



ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT:

[SHORT PROGRAMME TITLE]

January – December 2024

Programme Overview

Programme Title & Project Number		Programme Duration	
Programme Title: Fi wi riif (“Our reef”) Programme Number: 00140134 Programme webpage: Currently being developed		Start Date: November 2023 End Date: October 2029	
Programme Location		Co-recipient Organisation/s and Implementing Partners	
Country/ies: Colombia Priority Coral Reef Site/s: Archipelago of San Andrés, Providencia (Old Providence), and Santa Catalina		Implementing Partner/s: N.A.	
Total Approved Budget			
Total GFCR Budget: USD 8,000,000 Fondo Acción: USD 8,000,000			
Programme Description			

The Fi Wi Riif programme (which means ‘our reef’ in the creole local language) is an ambitious, long-term commitment to manage biodiversity positively, increase climate resilience, and improve sustainable livelihoods for local communities. Fi Wi Riif will protect and recover the health of resilient coral reef sites in the archipelago of San Andrés, Providencia, Santa Catalina, and its cays, in Colombia, improve the livelihoods and the coastal protection of reef-dependent communities severely impacted by the category 5 Hurricane Iota, and research innovative approaches to reefs health and restoration technologies. The Archipelago of San Andrés and Providencia, in the western Caribbean Sea, contains 77% of Colombia’s coral reefs. The uniqueness of the site is recognized national and internationally. It is inside the UNESCO Seaflower Biosphere Reserve and comprises a system of marine protected areas (MPAs) declared by the Colombian government.

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Table of Contents

Table of Contents

I.	Executive Summary	1
II.	Programme Progress Overview	3
1.	Solutions	6
III.	Facilities and Conservation Trust Funds	8
IV.	Enabling Environment	10
5.	Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI)	12
V.	Partnerships	17
VI.	Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E).....	19
6.	Programme Management	21
VII.	2025 Objectives	22
VIII.	Communication, Visibility and Knowledge Management	24
7.	Annex A – Results Framework	26
8.	Annex B – Programme Milestones by Activities	27
9.	Annex C– Dashboard Intake Form	37
10.	Annex D – Risk Log	38
11.	Annex E – Solution Case Study Template	42
12.	Annex F – GESI Action Report	43
13.	Annex G – Safeguards	45

I. Executive Summary

1. Programme Progress Update

In 2024, Fondo Acción made significant progress in the design of two financial mechanisms. The first is the Seaflower Fund, a long-term mechanism for the sustainability of the biosphere reserve, its marine protected areas, and sustainable livelihoods; this Fund was announced at the COP16 on Biodiversity held in Colombia. The second is the facilitated finance for a sustainable fishing fleet, a combined financing scheme to alleviate the debt of an association of artisanal fishers to improve their boats, which were destroyed by Hurricane Iota in 2020; this mechanism goes hand in hand with the design of conservation agreements and responsible fishing guidelines.

As part of Fi wi Riif's sustainability strategy, Fondo Acción and its local partners actively formulated the project submitted to Blue Action Fund. This work included an environmental and social assessment of potential impacts and developing risk management instruments that are transversal to the different sources of financing. The formulation of the free and informed prior consent protocol, a framework of processes, an environmental code of practice, a stakeholder engagement plan, and a grievance mechanism are highlighted.

Another of the financial mechanisms designed in 2024, with funding from ORRAA and under the coordination of the MAR Fund, was parametric insurance to cover emergency response costs on coral reefs on the islands of San Andrés, Providencia, and Santa Catalina that are affected by hurricanes. In addition, a response plan and governance framework for the insurance operation, a payment management and distribution scheme, and a strategy for financing insurance premiums were designed, and local brigade members were trained to implement immediate response actions to repair hurricane damage to coral reefs. An outstanding achievement of Fondo Acción, which will be the policyholder, was to manage resources to cover the partial payment of the insurance premium with contributions from the Blue Action Fund.

Fondo Acción also advanced in the "Fi wi Riif" Investment Account, a financial mechanism that will be part of the Seaflower Fund and support reef-positive business. This account will provide not only economic resources but also technical assistance, empowering these businesses to thrive. In 2024, the first call was launched to support through grants 12 local businesses. As a result of the protocolization of the agreements made between the government and the Raizal community after the reconstruction of the island of Providencia and Santa Catalina due to the passage of Hurricane Iota in 2020, the call for the Investment Account is focused on local businesses, based on the island, that generate local employment and require that the human teams be permanent residents.

As part of the private sector engagement strategy and resource mobilization commitments, Fondo Acción signed a framework agreement with Colombia's main air company, Avianca, to boost biodiversity management investments and develop nature-based solutions. This agreement prioritized the company's collaboration in the pre-feasibility study of a blue carbon project.

2. Milestones and Adaptations

- Establishment of the Seaflower Fund: The Seaflower Fund has been designed and launched at COP16 in 2024. Initially, a goal of US\$10 million was foreseen for creating the patrimonial account. However,

during the structuring process, Fondo Acción realised that a goal of \$5 million would be more feasible and sustainable in the long term due to donor preferences.

- Resources approved for the sinking fund of the Seaflower Fund: Fondo Acción was successful in submitting a funding proposal to the Blue Action Fund. The proposal focused on increasing the resilience and recovery of human populations and ecosystems in the archipelago.
- Facilitated finance for a sustainable fishing fleet: The fisher organisation "I-FISH" successfully obtained access to a loan with the commercial bank. Although Fondo Acción expected to have participated in designing a concessional loan with a commercial bank, the Association successfully negotiated it independently. Once the loan was approved and the Fi Wi Riif project started, Fondo Acción initiated discussions with the commercial bank to understand the credit conditions and designed the agreement terms with I-FISH to provide them with debt relief from their credit with the bank. In the end, thanks to the commitment of the Fishers' Association, this early victory laid the foundation for a more ecosystem-friendly and safer activity for the fishers. The I-FISH Association now has a new boat that is being made suitable for use. The boat, christened 'Raizal Spring', serves as a powerful symbol of the fishermen's aspirations for a sustainable future.
- Fi wi Riif Investment Account: Launch of the first call for proposals to select 12 reef-positive businesses to mature them through economic resources (grants) and technical assistance. The initial goal was to have selected the businesses in 2024 to support their maturation in 2025; however, there is a delay that is being addressed with strategies to strengthen the proponents with training in the formulation of projects and business plans. In this way, the economic resources will be complemented with technical assistance focused on local needs.
- Community and Stakeholder Engagement: The project implementation involved close collaboration with local environmental authority CORALINA, Old Providence McBean Lagoon National Park, and civil society organisations. Fondo Acción has worked with these partners to ensure that the financial strategy aligns with the needs of the local community, fostering ownership and transparency in the conservation process.
- Strategic Partnerships for Capitalisation: Fondo Acción has forged significant partnerships, including collaborations with Blue Action Fund, ORRAA, MAR Fund, and GFCR.

3. 2025 Outlook

In 2025, the programme will focus on strengthening governance, advancing conservation initiatives, and fostering community engagement to drive long-term impact. Key milestones include the establishment of Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with key stakeholders such as Coralina, PNN, SECCO, and local government authorities. Community engagement will be prioritized with the launch of the community awareness and engagement programme *Escuela del Mar*. Economic resilience efforts will advance with the selection and support of 12 reef-positive businesses and one ecosystem restoration initiative. Scientific research and monitoring will be strengthened through the design of a Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Plan, the establishment of the baseline of the biophysical and socioeconomic indicators, and studies low-carbon technologies. Additionally, a marine turtle conservation programme will be developed.

Private-sector collaborations will be leveraged through agreements with Avianca for waste transportation. Lastly, the programme will enhance its outreach and transparency through the development of a dedicated website. A crowdfunding strategy will be launched in partnership with a commercial bank to mobilize resources from tourists who visit the archipelago and want to contribute to its protection.

II. Programme Progress Overview

1. Progress Toward Outcomes and Outputs

- 1) Outcome 1: Increased protection and recovery of coral reef sites in Marine Protected Areas and climate refugia

The launch of the Seaflower Fund at COP 16 in Cali, Colombia, represents a major milestone in establishing a long-term financial mechanism to support conservation efforts in the Seaflower Biosphere Reserve MPAs. The fund's combination of endowment and sinking resources is expected to provide a sustainable flow of financial support for ecosystem conservation.

Additionally, an inter-institutional and community coordination strategy has been designed as a platform to guarantee compliance with the law and optimize the management of MPAs in the Seaflower Biosphere Reserve. This strategy aims to enhance law enforcement, strengthen the control of illegal and destructive fishing, and foster stakeholder engagement, leading to improved compliance and more effective marine resource management.

Furthermore, a baseline assessment of reef health indicators has been initiated to monitor program effectiveness and guide in establishing control options, with a special focus on diseases.

Partnerships have laid the groundwork for amplifying impact. The collaboration with the main airline in Colombia –Avianca- for the prefeasibility and design of a blue carbon project demonstrates the power of private-sector engagement in conservation. Additionally, the involvement of diverse stakeholders in the inter-institutional strategy fosters collective action for effective MPA governance.

- 2) Outcome 2: Reef-dependent livelihoods improved with recovery after major shocks

The programme has made progress in supporting reef-dependent livelihoods. The first call for proposals of the Fi Wi Riif investment account, launched in December, is set to support 12 reef-positive businesses in priority sectors such as artisanal fishery, tourism, agriculture, diving, and waste management. These sectors were selected based on their connection to key drivers of coral reef degradation (invasive species and diseases, overfishing and destructive fishing, land-based and marine based pollution, unsustainable tourism, and coastal development), ensuring that interventions directly address the root causes of reef health decline.

A notable achievement is the participatory approach in negotiating conservation agreements with local artisanal fishers, for the establishment of no-take no-entry zones, facilitated by the Foundation Sea Land & Culture Old Providence Initiative (Prosealand), as local partner, and the environmental authority - Coralina.

The Old Providence and Ketlina Islands Association of Independent Fisherman “I-FISH” (the largest fisher association in Providencia and Santa Catalina islands) received a USD 104,000 grant to relieve debt incurred for acquiring a strategic vessel and to cover transportation, logistics and equipment costs. This vessel is now fully operational and service ready. This is essential for significantly improving safe and efficient access to remote fishing areas of the Archipelago, decreasing overfishing around Providencia and Santa Catalina. By reducing overfishing pressure around the islands, the initiative directly contributes to

reef ecosystem recovery. The agreement with the association also ensures fishers engage in the conservation agreements, adopt best practices and participate in turtle monitoring, reinforcing conservation efforts.

Other fishers' associations have expressed their interest in accessing credits for the acquisition or improvement of their vessels and have requested support from Fondo Acción to strengthen their financial and administrative capacities, as well as access the financing provided.

Strategic partnerships have been integral to achieving outcomes. The collaboration with Coralina and the Prosealand Foundation has facilitated community engagement in conservation agreements.

3) Outcome 3: Reef restoration and adaptation technologies are developed based on local knowledge

In 2024, the Prosealand Foundation initiated the design of the School of the Sea, an environmental education programme to raise community awareness and engagement to reinforce local knowledge related to reef recovery and adaptation efforts.

The methodology for the baseline survey of sea turtle populations was also defined as a basis for the turtle conservation program. Given its presence in the northern keys, where there are important sites for turtle nesting, collaboration with the National Navy is envisaged in its development.

Studies to assess the impact of weak wastewater treatment on San Andres' coral ecosystems have begun, as the systematization study of restoration and reef health recovery technologies that can be developed into business models.

2. Grants, Investment, Revenue Mobilised:

1) Grants and Investments:

During the reporting period, significant grants and investments were secured because of GFCR funding, reinforcing the programme's objectives.

The Blue Action Fund committed € 4,117,165 to the project titled "Fi Wi Riif ('Our Reef'): Ecosystem and Human Resilience and Recovery for the San Andrés and Providencia Archipelago of the Colombian Caribbean in a Climate Change Reality". This project aims to enhance the resilience of coastal and marine ecosystems while strengthening local communities' ability to recover and adapt to climate change and biodiversity threats. The project will achieve these objectives through an improved protected areas system, an ecosystem health recovery and restoration strategy and sustainable livelihood opportunities for local and native populations. Implementation will continue through 2029, leveraging parallel co-financing to maximize impact.

Until July, the Fondo Acción team and its local implementing partners spent a significant amount of time formulating the detailed proposal for the Blue Action Fund-funded project. This involved securing substantial resources for activities complementary to the GFCR funding, undertaking a broader stakeholder consultation process, and formulating environmental and social risk management tools for the project. A key part of this process was the development of a code of ethics for the engagement of

local communities, demonstrating our project's commitment to ethical engagement and respect for local communities. The gender action plan for the project was also reviewed and adjusted.

Additionally, Avianca's financial support facilitated the pre-feasibility study for a blue carbon project and will even allow the project design to move forward, which was a milestone for phase 2 of the Fi wi riif programme. This initiative is part of a framework cooperation agreement signed between Avianca and Fondo Acción, aiming to assess the potential for blue carbon initiatives focused on carbon sequestration from mangrove and seagrass ecosystems. The first phase of the study will provide critical insights into the feasibility of implementing carbon sequestration projects that contribute to both climate resilience and marine ecosystem conservation.

These investments, secured through strategic partnerships, contribute to long-term sustainability by mobilizing additional resources.

4. Challenges and Lessons Learned

One of the primary challenges faced during implementation was the coordination among multiple partners, including government agencies and local organizations, required extensive alignment, which at times slowed decision-making processes. With the change in local government at the beginning of 2024, a new engagement process became necessary to secure their support and encourage to "Fi wi riif" and even their potential participation with resources to the Seaflower Fund or complementary investments.

While MoUs have not been signed yet, the project is actively working towards this goal. The continued support and interest from environmental authorities and national and local government entities are encouraging. Regular meetings have been held to identify opportunities for collaboration and ensure alignment with national and local policies and priorities. Draft MoUs are in place with Coralina, National Parks, the Departmental Government, and the Colombian Ocean Commission, indicating progress in this area.

To mitigate these challenges and improve coordination, the programme introduced structured engagement mechanisms, including monthly team meetings and weekly check-ins. These regular touchpoints have helped streamline communication, facilitate decision-making and ensure greater accountability among partners. By maintaining a continuous dialogue, the programme has been able to proactively address roadblocks, accelerate approvals and maintain steady progress toward its objectives.

5. Emerging Risks

No new risk emerged during the reporting period.

III. Solutions

1. Overview of Progress and Composition of Solution Portfolio

In 2024, the main financial mechanism of the programme was designed: The Seaflower Fund. This independent and long-term sustainable financial mechanism provides resources for conserving the Seaflower Biosphere Reserve's natural ecosystems and MPAs and promoting sustainable livelihoods. The Seaflower Fund will be an independent account administered by Fondo Acción. The fund will be managed through a solid governance system, preserving the public mandate of CORALINA (the local environmental authority) over the MPA management decisions and ensuring local ownership, pertinence, and transparency. Fondo Acción has the required experience and structure to provide financial and asset management, ensuring compliance with international fiduciary standards.

The Seaflower Fund will combine endowment and sinking resources from different sources. The sinking account resources can be used immediately, while the endowment account will not be used until it is fully capitalised.

The endowment account will be managed in the pool of the other endowment accounts administered by Fondo Acción, with a financial target of US\$5 million. The anchor investment from the Global Fund for Coral Reefs (GFCR) will help leverage additional resources from donors, using a crowdfunding strategy still under development. Fondo Acción will manage the resources with other accounts following its Endowment Investment Policy, ensuring the explicit and systematic inclusion of its environmental, social and governance (ESG) criteria in investment analysis and decisions. Once the endowment account reaches US\$5 million, it is expected to generate \$250,000 per year in financial returns. The annual financial returns will be invested in the management of marine protected areas, and in an investment account financing reef-positive business.

The sinking resources will have dedicated accounts for their financial management. The account has been capitalised by more than US\$ 4.7 million financed by the Blue Action Fund. Funds from the sinking account can be used immediately to fund biodiversity protection, ecosystem restoration and recovery, sustainable livelihoods, reef-positive businesses, and environmental education.

Fondo Acción is crafting a fundraising strategy, strategically positioned to achieve the goal of the endowment account and manage complementary drawdown resources. Fondo Acción proposes earmarking US\$ 1.5 million of the GFCR grant funding for a future capitalization of the Seaflower Fund endowment account. This amount would be used for a capitalization challenge with other donors. The idea of the challenge is to fundraise with other donors using as an incentive the commitment of the GFCR to match the financial contributions in a 1:1 proportion, up to US\$ 1.5 million.

2. Support and Financing

Fondo Acción has deployed resources only through grants. In the first phase of the project, no other financial mechanisms are foreseen, although it is expected to mobilise resources through blended finance schemes.

3. Challenges and lessons learned

Regarding the Seaflower fund, initially, a goal of US\$10 million was foreseen for creating the endowment account. However, during the structuring process, Fondo Acción realised that a goal of \$5 million would be more feasible and sustainable in the long term due to donor preferences.

The primary challenge that Fondo Acción faces is reaching the US\$ 5 million goal. To address this fundraising challenge, Fondo Acción has worked on designing the financial and governance structure of the Fund accordingly, and forging alliances with private sector entities and banks to mobilise additional resources. Resource mobilisation work focuses on the unique role of the Seaflower Fund. With the sinking account, Fondo Acción collaborated with local partner organisations, Prosealand Foundation and Providence Foundation, to successfully secure the approval of the US\$ 4.7 million to capitalise the sinking fund, financed by the Blue Action Fund.

Another challenge is the long-term commitment of the Seaflower fund. The launch of the Seaflower Fund is not just a short-term challenge, but a long-term commitment to the financial sustainability of biodiversity conservation in the Seaflower Reserve. This reassurance of sustainability is key to instilling confidence in stakeholders. Fondo Acción launched the Seaflower Fund at COP16 of Biodiversity, held in Colombia in October 2024.

4. Objectives and Milestones for 2025

Fondo Acción will implement a fundraising strategy, strategically positioned to achieve the goal of the endowment account of the Seaflower Fund and manage complementary drawdown resources. Fondo Acción proposes earmarking US\$ 1.5 million of the GFCR grant funding for a future capitalization of the Seaflower Fund endowment account. This amount would be used for a capitalization challenge with other donors. The idea of the challenge is to fundraise with other donors using as an incentive the commitment of the GFCR to match the financial contributions in a 1:1 proportion, up to US\$ 1.5 million.

Fondo Acción is designing the “Fi wi Riif” Investment Account to be integrated into the Seaflower Fund, a strategy focused on reef-positive businesses. As part of the long-term financing strategy, Fondo Acción will explore alternatives such as collective investment funds that allow savings or investment management under the bank's resource management policies. The Investment Account began with a call for donations to small local businesses positive for the reefs. It is expected that these businesses will be consolidated and matured to facilitate their access to credits and revolving fund schemes, as part of the second phase of the program. Initially, a high level of informality has been identified in local businesses, especially in the tourism and diving sector, so it is necessary to strengthen accounting and financial issues.

IV. Facilities and Conservation Trust Funds

1. Design Overview:

Fondo Acción designed a facilitated finance for a sustainable fishing fleet. This is a blended instrument to provide facilitated access to credit for the Old Providence and Ketlina Islands Association of Independent Fishers (I-FISH), a key player in promoting artisanal fishing in the islands of Providencia and Santa Catalina. This facilitated access to credit is provided in return for additional conservation activities that promote sustainable artisanal fishing. This intervention aims to help reef-dependent livelihoods recover, support fishing communities' transition to more sustainable practices, and reduce the current fishing pressure on coral reefs around the islands of Providencia and Santa Catalina.

Although Fondo Acción expected to have participated in designing a concessional loan with a commercial bank, the Association successfully negotiated it independently. Once the loan was approved and the Fi Wi Riif project started, Fondo Acción initiated discussions with the commercial bank to understand the credit conditions and designed the agreement terms with I-FISH to provide them with debt relief from their credit with the bank. In the end, thanks to the commitment of the Fishers' Association, this early victory laid the foundation for a more ecosystem-friendly and safer activity for the fishers.

During I-FISH and Fondo Acción's financial area discussions, an opportunity was identified to design a mechanism for the sustainability of the Association. I-FISH distributes the resources from the fishing operations to the people who participate and the Association; they also allocate resources to social and community activities. Although I-FISH has criteria for allocating resources, these criteria are not written down. It is crucial to develop a written resource allocation strategy to provide clear guidelines and aid in decision-making. Moreover, under the long-term logic that Fondo Acción follows for resource management, the financial conditions of I-FISH could be improved.

2. Progress and Challenges:

Fondo Acción's support to I-FISH is tripartite, comprising debt relief for credit at a national commercial bank, a sustainability fund currently under design, and guidelines and monitoring for responsible fishing.

The main challenge was the delay in obtaining the first disbursement of the programme. This delay motivated the Fishermen's Association to initiate the loan process independently, supported by the proximity of the project's start. For its part, Fondo Acción maintained communication with the Association and participated in the required meetings with the commercial bank.

Within the framework of the agreement signed between Fondo Acción and I-FISH, the association will support the design of conservation agreements to establish no-take, no-entry zones in some keys of the archipelago. In addition, it will participate in defining responsible artisanal fishing guidelines in the archipelago to strengthen sustainability in the value chain, contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems and biodiversity and improving the livelihoods of fishers and their families. Similarly, Fondo Acción will support the design of a short-term financing scheme for I-FISH to carry out improvements to the vessels of the associates, which includes the definition of the purpose or use, the spending rule, and the economic contributions of the parties, among others. Fondo Acción will also support the design of the long-term sustainability fund.

Strengthening artisanal fishing is one of the most essential activities for continuing to work in the archipelago. The current design of the project, with both Global Fund for Coral Reefs and Blue Action Fund resources, includes the design of guidelines for responsible artisanal fishing; an inter-institutional coordination strategy for the control of illegal fishing; the design of conservation agreements; participatory community monitoring; training in good manufacturing and hygiene practices; and the promotion of fair-trade agreements with restaurants. These activities will require significant efforts and resources to achieve a transformation in fisheries.

V. Enabling Environment

1. Policies at National and Sub-National Levels:

The main territorial planning instrument for the archipelago for the coming years has been formulated and approved. It is The Territorial Development Plan 2024-2027 of the archipelago department defines goals for the restoration of marine-coastal ecosystems, support for companies in the circular economy and environmental sustainability, strengthening of fishing and agricultural organizations, and reinforcement of control and surveillance, among other things.

In 2024, the agreements of the prior consultation for the reconstruction of the Providencia and Santa Catalina islands after Hurricane Iota were formalised between the government and the Raizal community. These include agreements for the implementation of a pilot programme 'Zero Garbage', restoration of coral formations, protection, rehabilitation, and recovery of soils, and restoration and reforestation of mangrove ecosystems.

2. Other Enabling Environment Factors:

In 2024, government and civil society representatives from Colombia, Costa Rica, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, and Panama discussed the possibility of creating a transboundary biosphere reserve. Dialogues were held on this in the framework of COP16. The Saltwatta Roots initiative, formerly the Greater Seaflower, seeks to recognize the region's historical and natural ties, and the urgent need to conserve its rich biodiversity and cultural richness. The Saltwatta Roots initiative seeks a cross-border model for the ecological and cultural preservation of this region through three fundamental pillars: Indigenous peoples; artisanal and sustainable fishing; and ecological conservation.

From the Fi wi Riif project, we are actively monitoring the Saltwatta Roots Initiative. The progress of its objectives, especially those related to agreements between the Western Caribbean Border States, holds the potential to bring about positive changes. These changes, focused on the establishment of measures or institutional arrangements for law enforcement, can have significant implications in the internal sphere and therefore influence the activities of Fi wi Riif.

The project actively participated in events and working groups during COP16, advocating for the recognition and inclusion of Afro-descendant Peoples. These efforts aimed to generate inputs and recommendations for their recognition and inclusion in the Convention on Biological Diversity. The events highlighted the unique and essential role of Afro-descendant peoples, particularly the Raizal people, in biodiversity conservation. Their ancestral connection with marine and terrestrial ecosystems is a unique contribution that cannot be overlooked.

3. Complementary Initiatives:

We maintain close communication with Conservation International Colombia to explore synergies between the Fi Wi Riif program and the GEF project *"Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation in the Tourism Sector of Protected Areas and Strategic Ecosystems of the Islands of San Andrés, Old Providence, and Santa Catalina."* Additionally, we engaged with representatives from the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development regarding the implementation of the *Fund for Life and Biodiversity, Island*

Ecoregion – Archipelago of San Andrés, Providencia, and Santa Catalina: Building Resilient Islands Against Climate Change.

A key shared priority across these initiatives and Fi Wi Riif is supporting local businesses, particularly in the circular economy sector. To maximize impact and avoid duplication, we closely coordinate with these organizations, ensuring that local enterprises receive comprehensive support across all relevant areas. Moving forward, we plan to deepen our collaboration with these initiatives by aligning strategies and coordinating efforts to support local businesses more effectively. We aim to establish regular joint meetings and work to identify new partnership opportunities that further strengthen conservation efforts.

During the reporting period, Fondo Acción has strengthened its implementation of complementary initiatives in San Andrés, Providencia, and Santa Catalina. Most projects financed in the first call of the Climate Action Fund for Women and Children were implemented by NGOs and CBOs in 2024. The projects focused on increasing the climate resilience of ecosystems and local communities through adaptation of agri-food systems, preparing children and women to understand and face climate change's effects, and designing school risk management plans. Furthermore, Fondo launched the second call for proposals, with a contribution of Sweden government. This initiative fosters collaboration with local organizations by funding community-led projects aimed at reducing climate vulnerability in the Archipelago. By aligning efforts with existing programs, Fondo Acción ensures that resources are effectively distributed, amplifying the impact of climate resilience initiatives.

Also, Fondo Acción financed two participatory restoration initiatives of dry forest ecosystems on the island of Providencia, which were implemented by the project's local partners. In one of these projects, conservation agreements were built on private properties in the area of influence of The Peak protected area. In the other project, a stream was cleaned, removing debris and plant material accumulated since Hurricane Iota, and Roman arches were made, a traditional practice of managing water sources.

VI. Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI)

1. Gender Roles and Risks:

A gender analysis was performed following the guiding questions suggested in the Blue Action Fund and GFCR Gender Guidance.

Domain	Local findings
Socioeconomic, legal and political context.	<p>Throughout the 20th century and into the 21st, Colombia has made significant strides in recognizing and protecting the rights of women and people with diverse gender identities.</p> <p>Despite these advancements, challenges persist, especially in Raizal society, which maintains traditional Christian values and roles for women. High rates of early pregnancies and prejudices against the LGBTQ+ population further limit opportunities for women. Additionally, the participation of women in fisheries remains lower than that of men, although there are no cultural taboos against it.</p> <p>Overall, Colombia has established a robust legal framework for gender equality, but societal norms and early pregnancy rates continue to impact women's opportunities.</p>
Gender roles and responsibilities, knowledge and skills.	<p>In Providencia and Santa Catalina, gender relations are framed by the values of respectability and reputation, developed in the 1960s. Respectability is linked to women and social hierarchy, while reputation is tied to men, expression, and adventure.</p> <p>Currently, respectability for women includes education and work inside and outside the family. Women are key bearers of traditional cooking, medicinal plants, and childcare. Men, associated with economic support and home tasks, maintain strong machist values and are primary bearers of fishing and navigation traditions. People with different gender expressions face societal judgment but are included in the community and public administration. The region reports the lowest average daily hours of unpaid domestic work in Colombia, with women investing more hours than men.</p> <p>Drug trafficking has altered gender relations, disempowering women and promoting high-risk behaviours in men. These dynamics emphasize masculine values tied to adventure and danger, causing setbacks in gender equity. The hitman phenomenon, linked to drug trafficking, has led to a rise in violent deaths, with the Archipelago ranking second in Colombia for violent death rates in 2020.</p> <p>Tourism. Occupational gender segregation, where men and women are unequally distributed in jobs with similar skill requirements, leads to hiring and salary inequalities for women. In Colombia, women earn 17% less in monthly labour income than men, with this gap increasing with age. Women working on their own or as employees also earn significantly less than men in similar roles.</p> <p>In San Andrés, despite women's significant participation in the tourism sector (67.9%), they earn 18% less than men. The region ranks low in the Cities Competitiveness Index and has a notable gap between men and women in vulnerable employment and labour formality. Gender segregation impacts women's job security and income, perpetuating inequalities in the labour market.</p>

	<p>Coastal Fishing. Coastal fishing activities, common among boys, girls, and women, are often viewed as hobbies rather than integral parts of artisanal fisheries. This contributes to occupational segregation and challenges in recognizing, formalizing, and providing benefits and opportunities for these activities.</p> <p>The IFish Association has begun to recognize coastal fishing as part of subsistence fishing, supporting and integrating both women and men practitioners. This effort aims to appreciate coastal fishing as an initiation practice, integrating genders, generations, and families, and contributing to food security and sovereignty.</p> <p>The Departmental Agricultural and Fisheries Secretariat is considering providing identifications for coastal fisherwomen associated with I-Fish, recognizing their role in the sector. This recognition is ongoing and a work in progress.</p>
Access to (use rights) and control (decision-making rights) of resources and livelihood assets.	<p>In San Andrés, Providencia, and Santa Catalina, statistics indicate a historical empowerment and increased participation of women in decision-making and resource management across household, community, and public spheres. Land ownership is inherited equally, and household decisions are often shared or led by women. Older and middle-aged women have significant power due to historical male employment outside the islands.</p> <p>However, not all women benefit equally. Early pregnancies limit opportunities, and many women are single parents. Although the number of children per woman has decreased, many still have multiple children without partner support. Gender relations are changing, and ongoing power struggles and inequities must be monitored for their impact on development and conservation initiatives.</p> <p>Additional information on community decision-making and resource management will be provided at the start of the program.</p>
Women and men utilization and prioritization of natural resources that this project impacts	<p><i>Women and men's use of natural resources impacted by the project and some customary views related</i></p> <p>In the Archipelago, natural resources like fisheries, tourism, agriculture, and cultural practices are vital for local communities. The sea is deeply valued, seen as God's creation and a source of livelihood. Artisanal fishery, requiring extensive knowledge and skills, is highly respected by both older and younger generations. Fishermen and fisherwomen use motor boats for fishing, with men predominantly playing the leading roles. However, recognized and admired fisherwomen participate with family crews and own their fishing gear, though not typically the motor or boat. Mixed-gender crews share decision-making, and active fisherwomen, aged 42-65, hold significant roles in both fishing and household dynamics. Cooperatives and associations support these activities.</p> <p>For home consumption, there is a preference for black fish, and fishing catches are consumed frequently. Donations and government aid provided essential appliances after Hurricane Iota, shared within kinship networks. Cold rooms for associations and cooperatives are being improved and reconstructed.</p>
Access to information necessary to participate and benefit from	<p>In the Archipelago, hospitality and tourism are significant sectors, employing around 50% of the population in various roles, both formal and informal. Poly-activity is common, with people often holding multiple jobs and attending important meetings and trainings.</p>

the project activities	<p>Conservation efforts benefit from institutional support for information flow and meetings. Women, despite being fewer in the fishery sector, actively participate in decision-making and represent male relatives in meetings. Personalized communication methods, such as home visits and deep interviews, are important for engagement and building bonds, especially in Providence and Santa Catalina. Community-based organizations play a key role in consultation and participation. Notable organizations include Sound Bay Association, Conch Shell, Cane Roots, and <i>Red de Mujeres Raizales</i>, with a focus on gender inclusion. These efforts help maintain engagement and address local needs in a culturally sensitive manner.</p>
Impacts lead by project activities	<p>The project aims to enhance ecosystem resilience to environmental and climate change, positively affecting fish stocks, coral reefs, and local livelihoods in Providencia and Santa Catalina. It seeks to distribute fishing efforts more effectively and support local entrepreneurs.</p> <p>The MPA-reinforced management plan will restrict illegal and industrial fishing in critical marine areas, while promoting gender equity in the local economy. The project will support women's leadership and participation, addressing the needs and roles of men, women, and youth. It will also focus on understanding the fishing sector as a productive chain and addressing participation barriers for a gender-transformative impact. This involves examining root causes and structural barriers to gender equality.</p>
Gender awareness and capacity to address gender issues amongst the project team	<p>In San Andrés, Providencia, and Santa Catalina, women are well-represented in public positions and gender expressions are accepted, although the National Navy remains male-dominated. Non-Governmental Organizations like Coralina and ProSeaLand also have strong female participation.</p> <p>Fondo Acción, as project manager, enforces Gender Equality, children's rights, and a Code of Ethics, which include anti-discrimination and harassment policies. Fondo Acción has extensive experience in conservation and community strengthening programs, including leadership training for women.</p> <p>The Climate Action Fund for Children and Women in Colombia promotes climate change adaptation and female leadership, aiming to strengthen community infrastructure and agricultural systems. It expects to benefit at least 4,650 girls and women in the archipelagic territory, focusing on forming local risk and disaster management committees.</p>
Gender-based violence (GBV) in the project site	<p>Violence against women and girls in the Caribbean is historically high, linked to the region's slave history and normalized in intimate relationships. Men and women both perpetrate violence, though men are the primary offenders in domestic and gender-based violence. Women often resort to violence as a defence mechanism, particularly in retaliation for victimization.</p> <p>In San Andrés, gender-based violence is more recognized, while in Providencia and Santa Catalina, it remains largely unacknowledged. Statistics from the Archipelago (2017-2021) highlight significant rates of interpersonal and domestic violence. During the COVID-19 pandemic, San Andrés had the highest rate of women victims of domestic violence in Colombia.</p> <p>The project aims to address gender inequity and improve relations, with cycles of identification, planning, monitoring, and adjustment to prevent undesirable outcomes. Previous similar projects in the region did not negatively impact gender-based violence.</p>

Knowledge gaps	<p>There is a lack of sex-disaggregated quantitative data related to fisheries, coastal management, climate change, tourism, and entrepreneurship. These information gaps will be addressed during program implementation to minimize gender disparities. Specific baseline aspects needed include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Women's involvement in conservation beyond institutions and in daily life. ▪ Detailed quantitative data on women's time use for recreation, training, meetings, and workshops. ▪ Average income by sector, disaggregated by sex, to recognize local realities. <p>This detailed information is essential to accurately address gender disparities and support effective program implementation.</p>
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2. Programme Actions and Outcomes:

In 2024, the Fi Wi Riif Gender Action Analysis and Plan were adjusted following the Blue Action Fund, Global Fund for Coral Reefs Gender Guidance Note and Fondo Acción's Gender Equality Policy. It is composed of 1) an introduction 2) a gender-responsive analysis to understand the context, 3) a gender-responsive stakeholder engagement plan, 4) a gender action plan based on the results of the analysis, 5) a gender-responsive Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan, 6) Gender-Responsive Grievance Mechanism, and 7) technical inputs for the complete financing proposal, 8) Description of gender analysis findings and its influence in the program design. The plan was elaborated with the support of Fundación ProSeaLand, one of the programme's co-implementers with presence and work experience in the Archipelago.

Gender-responsive stakeholder engagement. Stakeholder engagement from the early stages of the project formulation offers an opportunity to include issues, concerns, and different views in the decision-making process. A transparent engagement is essential for acceptance and facilitate constructive bonds between the implicated and project-affected parties. As an inclusive and transversal process, it should be sensitive to gender and to other factors and identities that intersect with gender, like age, social, or ethnic status, among many others. These intersections create multidimensional, connected, and preexisting inequities that should be considered and addressed. Identifying gender discrimination social structures and intervening in them is a work towards human rights, conservation, and sustainability. This makes visible critical issues for intervention and change; also, promotes resource access equity and food safety.

Gender-responsive MEL. The project seeks to strengthen women's participation, leadership and economic empowerment, considering the differential needs of girls, young women, adults and older women. From an intersectional approach, quantitative population-based indicators will record information disaggregated by gender and age groups. As the project has specific activities targeting girls and women, Fondo Acción and implementing partners will pay special attention to identifying and documenting significant stories of change to reflect the results and achievements, but also to inspire others to be an active part of conservation and care of the territory.

Gender-Responsive Grievance Mechanism. The project does not aim to eliminate gender-based violence (GBV), but it recognizes its existence and will not tolerate it within the project context. Identifying and addressing GBV through preventive mechanisms and education is essential for mitigating its impact. The Grievance Mechanism (GM) is crucial for this purpose. The GM should be well-documented, publicized, and understood by all stakeholders. It must ensure an easy process for raising concerns, guaranteeing confidentiality, personalized attention, and timely solutions. The GM should also have judicial and

administrative channels for external dispute resolution when needed. The GM applies to Fondo Acción, partners, allies, donors, beneficiaries, and community members regarding project-related concerns. It may also provide guidance and mechanisms for addressing non-project-related issues indirectly connected to the project.

3. Lessons Learned & Future Direction:

Although gender figures in the Archipelago show a less alarming situation for women compared to the rest of the country, domestic violence remains high. Power dynamics still favour men due to patriarchal and androcentric norms. Shifting these power relations requires inclusive participation and improved opportunities, especially for vulnerable groups.

The program aims to empower girls, women (including the elderly), and adolescents by promoting their involvement in management, decision-making, and entrepreneurship. For boys and men, it emphasizes non-violent masculinities and alternative economic opportunities. Recognizing the needs of people with different gender expressions is also important.

Efforts should include conflict resolution, interpersonal relations, and assertiveness training for both men and women. Workshops on early parenthood prevention and cultural parenting guidelines are essential. Gender equity-focused encounters should involve implementers, partners, and beneficiaries.

Expanding the analysis of the fishers' sector to include the entire productive chain highlights women's participation. Collecting gender-disaggregated data is crucial for a transformative impact. Encouraging female fishing practices and supporting vulnerable groups with education, equipment, and mentorship is recommended.

Baseline studies should be conducted to understand the complex realities of affected people, focusing on vulnerable groups, youth, and women. This will help identify the project's influence and impacts.

VII. Partnerships

1. Partner Contributions:

During this reporting period, ProSeaLand Foundations has played a pivotal role in advancing community engagement and conservation efforts in the Archipelago. One of most significant Prosealand's contributions has been the creation of a comprehensive community engagement plan as part of the design process for the *Escuela del Mar*.

Additionally, Prosealand has been instrumental in the participatory design of conservation agreements for the establishment of no-take, no-entry zones in selected cays. Their active involvement in technical discussions and community consultations, particularly in collaboration with CORALINA and local fishers' organizations, has ensured that conservation efforts are both scientifically sound and socially inclusive. Their work has strengthened local ownership of marine conservation initiatives, demonstrating the power of integrating cultural traditions into environmental stewardship.

Another important partnership contribution during this reporting period has been the involvement of I-Fish. A major aspect of its contribution has been participating in the design of conservation agreements for no-take, no-entry zones in priority cays. Additionally, I-Fish will be instrumental in defining responsible artisanal fishing guidelines, helping to establish sustainability practices that not only conserve marine biodiversity but also improve the long-term livelihoods of local fishers. I-Fish will also facilitate the use of its newly acquired vessel for project monitoring activities, directly supporting research and data collection efforts.

Building on these partnerships, a significant development during this reporting period was the establishment of a new collaboration with Fundación Providence as a co-implementer. While results are still forthcoming, this partnership represents a major step toward strengthening the programme's socio-economic impact, particularly through baseline data collection and capacity-building initiatives. A key contribution has been their role in designing methodologies for socio-economic assessments of artisanal fishers, ensuring that data collection aligns with GFCR's Monitoring and Evaluation Toolkit. Additionally, their work in developing training workshops on project formulation and business planning is expected to enhance the capacity of local reef-positive businesses to contribute to coral reef health while generating a sustainable income.

The inclusion of Fundación Providence as a new partner has positively influenced the programme by expanding its reach and technical expertise. Their involvement in socio-economic assessments and training initiatives will provide essential insights into the livelihoods of artisanal fishers, contributing to more informed decision-making and targeted support. While this partnership is still in its early stages, its structured approach to data collection and capacity-building lays a strong foundation for meaningful and sustainable impact of the programme in the Archipelago.

2. Fostering Collaboration Among Partners:

Fondo Acción, as the convening agent, has played a pivotal role in fostering collaboration and ensuring alignment among partners by coordinating joint planning, decision-making, and reporting processes. Fondo Acción has facilitated close cooperation among partners and stakeholders ensuring that interventions complement one another rather than overlap.

To facilitate collaboration, the programme has established key governance structures, including the Project Management Unit. Regular meetings allow partners to exchange updates on programme progress and align work plans. Partners emphasize knowledge-sharing, participatory governance, and the

integration of cultural traditions into conservation strategies. ProSeaLand, for example, has been instrumental in ensuring that local cultural practices are reflected in programme activities, thereby strengthening community buy-in and long-term sustainability.

To overcome challenges and enhance coordination, the programme has relied on structured communication, participatory decision-making, and capacity-building initiatives.

VIII. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)

1. Overview of M&E Activities

No monitoring and evaluation activities were carried out during this reporting period. However, significant efforts are planned for 2025 to strengthen the programme's M&E framework. A key priority will be the development of a comprehensive Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Plan to ensure systematic tracking of progress and impact. This will include establishing the baseline for both biophysical and socioeconomic indicators, which is essential for measuring changes over time and assessing the effectiveness of interventions. Additionally, a participatory fisheries monitoring system will be designed to involve local fishers in tracking artisanal fishing practices and resource use, fostering community engagement in data collection and conservation efforts.

2. Entities Responsible for M&E

The responsibility for overseeing M&E processes will be shared among key implementing partners, including Fondo Acción and co-implementers such as Fundación ProSeaLand and Fundación Providence. Their role will be crucial in designing methodologies, ensuring data quality, and integrating findings into decision-making processes. Capacity-building initiatives will also be prioritized, equipping local actors with the necessary skills and tools for data collection, analysis, and reporting. Special attention will be given to Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) considerations, given the current lack of disaggregated data. Establishing baselines for gender and intersectional factors will help capture the realities of affected communities, particularly vulnerable groups, youth, and women, while also assessing household composition, income, time usage, and value chain participation.

3. Key Achievements and Insights

Although no M&E activities were completed in this reporting period, a baseline assessment of reef health indicators has already been initiated. This will play a key role in tracking the effectiveness of conservation efforts and guiding the implementation of targeted interventions, particularly in monitoring coral reef health and disease prevalence. The planned baseline studies for socioeconomic indicators will also contribute to understanding the influence of the programme on local communities, providing data to refine interventions and ensure they align with local needs and realities.

4. Challenges and Lessons Learned

During this reporting period, no formal M&E activities were conducted due to delays in finalizing key contracts. The hiring of the Project Coordinator was completed significantly later than anticipated, and the Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Specialist has not yet been recruited. These delays were primarily due to administrative bottlenecks in contract finalization, as well as competing priorities, particularly the preparations for COP 16. The extensive time and effort required for this high-level event not only engaged key stakeholders but also placed significant demands on the administrative and technical teams, leading to a postponement of recruitment and M&E activities.

To address these challenges, priority has been given to expediting the recruitment of the MEL Specialist and putting interim measures in place to ensure that monitoring activities can begin as soon as the role is

filled. Additionally, preliminary discussions have been held within the team and with partners to refine data collection methodologies and establish a clear roadmap for M&E implementation moving forward.

The primary lesson from this period is the critical importance of timely recruitment of key personnel to ensure that foundational M&E structures are in place early in the project cycle. Moving forward, greater emphasis will be placed on streamlining recruitment processes and ensuring that essential roles are filled promptly to avoid disruptions to project activities. Furthermore, contingency planning for interim measures will be explored to mitigate potential future delays, particularly in situations where competing priorities may arise.

5. Next Steps and Timeline

Several critical M&E activities are planned for the next reporting cycle. The establishment of biophysical and socioeconomic baselines will be a priority, along with the development of a participatory fisheries monitoring system. The programme will integrate MERMAID for data analysis and management, ensuring that monitoring efforts are streamlined, and data is effectively processed to inform decision-making. Additionally, findings from the baseline studies will guide programme adaptations, helping to refine strategies and improve impact measurement. These steps will lay the foundation for a robust M&E framework, enabling data-driven decision-making and enhancing the programme's ability to achieve long-term socioeconomic and biophysical goals.

IX. Programme Management

1. Decisions and Resolutions by Governance Body:

The project oversight committee met twice in 2024 to present progress on project implementation. At the first meeting (April), the governance structure was discussed and agreed upon, and key aspects for implementing prioritised interventions in the phase I were discussed. At the second meeting, progress on activities and milestones of phase I of the programme was presented, and agreements for their achievement were established.

2. Work Plan & Budgetary Adjustments:

Given the delays in starting to implement project activities, Fondo Acción requires an adjustment to the work plan and a no-cost extension of phase I of the project. While a significant number of project activities will be reached in the first half of 2025, a significant number will be implemented in the second half of 2025.

In addition, the baseline study of sea turtle populations depends on their seasonal cycles; therefore, the last months of 2024 and the first months of 2025 do not allow progress beyond the planning methodology.

Finally, the financial execution will advance with the execution of the contracts made to date in all components. Still, a significant amount will only be committed until June, when it is estimated to sign the subsidies with the 12 reef-positive businesses and the restoration initiative selected in the calls.

3. Operational Adjustments:

In the second half of 2024, the programme coordinator was selected and recruited, as well as a technical advisor who supported the design of the recruitments and the studies carried out.

4. Operational Challenges & Mitigation:

The main operational challenge was the time required to design the project proposal submitted to Blue Action Fund for approval. This delayed the start of some processes, such as the formation of the project coordinating unit and the required hiring in the different components. However, the effort led to the approval of the project that contributes resources to the sinking of the Seaflower Fund and the detailed formation of environmental and social risk management instruments that apply to the entire program.

5. Replenishment

Replenishment of resources is expected to be requested in late 2024 or early 2025, when the milestones set in Phase I are expected to be met.

X. 2025 Objectives

1. 2025 Objectives

In 2025, the programme will achieve several key milestones. First, the **Seaflower Fund Creation Committee** and the **Fi Wi Riif Steering and Technical Committees** will be formally established, with clear operational procedures and local representation. These governance bodies will play a crucial role in guiding financial mechanisms and ensuring long-term sustainability. Second, **formal collaboration agreements** will be signed between the programme and key public institutions, including the **Colombian Commission for the Oceans, CORALINA**, and the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs**, to enhance coordination on marine protection and enforcement strategies.

Beyond governance, the programme will drive economic and community-focused initiatives. **Reef-positive businesses will be selected for investment and receive business development support** to strengthen their revenue streams and potentially access investment capital. A **systemization of low-carbon technologies** will be carried out, documenting and promoting sustainable practices such as algae collection and use, sustainable maritime transport, and waste management solutions. Moreover, the **Escuela del Mar** (School of the Sea) will be designed, installed, and equipped as an educational and cultural center, where a community awareness and engagement programme will be implemented to foster environmental stewardship.

Conservation efforts will also advance, with a **baseline assessment of the turtle population** conducted, followed by the design and implementation of turtle conservation actions. A turtle conservation programme will be designed in 2025. To ensure the programme's long-term financial sustainability, a **feasibility study for a business model based on tourism revenues** will be conducted, alongside the exploration of **biodiversity markets** as potential funding sources.

Additionally, the first Call for Proposals of the Fi Wi Riif Investment Account will include a specific **funding window to select and finance a coral reef restoration project**. To maximize the success of these restoration efforts, **knowledge exchanges between organizations involved in coral reef restoration** will be facilitated, allowing partners to share insights, discuss restoration results, and address potential challenges.

To reach these goals, the programme will leverage a combination of participatory governance, capacity-building, and financial incentives. The establishment of governance committees will be supported by structured planning, stakeholder engagement, and the development of clear operating guidelines to ensure efficiency and transparency. Collaboration with national and local government entities will be formalized through Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs), which will define roles and responsibilities in marine conservation and law enforcement efforts. Additionally, targeted business support will provide enterprises with the technical assistance and investment readiness they need to strengthen revenue streams.

These objectives will significantly contribute to the programme's overarching goals of protecting and recovering the health of resilient coral reef sites, improving the livelihoods and the coastal protection of reef-dependent communities severely impacted by category 5 Hurricane Iota, and researching innovative approaches to reef health and restoration technologies. By establishing governance and financial structures, the programme ensures that restoration efforts are well-funded and effectively managed.

Strengthening institutional collaboration will lead to improved enforcement of environmental regulations, reducing threats to coral reef ecosystems. Supporting local enterprises and community engagement will create alternative livelihoods, decrease pressure on marine resources, and foster long-term stewardship of the ecosystem. Additionally, the integration of restoration and low-carbon technologies, combined with knowledge exchanges between organizations, will enhance resilience and scalability of coral reef restoration efforts. Ultimately, these actions will secure long-term benefits for both the ecosystem and local communities.

XI. Communication, Visibility and Knowledge Management

1. Strategic Role of communications:

Fondo Acción developed the project's brand manual and visibility of donors, allies and executors. Also, we designed the logo of the project and began the construction of the website. In the latter, progress has been made in the conceptualization of a section to move crowdfunding, in alliance with a commercial bank, and based on the estimation of the carbon footprint that an average tourist has on a trip to the islands. The carbon footprint calculator is designed for the islands, considering the main activities carried out by tourists, type and number of trips and tours, type of food, among other aspects.

2. Alignment with programme goals:

The COP16 on Biodiversity in Cali (Colombia) was a crucial platform to disseminate the Fi wi riif program, highlight the Seaflower Biosphere Reserve, and most importantly, emphasize the urgent need for investment in coral reef conservation and recovery. The launch of the Seaflower Fund (October 21) was a strategic move, part of a larger capitalization and resource management plan aimed at bolstering the sustainability of the Seaflower Biosphere Reserve. Also, in the green zone, the agreement between Avianca and Fondo Acción was signed to contribute to the sustainability of the Seaflower Biosphere Reserve (October 25). Furthermore, in the blue zone, the panel Insurance for Nature: A financial and governance strategy for biodiversity recovery was held (October 28).

Through the program, representatives of local partners, Coralina, fishermen and the Raizal community participated in different events organized by GFCR, ICCRI, the Colombian Ministry of Environment, the United Kingdom Embassy and Fondo Acción. In addition, Fondo Acción shared a booth in the blue zone with CI and IADB, which enabled networking spaces with different stakeholders.

3. Effectiveness and Future Planning:

In 2024, Fondo Acción made 15 publications on social networks that reached 10,974 people and 1,208 interactions. Most of the publications were related to COP16. Fondo published 6 posts on Instagram, 4 on LinkedIn and 5 on Facebook related to the Fi wi Riif program and the Seaflower Fund.

In addition, the program and, in particular, the Seaflower Fund had 16 media outings. Fondo Acción has established an alliance with the local media El Isleño, which has disseminated relevant news of the program evidencing achievements, results and challenges. The most published news in 2024 was the alliance with the Avianca company, highlighting its dissemination in local media of the archipelago, regional of the Caribbean, national and specialized in economic and tourism issues.

4. Knowledge Sharing:

In May 2024, Fondo Acción participated in a panel and working groups of the Colombia Bioceanic Forum: Joining Efforts for the Protection of the Oceans, organized by the UK Embassy. In this space, challenges of management in marine areas were presented in governance, biodiversity protection, livelihoods of coastal communities, climate change, environmental crimes and the role of academia.

In May, two fishermen (one woman, one man) from Providencia attended the Fisherman-to-Fisherman 6 Meeting in Mexico, organized by the Niparajá Natural History Society. The exchange allowed them to learn from other fishermen, appreciate their own practices, and identify common issues like conflicts with

industrial fishing fleets that impact ecosystems. There were also disagreements over-fishing gear and practices, some of which are prohibited and considered unsustainable in the Archipelago.

In August, the 6th Festival of Traditional Navigation of the Insular Caribbean 2024, titled "A Sea of Women," included pedagogical and cultural activities. Supported by the Ministry of Culture and the "School of the Sea," the festival aimed to highlight women's roles in relation to the sea, navigation, and fishing. It also considered the ongoing effects of post-Hurricane Iota and the complexities of the climate crisis.

Fondo Acción participated in the REEF+ Regional Convenings (October, México), organized by the GFCR, a significant space to bring together convening agents from across the region to unite around our shared goals for financing coral reef conservation. In this context, Fondo shared two case studies of financial solutions designed in the Fi wi Riif program: Facilitated finance for a sustainable fishing fleet and Seaflower Fund; these documents will be disseminated in English and Spanish through GFCR channels.



Annex A – Results Framework

The programme's results framework is provided as a separate Excel file, following the GFCR results framework format.



Annex B – Programme Milestones by Activities

The information in this section was updated based on the Milestones per phase information of the approved proposal. Therefore, new milestones are included.

Deliverable or Milestone	Target Date of Completion	Status	Supporting Text
Outcome 1 – Increased protection and recovery of coral reef sites in Marine Protected Areas and climate refugia			
Output 1.1 – A financial sustainability strategy is designed for the Seaflower Biosphere Reserve MPA system, with the creation of the Seaflower Fund			
Activity 1.1.1 – Install and operate the Seaflower Fund Creation Committee			
Operational procedures of the Committee, including purpose, composition, responsibilities, secretariat	September 2024	On-track	A consultant was hired to develop the financial and governance structures of the Seaflower Fund. Draft versions were presented to Fondo Acción for approval.
The Seaflower Fund Creation Committee is installed (first meeting) with clear operational procedures and local representation	May 2024	Delayed	The first official meeting of the committee is scheduled to take place in 2025, once the operational procedures have been formally approved.
Gender training	June 2024	Achieved	Although training has been carried out, this will be a practice that will be maintained throughout the years of implementation of the project, with different scopes and approaches. In 2024, training and awareness events were held at the "A Sea of Women" Sailing Festival, as part of the <i>Escuela del Mar</i> .
Activity 1.1.2 – Develop initial studies and founding documents of the Seaflower Fund			
ToR development for consultancy hiring	April 2024	Achieved	A consultant was hired to develop the financial and governance structure of the Seaflower Fund.
Initial studies and founding documents of the Seaflower Fund are hired and developed by specialized consultancies. Studies that include (i)	August 2024	On-track	The financial gap of the MPAs of the biosphere reserve was reviewed, finding that it is 71%. There is a document on the structure of the Seaflower Fund that defines its purposes, objectives, type of fund, frequency of use of financial resources, sources of financing, lines of investment, administration and governance and



updating the MPAs system financial gap analysis and targets; (ii) founding documents and operational manual; and (iii) a capitalisation strategy with a detailed fundraising campaign			<p>promotion strategy; this document is in the process of being adjusted for completion in early 2025.</p> <p>As part of the fundraising strategy, there is a draft agreement with one of the main commercial banks in Colombia (Davivienda) to implement a crowdfunding strategy with tourists. A specific carbon calculator for trips to the islands was designed as a basis for the voluntary contribution of tourists from their trips. The tool will be available on the Fi wi Riif website.</p>
Output 1.2 – Monitoring tools to assess reef health evolution are supported, with a special focus on diseases to look for control options			
Activity 1.2.1 – Collect baselines for programme indicators			
Funding agreements in place and initial disbursements made to programme co-implementers and partners, including for the assessment of baselines required for the programme monitoring and evaluation plan	November 2024	Delayed	Despite efforts to advance the process in 2024, administrative bottlenecks delayed the finalization of funding agreements and initial disbursements. These will now be completed in 2025 to support baseline assessments required for the M&E plan.
M&E strategy designed	June 2024	Delayed	The M&E strategy will be developed in early 2025 following the recruitment of the MEL Specialist.
Output 1.3 – Coordination between relevant institutions is established to improve MPAs management and to avoid destructive and illegal fishing			
Activity 1.3.1 – Establish alliance to coordinate efforts for improved MPA management and enforcement regarding destructive fishing			
A formal collaboration with the Colombian Commission for the Oceans, CORALINA, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and other public agents, is established to help coordinate efforts for improved enforcement. An MoU is signed and support	June 2024	Delayed	The draft MoUs are being reviewed by each organisation. Despite the commitment of the entities and the active participation in the program, the review and signing of the MoU has taken longer than expected.

is provided by the programme for the development of a strategy/plan. MoU signed with Coralina and <i>Parques Nacionales Naturales</i>			
Activity 1.3.2 – Develop an enforcement strategy/ plan for the Seaflower Biosphere Reserve and its MPA system			
ToR development for consultancy hiring	April 2024	Achieved	A consultant was hired to develop a law enforcement strategy for the Seaflower Biosphere Reserve and its MPA system
Law enforcement training	August 2024	Delayed	Trainers and topics in which training will be given in 2025 were identified.
Output 1.4 – Blue carbon initiatives are studied and developed			
Activity 1.4.1 – Carry out a prefeasibility study for blue carbon (mangroves and seagrasses)			
ToR development for consultancy hiring	April 2024	Achieved	A prefeasibility study is being carried out with the financial support of the largest airline in Colombia (Avianca), with whom Fondo Acción signed a framework cooperation agreement
Initial stakeholder consultations (with the communities and all the relevant actors), as part of the prefeasibility study for blue carbon	November 2024	Achieved	As part of the prefeasibility study for blue carbon, initial stakeholder consultations were conducted, including discussions on mangrove area governance and community engagement.
Leverage co-financing for the prefeasibility study and for certification processes	August 2024	Achieved	An agreement was signed with Avianca to jointly mobilize technical, economic, and human resources for the development of a feasibility study and design of a blue carbon project on the islands of San Andrés, Providencia, and Santa Catalina.
Feasibility study on a potential blue carbon project in the Archipelago	March 2025	On-track	In 2024, the feasibility study began, including analysis of the type of ecosystems, areas of eligibility and applicable methodology; Likewise, the first consultations with interested parties were carried out.
Support policy work in order to make it possible for Natural National Parks in Colombia to access carbon certification, in	March 2025	Revised	Protected areas could be part of carbon projects. This review is not necessary for the design of the blue carbon project.

particular those exposed to highly destructive natural events. This restriction affects the McBean Lagoon Natural National Park, containing the most extensive mangrove areas in Providencia, also the most affected by Hurricane Iota.			
Outcome 2 – Reef-dependent livelihoods improved with recovery after major shocks			
Output 2.1 – A long-term local governance system and the Fi Wi Riif Investment Account are established to support local enterprises with reef-positive business models that provide improved livelihoods to communities			
Activity 2.1.1 – Install and operate the Fi Wi Riif Steering and Technical Committees			
Operational manual first draft	March 2024	Delayed	A Finance Specialist consultant was hired to develop the financial and governance structures of the investment account which are being reviewed by Fondo Acción for approval.
The Fi Wi Riif Steering and Technical Committees are installed (first meeting) with clear operational procedures and local representation	April 2024	Delayed	The Investment Account Steering Committee will meet in 2025 to select the businesses that will be financed in the first call.
Activity 2.1.2 – Create the Fi Wi Riif Investment Account			
Procedures to create investment account operational manual	October 2024	On-track	A Finance Specialist consultant was hired to develop the financial and governance structures of the investment account which are being reviewed by Fondo Acción for approval
The Fi Wi Riif investment account is created	October 2024	Delayed	The operational manual for the Fi Wi Riif investment account is currently being developed and is expected to be formally adopted in 2025
Output 2.2 – Conservation agreements are established with local communities to protect species and improve ecosystems health and fish stocks			
Activity 2.2.1 – Design conservation agreements with the active participation of fishers and local stakeholders			



ToR development for consultancy hiring	April 2024	Achieved	An agreement was signed with ProSeaLand to support the participatory process with artisanal fishers for the design of the conservation agreements related to no-take/no-entry zones.
Benefit-sharing mechanism is defined through a participatory process	February 2025	On-track	A draft of the conservation agreements was elaborated, with the support of Prosealand and Coralina, negotiated with fishermen.
Socio-economic study to determine the opportunity cost and the amount of the incentive is carried out. Studies on opportunity costs, willingness to engage of local stakeholders, assessment of local conditions	July 2024	Delayed	A consultant was hired to support the design of conservation agreements with fishers, particularly for the definition of economic incentives. An agreement was signed with Providence Foundation to establish a socioeconomic baseline for fishers.
The conservation agreements are designed and signed (this would be done between the fisher associations and CORALINA)	February 2025	On-track	A draft of the conservation agreements was elaborated. In 2025 it will be reviewed with CORALINA and the fishers' associations.
Output 2.3 – Reef-positive business models with clear revenue streams incubated through support via technical assistance and blended finance investments, generating livelihood opportunities for local communities			
Activity 2.3.1 – Launch first call for proposals targeting local enterprises with reef-positive business models			
ToR for the call for proposals	June 2024	Achieved	The ToR were elaborated and approved in December 2024.
A first call for proposals targeting local enterprises with reef-positive business models is launched, including a specific window for restoration initiatives	September 2024	Achieved	The first call for proposals of the Fi Wi Riif investment account was launched in December 2024.
Activity 2.3.2 – Establish facilitated finance scheme for sustainable fishing fleet			



The facilitated finance scheme is designed with a partner bank, through a participatory approach with the fisher associations. Document of negotiation of facilitated finance scheme with partner bank and fishermen association	April 2024	Achieved	A facilitated finance scheme was implemented facilitating the acquisition of a new vessel.
Fishers receive finance and acquire new vessels or adapt/ equip existing ones	June 2024	Achieved	I-FISH Association received the funds in May 2024.
Activity 2.3.3 – Carry out an assessment of the impacts and opportunities in the waste management sector			
ToR development for consultancy hiring	August 2024	Achieved	A consultant was hired to develop a study of the impacts of poor wastewater treatment on coral reefs, and identify potential solutions and investments opportunities
Assessment of the impacts of poor wastewater treatment on coral reefs; and identification of reef-positive solutions and investment opportunities in this sector	June 2025	On-track	An inventory and characterization of wastewater treatment systems in San Andrés was developed; and an assessment and analysis of environmental and health impacts on corals derived from wastewater discharges to the sea. In 2025, the final study will be carried out that will include feasible alternatives to improve treatment.
Activity 2.3.4 – Establish agreements with selected enterprises with reef-positive business models			
Prioritization of initiatives profiles (phase 1 of the call)	August 2024	On-track	In January 2025, the project profiles (phase I of the call) of the proponents will be received.
Selection of projects	November 2024	On-track	In May 2025, it is expected to select the businesses that will receive financing and technical assistance. Proponents of the profile phase will receive training in project formulation to strengthen their structuring capacities for the second stage of the call (full proposals).
Signing of agreements	January 2025	Delayed	In June 2025, it is expected to sign the donation agreements with the selected businesses.



Enterprises selected receive business development support to consolidate their revenue streams and potentially access investment capital	May 2025	On-track	In the second half of 2025, the selected businesses will receive technical assistance for the formulation of their business plans.
Outcome 3 – Reef restoration and adaptation technologies are developed based on local knowledge			
Output 3.1 – Reef health recovery and low carbon technologies are systematized, and innovative business models are developed			
Activity 3.1.1 – Systematize reef health recovery and low carbon technologies initiatives			
ToR development for consultancy hiring	September 2024	On-track	A consultant was hired to systematize experiences and technologies for restoring and recovering the health of coral reefs. The systematization of low carbon technologies will be done in 2025.
A systemization of reef health recovery and low carbon technologies already used locally and from other locations is carried out, including algae collection and use, sustainable maritime transport, and waste management solutions. Knowledge management document of (i) initiatives, methods, technologies, innovations, traditional knowledge that recover reef health and/or provide low carbon solutions for economic activities; (ii) assessment the potential for the systematised technologies to become business models	June 2025	On-track	A consultant was hired to systematize experiences and technologies for restoring and recovering the health of coral reefs. The systematization of low carbon technologies will be done in 2025.



Output 3.2 – community awareness and engagement programme is implemented to support reef health recovery efforts with training delivered to local actors			
Activity 3.2.1 – Establish co-implementation agreement with ProSeaLand			
MoU signed with ProSeaLand	March 2024	On-track	
Grant agreement signed	April 2024	Achieved	An agreement was signed to join technical and financial efforts for the development of the prioritized interventions in Fi wi Riif phase I and the design of the <i>Escuela del Mar</i> .
The community awareness and engagement programme is designed in collaboration with ProSeaLand	February 2024	On-track	A draft of the community awareness and engagement programme was elaborated.
Activity 3.2.2 – Design business plan for the educational and cultural center Escuela del Mar (School of the Sea)			
Design (governance, structure, and business plan), installation and equipment of the educational and cultural center Escuela del Mar (School of the Sea) are carried out	December 2024	Delayed	The financial specialist has participated in the design of the <i>Escuela del Mar</i> . In 2025, work will be done on the business plan.
Activity 3.2.3 – Implement communication and visibility strategy for local stakeholder engagement			
Project launch	May 2024	Delayed	
Branding materials. Materials presenting the programme are prepared in local language (creole) and presented to stakeholders	May 2024	Delayed	In 2024, the logo and brand visibility manual of Fi wi Riif was designed. The first branding materials were designed and will be printed in 2025.
The community awareness and engagement programme starts implementation, to be later	March 2024	Achieved	Educational activities (17 events pedagogical and cultural) framed in the School of the Sea began in August 2024 within the framework of the Navigation Festival "A sea of women".



included in the educational and cultural center Escuela del Mar			
Output 3.3 – A turtle conservation programme is supported to increase turtle population, supporting reef health and improving tourism attractiveness			
Activity 3.3.1 – Establish agreement for the coordination of the sea turtle conservation programme			
ToR development for consultancy hiring –sea turtle conservation programme	April 2024	Achieved	Agreement signed with Fundación Tortugas de Mar to assess baseline of sea turtle populations in the Archipelago and to design an action plan for the conservation of sea turtles with community participation
Activity 3.3.2 – Develop the sea turtle conservation action plan			
ToR development for consultancy hiring	May 2024	Achieved	Agreement signed with Fundación Tortugas de Mar to assess baseline of sea turtle populations in the Archipelago and to design an action plan for the conservation of sea turtles with community participation
Turtle conservation actions are designed and start implementation. Sea turtle conservation action plan	August 2024	Delayed	The sea turtle conservation action plan will be designed by Fundación Tortugas de Mar in 2025.
Activity 3.3.3 – Develop a feasibility study for a business model for the sea turtle center			
ToR development for consultancy hiring	September 2024	Achieved	A consultant was hired to design a business model for the sea turtle conservation programme.
A feasibility study for a business model based on tourism revenues is carried out. Biodiversity markets are explored to help achieve financial sustainability for the turtle conservation programme	March 2025	On-track	In 2025, a feasibility study for a business model based on tourism revenues will be conducted, along with an exploration of biodiversity markets to support the financial sustainability of the sea turtle conservation programme.
Activity 3.3.4 – Assess sea turtle population baseline			
ToR development for consultancy hiring	May 2024	Delayed	Agreement signed with Fundación Tortugas de Mar to assess baseline of sea turtle populations in the Archipelago and to design an action plan for the conservation of sea turtles with community participation



The turtle population baseline is assessed	August 2024	Delayed	Agreement signed with Fundación Tortugas de Mar to assess baseline of sea turtle populations in the Archipelago and to design an action plan for the conservation of sea turtles with community participation
Output 3.4 – Coral reef restoration initiatives are supported through a specific funding window of the Fi Wi Riif Investment Account			
Activity 3.4.1 – Launch a specific funding window for coral reef restoration projects within the Fi Wi Riif Investment Account Calls for Proposals			
ToR for the call for proposals	June 2024	Delayed	A draft of ToR was prepared in late 2024, to be reviewed and approved in early 2025.
A coral reef restoration project is selected through a specific funding window within the first Call for Proposals of the Fi Wi Riif Invest Account	July 2024	Delayed	The call for proposals will be launched in early 2025.
Exchanges between organizations involved in coral reef restoration are facilitated by the programme to discuss restoration results and solutions to potential failures	July 2024	Delayed	In 2025, an experience-sharing exchange on coral reef restoration in the archipelago will be conducted. It will provide a platform to discuss restoration results, identify best practices, analyse challenges, and explore solutions to potential failures. The lessons learned from the exchange will also be systematized.

Annex C– Dashboard Intake Form

The Dashboard Intake Form is provided as a separate Excel file.

Annex D – Risk Log

Event / Risk	Cause	Impact/s	Risk Category	Risk Level	Mitigation / Management Measures	Remarks
Climate change effects damaging reefs	High sea temperatures	Coral bleaching and urchin diseases	Safety and Security	Moderate	The Fi Wi Riif programme supports projects that protect, enhance, and restore coral reefs, prioritizing climate refugia and resilience strategies. Responsible: Fondo Acción	There was no change in the risks identified. The probability of occurrence and the potential impact remain unchanged
Major natural disasters in projects areas	Fires, hurricanes	Loss of vegetation cover, coral reef degradation	Safety and Security	Substantial	Strengthening community resilience through reef-positive businesses and restoration efforts. Responsible: Fondo Acción	There was no change in the risks identified. The probability of occurrence and the potential impact remain unchanged
Outbreaks of Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease (SCTLD) and other	Disease spread among corals and sea urchins	Coral mortality	Safety and Security	Substantial	Implementing a monitoring strategy, testing control options, and engaging with	There was no change in the risks identified. The probability of occurrence and the



diseases affecting corals and sea urchins					regional partners for knowledge-sharing. Responsible: Fondo Acción	potential impact remain unchanged
Lack of political buy-in	Changing political landscape	Delays in approvals and implementation	Political	Moderate	Engaging key government agencies through MOUs and aligning project objectives with national commitments. Responsible: Fondo Acción and ProSeaLand	There was no change in the risks identified. The probability of occurrence and the potential impact remain unchanged
Limited investment opportunities	Weak business pipeline	Reduced economic sustainability for reef-positive businesses	Operational	Moderate	Mapping investment opportunities, providing technical assistance to create investable opportunities. Responsible: Fondo Acción	There was no change in the risks identified. The probability of occurrence and the potential impact remain unchanged
Limited local capacity and skills relating to business management	Lack of experience in financial and administrative management	Low business success rates	Strategic	Low	Providing training in business administration, marketing, and financial management.	There was no change in the risks identified. The probability of occurrence and the potential impact remain unchanged



					Responsible: Fondo Acción	
Lack of stakeholder participation	Limited engagement or competing priorities	Reduced effectiveness of interventions	Operational	Low	Increasing local involvement through direct partnerships, communication campaigns, and participatory governance. Responsible: Fondo Acción	There was no change in the risks identified. The probability of occurrence and the potential impact remain unchanged
Limited long-term resources for the continuity of the interventions		Inability to sustain key conservation and community programs	Financial	Moderate	Developing financial sustainability plans and leveraging the Seaflower Fund for continued support. Responsible: Fondo Acción	There was no change in the risks identified. The probability of occurrence and the potential impact remain unchanged
Project cost overrun	Economic instability and unforeseen expenses	Budgetary shortfalls	Financial	Moderate	Continuous financial monitoring, adjusting budgets as needed, and ensuring oversight through the Programme Steering Committee.	There was no change in the risks identified. The probability of occurrence and the potential impact remain unchanged



					Responsible: Fondo Acción	
Investment risk	Small-scale businesses may struggle with financial sustainability	Risk of business failures and inability to repay loans	Financial	Moderate	Providing financial education, business mentoring, and using grant resources to de-risk investments. Responsible: Fondo Acción	There was no change in the risks identified. The probability of occurrence and the potential impact remain unchanged



Annex E – Solution Case Study Template

Case studies on the Seaflower Fund and I-FISH support were submitted with the previous report.

Annex F – GESI Action Report

Linked Programme Outcome	Objective	Action	Indicator	Milestone – 2024	Remarks
Outcome 1:	Recognise the differentiated needs and roles of women and men in biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in the Archipelago.	<p>Gender perspective mainstreaming in the study design and implementation.</p> <p>No. of data collection tools incorporating gender-responsive analysis into the studies.</p> <p>Surveys are designed and analysed with gender and intersectional perspective.</p>	Number of Project document with a gender approach.		Substantiate / explain milestone/s that were (not) accomplished through the reporting period, as necessary.
	Promote access to information and training to beneficiary communities with an equity gender approach, to improve the effective management of MPAs and	Take into account the different needs of women and men in accessing training (timetables, locations). Design trainings considering topics that connect both men and women.	Percentage of women participating trainings, workshops and dissemination events.		

	sustainable livelihoods				
	Enhance the role of women in the conservation and sustainable management of natural resources in the areas of project intervention	Seek an equitable composition of men and women in the project team.	Number of women and men as part of the Project Management Unit		
	Improve women's access and leadership in decision making in community-based organizations, to plan and sustainably manage the biodiversity and natural resources	Design women-centered calls to promote their leadership and economic empowerment.	<p>Percentage of initiatives women-lead supported with financial and technical assistance.</p> <p>Percentage of women participating in the MPAs discussion events.</p>		



Annex G – Safeguards

CHECKLIST POTENTIAL SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS	
Principles 1: Human Rights	Answer (Yes/No)
1. Could the Project lead to adverse impacts on enjoyment of the human rights (civil, political, economic, social or cultural) of the affected population and particularly of vulnerable/marginalized groups?	No
2. Is there a likelihood that the Project would have inequitable or discriminatory adverse impacts on affected populations, particularly people living in poverty or marginalized or excluded individuals or groups? ¹	No
3. Could the Project potentially restrict availability, quality of and access to resources or basic services, in particular to marginalized individuals or groups?	Yes
4. Is there a likelihood that the Project would exclude any potentially affected stakeholders, in particular marginalized groups, from fully participating in decisions that may affect them?	No
5. Is there a risk that duty-bearers do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the Project?	No
6. Is there a risk that rights-holders do not have the capacity to claim their rights?	No
7. Have local communities or individuals (including local opinion leaders), given the opportunity, raised human rights concerns regarding the Project during the stakeholder engagement process?	No
8. Is there a risk that the Project would exacerbate conflicts among and/or the risk of violence to project-affected communities and/or individuals?	No
Principle 2: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	
1. Is there a likelihood that the proposed Project would have adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women and girls?	No
2. Would the Project potentially reproduce discriminations against women based on gender, especially regarding participation in design and implementation or access to opportunities and benefits?	No
3. Have women's groups/leaders raised gender equality concerns regarding the Project during the stakeholder engagement process and has this been included in the overall Project proposal and in the risk assessment?	Yes
4. Would the Project potentially limit women's ability to use, develop and protect natural resources, taking into account different roles and positions of women and men in accessing environmental goods and services? <i>For example, activities that could lead to natural resources degradation or depletion in communities who depend on these resources for their livelihoods and well being</i>	No

¹ Prohibited grounds of discrimination include race, ethnicity, gender, age, language, disability, sexual orientation, religion, political or other opinion, national or social or geographical origin, property, birth or other status including as an indigenous person or as a member of a minority. References to "women and men" or similar is understood to include women and men, boys and girls, and other groups discriminated against based on their gender identities, such as transgender people and transsexuals.



Principle 3: Environmental Sustainability: Screening questions regarding environmental risks are encompassed by the specific Standard-related questions below	
Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management	
1.1 Would the Project potentially cause adverse impacts to habitats (e.g. modified, natural, and critical habitats) and/or ecosystems and ecosystem services? <i>For example, through habitat loss, conversion or degradation, fragmentation, hydrological changes</i>	No
1.2 Are any Project activities proposed within or adjacent to critical habitats and/or environmentally sensitive areas, including legally protected areas (e.g. nature reserve, national park), areas proposed for protection, or recognized as such by authoritative sources and/or indigenous peoples or local communities?	Yes
1.3 Does the Project involve changes to the use of lands and resources that may have adverse impacts on habitats, ecosystems, and/or livelihoods? (Note: if restrictions and/or limitations of access to lands would apply, refer to Standard 5)	No
1.4 Would Project activities pose risks to endangered species?	No
1.5 Would the Project pose a risk of introducing invasive alien species?	No
1.6 Does the Project involve harvesting of natural forests, plantation development, or reforestation?	Yes
1.7 Does the Project involve the production and/or harvesting of fish populations or other aquatic species?	Yes
1.8 Does the Project involve significant extraction, diversion or containment of surface or ground water? <i>For example, construction of dams, reservoirs, river basin developments, groundwater extraction</i>	No
1.9 Does the Project involve utilization of genetic resources? (e.g. collection and/or harvesting, commercial development)	No
1.10 Would the Project generate potential adverse transboundary or global environmental concerns?	No
1.11 Would the Project result in secondary or consequential development activities which could lead to adverse social and environmental effects, or would it generate cumulative impacts with other known existing or planned activities in the area? <i>For example, a new road through forested lands will generate direct environmental and social impacts (e.g. felling of trees, earthworks, potential relocation of inhabitants). The new road may also facilitate encroachment on lands by illegal settlers or generate unplanned commercial development along the route, potentially in sensitive areas. These are indirect, secondary, or induced impacts that need to be considered. Also, if similar developments in the same forested area are planned, then cumulative impacts of multiple activities (even if not part of the same Project) need to be considered.</i>	No
Standard 2: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation	
2.1 Will the proposed Project result in significant ² greenhouse gas emissions or may exacerbate climate change?	No

² In regards to CO₂, 'significant emissions' corresponds generally to more than 25,000 tons per year (from both direct and indirect sources). [The Guidance Note on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation provides additional information on GHG emissions.]



2.2	Would the potential outcomes of the Project be sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change?	Yes
2.3	Is the proposed Project likely to directly or indirectly increase social and environmental vulnerability to climate change now or in the future (also known as maladaptive practices)? <i>For example, changes to land use planning may encourage further development of floodplains, potentially increasing the population's vulnerability to climate change, specifically flooding</i>	No
Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions		
3.1	Would elements of Project construction, operation, or decommissioning pose potential safety risks to local communities?	No
3.2	Would the Project pose potential risks to community health and safety due to the transport, storage, and use and/or disposal of hazardous or dangerous materials (e.g. explosives, fuel and other chemicals during construction and operation)?	No
3.3	Does the Project involve large-scale infrastructure development (e.g. dams, roads, buildings)?	No
3.4	Would failure of structural elements of the Project pose risks to communities? (e.g. collapse of buildings or infrastructure)	No
3.5	Would the proposed Project be susceptible to or lead to increased vulnerability to earthquakes, subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding or extreme climatic conditions?	Yes
3.6	Would the Project result in potential increased health risks (e.g. from water-borne or other vector-borne diseases or communicable infections such as HIV/AIDS)?	No
3.7	Does the Project pose potential risks and vulnerabilities related to occupational health and safety due to physical, chemical, biological, and radiological hazards during Project construction, operation, or decommissioning?	No
3.8	Does the Project involve support for employment or livelihoods that may fail to comply with national and international labor standards (i.e. principles and standards of ILO fundamental conventions)?	No
3.9	Does the Project engage security personnel that may pose a potential risk to health and safety of communities and/or individuals (e.g. due to a lack of adequate training or accountability)?	No
Standard 4: Cultural Heritage		
4.1	Will the proposed Project result in interventions that would potentially adversely impact sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture (e.g. knowledge, innovations, practices)? (Note: Projects intended to protect and conserve Cultural Heritage may also have inadvertent adverse impacts)	No
4.2	Does the Project propose utilizing tangible and/or intangible forms of cultural heritage for commercial or other purposes?	No
Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement		
5.1	Would the Project potentially involve temporary or permanent and full or partial physical displacement?	No



5.2	Would the Project possibly result in economic displacement (e.g. loss of assets or access to resources due to land acquisition or access restrictions – even in the absence of physical relocation)?	No
5.3	Is there a risk that the Project would lead to forced evictions? ³	No
5.4	Would the proposed Project possibly affect land tenure arrangements and/or community based property rights/customary rights to land, territories and/or resources?	No
Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples		
6.1	Are indigenous peoples present in the Project area (including Project area of influence)?	Yes
6.2	Is it likely that the Project or portions of the Project will be located on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	Yes
6.3	Would the proposed Project potentially affect the human rights, lands, natural resources, territories, and traditional livelihoods of indigenous peoples (regardless of whether indigenous peoples possess the legal titles to such areas, whether the Project is located within or outside of the lands and territories inhabited by the affected peoples, or whether the indigenous peoples are recognized as indigenous peoples by the country in question)? <i>If the answer to the screening question 6.3 is “yes” the potential risk impacts are considered potentially severe and/or critical and the Project would be categorized as either Moderate or High Risk.</i>	No
6.4	Has there been an absence of culturally appropriate consultations carried out with the objective of achieving FPIC on matters that may affect the rights and interests, lands, resources, territories and traditional livelihoods of the indigenous peoples concerned?	No
6.5	Does the proposed Project involve the utilization and/or commercial development of natural resources on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	No
6.6	Is there a potential for forced eviction or the whole or partial physical or economic displacement of indigenous peoples, including through access restrictions to lands, territories, and resources?	No
6.7	Would the Project adversely affect the development priorities of indigenous peoples as defined by them?	No
6.8	Would the Project potentially affect the physical and cultural survival of indigenous peoples?	No
6.9	Would the Project potentially affect the Cultural Heritage of indigenous peoples, including through the commercialization or use of their traditional knowledge and practices?	No
Standard 7: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency		
7.1	Would the Project potentially result in the release of pollutants to the environment due to routine or non-routine circumstances with the potential for adverse local, regional, and/or transboundary impacts?	No

³ Forced evictions include acts and/or omissions involving the coerced or involuntary displacement of individuals, groups, or communities from homes and/or lands and common property resources that were occupied or depended upon, thus eliminating the ability of an individual, group, or community to reside or work in a particular dwelling, residence, or location without the provision of, and access to, appropriate forms of legal or other protections.



7.2	Would the proposed Project potentially result in the generation of waste (both hazardous and non-hazardous)?	No
7.3	Will the proposed Project potentially involve the manufacture, trade, release, and/or use of hazardous chemicals and/or materials? Does the Project propose use of chemicals or materials subject to international bans or phase-outs? <i>For example, DDT, PCBs and other chemicals listed in international conventions such as the Stockholm Conventions on Persistent Organic Pollutants or the Montreal Protocol</i>	No
7.4	Will the proposed Project involve the application of pesticides that may have a negative effect on the environment or human health?	No
7.5	Does the Project include activities that require significant consumption of raw materials, energy, and/or water?	No

The following are the mitigation measures in place to address potential social and environmental risks.

Potential restriction of availability, quality, and access to resources or basic services: To mitigate potential restrictions on the availability, quality, and access to resources or basic services, the programme will implement proactive monitoring, community engagement, and adaptive management strategies. Additionally, it will support sustainable livelihoods through local business acceleration, ensuring that affected stakeholders maintain or improve their livelihoods and resilience to external shocks.

Gender equality concerns raised by women's groups or leaders: To address gender equality concerns, the programme will promote women's participation in management, decision-making, and entrepreneurship while highlighting their roles in the fisheries value chain. Gender-disaggregated data collection will be prioritized, and support will be provided through education, equipment, and mentorship. Additionally, baseline studies will be conducted to assess and monitor the project's impact on women, youth, and other vulnerable groups.

Project activities proposed within or adjacent to critical habitats and/or environmentally sensitive areas: To mitigate potential risks associated with project activities within or adjacent to critical habitats and environmentally sensitive areas, the programme includes regular monitoring of these areas. Given the nature of the interventions, most impacts are expected to be positive.

The Project involve harvesting of natural forests, plantation development, or reforestation: To address any potential risks related to the harvesting of natural forests, plantation development, or reforestation, the programme incorporates ongoing monitoring to ensure sustainable practices and minimize environmental impact. Most impacts are expected to be positive.

The Project involve the harvesting of fish populations or other aquatic species: For activities involving the harvesting of aquatic species, the programme includes monitoring measures to track impacts. Additionally, with the phase-out of industrial fishing in the Reserve, the total fishing quota is currently underutilized, allowing for increased fishing opportunities for local fishers while maintaining sustainable management practices.

Potential outcomes of the Project sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change: To enhance resilience against climate change impacts, the programme integrates continuous monitoring of potential vulnerabilities. A recent Category 5 hurricane caused significant damage to mangroves, terrestrial forests, and built infrastructure, though coral reefs remained largely intact. In response, the programme includes mangrove restoration through a blue carbon project and coral reef restoration efforts to strengthen ecosystem and community resilience.

Susceptibility to or increased vulnerability to natural hazards and extreme climatic conditions: To mitigate susceptibility to natural hazards and extreme climatic conditions, the programme will incorporate monitoring of weather conditions to minimize risks to communities and project personnel. Additionally, project teams will be familiarized with established emergency protocols set by local authorities in the project's areas of influence to ensure a timely and coordinated response to potential hazards.

Presence of indigenous peoples in the Project area: To ensure the meaningful participation of the Raizal people in the project, the programme will guarantee their inclusion in the project team and decision-making bodies. Engagement with Raizal authorities will be prioritized to enhance collaboration, and a

stakeholder engagement plan will be implemented. Project activities and workshops will be designed with respect for local cultural practices. Additionally, traditional knowledge will be incorporated into the community awareness and engagement programme and fisheries management strategies.

Project location on lands or territories claimed by indigenous peoples: To respect indigenous rights and promote cultural inclusion, the programme will ensure the careful design and compliance of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) protocols. Communication efforts will recognize Creole as a primary language, with key project information translated to facilitate better understanding. Traditional cultural practices related to the sea will be integrated into project activities. These measures will ensure that project implementation aligns with the needs and priorities of indigenous communities.