
Annual Performance Report

Project/Programme title:	Enhanced climate resilience of rural communities in central and north Benin through the implementation of ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) in forest and agricultural landscapes (SAP005)
Accredited Entity:	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
Date of Report submission:	15 April 2026
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RATIONALE

This report layout is designed to support the drafting of a structured report that assesses, evaluates, documents, and communicates the progress on Funding Proposal (FP) implementation and on its associated Funded Activity Agreement (FAA). The layout aims to provide a clear and comprehensive understanding of key objectives, progress, and risks, drawing on project implementation related data provided by Accredited Entities (AEs). Considering the Green Climate Fund's (GCF) evolving strategic direction toward a Risk-Based Approach, the report is intended to:

- Track quantitative and qualitative progress of the project implementation.
- Highlight critical findings and emerging trends.
- Identify risks and propose actionable mitigation strategies.
- Support evidence-based decision-making.
- Promote transparency and accountability.
- Align with strategic and regulatory frameworks.
- Serve as a foundation for AE engagement on project performance

METHODOLOGY

The report's layout mirrors, to the extent possible, the structure of the Funding Proposal (FP) to maintain coherence with the presented information. However, the FP and the Report differ in scope and strategic intent; thus, while the FP serves a functional role in informing the Report, it does not dictate a strictly parallel structure.

A. PROJECT DATA (Prefilled where possible)

Should any information/data prefilled from Section A.1 to Section A.12 be incorrect or require updating, please inform GCF's Project Lead of appropriate corrective action.

A.1. Date of report submission		15 April 2026		
A.2. Project or programme	Project	A.3. Sector	Public	
A.4. Total Financing (GCF + Cofinance)	GCF Financing		Mill. USD 9.0	
	Grants		Mill. USD 9.0	
	Co-Financing		Mill. USD 1.0	
	Grants		Mill. USD 1.0	
	Total Financing		Mill. USD 10.0	
A.5. Total GCF funding disbursed to this date	NA (draft)			
A.6. Implementation period	From NA to 26 December 2026			
A.7. ESS Category (Refers to GCF revised <i>Environmental and Social Policy</i> and GCF ESS Standards to assess your FP category.)			Category C	
A.8. Executing Entity Information				
Full legal name	Country of registration (or, for intl orgs, country of HQ)	Entity type	Role in project	Focal Point(s) and email(s)
Ministry of Livelihood and Sustainable Development (Le Ministère du Cadre de Vie et des Transports, en charge du Développement Durable)	Benin	Public sector – Government	Ministry of Living Environment and Sustainable Development (MCVDD) serves as the Executing Entity	Colonel/Senior Curator Adjakou Akoutan ADJINDA , aadjinda@gouv.bj

A.9. Co-Financier information

Full legal name	Country of registration (or, for intl orgs, country of HQ)	Focal Point(s) and email(s)	Ownership Type	Beneficial Owner(s)
Government of Benin- Ministry of Living Environment and Sustainable Development (Le Ministère du Cadre de Vie et des Transports, en charge du Développement Durable)	Benin	Colonel/Senior Curator Adjakou Akoutan ADJINDA (aadjinda@gouv.bj)	A national public-sector entity fully owned and operated by the Government of Benin.	a Government Ministry represented by its Minister

A.10. Alignment with country NDCs & NAP <i>(NB Only populate if applicable, e.g., if your project/programme specifically contributes to a country's NDC or NAP target/s)</i>				
Country	Date of NDC/ NAP submission	NDC/ NAP objective	Brief description of project's alignment with NDC/ NAP objectives	Percentage of target met with proposed project.Beneficial owner(s)
Benin	8 July 2022	A) To reduce vulnerability to the impacts of climate change by strengthening the adaptive capacity and resilience of local communities and their livelihoods, with a view to achieving economic and social transformation at the national level by 2030	The project supports this NAP objective by strengthening the resilience of climate-vulnerable rural communities whose livelihoods depend on agriculture, forests, and natural resources. It reduces exposure to climate shocks through ecosystem restoration, sustainable land and forest management, agroforestry, and climate-resilient agricultural practices. By diversifying incomes, restoring ecosystem services, strengthening community institutions, and prioritising vulnerable groups, including women and smallholder farmers, the project enhances adaptive capacity and contributes to climate-resilient economic and social transformation by 2030.	7%
Benin	8 July 2022	(b) facilitate the integration of climate change adaptation, in a coherent manner, into relevant policies, programs, and activities, whether new or ongoing, in particular development planning and budgeting processes and strategies.	The project supports this NAP objective by embedding climate change adaptation into local planning and implementation processes. Climate-resilient land use, ecosystem restoration, and livelihood measures are implemented through participatory planning with local institutions and community structures, strengthening their capacity to integrate adaptation considerations into ongoing development activities. By generating practical experience, coordination mechanisms, and locally applicable approaches, the project contributes to coherent integration of climate adaptation into sub-national planning processes	5%
Benin	12 October 2021	Agriculture: Improve food and nutrition security and reduce rural poverty by strengthening the resilience of agricultural production systems to climate change. Improve the performance and productivity of agricultural systems in order to ensure food sovereignty under changing climatic conditions.	SAP005 supports agricultural adaptation by promoting climate-resilient production systems, including agroforestry, soil conservation, and sustainable land management practices. These actions improve food security, strengthen resilience of smallholder farmers, and reduce climate-related productivity risks.	8%

Country	Date of NDC/ NAP submission	NDC/ NAP objective	Brief description of project's alignment with NDC/ NAP objectives	Percentage of target met with proposed project.Beneficial owner(s)
		Promote climate-resilient agricultural practices, including soil protection and rehabilitation, crop diversification, and sustainable water management. Increase farmers' adaptive capacity through irrigation, climate-resilient inputs, and innovation in agro-food systems. Improve incomes and resilience of smallholder farmers, particularly women and young people, in the face of climate variability		
Benin	12 October 2021	Water Resources: Reduce the vulnerability of natural and human systems to droughts, floods, and water stress. Strengthen knowledge and monitoring of climate and hydrological risks. Promote integrated and climate-resilient water resources management. Develop and rehabilitate water infrastructure to improve resilience and access to water under climate change. Improve governance of water resources to support adaptation across sectors.	Through ecosystem restoration and improved land management, SAP005 contributes to regulating water flows, reducing erosion, and limiting flood and drought impacts. These measures support climate-resilient water availability and integrated management at local level	4%
Benin	12 October 2021	Forestry and Ecosystems: Reduce the vulnerability of forest-dependent communities to ecosystem degradation and climate change impacts. Promote ecosystem-based adaptation through sustainable forest management and restoration. Develop agroforestry systems to enhance resilience of livelihoods and ecosystems. Restore and protect mangroves and forest ecosystems to strengthen climate resilience and ecosystem services.	The project aligns with forestry adaptation objectives by restoring degraded forests, promoting sustainable forest management, agroforestry, and ecosystem-based adaptation. These actions reduce vulnerability of forest-dependent communities and strengthen ecosystem services.	10%
Benin	12 October 2021	Energy: Strengthen the resilience of energy infrastructure and services to climate variability and extreme events. Improve planning and management of the energy sector to account for current and future climate risks. Promote diversification and	SAP005 reduces reliance on unsustainable wood-fuel sources by promoting woodlots and sustainable forest management, indirectly supporting resilience of household energy systems to climate stress.	3%

Country	Date of NDC/ NAP submission	NDC/ NAP objective	Brief description of project's alignment with NDC/ NAP objectives	Percentage of target met with proposed project.Beneficial owner(s)
		decentralisation of energy systems to reduce vulnerability to climate shocks.		
Benin	12 October 2021	Cross-cutting / Local Governance and Communities: Strengthen adaptive capacity of vulnerable groups, including women, children, elderly persons, and people with disabilities. Integrate indigenous knowledge and local practices into adaptation strategies. Strengthen local governance and community-level adaptation planning and implementation. Reduce climate-induced migration by improving resilience of local livelihoods and ecosystems	SAP005 aligns with cross-cutting adaptation objectives by strengthening community institutions, supporting participatory planning, integrating indigenous knowledge, and enhancing adaptive capacity of vulnerable groups, including women.	9%

A.11. Estimated duration of impact	
A.12 Report to be shared with NDA	Yes ☐ No ☒

B. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Should any information/data prefilled in Section “B” be incorrect or require updating, please inform GCF’s Project Lead for appropriate corrective action.

B.1. Summary

In 2025, the Ecosystem-based Adaptation Project (PABE) continued to strengthen the resilience of rural communities in central and northern Benin to climate change. Despite temporary funding constraints, due to delayed disbursement of funds from GCF, the project delivered strong, measurable progress toward its climate objectives.

The project exceeded its land restoration targets, restoring 3,955 ha of degraded forests and community lands, surpassing the original goal of 3,600 ha. This included large-scale enrichment planting and the establishment of woodlots and orchards that will improve soil protection, reduce erosion, and enhance long-term access to non-timber forest products. Survival rates for restored areas remained generally robust.

Climate-resilient agriculture also expanded significantly. By December 2025, 3,327 sorghum and soybean farmers had applied improved practices such as agroforestry, assisted natural regeneration, and climate-smart agriculture on 3,712 ha, exceeding the 3,000-ha target. Thousands of producers recorded higher crop yields—sorghum and soybean yields improved compared to local control plots—boosting food security and incomes.

Cooperatives composed of 74% women, advanced value-added processing, placing 28,133 bottles of cashew products, 21,045 kg of néré mustard, and 28,450 litres of shea oil on the market. Although formal commercial agreements remain pending, cooperatives benefited from new equipment and training that improved product quality and market readiness.

The project also strengthened climate information services. Four automatic agrometeorological stations were maintained and improved, and 1,224 advisory messages were sent to farmers to guide decisions around changing weather patterns.

Key challenges included delayed fund flows and the rescheduling of several activities. These were addressed through a no-cost extension to June 2026 and adaptive re-prioritization.

Overall, PABE continues to deliver tangible climate adaptation benefits—healthier ecosystems, more resilient farms, stronger community institutions, and better access to climate information—positioning rural households to face a changing climate with greater security and opportunity

C. RESULTS AND IMPACTS

C.1. Overall Summary of the Project Progress

(This section provides a narrative report summarizing the overall progress of the implementation status of the funded activity progress during the reporting period. 1,500 words)

A4.1 – Coverage/scale of ecosystems restored (ha)

The project restored 3,944 ha of land from 2020 to 31.12.2025, surpassing and exceeding the overall project target of 3,600 ha. Restoration included:

- 504 hectares of open-field plantations in the forests,
- 3,171.71 ha enriched in degraded forest gaps, and
- 279.73 ha in wood-fuel plantations and orchards across the seven communes.

2. Outcome-Level Indicators

A7.1 – Use of adaptive tools, advisories, and climate-resilient practices

Climate information & advisories:

- 1,224 agro-meteorological advisory messages were disseminated to producers via the SAP platform in October 2025.
- 16 METEO BENIN technicians, of which 5 women, were trained on the SAP platform to support ongoing dissemination.

Agricultural adoption of climate-resilient practices:

- 3,327 producers (2,403 soybean; 924 sorghum) used project-supported techniques (AIC, agroforestry, RNA) during the 2025 agricultural season.
- These farmers cultivated 2,968.75 ha of sorghum and soybean using climate-resilient practices.

3. Project-Level Outcomes and Outputs

Outcome 1 – Forest Management and Restoration

Forest management instruments:

- 4 Simple Management Plans (PSG) for Salangawa, Katenga, Didani, and Dérrou Bou were formally approved by DGEFC in December 2025.
- 1 Participatory Management Plan (PAP) for Bétécoucou adopted.
- 2 EbA integration documents for Bakou and Bétérou validated.

Restoration activities:

- 3,955.44 ha restored as detailed above (forest enrichment, plantations, orchards).
- Over 2.1 million seedlings of multi-species forest and agroforestry trees were produced/used.

Outcome 2 – Climate-Resilient Agricultural Production

Yield improvements (demonstrated on farmer fields):

- Soil and crop practices maintained 2024 gains:
 - Soybean: 1.72 t/ha (vs. 1.25 t/ha control)
 - Sorghum: 1.43 t/ha (vs. 0.90 t/ha control)

Area under climate-resilient agriculture:

- Total achieved with project-supported practices: 3,712 ha (no change vs 2024 because indicator is cumulative).
- Annual adoption in 2025: 2,968.75 ha sorghum & soybean farms under AIC, agroforestry, RNA.

Market access for climate-resilient value chains:

In 2025, cooperatives supported by the project produced and commercialized:

- 28,133 bottles of processed cashew,
- 21,045 kg of néré mustard,
- 28,450 litres of shea butter.

These volumes reflect strong annual progress in value-addition, although the 15 formal trade agreements remain unsigned, pending regulatory alignment under the newly homologated EbA-aligned national standards.

Outcome 3 – Technical, Institutional & Knowledge Capacities Knowledge management and policy integration: • A qualified firm was identified to design the National Knowledge Management Centre (to be hosted under MCVT). • Preparatory steps (ToRs, needs assessments, consultations) completed. Awareness and communication: • 16 journalists trained to deliver radio programs on EbA, climate change, and climate-resilient agriculture across seven communes. • Continuous sensitization campaigns conducted for farmers, cooperatives, and local institutions. Standards & regulatory progress: • 12 national EbA-aligned agrifood standards (for sorghum, néré, soybean, cashew, and shea) were validated and homologated in 2025 by ANM with project support. Overall Summary of Progress Toward Logframe Indicators (2025) During the reporting period, the project delivered robust progress across restoration, agricultural resilience, value-chain development, and institutional strengthening. Key annual achievements include: • Record restoration of 3,955.44 ha, exceeding the total project target. • Full approval of forest management instruments (PSG, PAP, EbA integration documents). • Widespread adoption of climate-resilient agriculture by over 3,300 producers. • Significant volumes of processed climate-resilient products placed on local markets. • Establishment of enabling standards and knowledge systems for sustained EbA mainstreaming.
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C.2. Performance against the Funding Proposal Logical Framework Indicators <i>For each of the indicators please report only the 'annual value' for the reporting year; this means reporting solely the values achieved from January 1st, 2025, to December 31st, 2025. The "cumulative value" will automatically be updated by the system by aggregating reported annual values since project FAA effectiveness.</i> <i>Please ensure that targets are clearly defined and reported using the following categories:</i> • <i>Midterm Target: The results to be achieved by the midpoint of implementation.</i> • <i>Final Target: The results to be achieved by the conclusion of project or programme implementation.</i> • <i>Lifetime Target: The total results expected over the entire operational period of the project or programme.</i> <i>Note that the baseline, midterm, final and lifetime targets will be prefilled based on your previous Annual Performance Report and/or Funding Proposal. It is imperative that you carefully review, verify and update where relevant.</i> <i>Should the project be Multicounty, please report the achievement by Country.</i> <i>Lastly, avoid using commas or periods as thousand separators. Periods should only be used as decimal separators.</i> <i>For REDD+ Results-Based Payment (RBP) projects, you are only required to report on the progress of activities.</i> <i>Should any prefilled information/data in the Logical Framework be incorrect or require updating, please inform GCF's Project Lead for appropriate corrective action.</i> GCF Outcome Level: Standardized Indicators
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PMF/IRMF Results Management Framework

No indicators/questions defined.

(PMF) A1 and A2 Total number of direct and indirect beneficiaries (IRMF) Core 2 Direct and indirect beneficiaries reached
Provide the total number of direct beneficiaries (female/male) cumulatively receiving adaptation benefits from GCF-supported interventions, disaggregated by result area.

Unit						No. of Beneficiaries
Disaggregation by: Result Areas (Adaptation)	Baseline	Mid-term	Final target	Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value
Livelihoods of people and communities	0	8,000	22,000	21,662	6,024	27,686

(PMF) A1 and A2 Total number of direct and indirect beneficiaries (IRMF) Core 2 Direct and indirect beneficiaries reached						
Provide the total number of direct beneficiaries (female/male) cumulatively receiving adaptation benefits from GCF-supported interventions, disaggregated by Gender.						
Unit						No. of Beneficiaries
Disaggregation by: Gender	Baseline	Mid-term	Final target	Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value
Male	0	4,000	11,000	12,321	3,945	16,266
Female	0	4,000	11,000	9,340	2,079	11,419

(PMF) A1 and A2 Total number of direct and indirect beneficiaries (IRMF) Core 2 Direct and indirect beneficiaries reached						
Provide the total number of direct beneficiaries (female/male) cumulatively receiving adaptation benefits from GCF-supported interventions, disaggregated by Country.						
Unit						No. of Beneficiaries
Disaggregation by: Project Countries	Baseline	Mid-term	Final target	Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value
Benin	0	8,000	22,000	21,662	6,024	27,686

(PMF) A1 and A2 Total number of direct and indirect beneficiaries (IRMF) Core 2 Direct and indirect beneficiaries reached						
Provide the total number of indirect beneficiaries (female/male) cumulatively receiving adaptation benefits from GCF-supported interventions, disaggregated by result area.						
Unit						No. of Beneficiaries
Disaggregation by: Result Areas (Adaptation)	Baseline	Mid-term	Final target	Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value
Livelihoods of people and communities	0	390,502	10,739,989	1,279,121	294,078	1,573,199

(PMF) A1 and A2 Total number of direct and indirect beneficiaries (IRMF) Core 2 Direct and indirect beneficiaries reached						
Provide the total number of indirect beneficiaries (female/male) cumulatively receiving adaptation benefits from GCF-supported interventions, disaggregated by Gender.						
Unit						No. of Beneficiaries
Disaggregation by: Gender	Baseline	Mid-term	Final target	Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value
Male	0	268,498	536,995	639,561	147,039	786,600
Female	0	268,496	536,994	639,560	147,039	786,599

(PMF) A1 and A2 Total number of direct and indirect beneficiaries (IRMF) Core 2 Direct and indirect beneficiaries reached
Provide the total number of indirect beneficiaries (female/male) cumulatively receiving adaptation benefits from GCF-supported interventions, disaggregated by Country.

Unit						No. of Beneficiaries
Disaggregation by: Project Countries	Baseline	Mid-term	Final target	Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value
Benin	0	390,502	10,739,989	1,279,121	294,078	1,573,199

Livelihoods of people and communities

No indicators/questions defined.

(PMF) A1.2 Number of males and females benefiting from the adoption of diversified, climate resilient livelihood options (including fisheries, agriculture, tourism, etc.) (IRMF) Supplementary 2.1 Beneficiaries (female/male) adopting improved and/or new climate-resilient livelihood options						
Provide the total number of direct beneficiaries (female/male) adopting diversified or strengthened climate-resilient livelihood strategies (including agriculture, fisheries, natural resource-based, and informal livelihoods), disaggregated by gender.						
Unit						No. of Beneficiaries
Disaggregation by: Gender	Baseline	Mid-term	Final target	Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value
Male	0	4,000	11,000	12,321	3,945	16,266
Female	0	4,000	11,000	9,340	2,079	11,419

(PMF) A1.2 Number of males and females benefiting from the adoption of diversified, climate resilient livelihood options (including fisheries, agriculture, tourism, etc.) (IRMF) Supplementary 2.1 Beneficiaries (female/male) adopting improved and/or new climate-resilient livelihood options						
Provide the total number of direct beneficiaries (female/male) adopting diversified or strengthened climate-resilient livelihood strategies (including agriculture, fisheries, natural resource-based, and informal livelihoods), disaggregated by country.						
Unit						Enter unit
Disaggregation by: Project Countries	Baseline	Mid-term	Final target	Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value
Benin	0	8,000	22,000	21,661	6,024	27,685

Ecosystems and ecosystem services

No indicators/questions defined.

(PMF) A4.1 Coverage/scale of ecosystems protected and strengthened in response to climate variability and change					
Provide the total hectares of natural ecosystems protected, restored, conserved, or managed to reduce climate risks to ecosystem services and dependent people and communities.					
Unit					Hectares
Baseline	Target		Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value <i>(automatically calculated)</i>
	Mid-term	Final target			
0	1,200	3,600	1,251	2,693	3,944

(PMF) A4.1 Coverage/scale of ecosystems protected and strengthened in response to climate variability and change						
Provide the total hectares of natural ecosystems protected, restored, conserved, or managed to reduce climate risks to ecosystem services and dependent people and communities, disaggregated by country.						
Unit						Hectares
Disaggregation by: Project Countries	Baseline	Mid-term	Final target	Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value
Benin	0	1,200	3,600	1,251	2,693	3,944

(PMF) A4.1 Coverage/scale of ecosystems protected and strengthened in response to climate variability and change						
Provide the total hectares of natural ecosystems protected, restored, conserved, or managed to reduce climate risks to ecosystem services and dependent people and communities, disaggregated by ecosystem type.						
Disaggregation by: Ecosystem types	Unit					Hectares
	Baseline	Mid-term	Final target	Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value
Forest		1,200	3,600	1,251	2,693	3,944

Project Specific Indicators							
Indicator	Unit	Baseline	Target		Previous Year Cumulative Value	Annual value	Cumulative Value <i>(automatically calculated)</i>
			Mid-term	Final target			
1.1: Number and level of effectiveness of CFMCs	Index/Score/Level	0	2	4	3	0	3
1.2: Percentage survivorship of planted trees	Percentage	0	75	60	83	81	164
2.1.1: Area (ha) of agricultural lands where sustainable, climate-resilient agriculture is implemented	Hectares	0	1,000	3,000	3,712	0	3,712
2.1.2: Change in agricultural yields	Percentage	0	20	20	19	24	43
2.2.1: The economic value of trade agreements (number and value of trade agreements) facilitating sales from the value chain, which post-harvest facilities are expected to increase/improve.	No. of Agreements/Contracts	0	14	14	15	0	15
3.1.1 Degree of integration of climate change and/or EbA into the Forest Law and Agriculture Policy	Index/Score/Level	0	2	4	1	0	1
3.1.2 Extent of quality of climate advisories and applicability by farmers	Index/Score/Level	0	2	4	2	4	6

Activities				
Activity Name	Implementation Progress (%)	Utilised GCF Budget	Allocated GCF Budget	% (Automatically calculated)
Project Activity 1.1.1: Develop or strengthen forest management plans	100	440,004	455,916	96

Activities				
Activity Name	Implementation Progress (%)	Utilised GCF Budget	Allocated GCF Budget	% (Automatically calculated)
Activity 1.1.2: Establish and/or strengthen seven (07) Community Forest Management Committees	95	3,328,596	4,661,573	71
Activity 1.2.1: Restore 3,600 hectares of degraded forests using selected tree species to buffer against the impacts of climate change such as floods and soil erosion, and to enhance the provision of non-timber forest products	95	3,000	128,800	2
Activity 1.2.2: Establish at least seven climate-resilient communal woodlots for the production of fuel wood	100	200,095	617,109	32
Activity 1.2.3: Establish seven orchards using climate-resilient tree species to supply nuts and seeds	100	178,763	256,164	69
Activity 2.1.1: Develop agricultural response strategies to short and medium-range forecasts	100	1,094,131	1,291,199	84
Activity 2.1.2: Implement climate-resilient agriculture interventions which increase agricultural yields under climate change conditions	100	211,367	223,300	94
Activity 2.1.3: Build the technical capacity of vulnerable farmers for post-harvest storage interventions in the seven communities	100	110,580	156,131	70
Activity 2.2.1: Train several cooperatives located in project sites on basic business and financial management and connected to local and national wholesale traders	95	25,950	82,500	31
Activity 2.2.2: Finalise and implement the EBAFOSA (Ecosystem Based Adaptation for Food Security Assembly) standards and innovations for the agricultural production value chain that can promote adaptation	96	64,427	127,010	50
Activity 3.1.1: Establish a national knowledge hub to disseminate lessons learned, cost effectiveness and benefits information on gender-sensitive EbA and climate-resilient agriculture interventions	75	10,377	29,700	34
Activity 3.1.2: Organise awareness raising campaigns for local communities on climate change and the services provided by forest ecosystems	95	330,623	543,100	60
Activity 3.1.3: Strengthen national policies and strategies to support an integrated EbA and climate-resilient agriculture approach for	60	440,004	455,916	96

Activities				
Activity Name	Implementation Progress (%)	Utilised GCF Budget	Allocated GCF Budget	% (Automatically calculated)
sustainablemanagement in forests and adjacent lands				

C.2.1. Subprojects							
Where applicable, include information on sub-projects. For projects and programmes approved until B.31, the logical framework should focus on the mitigation and adaptation Performance Measurement Frameworks (PMF). For projects and programmes approved from B.32 onwards, the logical framework should reflect the Integrated Results Management Framework (IRMF).							
Title	Currency	GCF Funds	Co-Financing	Country	GHG Emissions Reduced	Direct Beneficiaries	Indirect Beneficiaries
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
C.3. Compliance with FAA covenants				Yes ☒ No ☐			
C.4. Funded Activity Implementation Arrangements in the Following Year				Yes ☐ No ☒			
No changes foreseen since the last approved extension request including corresponding implementation schedule.							

D. RISKS ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT

D.1. Risk and mitigation measures

As stated in the Board-approved "Risk Appetite Statement," a cornerstone of the GCF's Risk Framework is proactive risk management. This includes risk identification, assessment, monitoring, reporting and appropriate mitigation to minimize and respond to risks, both directly and through partners implementing GCF's projects and programmes.

Risk Management Matrix

A risk is the probability of an event to adversely affect the achievement of the project Impact (its objectives, outcomes, and results). "Inherent risk" refers to the level of risk present before any of the mitigating measures are applied. "Residual risk" represents the level of risk after mitigating measures have been implemented.

Please update the project risk matrix by reviewing and revising information for all previously identified risks, and adding any new risks identified during implementation by selecting the adequate Risk Area in the drop-down menu. For each risk, ensure you provide a clear risk description, outline the potential negative consequences, specify the mitigating measures in place, and complete the severity scoring as required.

For the Integrity Risk Area, an annual reporting (and more frequent and prompt reporting if stated in the legal agreements with the GCF) is required for each of its 3 Risk Sub-areas, as GCF has zero tolerance for Prohibited Practices, for SEAH in Fund-related Activities, and for working with parties and engaging in activities subject to sanctions imposed by the United Nations Security Council. The AE reporting obligations under GCF's policies and in the legal agreement(s) with the GCF include but are not limited to requiring AEs to take action to identify, mitigate and promptly disclose to the GCF any real or perceived Conflict of Interest, any alleged or suspected Prohibited Practice, promptly notify the Fund of any material risks or other indications of money laundering and/or financing of terrorism in relation to the Project and promptly take remedial steps in consultation with the GCF.

The AE shall also provide updates on the risks and mitigating measures under the other Risk Areas when changes to already identified risks or new risks have been identified.

Risk scoring:

For likelihood, please rate on a scale from 1 to 5: 1. Unlikely, 2. Possible, 3. Likely, 4. Almost certain, 5. Certain

For impact, please rate on a scale from 1 to 5: 1. Close to none, 2. Low, 3. Medium, 4. High, 5. Catastrophic

The severity of each risk is automatically computed based on the likelihood and impact of the risk.

Risk 1	Sustainability of agricultural yield improvements		
Risk Origin	Project Related		
Risk Area	Design and Implementation		
Risk Sub-area	N/A		
Description	Improvements in agricultural yield from climate-resilient practices may not be sustained after the project ends.		
Consequences	If farmers discontinue the improved practices, agricultural yields could decline again, reducing household food security and incomes. This would undermine the long-term sustainability of the project's agricultural benefits and reduce resilience to climate impacts.		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Severity
	2 - Possible	4 - High	8 - Medium High
Mitigation Measure(s)	As per approved project Risk Assessment and Management annex: Sustainability is promoted through a package of mutually reinforcing actions. Farmers are trained to independently apply low-cost, practical climate-resilient techniques that require no specialised equipment, ensuring that use can continue after the project ends. Increased incomes from improved yields will enable farmers to purchase necessary inputs such as improved seed varieties, which will be made available on local markets. Local agricultural extension officers are also trained to provide continued technical support beyond the project period. Best practices are disseminated widely through radio programmes, demonstration plots, and community field visits, encouraging broader autonomous adoption. These practices, along with lessons learned, will be shared with national decision-makers.		
Residual Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Severity
	1 - Unlikely	4 - High	4 - Medium
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Severity
	1 - Unlikely	4 - High	4 - Medium

Comments	N/A		
Risk 2	Sustainability of forest restoration and survival		
Risk Origin	Project Related		
Risk Area	Environmental and Social		
Risk Sub-area	Environmental and Social Safeguards		
Description	Restored forests may not be conserved by local communities beyond the project period.		
Consequences	If farmers discontinue the improved practices, agricultural yields could decline again, reducing household food security and incomes. This would undermine the long-term sustainability of the project's agricultural benefits and reduce resilience to climate impacts		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood 2 - Possible	Impact 4 - High	Severity 8 - Medium High
Mitigation Measure(s)	As per approved project Risk Assessment and Management annex: Sustainability is promoted through a package of mutually reinforcing actions. Farmers are trained to independently apply low-cost, practical climate-resilient techniques that require no specialised equipment, ensuring that use can continue after the project ends. Increased incomes from improved yields will enable farmers to purchase necessary inputs such as improved seed varieties, which will be made available on local markets. Local agricultural extension officers are also trained to provide continued technical support beyond the project period. Best practices are disseminated widely through radio programmes, demonstration plots, and community field visits, encouraging broader autonomous adoption. These practices, along with lessons learned, will be shared with national decision-makers.		
Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 4 - High	Severity 4 - Medium
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 4 - High	Severity 4 - Medium
Comments	N/A		
Risk 3	Gender equity in benefits and decision-making		
Risk Origin	Project Related		
Risk Area	Environmental and Social		
Risk Sub-area	Gender & SEAH		
Description	Risk women do not receive equal livelihood benefits or representation		
Consequences	Limited access for women would exacerbate existing gender inequalities and reduce household climate resilience. If women are excluded from NTFP income, agricultural inputs, capacity-building, or market opportunities, overall project impact and sustainability would be weakened. Gender-biased benefit distribution could also create community tension and reduce support for project activities		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood 2 - Possible	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 6 - Medium
Mitigation Measure(s)	As per approved project Risk Assessment and Management annex: The project ensures equitable access to benefits by supporting women's groups through training on processing, marketing, and financial management of crops and NTFPs. Strengthening women's technical and business skills increases their income and participation in value chains. All project activities are implemented in a gender-sensitive manner, including the use of sex-disaggregated indicators to ensure that more than 50% of project beneficiaries are women. Stakeholder consultations explicitly integrate women's voices, ensuring that their priorities and challenges inform planning and implementation. These measures collectively reduce the risk of unequal benefit sharing and promote women's socioeconomic empowerment within restoration and climate-resilient agriculture interventions		
Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 3 - Low
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 3 - Low
Comments	N/A		
Risk 4	Introduction of invasive alien plant species		

Risk Origin	Project Related		
Risk Area	Environmental and Social		
Risk Sub-area	Environmental and Social Safeguards		
Description	Invasive alien species that have detrimental effects on ecosystem services and biodiversity may be introduced or promoted.		
Consequences	Introducing invasive alien species could outcompete native vegetation, reduce biodiversity, alter ecosystem functioning, and undermine ecosystem-based adaptation benefits. It could also create long-term management burdens for communities and authorities		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood 2 - Possible	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 6 - Medium
Mitigation Measure(s)	As per approved project Risk Assessment and Management annex: The project avoids this risk by implementing a species-selection protocol. All plant species used in restoration are selected by scientific experts, ensuring that only locally appropriate and non-invasive species are used. Restoration prioritises indigenous tree species, complemented only by useful exotic species that are confirmed not to be invasive in Benin or similar West African ecosystems		
Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 3 - Low
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 3 - Low
Comments	N/A		
Risk 5	Charcoal pressure from non-beneficiary communities		
Risk Origin	External Factors		
Risk Area	Macro-economics		
Risk Sub-area	N/A		
Description	Surrounding communities who are not project beneficiaries may cut down restored forests for charcoal.		
Consequences	If outside communities cut restored forests, this would lead to loss of planted trees, reduced biodiversity, weakened ecosystem services, and reversal of restoration gains. It could also generate conflict, undermine community ownership, and reduce long-term sustainability of forest management efforts.		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood 2 - Possible	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 6 - Medium
Mitigation Measure(s)	As per approved project Risk Assessment and Management annex: This risk is mitigated through strengthened community-based forest monitoring. Community Forest Management Committees (CFMCs), established and supported by the project, will patrol and protect restored forest areas. Awareness-raising campaigns help local communities understand and value restored forests, increasing willingness to safeguard them. Local forest wardens receive training and equipment to enforce laws and reduce illegal harvesting. Forest management plans developed through consultation with all surrounding communities, including non-beneficiaries, ensure broader buy-in and reduce the likelihood of external encroachment. Together, these governance, enforcement and awareness measures reduce the risk that restored forest areas will be cut by non-project communities		
Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 3 - Low
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 3 - Low
Comments	N/A		
Risk 6	Land-use conflict / unclear tenure undermining investments		
Risk Origin	Project Related		
Risk Area	Environmental and Social		
Risk Sub-area	Environmental and Social Safeguards		
Description	Conflicting land-uses and uncertainties around land tenure and forest ownership may limit investments in agriculture and forest protection by local communities.		
Consequences	If land-use conflict or tenure uncertainty persists, communities may be reluctant to invest in agriculture, orchards, or forest protection, hindering project outcomes. Competing		

	land uses could generate disagreements between farmers, livestock owners and other users, and unclear ownership of community forests could undermine long-term stewardship		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood 3 - Likely	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 9 - Medium High
Mitigation Measure(s)	As per approved project Risk Assessment and Management annex the project mitigates this risk by ensuring full community consultation when selecting sites for interventions and when developing or revising forest management plans. Participatory planning helps align project activities with existing land uses and avoids imposing incompatible land-use changes. Tenure-related risks are inherently low because under Benin's Land Law (2013), customary community land rights hold equal legal recognition to formal land titles, preventing the sale of community land to commercial actors and ensuring farmers' security. To address uncertainty over community forest ownership, the project supports recommendations to update the Forest Law to clarify community rights and usage rules. These combined measures reduce conflict potential and encourage communities to invest in restoration and sustainable land-use practices		
Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 3 - Low
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 3 - Low
Comments	N/A		
Risk 7	Cost overruns & tender delay for water retention structures		
Risk Origin	Project Related		
Risk Area	Design and Implementation		
Risk Sub-area	N/A		
Description	Estimates exceeded budget; tender documents progressed but construction pushed to 2026		
Consequences	Later delivery of water services.		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood 3 - Likely	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 9 - Medium High
Mitigation Measure(s)	Value-engineering; cheaper alternative identified, tender launch prioritized.		
Residual Risk	Likelihood 2 - Possible	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 6 - Medium
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood 2 - Possible	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 6 - Medium
Comments	N/A		
Risk 8	Disbursement timing & re-phasing		
Risk Origin	Project Related		
Risk Area	Design and Implementation		
Risk Sub-area	N/A		
Description	Delays resulting from delayed approval of the 2024 Annual Performance Report (APR) and the subsequent release of the 4th disbursement has meant that implementation measures may be delayed.		
Consequences	Activities and payments of contractors and service providers were temporary halted meaning that the implementation plan and period were no longer realistic.		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood 4 - Almost certain	Impact 4 - High	Severity 16 - High
Mitigation Measure(s)	Following the delays resulting from delayed approval of the 2024 Annual Performance Report (APR) and the subsequent release of the 4th disbursement, a request for extension was granted and the implementation plan was updated accordingly.		
Residual Risk	Likelihood 3 - Likely	Impact 4 - High	Severity 12 - Medium High
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood 3 - Likely	Impact 4 - High	Severity 12 - Medium High
Comments	N/A		
Risk 9	Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing		
Risk Origin	Project Related		

Risk Area	Integrity		
Risk Sub-area	Money Laundering (ML) & Terrorist Financing (TF)		
Description	There is a risk that personnel, partners or service providers in relation to the Funded Activity could be involved in Money Laundering and Financing Terrorism which are Prohibited Practices.		
Consequences	Breaches relating to money laundering and/or the financing of terrorism could affect the reputation of the GCF, UNEP and their partners, and could result in criminal proceedings for those involved. In such cases, the Fund may suspend disbursements to the Accredited Entity until the risks have ceased or are reduced to an acceptable level. The Fund may also instruct the Accredited Entity to suspend the disbursement of GCF proceeds to the relevant executing entities or third parties until further notice.		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood 2 - Possible	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 6 - Medium
Mitigation Measure(s)	Application of UNEP and GCF fiduciary standards: all financial management and procurement activities comply with UNEP fiduciary standards and GCF policies, including due diligence, financial controls and oversight mechanisms applicable to accredited entities and executing partners. Controlled disbursement and traceability of funds: GCF proceeds are disbursed through controlled, auditable channels, with expenditure linked to approved work plans and budgets. Payments are made through official banking systems to ensure traceability and transparency of financial flows. Regular financial monitoring and reporting: periodic financial reporting, internal reviews and external audits are conducted in accordance with UNEP and GCF requirements to enable the early detection of irregular transactions or deviations from approved financial procedures Any suspected irregularities are escalated to UNEP and the relevant national authorities, as appropriate, and corrective action is taken. Corrective measures, including the suspension of payments or contracts, may be applied in line with contractual and GCF provisions		
Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 3 - Low
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 3 - Low
Comments	N/A		
Risk 10	Sanctions		
Risk Origin	Project Related		
Risk Area	Integrity		
Risk Sub-area	Sanctions		
Description	Refers to the risk that project resources may be used, directly or indirectly, to provide financial or material support to individuals or entities designated under United Nations Security Council terrorism-related sanctions regimes, contrary to applicable UN, GCF, and UNEP policies.		
Consequences	During the term of this Arrangement, if UNEP determines that there are credible allegations that Project funds have been used to support or assist individuals or entities associated with terrorism, as designated by any United Nations Security Council sanctions regime, it will inform the Project Steering Committee and the Green Climate Fund as soon as practicable. UNEP will then determine an appropriate response in consultation with the Green Climate Fund.		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood 2 - Possible	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 6 - Medium
Mitigation Measure(s)	The project complies with all applicable United Nations Security Council sanctions regimes and applies UNEP and GCF policies to ensure that project funds or resources are not used, directly or indirectly, to support individuals or entities designated under terrorism-related sanctions. In the event of credible allegations of sanctions-related breaches, UNEP will promptly inform the Project Steering Committee and the GCF and determine appropriate corrective actions in consultation with the GCF, including suspension of disbursements where necessary.		
Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 3 - Low

Current Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 3 - Low
Comments	N/A		
Risk 11	fraud, bribery, corruption		
Risk Origin	Project Related		
Risk Area	Integrity		
Risk Sub-area	Fraud / Bribery & Corruption / Collusion and any other prohibited practice		
Description	The risk is that the project's implementing partners, contractors or personnel may engage in fraud, bribery, corruption, collusion or any other prohibited practices during the procurement process, financial management or project implementation.		
Consequences	Such practices would result in the misappropriation or diversion of GCF funds, which would undermine project objectives and cause financial and reputational damage to the executing entities, their partners, UNEP and the GCF.		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood 2 - Possible	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 6 - Medium
Mitigation Measure(s)	The project complies with the United Nations Secretariat Anti Fraud and Anti Corruption Framework and the GCF Policy on Prohibited Practices, and requires all implementing partners, contractors, and personnel to adhere to these standards and applicable national laws. Preventive controls and oversight, including transparent procurement procedures, segregation of duties, financial monitoring, and periodic audits, are applied to detect and address any suspected prohibited practices, which are reported through UNEP channels and addressed in coordination with the GCF as required.		
Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 3 - Low
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 3 - Low
Comments	N/A		
Risk 12	Conflict of interest		
Risk Origin	Project Related		
Risk Area	Integrity		
Risk Sub-area	Conflict of interest		
Description	The risk is that procurement, human resources or partner selection decisions could be improperly influenced by personnel, financial or external interests.		
Consequences	Such practices could damage the credibility and reputation of the executing entities and their partners, as well as that of UNEP and GCF. They could also affect the delivery of projects, the quality of outputs and deliverables, and enhance the risk of safeguards being breached.		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood 2 - Possible	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 6 - Medium
Mitigation Measure(s)	UNEP oversight and no-objection procedures are applied, as applicable, to key recruitment, implementing partner selection, and procurement decisions, particularly above defined thresholds, to prevent undue influence. Transparent and rules-based processes are used for procurement and selection, with compliance required with UNEP and GCF integrity policies and applicable national laws of Benin, including disclosure and management of any actual or potential conflicts of interest		
Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 3 - Low
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood 1 - Unlikely	Impact 3 - Medium	Severity 3 - Low
Comments	N/A		
Risk 13	absorbition of the increased supply		
Risk Origin	Project Related		

Risk Area	Design and Implementation		
Risk Sub-area	N/A		
Description	Demand for certain crops and NTFPs on local markets may not be strong enough to absorb the increased supply.		
Consequences	If increased production outpaces local market demand, farmers may face lower prices, unsold products, or reduced income gains. This could weaken incentives to continue climate-resilient practices and diminish the long-term financial sustainability of agricultural and NTFP value-chain interventions		
Inherent Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Severity
	2 - Possible	3 - Medium	6 - Medium
Mitigation Measure(s)	As per approved project Risk Assessment and Management annex: For food crops, much of the increased production will be used for household consumption, reducing market pressure. Improved post-harvest storage technologies will allow farmers to store surplus safely and sell when market prices are higher. For NTFPs, financial analysis conducted for the project shows that the sale of targeted products is profitable and underpinned by strong demand, especially for shea and cashew. To further secure market absorption, the project will facilitate trade agreements between farmers' cooperatives and national and regional buyers, including shea and cashew companies. These partnerships ensure that increased supply can consistently reach stable markets. Collectively, these measures reduce the risk of market saturation and strengthen the commercial viability of both crops and NTFPs		
Residual Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Severity
	1 - Unlikely	3 - Medium	3 - Low
Current Residual Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Severity
	1 - Unlikely	3 - Medium	3 - Low
Comments	N/A		

D.2. Report risk incidents

If any risk (previously identified or not) has materialized, please capture it here as a risk incident.

(this section is confidential)

E. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

E.1. GCF financing

In addition to the financial report in the annex, update the table with relevant GCF financial data for each country and instrument, including amounts and allocation percentages.

Country	Instrument	Currency (as per FAA)	Committed Amount	Disbursed Amount	Expenditure (reporting year)	Cumulative Expenditure	Mitigation	Adaptation
Benin	Grants	USD	2,332,576.85	9,000,000	1,666,507.89	6,420,755.35	0%	100%
Total		USD	2,332,576.85	9,000,000	1,666,507.89	6,420,755.35	N/A	N/A

E.2. Co-financing

Please populate the table with relevant Co-financing data for each Co-financier and instrument, including amounts and allocation percentages.

Co-financier	Instrument	Currency (as per FAA)	Committed Amount	Disbursed Amount	Expenditure (reporting year)	Cumulative Expenditure	Mitigation	Adaptation
Government of Benin	In-kind	USD	351,592	648,408	161,581	648,408	0%	100%
Total		USD	351,592	648,408	161,581	648,408	N/A	N/A

E.3. Additional Finance Mobilised Beyond Approved Co-financing

Report the realised (cumulative value) and/or expected volume (Final Target) of private/public finance leveraged as a result of GCF involvement in the investment, in addition to and beyond any co-financing originally committed at approval. This datapoint shall be reported separately from official co-financing figures and is intended to capture the catalytic effect of GCF investments and support institutional learning.

GCF Policy: <https://www.greenclimate.fund/sites/default/files/document/policy-cofinancing.pdf>

No additional finance mobilized information provided.

File Name: Benin SAP005 APR.xlsx

F. ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS, GENDER, and INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

This section provides an update against the ESS standards agreed as part of the Environmental and Social Action Plan (ESAP) and Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), as well as Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS), Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP), Indigenous Peoples Plan Framework (IPPF), Resettlement Action Plan (RAP), Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) when applicable.

F.1. progress on key challenges and updates regarding Environmental and Social Safeguards

Key Environmental and Social Changes

Have there been any changes in the key environmental and social risks and impacts? If you tick 'Yes,' please provide further information.

Yes ☐ No ☒

Environmental and Social Safeguarding Updates

Have there been any change/update on environmental and social safeguarding? you tick 'Yes,' please provide further information.

Yes ☒ No ☐

During 2025, the project did not experience any change in its environmental and social risk category.

F.2. Compliance with laws and regulations applicable to ESS. Gender and Indigenous Peoples.

Have there been any changes or updates regarding compliance with applicable laws and regulations of the country, as well as the relevant conditions or covenants under the FAA?

Yes ☐ No ☒

F.3. ESS standards implementation progress

Does this reporting period include any ESS standards-related activities or updates?

Yes ☒ No ☐

If you tick 'Yes', please provide further information to report on the progress made in complying with the requirements of the relevant ESS standards that were triggered during the approval of the funding proposal and during the reporting period, if any; and the GCF Indigenous Peoples Policy, if relevant, describing achievement and specifying details outlined in the tables below.

Activities implemented during the reporting period, including monitoring

1. <i>Reduced access to forest resources</i> Participatory land use planning helped prevent unintended restrictions on community access. Community Forest Management Committees (CFMCs) and local authorities were involved throughout. Restoration prioritised indigenous species that provide non-timber forest products, while woodlots supplied alternative fuelwood. Monitoring included joint field supervision and zoning compliance checks. 2. <i>Land use conflicts from forest management plans</i> Participatory zoning (conservation, agroforestry, agriculture) guided implementation. Continuous engagement with affected land users during supervision missions helped address boundary concerns and reduce conflict risks. 3. <i>Ongoing tree clearing for charcoal or agriculture</i> Mitigation included stronger CFMC oversight, involvement of forest wardens, and awareness campaigns on sustainable land management. Monitoring focused on restored sites and adherence to forest rules. 4. <i>Conversion of restored/protected forests to agriculture</i> Clear zoning distinctions between conservation and agriculture were established. Field monitoring emphasised boundary respect and early detection of encroachment. 5. <i>Non-compliance with transhumance corridors</i> Engagement with farmers and pastoralists supported corridor validation within land use plans. Monitoring included follow-up dialogue to reduce crop damage and conflict. PS2 – <i>Labour and working conditions</i> Codes of conduct aligned with national labour laws were applied to contractors and community workers. No major issues were identified during supervision. PS3 – <i>Resource efficiency and pollution prevention</i> Fire prevention measures and improved charcoal production techniques were promoted. Organic waste management was monitored during site visits. PS4 – <i>Community health, safety, and security</i> Inclusive consultations and awareness activities were conducted. Monitoring addressed compliance and safety concerns. PS6 – <i>Biodiversity conservation</i> Indigenous, non-invasive species were prioritised. Monitoring included plantation inspections and seedling survival assessments.
Outputs during the reporting period
<i>Environmental and Land Use Risks (Reduced access, land-use conflicts, forest conversion) Outputs:</i> • Operational Community Forest Management Committees (CFMCs supporting participatory monitoring and conflict prevention) • Applied land use zoning at site level (conservation, agroforestry, agriculture, transhumance) • Indigenous-species restoration plots established and maintained PS2 – <i>Labour and Working Conditions Outputs:</i> • Codes of conduct adopted and applied for contractors and community workers • Basic occupational safety measures implemented at worksites PS3 – <i>Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention Outputs:</i> • Fire prevention practices and sustainable charcoal production techniques disseminated • Monitoring of organic waste management during site visits PS4 – <i>Community Health, Safety, and Security Outputs:</i> • Community sensitisation campaigns conducted on fire risks, grazing management, and site protection • Improved awareness of safety and compliance obligations PS6 – <i>Biodiversity Conservation Outputs:</i> • Restoration implemented using indigenous, non invasive species • Regular biodiversity monitoring including plantation inspections and survival assessments Stakeholder Engagement and Grievance Management Outputs: • Communal Complaints Management Committees operational and accessible
Key environmental, social and gender issues, risks and impacts addressed during implementation
<i>Access to forest resources and land-use impacts</i> Potential risks related to access restrictions and land-use conflict were addressed through participatory planning and continuous dialogue. Monitoring did not indicate involuntary restrictions on access or unresolved disputes during the reporting period. Forest degradation and encroachment risks Risks related to charcoal pressure, agricultural expansion, and conversion of restored forests were addressed through combined enforcement, alternative livelihood support, and awareness activities. Monitoring contributed to early identification of pressures on restored sites. Farmer–herder relations and transhumance Transhumance-related conflicts were addressed through inclusive planning and continued engagement with pastoralists and farmers. No major escalation of conflict was recorded. Labour and community safety issues Labour-related and community safety risks identified in the SEAP were managed through codes of conduct, supervision, and sensitisation. No significant incidents were reported. Gender equity considerations Gender-related risks were addressed through the participation of women’s groups and cooperatives in restoration, agroforestry, and awareness activities, consistent with SEAP and Gender Action Plan commitments. Overall, no significant adverse environmental or social impacts materialised during the reporting period. Issues and risks addressed remained consistent with the project’s approved ESS risk profile and the mitigation framework set out in Annex 9.
Any pending key environmental, social and gender issues needing accredited entity's actions and GCF attention
<i>The safeguards consultant is in the final stages of recruitment. The safeguards consultant is in the final stages of recruitment. Since the environmental safeguard consultant is an individual, his recruitment was the responsibility of the DGEC. The recruitment process was therefore initiated by Director Prof. AINA, but he left the position without completing the recruitment; The second DGEC, Mr. IBILA, after taking the time to review the file, initiated the recruitment process, and the evaluation of bids was completed in December 2025; however, he retired in January. This new departure delayed the finalization of the process leading to the signing of the contract with the consultant.</i>
Remarks/Notes

F.4. Sub-projects information	
Have any subprojects been implemented?	Yes ☐ No ☒
N/A	N/A

F.5. Implementation of the stakeholder engagement plan	
Were any actions undertaken to increase engagement of relevant stakeholders in the project, particularly regarding environmental, social, and gender elements?	Yes ☒ No ☐
Activities implemented during the reporting period	
Throughout 2025, stakeholder engagement and awareness-raising activities focusing on agriculture and forestry were carried out in seven municipalities to support the implementation of the project on the ground. These activities were carried out by seven Field Technical Assistants (FTAs) throughout the twelve months of 2025 in each municipality, with assistance from members of the Municipal Monitoring Units (MMUs) and Local Forest Co-management Structures (LFCMS). The sessions were organised systematically on a monthly basis in accordance with the ATT terms of reference, raising awareness among cooperatives, farmers, and herders in the municipalities of Dassa-Zoumé, Banikoara, Tchaourou, Djougou, Ouaké, Boukombé, and Coby, as well as in communities adjacent to the Bakou and Bétérou, and in the Bétéroucou, Dérou Bou, Salangawa, Katenga, and Didani community forests. The FTAs receive technical support from municipal agriculture officials at the Territorial Agricultural Development Agency (ATDA) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (MAEP) and the General Directorate of Water, Forests and Hunting (DGEFC) of the Ministry of the Living Environment and Transport in Charge of Sustainable Development (MCVT), both of which are MMU members. Prior to the FTA meetings, the MMUs and the CFMCs participated in a capacity-building session conducted by ICRAF in March 2025, which enhanced their understanding of the topics to be addressed during the awareness-raising sessions. Representatives of livestock farmers, who are members of the CFMC management bodies, facilitate the mobilisation and awareness-raising of livestock farming communities on transhumance issues. With regard to activities relating to the forest permits, the seven Local Forest Co-management Structures received theoretical and practical training in March 2025 on community organisation, EBA, and the implementation and monitoring of management plans. This training enabled the seven SLCGFs to improve their capacity in community mobilization and sustainability, as well as their understanding of robust governance mechanisms for forest products.	
Dates and venues of engagement activities	
Outreach and awareness-raising activities were carried out continuously on a monthly and systematic basis in each of seven project target municipalities: January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November December 2025 in Dassa-Zoumé, Banikoara, Tchaourou, Djougou, Ouaké, Boukombé and Coby	
Sex-disaggregated data on stakeholder engagement participants (male + female = total)	
These agricultural awareness sessions brought together 6,037 participants, including 2,163 women (35.83%) from 143 villages. The breakdown by municipality is as follows: Djougou: 1,913 participants, including 559 women (29.22%) from 57 villages/hamlets Dassa-Zoumé: 1,312 participants, including 451 women (34.38%) from 33 villages/hamlets Tchaourou: 2,116 participants, including 911 women (43.05%) from 27 villages/hamlets Banikoara: 140 participants, including 31 women (22.14%), from 6 villages/hamlets Boukombé: 140 participants, including 31 women (22.14%), from 6 villages/hamlets Ouaké: 294 participants, including 126 women (42.86%) from 7 villages/hamlets	

Cobly: 122 participants, including 54 women (44.26%) from 7 villages/hamlets Thus, Cobly is the municipality with the highest percentage of female participants (44.26%) These forestry awareness sessions brought together 5,114 participants, including 2,000 women (39.11%) from 150 villages. The breakdown by municipality is as follows: Djougou: 1,247 participants, including 507 women (40.66%) from 38 villages/hamlets Dassa-Zoumé: 1,200 participants, including 497 women (41.42%) from 35 villages/hamlets Tchaourou: 1,729 participants, including 636 women (36.78%) from 33 villages/hamlets Banikoara: 55 participants, including 31 women (23.64%), from 14 villages/hamlets Boukombé: 279 participants, including 119 women (42.65%), from 7 villages/hamlets Ouaké: 473 participants, including 206 women (43.55%) from 17 villages/hamlets Cobly: 131 participants, including 22 women (16.76%) from 8 villages/hamlets Thus, Ouaké is the municipality with the highest percentage of female participants (43.55%) With regards to the forest permits, engagements took place in all 7 municipality, with 89 participants of which 30 women. (33.7%)	
Information shared with stakeholders	
The FTAs and CCS provided information on: Agroecology and biodiversity management • Climate-smart agriculture • Assisted natural regeneration (ANR) • Climate-resilient agriculture and EbA options • Agroecology • Environmental education for sustainable, responsible agriculture and sustainable environmental management • Awareness-raising on EbA and climate change • Agroforestry • Utilization of NTFPs • Nature-based enterprises • Environmental and social safeguards and gender mainstreaming • Planting of medicinal tree species • The importance of planting trees and the benefits of trees • Effective management of natural areas to reduce the frequency of forest fires	
Outputs including issues raised and addressed during the reporting period	
The main issues raised during the consultations focused on the maintenance of reforested areas, grazing pressures, fire risks, beekeeping, alternative sources of income, and the need for increased support for women's groups involved in restoration and agroforestry. Communities also expressed concerns regarding the protection of young seedlings and sustainable land-use practices.	
Remarks/Notes	
N/A	

F.6. ESS forward planning and lessons learned	
Are there any planned ESS activities for the next reporting period or lessons learned to share from this period?	Yes ☒ No ☐
Provide planned activities on environmental and social safeguards for the next reporting period	

1. SEAP Implementation and Monitoring (Cross cutting ESS Actions) During 2026, the project will continue implementation of the revised Social and Environmental Action Plan (SEAP), including routine supervision, monitoring, and reporting on ESS compliance across all seven forest management units. Ongoing implementation of the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), and Gender Action Plan (GAP) will be maintained as per the revised implementation schedule. 2. Natural Resource Management, Biodiversity, and Land Use Safeguards (PS1 / PS6) Planned safeguard actions include continued field monitoring of restored and enriched forest areas, with a focus on maintenance of reforested sites, replacement of dead seedlings, and early detection of encroachment or non compliance with zoning provisions in forest management plans. 3. Governance, Community Participation, and Benefit Sharing (PS4 / PS9) The project will continue providing technical and institutional support to Community Forest Management Committees (CFMCs) and Communal Management Units (CMUs). Planned activities include supervision of forest management plan implementation, monitoring of permit fee systems, and reporting on revenue distribution mechanisms throughout 2026. 4. Stakeholder Engagement, Grievance Redress, and Exit Strategy Preparation In line with the SEP and SEAP, stakeholder engagement activities will continue, with particular emphasis on sessions linked to the project exit strategy. These will include structured exchanges with cooperatives, local committees, farmers, pastoralists, and relevant state institutions to support sustainability of ESS measures beyond project closure.

Provide any success stories, good practices, or challenges, including those related to the engagement of Indigenous peoples and local communities, promoting Indigenous knowledge and benefits to Indigenous peoples and local communities

F.7. Grievance Redress Mechanism - confirmation & grievances

Please indicate whether the project can confirm the following statement:

Fully functional and operational Grievance Redress Mechanisms are in place, have been communicated to and are accessible by all stakeholders applicable to this project

☒ The accredited entity confirms the statement above at project-level, AE-level, and GCF-level grievance mechanisms.

☐ The accredited entity does not confirm the statement above

Have there been any grievances received during the reporting period?

Yes ☐ No ☒

n/a

F.8. Implementation of activities and actions agreed in the Gender Action Plan

In 2025, the project advanced key Gender Action Plan commitments through extensive field implementation across all seven communes. Women participated actively in reforestation, enrichment planting, seedling production, agroforestry activities, and maintenance of restored sites, directly contributing to climate-resilient land management. Women's groups and cooperatives took part in community sensitisation sessions, site-level follow-ups, and discussions on land-use practices, facilitated by community animators. These engagements supported GAP objectives to strengthen women's involvement in restoration decisions, sustainable harvesting, and protection of young plantations. Throughout 2025, local engagement structures remained active, enabling consistent participation of women in meetings that addressed grazing pressures, fire-risk prevention, and coordination around restoration responsibilities. Overall, implementation during 2025

strengthened women's roles in restoration work, agroforestry production, and local governance linked to natural-resource management.

Are there GAP implementation activities or progress to report for this period?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Summary on Activities and Actions agreed in the Gender Action Plan (max. 200 words)

Provide a progress report on the gender action plan developed during project preparation stage for the reporting period. This will primarily be a report on activities undertaken and results achieved because of completion of an activity. Further, it should also indicate if the project is on track to achieving the intended outcome(s). The reporting should be done for activities, targets and indicators already set in the action plan including on vulnerable groups (youth, poor, female heads of households, etc.) as would have been identified in the gender analysis and action plan. If activities or targets are not achieved as per plan, reasons should be provided, and recourse action should be proposed. Please include reporting on any changes or deviations. Include a Report on implementation challenges and lessons learnt and how these will inform on-going actions and what action will be taken by when to address the challenges faced. Incorporate both quantitative data and qualitative reports on the performance of such actions, and on progress on actions identified.

GAP Activity

- Under Output 1.1, (Develop or strengthen forest management plan and establish a permit sale system)
- Revise forest management plans to lay out clear gender components, with training provided to local wardens on the importance of implementing the same
 - Sensitize participants and stakeholders (both women and men) on the difference between nominal (just attendance) and empowering (interactive, where voices are heard) participation
 - If possible, train existing female wardens to ensure representation in positions of power. If cost-effective and can be done substantially, train new female wardens

Indicator

- Key Informant Interviews with local wardens on gender sensitivity; with female wardens to gauge their position vis-à-vis male wardens
- Number of male and female participants, disaggregated by household (HH)
- Number of men and women trained to hold decision-making positions within forest governance bodies, disaggregated by HH; Number of male and female participants trained, disaggregated by household (HH)

Rating of Indicator

GREEN (on track to be met)

Baseline

0

Target, including sex-disaggregation where applicable

1

Annual progress update (Reporting Period)

- Review of the 7 management plans with the integration of gender considerations
- Raising awareness among communities (elders, heads of households) regarding women's participation in forest management activities; organizing general assemblies leading to the integration of 20 new women into local co-management structures to hold decision-making positions within forest governance bodies, with a view to the sustainable and equitable management of natural resources derived from forests; this results in a 34 % representation of women on community forest management committees holding decision-making positions within forest governance bodies are trained to better ensure their representation in positions of power.

Cumulative progress update (Entire period)

- Land-use plans now incorporate gender considerations into the management of different zoning areas
- 30 women out of 89 people have been integrated into local co-management structures to hold decision-making positions within forest governance bodies, with a view to ensuring the sustainable and equitable management of forest natural resources
- 34% of women in the Local Forest Co-management Structures holding decision-making positions within forest governance bodies are being trained to better ensure their representation in positions of power

Forest management is traditionally seen as a man's job in Benin, but through various awareness-raising initiatives

aimed at involving women in this work, PABE has succeeded in increasing the proportion of women from 15% to 34% of the total workforce. Achieving 50% women remains difficult to achieve due to cultural norms, where forest management is considered the domain of men.

The contracts signed with reforestation service providers require them to take gender into account in their activities; as a result, during reforestation activities, the tasks in which women are most heavily involved are loading and planting seedlings at reforestation sites, with women accounting for 39% of those involved in SLCGF operations (5,114 people, including 2,000 women)

Budget	195,225
Currency	USD
Timeline (Planned completion of activity)	31 August 2026

Responsibility

Project Coordinator

Remarks/Notes

The baseline is: No gender issues addressed in forest management

The target is: Community-based and gender-informed forest management and land use plans

Note: The baseline and target figures are not numerical values. The numbers 0 and 1 populated to fulfill the system requirement. This applies for all the GAP activities for this project. Please use the remarks section to identify baseline and target.

GAP Activity

- Under Output 1.2 (7 Community Forest Management Committees (CFMCs) established to support Forest Wardens)
- Involve a minimum 30% - ideal of 50% of women in the CFMCs
 - Provision 'women's sessions' and 'gender sessions' into the modus operandi of the committee: while the women's sessions will cater only to the community women, the gender sessions should not be limited to 'just women', but should invite both men (particularly young men) and women to the table; additionally, these sessions should be a space where stakeholders can share success stories and address gender-specific grievances faced (50-50)

Indicator

- Number of men and women in CFMCs
- Meeting minutes for both "women's sessions" and "gender sessions"
- Number of men and women trained to hold "gender sessions"
- Randomised interviews with different members of CFMCs to gauge whether they see any positive efforts of the "gender sessions"

Rating of Indicator	GREEN (on track to be met)
Baseline	0
Target, including sex-disaggregation where applicable	1

Annual progress update (Reporting Period)

- 20 new women have been appointed to leadership roles in the Local Forest Co-Management Structures
- Random interviews with various CFMC members to determine whether they perceive positive efforts in the context of the "gender equality sessions." (14 men and 7 women)
- In reforestation operations carried out by the Local Forest Co-Management Structures, 39% of participants are women, totaling 5,114 people, including 2,000 women.

Cumulative progress update (Entire period)

Between 2020 and 2024, women accounted for 15% of Local Forest Co-Management Structures members; this figure rose to 34% by the end of December 2025 thanks to gender awareness sessions held separately for both groups (men and women).

Key takeaways from the various sessions with women and men include:

- During activities involving the loading and planting of seedlings at reforestation sites, women discuss their involvement in forest management
- Communities recognise that the inclusion of women in agricultural and forestry projects contributes to better resource management and sustainability.
- Awareness-raising activities carried out by PABE and its partners (CIFOR-ICRAF, ATT, service providers) have helped to reduce certain prejudices regarding women's role in community decision-making.
- Despite training, some rural communities, notably the Fulani, remain attached to traditional models where women are confined to domestic roles.
- Rural women report that gender equality remains theoretical unless they have practical access to land, credit and agricultural inputs.
- In some cases, the cooperative structures established do not yet guarantee women an equal voice in governance, which limits the impact of the activities.

Budget	0
Currency	USD
Timeline (Planned completion of activity)	31 August 2026
Responsibility	
Project Coordinator	
Remarks/Notes	
baseline is: Women participation in decision making process currently weak or nonexistent Target is: - Gender balanced CFMCs,	

GAP Activity	
Under Output 1.3 (3600 hectares of tree species restored using select species to combat climate change) - Conduct a mapping exercise to chart how the different genders use the forests, and for what purposes – the exercise should also chart the expenditure patterns from forest-based incomes -Conduct a risk-assessment exercise to determine whether project activities will hamper any gender's forest access or traditional product. -Ensure equal access to communal woodlots – particularly for women, who are primarily in charge of household fuel collection - Create a 'checks and balance' system to avoid over exploitation or resource strife in later stages -Improve financial literacy and market access for women, by building on existing women's networks / establishing new networks to improve upon quality, consistency and quantity for international companies (particularly cosmetic) interested in products such as shea.	
Indicator	
- Entry and exit mapping interview to analyse change/improvement in agroforestry practices - Within the previous, to understand change in time poverty - NTFP collection and commercialization	
Rating of Indicator	GREEN (on track to be met)
Baseline	0
Target, including sex-disaggregation where applicable	1

Annual progress update (Reporting Period)

With regard to the baseline and end-line mapping to analyse changes in the improvement of agroforestry practices during 2025, field data collection was carried out.

The risk assessment exercise was carried out with 117 local stakeholders, including 34 women (Field Technical Assistants (FTAs), Communal Monitoring Units (CMUs) and Local Forest Co-management Structures (LFCMS)) in:

- February (cashew nut harvesting period),
- May (vegetable harvesting period)
- September (firewood harvesting period)

According to the risk assessment survey, it appears that PABE's actions, in synergy with the Benin Classified Forest Project (PFCB), have strengthened the communities' capacity and understanding of sustainable forest management. Consequently, the harvesting of vegetables, cashew nuts and wood is still carried out by the communities but in compliance with environmental standards.

- Monthly awareness-raising sessions for LFCMS and the community on the sustainable management of plantations and orchards

- 12 standard documents were drawn up for women in cooperatives by the National Agency for Standardisation, Metrology and Quality Control (ANM) on néré, shea, cashew, soya and sorghum.

Cumulative progress update (Entire period)

From 2020 to 2024, the cooperatives received various forms of support in the form of production equipment and materials, as well as training on community life, the use and maintenance of training materials, processing, packaging, clustering and the marketing of néré, shea and mahogany products.

The risk assessment exercise was carried out with 117 local stakeholders, including 34 women. Monthly awareness-raising sessions were held on the sustainable management of plantations and orchards. 12 standards documents were drawn up for women in the cooperatives by the Agency for Standardisation and Metrology (ANM) on néré, shea, cashew, soya and sorghum.

Budget	75,000
Currency	USD
Timeline (Planned completion of activity)	31 May 2026

Responsibility

Project Coordinator

Remarks/Notes

baseline is: Women participation in decision making process currently weak or nonexistent

Target is: - Restoration output maps the difference use of forests by different social groups and gender.

- Gender-mainstreamed content in land-use plans and communal frameworks, reflecting the needs and priorities of both men and women.

GAP Activity

Under Output 2.1 (Automatic weather stations near project sites)

- Provide gender-responsive training to understand and respond to forecasts
- Provide gender-responsive training on EbA, using action points from Activity 2.1.1 to understand the different cropping techniques, agricultural practices and time use among different genders
- Project activities should not burden time poverty or attempt to drastically change time-use pattern

Indicator

- Key Informant Interviews with men and women on meteorological knowledge and information access - Number of male and female participants trained, disaggregated by household (HH)	
Rating of Indicator	GREEN (on track to be met)
Baseline	0
Target, including sex-disaggregation where applicable	1
Annual progress update (Reporting Period)	
- The official handover ceremony for the 'AGROMETEO+' agrometeorological information system at the METEO BENIN headquarters in Cotonou was held on 10 September 2025. This platform is designed to disseminate agrometeorological forecasts and send messages directly to the mobile numbers of beneficiaries, namely agricultural producers - 16 METEO BENIN technicians, including 5 women, were trained by 1 October 2025 in Cotonou - The training of METEO staff focused on the use of the Early Warning System platform for the dissemination of agrometeorological information - 1,224 written/voice alert messages sent on 30 October 2025 to farmers and forestry stakeholders in the seven municipalities covered by the PABE programme via the platform, detailing the measures to be taken and actions to be carried out once the rainy season ends - 6,024 people, including 2,079 women, have been trained in EbA, climate change, agroecology management, climate-smart agriculture and the use of weather alerts to draw up agricultural calendars (planning of agricultural activities) across all project sites	
Cumulative progress update (Entire period)	
From 2020 to the end of December 2025, 27,686 people, including 11,419 women, were trained in EbA, climate change, agroecology management, climate-smart agriculture and the use of weather alerts for drawing up the agricultural calendar (planning of agricultural activities) across all project sites, compared to the expected 11,000 women out of 22,000 beneficiaries. - The rollout in October 2025 of the first wave of messages via the AGROMETEO platform to raise awareness among communities in the municipalities of Dassa-Zoumé, Banikoara, Tchaourou, Djougou, Ouaké, Boukombé and Coby on the need to clear firebreaks to protect agricultural landscapes and forest ecosystems against wildfires and reached 505 women and 719 men. This represents a participation rate of 41% for women, compared to the aim of 50%. This is likely due to the fact that fewer women have access to means of communication than men.	
Budget	0
Currency	USD
Timeline (Planned completion of activity)	31 October 2026
Responsibility	
Project Coordinator	
Remarks/Notes	
baseline is actually: Forecasts and agricultural advisories not sufficiently gender-responsive Target is: Weather reports and updates are transmitted through accessible medium and languages – especially targeting women	

GAP Activity	
Under output 2.5 (Cooperatives located on project sites trained on basic business and financial management) -Involve a 50% of women in the cooperatives - Provision gender-responsive financial literacy and management training: for example, how women can profit from popular cosmetic industry NTFPs such as shea.	
Indicator	
• Key informant interviews with men and women on EbA techniques, preferred agricultural practices before and after training. • Number of male and female participants trained, disaggregated by household (HH).	
Rating of Indicator	GREEN (on track to be met)
Baseline	0
Target, including sex-disaggregation where applicable	1
Annual progress update (Reporting Period)	
In 2025, cooperatives composed of 74% women were strengthened by Field Technical Assistants through capacity-building on gender-responsive business management, with a particular focus on cooperative governance and associative life within the cooperatives.	
Cumulative progress update (Entire period)	
From 2022 to 2025, cooperatives comprising 74% women received equipment support to strengthen their enterprises, as well as training in gender-responsive business management. The training focused particularly on cooperative governance and associative life within the cooperatives, as well as on the use and maintenance of processing equipment. Support covered processing, packaging, labelling, clustering and market access for products derived from néré (African locust bean), shea and cashew.	
Budget	0
Currency	USD
Timeline (Planned completion of activity)	31 May 2026
Responsibility	
Project Coordinator	
Remarks/Notes	
Baseline is: zero women aware of EbA across project sites. Target is: ~ 11,000 women trained on EbA across project sites. Women and men equally receive access to climate-resilient agricultural techniques and training. Women are incentivized to increase uptake of post-harvest storage solutions, as they are statistically less likely to adopt these methods.	
GAP Activity	
Under output 3.1 (Lessons learnt from EbA and other interventions in Benin) -Compile experiences of gender mainstreaming during the project cycle, within larger report	

- Gender experiences should feature in the guidelines/ revision to existing environment-related legislature done for the Beninese government	
Indicator	
Overall project design phase, implementation monitoring process will inform this	
Rating of Indicator	GREEN (on track to be met)
Baseline	0
Target, including sex-disaggregation where applicable	1
Annual progress update (Reporting Period)	
A working session was held with the Directorate General of Environment, Forests and Climate (DGEFC) to support the integration of Ecosystem-Based Adaptation (EbA) into forestry law. The session aimed to obtain guidance on organising the forestry law revision workshop with a strong focus on gender considerations. A working session was held with the Director of Agricultural Advisory, Innovation and Entrepreneurial Training (DCAIFE) to support the integration of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) into agricultural policy. The objective was to receive guidance on organising the agricultural policy revision workshop and ensuring adequate gender mainstreaming. Dissemination of the summary document on integrating Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) into development plans, policies and strategies.	
Cumulative progress update (Entire period)	
In addition to the work carried out in 2025, it should be noted that the document on integrating EbA into development plans, policies and strategies was drafted in 2023. It was first disseminated during awareness-raising sessions on EbA and climate change in Cotonou and the surrounding municipalities of Banikoara, Tchaourou, Ouaké, Boukombé and Dassa-Zoumè in 2024.	
Budget	0
Currency	USD
Timeline (Planned completion of activity)	31 August 2026
Responsibility	
Project Coordinator	
Remarks/Notes	
Baseline is: Gender dimensions of adaptation not sufficiently integrated in policies and regulations. Target is:- Knowledge products and stories published about the project include gender success stories, mainstreaming case studies, etc. - Women and men are informed about the process of gender mainstreaming and the importance of the inclusion and reflection of both priorities and needs to combat climate change.	
F.9. Gender Action Plan implementation review	
Is the gender expert for the project/programme engaged to support the implementation of the gender action plan? If engaged previously, please advise if the gender expert has been retained by the project/programme, including plans to engage another expert if a previously engaged expert has left the project/programme.	Yes ☒ No ☐

<i>The Project Coordinator is the custodian of the Gender action plan (GAP). Prior to being recruited as the Project Coordinator in September 2023, she was the project's environmental and social safeguards and gender project specialist since the start of the project in 2020.</i>	
Has the implementation of gender action plan/s being implemented according to Funding Activity Agreements and GCF's Updated Gender Policy? Please ensure that the budget is included in the reporting above if it was indicated in the approved or updated gender action plan.	Yes ☒ No ☐
<i>During the 2025 reporting period, gender considerations were systematically integrated into project governance, implementation, beneficiary engagement, and monitoring. The project maintained designated gender focal point functions and applied gender-responsive approaches to decision-making, stakeholder consultations, and benefit delivery. Women's participation, including that of women-headed households and other vulnerable groups, was actively promoted and monitored in line with GAP targets. Capacity-building activities on gender equality and social inclusion were delivered to project staff, implementing partners, and community stakeholders. Gender-disaggregated data collection was undertaken for relevant indicators, and progress against gender-specific outputs and outcomes was tracked as part of routine project monitoring and reporting. Following the GAP update, a significant number of Additional Gender Actions were identified during implementation. Given the volume of these actions, as well as time and resource constraints within the current project cycle, it is anticipated that not all additional activities will be fully implemented within the remaining implementation period. Prioritisation measures have therefore been applied to focus on completing all the original GAP activities first.</i>	
Are the planned activities, targets, indicators, timelines, etc. on track during the reporting period?	Yes ☒ No ☐
<i>Overall, the planned activities are proceeding in line with the schedule and the targets set in accordance with the indicators. In forest management, 30 women and 59 men in local forest co-management structures (SLCGFs) have been trained by ICRAF to hold decision-making positions within forest governance bodies, representing 34% of women out of the expected 30% in SLCGFs holding decision-making positions within forest governance bodies who have been trained. With regard to the agricultural component, by 2025, 6,037 people, including 2,163 women, will have been trained in EbA, climate change, agroecology management, climate-smart agriculture and the use of weather alerts for the development of the agricultural calendar (planning of agricultural activities) across all project sites.</i>	
Were there any revisions of the approved GAP during the reporting period? Please submit the updated GAP in Annex section of this APR and ensure that the updated GAP has details on each change.	Yes ☐ No ☒
<i>no updates/revisions since the last revised version</i>	
Are the reported results on track to contribute to meeting the sex-disaggregated targets for the direct beneficiaries in the funding proposal, if applicable?	Yes ☒ No ☐
<i>Overall, the planned activities are proceeding in line with the schedule and the objectives set in accordance with the performance indicators. Regarding the agricultural component, 27,686 people, including 11,419 women out of the expected 11,000, are being trained in EbA, climate change, agroecological management, climate-smart agriculture, and using weather alerts to plan agricultural activities across all project sites. In forest management, 30 women and 59 men within the local forest co-management structures (SLCGF) have been trained by ICRAF to hold decision-making positions within forest governance bodies. This represents 34% of the expected 30% of women to hold such positions within the SLCGF.</i>	
Has the project/programme experienced any implementation challenges that affect gender-related activities? If yes, please include lessons learnt and how they are informing ongoing actions.	Yes ☒ No ☐

The targets for women's participation in forest management and agriculture were difficult to achieve due to the sociocultural context of the communities targeted by the project. Forest management is not generally considered a women's issue in Benin, although women do collect non-timber forest products. Women often don't inherit land from their parents as they are expected to leave home and join their husbands. They therefore do not have enough land to farm on an equal footing with men, which makes it difficult to reach the 50% target outlined in the project document. Lessons learnt: When designing projects that include gender targets, social and cultural norms should be given strong consideration. If gender-related indicators/targets are ambitious, significant resources/means should be allocated for awareness-raising activities to achieve the set targets. Allocating a higher, clearer budget for the GAP and updating the GAP at an earlier stage, would have been beneficial.

Were there any best practices identified, or case studies prepared on benefits/activities undertaken as agents of action by women and the female heads of households during the reporting period? Please share any case studies in the text boxes or in the Annex section of the APR.

Yes ☒ No ☐

In the agricultural sector, female heads of households who have received ploughs form partnerships with those who have not received them, but who own oxen. This enables them to use the oxen to work their fields, after which the ploughs are returned to their owners for the same purpose, thereby making agricultural work more efficient. At the cooperative level, less experienced cooperatives have approached more experienced ones to learn the basics of processing and improve their products.

Provide planned activities on gender elements for the next reporting period

Capacity building for seven local forest co-management structures, the CCS and the ATT for the sustainable management of 70 hectares of plantations (charcoal and firewood harvesting techniques for the energy supply of populations in seven PABE communes), with a view to ensuring equal access to community woodlands, particularly for women. Training was scheduled for 2025, but has been postponed to the first quarter of 2026. Analysis of input and output mapping data on forest management, including how different genders use forests and their purposes, as well as expenditure patterns based on forest revenues. As part of efforts to improve financial literacy and market access for women, the assessment of capacity-building needs for women in cooperatives, training modules, a buyer directory, and the development of 15 commercial agreements have been postponed until 2026. Furthermore, the project aims to implement the following additional gender actions, where feasible: No. 2, 3, 6, 7, 12, 17, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 35.

G. ANNEXES (UPLOADED)
Annex 1: GHG emission reduction calculation methodology (for projects reporting GHG emission reductions) and details on the calculations of the annual and cumulative value.
No annexes provided.
Annex 2: Communication and visibility material
No annexes provided.
Annex 3: List of grievances received
No annexes provided.
Annex 4: Procurement information
No annexes provided.
Annex 5: Updated implementation timetable for the Funded Activity for the following year
No annexes provided.
Annex 6: Updated Gender Assessment and/or Action Plan
No annexes provided.
Additional Annexes (if applicable)
File Name: Annex Correct Objective PSI-SAP005. Project Specific Indicators.pdf File Name: annex Updated Gender Assessment and Gender Action Plan.pdf

