza Caball...	Off	Off	Off
CE	Carlos Ernesto Pérez	Off	Off	Off
CR	Carolina Rivas	Off	Off	Off
CD	Claudia de Martínez	Off	Off	Off
CO	Claudia Ortiz	Off	Off	Off
CA	Cristina Ardón de Pineda	Off	Off	Off
GC	Gabriel Cortez quintanilla	Off	Off	Off
G	Guadalupe	Off	Off	Off
G	Guillermo	Off	Off	Off
G	guillermo.mayorga	Off	Off	Off
	Jorge Alberto Oviedo Machuca	Off	Off	Off
MP	Mariano Pacas	Off	Off	Off
	miguel gallardo	Off	Off	Off
RT	Reina Teban	Off	Off	Off



10.3. Minute: Third face-to-face Inception Workshop in San Francisco Menéndez

Strengthening the climate resilience of rural communities and ecosystems in Ahuachapán Sur, El Salvador

June 25, 2021

Award ID:	00112865
Output ID:	00111194
Title:	Strengthening the climate resilience of rural communities and ecosystems in Ahuachapán Sur El Salvador
Implementing Partner:	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
Start date:	June 16, 2021
End date:	June 16, 2026
Total budget:	USD\$ 7,819,818.36

Attendance:

MARN: Gabriel Cortez, Juan Antonio Velasquez, Carolina Rivas.
 FIAES: Alexander Zaldaña, Mariano Pacas, Reina Teban,
 PNUD: Ryna Avila, Maritza Guido Martínez
 MAG: Mauricio Aníbal Mejía
 ADESCOSAM: Rosendo Mata, Epifanio Pérez, Jorge Molina
 ADESCO Tamacha: Calixto de la Cruz,
 ADESCO Nuevo Amanecer: Miguel Angel Martínez
 ADESCO El Refugio: Carlos Gilberto Ruiz Rivera
 Asociación ACMA: Manuel de Jesús Figueroa, Rigoberto Monge,
 ACAPAVIS: Evelyn Castillo, Antonio Pinto López, Patricia Maribel Godínez, Juan Francisco Barrientos, Griselda Marilin Brizuela,
 Asoc. Ganaderos de R.L.: Alfredo Guerra Álvarez,
 ACERPROS: Oscar Armando Castro, Oscar Escobar Méndez,
 AMBAS: Eder Caceros, Rosa Aguilar Lovato,
 PNC Medio Ambiente: Wenceslao Silva, Carlos José de León
 ADESCONE: Juan José Castillo,

AGENDA

Time: 9:00 am to 1:30 pm

1. Registration of Participants, Welcome and opening speech by Gabriel Cortez.
2. Presentation of the Ahuachapán Sur Project: Rationale, components, implementation arrangements, Budget, Operational Plan year one, actors involvement.
3. Other Projects in the Field; presentation by Mariano Pacas.
4. Presentation of results framework, safeguards and risks by Ryna Avila.

Development of the meeting

Comments to the general presentation of the Project:

The representative of the Livestock Farmers Association (AGAS) intervened, noting their satisfaction at verifying that MAG is going to be involved and have participation in the Project.

In component 1, the comments were as follows:

The representative of ADESCOSAM believes that women and youth should be included in community restoration plans, there must be a good method of communication that invites the villages to participate.

The COAL is the structure that brings together many local actors. All members of the COAL must be included for planning and training so that everyone knows the processes that will be developed in each component.

The representative of ACEPROS considers that it is necessary to include the users of other projects that already have experience and have demonstrated to be present. A joint plan must be defined between beneficiaries and FIAES to define the areas to be reforested.

There were no comments for Component 2 of the Project.

In component 3 of the Project, the comments were the following:

The cattle ranchers' association suggests that the meteorology and data collection stations should be distributed throughout the Ahuachapán Sur region, since permanent monitoring will indicate the changes that will take place throughout the five years of the Project. It also suggests that the water resource that is used for irrigation should be monitored, since there is a lack of control in the use of water for irrigation. The water resource is not taken care of.

There were no comments for component four.

3. Other projects in Territory: FIAES Presentation on The Green Climate Project.

4. Presentation on social and environmental safeguards:

4.1. UNDP is the guarantor of the execution of the Project.

4.2. Will the goal of 65 community restoration plans be met?

4.3. The creation of an incentive program for planting trees should be promoted.

4.4. An entire environmental education component should be included in the Project budget in the five years of the Project's life to raise awareness of the inhabitants of the southern region of Ahuachapán.

5. Presentation on the logical framework of the Ahuachapán Project.

5.1. Consider the flow rates of the rivers, as the rivers no longer have water in the region.

6. Presentation on Project Risks:

6.1. The risk of Covid 19 is very strong and can cause an interruption of activities at the national level again.

6.2. The risk of flooding in the lower area of San Francisco Menéndez is very high with the rainfall of tropical storms.

6.3. The security risk due to the presence of crime in the area causes migration.

6.4. The risk of people who do not work due to remittance-receiving from abroad.

6.5. The Risk of not applying to community restoration plan projects because they do not have land with title deeds and because they lack basic primary education to be able to work on the Project.

6.6. The risk of having streets that are not accessible and leaving the vehicle far away from the destination and continue on foot.

7. Presentation on Mitigation Strategies

7.1. Socialize and coordinate with the presidents of the different community associations to disseminate information and so that young people and men and women with only sixth grade of primary education or less, are included in the different promotion activities.

7.2. The community restoration plans are also for the areas within San Francisco Menéndez that are part of the dry corridor.

7.3. Biological corridors must be established in community restoration plans as people do not know the reason for them in the ecosystem and it is necessary to establish training in this context.

7.4. The watershed approach is important to work the entire territory.

7.5. The communities to be included in the community restoration plans must be selected in a participatory manner in conjunction with the COAL.

Agreements:

1. Next face-to-face meeting is in Tacuba. The directive members of the COAL will be at that meeting in Tacuba, a delegation will attend.

2. The members of the COAL represented by its president will be present at the first meeting of the Project Board.

3. Visit the Mayor's Office of San Francisco Menéndez to invite the Mayor or a representative of the Municipal Council to participate and be present in the planning and follow-up meetings in the Ahuachapán Sur project and in the Project Board. The president and other members of the COAL will do it.

4. They agree with the execution of the Project and the activities to be carried out in the AOP of year one of the Project, as well as in its budget.

ANNEXES

A-Photo of the face-to-face meeting in San Francisco Menéndez




Proyecto: "Fortaleciendo la resiliencia climática de comunidades rurales y de los ecosistemas en Ahuachapán Sur, El Salvador"











Fecha: 23 de junio 2021 - PNUD

Hora: 9:00 am a 12:30 media día
 Centro La Ceiba, Oficio de ADECOE s/n 118,
 Lugar: Municipio de San Francisco Menéndez, carretera
 hacia La Hachadura, Ahuachapán

41



 Programa
 de las Naciones
 Unidas


No.	Nombre	Organización local	Teléfono	Firma
1	Enrique Delacruz Sosa	Trabajo decente	6052300	
2	Miguel Angel Martinez Lopez	Nueva Asociación Riego	515-379	
3	Carlos Gilberto Rin Rivera	COMO 21 Riego	6195-0709	
4	Manuel de los Trigueros	Asociación ACA	49291416	
5	Ricardo moraga	Asociación acm	7072280	
6	Eudin Castillo	ACA PAVIS	71425189	
7	Mariana Paredes	FAES	7700000	
8	Cobral Castro D.	MARN	7609450	
9	Alfredo H. Guerra Gomez	AGAS de RL	26061092	
10	Osvaldo Homero Castro	ACEFROS	71969167	

#2

Proyecto: "Fortaleciendo la resiliencia climática de comunidades rurales y de los ecosistemas en Ahuachapán-Sur, El Salvador"

Viernes 25 de junio 2011 - PNUD

Hora: 9:00 am a 12:30 medio día
 Cantón La Ceiba, Oficina de ADESCONE km 126,
 Lugar: Municipio de San Francisco Menéndez, carretera
 hacia La Hachadura, Ahuachapán.




No	Nombre	Organización local	Teléfono	Firma
1	Juan Antonio Videspuz	GR.MARN	77461178	
2	Carolina Rivas	DOA-MARN	78564247	
3	Antonio p. A. López	ACAPAVIS	76661923	
4	Marta Guiso Marthuy	MARN-DE/PNUD	7860062	
5	Reina Teban	FIAES	7901-1261	
6	Alexander Zúñiga	FIAES	2952098	
7	Mauricio Anibal Mejía	QENTA	74865570	
8	ROSENDO NATA	ADESCOSAM	78810047	
9	EDIFANEO PEREZ	ADESCOSAM	7596 ⁵⁸⁰²	Edifanero P.
10	Jorge Molina	ADESCOSAM	73329519	

#3

Proyecto: "Fortaleciendo la resiliencia climática de comunidades rurales y de los ecosistemas en Ahuachapán-Sur, El Salvador"

Viernes 25 de junio 2011 - PNUD

Hora: 9:00 am a 12:30 medio día
 Cantón La Ceiba, Oficina de ADESCONE km 126,
 Lugar: Municipio de San Francisco Menéndez, carretera
 hacia La Hachadura, Ahuachapán.



No	Nombre	Organización local	Teléfono	Firma
1	Oscur Escobar Aguilar	ACERPEAS	7021509	
2	Patricia Marcel Cedreces	ACAPAVIS	76647471	
3	Rynda Avila	PNUD		
4	Eder Cáceres	AMBAS	7473-6261	
5	Rosa Aguilar Izard	AMBAS	71354172	
6	Wenestao P. Ivo	PNE.MA.	7674207	
7	Carlos José De León	PNE.M.A.-SIB	74806089	
8	Juan Francisco Barrantes	ACAPAVIS	77466492	
9	Graciela Marín Barroca	ACAPAVIS	3663687	
10	Juan José Castillo	ADESCONE	77499089	

10.4. Minute: Third Inception Workshop in San Francisco Ménendez Mayor's Office

Strengthening the climate resilience of rural communities and ecosystems in Ahuachapán Sur, El Salvador

Wednesday, September 01, 2021

Award ID: 00112865
 Output ID: 00111194
 Title: Strengthening the climate resilience of rural communities and ecosystems in Ahuachapán Sur El Salvador

Implementing Partner: Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
 Start date: June 16, 2021
 End date: June 16, 2026

Total budget: USD\$ 7,819,818.36

Attendance of:

San Francisco Ménendez Mayor's Office: Miguel Angel Tobar R., Council member; Remigio Morales Mejía, Council member; Osmín A. Sanchez, Council member; Martín Guardado, Environmental Unit; Fredy Alexander Lima, Mayor's Office Environmental Unit.

FIAES: Mariano Alfonso Pacas; Alexander Zaldaña.

MARN: Maritza Guido Martínez from Ahuachapán Sur Project.

❑ AGENDA

Time: 3:00 to 5:00 pm

Presentation of the members of the Municipal Council of San Francisco Menéndez, Welcome and opening speech by Maritza Guido and Mariano Pacas.

Presentation of the Ahuachapán Sur Project by Maritza Guido and Alexander Zaldaña.

- ❑ Development of the meeting
- ❑ Comments on the general presentation of the Project:
- ❑ Mr. Remigio Morales, member of the council of the Mayor's Office, shows interest in participating and requests that for future meetings contact be established with the environmental unit of the Mayor's Office (Fredy and Martín) so that they are notified of the meetings and that these can be carried out in that multipurpose room of the Mayor's Office.

- ❑ Mr. Miguel Angel Tobar expresses that they are very interested in participating in planning activities for community restoration plan projects, since they know the people and know the places where restoration attention is most required.
- ❑ Mr. Martín Guardado expresses that coordination activities are already being carried out with Alexander from FIAES to present the Ahuachapán Sur project to the municipal agricultural table so that the Project is known by them and also that the different actors are informed, since most of the the agricultural and livestock sectors are brought together in that table. The introduction of the Ahuachapán Sur Project to the table is being coordinated.
- ❑ Mr. Fredy Lima also stated that as an environmental unit they are extremely interested in participating and including local youth to join the training sessions that are held and to strengthen the environmental unit.
- ❑ Mariano Pacas from FIAES and Alexander Zaldaña, express that it is important that the Municipal Mayor's Office and its council join the Project since it is direct action on the territory of the Municipality and on the areas that are most susceptible to climate impacts, both in the upper basin, in the middle and on the lower part that corresponds to the wetlands. Mariano indicates that livelihoods will benefit primarily as they will show the farmers that, in a small area, they can generate significant income for their families and for the local market.
- ❑ It is recommended that for the next meetings of the Project Board they can be held at the Mayor's Office of San Francisco Menéndez, both when these are face-to-face and virtual, so that several members of the municipal council are present and participating.

AGREEMENTS:

- ❑ The current council members of the municipal government will inform the mayor and other members of the council what the Project means for the Municipality and the importance of including it in their work agendas.
- ❑ It is agreed that the next face-to-face or virtual meetings will be coordinated with the environmental unit and with the secretary of the municipal council.
- ❑ The municipal environmental unit (UAM for its initials in Spanish) of the Mayor's Office of San Francisco Menéndez is designated by the mayor to join the project in its local actions and planning, as well as to inform the Municipal Council and the mayor.

Attendance list

Photos


The List of Attendance to the Inception Workshop at the Mayor's Office of San Francisco Menéndez, September 1, 2021 is attached below:








Proyecto Fortaleciendo la Resiliencia climática de comunidades rurales y de los ecosistemas en Ahuachapán
Sur El Salvador

Rancho Consejo Municipal de Alcaldes de San Francisco Menéndez
 Fecha: 1 de septiembre de 2021

Hora: 3:00 pm

Atención
 de personas
 y animales



No.	Nombre	Cargo	Teléfono	Email	Firma
1	Yguel Angel Tobar R	Concejal p.	76276778		
2	Francisco Norales M	com edil p	61253745		
3	Mariana Alfaro Fara	Gerente Técnica	7744510	mariaalfarofara@gmail.com	
4	Martin Conrado	Unidad Ambiental	7000448 - 7000548		
5	Fredy Alexander Lima	Unidad Ambiental	61796902	director@gmail.com	
6	Maria Lidia Goico H				
7	Alexander Zaldívar	Coordinador Comité FIAS	70321458	alexander.zaldivar@gmail.com	
8	Benny Pineda	Concejal	6181113		
9					
10					

Inception Workshop with members of the municipal council and environmental unit of San Francisco Menéndez, September 1, 2021



Mguidom

10. 5. Minute: Fourth face-to-face Inception Workshop

Strengthening the climate resilience of rural communities and ecosystems in Ahuachapán Sur, El Salvador

July 1, 2021 in Tacuba

Award ID:	00112865
Output ID:	00111194
Title:	Strengthening the climate resilience of rural communities and ecosystems in Ahuachapán Sur El Salvador
Implementing Partner:	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
Start date:	June 16, 2021
End date:	June 16, 2026
Total budget:	USD\$ 7,819,818.36

Attendance:

MARN: Gabriel Cortez, Griselda Barrera, Miguel Angel Calderón, Hazel Saldaña, Ricardo Abarca,

FIAES: Alexander Zaldaña, Mariano Pacas, Reina Teban,

PNUD: Ryna Avila, Maritza Guido Martínez

MAG: José Rodríguez de Centa Tacuba

FUNDESYRAM: Pedro Matamoros, Nelson R. Flores,

Mayor's Office Tacuba: Ana Fermín, Julio Alfredo Díaz Galicia, Alcalde de Tacuba Luis Carlos Milla García, Edwin Roberto Castro, Luis Saldaña and Mario Campos de Cruz Roja

EMSAGUAT: Francisco Antonio Salazar, Salvador Mendoza, Roni Edgardo Hidalgo, José Remberto Rinaldo, Oscar Armando García, Juan Elías Martínez García, Ana Patricia Chávez García, Geovanny Martínez Pérez,

ACAPAVIS: Evelyn Castillo, Antonio Pinto López, Patricia Maribel Godínez, Juan Francisco Barrientos, Griselda Marilin Brizuela,

ASDERAT: Santos Mauricio Escobar, José Santos Gómez,

AMBAS: Eder Caceros,

ADESCO El Níspero: Celia Veronica García,

ADESCO EL Sincuyo: Vilma Elizabeth García,

ADESCO El Rosario: Matilde Eloisa Hernández,

COAL+ACEPROS: Oscar Escobar Méndez, Oscar Armando Castro,

PNUD: Ryna Avila, Julio César Hernández,

MOCCA: Marcela Barahona, Víctor Henriquez,

ASCOCC: José Edgardo Morán,

Indigenous citizen council of Tacuba: Berta Alicia Rosales, Felicitó García García, Leonel Antonio García, Margarita Rivas, Milena Esperanza Rivas, Luis Armando Molina, Vilma Elizabeth García, Joaquín Salazar Vásquez, Jorge Hernández Ramos,

AGENDA for the Inception Workshop in Tacuba Municipality, Department of Ahuachapán

DATE: Thursday, July 1, 2021

TIME: 8:30 am to 2:00 pm

PLACE: Tacuba, Residencia o Finca Las Nubes, Barrio San Nicolás, séptima calle oriente final y cuarta avenida sur, behind the Miraflores restaurant, Tacuba, Ahuachapán.

AGENDA

Hour	Subject	Responsible
8:30 am	Participants registration	MARN
8:45 am	Welcome	Mayor of Tacuba
8:55 am	Opening words	Gabriel Cortez and Ryna Avila
9:05 am	Presentation of the COAL	COAL President
9:15 am	Presentation of Citizen Council of Peoples of Tacuba	Leonel García
9:25 am	Presentation of the Project: Rationale, components, implementation arrangements, Budget, Operational Plan year one, actors involvement.	Maritza Guido Mariano Pacas (FIAES) Carolina Rivas (MARN)
10:15 am	Presence of Projects in Ahuachapán Sur	Mariano Pacas (FIAES)
10:45	Snack	Las Nubes
11:00 am	Results framework Presentation of Safeguards and Risks Social and Environmental Management Plan	Ryna Avila (PNUD)
12:00 pm	Questions and Answers	MARN
12:30 pm	Closing speech and Agreements	COAL President
12:45 pm	Lunch	Las Nubes

Development of the Workshop:

1. Presentation of Indigenous Peoples of Tacuba by Leonel García
2. Presentation of the Ahuachapán Sur Project by Maritza Guido
3. COAL presentation by COAL President, Oscar Escobar Méndez

4. Presentation of the Results Framework, Safeguards, Risks and Social and Environmental Management Plan by Ryna Avila

5. Intervention of the Mayor of Tacuba, Luis Carlos Milla García.

Comments to the presentations of the participants:

a) Comment for the Project components:

a.1. The Project has a culture approach since it includes the participation of people and indigenous peoples from the beginning.

a.2. The project approach allows building knowledge and is not top-down, since it includes the ancestral knowledge of indigenous peoples in terms of their knowledge in seeds and plants.

a.3. It is interesting to be able to participate in the knowledge of the meteorology of component three of the Project and link it with the ancestral knowledge they have of astronomical movements.

a.4. It is considered that part of the Ahuachapán Sur Project is in the upper part of Tacuba that corresponds to the watershed divider towards San Francisco Menéndez, since there are villages such as Agua Fría that are from Tacuba but are located towards the basin that goes down towards San Francisco Menéndez.

a.5. Food security is important therefore it is important to guarantee land tenure in the hands of indigenous peoples in order to include them as owners. The Mayor's Office is going to buy land for the indigenous peoples living in Tacuba to work on.

a.6. The indigenous peoples of Tacuba must be included in the logical framework of the Project.

a.7. It is suggested that “seed banks” be called “seed houses” and circles of caregivers will be in charge of ensuring their care and protection. They are expected to be included in those trainings and searches.

a.8. The presence of coffee growers through the local Salvadoran Council must be included in the Project.

a.9. Risks and indicators must include:

a.9.1.) Sacred sites and archaeological sites found in the Ahuachapán Sur region;

a.9.2.) That practices that cause erosion are not promoted, as is the case with the introduction of coffee, which is being encouraged by other projects;

a.9.3.) Covid 19 is a very important risk as it prevents obtaining products and materials to continue traditional crops;

a.9.4.) Landslides on steep slopes or slopes that do not have forest cover is a serious problem in Tacuba;

a.9.5.) Access to connectivity to the most remote villages limits the introduction of sustainable technology in these villages and prevents the development of the inhabitants of these inaccessible villages;

a.9.6.) Training opportunities and acquiring knowledge should not have limits, so it must be a requirement to know how to read and write, leadership, and experience in the topics to be worked on.

a.9.7.) Indigenous peoples work the land at the family level and all family members must be trained (men and women), women and young people must not be excluded.

a.9.8.) Land tenure is under the authority of men and therefore women are excluded from participating in training and acquiring skills in crop management.

Agreements:

1. The activities and components of the Project to be executed for year 1 and for the following years are in agreement.

2. It will be expected that the indigenous peoples of Tacuba will be included in the four components of the Ahuachapán Sur Project and that their ancestral knowledge will also be included in its execution.

3. Consider including the beneficiaries of the current Projects that are going to end in the territory in the coming months, so that their beneficiaries are included in the community restoration plans to give sustainability to what they have been practicing in diversified production systems.


Attendance list to face-to-face Inception Workshop in TACUBA











#1

Proyecto: "Fortaleciendo la resiliencia climática de comunidades rurales y de los ecosistemas en Ahuachapán-Sur, El Salvador"

Junio 01 de julio 2021 - PNUD

Hora: 8:30 am a 1:00 media día
 Tacuba, Municipalidad de Finca Las Nubes, Barrio San Nicolás, séptima calle oriente final y cuarta avenida sur, atrás de Restaurante Miraflores, Tacuba, Ahuachapán.


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 de los programas
 del medio ambiente


No.	Nombre	Organizaci6n local	Tel6fono	Firma
1	Pedro Malamora	FUNDESURAM	7796-6769	
2	Nelson R. Flores	FUNDESURAM	7092-1011	
3	Berta Alicia Rosales	CONSEJO CIVIL dadano	72335263	
4	Quindia Barrios	DOARN/MARN	7710-7070	
5	Araceli Barrios	MARN	7950-8302	
6	Miguel Angel Catal6n	MARN	2206-7298	
7	Hazel Elis6t Saldaña	MARN	7720-7226	
8	Isra Ferrer	Nicaragua	7060-8154	
9	Jose Echeverri Moran	Aspcc	77883638	
10	Francisco Antonio Saldaña	EMSA GUAT	74543476	

#2

Proyecto: "Fortaleciendo la resiliencia climática de comunidades rurales y de los ecosistemas en Ahuachapán-Sur, El Salvador"

Jueves 01 de julio 2021 - PNUD

Hora: 8:30 am a 1:00 medio día
 Tacuba, Residencia o Finca Las Nubes, Barrio San Nicolás, séptima calle oriente final y cuarta avenida sur, atrás de Restaurante Miraflores, Tacuba, Ahuachapán.



Al servicio de las personas y las naciones

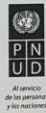
No	Nombre	Organización local	Teléfono	Firma
1	Salvador Mendoza M.	Ensaquati	74726904	<i>[Signature]</i>
2	Ron: Edgardo Hidalgo	EMSAGUAT	77867585	<i>[Signature]</i>
3	Reina Tobar Magaña	FAES	701-1761	<i>[Signature]</i>
4	Hanitzia Guido Katig	UANI/PUUD/DEB	79606062	<i>[Signature]</i>
5	Mariano Pava	FAES	017313082	<i>[Signature]</i>
6	Jose Rodriguez	CENTA	79455010	<i>[Signature]</i>
7	Felicitó García García	consejo	7445037	<i>[Signature]</i>
8	Rosaldo Baraso García	Consejo indígena	75848522	<i>[Signature]</i>
9	Margueta Rivas	Consejo indígena	61808340	<i>[Signature]</i>
10	Milena Espinosa Rivas	Consejo indígena	74977367	<i>[Signature]</i>

#3

Proyecto: "Fortaleciendo la resiliencia climática de comunidades rurales y de los ecosistemas en Ahuachapán-Sur, El Salvador"

Jueves 01 de julio 2021 - PNUD

Hora: 8:30 am a 1:00 medio día
 Tacuba, Residencia o Finca Las Nubes, Barrio San Nicolás, séptima calle oriente final y cuarta avenida sur, atrás de Restaurante Miraflores, Tacuba, Ahuachapán.



Al servicio de las personas y las naciones

No	Nombre	Organización local	Teléfono	Firma
1	Luis Armando Melero	030447454-0	60700214	<i>[Signature]</i>
2	Olivia Elisabeth García	El Sincuyo	75659996	<i>[Signature]</i>
3	Matilde Eloisa Hernández	El Rosario	76058158	MTD.H
4	Jose Remberto Rumbold	EMSAGUAT	78966631	<i>[Signature]</i>
5	Oscar Armando García	EMSAGUAT	74056521	<i>[Signature]</i>
6	Terribio González Herman	EnsaGUAT	63052034	<i>[Signature]</i>
7	Juan Elias Martinez Garcia	EMSAGUAT	73284702	JEM
8	Jorge Arturo Nunez	EMSAGUAT	77106493	<i>[Signature]</i>
9	Julio Alfredo Diaz Calera	Aldaldia	77767673	<i>[Signature]</i>
10	Sanlos Mauricio Escobar	Asiderat	72087722	<i>[Signature]</i>

#4

Proyecto: "Fortaleciendo la resiliencia climática de comunidades rurales y de los ecosistemas en Ahuachapán-Sur, El Salvador"

Jueves 01 de Julio 2021 - PNUD



Al servicio de las personas y las naciones

Hora: 8:30 am a 1:00 medio día

Tacuba, Residencia o Finca Las Nubes, Barrio San Nicolás, séptima calle oriente final y cuarta avenida


Lugar: sur, atrás de Restaurante Miraflores, Tacuba, Ahuachapán.

No	Nombre	Organización local	Teléfono	Firma
1	Velma Elizabeth Garcia	Comunidad originarias	71088881	<i>[Signature]</i>
2	Joaquín Salazar Vesperz	consejo indigena	75557921	<i>[Signature]</i>
3	Jorge Heineides Ramos	consejo indigena	74257022	<i>[Signature]</i>
4	José Santos Gómez	ASDERAT	73483184	<i>[Signature]</i>
5	Relia Verónica Garcia	El Nispero	7002-8605	<i>[Signature]</i>
6	Alexander Zaldivia	FIAES	7932048	<i>[Signature]</i>
7	Anapotsiaca Chavín Gora	ENSABGUA 7	73158342	<i>[Signature]</i>
8	EDER CACERES	AMBAS.	7482-6261	<i>[Signature]</i>
9	Josonny Martinez Pérez	EMISAGVAT	2455-2473	<i>[Signature]</i>
10	Gabriel Cortez	HANU - DEB-AU9		<i>[Signature]</i>

#5

Proyecto: "Fortaleciendo la resiliencia climática de comunidades rurales y de los ecosistemas en Ahuachapán-Sur, El Salvador"

Jueves 01 de julio 2021 - PNUD


 Al servicio de las personas y las naciones

Hora: 8:30 am a 1:00 medio día
 Tacuba, Residencia o Finca Las Nubes, Barrio San Nicolás, séptima calle oriente final y cuarta avenida sur, atrás de Restaurante Miraflores, Tacuba, Ahuachapán.

No	Nombre	Organización local	Teléfono	Firma
1	Luis Carlos Peña Guea	Alcalde Tacuba	79407414	<i>[Signature]</i>
2	Oscar Esobar Múndez	ACEPROS-COAL	7021514	<i>[Signature]</i>
3	Nicolás M. Hernández	TXIS - MOCCA	3850-0123	<i>[Signature]</i>
4	Marela Bertrona	MOCCA	7605-2467	<i>[Signature]</i>
5	Oscar Armando Castro	ACEPROS	79869167	<i>[Signature]</i>
6	Ryna Avila	PNUD		<i>[Signature]</i>
7	Julio Cesna Henríquez	PNUD	7706-4166	<i>[Signature]</i>
8	Edwin Roberto Castro	Alcalde	7719-8911	<i>[Signature]</i>
9	Luis Zaldívar	Tacuba	-	<i>[Signature]</i>
10	Mario Campos	CRUZ ROJA	-	<i>[Signature]</i>

Photo of Inception Workshop in TACUBA



10.6. Minute of information-sharing meeting with RECLIMA of the Green Development Fund in execution in Ahuachapán Sur

Minute of Meeting with RECLIMA Project

Strengthening the climate resilience of rural communities and ecosystems in Ahuachapán Sur, El Salvador

August 24, 2021

Award ID: 00112865
Output ID: 00111194

Title: Strengthening the climate resilience of rural communities and ecosystems in Ahuachapán Sur El Salvador

Implementing Partner: Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
Start date: June 16, 2021
End date: June 16, 2026

Total budget: USD\$ 7,819,818.36

AGENDA:

1. Presentation by Carlos Domínguez, RECLIMA project coordinator in MAG.
2. Presentation by Maritza Guido, Ahuachapán Project coordinator in MARN.

ATTENDANCE:

FIAES: Mariano Pacas, Reina Teban, Alexander Zaldaña, Carlos Pérez, Jorge Oviedo,

MARN: Guadalupe Menéndez, Manuel Guillermo Archila López, Gabriel Cortez, Guillermo Adolfo Mayorga, Indira Escalante.

FAO: Carlos Dominguez Coronado,

San Francisco Menéndez Mayor's Office: Fredy Lima,

PNUD: Monserrat Xilotl, Ryna Avila

MAG: Mario A. Barrientos / forestal of Sana Ana

1. Presentation of Project "climate resilience measures in the municipalities of the dry corridor of El Salvador", RECLIMA from 2019 to 2024

RECLIMA milestones are:

Ecosystem based adaptation.

Productive Diversification and livelihoods.

Technology development and knowledge management.

Community-based environmental governance.

The partners in the implementation of the RECLIMA Project: are MARN as national authority, FAO as accredited entity; executing organizations are: MAG/CENTA and FIAES.

The Adaptation Fund (AF) has invested for El Salvador, the amount of U\$ 35, 849, 612.00; to be implemented in the 114 municipalities.

The project board is composed of a representative of the Project management unit and the territorial action committee.

The implementation strategy is to promote the agro-environmental concept of resilience in the territories of the dry corridor to generate productive, ecosystemic and resilient livelihood adaptability.

The geographic area of RECLIMA is nationwide.

AGREEMENTS of the Meeting:

a) Face-to-face meeting in the future to establish the topics of accompaniment and complement actions and joint investments for the benefit of the users of both projects.

b) The municipalities of impact of RECLIMA are Jujutla, Guaymango, Tacuba and San Francisco Menéndez.

c) To establish a dialogue table between the different projects in execution in the territory of the region.

Start of the meeting: 10:00 am

End of the meeting: 11:40 am

10.7. Minute of the first meeting of the Project Board

Minute Project Board

Strengthening the climate resilience of rural communities and ecosystems in Ahuachapán Sur, El Salvador

PNUD, Thursday, July 29, 2021

Award ID: 00112865

Output ID: 00111194

Title: Strengthening the climate resilience of rural communities and ecosystems in Ahuachapán Sur El Salvador

Implementing Partner:	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
Start date:	June 16, 2021
End date:	June 16, 2026
Total budget:	USD\$ 7,819,818.36

Attendees:

MARN: Miguel Gallardo, Maritza Guido

MAG: Giosvany Oliva, Lucía Gómez

FIAES: Jorge Oviedo, Alexander Zaldaña, Mariano Pacas

COAL: Óscar Escobar Méndez

San Francisco Menéndez Mayor's Office: was convened in writing by mail and by phone

PNUD: Rafael Pleitez

PNUD: Rafael Pleitez, Ryna Avila, Montserrat Xilotl, Joana Troyano, Adriana Sol

Agenda

1. Responsibilities of the Project Board
2. Presentation of the Project
3. Annual Work Plan
4. Agreements

Development of the meeting**Welcome**

Mr. Rafael Pleitez, UNDP Assistant Resident Representative, greets the attendees and gives a brief explanation of the purpose of the meeting, and that one of the agreements at the end of this meeting of the board is that the activities and implementation of the project will begin.

1. Responsibilities of the Project Board

The Project Board's responsibilities include the following activities:

- Take corrective action to ensure desired results
- Provide overall guidance and direction to the project
- Addressing issues, managing risks and agreeing on mitigation actions
- Agreeing on tolerances within the parameters established between UNDP-MARN
- Follow-up and monitoring of co-financing, evaluations, annual reports, project tracking

- Address complaints at project level
- Approve budgets, inception report, mid-term reviews and final evaluation
- Others established in the PRODOC

2. Presentation of the project and the Inception Workshop results

The presentation began with a brief explanation of the objective of the project, the geographic area of action and impact of the project and its duration.

The goals of the project are:

1. At the end of the project there will be 3,864 hectares of forest landscape under restoration.
2. Diversification of agriculture and local livelihoods.
3. Climate information is accessible in the four municipalities of Ahuachapán Sur.
4. A local adaptation plan developed and simplified in municipal planning instruments; in the 4 municipalities of the Ahuachapán Sur project.

These goals are framed within the following components:

- a) **Increased resilience to climate change through ecosystem-based adaptation.** It is executed by MARN-FIAES in San Francisco Menéndez in coordination with productive associations, water boards, fishermen's cooperatives, women's associations, indigenous peoples' council.
- b) **Alternative and adapted livelihoods.** It is executed by MARN - DEB in close coordination with MAG through forestry offices and offices of CENTA Cara Sucia and CENTA Tacuba. It includes the 4 municipalities of Ahuachapán Sur and its main stakeholders.
- c) **Regional climate and hydrological monitoring for adaptation planning.** Executed by MARN - DOA in the 4 municipalities of Ahuachapán Sur.
- d) **Strengthening of inter-institutional coordination and local governance.** Executed by MARN-DEB and 4 municipalities of Ahuachapán Sur.

The organizational structure of the Project and the institutions which comprise it were also presented to the Board.

Additional details presented on the project, including its organizational structure, project team, indicators and goals, budget, among others, are detailed in the attached presentation and in the Project document.

The Inception Workshop was explained as a milestone in the life of the Project, which was held in June and on July 1. This Workshop allows the Project team, the participating partners and the stakeholders to take up the Project again, reorient themselves towards the implementation strategy and deepen the planning processes.

Relevant data collected during the Inception Workshop sessions are detailed in the attached presentation.

3. 2021 Work Plan (June 2021-June 2022)

Budget 2021: \$1,192,373.23

Component	Year 1
COMPONENT 1: Ecosystem based adaptation through productive management and landscape restoration to improve resilience at the territorial level	\$363,980.83
COMPONENT 2: Diversified products positioned in new markets for resilient livelihoods	\$109,282.40
COMPONENT 3: Monitoring of the impact of the EbA in the Regional Hydrology to Improve the Landscape Management Capacity and the adaptation planning	\$416,850.00
COMPONENT 4: Strengthening inter-institutional coordination and local governance for sustainable land management in the face of climate variability and change	\$179,960.00
Project Unit	\$122,300.00
Total amount Year 1	\$1,192,373.23

The total budget data for the Project and by component are detailed in the attached presentation.

Comments

FIAES highlights the commitment to the Project in component 1, and agrees with COAL on the important and ambitious goals that they have set out to achieve.

MAG asks if it is possible to standardize the concept of ecosystem restoration in order to interpret the concept and guide the actions carried out by MAG towards the same objective as MARN, on the basis that MAG guides its actions in the management of natural resources.

MARN responds that it is the one used in the Ministry's restoration plan and is very similar to the one used by MAG. This will be executed in component 1 by FIAES.

UNDP goes a little deeper and points out that both concepts, the one used by MAG and the one used by MARN, are compatible.

Acuerdos

The Board approves:

- The 2021 Work Plan.
- The 2021 Budget.
- That they have been informed about the holding of the Inception Workshop and the observations made by the different actors who attended the events have been taken into account.