

PBF November 2025 Project Progress Report



PEACEBUILDING
FUND



PROJECT OVERVIEW

Thank you for taking the time to complete the PBF Progress report. For projects with more than one recipient, please consult among co-recipients prior to filling out the form to ensure collaboration on the responses. If you have any questions or require technical assistance in filling out the form, please send an email to gabriel.velasteguimoya@un.org

Click Next below to start

» Report Submission

Type of report *

- Semi-annual
- Annual
- Final
- Other

Date of submission of report *

2025-11-19

Name and title of person submitting the report *

THEO WAY, programme coordinator

E-mail of person submitting the report *

theo.way@uncdf.org

Name and title of person who approved the report *

Manik Marasinghe, Reporting and Communications Analyst

Have all fund recipients for this project contributed to the report? *

Yes
 No

Did PBF Secretariat or RCO focal point review the report? *

You should normally ensure that the PBF Secretariat or the PBF focal point have an opportunity to review.

Yes
 No
 Not Applicable

» Project Information and Geographical Scope

Is this a cross-border project? *

Yes No

Please select the geographical region in which the project is implemented

<input type="radio"/> Asia and the Pacific	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Central & Southern Africa	<input type="radio"/> East Africa
<input type="radio"/> Europe and Central Asia	<input type="radio"/> Global	<input type="radio"/> Latin America and the Caribbean
<input type="radio"/> Middle East and North Africa		<input type="radio"/> West Africa

Country of project implementation *

<input type="radio"/> Angola	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Burundi	<input type="radio"/> Cameroon
<input type="radio"/> Central African Republic	<input type="radio"/> Chad	<input type="radio"/> Congo, The Democratic Republic
<input type="radio"/> Gabon	<input type="radio"/> Lesotho	<input type="radio"/> Malawi
<input type="radio"/> Rwanda	<input type="radio"/> Sao Tome and Principe	<input type="radio"/> Zimbabwe
<input type="radio"/> Other, Specify		

Other, please specify *

Project Title *

- 00092133: Appui à la Coordination et au Suivi des Projets du Fonds pour la Consolidation de la Paix (PBF) au BURUNDI
- 00126644: Connecter le global au local : Renforcer le leadership des femmes pour la localisation de la résolution 1325 (2000) du Conseil de sécurité des Nations unies sur « Femmes, Paix et sécurité » au Burundi
- 00129741: The Kibira Peace Sanctuary
- 00140089: "Bakenyezi dukenyerere amahoro": Promoting displaced IDP and returnee women's empowerment and public participation in Burundi
- 00140107: "Ejo Nahacu" ("Let's take ownership of our country's future")
- 00140556: Support mechanisms to the PBF portfolio and the Peace Capitalisation National Strategy
- Other, Specify

Write the 8 digit MPTFO number and Project Title exactly as it appears in the Project Document *

EXAMPLE: 00118938: Community-based prevention of violence and social cohesion using innovation for young people in displaced and host communities

Please select the geographical region(s) in which the project is implemented *

If the project you are looking for does not appear in the following question, please make sure that you have selected the correct regions. A limited number of cross border projects span multiple geographic regions. For example, a cross border project between Niger and Chad spans both West Africa and Central & Southern Africa

<input type="checkbox"/> Asia and the Pacific	<input type="checkbox"/> Central & Southern Africa	<input type="checkbox"/> East Africa
<input type="checkbox"/> Europe and Central Asia	<input type="checkbox"/> Global	<input type="checkbox"/> Latin America and the Caribbean
<input type="checkbox"/> Middle East and North Africa	<input type="checkbox"/> West Africa	

Please select the title of the project for which you are submitting the report *

Write the 8 digit MPTFO numbers and Project Title exactly as it appears in the Project Document *

EXAMPLE: 00129699/700: Supporting Cross-Border Cooperation for Increased Community Resilience and Social Cohesion in The Gambia and Senegal

Please select the countries where this project is being implemented *

Other, Please specify

Project Start Date (Date of first transfer) *

2021-12-15

Project End Date *

2025-12-16

Has this project received an extension? *

- YES, Cost Extension
- YES, No Cost Extension
- YES, Both Cost and No Cost Extensions
- NO, No Extensions

Will this project be requesting an extension? *

- YES, Cost Extension
- YES, No Cost Extension
- YES, Both Cost and No Cost Extensions
- NO, No Extensions

Will this project be submitting a Fund Transfer Request (FTR) in the next six months? *

- Yes
- No

If so, around which month do you expect to submit the request? *

<input type="radio"/> January	<input type="radio"/> February	<input type="radio"/> March
<input type="radio"/> April	<input type="radio"/> May	<input type="radio"/> June
<input type="radio"/> July	<input type="radio"/> August	<input type="radio"/> September
<input type="radio"/> October	<input type="radio"/> November	<input type="radio"/> December

Is the current project end date within 6 months? *

Yes
 No

Is funding disbursed either into a national or regional trust fund? *

Yes
 No

If yes, please select which *

National Trust Fund
 Regional Trust Fund

Recipients

Is the convening agency a UN agency or a non UN entity? *

UN entity
 Non-UN Entity

Please select the convening agency recipient *

<input type="radio"/> UNDP: United Nations Development Programme	<input type="radio"/> IOM: International Organization for Migration
<input type="radio"/> UNICEF: United Nations Children's Fund	
<input type="radio"/> OHCHR: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	
<input type="radio"/> UNWOMEN: United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women	
<input type="radio"/> UNHCR: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	<input type="radio"/> UNFPA: United Nations Population Fund
<input type="radio"/> FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization	<input type="radio"/> WFP: World Food Programme
<input type="radio"/> UNHABITAT: United Nations Human Settlements Programme	
<input type="radio"/> UNESCO: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	
<input type="radio"/> UNEP: United Nations Environment Programme	<input type="radio"/> ILO: International Labour Organization
<input type="radio"/> WHO: World Health Organization	<input type="radio"/> PAHO/WHO
<input checked="" type="radio"/> UNCDF: United Nations Capital Development Fund	<input type="radio"/> UNODC: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
<input type="radio"/> UNOPS: United Nations Office for Project Services	
<input type="radio"/> UNIDO: United Nations Industrial Development Organization	<input type="radio"/> ITC: International Trade Centre
<input type="radio"/> UNDPO	<input type="radio"/> Other, Specify

Other, Please specify *

Are there other recipients for this project? *

- No other recipients
- Yes, other UN recipients only
- Yes, other non-UN recipients only
- Yes, both UN and non-UN recipients

Please select other UN recipients *

Select all that apply

<input type="checkbox"/> UNDP: United Nations Development Programme	<input type="checkbox"/> IOM: International Organization for Migration
<input type="checkbox"/> UNICEF: United Nations Children's Fund	
<input type="checkbox"/> OHCHR: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights	
<input type="checkbox"/> UNWOMEN: United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women	
<input type="checkbox"/> UNHCR: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	<input type="checkbox"/> UNFPA: United Nations Population Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization	<input type="checkbox"/> WFP: World Food Programme
<input type="checkbox"/> UNHABITAT: United Nations Human Settlements Programme	
<input type="checkbox"/> UNESCO: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	
<input type="checkbox"/> UNEP: United Nations Environment Programme	<input type="checkbox"/> ILO: International Labour Organization
<input type="checkbox"/> WHO: World Health Organization	<input type="checkbox"/> PAHO/WHO
<input type="checkbox"/> UNCDF: United Nations Capital Development Fund	<input type="checkbox"/> UNODC: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
<input type="checkbox"/> UNOPS: United Nations Office for Project Services	
<input type="checkbox"/> UNIDO: United Nations Industrial Development Organization	<input type="checkbox"/> ITC: International Trade Centre
<input type="checkbox"/> UN Department of Peace Operations	<input type="checkbox"/> Other, Specify

Other, Please specify *

Please select other non-UN recipients *

<input type="checkbox"/> ACTED	<input type="checkbox"/> Action Aid UK	<input type="checkbox"/> AAITG (ActionAid the Gambia)
<input type="checkbox"/> AEDE	<input type="checkbox"/> African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Agence de Coopération et de Recherche pour le Développement (ACORD)		
<input type="checkbox"/> American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)	<input type="checkbox"/> Avocats Sans Frontières	
<input type="checkbox"/> Avocats Sans Frontières Belgium	<input type="checkbox"/> Avocats sans frontières Canada	<input type="checkbox"/> Ayuda en Accion
<input type="checkbox"/> BIRN - Balkan Investigative Reporting Network	<input type="checkbox"/> BIOM -Youth Ecological Movemen	
<input type="checkbox"/> CARE International UK	<input type="checkbox"/> Centre d'étude et de coopération internationale (CECI) - BF	
<input type="checkbox"/> Christian Aid Ireland	<input type="checkbox"/> COIPRODEN	<input type="checkbox"/> Concern Worldwide
<input type="checkbox"/> Conexion Guatemala	<input type="checkbox"/> COOPI - Cooperazione Internazionale	<input type="checkbox"/> CORD Burundi
<input type="checkbox"/> CORDAID	<input type="checkbox"/> Corporacion Sisma Mujer	<input type="checkbox"/> CRS - Catholic Relief Services
<input type="checkbox"/> DanChurchAid	<input type="checkbox"/> Danish Refugee Council	<input type="checkbox"/> EQUITAS
<input type="checkbox"/> Fund for Congolese Women	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundacion Estudios Superior (FESU)	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundación Mi Sangre (FMS)
<input type="checkbox"/> Fundación Nacional para el Desarrollo de Honduras (FUNADEH)	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundación para la Libertad de Prensa (FLIP)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance (DCAF)	<input type="checkbox"/> HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Humanity & Inclusion (HI)	<input type="checkbox"/> ICTJ (International Center for Transitional Justice)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Instituto Holandes para Democracia Multipartidaria (NIMD)	<input type="checkbox"/> Integrity Watch	
<input type="checkbox"/> International Alert	<input type="checkbox"/> International Rescue Committee	<input type="checkbox"/> Interpeace
<input type="checkbox"/> Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation	<input type="checkbox"/> Life and Peace Institute (LPI)	
<input type="checkbox"/> MDG-EISA - Institut Electoral pour une Démocratie Durable en Afrique (EISA), bureau de Madagascar		
<input type="checkbox"/> Mercy Corps	<input type="checkbox"/> MLAL - ProgettoMondo	<input type="checkbox"/> MSIS-TATAO
<input type="checkbox"/> NIMD (Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy)	<input type="checkbox"/> Nonviolent Peaceforce	
<input type="checkbox"/> Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	<input type="checkbox"/> Nile Sustainable Development Organization - NSDO	
<input type="checkbox"/> OCNH-Organisation des Citoyens pour une Nouvelle Haïti	<input type="checkbox"/> OIKOS	
<input type="checkbox"/> ONG Adkoul - ONG Adkoul	<input type="checkbox"/> ONG AZHAR	<input type="checkbox"/> OXFAM
<input type="checkbox"/> Peace Direct	<input type="checkbox"/> Plan International	<input type="checkbox"/> PNG UN Country Fund
<input type="checkbox"/> Red de Instituciones por los Derechos de la Niñez	<input type="checkbox"/> ROI - Roza Otunbayeva Initiati	
<input type="checkbox"/> Saferworld	<input type="checkbox"/> Sampan'Asa Momba ny Fampandrosoana (SAF/FJKM)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Save the Children	<input type="checkbox"/> Search for Common Ground (SFCG)	
<input type="checkbox"/> SIHA (Strategic Initiative for Women in the Horn of Africa)	<input type="checkbox"/> SismaMujer	
<input type="checkbox"/> SOS Sahel Sudan	<input type="checkbox"/> Stichting Impunity Watch	<input type="checkbox"/> Tearfund
<input type="checkbox"/> The Carter Center, Inc.	<input type="checkbox"/> Trocaire	<input type="checkbox"/> War Child
<input type="checkbox"/> War Childhood Museum (WCM)	<input type="checkbox"/> World Vision International	<input type="checkbox"/> World Vision Myanmar
<input type="checkbox"/> ZOA	<input type="checkbox"/> blank_placeholder	<input type="checkbox"/> Other, Please specify

Other, Please specify *

Implementing Partners

To how many implementing partners has the project transferred money **since the project's start**?

3

To how many implementing partners has the project transferred money **during this calendar period**?

*(for June reports: January-June;
for November reports: January-December (anticipated);
for final reports: full project duration)*

3

Please list all of the project's implementing partners and the amounts (in USD) transferred to each, both since the project's start, and specifically during this calendar period

Please select the type of organisation which best describes the type of implementing partner *

- National youth CSO
- National women's CSO
- Other National CSO
- Subnational youth CSO
- Subnational women's CSO
- Other subnational CSO
- Regional CSO
- Regional Organisation
- International NGO
- Governmental entity
- National women's and youth CSO
- Subnational women's and youth CSO
- Other

Other, Please specify

What is the name of the Implementing Partner *

Communities of Hope (COH)

What is the planned total amount (in USD) for the **overall duration of the project** to be disbursed to this implementing partner? *

Please use a dot (.) as decimal separator, instead of a comma (,)

642653

What is the total amount (in USD) disbursed to the implementing partner **since the project's start?** *

Please use a dot (.) as decimal separator, instead of a comma (,)

642653

What is the total amount (in USD) disbursed to the implementing partner **during this calendar period?** *

Please use a dot (.) as decimal separator, instead of a comma (,)

31000

Briefly describe the main activities carried out by the Implementing Partner during this calendar period *

Please limit your response to 1500 characters

With co-financing from Nature Investment Facility, COH has supported the Kibira Foundation to strengthening its institutional capabilities and programmatic impact.

Key areas of interventions include:

Coordinating community engagement activities, with a focus on land restoration, sustainable livelihoods, and the promotion of social cohesion among local communities.

Oversight of support to park operations, including:

Rehabilitation of infrastructure and enhancement of working conditions for eco-guards (écogardes);

Implementation of cultural activities to promote heritage preservation and community identity;

Delivery of environmental education programs to raise awareness and foster stewardship among youth and local communities;

Promotion of ecotourism within the park through public-private partnerships (PPPs), supporting sustainable economic development and conservation objectives.

Please list all of the project's implementing partners and the amounts (in USD) transferred to each, both since the project's start, and specifically during this calendar period 2

Please select the type of organisation which best describes the type of implementing partner *

- National youth CSO
- National women's CSO
- Other National CSO
- Subnational youth CSO
- Subnational women's CSO
- Other subnational CSO
- Regional CSO
- Regional Organisation
- International NGO
- Governmental entity
- National women's and youth CSO
- Subnational women's and youth CSO
- Other

Other, Please specify

Private sector entity

What is the name of the Implementing Partner

Hydroneo

What is the planned total amount (in USD) for the **overall duration of the project** to be disbursed to this implementing partner?

Please use a dot (.) as decimal separator, instead of a comma (,)

1500000

What is the total amount (in USD) disbursed to the implementing partner **since the project's start?**

Please use a dot (.) as decimal separator, instead of a comma (,)

1500000

What is the total amount (in USD) disbursed to the implementing partner **during this calendar period?**

Please use a dot (.) as decimal separator, instead of a comma (,)

1200000

Briefly describe the main activities carried out by the Implementing Partner during this calendar period

Please limit your response to 1500 characters

Updating social and environmental studies to address existing gaps, particularly related to biodiversity and ecosystem integrity.

Conducting preparatory activities for ecological restoration through the Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) contract with the Kibira Foundation.

Addressing urgent infrastructure needs, including:

Improving road conditions to facilitate access and operations in the hydropower project area;

Stabilizing erosion-prone areas to prevent further environmental degradation and ensure the safety and resilience of critical zones.

Please list all of the project's implementing partners and the amounts (in USD) transferred to each, both since the project's start, and specifically during this calendar period

Please select the type of organisation which best describes the type of implementing partner *

- National youth CSO
- National women's CSO
- Other National CSO
- Subnational youth CSO
- Subnational women's CSO
- Other subnational CSO
- Regional CSO
- Regional Organisation
- International NGO
- Governmental entity
- National women's and youth CSO
- Subnational women's and youth CSO
- Other

Other, Please specify

What is the name of the Implementing Partner *

Conservation, Communauté de Changement (3C)

What is the planned total amount (in USD) for the **overall duration of the project** to be disbursed to this implementing partner?

Please use a dot (.) as decimal separator, instead of a comma (,)

68783

What is the total amount (in USD) disbursed to the implementing partner **since the project's start?**

Please use a dot (.) as decimal separator, instead of a comma (,)

68783

What is the total amount (in USD) disbursed to the implementing partner **during this calendar period?**

Please use a dot (.) as decimal separator, instead of a comma (,)

68783

Briefly describe the main activities carried out by the Implementing Partner during this calendar period

Please limit your response to 1500 characters

Community sensitization and environmental education for youth, including the establishment of a "House of Chimpanzees" within the cultural center to promote peaceful biodiversity conservation and coexistence between humans and chimpanzees.

Financial Reporting

» Delivery by Recipient

Please enter the total amounts in full US dollars allocated to each recipient organization

Please enter the original budget amount, amount transferred to date and estimated expenditure by recipient.

*Please make sure you enter the correct amount. All values should be entered in **US Dollars***

For cross-border projects, group the amounts by agency, even if different country offices are involved. You will have the opportunity to share a more detailed budget in the next section.

Recipients	Total Project Budget (in full US \$) <i>Please enter the total budget as is in the project document in US Dollars</i>	Transfers to date (in full US \$) <i>Please enter the total amount transferred to each recipient to date in US Dollars</i>	Expenditure to date (in full US \$) <i>Please enter the approximate amount spent to date in US dollars</i>	Implementation rate as a percentage of total budget (calculated automatically)
UNCDF: United Nations Capital Developmen t Fund	*	*	*	100%
	*	*	*	%
	*	*	*	%

TOTAL	30000000	30000000	30000000	100 %
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The approximate implementation rate as percentage of total project budget based on the values entered in the above matrix is **100%**. Can you confirm that this is correct? *

Correct Incorrect

If it is incorrect, please enter the approximate implementation rate as a % *

» Gender-responsive Budgeting

Indicate what **percentage (%)** of the budget contributes to gender equality or women's empowerment (GEWE) as per the project document? *

43

The dollar amount of the budget contributing to Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE) based on percentage entered above and total project budget is **US \$ 12900000**. Can you confirm that this is correct? *

Correct Incorrect

If it is incorrect, please enter the *budget amount* allocated to GEWE in US Dollars *

Amount expended to date on efforts contributiong to gender equality or women's empowerment is **US \$ 12900000**. Is this correct? *

Correct Incorrect

If it is incorrect, please enter the *expenditure to date* on GEWE in US dollars *

ATTACH PROJECT EXCEL BUDGET SHOWING CURRENT APPROXIMATE EXPENDITURE. *

The templates for the budget are available [here](#)

PBF-annual Financial Report_Kibira_November_2025-23_32_26.xlsx



Project Markers

Please select the Gender Marker Associated with this project *

- Score 1 for projects that contribute in some way to gender equality, but not significantly (less than 30% of the total budget for GEWE)
- Score 2 for projects that have gender equality as a significant objective and allocate between 30 and 79% of the total project budget to GEWE
- Score 3 for projects that have gender equality as a principal objective and allocate at least 80% of the total project budget to Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE)

Please select the Risk Marker Associated with this project *

- Risk marker 0 = low risk to achieving outcomes
- Risk marker 1 = medium risk to achieving outcomes
- Risk marker 2 = high risk to achieving outcomes

Please select the PBF Focus Area associated with this project *

- (1.1) Security Sector Reform
- (1.2) Rule of Law
- (1.3) Demobilisation, Disarmament and Reintegration
- (1.4) Political Dialogue
- (2.1) National reconciliation
- (2.2) Democratic Governance
- (2.3) Conflict prevention/management
- (3.1) Employment
- (3.2) Equitable access to social services
- (4.1) Strengthening of essential national state capacity
- (4.2) Extension of state authority/Local Administration
- (4.3) Governance of peacebuilding resources (including PBF Secretariats)

Is the project part of one or more PBF priority windows? *

Select all that apply

- Gender promotion initiative
- Youth promotion initiative
- Transition from UN or regional peacekeeping or special political missions
- Cross-border or regional project
- None

Steering Committee and Government engagement

Does the project have an active steering committee/ project board? *

Yes
 No

If yes, please indicate how many times the Project Steering Committee has met over the last 6 months?

Please limit your response to 3000 characters

The project will hold its Steering Committee meeting in December to mark the closure of the project.

Please provide a brief description of any engagement that the project has had with the government over the last 6 months. Please indicate what level of government the project has been engaging with.

Please limit your response to 3000 characters

Throughout 2025, the project maintained strong strategic engagement with government authorities. Over the past six months, this engagement has been extensive and multi-tiered, spanning policy dialogue, joint field implementation, institutional strengthening, and international cooperation. This collaboration has reinforced national ownership of the Kibira co-management model, aligned project actions with Burundi's environmental and tourism vision, and enhanced coordination between central and local authorities for sustainable and inclusive park management.

Engagement with National-Level Institutions

At the central level, the project worked closely with several ministries and national agencies, including:

The Ministry of Commerce, Transport, Industry and Tourism, with which a one-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed in April 2025 to promote sustainable ecotourism investments in and around the park. The MoU outlines joint priorities such as infrastructure development, promotion of eco-lodges, and identification of public-private partnership (PPP) opportunities. This partnership has helped position the Kibira Foundation as a key national partner for tourism development in Burundi, particularly within the Kibira region.

The Ministry of Environment and the National Climate Change Focal Point, through the project's participation in the National Dialogue on the 2nd and 3rd Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC 2.0 and NDC 3.0), during a workshop held in Bugarama in July 2025. The Foundation contributed field-based insights on community forestry, reforestation, and biodiversity conservation, which helped inform Burundi's updated climate commitments.

In September 2025, a high-level learning mission to the Gola Rainforest National Park in Sierra Leone brought together representatives from OBPE, the Kibira Foundation, and Communities of Hope (COH). This exchange enabled Burundian officials to study successful co-management and PPP models in similar forest ecosystems, thereby strengthening regional cooperation and supporting cross-country policy learning across Africa.

PART I: OVERALL PROJECT PROGRESS

NOTES FOR COMPLETING THE REPORT:

- Avoid acronyms and UN jargon, use general /common language.
- Report on what has been achieved in the reporting period, not what the project aims to do.
- Be as concrete as possible. Avoid theoretical, vague or conceptual discourse.
- Ensure the analysis and project progress assessment is gender and age sensitive.

Please rate the implementation status of the following preliminary/preparatory activities

Contracting of partners *

Not Started Initiated Partially Completed
 Completed Not Applicable

Staff Recruitment *

Not Started Initiated Partially Completed
 Completed Not Applicable

Collection of baselines *

Not Started Initiated Partially Completed
 Completed Not Applicable

Identification of beneficiaries *

Not Started Initiated Partially Completed
 Completed Not Applicable

Provide any additional descriptive information relating to the status of the project, including whether preliminary/preparatory activities have been completed (i.e. contracting of partners, staff recruitment, etc.) *

Please limit your response to 3000 characters

All preparatory, contractual, and technical activities have been completed as the project enters its final implementation phase under the 12-month no-cost extension (NCE). This period marks the culmination of four years of field implementation, strengthening national ownership, empowering communities, and consolidating scalable models for nature-positive and peace-positive investment in Burundi.

All contractual and administrative arrangements including fund transfers to partners have been finalized. UNCDF continues implementation through its three strategic partners, Communities of Hope (COH), Communauté de Changement (3C), and the Fondation Kibira, with co-financing from the Cartier/Nature Investment Facility. These partners remain fully mobilized, supporting ecological restoration, community livelihoods, and institutional governance in and around Kibira National Park.

As the project advances toward closure, UNCDF has launched an independent final evaluation, managed by its Independent Evaluation Unit and conducted by MBM Consulting. The evaluation assesses overall effectiveness, sustainability, and impact, with particular attention to how the integrated peace-conservation-livelihoods model contributes to community stability and biodiversity protection.

The evaluation mission took place from 14 to 22 October 2025 across Bujumbura and the Kibira landscape. Evaluators met with national authorities, local administrations, OBPE, implementing partners, Indigenous Batwa communities, women's and youth groups, UN agencies, and the PBF Secretariat. They also visited key sites—Mwokora headquarters, Rwegura nurseries, the Teza tourism corridor, and nearby Batwa settlements—to document tangible results in conservation, peacebuilding, and local economic development. Preliminary findings highlight strong local ownership, visible ecological restoration, and strengthened institutional capacity and public-private collaboration.

During the NCE period, the Fondation Kibira has focused on institutional preparedness for transition, including improvements in governance systems, financial and technical management, and coordination with national and decentralized authorities. Exit and durability actions are well advanced, including the formalization of community conservation committees, development of long-term PES-based revenue mechanisms, and alignment of ongoing operations with Burundi's biodiversity, tourism, and climate-finance strategies.

Describe overall progress under each Outcome made during the reporting period (*for June reports: January-June; for November reports: January-December (anticipated); for final reports: full project duration*). Do not list individual activities. If the project is starting to make/has made a difference at the outcome level, provide specific evidence for the progress (quantitative and qualitative) and explain how it impacts the broader political and peacebuilding context.

Is the project on track for the timely completion of outputs as indicated in the workplan? *

Yes

No

If no, please provide an explanation *

Please limit your response to 6000 characters

Project progress summary

Please limit your response to 6000 characters

Output 1.1 – Joint Framework for Conflict-Sensitive and Sustainable Conservation

In 2025, the Fondation Kibira became fully operational as the co-management institution of the Kibira National Park alongside OBPE. The Foundation now has a functional technical and administrative team responsible for programme coordination, community engagement, biodiversity monitoring and cultural programming. Institutionally, it finalized its financial management manual and recruited a dedicated finance team—significantly strengthening its readiness to attract future climate finance and private investment.

Local governance was reinforced through the Comités de Protection de Kibira (CPK), which regularly convene local leaders, women, youth and Batwa representatives. These structures enhanced community participation in conservation, enabled conflict-sensitive dialogue, and contributed to a measurable reduction in park-related disputes. At the national level, coordination with the Ministries of Environment, Energy and Tourism was institutionalized through joint technical missions, ensuring policy alignment and oversight of the park's governance model.

Output 1.2 – Government Trains, Equips and Deploys OBPE Eco-guards

Between March and October 2025, more than 120 individuals including OBPE eco-guards, Fondation Kibira staff and local youth benefited from targeted capacity-building in environmental monitoring, eco-tourism, digital tools and financial management.

New GPS-based biomonitoring systems, deployed with JGI and 3C, significantly improved data accuracy and patrol efficiency.

Environmental education expanded through partnerships with schools and Bibliothèques Sans Frontières, resulting in 10 trained facilitators and the creation of environmental clubs in three schools, engaging 295 students and 8 teachers.

Output 1.3 – Social Cohesion, Community Resilience and Development

Inclusive governance produced tangible peacebuilding and social cohesion outcomes. Dialogue sessions and awareness campaigns rebuilt trust between eco-guards and communities, contributing to a shift from confrontation to collaboration. The Mwokora Cultural Centre became a hub for inter-community exchange, hosting over 1,000 participants for dialogues, cultural events and youth activities.

Women and Batwa representatives gained decision-making roles within community committees, institutionalizing conflict-resolution and elevating the voice of historically marginalized groups.

Livelihood initiatives strengthened economic resilience across 12 villages. The Kibira-Rwegura Cooperative (COKI) supported 66 members (60% women, 35% youth) with training and start-up kits on mushroom cultivation, beekeeping and livestock.

Through Foundation advocacy, 100 beehives were installed within the park, benefiting 293 cooperative members. Women-led group ABAGENZI B'IBIDUKIKIJE (44 members, 98% women) cultivated 1 ha of potatoes, while 130 Batwa households cultivated 2 ha, improving food security and reducing pressure on forest resources in Muruta.

Output 2.1 – Clean Energy Anchor Investment for Sustainable Financing

Under the Mpanda Hydropower Project, major infrastructure and erosion-control works were completed between April and August 2025. All 14 km of access roads were rehabilitated and deep ravines stabilised, improving climate resilience and generating over 150 jobs, including for youth and Batwa.

Environmental and social safeguards were rigorously applied. Hydroneo finalized the ESIA, obtained Environmental Conformity Certificate No. 81/2024, and secured validation of the RAP and all land agreements in August 2025. A complementary Gap Analysis confirmed alignment with AfDB and IFC Performance Standards, allowing the project to progress toward financial close by mid-2026.

Output 2.2 – Scaling Community Benefits through Equity Investments

The Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) agreement between Hydroneo and the Fondation Kibira became fully operational in June 2025, establishing Burundi's first structured PES mechanism. It guarantees USD 150,000 annually for 10 years to fund conservation, reforestation, eco-tourism and environmental education through a dedicated revolving fund.

Financial structuring of Mpanda advanced significantly with interest from multiple potential lenders. Updated environmental and social baselines, an IUCN-validated biodiversity strategy, a joint AfDB mission, an operational Grievance Redress Mechanism (since April 2025), and ESIA finalization expected by December 2025 collectively strengthen the project's compliance with IFC standards and its readiness for financial closure.

Indicate any additional analysis on how Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment and/or Youth Inclusion and Responsiveness has been ensured by the project to date

Please limit your response to 3000 characters

Throughout its implementation, the Project has mainstreamed gender equality and youth inclusion across governance, livelihoods, conservation, and peacebuilding, ensuring that women and young people serve as active contributors to conservation and local development.

1. Women's Leadership and Decision-Making

The Project strengthened women's representation in local governance. In 2025: (i) women represent 45% of Community Protection Committee (CPK) members; (ii) 30% hold leadership roles such as coordinators, treasurers, and conflict-resolution focal points. These platforms enable women to articulate priorities related to land access, forest resource use, safety, and social cohesion—areas historically absent from local decision-making. At the institutional level, the Fondation Kibira adopted a gender policy that promotes gender-responsive recruitment, management, and equal opportunities.

2. Economic Empowerment and Livelihood Diversification

Women's economic empowerment remains central to the Project's resilience strategy. In 2025, 66 women entrepreneurs received training and start-up support for mushroom cultivation, beekeeping, and small livestock. These initiatives improved household food security and reduced dependence on unsustainable forest extraction. Within the Kibira-Rwegura Cooperative (COKI), women constitute 60% of members and lead key value chains such as mushroom and honey production. The diversification of these activities increased women's income and their influence in household and community decisions.

3. Youth Engagement and Environmental Education

Youth engagement expanded through environmental clubs in three schools (Rwegura I, Sehe, Kibogoye), reaching nearly 300 students and strengthening environmental awareness. Collaboration with Bibliothèques Sans Frontières enhanced digital literacy and environmental learning, especially for rural girls who previously had limited access to technology. Through training in biomonitoring, eco-tourism, and digital tools, the Project supported the emergence of a new generation of conservation-minded youth.

4. Gender-Responsive Peacebuilding and Social Cohesion

Gender-responsive dialogue mechanisms strengthened women's and youth's roles in conflict mediation between eco-guards and communities, contributing to reduced park-related tensions. At the Mwokora Cultural Centre, women's groups led cultural and reconciliation events highlighting traditional knowledge and shared stewardship of natural resources. These initiatives reinforced social cohesion and established women and youth as visible peace actors in the Kibira landscape.

5. Institutionalization and Sustainability

Gender and youth priorities are now embedded in the Fondation Kibira's strategic framework, operational plans, and monitoring systems. The Foundation allocates 20% of its annual operational budget to activities directly benefiting women and youth, ensuring sustained impact and long-term institutional commitment beyond the Project's duration.

Is the project 1+ year in implementation?

Yes

No

FOR PROJECTS 1+ YEAR IN IMPLEMENTATION ONLY:

Is the project demonstrating outcome-level peacebuilding results?

*

Outcome-level peacebuilding results entail results achieved at the societal or structural level, including changed attitudes, behaviours or institutions.

- Yes
- No

If yes, please provide concrete examples of such peacebuilding results

Please limit your response to 6000 characters

Over the past year, the project has generated tangible and measurable peacebuilding outcomes at the societal and institutional levels, reflected in improved governance of natural resources, strengthened social cohesion, and transformed relationships between communities and state actors which has been consolidated and confirmed in 2025. The project's integrated approach combining peacebuilding, biodiversity conservation, and inclusive local governance has led to sustained behavioral change, enhanced trust, and institutional transformation around the management of the Kibira National Park.

1. Transformation of Relationships Between Communities and Park Authorities (outcome indicators 1.3 and 1.4)

Before the project's inception, relationships between local communities and OBPE were characterized by deep mistrust, recurrent confrontations, and unresolved grievances related to access to park resources. Through structured dialogue, co-management, and local governance mechanisms, the project has successfully shifted this dynamic from conflict to cooperation.

17 Community Protection Committees (CPKs), created in 2024 and strengthened in 2025, now serve as permanent dialogue platforms between eco-guards and local communities.

2. Inclusive Governance and Institutional Strengthening (outcome indicator 1.1)

At the institutional level, the project has contributed to systemic changes in conservation governance through the establishment and operationalization of the Fondation Kibira, Burundi's first multi-stakeholder conservation foundation.

The Foundation serves as interface between government, local communities, and private actors.

It has formalized cooperation through Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with the Ministries of Environment, Tourism, and Energy, and coordinates field operations with the OBPE.

Decision-making processes are inclusive: Batwa, women, and youth representatives now hold formal seats in governance structures, ensuring representation of historically marginalized voices.

The institutionalization of inclusive governance mechanisms represents a long-term peacebuilding outcome, as it embeds dialogue and accountability into the park's governance reducing exclusion and reinforcing citizen trust in state institutions.

3. Strengthened Social Cohesion and Community Reconciliation

The project has directly contributed to rebuilding social trust and restoring inter-community trust in zones previously marked by conflict over natural resources.

The creation of joint livelihood groups and cooperatives, such as the Kibira-Rwegura Cooperative (COKI), unites members of different ethnic and social groups around shared economic interests.

Joint environmental restoration and reforestation efforts have engaged over 300 community members, including 66 women and 120 youth, fostering teamwork and mutual understanding across diverse social groups.

In parallel, the Mwokora Cultural Centre, has become a platform for inter-community dialogue and cultural reconciliation. It hosted more than 1,000 participants in 2025 during exhibitions and discussions that celebrate traditional knowledge and promote peace through cultural expression.

4. Empowerment of Marginalized Groups and Conflict Prevention (outcome indicator 1.3 and 1.4)

The project has embedded social inclusion as a peacebuilding mechanism, particularly benefiting the Batwa communities, who historically faced discrimination and exclusion from decision-making and land ownership.

Through project interventions, Batwa families secured access to agricultural land for the first time, supported with

tools, seeds, and technical assistance.

Batwa representatives now participate actively in CPKs and local development forums, shaping decisions on resource management and conflict resolution.

5. Institutional Collaboration Between State and Non-State Actors (Outcome indicator 1.2)

Another major peacebuilding outcome has been the establishment of effective inter-institutional coordination among the Fondation Kibira, OBPE, Ministry of Energy, and Hydroneo (private sector) through the Mpanda Hydropower PPP.

This collaboration has been institutionalized through the Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) contract, a 10-year agreement worth USD 150,000 annually, ensuring revenue sharing between conservation and development stakeholders.

It also anchors peacebuilding outcomes into economic structures, ensuring sustainable funding for conservation and livelihoods thereby reducing competition over resources, one of the root causes of local conflict.

6. Changed Attitudes and Behavioral Shifts (outcome indicator 1.4)

Eco-guards report increased collaboration with communities and a reduction in violent encounters.

Community members describe park protection as a shared responsibility rather than a state-imposed restriction.

If yes, please provide sources or references (including links) as evidence of peacebuilding results, or submit them as additional attachments.

Evidence may be quantitative or qualitative but needs to demonstrate progress against outcome indicators in the project results framework. Sources may include project surveys (such as perception surveys), monitoring reports, government documents, or other knowledge products that have been developed by the project.

File attachment

Click here to upload file. (< 10MB)

PART II: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK

How many OUTCOMES does this project have *

1 **2** 3 4 5 more than 5.

Please write out the project outcomes as they are in the project results framework found in the project document

Outcome 1:

ocial cohesion, local governance and conservation of the forest are improved through community, government and private sector engagement to address the interlinked drivers of local level conflict and deforestation in and around Kibira

Outcome 2:

Access to sustainable livelihoods is improved for communities in and around Kibira forest to reduce structural drivers of conflict and recruitment into illegal or violent activities through sustainable exploitation of forest resources

Outcome 3:

Outcome 4:

Outcome 5:

Outcome 6:

Outcome 7:

Outcome 8:

Additional Outcomes

If the project has more than 8 outcomes, please enumerate the remaining outcomes here

INDICATOR BASED PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

Using the Project Results Framework as per the approved project document or any amendments, provide an update on the achievement of all **outcome** and **output** indicators in the table below.

- Where it has not been possible to collect data on indicators, state this and provide any explanation.
- Provide gender and age disaggregated data. (500 characters max per entry)

» **Outcome 1: social cohesion, local governance and conservation of the forest are improved through community, government and private sector engagement to address the interlinked drivers of local level conflict and deforestation in and around Kibera**

1.	Number of hectares of protected area under improved management arrangement in the National Park and the buffer zone	0 ha	80,000 ha	40,000ha. A management plan has been approved, A biological survey for chimpanzee conducted,	The park headquarters has been officially operational since July 2024, enabling greater coordination and efficiency in park operations, including patrols, anti-poaching activities, ecological inventories, and community engagement. The Park Director and eco-guards were redeployed in July 2024, marking a major step toward restoring effective management.	The park covers a total area of 40,000 hectares; therefore, the improved management measures currently apply only to the area inside the park.
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					previously had to operate without adequate infrastructure, which contributed to weak oversight and ineffective management of the park.	
1.2	financial revenues generated through the co-management agreement	0	\$140,000/yr	\$150,000/yr	\$150,000/yr	
1.3	Local perception of the benefits the Kibira Forest can generate for security, cultural reconciliation, climate resilience and development.	80% of the Population surrounding the Forest perceive the Kibira Forest as a threat to their security and a source of conflict	80% of the Population surrounding the Forest perceive the Kibira Forest as a cultural heritage with a high development and climate resilient potential. (target will be sex and age disaggregated)	Over 600 people have been involved in project activities	Over 10,000 people have been benefited from projects activities improving the perception on the Kibira forest	
1.4	Rate of conflict incidents observed in the Forest and number of people affected.	12 reports of attack in 2021	0 reports of attacks in 2024	2	6	
1.5						

How many outputs does outcome 1 have?

1 2 **3** 4 5 more than 5.

Please list all outputs for outcome 1

.....

Output 1.1

A joint framework for conflict-sensitive sustainable conservation of the Kibira forest is established between the Government, representatives of local communities, including Twa and private sector partners

.....

Output 1.2

Government of Burundi will train, equip and deploy OBPE Government Park rangers / Ecoguards based on consultation with and participation from the community as well as set the groundwork by establishing procedures and frameworks

.....

Output 1.3

Long term social cohesion, community resilience and development is achieved through building sustainable links with the Kibira forest and engagement of local community actors, including women, youth and Twa, to help prevent and defuse local conflict and improve community security

.....

Output 1.4

.....

Output 1.5

.....

Other Outputs

If Outcome 1 has more than 5 outputs, please enumerate the remaining outputs here

.....

For each output, and using the project results framework, provide an update on the progress made against all output indicators

» Output 1.1: A joint framework for conflict-sensitive sustainable conservation of the Kibira forest is established between the Government, representatives of local communities, including Twa and private sector partners

1. 1	Output Indicators <i>Describe the indicator</i>	Indicator Baseline <i>State the baseline value of the indicator</i>	End of Project Indicator Target <i>State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project</i>	Indicator progress for reporting period <i>State the current value of the indicator for the reporting period</i>	Indicator progress since project's start <i>State the current cumulative value of the indicator since the start of the project</i>	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) <i>Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant</i>
1. 1. 1	Signature of co- management agreement between the Government of Burundi and a Private Foundation (with charitable status)	0	1	N/A	1	
1. 1. 2	Release of a new land use plan with large buy-in of communities	0	1	1	1	

1. 1. 3	Mobilization of co-financing to implement the entire Peace and conservation longer term plan	0	\$30M	0	\$ 1.875.000	UNCDF is currently developing a Concept Note for submission to the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The initiative has already received a formal non-objection from the Government of Burundi and is expected to be submitted by the end of Q1 2026.
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1. 1. 4						
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1. 1. 5						
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» **Output 1.2: Government of Burundi will train, equip and deploy OBPE Government Park rangers / Ecoguards based on consultation with and participation from the community as well as set the groundwork by establishing procedures and frameworks**

1.	Output Indicators <i>Describe the indicator</i>	Indicator Baseline <i>State the baseline value of the indicator</i>	End of Project Indicator Target <i>State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project</i>	Indicator progress for reporting period <i>State the current value of the indicator for the reporting period</i>	Indicator progress since project's start <i>State the current cumulative value of the indicator since the start of the project</i>	Reasons for Variance/Delay (if any) <i>Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant</i>
1.	Number of rangers recruited and properly trained through 30-day park ranger training programme	0	60	12	12 trackers recruited and trained 30 ecogardes trained on biodiversity conservation of the park 26 ecogardes trained to conduct biomonitoring survey in the park	
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1.						
1.						
1.						

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5						

» **Output 1.3: Long term social cohesion, community resilience and development is achieved through building sustainable links with the Kibira forest and engagement of local community actors, including women, youth and Twa, to help prevent and defuse local conflict and improve community security**

1. 3	Output Indicators <i>Describe the indicator</i>	Indicator Baseline <i>State the baseline value of the indicator</i>	End of Project Indicator Target <i>State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project</i>	Indicator progress for reporting period <i>State the current value of the indicator for the reporting period</i>	Indicator progress since project's start <i>State the current cumulative value of the indicator since the start of the project</i>	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) <i>Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant</i>
1. 3. 1	Number of significant cultural heritage stories/symbolics collected from communities and amplified through appropriate communication tools and supports	0	10	N/A	10	
1. 3. 2	Awareness of women's rights and gender sensitivity among target communities through women advocates from the local communities	0	10% gender sensitivity advocates among community members	An estimate of 30% Women's rights and inclusion are mainstreamed across all project sensitization and awareness activities, ensuring that gender equality remains a cross-cutting priority in community engagement and capacity-building efforts.	30%	

1. 3. 3	Participation by women, youth, and Batwa peoples in project monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL) for peace and conservation interventions of the Kibira foundation	% No MEL system in place	100% MEL activities carried out by Women and Batwa organization	Throughout 2025, the project started shifted some MEL functions to local community organizations to ensure sustainability: Women-led associations such as Abagenzi b'ibidukikije, Abakangurirama horno, and women's COKI groups were trained in data collection (nursery outputs, group production, conflict alerts, forest pressure indicators).	N/A	
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1. 3. 4						
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1. 3. 5						
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» Output 1.4:

1. 4	Output Indicators <i>Describe the indicator</i>	Indicator Baseline <i>State the baseline value of the indicator</i>	End of Project Indicator Target <i>State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project</i>	Indicator progress for reporting period <i>State the current value of the indicator for the reporting period</i>	Indicator progress since project's start <i>State the current cumulative value of the indicator since the start of the project</i>	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) <i>Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant</i>
1. 4. 1						
1. 4. 2						
1. 4. 3						
1. 4. 4						
1. 4. 5						

» Output 1.5:

1. 5	Output Indicators <i>Describe the indicator</i>	Indicator Baseline <i>State the baseline value of the indicator</i>	End of Project Indicator Target <i>State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project</i>	Indicator progress for reporting period <i>State the current value of the indicator for the reporting period</i>	Indicator progress since project's start <i>State the current cumulative value of the indicator since the start of the project</i>	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) <i>Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant</i>
1. 5. 1						
1. 5. 2						
1. 5. 3						
1. 5. 4						
1. 5. 5						

» **Outcome 2: Access to sustainable livelihoods is improved for communities in and around Kibira forest to reduce structural drivers of conflict and recruitment into illegal or violent activities through sustainable exploitation of forest resources**

2.1	Annual add. clean energy generated by completed PPP projects	0	15 MW by 2024	<p>EPC contractor selected: The Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contractor has been fully selected, marking a key milestone for the Mpanda Hydropower Project and enabling the transition toward pre-construction readiness.</p> <p>Strong environmental and social safeguards in place: Comprehensive Environmental and Social (E&S) safeguards have been established and are fully aligned with lender requirements, including AfDB and IFC Performance Standards. All key instruments—ESIA, RAP, land agreements, and biodiversity gap analyses—have been validated by the relevant authorities.</p> <p>Private equity mobilized: Private investors have committed capital, with 40% of the equity</p>	<p>EPC contractor selected: The Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contractor has been fully selected, marking a key milestone for the Mpanda Hydropower Project and enabling the transition toward pre-construction readiness.</p> <p>Strong environmental and social safeguards in place: Comprehensive Environmental and Social (E&S) safeguards have been established and are fully aligned with lender requirements, including AfDB and IFC Performance Standards. All key instruments—ESIA, RAP, land agreements, and biodiversity gap analyses—have been validated by the relevant authorities.</p> <p>Private equity mobilized: Private investors have committed capital, with 40% of the equity</p>	
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				contribution already disbursed, demonstrating strong confidence in the project's financial viability and de-risking structure	contribution already disbursed, demonstrating strong confidence in the project's financial viability and de-risking structure	
2.2	Total of co-financing mobilized from private impact investors	0	20M in the PPP Co financing and 2M in the REDD+ investment fund	Private equity mobilized: Private investors have committed capital, with 40% of the equity contribution already disbursed, demonstrating strong confidence in the project's financial viability and de-risking structure.	Private equity mobilized: Private investors have committed capital, with 40% of the equity contribution already disbursed, demonstrating strong confidence in the project's financial viability and de-risking structure.	Internal processes within the DFIs/lenders are causing delays in achieving financial closure. However, the majority of DFIs have reaffirmed their strong commitment to support the project. As a result, financial closure is still expected but may require a few additional months to be completed.

2. 3	Carbon sequestration generated by forest restoration and avoided emission from green energy project	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Data has not been collected due to the absence of viable and reliable datasets, combined with delays in the implementation of the energy component and the decision not to proceed with the REDD+ activity. While the project has carried out restoration activities—such as reforestation, soil stabilization, and agroforestry—the scale and duration of these interventions are not sufficient to generate measurable carbon sequestration impact. As a result, the project is not able to quantify carbon impact in a scientifically robust manner.
2. 4						
2. 5						

How many outputs does outcome 2 have?

1 **2** 3 4 5 more than 5.

Please list all outputs for outcome 2

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Output 2.1

Financing sustainability is achieved through a clean energy anchor investment.

.....

Output 2.2

Community development goals and peace dividends are multiplied through equity investments in local businesses providing co- benefit to the communities and creating the foundation for a Peace Sanctuary

.....

Output 2.3

.....

Output 2.4

.....

Output 2.5

.....

Other Outputs

If Outcome 2 has more than 5 outputs, please enumerate the remaining outputs here

.....

For each output, and using the project results framework, provide an update on the progress made against all output indicators

» **Output 2.1: Financing sustainability is achieved through a clean energy anchor investment.**

2. 1	Output Indicators <i>Describe the indicator</i>	Indicator Baseline <i>State the baseline value of the indicator</i>	End of Project Indicator Target <i>State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project</i>	Indicator progress for reporting period <i>State the current value of the indicator for the reporting period</i>	Indicator progress since project's start <i>State the current cumulative value of the indicator since the start of the project</i>	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) <i>Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant</i>
2. 1. 1	Number of jobs created directly for PPP projects disaggregated by gender.	0	400 men and 100 women	150 including 60 women	150 including 60 women	The construction phase, which will employ the largest number of people, has yet to begin. At the moment, jobs are being offered for site maintenance, erosion control and road maintenance. When the operational phase begins, more jobs will be also available for women.

2. 1. 2	# of communities with access to energy in the PPP area (commune/colline)	0	5	0	0	The Mpanda Project has been selected by the AfDB's Scaling Up Small Hydropower (SUSH) Program in Burundi. Through the performance grant provided, the hydropower project has been redesigned to increase the direct benefit to local vulnerable communities, minimizing environmental impact and quickly becoming operational for the investment
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2. 1. 3	% of jobs availed by women and members of Batwa groups	0	50%	40%	40%	
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2. 1. 4						
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2. 1. 5						
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» **Output 2.2: Community development goals and peace dividends are multiplied through equity investments in local businesses providing co- benefit to the communities and creating the foundation for a Peace Sanctuary**

2.	Output Indicators <i>Describe the indicator</i>	Indicator Baseline <i>State the baseline value of the indicator</i>	End of Project Indicator Target <i>State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project</i>	Indicator progress for reporting period <i>State the current value of the indicator for the reporting period</i>	Indicator progress since project's start <i>State the current cumulative value of the indicator since the start of the project</i>	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) <i>Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant</i>
2.2.1	Annual deforestation rates using globally available forest mapping sources indicated as percentage of tree cover reduction per year.	-2.02% year	0	N/A	N/A	Evidence has not been systematically collected due to the lack of reliable data. However, field observations and human activity patterns within the park indicate that deforestation has increased in certain areas.

2. 2. 2	Annual portfolio review including number of portfolio companies, expected return and portfolio performance	0	4	0	0	The implementation of the REDD+ investment fund has not progressed as initially planned. This is due to a combination of factors, including the complexity of developing such a mechanism, insufficient funding to support the necessary groundwork, and the limited REDD+ potential within the target area. These challenges have undermined the feasibility of attracting carbon finance and delayed the establishment of a viable investment
2. 2. 3	Number of women entrepreneurs heading portfolio companies, number of direct and indirect female employees in each portfolio company	0	Atleast 20% women employees in each portfolio company and 25% of the portfolio companies led by women	0	0	framework. Same comments as above

2. 2. 4	Number of pipeline companies targeting gender empowerment, equity barriers and welfare for women	0	50%	0	0	Same comments as above
2. 2. 5						

» Output 2.3:

2. 3	Output Indicators <i>Describe the indicator</i>	Indicator Baseline <i>State the baseline value of the indicator</i>	End of Project Indicator Target <i>State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project</i>	Indicator progress for reporting period <i>State the current value of the indicator for the reporting period</i>	Indicator progress since project's start <i>State the current cumulative value of the indicator since the start of the project</i>	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) <i>Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant</i>
2. 3. 1						
2. 3. 2						
2. 3. 3						
2. 3. 4						
2. 3. 5						

» Output 2.4:

2. 4	Output Indicators <i>Describe the indicator</i>	Indicator Baseline <i>State the baseline value of the indicator</i>	End of Project Indicator Target <i>State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project</i>	Indicator progress for reporting period <i>State the current value of the indicator for the reporting period</i>	Indicator progress since project's start <i>State the current cumulative value of the indicator since the start of the project</i>	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) <i>Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant</i>
2. 4. 1						
2. 4. 2						
2. 4. 3						
2. 4. 4						
2. 4. 5						

» Output 2.5:

2. 5	Output Indicators <i>Describe the indicator</i>	Indicator Baseline <i>State the baseline value of the indicator</i>	End of Project Indicator Target <i>State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project</i>	Indicator progress for reporting period <i>State the current value of the indicator for the reporting period</i>	Indicator progress since project's start <i>State the current cumulative value of the indicator since the start of the project</i>	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) <i>Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant</i>
2. 5. 1						
2. 5. 2						
2. 5. 3						
2. 5. 4						
2. 5. 5						

» Outcome 3:

O C 3	Outcome Indicator s	Indicator Baseline	End of Project Indicator Target	Indicator progress for reporting period	Indicator progress since project's start	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
3. 1						
3. 2						
3. 3						
3. 4						
3. 5						

Please list all outputs for outcome 3

1 2 3 4 5 more than 5.

Please list all outputs for outcome 3

Output 3.1

Output 3.2

Output 3.3

Output 3.4

Output 3.5

Other Outputs

If Outcome 3 has more than 5 outputs, please enumerate the remaining outputs here

For each output, and using the project results framework, provide an update on the progress made against all output indicators

» **Output 3.1:**

3.1	Output Indicators <i>Describe the indicator</i>	Indicator Baseline <i>State the baseline value of the indicator</i>	End of Project Indicator Target <i>State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project</i>	Indicator progress for reporting period <i>State the current value of the indicator for the reporting period</i>	Indicator progress since project's start <i>State the current cumulative value of the indicator since the start of the project</i>	Reasons for Variance/Delay (if any) <i>Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant</i>
3.1.1						
3.1.2						
3.1.3						
3.1.4						
3.1.5						

» Output 3.2:

3. 2	Output Indicators <i>Describe the indicator</i>	Indicator Baseline <i>State the baseline value of the indicator</i>	End of Project Indicator Target <i>State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project</i>	Indicator progress for reporting period <i>State the current value of the indicator for the reporting period</i>	Indicator progress since project's start <i>State the current cumulative value of the indicator since the start of the project</i>	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) <i>Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant</i>
3. 2. 1						
3. 2. 2						
3. 2. 3						
3. 2. 4						
3. 2. 5						

» Output 3.3:

3.3	Output Indicators <i>Describe the indicator</i>	Indicator Baseline <i>State the baseline value of the indicator</i>	End of Project Indicator Target <i>State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project</i>	Indicator progress for reporting period <i>State the current value of the indicator for the reporting period</i>	Indicator progress since project's start <i>State the current cumulative value of the indicator since the start of the project</i>	Reasons for Variance/Delay (if any) <i>Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant</i>
3.3.1						
3.3.2						
3.3.3						
3.3.4						
3.3.5						

» Output 3.4:

3. 4	Output Indicators <i>Describe the indicator</i>	Indicator Baseline <i>State the baseline value of the indicator</i>	End of Project Indicator Target <i>State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project</i>	Indicator progress for reporting period <i>State the current value of the indicator for the reporting period</i>	Indicator progress since project's start <i>State the current cumulative value of the indicator since the start of the project</i>	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) <i>Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant</i>
3. 4. 1						
3. 4. 2						
3. 4. 3						
3. 4. 4						
3. 4. 5						

» Output 3.5:

3. 5	Output Indicators <i>Describe the indicator</i>	Indicator Baseline <i>State the baseline value of the indicator</i>	End of Project Indicator Target <i>State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project</i>	Indicator progress for reporting period <i>State the current value of the indicator for the reporting period</i>	Indicator progress since project's start <i>State the current cumulative value of the indicator since the start of the project</i>	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) <i>Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant</i>
3. 5. 1						
3. 5. 2						
3. 5. 3						
3. 5. 4						
3. 5. 5						

» **Outcome 4:**

O C 4	Outcome Indicator s	Indicator Baseline	End of Project Indicator Target	Indicator progress for reporting period	Indicator progress since project's start	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any)
4. 1						
4. 2						
4. 3						
4. 4						
4. 5						

How many outputs does outcome 4 have?

1 2 3 4 5 more than 5.

Please list all outputs for outcome 4

1 2 3 4 5 more than 5.

Please list all outputs for outcome 4

Output 4.1

Output 4.2

Output 4.3

Output 4.4

Output 4.5

Other Outputs

If Outcome 4 has more than 5 outputs, please enumerate the remaining outputs here

For each output, and using the project results framework, provide an update on the progress made against all output indicators

» **Output 4.1:**

4. 1	Output Indicators <i>Describe the indicator</i>	Indicator Baseline <i>State the baseline value of the indicator</i>	End of Project Indicator Target <i>State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project</i>	Indicator progress for reporting period <i>State the current value of the indicator for the reporting period</i>	Indicator progress since project's start <i>State the current cumulative value of the indicator since the start of the project</i>	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) <i>Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant</i>
4. 1. 1						
4. 1. 2						
4. 1. 3						
4. 1. 4						
4. 1. 5						

» Output 4.2:

4. 2	Output Indicators <i>Describe the indicator</i>	Indicator Baseline <i>State the baseline value of the indicator</i>	End of Project Indicator Target <i>State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project</i>	Indicator progress for reporting period <i>State the current value of the indicator for the reporting period</i>	Indicator progress since project's start <i>State the current cumulative value of the indicator since the start of the project</i>	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) <i>Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant</i>
4. 2. 1						
4. 2. 2						
4. 2. 3						
4. 2. 4						
4. 2. 5						

» Output 4.3:

4. 3	Output Indicators <i>Describe the indicator</i>	Indicator Baseline <i>State the baseline value of the indicator</i>	End of Project Indicator Target <i>State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project</i>	Indicator progress for reporting period <i>State the current value of the indicator for the reporting period</i>	Indicator progress since project's start <i>State the current cumulative value of the indicator since the start of the project</i>	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) <i>Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant</i>
4. 3. 1						
4. 3. 2						
4. 3. 3						
4. 3. 4						
4. 3. 5						

» **Output 4.4:**

4.	Output Indicators <i>Describe the indicator</i>	Indicator Baseline <i>State the baseline value of the indicator</i>	End of Project Indicator Target <i>State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project</i>	Indicator progress for reporting period <i>State the current value of the indicator for the reporting period</i>	Indicator progress since project's start <i>State the current cumulative value of the indicator since the start of the project</i>	Reasons for Variance/Delay (if any) <i>Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant</i>
4. 4. 1						
4. 4. 2						
4. 4. 3						
4. 4. 4						
4. 4. 5						

» Output 4.5:

4. 5	Output Indicators <i>Describe the indicator</i>	Indicator Baseline <i>State the baseline value of the indicator</i>	End of Project Indicator Target <i>State the target value of the indicator at the end of the project</i>	Indicator progress for reporting period <i>State the current value of the indicator for the reporting period</i>	Indicator progress since project's start <i>State the current cumulative value of the indicator since the start of the project</i>	Reasons for Variance/ Delay (if any) <i>Explain why the indicator is off track or has changed, where relevant</i>
4. 5. 1						
4. 5. 2						
4. 5. 3						
4. 5. 4						
4. 5. 5						
If the project has more than 4 outcomes, use this space to describe progress on progress on indicators for the remaining outcomes						

*

PART III: Cross-Cutting Issues

Is the project planning any significant events in the next six months? (eg. national dialogues, youth congresses, film screenings, etc.)

If yes, please state how many, and for each, provide the approximate date of the event and a brief description, including its key objectives, target audience and location (if known)

Events	Event Description	Tentative Date	Location	Target Audience	Event Objectives (900 characters)
Event 1	Mobilization of the public and private sectors to promote sustainable tourism in Burundi and within the Kibira region.	27-28 November	Park HQ and Bujumbura	Private sector, Government authorities, local communities	Mobilize and raise awareness among public, private, and community stakeholders around the tourism potential of Burundi and Kibira National Park, in order to promote an integrated sustainable tourism approach that supports peace, conservation, and local development.
Event 2					
Event 3					
Event 4					

Human Impact

This section is about the human impact of the project. Please state key stakeholders (including but not limited to: Civil Society Organizations, Beneficiaries, etc.) of the project, and for each, please briefly describe:

- i. The challenges/problem they faced prior to the project implementation
- ii. The impact of the project in their lives
- iii. Provide, where possible, a quote or testimonial from a representative of each stakeholder group

This is an optional question. You may leave it unanswered if not relevant

Human Impact	Type of stakeholder	What has been the impact of the project on their lives?	Provide, where possible, a quote or testimonial from the stakeholder
1	Women	<p>Women now represent 44% of the Kibira Foundation board and 37% of the Kibira Protection Committees (KPCs).</p> <p>Over 1900 women are directly involved in project activities such as mushroom cultivation, nursery management, and cultural entrepreneurship.</p> <p>Women-led associations like Abagenzi b'ibidukikije and Abakanguriramahoro have received training, equipment, and market access.</p> <p>Women are now employed as wildlife guides and cultural performers, breaking traditional gender roles.</p>	<p>Thanks to the project's activities, I was able to buy a 7m x 6m plot of land near the tarmac road. With the contract I signed with UNIPROBA as a facilitator, I accessed credit and bought the land. Before the project, my husband and I never imagined we could own land."</p> <p>— Nyandwi Charlotte, Mutwa woman from Muciro</p>

2	Indigenous people Batwa	<p>Batwa are now represented in KPCs and community associations.</p> <p>They have received land titles, training in mushroom and honey production, and support for agroforestry.</p> <p>Their role in conservation is now recognized, improving their dignity and social cohesion.</p> <p>Batwa women are actively involved in cultural and economic activities at the Mwokora cultural center.</p>	<p>Before the project, we lived by digging bamboo and hunting in the Kibira. Now, with land and support to grow mushrooms, fruit, and honey, we no longer need to go there. Mushroom growing is well received in our community."</p> <p>— Léonidas Mpawenimana, Batwa community member</p>
3			
4			

In addition to the stakeholder specific impact described above, please use this space to describe any additional human impact that the project has had.

Please limit your response to 4000 characters.

The Project has generated profound human impact beyond institutional and stakeholder-specific results, notably improving livelihoods, dignity, and resilience among communities living around the Kibira National Park. This impact is visible across multiple dimensions economic empowerment, social inclusion, gender equality, youth engagement, and well-being improvements reaching over 1,000 direct beneficiaries in 2025.

1. Restored Dignity and Economic Security for Marginalized Households

The project has transformed living conditions for formerly excluded groups, especially the Batwa communities. Through Fondation Kibira's efforts, land tenure security was achieved for Batwa families, marking these groups legally owned and cultivated land. Families in Muruta, now produce food crops such as maize and beans, ensuring food stability and reducing dependency on forest resources. Batwa households also diversified their livelihoods through mushroom farming, apiculture, and small livestock.

Women's access to productive assets has significantly improved. Associations such as Abagenzi b'Ibidukikije and Abakanguriramahoro received inputs and training, allowing participants to reinvest profits into livestock and household assets.

2. Enhanced Social Inclusion and Community Empowerment

The project has fostered social reintegration and equality by positioning the Batwa and women as key actors in governance and conservation. Batwa are now represented in Community Protection Committees and Fondation Kibira's decision-making bodies. Training programs in agriculture nutrition, and leadership have strengthened their confidence and visibility in local affairs

Community driven models like livestock sharing ("rotation solidaire") and joint reforestation have deepened mutual trust and solidarity among diverse groups, bridging historical divides. Women and youth now actively lead reforestation, eco-tourism, and cultural initiatives, proving that conservation can coexist with empowerment.

3. Strengthened Well-being and Cultural Revitalization

The establishment of the Mwokora Cultural Centre has had a notable human impact on identity, creativity, and peacebuilding. It offers space for artistic expression, inter-community exchange, and education, welcoming over 1,000 visitors in 2025.

Through school programs in Rwegura, Sehe, and Kibogoye, over 300 students have gained environmental knowledge, discipline, and pride in their natural heritage. Teachers reported improved attendance and engagement due to the project's educational incentives and environmental clubs

You can also upload upto 3 files in various formats (picture files, powerpoint, pdf, video, etc.) to illustrate the human impact of the project

OPTIONAL

File 1

OPTIONAL

Click here to upload file. (< 10MB)

File 2

OPTIONAL

Click here to upload file. (< 10MB)

File 3

OPTIONAL

Click here to upload file. (< 10MB)

You can also add upto 3 links to online resources which illustrate the human impact of the project

OPTIONAL

Link 1

OPTIONAL

Link 2

OPTIONAL

Link 3

OPTIONAL

Please tick the applicable change based on above narrative.

How we worked:

*

Please select up to 3.

- Enhanced digitization
- Innovative ways of working
- Mobilized additional resources
- Improved or initiated policy frameworks
- Strengthened capacities
- Partnered with local/grassroots Civil Society Organizations
- Expanding coalitions & galvanizing political will
- Strengthened partnerships with IFIs
- Strengthened partnerships with UN Agencies

Please explain one of the selected options

Please limit your response to 3000 characters.

Throughout 2025, capacity development remained a cornerstone of project delivery. More than 120 individuals Fondation Kibira staff, OBPE eco-guards, youth, and community facilitators received targeted training in environmental monitoring, eco-tourism, financial management, and safeguards compliance.

Technical capacities were also enhanced through South-South learning. A study visit to the Gola Rainforest National Park in Sierra Leone exposed Burundian stakeholders to tested co-management and PPP models.

Partnerships with the Jane Goodall Institute and 3C introduced GPS-based biomonitoring for chimpanzees, significantly improving data quality and ranger effectiveness. Environmental clubs in three schools (Rwegura I, Sehe, Kibogoye) reached nearly 300 students, embedding conservation education into the local curriculum.

Please explain one of the selected options

Please limit your response to 3000 characters.

Please explain one of the selected options

Please limit your response to 3000 characters.

Who are we working with

*

- Strengthened partnerships with IFIs
- Strengthened partnerships between UN Agencies
- Partnered with local civil society organizations
- Partnered with local academia
- Partnered with sub-national entities
- Partnered with national entities
- Partnered with local volunteers

Please explain

Please limit your response to 3000 characters

At the national level, the project maintained robust cooperation with multiple ministries and state institutions. A tripartite MoU signed in April 2025 with the Ministries of Environment and Tourism formalized shared commitments to conservation, ecotourism, and the creation of a Green Special Economic Zone (ZES Kibira). Coordination with the Ministry of Energy and Mines (MINHEM) advanced the Mpanda Hydropower PPP, which anchors a 10-year PES mechanism financing conservation and community development.

Regular engagement with the OBPE (ensured joint park management and enforcement of environmental safeguards. The Foundation also collaborated with the National Climate Change Focal Point during Burundi's national dialogue on the 2nd and 3rd NDCs, sharing field data on community forestry and biodiversity protection.

Select all beneficiaries targeted with the PBF resources as evidenced by the narrative *

Mandatory

- Unemployed persons
- Minorities (e.g. race, ethnicity, linguistic, religion, etc.)
- Indigenous communities
- Persons with Disabilities
- Persons affected by violence (including GBV)
- Women
- Youth
- Children
- Minorities related to sexual orientation and/or gender identity and expression
- People living in and around border areas
- Persons affected by natural disasters
- Persons affected by armed conflicts
- Internally displaced persons, refugees or migrants

PART IV: Monitoring, Evaluation and Compliance

» Monitoring

Please list key monitoring activities undertaken in the reporting period *

Please limit your response to 3000 characters.

During the reporting period, the Project implemented a wide range of monitoring activities to track progress across governance, livelihoods, conservation, peacebuilding, and infrastructure components. Monitoring was conducted jointly by UNCDF, the Fondation Kibira, implementing partners (COH, 3C), the Kibira Protection Committees (CPK), and community focal points.

Do outcome indicators have baselines? *

If only some of the outcome indicators have baselines, select 'yes'

- Yes
- No

If yes, please provide a brief description. If not, explain why not and when they will be available. *

Please limit your response to 3000 characters.

The project result framework has defined baseline for all the outcome's indicators through the baseline study.

Elaborate on what sources of evidence have been used to report on indicators (and are available upon request)

Please limit your response to 3000 characters.

Reporting on project indicators draws on multiple reliable sources to ensure accuracy and verification. The main sources include: 1. **Implementing partner reports:** Quarterly and annual reports from the Fondation Kibira, COH, and 3C provide data on activities, beneficiaries, governance structures, training sessions, and livelihood outcomes. 2. **Official documents:** Co-management agreements, OBPE records 3. **Monitoring and evaluation tools:** Data collected by eco-guards, and community focal points through attendance lists, incident logs, GPS tracking, and field checklists support indicators on governance, social cohesion, and restoration. 4. **Activity completion records:** Training reports, participant lists (disaggregated by gender and age), workshop summaries. Financial and contractual documentation: PES agreements, private-sector commitments, procurement records, and lenders' due-diligence documents substantiate progress on financing, safeguards, and PPP milestones. 5. **Field verification:** UNCDF and partner mission reports, site assessments, photographs, and beneficiary consultations confirm progress on restoration, livelihoods, and infrastructure.

Has the project launched outcome level data collection initiatives? e.g. perception surveys *

Perception survey is a formal collection of information from a randomly selected sample of respondents through their responses to standardized questions. See PBF Guidance Note for more information [link](#)

Yes

No

Please provide a brief description

Please limit your response to 3000 characters.

The survey was conducted in 2023. report available

Has the project used or established community feedback mechanisms? *

Community feedback mechanism, or community-based monitoring, is an organized system for communities of participants to monitor the local effects and impact of an intervention. Ideally, this system empowers the community to express whether their expectations are being met and to provide suggestions to decision-makers for possible (re)focusing. See PBF Guidance Note for more information. [link](#)

Yes

No

Please provide a brief description

Please limit your response to 3000 characters.

The project has put in place an inclusive community feedback mechanism through the establishment of Kibira Protection Committees around Kibira National Park. These democratically elected bodies serve as a key link between local communities, park authorities, and conservation partners, ensuring that community voices are actively integrated into park management and protection strategies. A multi-level alert system is currently being piloted to allow timely information flow from individuals to committees, eco-guards, local authorities, and national entities such as the Kibira Foundation and OBPE. Crucially, this system includes feedback loops to ensure that responses and decisions are communicated back to the communities, reinforcing trust and accountability. To support adaptive management, the project has embedded a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system that track score indicators including patrol frequency, number of alerts issued, income generated, and household beneficiaries. This data-driven approach allows for continuous learning and adjustment of strategies to better respond to

» Evaluation

Is the project on track to conduct its evaluation? *

- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable

Evaluation budget (in USD) included in the project budget: *

Response required

60000

If project will end in next six months, is your upcoming evaluation on track?

- Yes
- No
- Not Applicable

Please describe the preparations

Please limit your response to 3000 characters.

The draft evaluation report has been received and currently under review. Final report is expected by 31 December.

Contact information	Name	Organization	Job title	Email
Please mention the focal person responsible for sharing the final evaluation report with the PBF:	Eduardo.Gustale	UNDP	Monitoring, Experimentation and Learning Specialist	eduardo.gustale@undp.org

» Catalytic Effect

Catalytic Effect (financial): Has the project mobilized additional non-PBF financial resources since the project's start? *

- Yes
- No

How many funders has the project received additional non-PBF funding from **since the project started?** *

1

If yes, please indicate name of all funding agencies and respective amounts of additional non-PBF funding support that has been leveraged by the project **since it started**, as well as specifically **during this reporting period**

Please enter each funding agent and their contributions separately

Name of Funder *

Nature Investment Facility

Amount mobilized since project's start (USD) *

Please use a dot (.) as decimal separator, instead of a comma (,)

1875000

Amount mobilized during reporting period (USD) *

Please use a dot (.) as decimal separator, instead of a comma (,)

0

Catalytic Effect (non-financial): Has the project enabled or created a larger or longer-term peacebuilding change to occur, in addition to the direct project changes? Please refer to PBF Catalytic Effect Guidelines for more information. *

Yes

No

If yes, please select the relevant option below: *

Some catalytic effect

Significant catalytic effect

If relevant, please describe how the project has had a (non-financial) catalytic effect, i.e. removed barriers to unblock stalled political, institutional or other peacebuilding processes at different levels in a country, and/or created the conditions to establish new processes to do so

Please limit your response to 3000 characters.

The Kibira Peace Sanctuary Project has delivered significant non-financial catalytic impacts by removing long-standing institutional and political barriers and promoting inclusive environmental governance in Burundi.

A landmark achievement is the establishment of the Kibira Foundation, a legally recognized, community-rooted institution that now co-manages Kibira National Park alongside the national environmental agency OBPE. This is the first co-management arrangement of its kind in Burundi and marks a major shift in conservation governance, opening the door for participatory models now being considered for replication in other protected areas such as Ruvubu National Park.

The project has also elevated policy dialogue and contributed to reshaping public perception of Kibira, previously viewed as a zone of insecurity and instability. Through the rehabilitation of park infrastructure and the promotion of its ecological and cultural assets, the park is now increasingly seen as a viable destination for eco-tourism. This shift has catalyzed private sector interest and led to stronger government engagement, exemplified by the signing of a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding between the Kibira Foundation, the Ministry of Environment, and the Ministry of Tourism to jointly promote sustainable tourism development in the park.

The project also facilitated the signing of Burundi's first Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) contract, enabling private sector financing of conservation and peacebuilding activities. Under this agreement, Hydroneo, a private hydropower company, is directly contributing to ecosystem restoration and conflict-sensitive development around its operations.

At the community level, cultural heritage initiatives and environmental education have helped transform social norms, promote indigenous knowledge, and foster a shared sense of responsibility for the protection of Kibira. These activities have played a key role in reconciliation and reducing intergroup tensions in and around the park.

Sustainability

Please describe any steps that have been taken to ensure the sustainability of peacebuilding gains, including any mechanisms, platforms, networks and socio-economic initiatives supported, beyond the duration of the project *

Please limit your response to 3000 characters.

The project has embedded sustainability at the core of its peacebuilding strategy by establishing long-term institutional, financial, socio-economic, and cultural mechanisms that will endure beyond the project's lifespan.

1. Institutional Sustainability through Co-Management

A major milestone is the creation and operationalization of the Kibira Foundation, a legally recognized entity that now co-manages Kibira National Park alongside OBPE. This first-ever co-management agreement in Burundi institutionalizes community participation in conservation and peacebuilding. The Foundation's governance structure includes women, youth, local leaders, and Batwa representatives, ensuring inclusive and lasting decision-making.

The Foundation also oversees 17 Kibira Protection Committees (KPCs), permanent community-based structures that mediate conflicts, monitor conservation activities, and serve as early warning mechanisms. KPC members engage in income-generating initiatives, strengthening their financial autonomy and ensuring continuity of community governance roles.

2. Financial Sustainability through Innovative Mechanisms

To guarantee long-term financing, the project introduced a 10-year Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) agreement between the Kibira Foundation and Hydreneo. This mechanism secures USD 150,000 annually for forest restoration, biodiversity protection, and community development. The PES model provides predictable funding and incentivizes environmental stewardship by linking conservation outcomes to financial benefits for local communities.

Additional co-financing from the Nature Investment Facility strengthens the Foundation's operational capacity and supports scaling of its conservation and livelihood activities.

3. Socio-Economic Sustainability through Livelihoods and Inclusion

The project invested in livelihood models that reduce pressure on the forest and address conflict drivers. Key initiatives include mushroom cultivation, apiculture, fruit-tree planting, and agroforestry.

Targeted measures such as land acquisition and certification for Batwa families promote secure access to productive land and long-term economic inclusion.

Cultural and eco-tourism initiatives through the Mwokora Cultural Centre create income opportunities for artists, artisans, youth, and local guides while promoting community pride and cultural preservation.

4. Cultural and Social Sustainability

The Kibira Cultural Centre has become a durable platform for dialogue, reconciliation, and environmental education. It provides a neutral space where communities, including marginalized Batwa groups, engage with park authorities in a spirit of shared stewardship.

To ensure long-term viability, the Centre is being integrated into the park's eco-tourism business model. A private operator will incorporate it into the tourism product portfolio, generating revenue from cultural performances, guided experiences, handicraft sales, and local gastronomy events. A portion of these revenues will be reinvested in youth training, community outreach, and environmental education, securing the Centre's sustainability.

Are there any other issues concerning project implementation that you want to share, including any capacity needs of the recipient organizations?

Please limit your response to 3000 characters.

While the project has achieved substantial progress across governance, livelihoods, social cohesion, and conservation, several implementation challenges and capacity gaps remain that could affect the sustainability and efficiency of outcomes.

1. Persistent Community-Eco-Guard Tensions

Although dialogue mechanisms have reduced conflict in most project-supported hills, tensions persist primarily in areas where the project is not implemented or where engagement remains limited. In these zones, communities continue to access forest resources for subsistence needs, leading to confrontations with eco-guards and slowing trust-building efforts. Strengthening conflict-sensitive approaches, expanding coverage of dialogue mechanisms, and improving eco-guard communication and de-escalation skills remain essential to preventing escalation.

2. Monitoring and Evaluation Capacity Constraints

The Kibira Foundation and implementing partners continue to face challenges in collecting, consolidating, and analyzing reliable data. Community-based structures such as the Kibira Protection Committees (KPCs) generate valuable field information, but the capacity to digitize data, conduct systematic verification, and translate findings into adaptive management decisions is still limited. Dedicated M&E staff, user-friendly digital tools, and expanded training are required to enhance evidence-based planning and reporting.

3. Infrastructure and Logistical Limitations

Despite the renovation of the park headquarters, logistical constraints—including fuel shortages, limited transport availability, and insufficient field equipment—continue to affect operations. These limitations reduce the frequency of monitoring missions, restrict eco-guard patrol coverage, and slow implementation in remote areas. Strengthened logistical planning and resource allocation are needed to ensure consistent field presence.

4. Coordination Gaps Between Key Actors

Coordination among OBPE, the Fondation Kibira, local associations, and implementing partners remains uneven. Irregular joint planning sessions and limited information sharing sometimes lead to delays or duplication of efforts. A more structured coordination framework—regular joint technical meetings, shared workplans, and clearer delineation of responsibilities—would enhance coherence and reinforce the co-management model.

Monitoring and Oversight Activities

Please describe any key event related to monitoring and oversight. Please click next if no activities have yet taken place.

Events include Steering Committee meetings, Monitoring visits, Third party monitoring, Community based monitoring, any data collection, Perception or other survey findings, evaluation reports, audit or investigations.

Monitoring and oversight activities	Name of the Event	Summary	Key Findings

Event 1	Field monitoring	Field visit to Mpanda hydropower site to assess the progress on road improvement and erosion control	Road improvement works are ongoing and progressing well. Specific actions have also been taken to address erosion issues in critical areas.
Event 2	Field monitoring	Field visit to park headquarters and community hills	All buildings at the park headquarters have been completed. Income-generating activities have been implemented; however, their implementation has faced challenges due to limited supervision, primarily caused by fuel shortages restricting access to the project site. Corrective actions have been taken to ensure continues and efficient support to community well-being.
Event 3			
Event 4			
Event 5			
Event 6			
Event 7			
Event 8			

Final Steps

- Please save a PDF copy of the form by clicking on the *Printer* icon on the top right corner of the page.
- A dialogue box will appear: Please select the A4 size and portrait orientation.
- Click "prepare" and save the document as a PDF.
- (If on first attempt, the generated page is not readable, close the pop up page and go back to the first page of the online form using the "Return to Beginning" option and try to print the PDF version from there)
- After printing the PDF version, please submit the report in the last page of the form. You can use the "Go to End" button in the bottom right corner.
- In compliance with our reporting requirements, **please upload the PDF version of the report as well as your *financial report in excel format* to the MPTF-O Gateway.**

If you encounter any difficulty in filling the form or generating the print-out for MPTFO Gateway, please contact Gabriel Velastegui gabriel.velasteguimoya@un.org

Thank You. You have finished the report. Please Click on the **SUBMIT** button below. When the report is submitted, a confirmation note will appear on a yellow banner on top of the page. This can take a few seconds.