

Validated Terminal Review of the UNEP/GEF Project
“Effective Implementation of the Access and Benefit
Sharing and Traditional Knowledge Regime in Peru in
accordance with the Nagoya Protocol” (GEF ID 8025)
(2017-2025)



PERÚ

Ministerio
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ECOSYSTEMS DIVISION

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This report has been prepared by an external consultant as part of a Terminal Review, which is a management-led process to assess performance at the project's operational completion. The UNEP Evaluation Office provides templates and tools to support the review process and provides a formal assessment of the quality of the Review report, which is provided within this report's annexed material. In addition, the Evaluation Office formally validates the report by ensuring that the performance judgments made are consistent with evidence presented in the Review report and in-line with the performance standards set out for independent evaluations. As such the project performance ratings presented in the Review report may be adjusted by the Evaluation Office. The findings and conclusions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of Member States or the UN Environment Programme Senior Management.

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"Effective Implementation of the Access and Benefit Sharing and Traditional Knowledge Regime in Peru in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol" GEFID 8025

11/25

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The reviewer would like to express their gratitude to all persons met and who contributed to this review, as listed in Annex II.

The reviewer would like to thank the former project team and in particular Ms. Karina Ramírez for their contribution and collaboration throughout the review process. Sincere appreciation is also expressed to Vanessa Aliada Ingar Elliott from MINAM, Omar Corilloclla from PROFONANPE, Robert Erath and Gloritzel Frangakis Cano and Solomon Kinuthia from UNEP who took time to provide comments to the draft report. The evaluator would also like to thank the representatives from MINAM, INIA, SERFOR, SERNANP, PRODUCE, INDECOPI and CNBio and all the experts consulted who were no longer involved in the project but agreed to participate to the review process with a very positive and constructive attitude.

The review consultant hopes that the findings, conclusions and recommendations will contribute to the formulation of a next phase and to the continuous improvement of similar projects in other countries and regions.

BRIEF EXTERNAL CONSULTANT(S) BIOGRAPHY

Carolina Turano is an evaluation consultant specialised in environmental, climate, biodiversity, food security and development programmes. She has experience designing, managing and conducting mid-term, final and real-time evaluations for UN agencies, the GEF, the GCF, the EU and bilateral partners. Her work focuses on qualitative and mixed-methods analysis, evidence synthesis, stakeholder engagement and assessment of governance, biodiversity and climate-related interventions mainly in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as in other regions.

Terminal Review Consultant

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ABOUT THE REVIEW

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Brief Description: This report is a Terminal Review of the UNEP project: “Effective Implementation of the Access and Benefit Sharing and Traditional Knowledge Regime in Peru in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol”, implemented between 2017 and 2025. The project's overall goal was to Strengthen national capacities for effective implementation of Peru's Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS) and traditional knowledge regimes in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol. The review sought to assess project performance (in terms of relevance, effectiveness and efficiency) and determine the sustainability of its results. The review has two primary purposes: accountability and learning. Data collection methods included: field observations, in-depth interviews, Focus Group Discussions and document reviews. Data analysis was based on applying triangulated data to assess performance against a reconstructed Theory of Change and its causal pathways. With an overall performance rating of Satisfactory, the 5th point on a six-point scale, the main findings include: i) Strong performance, ii) Achievement or overachievement of all planned outcomes, iii) Strong country ownership and iv) Room for improvement in institutional sustainability and efficiency. The main recommendations to MINAM are: 1. Institutionalise the ABS Mechanism, 2. Institutionalise knowledge products and strengthen continuous and strategic dissemination of the ABS system and 3. Develop a National ABS Roadmap.

Source(s) of Funding by Country: Peru

Source(s) of Funding by Institution Type:

Foundation/NGO	No
Private Sector	No
UN Body	No
Multilateral Fund	Yes
Environment Fund	Yes

Key words: *[A standard list of terms is being compiled by UNEP and will replace this ‘free word’ space.]*

Primary data collection period: 6 – 23 October 2025

Field mission dates: 6 - 10 October 2025

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ABS	Access and Benefit Sharing
ABS-CHM	ABS Clearing House Mechanism
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CENSI	National Centre for Intercultural Health
CNBio	National Commission Against Biopiracy
CONCYTEC	National Council for Science, Technology and Technological Innovation
EOU	Evaluation Office of UNEP
IIAP	Amazonian Research Institute
INDECOPI	National Institute for the Defense of Competition and Protection of Intellectual Property
INIA	National Institute for Agricultural Innovation
IRCCs	Internationally Recognised Certificates of Compliance
MAT	Mutually Agreed Terms
MINAM	Ministry of Environment
MTR	Mid Term Review
PCA	Project Cooperation Agreement
PIC	Prior Informed Consent
PIR	Project Implementation Report
PoW	Programme of Work
ProDoc	Project Document
PRODUCE	Ministry of Production
PROFONANPE	Peruvian Trust Fund for National Parks and Protected Areas
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SERNANP	National Service of Natural Protected Areas
SERFOR	Forestry and Wildlife National Service
TOC	Theory of Change
ToR	Terms of Reference
TK	Traditional Knowledge
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
SUNEDU	Superintendencia Nacional de Educación Superior Universitaria

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION TABLE

Table 1: Project Identification Table

GEF Project ID/SMA ID:	GEF ID: 8025 / SMA ID: 34930		
Type of GEF Project:	Child: No	Global Coordinating Project:	No
	If yes, provide GEF Programme ID: N/A	Medium-Size Project or Full-Size Project:	FSP
UNEP Management (Division/Branch/Unit):	Ecosystems Division / GEF Biodiversity and Land Degradation Unit / Biodiversity and Land Branch	Executing Agency: <i>(indicate if internally executed)</i> :	Promotion Fund of Protected Natural Areas of Peru (PROFONANPE)
Sources of Funding (Co-finance):	Country (ies): Peru	<i>Institution Name/Type:</i> Ministry of the Environment of Peru (MINAM) – Government; PROFONANPE – National environmental trust fund (In-kind)	
Relevant SDG(s):	SDG 2 (Zero Hunger); SDG 14 (Life Below Water); SDG 15 (Life on Land); SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)		
MTS (at approval):	2018–2021 Medium-Term Strategy		
POW Direct Outcome(s) number/reference <i>(applicable for projects approved from 2022):</i> OR POW Output(s) number/reference <i>(applicable for projects approved pre-2022)</i>	<i>POW Direct Outcome:</i> N/A	MTS 2025 Outcome(s) number/reference	<i>MTS 2025 Outcome:</i> N/A
	<i>POW Output:</i> N/A	<i>(applicable for projects approved from 2022):</i> OR POW Expected Accomplishment(s) number/reference <i>(applicable for projects approved pre-2022):</i>	<i>POW Expected Accomplishment (POW 2016-2017):</i> Subprogramme 3. Ecosystem Management. 3.c – Services and benefits derived from ecosystems are integrated with development planning and accounting and the implementation of biodiversity-related and ecosystem-related multilateral environmental agreements. Subprogramme 4. Environmental Governance. 4.a - The United Nations system and multilateral environmental agreement bodies, respecting the mandate of each entity, demonstrate increasing coherence and synergy of actions on environmental issues. 4.b – The capacity of countries to develop and enforce laws and strengthen institutions to achieve internationally

			agreed environmental objectives and goals and comply with related obligations is enhanced.
Sub-programme:	Nature Action	Programme Coordination Project (if relevant):	N/A
UNEP approval date:	17 October 2017	GEF approval date:	9 June 2017
GEF Operational Programme/Cycle # (e.g. GEF-7):	GEF-6	GEF Strategic Priority (e.g. BD4):	BD3 – Sustainably Use Biodiversity (Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing, Program 8)
Focal Area(s):	Biodiversity		
Expected start date:	9 June 2017	Actual start date:	16 February 2018
Planned completion date:	31 December 2024	Actual operational completion date:	31 December 2024
Planned project budget at approval:	GEF grant allocation: USD 2,190,000		
	Expected co-financing: Cash: N/A In-kind: USD 8,921,778.23		
	Total planned budget: USD 11,111,778.23		
Actual expenditures reported (cash only):	GEF grant expenditures reported as of 31 December 2024: USD 2,159,343.55		
	Actual co-financing 31 December 2024: USD 7,268,072 (in-kind)		
	Total actual expenditures reported as of 31 December 2024: USD 9,427,415.55		
No. of formal project revisions:	None	Date of last approved project revision:	N/A
No. of Steering Committee meetings:	19	Date of Last Steering Committee meeting:	27 April 2023
Mid-term Review/ Evaluation (<i>required or not required</i>):	UNEP requirement:	Y	Mid-term Review/ Evaluation actual date: 30 August 2021
	GEF requirement:	Y	
Terminal Review (<i>planned date</i>):	30 June 2025	Terminal Review actual date:	N/A
Coverage - Country(ies):	Peru	Coverage - Region(s):	South America
Dates of previous project phases:	N/A	Status of future project phases:	N/A

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Project background

1. The project was implemented in Peru with USD 2,190,000 funding from GEF and USD 8,921,778 in co-finance from national institutions and partners. It was implemented between February 2018 (actual start date) and 30 June 2025 (final closure date). The rationale for the project was to address the limited effectiveness of Peru's existing Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS) and traditional knowledge frameworks, which were fragmented and weakly implemented, combined with scarce knowledge of ABS procedures, and limited practical experience in applying ABS mechanisms. The project's objective was to: Strengthen national capacities for effective implementation of Peru's Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS) and traditional knowledge regimes in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol. The project was managed by the Ministry of Environment (MINAM) and the Peruvian Trust Fund for National Parks Protected Areas (PROFONANPE) as Co-executing Agencies, with UNEP as the GEF Implementing Agency.

This review

2. The review sought to assess project performance (in terms of relevance, effectiveness and efficiency) and determine the sustainability of its results. It assesses performance against nine review criteria and assigns a score from a six-point scale, ranging from Highly Satisfactory (HS) to Highly Unsatisfactory (HU). The review has two primary purposes: accountability and learning. Data collection methods included: field observations, semi-structured key informant interviews (KII), Focus Group Discussions (FGD), and document reviews. Data analysis was based on applying triangulated data to assess performance against a reconstructed Theory of Change and its causal pathways. The main target audiences for the review findings include UNEP, MINAM, PROFONANPE, the Competent National Authorities, other relevant national institutions, the private sector, as well as communities and beneficiaries involved in project's activities.

Key findings and performance ratings

3. The project has demonstrated strong performance (Satisfactory or Highly Satisfactory) in the areas of Strategic Relevance (HS), Effectiveness (S), Financial Management (S), Monitoring and Reporting (S), Stakeholders Participation and Cooperation (S), and Communication and Public Awareness (HS). The project successfully achieved or overachieved all planned outcomes, demonstrating strong country ownership. A major achievement was the support provided for updating the national ABS regulation through Supreme Decree No. 019-2021-MINAM, which provided the necessary regulatory clarity to streamline national processes. This regulatory strengthening, combined with the establishment of the National ABS Mechanism in 2020, led to a tangible reduction in bureaucratic delays. The average time needed to issue non-commercial access contracts was reduced from approximately 470 working days before the project to 60 working days by closure. Additionally, the project's efforts resulted in the issuance of 52 Internationally Recognised Certificates of Compliance during its lifespan. Finally, the project was also effective in incorporating human rights and gender dimensions, notably through the co-creation of the Intercultural Training Programme, where women constituted 59% of participants, and materials were translated into four indigenous languages.
4. Areas that would have benefited from further attention are Institutional Sustainability and Efficiency. The key challenge identified is the lack of formal institutional anchoring of key mechanisms established by the project. Specifically, the highly effective National ABS Mechanism was not formalised within MINAM, leading to inter-institutional dialogue to slow down after project closure and making the system vulnerable to personnel turnover.

Similarly, the web platform GENES Peru, which canalises all relevant ABS information has not been updated in months; and the Intercultural Training Programme remains unanchored because it is awaiting formal validation from the Ministry of Culture, preventing its wide implementation. Additionally, the final phase of implementation suffered from administrative delays in processing the final unspent budget balance, which led to months of limited execution and the loss of the core project coordination team, undermining efficiency and institutional memory.

Table 2: Summary of project ratings

Criterion	Rating
Strategic Relevance	HS
Quality of Project Design	S
Nature of External Context	F
Effectiveness	S
Financial Management	S
Efficiency	MS
Monitoring and Reporting	S
Sustainability	L
Factors Affecting Performance	S
Overall Project Performance Rating	S

Summary responses to key strategic review questions

5. The project assessed learning and knowledge of ABS by identifying initial knowledge gaps and applying a combination of online training with performance thresholds, stakeholder-specific questionnaires, and dialogue-based, intercultural methods for community contexts.
6. The project effectively engaged institutions in the National ABS Mechanism by establishing this mechanism in 2020, integrating all Competent National Authorities. The placement of technical personnel within each Competent National Authorities greatly contributed to institutional ownership. It is key to have MINAM's leading role in institutionalising the mechanism to ensure continuity over time.
7. The project engaged the private sector to foster sustainability primarily through participation in the Project Steering Committee, technical support for specific cases, and general awareness-raising activities. The private sector was supported through legal guidance on ABS contracts and received assistance to streamline negotiation processes.
8. The project fostered the capacities of indigenous communities and women organisations primarily through the co-creation and piloting of the Intercultural Training Programme. The training development involved consultations and piloting with organisations and communities, culturally appropriate materials. Capacity building integrated gender and intergenerational criteria.

Conclusions summary

9. Overall, the project performed at the Satisfactory level. As mentioned earlier in the findings section of this Executive Summary, the main achievements of the project were the successful update of the national ABS regulatory framework leading to operational efficiency gains, evidenced by the reduction of access contract processing times. These achievements were brought about largely by the project's strategy of combining regulatory updates with direct technical support to Competent National Authorities and establishing the National ABS Mechanism to unify criteria and coordinate action effectively. The project demonstrated an innovative and culturally adapted approach through the development of the participatory, gender-sensitive, and intergenerational capacity

development and awareness activities, and the translation of guides into indigenous languages, ensuring strong engagement with Indigenous Peoples and women's organisations. The main features that support the sustainability of the benefits brought by the project are Peru's commitment towards the Nagoya Protocol, which ensures a baseline allocation of resources, and the fact that most products and activities required to ensure sustainability require low financial resources to maintain. The Likelihood of Impact is assessed as Likely, but it remains contingent upon MINAM committing to formalise and resource the coordination structures and knowledge products initiated during the project's life.

Lessons learned

10. Lesson 1: Establishing clear, written approval processes within regulatory frameworks is essential to reduce discretionary decision-making and ensure operational continuity, particularly in contexts of high government turnover.
11. Lesson 2: A clear division of approval routes and responsibilities between the co-executing agencies improves efficiency and accelerates implementation.
12. Lesson 3: Early incorporation of a communications specialist is crucial for effective outreach strategies and for ensuring institutional validation of communication products.
13. Lesson 4: Intergenerational approaches and parallel spaces for children are good practices that facilitate women's participation while supporting early awareness-raising.
14. Lesson 5: Implementing agencies should anticipate and expedite administrative processes for project extensions and the use of remaining funds, as delays can halt implementation, lead to the loss of technical staff, and undermine institutional memory.
15. Lesson 6: Investments in strengthening partner institutions' capacities contribute to a lasting pool of specialised human capital in the country.
16. Lesson 7: Maintaining continuity between personnel involved in project design in implementation teams provides a significant advantage, as it preserves institutional memory, ensures accurate interpretation of the project logic, and contributes to adaptive management.
17. Lesson 8: Adaptive, context-sensitive practices can achieve gender and human rights responsive results even in the absence of formal strategies, while embedding such strategies at design stage would strengthen consistency, scalability and traceability.

Recommendations

18. The review identified three high-priority recommendations aimed at securing the long-term sustainability of the project's achievements:
19. Recommendation 1: Institutionalise the ABS Mechanism.
 - Suggestion 1.1: It is recommended that MINAM issue a regulatory instrument to formalise the National ABS Mechanism as a permanent coordination mechanism among the Competent National Authorities, ensuring operational continuity.
20. Recommendation 2: Institutionalise knowledge products and strengthen continuous and strategic dissemination of the ABS system.

- Suggestion 2.1: MINAM should actively promote the formal adoption of the Intercultural Training Programme, liaising with the Ministry of Culture to ensure validation and authorisation for implementation.
- Suggestion 2.2: MINAM should establish a communication protocol requiring all Competent National Authorities to regularly update the GENES-Perú website with information on new guidelines and contracts, ensuring it operates effectively as the national public window.
- Suggestion 2.3: MINAM should coordinate a dissemination strategy for ABS technical modules with the National Superintendence of Higher Education (SUNEDU - Superintendencia Nacional de Educación Superior Universitaria) to integrate knowledge into university and research centre curricula nationwide.

21. Recommendation 3: Develop a National ABS Roadmap.

- Suggestion 3.1: MINAM should convene a structured internal reflection process with all Competent National Authorities and relevant stakeholders to analyse the current state of ABS in Peru, including a review of benefits generated to date.
- Suggestion 3.2: MINAM should use the results of this reflection to formulate a National Strategic ABS Roadmap that clearly defines roles, responsibilities, timelines, and follow-up mechanisms, integrating the recommendations outlined in Sections 1 and 2.

22. Recommendation 4: Integrate and formalise proven gender and human rights approaches into project design.

- Suggestion 4.1: It is recommended that UNEP ensure that projects systematically incorporate a gender action plan and human rights-based frameworks. These should include operational approaches identified as good practices in previous projects, such as intergenerational learning spaces to support women's participation and the co-creation of multilingual, intercultural materials.

Validation

The report has been subject to an independent validation exercise performed by UNEP's Evaluation Office. The performance ratings for the "Effective Implementation of the Access and Benefit Sharing and Traditional Knowledge Regime in Peru in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol" project, set out in the Conclusions and Recommendations section, have been adjusted as a result. The overall project performance is validated at the **Satisfactory** level. Moreover, the Evaluation Office has found the overall quality of the report to be Highly Satisfactory (see Annex X).

I. THE PROJECT

A. Context

Intervention context

23. Peru is one of the world's most biologically and culturally diverse countries, with high levels of endemism and a long history of traditional knowledge linked to the use of genetic resources. The ProDoc (2017) notes that this ecological and cultural richness creates significant potential for research, innovation and value creation under the ABS framework of the Nagoya Protocol, while also requiring robust institutional arrangements to ensure fair and equitable benefit-sharing.
24. The UNEP project *"Effective Implementation of the Access and Benefit Sharing and Traditional Knowledge Regime in Peru in Accordance with the Nagoya Protocol"* was designed to address the limited effectiveness of Peru's existing ABS and traditional knowledge frameworks, which despite a solid legal basis remained fragmented and weakly implemented. At design, government institutions, researchers, the private sector, and indigenous peoples faced significant knowledge and capacity gaps, and there was little practical experience in applying ABS procedures. According to the ProDoc's barrier analysis, Peru faced: (i) a weak legal and institutional framework to implement ABS in line with the Nagoya Protocol; (ii) scarce knowledge among key stakeholders regarding ABS procedures and benefit-sharing; and (iii) limited experience in applying ABS mechanisms, particularly in cases involving associated traditional knowledge. The intervention was therefore justified as necessary to establish a fully operational ABS system, strengthen stakeholder capacities, and generate practical models through pilot projects, thereby supporting the effective implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and contributing to biodiversity conservation and human well-being.

Institutional context

25. As outlined in the ProDoc (2017), the project is implemented by the UNEP Ecosystems Division, with execution led by the Ministry of Environment (MINAM) and financial and administrative management delegated to PROFONANPE through a Project Cooperation Agreement. The project was expected to align with UNEP's Programme of Work through two subprogrammes in force at approval: Subprogramme 3 'Healthy and Productive Ecosystems' and Subprogramme 4 'Environmental Governance'.
26. UNEP provided formal project approval on 17 October 2017, following GEF CEO Endorsement on 9 June 2017. The Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) entered into force on 16 February 2018, marking the official start of implementation. The project's original duration was 48 months. This was revised through several no-cost extensions documented in the Project Implementation Reports (PIRs). The first extension moved completion to 31 December 2022 (PIR 2021). A second extension, recorded in the PIR 2024, revised the end date to 30 September 2024. A final extension, implemented through a bridging PCA, established a closing date of 30 June 2025 (PIR 2025). No additional project phases were foreseen.
27. The institutional arrangement included a multi-agency ABS governance structure, with roles distributed among MINAM and the Competent National Authorities identified in the ProDoc: National Forest and Wildlife Service (SERFOR), National Institute of Agricultural Innovation (INIA), Ministry of Production (PRODUCE), National Service of Natural Protected Areas (SERNANP), and National Institute for the Defence of Competition and Protection of Intellectual Property (INDECOPI) and the Ministry of Culture. Their functions

in access authorisation, supervision, traditional knowledge protection and enforcement are detailed in the ProDoc.

28. The total project budget comprises USD 2,190,000 in GEF funding and USD 8,921,778 in confirmed co-financing, as detailed in the ProDoc and the final PIR. The project underwent a Mid-Term Review (MTR) in August 2021.

B. Results Framework

29. The project's results hierarchy, as defined in the ProDoc, consists of one overarching objective, four outcomes and eleven outputs structured across three technical components. The overall project objective is to strengthen national capacities for effective implementation of Peru's Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS) and traditional knowledge regimes in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol. The Impact, as separately formulated in the MTR reconstructed TOC, is biodiversity and species conservation while maintaining and preserving globally-significant genetic resources.
30. Component 1 focuses on strengthening the institutional, regulatory and information foundations required for an effective ABS system. Its five outputs include updated ABS procedures, guidelines, a functional ABS mechanism, and improved tools for access authorisation and oversight. These outputs directly support two outcomes related to improved coordination and reliable information for negotiation and decision-making.
31. Component 2 addresses awareness, capacity development and intercultural engagement. It includes four outputs that provide training modules, awareness-raising products, and capacity-building for Indigenous Peoples, government institutions, researchers and private-sector users. These outputs contribute to the outcome on increased awareness and strengthened competencies among key ABS actors.
32. Component 3 focuses on practical application through support to pilot ABS cases and the development of monitoring and tracking tools. Its outputs aim to generate operational experience with ABS mechanisms, improve compliance monitoring, and support the evaluation and supervision of access permits. These outputs contribute to the outcome on effective application of ABS measures which contributes to improving conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.
33. Overall, the three components were designed to operate in a complementary manner: Component 1 establishes system-wide regulatory and institutional conditions; Component 2 equips stakeholders with the knowledge and capacities needed to operate within that system; and Component 3 provides practical, case-based experience to reinforce implementation and inform regulatory improvements.
34. Finally, the project was expected to contribute to UNEP Proposed biennial Programme of work and budget (POW) 2016-2017¹ Subprogramme 3 Ecosystem Management, specifically the expected accomplishment 3.c (Services and benefits derived from ecosystems are integrated with development planning and accounting and the implementation of biodiversity-related and ecosystem-related multilateral environmental agreements) and Subprogramme 4 Environmental Governance, specifically, the expected accomplishments 4.a (The United Nations system and multilateral environmental agreement bodies, respecting the mandate of each entity, demonstrate increasing

¹ POW under which the project was approved.

coherence and synergy of actions on environmental issues) and 4.b (The capacity of countries to develop and enforce laws and strengthen institutions to achieve internationally agreed environmental objectives and goals and comply with related obligations is enhanced).

Table 3: Summary of project's latest approved results framework (source: ProDoc and MTR)

	Results Statement
Project objective	Strengthen national capacities for effective implementation of the ABS and traditional knowledge regimes in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol.
Impact	Biodiversity and species conservation while maintaining and preserving globally-significant genetic resources.
Intermediate state	National ABS Mechanism institutionalised and functional and secures the confidence of public sector and private institutions and local communities as an accessible, fair and inclusive system that enhances the attractiveness of Peru for biotechnology and sustainable national development.
Project outcome	Outcome 1.a: The ABS national mechanism operates in a coordinated manner, following unified criteria and taking into account monitoring and supervision. Outcome 1.b: The national ABS system has reliable, timely and relevant information for benefit-sharing negotiation strategies. Outcome 2: Relevant actors from public, private, academic, scientific/technical, society, and indigenous peoples, aware of and trained on ABS. Outcome 3: Conservation and sustainable use of local biodiversity is improved through interventions that lead to a better and more efficient application of ABS measures in the country.
Outputs	1.a.1 Fully functional and coordinated ABS system using updated/new procedures (incl. Prior Informed Consent (PIC), Mutually Agreed Terms (MAT), guides, ABS platform, ABS-Clearing House Mechanism (CHM)). 1.a.2 Checkpoints established along the value chain with corresponding operation manuals. 1.a.3 Cases of illegal access prioritised and registered by the National Commission against Biopiracy. 1.b.1 Information on species with genetic resources (GR) potential compiled/systematised in the GENES-Peru Platform. 1.b.2 Benefits derived from GR and traditional knowledge (TK) in on-going R&D projects identified, classified, and assessed. 2.a.1 Awareness-raising activities on the Nagoya Protocol for multiple audiences. 2.a.2 Interactive training modules on ABS for different target groups. 2.a.3 Intercultural training programme for indigenous communities, including gender equity criteria. 2.a.4 Assistance for providers and users to strengthen negotiation and legal certainty in ABS contracts (Cacao, Quina, Doncella). 3.a.1 Ongoing R&D project (cosmetics/perfumery) supported to comply with ABS law and the Nagoya Protocol. 3.a.2 At least two ongoing research projects (CosmoPeru – Molle fragrance; Univ. of Copenhagen – Mauka) analysed/monitored as tests of the national ABS monitoring system.

Source: own elaboration from project documents.

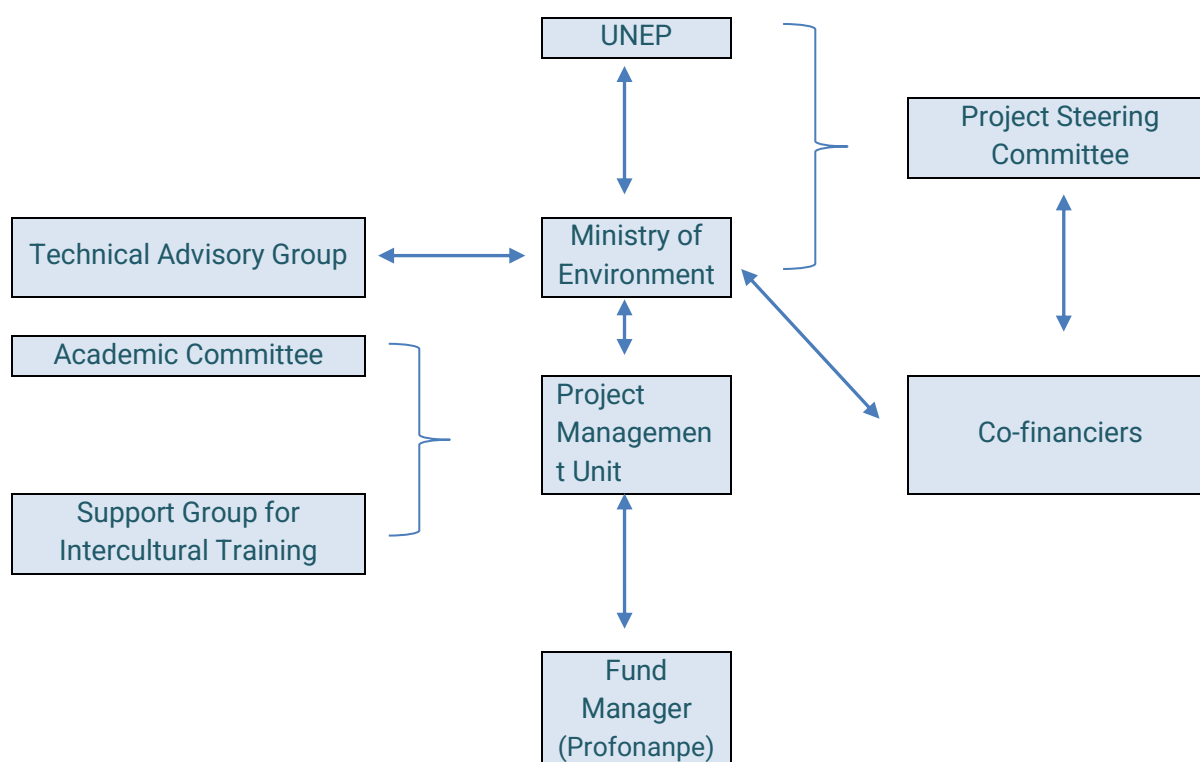
C. Project Implementation Structure and Partners

35. As the GEF Implementing Agency, UNEP is responsible for providing overall coordination, oversight and compliance assurance for the project. The MINAM serves as the Executing Agency and leads the day-to-day management of activities. PROFONANPE acted as the co-executing agency, under a tripartite agreement with UNEP and MINAM, administering financial and procurement procedures and supporting contractual arrangements

Implementation is carried out through a Project Management Unit (PMU) housed within MINAM, which consists of a Project Coordinator, a Technical Assistant and a Financial Assistant. This core team is further supported by MINAM's dedicated ABS staff, who contributed with regular technical inputs and operational backstopping to ensure coherence with national ABS processes. UNEP's Task Manager maintained close engagement with the PMU to provide guidance on project implementation and ensure adherence to UNEP and GEF requirements.

36. Strategic direction and high-level coordination were provided by the Project Steering Committee (PSC), the project's principal oversight body. The PSC reviewed progress toward the approved logical framework and provided recommendations to strengthen implementation. Its guidance informs revisions to annual work plans, budget allocations and adjustments to project strategies. These implementation arrangements, including the institutional roles of UNEP, MINAM, PROFONANPE and the PMU, are illustrated in Figure 1, taken from the MTR.

Figure 1: Organigram of the project with key project stakeholders



Source: MTR, 2021.

D. Stakeholders

37. According to the stakeholder analysis, the project engaged a wide range of stakeholders anchored in the MINAM and PROFONANPE, and supported by technical agencies, academia, indigenous organisations and the private sector.
38. Public sector actors constituted the core group of change agents, given their regulatory and operational responsibilities under Peru's ABS system. These included MINAM as governing body, the Competent National Authorities (SERFOR, INIA, PRODUCE, SERNANP) and INDECOPI/ National Commission Against Biopiracy (CNBIO). Their main roles

concerned access authorisation, supervision, the registration and protection of traditional knowledge, and enforcement of the national ABS regulation. Their high influence derived from their formal mandates, while their interest was linked to improving the efficiency, coherence and transparency of ABS procedures.

39. Indigenous participation was ensured through the Technical Group of Indigenous Peoples (Grupo Técnico de Pueblos Indígenas, GTPI), comprising seven national organisations, including the National Federation of Peasant, Artisan, Indigenous, Native and Wage-Earning Women of Peru (Federación Nacional de Mujeres Campesinas, Artesanas, Indígenas, Nativas y Asalariadas del Perú, FENMUCARINAP), with two specifically representing Indigenous women. The MTR confirmed that the GTPI was active and contributed effectively to the intercultural programme and regulatory reform processes. However, consultations during the inception phase of this TR clarified that the GTPI ceased to operate after the pandemic and attempts to re-establish a similar coordination mechanism through the Ministry of Culture did not materialise.
40. Academic and research institutions, such as the Amazonian Research Institute (IIAP), the National Council for Science, Technology and Technological Innovation (CONCYTEC) and intercultural universities, supported awareness-raising and training. The private sector was engaged primarily through a pilot ABS contract with Cosmo Ingredients, noting that broader private sector involvement was more limited than envisaged.
41. Gender was considered through sex-disaggregated indicators and the participation of women's organisations within the GTPI. Although no mechanisms were designed to explicitly ensure inclusion of persons living with disabilities, the project ensured the inclusion in its activities of marginalised and underrepresented groups under the principle of Leaving No One Behind.

Table 4: Stakeholder analysis

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Type	Role in the Project	Power over / Interest in the Project
MINAM	Lead agency / Executing Agency	National focal point, policy and regulatory leadership, coordination of ABS system	High influence / High interest
PROFONANPE	Executing agency	Day-to-day execution, fiduciary management, reporting	High influence / High interest
UNEP	Implementing agency	Oversight, supervision, reporting to GEF	High influence / High interest
SERFOR, INIA, SERNANP, PRODUCE	Technical partners / Competent National Authorities	Implementation of ABS procedures, supervision of access, biodiversity management	Medium influence / High interest
INDECOPI / CNBio and CENSI	Technical partners	Supported ABS compliance and monitoring (INDECOPI/CNBio) and contributed to intercultural health and traditional knowledge activities (CENSI)	Medium influence / Medium–High interest

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Type	Role in the Project	Power over / Interest in the Project
GTPI (incl. FENMUCARINAP and women's orgs)	Indigenous Peoples and women's organisation	Representation in regulation, intercultural programme, training	Low influence / High interest (MTR: ceased after 2020, not reconstituted)
IIAP, CONCYTEC, intercultural universities	Academia / science	Research collaboration, development of ABS modules, training	Low–Medium influence / High interest
Cosmo Ingredients	Private sector partner	Pilot ABS contract, potential users of genetic resources	Medium influence / Medium interest

Source: own elaboration.

E. Changes in Design during Implementation

42. The project underwent adjustments during implementation, primarily through no-cost extensions and adaptive changes to operational modalities rather than formal revisions of the results framework. The project's effective implementation period extended from the originally planned 48 months to a total of 88 months (16 February 2018 – 30 June 2025).
43. The first formal change occurred in 2021, when a 10-month no-cost extension was approved, moving the technical completion date from February 2022 to 31 December 2022. This extension responded to the combined effects, as reported in PIRs 2019, 2020, 2021, of (i) an eight-month delay in the project start-up due to changes in government and the clarification of execution arrangements between MINAM, PROFONANPE and UNEP; (ii) the COVID-19 pandemic, which restricted field activities and consultations; and (iii) the pending approval of the revised ABS Regulation, a key milestone on which several activities depended.
44. A second no-cost extension was subsequently granted, extending the revised completion date to 30 September 2024. This extension absorbed accumulated delays associated with the transition to the new regulatory framework (approved in July 2021), changes in national leadership, and continued institutional adjustments across the ABS authorities as new procedures were introduced. The extension also allowed the project to consolidate the implementation of internal guidelines, coordination mechanisms, and monitoring tools validated in prior years.
45. A final no-cost extension moved the project's end date to 30 June 2025, creating a short bridging period to complete remaining activities and utilise residual funds. This final extension enabled the project to finalise the operationalisation of the ABS monitoring and supervision tools developed under Component 3, support the closure of pending access processes, and complete knowledge products and dissemination activities.
46. In parallel, as recorded in the PIR 2021, the project adopted adaptive changes in its implementation approach, with a review of the pilot ABS initiatives under Component 3, reflecting the need to reassess the feasibility of the originally identified cases. As several of the originally identified pilot initiatives proved unviable or inactive at the time implementation began, the project shifted towards supporting *ongoing ABS processes* and strengthening the technical and legal capacities of the Competent National Authorities. This adaptive approach did not modify the project's formal outputs or indicators but represented a pragmatic response to the evolving institutional and regulatory context, which was overall facilitated by the fact that the National Project Assistant had been

involved in the project design. Overall, the project's scope and intended results remained unchanged.

F. Project Financing

47. This Full-Sized Project (FSP) was financed through a GEF grant administered by UNEP for a total of USD 2,190,000. At design, the project secured USD 8,921,778 in confirmed in-kind co-financing commitments from national institutions and partners. According to the official co-financing reports submitted by the executing partners, all co-financing was provided in-kind, largely in the form of institutional staff time, facilities, technical inputs, equipment and operational support. Contributing institutions included MINAM (the National General Directorate of Biological Diversity, SERNANP), SERFOR, INIA, IIAP, INDECOPI (Directorate of Inventions and New Technologies (DIN) and CNBio), PRODUCE, CENSI, and the private-sector partner COSMO Ingredients. Based on these commitments, the total project budget at approval amounted to USD 11,111,778.

Table 5: Project funding sources

Funding source	Planned funding	% of planned funding	Secured funding	% of secured funding
<i>All figures as USD</i>				
Cash				
Funds from the Environment Fund				
Funds from the Regular Budget				
Extra-budgetary funding (listed per donor):				
Funds from the Global Environment Facility	2,190,000	19.7%	2,190,000	19.7%
Sub-total: Cash contributions	2,190,000	19.7%	2,190,000	19.7%
In-kind				
Environment Fund staff-post costs				
Regular Budget staff-post costs				
Extra-budgetary funding for staff-posts (listed per donor)				
Sub-total: In-kind contributions				
Co-financing*				
Co-financing cash contribution				
Co-financing in-kind contribution	8,921,778	80%	8,921,778	80%
Sub-total: Co-financing contributions	8,921,778	80%	8,921,778	80%
Total	11,111,788	100%	11,111,778	100%

Table 6: Project budget and final expenditure by year

Year	Approved budget	Revised budget	Expenditure
2018	543,504.75	47,993.08	47,993.08
2019	987,739.75	458,764.47	458,764.47
2020	330,920.75	466,699.04	466,699.04
2021	327,834.75	486,329.35	486,329.35
2022	-	646,244.46	646,244.46
2023	-	3,903.51	3,903.51
2024	-	80,066.09	80,066.09
Total	2,190,000	2,190,000.00	2,190,000.00

Table 7: Co-financing table

Co-financing (Type/Source)	UNEP own Financing (US\$1,000)		Government (US\$1,000)		Other* (US\$1,000)		Total (US\$1,000)		Total Disbursed (US\$1,000)
	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	
– Grants									
– Loans									
– Credits									
– Equity investments									
– In-kind support			8,922	8,922			8,922	8,922	8,922
– Other (*)									
Totals			8,922	8,922			8,922	8,922	8,922

* This refers to contributions mobilized for the project from other multilateral agencies, bilateral development cooperation agencies, NGOs, the private sector and beneficiaries.

II. REVIEW METHODS

A. UNEP's Review Approach

48. In line with UNEP Evaluation Policy and the UNEP Programme and Project Management Manual, the review was undertaken at operational completion of the project to assess performance (in terms of relevance, effectiveness and efficiency), and determine outcomes and impacts (actual and potential) stemming from the project, including their sustainability. The review has two primary purposes: (i) to provide evidence of results to meet accountability requirements, and (ii) to promote operational improvement, learning and knowledge sharing through results and lessons learned.
49. The main target audiences for the review findings are UNEP and MINAM, PROFONANPE, SERFOR, INIA, SERNANP, INDECOPI, CNBio, National Centre for Intercultural Health (CENSI), PRODUCE, and Cosmo Ingredients as main project partners. The Review captures operationally relevant lessons to guide the formulation and implementation of future initiatives.
50. In line with the UNEP Evaluation Policy and the UNEP Programme Manual, the review has been carried out using a set of 9 commonly applied review criteria which include: (1) Strategic Relevance, (2) Quality of Project Design, (3) Nature of External Context, (4) Effectiveness (incl. availability of outputs; achievement of outcomes and likelihood of impact), (5) Financial Management, (6) Efficiency, (7) Monitoring and Reporting, (8) Sustainability and (9) Factors Affecting Project Performance and Cross-Cutting Issues (see Annex I: Review Framework for more details on each review criterion).
51. Most review criteria are rated on a six-point scale as follows: Highly Satisfactory (HS); Satisfactory (S); Moderately Satisfactory (MS); Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU); Unsatisfactory (U); Highly Unsatisfactory (HU). Sustainability and Likelihood of Impact are rated from Highly Likely (HL) down to Highly Unlikely (HU) and Nature of External Context is rated from Highly Favourable (HF) to Highly Unfavourable (HU). The ratings against each criterion are 'weighted' to derive the Overall Project Performance Rating. The greatest weight is placed on the achievement of outcomes, followed by dimensions of sustainability.
52. The UNEP Evaluation Office has developed detailed descriptions of the main elements required to be demonstrated at each level (i.e. Highly Satisfactory to Highly Unsatisfactory) for each review criterion. The reviewer has considered all the evidence gathered during the review in relation to this matrix to generate review criteria performance ratings.
53. In addition to the 9 review criteria outlined above, the review addresses a number of strategic questions that were formulated in the Terms of Reference. These questions were posed by the UNEP Evaluation Office in conjunction with members of the Project Team.
54. For projects funded by the GEF, findings from the review are to be uploaded in the GEF Portal. To support this process, review findings related to the 5 topics of interest to the GEF are summarised in Annex VIII. The intended action/results on the 5 topics were described in the GEF CEO Endorsement and Approval documents. The 5 topics are: i) performance against GEF's Core Indicator Targets; ii) engagement of stakeholders; iii) gender-responsive measures and gender result areas; iv) implementation of management measures taken against the Safeguards Plan and v) challenges and outcomes regarding the project's completed Knowledge Management Approach.

55. This review adopted a participatory approach, consulting with former project team members, partners and beneficiaries at several stages throughout the process. Central to the review was the analysis (and reconstruction) of the project's TOC. Consultations were held during the review inception phase to arrive at the understanding of how the project intended to drive change and what contributing conditions ('assumptions' and 'drivers') would need to be in place to support such change. The (reconstructed) TOC was discussed further with respondents during the data collection phase and refined as appropriate. The final iteration of the TOC is presented in this final review report and has been used throughout the review process.
56. The review has relied primarily on qualitative methods. Evidence has been triangulated across sources and methods to ensure robustness. Findings are organised by review questions.

B. Data Collection

Primary data sources

57. Primary data was collected through KIIs and FGDs - selectively with stakeholder groups where shared perspectives could add value, complementing individual interviews. Both KII and FGDs were guided by semi-structured instruments aligned with the review matrix and using a format that allowed comparability across respondents while leaving space for emerging issues. These instruments also guided the analysis of the information gathered.
58. Interviews and groups discussions took place in Lima during one week of the review mission. Consultations with stakeholders who were not based in Lima or unavailable during the mission have been conducted virtually. No field visits outside Lima took place.
59. The sample was purposive, reflecting the diversity of actors involved in project design, oversight and implementation. It was not a scientific sample and was not intended to be statistically representative. Instead, it served to complement the document review, capturing perspectives from different institutional points of view. The sampling ensured the representation of women among respondents, reflecting their engagement in project activities and decision-making processes. Perspectives relevant to other marginalised groups, such as Indigenous Peoples, were also incorporated specifically through interviews with institutional stakeholders and former project personnel that directly engaged with these groups during project implementation, complemented by triangulation with project documentation and consultation materials.
60. Targeted groups included:
- Former project coordination
 - Personnel within PROFONANPE.
 - Representatives of MINAM.
 - UNEP personnel involved in project oversight.
 - Members of the Project Steering Committee.
 - Technical partners and beneficiary institutions.
 - The private sector partner.
 - External consultants who produced specific project outputs.
61. While this sampling approach aimed to capture perspectives from all main stakeholder categories, some limitations should be noted and are further discussed under the D. Limitations and Mitigations Strategies section. As the project ceased implementation in 2022, trace and engage several stakeholders was a challenge, particularly direct

beneficiaries. For this reason, direct beneficiaries were not included in the planned sample. To mitigate this limitation, the review placed greater emphasis on document analysis and triangulation of secondary sources, including project reports and training records, and sought to capture institutional perspectives on the effectiveness and reach of activities.

62. The review collected data in line with UNEG ethical guidelines and UN standards of conduct. Participation was voluntary, informed consent was always obtained, and discussions remained anonymous. No identifying information was disclosed without prior consent. Sensitive information was handled with appropriate safeguards. Data was stored securely during and after the review.

Table 8: Review respondents and field visits

Stakeholders - Individuals			A. Total number involved (M/F)	B. Number contacted (M/F)	Sample size (% B/A) ²	C. Total number responded Total (M/F)	Response rate (% C/B) ³
Project Team	Project Team (with management responsibilities e.g. Project Management Unit)	Implementing agency	6 (3M, 3F)	6	100%	3 (1M, 2F)	50%
		Executing agency(ies)	11 (4M, 7F)	11	100%	7 (4M, 5F)	64%
Beneficiaries	Direct Beneficiaries: (e.g. duty bearers, gatekeepers, training participants, etc.)		N/A	0	N/A	0	0
	Indirect Beneficiaries: (e.g. household members, civil society representatives, group members, etc.)						
Stakeholders - Entities			A. Total number involved	B. Number contacted	Sample size (% B/A) ⁴	C. Total number responded	Response rate (% C/B) ⁵
Partners	Project implementing/ executing partners (receiving project funds)		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	Project collaborating/ contributing partners ⁶ (not receiving project fund)		N/A	29 (16F, 13M)	N/A	13 (8F, 5M)	45%
Field Visits		Region / country / locality ⁷	A. Total number sites	B. Number sites visited	Sample Size (%B/A) ⁸		
		Latin America and the Caribbean	N/A	1 - Lima	N/A		

Strategies for inclusivity

63. To maximise response rates and ensure coverage of all relevant stakeholder categories, including marginalised or less visible groups, the review adopted a proactive engagement

² Percentage of people involved in the project who were contacted.

³ Percentage of people contacted who responded.

⁴ Percentage of entities involved in the project who were contacted.

⁵ Percentage of entities contacted who responded.

⁶ Contributing partners may be providing resources as either cash or in-kind inputs (e.g. staff time, office space etc.).

⁷ In case of a global project, the unit of analysis is 'region'. In case of a regional or multi-country project, the unit of analysis is 'country'. In case of a single country project, the unit of analysis is 'locality', which could refer to a city, town, village, etc.

⁸ Percentage of total number project sites in each region, country or locality that were visited.

strategy. Former project staff were contacted multiple times to validate stakeholder lists, provide missing contact details and, where possible, facilitate direct introductions to stakeholders who would otherwise have been difficult to locate. Follow-up messages and reminders were used to increase participation, and interviews were scheduled flexibly to accommodate respondents' availability. Divergent views were intentionally sought by engaging institutions with different mandates across the ABS system, ensuring that different perspectives were captured. Although direct beneficiaries could not be reached due to the time elapsed since project closure, the review sought to integrate their viewpoints indirectly by examining documented feedback and institutional reflections on stakeholder participation.

Secondary data sources

64. The document review was a critical foundation for this review. Key documents consulted include:

- Project design and approval documents: the Project Identification Form (PIF), the CEO Endorsement document, and the ProDoc.
- Project implementation documents: annual PIRs, Half-yearly Progress Reports, and Steering Committee minutes, annual workplans.
- Financial documents such as Periodic Expenditure Reports, Budget audit reports, Budget revisions, and co-financing reports.
- Evaluation and monitoring reports: the MTR, independent evaluations, and annual monitoring reports.
- Knowledge and communication products: training modules, awareness materials, the GENES-Peru website, the project website, and other outputs.
- National and international policy frameworks: the revised ABS Regulation, relevant ministerial resolutions, and guidance documents under the Nagoya Protocol.
- UNEP's key strategic frameworks.
- Academic and other literature on ABS implementation and governance in Peru and the wider Latin American region.

C. Data Analysis

65. The analysis was guided by qualitative approaches: content analysis of interviews and documents to identify recurring themes, contrasts and emerging issues; and contribution analysis to assess the plausibility of the project's causal pathways and the influence of drivers and assumptions identified in the TOC.

66. All evidence (primary and secondary) was systematically coded into a matrix organised by review question. This allowed comparison across perspectives, triangulation of evidence, and ensured that the analysis responds directly to the review framework.

D. Limitations and Mitigation Strategies

67. While the sampling approach was designed to capture perspectives from all key institutional stakeholder groups, several limitations constrained the extent to which this was possible. Because project implementation ceased in 2022, tracing and engaging stakeholders proved challenging, notably direct beneficiaries at community or user/provider level, who could not be included in the planned sample. Institutional memory was also significantly reduced: within MINAM, very few technical staff with direct project

experience remained, and strategic-level personnel had rotated. At PROFONANPE, a small number of former project staff were still available. In addition, the absence of an active project team meant that contact lists, informal materials and contextual information were incomplete or dispersed. To mitigate these limitations, the review placed greater emphasis on triangulating secondary evidence through project reports, training records and formal documentation; followed up repeatedly with former project team members to reconstruct stakeholder lists and obtain missing documentation; and conducted targeted interviews with current institutional representatives to capture organisational perspectives on the project's implementation, reach and legacy. Where project documents were missing from Anubis, they were requested directly from respondents during interviews.

E. Ethical Considerations

68. Throughout this review process and in the compilation of the Final Review report, efforts have been made to represent the views of both mainstream and more marginalised groups. Data were collected with respect for ethics and human rights issues. All pictures were taken, and other information gathered after prior informed consent from people, all discussions remained anonymous, and all information was collected according to the UN 'Standards of Conduct'.

III. THEORY OF CHANGE AT REVIEW

69. The following table presents the project's results framework at design and an analysis of those statements in relation to UNEP's definition of results levels and the causal pathways of the project. As a reference, it was used the original logical framework of the project (ProDoc, 2017), and the reconstructed TOC at mid-term (2021). Minor reformulations are suggested in the table below to make them consistent with UNEP results definitions, and to further explain the reconstructed TOC.

Table 9: Justification for reformulation of results statements

Formulation in original project document(s) – <i>insert source/date</i>	Formulation for reconstructed TOC at review (RTOC)	Justification for reformulation
(LONG LASTING) IMPACT		
Strengthened national capacities for effective implementation of ABS and TK regimes in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol, contributing to biodiversity conservation and human well-being.	No changes proposed.	
INTERMEDIATE STATES		
National ABS Mechanism institutionalised and functional and secures the confidence of public and private institutions and local communities as an accessible, fair and inclusive system that enhances the attractiveness of Peru for biotechnology and sustainable national development.	Intermediate State 1: The national ABS mechanism is institutionalised and fully operational, with legal, technical and institutional frameworks in place to ensure functionality and coordination. Intermediate State 2: Public and private institutions, researchers and local communities, including indigenous peoples, have confidence in the ABS system as an accessible, fair and inclusive mechanism that supports sustainable development and enhances Peru's attractiveness for biotechnology and innovation.	Intermediate states were not included in the ProDoc. While the MTR presented one consolidated intermediate state, it is reformulated here into two distinct elements to better reflect the systemic changes required: first, institutionalisation and functionality of the ABS mechanism; second, stakeholder trust and uptake of the system.
PROJECT OUTCOMES		
Outcome 1.a: The ABS national mechanism operates in a coordinated manner, following unified criteria and taking into account monitoring and supervision.	No changes proposed.	
Outcome 1.b: The national ABS system has reliable, timely and relevant information for benefit-sharing negotiation strategies.	No changes proposed.	
Outcome 2.a: Relevant actors from public, private, academic, scientific/technical, society, and indigenous peoples, aware of and trained on ABS.	No changes proposed.	
Outcome 3.a: Conservation and sustainable use of local biodiversity is improved through interventions that lead to a better and more efficient application of ABS measures in the country.	ABS measures are applied more effectively in Peru, contributing to improved conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.	This is not a reformulation of the outcome but a clarification for analytical purposes, making the intended change more explicit.
OUTCOME INDICATORS <i>[comment if relevant]</i>		
For Outcome 1.a:	ABS Interinstitutional Coordination Mechanism established by GoP and functioning effectively.	Original indicator measures outputs rather than

Formulation in original project document(s) – insert source/date	Formulation for reconstructed TOC at review (RTOC)	Justification for reformulation
# of Technical ABS Interinstitutional Coordination Mechanism established by GoP. # of working days to process Collection Permits and Access Contracts. % of approved cases with International Compliance Certificate (ICC) notified in ABS-CHM. # of checkpoints established and registered in ABS-CHM.	- Time required to process Collection Permits and Access Contracts reduced in line with national targets. - All approved ABS cases notified and registered in the ABS-CHM with an International Compliance Certificate (ICC). - Checkpoints established, registered in the ABS-CHM, and functioning as part of the ABS system.	outcomes; reformulated to capture behavioural/systemic change.
For Outcome 1.b: # of strategic species containing GR with systematised information regarding their potential for R&D. # of initiatives analysed and evaluated regarding the impacts of the distribution of benefits.	- Strategic species with GR have systematised information on their potential for R&D, accessible for use in ABS decision-making. - Initiatives analysed and evaluated regarding benefit-sharing impacts, with lessons informing future ABS negotiations.	Original indicator measures outputs rather than outcomes; reformulated to capture behavioural/systemic change.
For Outcome 2.a: % of target groups exposed to awareness programme on ABS, disaggregated by gender and youth. % of participants in online course and interactive modules achieving the minimum score. # of national indigenous organisations (as per Law 27811) contributing to ABS via intercultural training. # of users and providers from ongoing initiatives scoring at least 2 in the GEF Tracking Tool (Section 1: indicators 11, 12, 13; Section 2: indicator 2).	Changes in line with the above ones.	Same as above.
Outcome 3.a: # of Access Contracts with International Compliance Certificate (ICC). # of initiatives complying with conditions stipulated in ABS contracts/agreements under the national ABS monitoring system.	Changes in line with the above ones.	Same as above.
OUTPUTS		
1.a.1 Fully functional and coordinated ABS system using updated/new procedures (incl. PIC, MAT, guides, ABS platform, ABS-CHM). 1.a.2 Checkpoints established along the value chain with corresponding operation manuals. 1.a.3 Cases of illegal access prioritised and registered by the National Commission against Biopiracy. 1.b.1 Information on species with GR potential compiled/systematised in the GENES-Peru Platform. 1.b.2 Benefits derived from GR and TK in on-going R&D projects identified, classified, and assessed.	No changes proposed.	
2.a.1 Awareness-raising activities on the Nagoya Protocol for multiple audiences.	2.a.2 Interactive training modules on ABS developed and delivered for different target groups	Outputs phrased as activities are reformulated as

Formulation in original project document(s) – insert source/date	Formulation for reconstructed TOC at review (RTOC)	Justification for reformulation
2.a.2 Interactive training modules on ABS for different target groups. 2.a.3 Intercultural training programme for indigenous communities, including gender equity criteria. 2.a.4 Assistance for providers and users to strengthen negotiation and legal certainty in ABS contracts (Cacao, Quina, Doncella).	2.a.3 Intercultural training programme for indigenous communities, including gender equity criteria, designed and implemented. 2.a.4 Support services provided to providers and users to strengthen negotiation capacity and legal certainty in ABS contracts.	deliverables/products.
3.a.1 Ongoing R&D project (cosmetics/perfumery) supported to comply with ABS law and the Nagoya Protocol. 3.a.2 At least two ongoing research projects (CosmoPeru – Molle fragrance; Univ. of Copenhagen – Mauka) analysed/monitored as tests of the national ABS monitoring system.	No changes proposed.	
OUTPUT INDICATORS <i>[comment if relevant]</i>		
Not formulated.		

Table 10: Justification for reformulation / expansion of drivers and assumptions

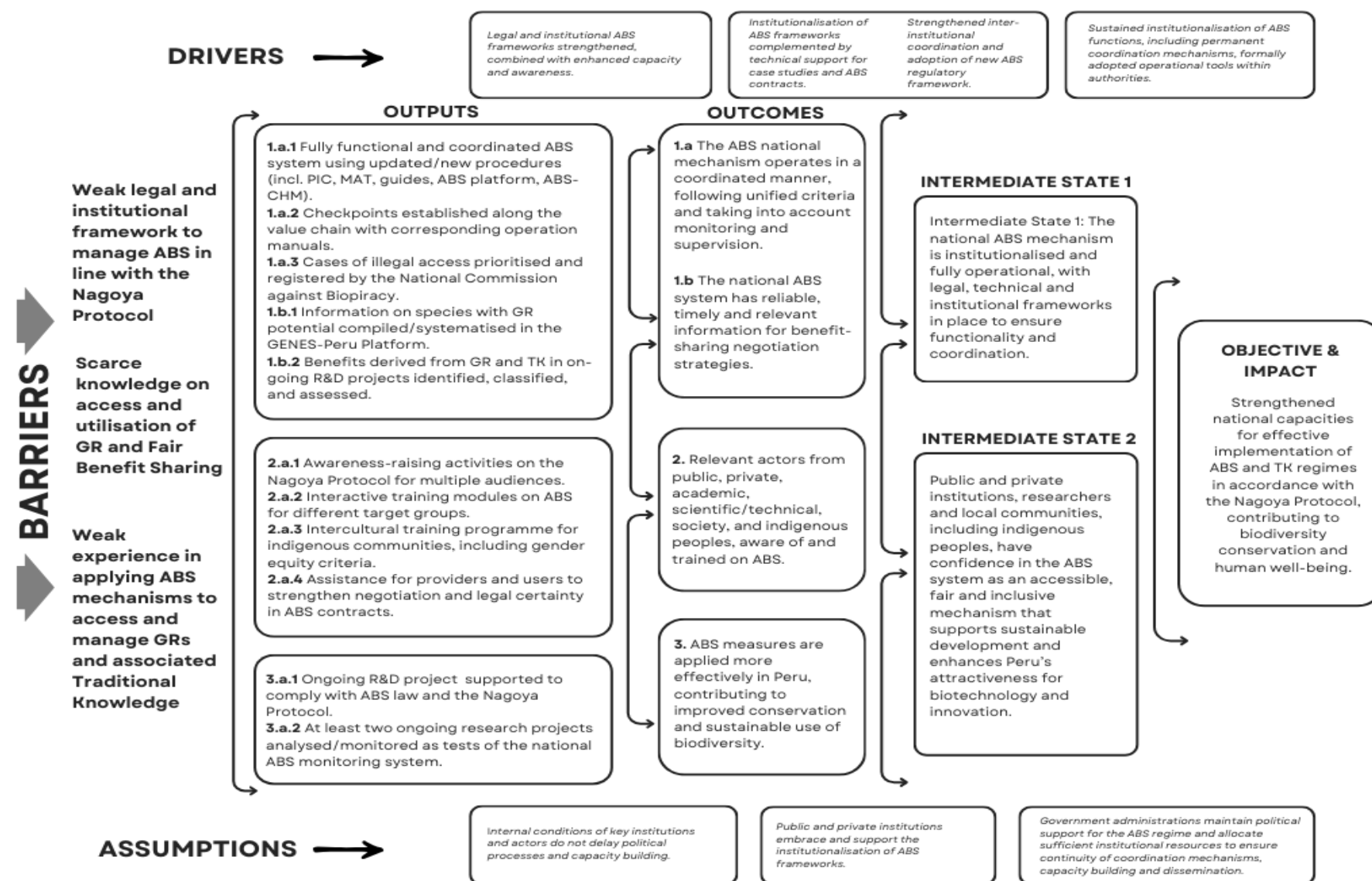
Formulation in original project document(s) – insert source/date	Formulation for reconstructed TOC at inception (RTOC)	Justification for reformulation
DRIVERS		
Outputs to Outcomes: Project support strengthening of ABS legal and institutional frameworks, awareness and capacity building.	Legal and institutional ABS frameworks strengthened, combined with enhanced capacity and awareness.	
Outcomes to intermediate states: Project support broad institutionalisation of ABS frameworks, case studies and pilot ABS contracts.	Institutionalisation of ABS frameworks complemented by technical support for case studies and ABS contracts.	
	Outcomes to intermediate states: Strengthened inter-institutional coordination and adoption of new ABS regulatory framework, supported by active collaboration among national agencies.	
	Intermediate states to impact: Sustained institutionalisation of ABS functions, including permanent coordination mechanisms, formally adopted operational tools within authorities.	
ASSUMPTIONS		
Outputs to intermediate states: Internal conditions of key institutions and actors do not delay political processes and capacity building.	No change.	
Outcomes to intermediate states: Public and private institutions embrace and support the institutionalisation of ABS frameworks.	No change.	
	Intermediate states to impact: Successive government administrations maintain political support for the ABS regime and allocate sufficient institutional resources to ensure continuity of coordination mechanisms, capacity building and dissemination.	

70. The project document did not include an explicit TOC diagram but presented a logical framework specifying outcomes, outputs and indicators. During the MTR, a reconstructed TOC was developed to clarify the causal pathways through which the project aimed to strengthen Peru's Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS) regime. This reconstructed TOC became the foundation for the present review. Building on that work, the TOC at Review retains the structure validated during the MTR and introduces minor refinements to results statements, drivers and assumptions, and introduces an additional driver and assumption. These adjustments do not alter the project's logic but rather align terminology with UNEP's definitions of results levels and make the causal logic more explicit.
71. The reconstruction of the TOC at Review drew on several sources of evidence, including a review of the ProDoc (2017), the MTR report (2021), project progress reports, and systematised material produced by the project. The TOC was also validated through interviews with key stakeholders during the review phase.
72. The first step in reconstructing the TOC consisted of revisiting project results statements to ensure they aligned with UNEP's definitions of outputs, outcomes, intermediate states and impact. The comparison between the original logical framework, the reconstructed TOC at Mid-term and the reconstructed TOC at Review highlighted that most results statements remained appropriate. Adjustments were made only where necessary to clarify the intended scope of change. This process confirmed that the causal pathways and logic developed at MTR remained valid at terminal stage, with only minor refinements required to reflect increased clarity about the mechanisms through which change was expected to occur.
73. The project's TOC builds on a set of institutional, technical and operational barriers identified during design, including weak legal and institutional framework to manage ABS in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol, scarce knowledge of relevant stakeholders on access and utilisation of genetic resources and Fair Benefit Sharing, and weak experience in applying ABS mechanisms to access and manage GRs and associated traditional knowledge. These constraints reduced legal certainty, slowed the processing of access applications, and limited both the credibility and uptake of the ABS system. The project's causal logic is therefore structured around three coherent pathways addressing these barriers simultaneously, supported by a set of enabling conditions (drivers) and external factors (assumptions).
74. The causal pathways linking outputs to outcomes, and outcomes to intermediate states and impact, remain those identified during the MTR. The first causal pathway focuses on strengthening institutional and regulatory frameworks. The project developed and refined ABS procedures, operational tools and coordination mechanisms across Competent National Authorities. This pathway is supported by the driver that legal and institutional ABS frameworks were strengthened, combined with enhanced capacity and awareness generated by the project. These conditions help explain how the production of outputs under this pathway was expected to lead to a more coherent and functional ABS mechanism, consistent with Outcome 1.
75. The second pathway concentrates on enhancing information and capacities across stakeholder groups. Through awareness activities, intercultural training with gender considerations, targeted technical modules, and guidance for providers and users, the project sought to address capacity gaps and support effective application of ABS procedures. Stakeholder willingness to engage represents a key assumption underpinning the pathway: that internal conditions within institutions would not delay capacity-building processes, and that stakeholders would embrace and adopt new procedural guidance.

Under these conditions, enhanced awareness and capacities were expected to contribute to Outcome 2.

76. The third pathway relates to generating practical experience with ABS implementation. By supporting ongoing R&D initiatives, assisting with ABS contracts and testing the national monitoring system, the project aimed to build evidence, increase legal certainty and demonstrate feasibility. This pathway is strengthened by the driver concerning the institutionalisation of ABS frameworks complemented by technical support for case studies and ABS contracts, which together help explain how these efforts would contribute to Outcome 3.
77. Together, these three pathways were expected to lead to two intermediate states, provided certain enabling conditions held. The first intermediate state concerns the institutionalisation and full operationalisation of the ABS mechanism, supported by the driver of strengthened inter-institutional coordination and the adoption of the new ABS regulatory framework, alongside active collaboration among national agencies. The achievement of this state also depends on the assumption that public and private institutions embrace and support the institutionalisation of ABS frameworks. The second intermediate state relates to stakeholder confidence in the ABS system as accessible, fair and inclusive, which is influenced by both enhanced capacities and the practical examples generated through case studies and contracts.
78. These two intermediate states were jointly expected to contribute to the project's objective and long-term impact: strengthened national capacities for effective implementation of ABS and traditional knowledge regimes in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol, thereby contributing to biodiversity conservation and human well-being. This transition is underpinned by the driver of institutionalised ABS functions, including permanent coordination mechanisms and adopted operational tools within authorities, and the assumption that successive government administrations maintain political support and allocate sufficient resources to sustain coordination, capacity-building and dissemination.
79. Human rights, gender equality and intercultural inclusion were integrated into the project's design and results framework, primarily through the inclusion of an intercultural training programme with gender equity criteria and several sex-disaggregated indicators under Outcome 2. In line with UNEP evaluation guidance, because these commitments are embedded in the project's outputs and indicators, they do not require to be included as standalone drivers or assumptions in the TOC. Instead, they are understood to operate across the causal pathways, particularly within the capacity-building and awareness components, which aimed to enhance equitable participation of women, indigenous peoples and other under-represented groups in ABS processes.

Figure 2: Theory of Change at review



IV. REVIEW FINDINGS

A. Strategic Relevance

80. This section assesses the strategic relevance of the project, focusing on its alignment with UNEP's mandate, Medium-Term Strategies and Programmes of Work, donor and partner priorities, and global, regional and national policy frameworks related to access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing. It also examines the extent to which the project responded to identified stakeholder needs, and whether it complemented existing initiatives without duplication.

Alignment to UNEP's UNEP Medium Term Strategy⁹ (MTS), Programme of Work (POW) and Strategic Priorities

Table 11: Alignment to the UNEP Medium Term Strategy (MTS), Programme of Work (POW), and Strategic Priorities

UNEP strategic document	Alignment with UNEP's mandate and thematic priorities	Level of alignment <i>full, partial, or not at all</i>
MTS (2014-2017)¹⁰	The project was designed to contribute to the UNEP MTS for 2014-2017 under which the project was approved, specifically under subprogrammes: 3 –Ecosystem Management and 4 – Environmental Governance. During the project implementation, alignment with the MTS for 2018-2021 was under subprogrammes 'Heathy and Productive Ecosystems' and 'Environmental Governance'. In the last phase of project implementation, alignment with MTS 2022-2025 was under 'Nature action subprogramme', where Outcome 3: Nature conservation and restoration, seeks to provide guidance for increased knowledge and institutional capacity to implement equitable access and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources, which is in line with the project's objective.	Full
POW (2016-2017) / (2018-2019)¹¹	The project is aligned with the POW 2016-2017 under which the project was approved, specifically under Subprogramme 3 Ecosystem Management and Subprogramme 4 Environmental Governance. Subprogramme 3 specifies that as part of its strategy assistance would be provided to countries to find innovative ways of financing and to create favourable policy and institutional conditions for ABS, in support of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilisation to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The project is also consistent with UNEP's POW for the Biennium 2018-2019, under Subprogramme 3 – Healthy and productive ecosystems and Subprogramme 4 – Environmental governance and following POWs until the end of the project.	Full

9 UNEP's Medium-Term Strategy (MTS) is a document that guides UNEP's programme planning over a four-year period. It identifies UNEP's thematic priorities, known as Sub-programmes (SP), and sets out the desired outcomes, known as Expected Accomplishments (EAs), of the Sub-programmes. <https://www.unenvironment.org/about-un-environment/evaluation-office/our-evaluation-approach/un-environment-documents>.

10 Refer to the MTS under which the project was approved.

11 Refer to the POW under which the project was approved.

Alignment to Donor/GEF/Partners Strategic Priorities

Table 12: Alignment to Donor/GEF/Partner Strategic Priorities

Donor or partner strategic document	Alignment with donor or partner strategic priorities	Level of alignment <i>full, partial, or not at all</i>
GEF	The project aligns with GEF-6 Biodiversity Objective BD-3: Sustainably use biodiversity through Programme 8: Implementing the Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit sharing.	Full

Relevance to Global, Regional, Sub-regional and National Priorities

Table 13: Relevance to Global, Regional, Sub-regional and National Environmental Priorities

Strategic document or agreement	Alignment with global, regional, sub-regional, national environmental priorities	Level of Alignment <i>Full, partial, or not at all</i>
Aichi Biodiversity Targets	The project aligns with Peru's efforts to fulfill Aichi Targets 13 (Strategic Goal C), 16 (Strategic Goal D) and 18 (Strategic Goal E). Under Target 13, the project contributed to improving the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species, and genetic diversity. Under Target 16, the project provided direct inputs to Peru's commitment to fully implement ABS in accordance with national legislation and the Nagoya Protocol. The framework established through the project contributed also to Peru's efforts to achieve its goal under Target 18 having improved the protection, maintenance and recovery of traditional knowledge and techniques related to biodiversity of indigenous peoples and local communities, within the framework of effective participation and consent.	Full
SDG	The project contributes to SDG 15 (Life on Land), specifically addressing Target 15.6 - promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilisation of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed; and more specifically the Indicator 15.6.1- number of countries that have adopted legislative, administrative and policy frameworks to ensure fair and equitable sharing of benefits.	Full
Peru UNDAF 2017-2021	The project operated under the area (iv) of the Peru 2012-16 UNDAF (United Nations Development Assistance Framework), which related to environment, climate change and disasters. Specifically, the project's goal to put in place an effective national ABS regime helped to promote sustainable development pathways by regulating appropriate access to genetic resources that foster biodiversity conservation.	Full
General Environment Law (Law N. 28611/2005)	The project aligns with the General Environment Law (Law N. 28611/2005), which connects the territorial dimension (planning and territorial ordering) to economic, social and environmental planning. Additionally, it recognises the strategic role of biological diversity and the cultural diversity related to it, for sustainable development. It also establishes the need to value, compensate and maintain protection services of hydrological resources; to protect biodiversity, mitigate gas emissions; and to preserve scenic beauty, focusing on the conservation of ecosystems, biological diversity and natural resources, which is in line with the	Full

Strategic document or agreement	Alignment with global, regional, sub-regional, national environmental priorities	Level of Alignment <i>Full, partial, or not at all</i>
	project's intended impact to contribute to protect biodiversity conservation.	
Biological Diversity Law (law N° 26839 of 1997) and regulations (Supreme Decree N° 068-2001-PCM of 2001)	The project is consistent and falls within the framework of policies, strategies and national legislation in matters of biodiversity and genetic resources, in particular with the Biological Diversity Law (law N° 26839 of 1997) and regulations (Supreme Decree N° 068-2001-PCM of 2001), that further reiterate the State's commitment to biodiversity and genetic resources. In line with the project, the Supreme Decree recognises the importance of knowledge, innovation, and practices of farmers and Indigenous communities for conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity. Likewise, it also reinforces the need to protect this knowledge and establish mechanisms to promote its use with the informed consent of these communities, ensuring the fair and equitable distribution of the benefits derived from its use.	Full
National Strategy of Biological Diversity (Supreme Decree 102-2001); National Biodiversity Strategy (2015-2021); National Biodiversity Strategy until 2050	The project is aligned with the National Strategy on Biological Diversity (approved by Supreme Decree N° 102-2001-PCM of 2001) and the National Biodiversity Strategy (2015-2021), adopted in 2015. The National Biodiversity Strategy seeks to provide overall guidance on policies which support sustainable use of genetic resources and genetic heritage in general through sustainable investment and R&D. The Project supported Peru's efforts to achieve Objective 2 of the Strategy, particularly regarding the implementation of the regulatory framework related to the Nagoya Protocol and associated norms. The project continues to be aligned with the most up-to-date National Biodiversity Strategy until 2050 (<i>Estrategia Nacional de Diversidad Biológica al 2050</i>), published in 2024.	Full
Regional Strategy for Biological Diversity for Countries in the Andean Community (Decision 523 of CAN of 2003)	The project is consistent with the Regional Strategy for Biological Diversity for Countries in the Andean Community (Decision 523 of CAN of 2003). This strategy aims to contribute to the implementation of the commitments adopted by the Member Countries of the Andean Community in the "Cancun Declaration of the Group of Megadiverse Countries," which establishes a forum for South-South cooperation on the issue of biodiversity among countries with vast potential, identifying as priority issues access to genetic resources, benefit sharing, traditional knowledge, and biotechnological development.	Full
National regulatory framework on access to genetic resources	At project approval, the national regulatory framework was the Supreme Decree No. 003-2009-MINAM, which regulated access to genetic resources but didn't include Nagoya Protocol indications since the protocol was ratified by Peru in 2014. The project directly contributed to the update of this Decree as part of its activities. This effort resulted in the approval of a new national regulation by Supreme Decree No. 019-2021-MINAM.	Full
Law on Protection of Collective Knowledge of Indigenous People Relating to Biodiversity	The project is aligned with the Law on Protection of Collective Knowledge of Indigenous People Relating to Biodiversity, which seeks to ensure protection of traditional knowledge associated with biodiversity. Specifically, by promoting respect, protection, preservation, wider application and development of the collective knowledge of indigenous peoples; promoting the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilisation of this	Full

Strategic document or agreement	Alignment with global, regional, sub-regional, national environmental priorities	Level of Alignment <i>Full, partial, or not at all</i>
(Law N. 27811/2002)	collective knowledge; promoting the use of this knowledge for the benefit of indigenous peoples and humanity.	

Complementarity with Existing Interventions/Coherence

Table 14: Complementarity with existing interventions/coherence

Other initiatives by UNEP or other organisations	Complementarity (including collaboration, coordination and overlap or duplication)	Level of Alignment <i>Full, partial, or not at all</i>
GEF ABS Ecuador (UNEP)	Participation in capacity-building activities with the ABS Project of Ecuador.	Full
Global ABS Project: Strengthening the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on ABS (UNEP)	Participation in capacity-building activities organised by the Global ABS Project, particularly on research and development, the Nagoya Protocol and benefit-sharing negotiations.	Full
Andean Community General Secretariat (Secretaría General de la Comunidad Andina - CAN)	Co-organisation of awareness raising events on biotechnology, commercial and legal aspects of access to genetic resources.	Full
Instituto de Investigaciones de la Amazonía Peruana (IIAP) and Centro de Estudios Nacionales de Semillas e Identidad (CENSI)	Strategic alliance with national research institutions, as potential users of genetic resources. IIAP and CENSI worked along with the project to strengthen the ABS regulation oriented towards academic research purposes.	Full

81. The project was highly relevant to international, national and stakeholder priorities on access to genetic resources and fair and equitable benefit-sharing. Its design aligned fully with UNEP's Medium-Term Strategies (2014–2017; 2018–2021; 2022–2025) and associated Programmes of Work supporting the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol. It was also fully consistent with GEF-6 Biodiversity Objective BD-3 and Programme 8 on ABS and contributed directly to global commitments under Aichi Biodiversity Targets 13, 16 and 18, as well as SDG target 15.6. At national level, the project addressed Peru's policy needs by supporting the Biological Diversity Law, the Law on Protection of Collective Knowledge, the National Biodiversity Strategies (2015–2021 and 2050), and the revision of the regulatory framework on access to genetic resources through Supreme Decree No. 019-2021-MINAM. Evidence from interviews and project documentation confirms that the project addressed well-identified technical and capacity gaps across its main beneficiary groups. Indigenous organisations were supported through culturally adapted training modules, which were first pilot-tested and refined through intercultural diagnostics, consultations and iterative workshops.
82. The intervention filled an institutional and technical gap rather than overlapping with existing efforts. At the national level, coherence was ensured through close work with all Competent National Authorities whose mandates directly relate to ABS governance. This collaboration was not an external complement but a core dimension of the project's design and contributed to strengthening inter-institutional alignment around the updated

regulatory framework. Complementarity with external initiatives also took place: the project engaged in capacity-building exchanges with the ABS Ecuador project and the Global ABS project, and organised events with the Andean Community (CAN). The project also collaborated actively with national research institutions (IIAP, CENSI) and Indigenous organisations.

Findings Statements on Strategic Relevance and Complementarity

83. The project's intervention strategy was highly relevant, showing full alignment with UNEP's mandate and global ABS priorities, strong coherence with GEF-6 Biodiversity Objective BD-3, and clear correspondence with Peru's national biodiversity and genetic resources policies. It also responded appropriately to the needs of institutional, academic, private-sector and Indigenous stakeholders by responding to identified needs and by adopting a culturally adapted approach.
84. The project demonstrated a good level of coherence and complementarity with relevant ABS-related initiatives in the country avoiding duplication and contributing to a more articulated ABS landscape in the country.

Rating for Strategic Relevance: Highly Satisfactory

Rating for Alignment to UNEP MTS, POW and Strategic Priorities: Highly satisfactory

Rating for Alignment to Donor/GEF/Partner Strategic Priorities: Highly satisfactory

Rating for Relevance to Global, Regional, Sub-regional and National Priorities: Highly satisfactory

Rating for Complementarity with Existing Interventions/Coherence: Satisfactory

B. Quality of Project Design

Table 15: Summary of quality of project design assessment ratings

	SECTION	RATING (1-6)	Summary Assessment
A	Project Preparation	5	The ProDoc contains a detailed problem analysis, emphasising Peru's obligations under the Nagoya Protocol, the lack of an operational ABS framework, limited awareness among stakeholders, and risks of biopiracy. The situation analysis is comprehensive and well aligned with national biodiversity strategies. The ProDoc identifies key stakeholders and mentions consultations during design, but the analysis consists in listing categories of stakeholders rather than providing depth on their interests, capacities and potential conflicts. Gender is explicitly mentioned in Output 2.a.3 (intercultural training including gender equity criteria) and sex-disaggregated indicators are included under Outcome 2.a. However, there was no gender action plan prepared, and human rights principles were not explicitly addressed in the design. The ProDoc includes a costed workplan with budgets by component, outcome and output; and a procurement plan was included as an annex to the ProDoc.
B	Risk identification	5	The ProDoc included a check-list, covering regulatory delays, institutional turnover, and stakeholder engagement. The operating context was noted, particularly the evolving ABS

	SECTION	RATING (1-6)	Summary Assessment
	and Safeguards		framework and potential political changes. Consideration of negative environmental or social effects were not identified.
C	Governance and Supervision Arrangements	5	The ProDoc presents a clear a governance structure with UNEP as the GEF Implementing Agency, PROFONANPE as the Executing Agency, and MINAM as the lead national counterpart. Roles of UNEP (supervision, reporting to the GEF) and PROFONANPE (day-to-day execution, fiduciary management) were described. A Project Steering Committee (PSC) was established in the design with defined functions (strategic guidance, approval of annual workplans, progress oversight).
D	Partnerships	4	The ProDoc identifies a wide range of partners. Their institutional mandates and relevance to ABS are clearly described. Responsibilities are appropriate to each institution's mandate. However, the ProDoc does not present a systematic assessment of their capacities (beyond the general rationale that awareness and technical skills were limited and would be strengthened through the project), and indigenous or civil society organisations are noted as stakeholders.
E	Strategic Relevance	5	The ProDoc demonstrates strong alignment with UNEP's MTS and PoW, particularly on environmental governance. The project design is consistent with GEF-6 Biodiversity Focal Area objectives, supporting Peru's implementation of the Nagoya Protocol. It is also well aligned with Peru's National Biodiversity Strategy and regional ABS priorities. Complementarity with other interventions is noted.
F	Logical Framework and Causality	5	The causal pathways are well articulated, with outputs logically linked to outcomes and outcomes to the objective of the project. The reconstructed TOC at mid-term further clarified these linkages, showing how regulatory strengthening, capacity building and pilot initiatives contribute to institutionalisation of ABS frameworks and, ultimately, to fair and equitable benefit-sharing and biodiversity conservation. Drivers and assumptions were clearly described in the reconstructed TOC. The outcomes set in the logframe are considered realistic. The MTR confirmed progress, though noted dependency on adoption of the revised ABS Regulation as a critical factor affecting timelines. The ProDoc logframe included indicators that were specific and measurable, but many of the outcome indicators were in fact formulated as outputs (e.g. "# of coordination mechanisms established," "# of checkpoints," "# of species catalogued"). And there were no output indicators. Despite these weaknesses in formulation, the indicators are generally clear, quantifiable and usable for tracking progress. Targets were numeric and measurable (e.g. processing times, numbers of checkpoints, pass rates) and sufficiently concrete to support monitoring. Baselines were provided for most indicators, often set at zero for new mechanisms, contracts or organisations. The logframe included disaggregated indicators (e.g. percentage of training participants by sex and age, number of national indigenous organisations engaged).

	SECTION	RATING (1-6)	Summary Assessment
G	Financial Planning	5	The project document included complete financial information, with a detailed budget for the GEF grant allocation across components, monitoring and evaluation, and project management costs. Co-financing expectations were clearly specified and disaggregated by source, type and amount, distinguishing in-kind contributions from national institutions, UNEP and the private sector. No cash co-financing was identified.
H	Efficiency	5	The design does reference complementarities with national institutions (MINAM, SERFOR, INIA, SERNANP, etc.), UNEP, and the private sector (Cosmo Ingredients) to contribute to an efficient implementation. It builds on pre-existing initiatives like ProAmbiente-GIZ, regional ABS LAC, and work of the National Commission against Biopiracy. Efficiency strategies included sequencing of capacity building after regulatory strengthening; using existing catalogues and databases to avoid duplication (GENES-Peru platform, ABS-CHM); and leveraging in-kind contributions from government institutions as a cost-effectiveness measure.
I	Monitoring	5	The project document included a monitoring plan with a dedicated budget (USD 125,000) covering inception, mid-term and terminal reviews, audits and related monitoring activities. Monitoring responsibilities were clearly defined for MINAM and PROFONANPE under UNEP oversight, with mechanisms such as annual PIRs and Steering Committee meetings specified. The results framework incorporated some disaggregated indicators (e.g. gender and indigenous organisations).
J	Sustainability / Replication and Catalytic Effects	4	Sustainability is considered across institutional (anchoring in MINAM, ABS agencies, PROFONANPE), socio-political (Nagoya Protocol commitments), financial (government in-kind, private sector links) and environmental (ABS compliance for biodiversity) dimensions. There is no standalone exit strategy, but sustainability embedded via institutionalisation of ABS system, GENES-Peru platform and training modules in universities. Dissemination foreseen through comms strategy, awareness campaigns and ABS-CHM/GENES-Peru. Replication/catalytic effects expected via pilots and intercultural training for wider uptake.
K	Learning, Communication and Outreach	5	The ProDoc outlined a communication strategy with defined methods: awareness campaigns, printed and visual materials, events, social media, and a project website. It also foresaw knowledge sharing through ABS-CHM and GENES-Peru platforms, and integration of training modules into universities. This provides a clear approach for communication with partners and stakeholders.
	Total (Weighted) Score:	5.28	(Full analysis in the Inception Report, available from the Project/Task Manager)

85. The project design was assessed by reviewing the design presented in the ProDoc (2017) and the reconstructed TOC approved at mid-term (2021). No formal revisions to the logframe were recorded after approval, so the ProDoc framework remained the reference, complemented by the MTR refinements of causal pathways, drivers and assumptions. Overall, the design was found to be sound and well aligned with UNEP, GEF and national priorities. The problem analysis was comprehensive, the governance structure clear, and financial and monitoring arrangements were detailed and deemed appropriate. The

logframe contained measurable indicators and targets that provided a workable basis for monitoring progress, and the reconstructed TOC strengthened the causal pathways and clarified key assumptions.

86. Some limitations were identified, though they do not undermine the overall robustness of the design. The stakeholder analysis and treatment of partner capacities could have been more detailed, and the logframe formulation showed that outcome indicators were sometimes phrased as outputs and no dedicated output indicators were formulated. Sustainability was addressed without a formal exit strategy, and gender considerations were partially integrated, relying on disaggregated indicators rather than a full gender strategy. On balance, the design can be considered satisfactory, providing a good foundation for implementation.

Rating for Project Design: Satisfactory

C. Nature of the External Context

87. The project operated in a context marked by significant political instability and institutional volatility in Peru throughout its implementation period. As reported in the Project's Final Report, the country experienced a sequence of major political events outside the project's control. These included a presidential resignation and a judicial institutional crisis in 2018; a congressional dissolution in 2019; the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and the declaration of a national state of emergency that limited all in-person activities; followed later that year by another presidential resignation and the appointment of a new president. Additional government transitions occurred in 2021, and the project's final stage in 2022 coincided with another presidential vacancy and social unrest.
88. These external disruptions contributed to delays in project implementation, particularly at the start of the project, when the recruitment of the Project Management Unit was also delayed, resulting in activities effectively beginning only in October 2018. A change of National Project Coordinator between December 2019 and February 2020 further coincided with these external events. Despite this challenging context, the Final Review confirms what stated by the Mid-Term Review (2021): the project demonstrated strong government commitment, sustained leadership from MINAM, and effective adaptive management that allowed it to overcome these obstacles, maintain interinstitutional coordination and achieve satisfactory progress toward its expected results.

Rating for Nature of the external context: Favourable

D. Effectiveness

Availability of Outputs

Table 16: Availability of outputs

	Narrative Assessment <i>Discuss the nature and scale of outputs delivered, as well timeliness, quality, and utility to intended beneficiaries</i>	Sources of Information/Evidence <i>List specific sources of information for each output and its indicator/s and mention triangulation efforts</i>
Component 1: Effective functioning of national ABS system, in agreement with Nagoya Protocol Output 1.a Performance against Indicator(s) and Target(s) No output indicators defined in the logical framework. Other information, not related to the indicators, that demonstrates Output delivery: In the PIR 2025: HIGHLY SATISFACTORY for Activity 1.a.1.5, 1.a.1.6, 1.a.1.7, 1.a.1.8, concerning intercultural	Component 1 encompasses two sets of Outputs, the first set being: 1. a.1. Fully functional and coordinated ABS system using updated or new documentation and procedures adequate to the Nagoya Protocol (including PIC and MAT), including guides for users and providers, and exchanging information through the national ABS information platform and the ABS-CHM 1.a.2. Check points established along the different stages of the use of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, and corresponding Operation Manuals elaborated for these check points. 1.a.3. Cases of illegal access to wild, cultivated and hydrobiological genetic resources, including associated traditional knowledge, prioritized and registered by the National Commission against Biopiracy in a Database, as part of the measures of monitoring the utilization of genetic resources established by the Nagoya Protocol (Art. 17°). All outputs listed above are considered fully delivered by reviewing the completion of all planned activities under each output, as presented below: Among the activities conducted under Output 1.a.1, one of the key accomplishments was the update of the regulatory framework on ABS through Supreme Decree No. 019-2021-MINAM with a participatory process, which simplified and streamlined national procedures (Activity 1.a.1.1). The review of procedures led to the development of standardized processes for each Competent National Authorities, significantly reducing	– Final Project Report – PIRs – MTR – Interviews

	Narrative Assessment <i>Discuss the nature and scale of outputs delivered, as well timeliness, quality, and utility to intended beneficiaries</i>	Sources of Information/Evidence <i>List specific sources of information for each output and its indicator/s and mention triangulation efforts</i>
guides development and for support provided to indigenous communities for the registration of traditional knowledge MEDIUM SATISFACTORY for Activity 1.a.1.3, concerning the update, launch and improve of the GENES-Peru platform Other Activities are rated as SATISFACTORY	the time needed to issue access contracts for non-commercial purposes—from a minimum of 470 business days at the start of the project to just 60 working days at the end (Activity 1.a.1.2). Furthermore, guidance documents aimed at providing guidelines on how to access genetic resources and their derivatives and comply with national ABS regulations were developed (Activity 1.a.1.4), and technical training was delivered to public officials on ABS negotiation, biotechnology, and administrative management (Activity 1.a.1.9). Additionally, the GENES-Peru platform was updated to process requirements for access to genetic resources (Activity 1.a.1.3). The pilot programme covering authorisations and contracts has been incorporated. However, according to the Final Report, quality review by MINAM was currently ongoing and at the time of this review the process was put on hold. By conducting the Activity 1.a.1.6, the project produced six intercultural guides on the protection of Indigenous Peoples' Collective Knowledge, translated into four indigenous languages, based on the methodology developed in the previous activity (1.a.1.5), constructed and validated within the framework of a process of consultation and participation of representatives of indigenous peoples where the intercultural and gender approach was incorporated. Support was also provided to indigenous communities for the registration of traditional knowledge, strengthening the protection of their ancestral knowledge, also through strategic alliances with national research institutions (IIAP and CENSI), governmental and intergovernmental organisations, civil associations, local governments and indigenous authorities (Activity 1.a.1.7). The intercultural guides and the support provided for traditional knowledge were purposefully developed with a gender-sensitive and intercultural approach, in close collaboration with representatives of indigenous organizations. The intentional inclusion of both Andean and Amazonian cultural perspectives, as well as the decision to use generic characters, sought to ensure equitable representation and mitigate potential inter-ethnic tensions. Enhancing accessibility constituted an explicit strategic priority.	

	Narrative Assessment <i>Discuss the nature and scale of outputs delivered, as well timeliness, quality, and utility to intended beneficiaries</i>	Sources of Information/Evidence <i>List specific sources of information for each output and its indicator/s and mention triangulation efforts</i>
	To this end, the guides were translated into Indigenous languages—Quechua, Aymara, Ashaninka, and Awajún—with the specific aim of promoting linguistic inclusion and facilitating community-level use. Similarly, the visual design was carefully and intentionally crafted, incorporating characters and graphic elements inspired by Indigenous cultures. These elements were subsequently validated by the communities themselves to ensure cultural accuracy, foster identification, and avoid any form of exclusion or conflict. All activities that contribute to the delivery of Output 1.a.1 are reported as 100% implemented in the PIR 2025 (except for Activity 1.a.1.3 reported as 87%), and as completed in the Final Report of the project. Among the activities conducted under Output 1.a.2., two Check Points along the different stages of the use of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge were established: INDECOPI and the National Commission against Biopiracy (CNBio) (Activity 1.a.2.1). Actions to exchange and systematize experiences with the checkpoints have been developed jointly with the Competent National Authorities (Activity 1.a.2.3). All activities that contribute to the delivery of Output 1.a.2 are reported as 100% implemented in the PIR 2025, and as completed in the Final Report of the project. Activities reported under Output 1.a.3 are: the acquiring of a software license (Clarivate Innovation platform) through Activity 1.a.3.1, to support the National Commission against Biopiracy (CNBio) in effectively monitoring and preventing unauthorized access to genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, was reported in Project Reports as crucial to improve the biopiracy surveillance. Since CNBio has been using the software, a total of 168 potential biopiracy cases (associated with 34 biological resources) were identified. 23 of them were resolved favourably (the rest is under evaluation) (Activity 1.a.3.2). Overall, a systematization of good practices of checkpoints	

	Narrative Assessment <i>Discuss the nature and scale of outputs delivered, as well timeliness, quality, and utility to intended beneficiaries</i>	Sources of Information/Evidence <i>List specific sources of information for each output and its indicator/s and mention triangulation efforts</i>
	was developed and a document on good practices of CNBio for the identification of cases of illegal access (Activity 1.a.2.3 and 1.a.3.4); manuals were developed and adapted to the new regulation (Activity 1.a.2.2) and defensive strategies against illegal access were proposed through a workshop and a manual for the CNBio checkpoint (Activity 1.a.3.3). All activities that contribute to the delivery of Output 1.a.3 are reported as 100% implemented in the PIR 2025, and as completed in the Final Report of the project. In terms of timeliness, at time of MTR the finalisation of several activities was dependent on the update of the national ABS regulation. which took longer than expected contributing to delays in activities, such as the establishment of the Check Points. Nevertheless, the project managed to complete all planned outputs within the implementation period. Level of delivery: fully delivered	
Component 1: Effective functioning of national ABS system, in agreement with Nagoya Protocol Output 1.b Performance against Indicator(s) and Target(s)	The second set of Outputs of Component 1 is composed by: 1.b.1 Information on species (wild, cultivated and hydrobiological) containing genetic resources with potential for research and development activities is compiled and systematized in the GENES-Peru Platform, including distribution and conservation status. 1.b.2 Benefits derived from use of genetic resources and associated TK in on-going research and development projects are identified, classified and assessed, strengthening the expertise of national authorities in this respect, and setting the basis for future negotiations.	– Final Project Report – PIRs – MTR – Interviews

	Narrative Assessment <i>Discuss the nature and scale of outputs delivered, as well timeliness, quality, and utility to intended beneficiaries</i>	Sources of Information/Evidence <i>List specific sources of information for each output and its indicator/s and mention triangulation efforts</i>
No output indicators defined in the logical framework. Other information, not related to the indicators, that demonstrates Output delivery: In the PIR 2025 all Activities are rated as SATISFACTORY.	All outputs listed above are considered fully delivered by reviewing the completion of all planned activities under each output, as presented below: Among the activities conducted under Output 1.b.1., a methodology for the identification of the potential use for R&D of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge was developed (Activity 1.b.1.1). By conducting the Activity 1.b.2, a list of 40 prioritized species composed of 32 species of plants (including a macroalgae), 3 species of mammals, 3 species of fish, and 2 invertebrates was developed. Additionally, a list of 40 species of wild flora including two endemic species of Peru was produced, leading to the publication of a guide that was digitally published on GENES-Peru platform (Activity 1.b.4). This guide is reported in Project Reports as a technical reference document that facilitates access to knowledge about wild plant species with medicinal potential, promoting the sustainable management of Peru's natural heritage and the development of research for the benefit of the country's populations. All activities that contribute to the delivery of Output 1.b.1 are reported as 100% implemented in the PIR 2025, and as completed in the Final Report of the project. Among the activities conducted under Output 1.b.2, a document collecting the experiences and good practices of negotiation and benefit-sharing of the Competent National Authorities and guidelines for the negotiation of contracts for access to genetic resources and their derivatives were developed (Activity 1.b.2.4). This was possible thanks to: a performed diagnosis of the regulatory framework and institutional capacities for the negotiation of contracts for access to genetic resources (Activity 1.b.2.1); the identification and analysis of awarded contracts, highlighting included benefits (Activity 1.b.2.2); and the identification of the need to strengthen Peruvian ABS authorities' capacity to negotiate benefit-sharing contracts by providing perspectives, strategies, and guidance aligned with national regulations (Activity 1.b.2.3).	

	Narrative Assessment <i>Discuss the nature and scale of outputs delivered, as well timeliness, quality, and utility to intended beneficiaries</i>	Sources of Information/Evidence <i>List specific sources of information for each output and its indicator/s and mention triangulation efforts</i>
	All activities that contribute to the delivery of Output 1.b.1 are reported as 100% implemented in the PIR 2025, and as completed in the Final Report of the project. In terms of timeliness, at the time of MTR most of the activities were well advanced and only required closure. At the conclusion of the project, all planned outputs were delivered. Level of delivery: fully delivered	
Component 2: Capacity building of relevant actors in relation to Access to genetic resources and traditional knowledge. Output 2.a Performance against Indicator(s) and Target(s) No output indicators defined in the logical framework.	Component 2 encompasses the following Outputs: 2.a.1 Awareness raising activities (using existing informational materials, and new ones when needed) on the Nagoya Protocol directed towards government officials, academics, researchers, civil society, communicators and general public. 2.a.2 Interactive training modules on management of access to genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, based on the national law and the Nagoya protocol, each one designed and directed towards a specific target group: government officials, academic researchers and entrepreneurs. 2.a.3 Intercultural training program oriented towards indigenous communities regarding ABS and TK, including gender equity criteria (4) based on the national law (mainly, referred on sui generis protection regime of traditional knowledge) and the Nagoya Protocol]. 2.a.4 Assistance for providers to promote and facilitate their negotiation capacity and for users to promote and achieve legal certainty in ABS contracts of 3 ongoing initiatives under negotiation (Cacao, Quina, Catfish-Doncella).	– Final Project Report – PIRs – MTR – Interviews

	Narrative Assessment <i>Discuss the nature and scale of outputs delivered, as well timeliness, quality, and utility to intended beneficiaries</i>	Sources of Information/Evidence <i>List specific sources of information for each output and its indicator/s and mention triangulation efforts</i>
Other information, not related to the indicators, that demonstrates Output delivery: In the PIR2025: Most Activities /Outputs are rated as SATISFACTORY HIGHLY SATISFACTORY for Activity 2.a.1.5., related to organising events to raise awareness of importance of GRs and ABS; Activity 2.a.3.3, 2.a.2.4, 2.a.2.5, 2.a.2.6, 2.a.3.5, and 2.a.3.6, concerning the Intercultural Training Program design and development through intercultural and participatory processes. MEDIUM SATISFACTORY for Activity 2.a.2.8, pending workshops at the macro-regional level; Activity 2.a.3.7 and 2.a.3.8, concerning the actual implementation of the Intercultural Training Program.	Outputs listed above are considered fully delivered by reviewing the completion of all planned activities under each output, as presented below. Output 2.a.3 is considered not completely delivered since two activities are reported as ongoing in the Final Report. Among the activities conducted under Output 2.a.1., a national communication strategy and dissemination materials were developed (Activity 2.a.1.1 and 2.a.1.4). Additionally, awareness-raising campaigns and events were implemented (Activity 2.a.1.3 and 2.a.1.5), and all materials were shared through the GENES-Peru platform (Activity 2.a.1.6), consolidating it as a key tool for information sharing, coordination, and transparency in the management of access to genetic resources and traditional knowledge in the country. All activities that contribute to the delivery of Output 2.a.1 are reported as 100% implemented in the PIR 2025 and as completed in the Final Report of the project. Through Output 2.a.2, interactive training modules on management of access to genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge were implemented, in collaboration with an Academic Committee (established by conducting Activity 2.a.2.2). The online training program on ABS, that includes an interactive module on legal and procedural aspects of ABS, was launched in October 2023 in the MINAM's virtual platform "AULA APRENDE" (Activity 2.a.2.5, 2.a.2.6, 2.a.2.7, 2.a.2.8 and 2.a.2.9). To date there are approximately 175 people enrolled in the training program. Activity 2.a.2.8 was reported as still ongoing in the Final Report; although trainings and workshops on ABS were held in 2024, workshops at the macro-regional level were still pending. All activities that contribute to the delivery of Output 2.a.2 are reported as 100% implemented in the PIR 2025 (except for Activity 2.a.2.8 reported as 60%), and as completed in the Final Report of the project.	

	Narrative Assessment <i>Discuss the nature and scale of outputs delivered, as well timeliness, quality, and utility to intended beneficiaries</i>	Sources of Information/Evidence <i>List specific sources of information for each output and its indicator/s and mention triangulation efforts</i>
	Among the activities conducted under Output 2.a.3, one of the key accomplishments was the design and development of the Intercultural Training Program. The process of designing, building and improving the proposal of the Intercultural Training Program was developed through a participatory process involving indigenous communities (Activity 2.a.3.3). 13 organisations of indigenous peoples and peasant communities were involved, and approximately 294 representatives from 24 regions of the country accompanied this process (Activity 2.a.3.4). The participative construction of the Program included a new audience not identified in the Project's ProDoc: children and teachers of bilingual intercultural education, to which were proposed 16 workshops called "The ABC of ABS". The final shape of the Intercultural Training Program consists of six modules and incorporates a gender, intercultural and intergenerational approach (Activity 2.a.3.5). Activities 2.a.3.7 and 2.a.3.8 concerning the actual implementation of the Intercultural Training Program were reported as ongoing at the time of the Final Report. The Intercultural Training Program was in the process of being validated by the Ministry of Culture, the Competent National Authority in the matter. Most of the activities that contribute to the delivery of Output 2.a.3 are reported as 100% implemented in the PIR 2025 and as completed in the Final Report of the project. However, Activity 2.a.3.7 is reported as 20% implemented and Activity 2.a.3.8 as 0% implemented in the PIR 2025, and both are considered ongoing in the Final Report of the project. Through Output 2.a.4, a technical support team was created to give assistance for providers to promote and facilitate their negotiation capacity and for users to promote and achieve legal certainty in ABS contracts (Activity 2.a.4.1 and 2.a.4.2). A PIC (Prior Informed Consent) guideline for traditional knowledge access was developed in coordination with INDECOPI (Activity 2.a.4.3). By conducting Activity 2.a.4.4 and 2.a.4.5, awareness-raising events and capacity-building activities have been carried out to provide information on the importance of valuing traditional knowledge and benefits.	

	Narrative Assessment <i>Discuss the nature and scale of outputs delivered, as well timeliness, quality, and utility to intended beneficiaries</i>	Sources of Information/Evidence <i>List specific sources of information for each output and its indicator/s and mention triangulation efforts</i>
	Additionally, the Guide for the Sharing of Benefits arising from the use of Collective Knowledge has been developed in a participatory framework with suppliers. Finally, through Activity 2.a.4.6, the experiences and lessons learned from the project were systematised. All activities that contribute to the delivery of Output 2.a.4 are reported as 100% implemented in the PIR 2025 (except for Activity 2.a.4.4 reported as 80%), and as completed in the Final Report of the project. In terms of timeliness, at time of MTR the implementation of some activities was delayed, mainly depending on the process for the update of the national ABS regulation, which took longer than expected, and on the limitations to in person activities due to the Covid-19 pandemic. For example, the virtual ABS training modules had not yet been delivered waiting for the regulation approval (that happened in July 2021) and were only completed in 2023–2024. Nevertheless, the project managed to complete planned outputs within the implementation period, except for the actual implementation of the Intercultural Training Program. Level of delivery: delivered	
Component 3: Projects and initiatives on ABS contributing to conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity Output 3.a	Component 3 encompasses the following Outputs: 3.a.1 Ongoing research and innovation project (cosmetics and fragrance) based on native genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, supported by the project to comply with ABS national legislation and Nagoya Protocol throughout the chain of research and development. 3.a.2 At least two on-going research projects (CosmoPeru-Molle fragrance and U of Copenhagen-Mauka) will be analysed/monitored as a test for the national ABS monitoring system, serving as a learning experience for government officials.	– Final Project Report – PIRs – MTR – Interviews

	Narrative Assessment <i>Discuss the nature and scale of outputs delivered, as well timeliness, quality, and utility to intended beneficiaries</i>	Sources of Information/Evidence <i>List specific sources of information for each output and its indicator/s and mention triangulation efforts</i>
Performance against Indicator(s) and Target(s) No output indicators defined in the logical framework. Other information, not related to the indicators, that demonstrates Output delivery: In the PIR2025: Most Activities are rated as HIGHLY SATISFACTORY SATISFACTORY for Activity 3.a.1.1, related to training on access requests; Activity 3.a.1.8, concerning the systematization of experiences and lessons learned; Activity 3.a.2.1, concerning the development and validation of guidance for supervision and monitoring; and Activity 3.a.2.2, related to supervision and monitoring tools.	As reported in the PIR 2021, Component 3 was subjected to design changes related to pilots. In response to the scenario change since the elaboration to the implementation period, the project shifted from working with a fixed list of ex-ante selected pilots to a more flexible strategy based on “ongoing initiatives”. Nevertheless, the objective and Component-level outcomes and outputs remained the same, and the focus on pilots as learning cases was preserved. Considering this, all outputs listed above are considered fully delivered by reviewing the completion of all planned activities under each output, as presented below: Among the activities conducted under Output 3.a.1, Activities 3.a.1.1 and 3.a.1.2 were directed to give support and training to users about access requests, including guidance on compilation and submission of documents. On the other hand, under Activities 3.a.1.5, 3.a.1.6 and 3.a.1.7, Competent National Authorities received continuous technical and legal support to enhance the management of access requests and the application of the ABS regulatory framework. This support enabled the signing of 34 contracts, 4 authorizations, and 2 addenda across the authorities, significantly reducing authorization processing times to 60 days (Activity 3.a.1.7). Additionally, a total of 54 Internationally Recognized Certificates of Compliance (IRCC) were issued: 38 by SERFOR, 11 by INIA, and 5 by PRODUCE (Activity 3.a.1.4), demonstrating the success and strength of the project strategy, as stated in the Final Report. Technical and legal support provided to Competent National Authorities further facilitated coordination and exchanges with Cosmo Ingredients SAC to streamline the preparation for access contract negotiations (Activity 3.a.1.6). Finally, this support enabled Competent National Authorities to identify critical issues, opportunities, and lessons learned, helping them to improve their processes and procedures through a continuous feedback cycle (Activity 3.a.1.8). Among the activities conducted under Output 3.a.2, Activity 3.a.2.1 enabled the identification of awarded contracts and the establishment of a follow-up system to monitor compliance, resulting in a standardized monitoring methodology implemented across all Competent National Authorities. Additionally, Activity 3.a.2.2 supported the	

	Narrative Assessment <i>Discuss the nature and scale of outputs delivered, as well timeliness, quality, and utility to intended beneficiaries</i>	Sources of Information/Evidence <i>List specific sources of information for each output and its indicator/s and mention triangulation efforts</i>
	follow-up and monitoring of all contracts awarded since 2013, providing guidance to improve supervision and monitoring processes for both the Competent National Authorities and users. Through Activity 3.a.2.2, follow-up and monitoring were carried out for all authorities with contracts awarded, allowing to identify needs, critical points and points of improvement. Finally, through Activity 3.a.2.4, the standardized supervision and follow-up tool, along with its guidance, was shared with the Competent National Authorities and is now operational at PRODUCE and SERFOR. All Activities are reported as fully completed (100% implemented in the PIR 2025). In terms of timeliness, at time of MTR the implementation of Output 3.a activities was the least developed. For example, the development of monitoring tools was subject to the provisions of the new ABS Regulation, that took longer than expected. However, the project reports and PIR 2025 show that at the end of the project all four Competent National Authorities received technical and legal support, enabling numerous outputs and strengthening monitoring and supervision tools, demonstrating translation of capacity-building efforts into practical results. Level of delivery: fully delivered	

89. Across Components 1, 2 and 3, the project delivered most of its planned outputs. Since no specific output-level indicators were formulated, completion of activities planned under each output was used to assess the overall availability of outputs. Under Component 1, all key outputs were achieved: the national ABS regulatory framework was updated through Supreme Decree No. 019-2021-MINAM, standardised procedures for each Competent National Authority were developed and processing times for non-commercial access contracts were reduced from around 470 to 60 working days; the GENES-Peru platform was updated and a pilot module for authorisations and contracts incorporated; checkpoints were established at INDECOPI and CNBio; and biopiracy surveillance was strengthened through acquisition and use of specialised software, resulting in the identification of 168 potential cases. Component 2 outputs were largely delivered as planned: a national communication strategy and awareness materials were produced and disseminated also through the GENES-Peru platform, interactive online training modules on ABS were developed and launched on the “AULA APRENDE” platform with around 175 participants enrolled, and assistance was given to providers

and users through a technical support team and practical guidance on PIC and ABS contracts. The Intercultural Training Program was designed and developed through a participatory process involving indigenous communities, and at the end of the project was in the process of being validated by the Ministry of Culture. Outputs under Component 3 were also fully delivered, including technical and legal support that enabled the signing of 34 contracts, 4 authorisations and 2 addenda, the issuance of 54 Internationally Recognised Certificates of Compliance (IRCCs), and the development and operationalisation of a standardised monitoring methodology and tools now in use by PRODUCE and SERFOR.

90. The quality and utility of these outputs for intended beneficiaries are evidenced both in project reports and in stakeholder interviews. The update of the ABS regulation and standard operating procedures provided Competent National Authorities with clearer, more efficient tools to process access requests and fulfil Nagoya Protocol obligations. The GENES-Peru platform, technical guides and the published reference on wild plant species of medicinal potential improved access to systematised information for authorities, researchers and other users. The six intercultural guides on the protection of Indigenous Peoples' collective knowledge, translated into four indigenous languages and developed through consultation with 13 Indigenous and farmers organisations, were purposefully designed with gender-sensitive, intergenerational and intercultural approaches and visually validated by communities, increasing their usability and legitimacy. The design of the Intercultural Training Programme through participatory processes, and the creation of an academic committee to support the design of online ABS training, illustrate efforts to tailor outputs to the needs of Indigenous organisations, universities and national institutions. Technical and legal support to authorities and users was repeatedly described as key in identifying bottlenecks and translating it into concrete contracts and improved monitoring practice. PIRs rate most activities as Satisfactory or Highly Satisfactory.
91. In terms of timeliness, several outputs experienced delays linked primarily to the extended process for updating the national ABS regulation and to restrictions on in-person activities during the COVID-19 pandemic. At MTR, many activities under Components 2 and 3 were still in early or intermediate stages, and some outputs, such as the development of monitoring tools and the delivery of virtual training modules, were contingent on the approval of the new regulation in 2021. By project closure, these delays had been largely absorbed within the extended implementation period, and almost all planned outputs had been completed. Exceptions include the full implementation of the Intercultural Training Programme, which remained in the process of validation by the Ministry of Culture and had only been partially rolled out, and the pending completion of macro-regional workshops under the online training programme. In addition, the quality review of the updated GENES-Peru platform by MINAM was still ongoing at the time of the review.

Achievement of Project Outcomes

92. This section assesses progress against all outcome-level indicators, drawing on evidence from project documents, PIRs, the Mid-Term Review and interviews with key stakeholders. The outcome statements are coherent and well-articulated. They are suitable and adequate to achieve the desired overarching objective and impact.

Table 17: Achievement of project outcomes

Outcome 1.a:	The ABS national mechanism operates in a coordinated manner, following unified criteria and taking into account monitoring and supervision.
Performance Indicator(s) and Target(s):	<i>(Performance against indicators and targets is a necessary condition but may not be sufficient to prove the achievement of an outcome)</i> Outcome 1.a is rated as Highly Satisfactory or Satisfactory depending on the indicator. Specifically: # of Technical ABS Interinstitutional Coordination Mechanism established by GoP to articulates and monitors ABS – Target: 1 mechanism. During the third year of the project implementation (2020), the National ABS Mechanism was created, integrating key Competent National Authorities. # of working days to process Collection Permits and Access Contracts – Target: 60 working days for permit and 60 working days for contracts. The average time required for granting ABS permits was reduced from 173 working days to 61. The time needed to issue access contracts for non-commercial purposes was reduced from 470 working days at the start of the project to 60 working days at the end. The above indicators/targets were rated as Highly Satisfactory. % Approved cases with International Compliance Certificate (ICC) notified in ABS-CHM – Target: 100% approved cases notified. During the project's life cycle, a total of 52 access contracts with ICC were granted. 100% are reported as notified. # of check points established and registered in ABS-CHM – Target: 4 check points. In the updated ABS regulation, only 2 check points are recognised. Nevertheless, the new regulation indicates that national funding programs and agencies related to scientific research, development and innovation, and entrepreneurs based on genetic resources and its derivatives, could become check points. The above indicators/targets were rated as Satisfactory.
Sources of Information /Evidence: <i>List specific source/s of information that demonstrate the uptake of outputs by intended beneficiaries</i>	– PIRs – MTR – Other project reports – Interviews with key stakeholders
Narrative Assessment: <i>Discuss the nature, depth, and scale of Outcome. Discuss the contribution, credible association, or attribution of</i>	Outcome 1.a encompasses 4 indicators and 4 of their targets were achieved. Specifically, the National ABS Mechanism was created, integrating key institutions (MINAM, PRODUCE, INIA, SERFOR, SERNANP, and

Outcome 1.a:	The ABS national mechanism operates in a coordinated manner, following unified criteria and taking into account monitoring and supervision.
<i>the Outcome level change to the project.</i>	INDECOPI) to ensure a coordinated national approach to ABS management and to build technical agreements, establish unified criteria, exchange experiences and discuss practical cases, supporting the implementation of the national ABS regulatory framework. Additionally, the project contributed to reduce processing times: at the conclusion of the project, ABS permits required an average of 61 working days, compared to 173 previously. Similarly, non-commercial access contracts, which initially took around 470 working days to issue, are processed within approximately 60 working days, as stated in the Final Report. Furthermore, a total of 52 access contracts were issued over the course of the project. It is reported that the analysis of each Competent National Authority's internal procedures and bottlenecks allowed for more efficient handling of IRCCs and contributed to reduced processing times. Finally, a diagnostic of capacities and challenges for implementing ABS check points was completed. Under the updated regulation, Peru officially recognised two check points, both supported with guidelines and capacity-building; however, the outcome target was 4 check points. To address this, the project clarified in the PIR that the regulation opens the possibility for national research, innovation, and funding programs to serve as additional check points. It is reported that, as a result of coordination based on the new regulation, Prociencia (a funding program) had already incorporated this requirement, and assessments of other potential public programs and agencies were underway at the time of PIR 2025.
Level of Achievement:	Fully achieved

Outcome 1.b:	The national ABS system has reliable, timely and relevant information for benefit-sharing negotiation strategies.
Performance Indicator(s) and Target(s):	<i>(Performance against indicators and targets is a necessary condition but may not be sufficient to prove the achievement of an outcome)</i> Outcome 1.b is rated as Highly Satisfactory for the two related indicators. Specifically: # of strategic species that contain GR have systematized information regarding their potential for R&D – Target: 10 species. During the project implementation, a list of 40 strategic prioritised species was developed. Additionally, a list of 40 species of wild flora was produced. The project overachieved this target, reaching a list of 80 strategic species. # of initiatives analysed and evaluated regarding the impacts of the distribution of benefits – Target: 4 final analyses with lessons learned and recommendations. The project overachieved this target, reaching 5 initiatives analysed and evaluated.

Outcome 1.b:	The national ABS system has reliable, timely and relevant information for benefit-sharing negotiation strategies.
Sources of Information /Evidence: <i>List specific source/s of information that demonstrate the uptake of outputs by intended beneficiaries</i>	– PIRs – MTR – Other project reports – Interviews with key stakeholders
Narrative Assessment: <i>Discuss the nature, depth, and scale of Outcome. Discuss the contribution, credible association, or attribution of the Outcome level change to the project.</i>	Outcome 1.b encompasses 2 indicators, and both their targets were overachieved during the project implementation. Specifically, to address the first indicator, a list of 40 flora and fauna prioritised species that contain strategic genetic resources for Peru based on their actual or potential value in research, development and innovation was developed. Additionally, a list of 40 species of wild flora including two endemic species of Peru was produced, leading to the publication of a guide that was published on GENES-Peru platform. To address the second indicator, at least 10 initiatives were identified, and draft analyses were conducted for 9 of them. As reported in the PIR 2025, among these, 5 initiatives were examined in depth, providing detailed insights into administrative procedures, identifying bottlenecks in administration and negotiation, and highlighting lessons learned and perspectives from both procedural reviews and applicants. Of the initiatives analysed, two agreements have been signed, though their terms cannot be disclosed by the authorities due to confidentiality restrictions.
Level of Achievement:	Fully achieved

Outcome 2:	Relevant actors from public, private, academic, scientific/technical, society, and indigenous peoples, aware of and trained on ABS.
Performance Indicator(s) and Target(s):	<i>(Performance against indicators and targets is a necessary condition but may not be sufficient to prove the achievement of an outcome)</i> Outcome 2 is rated as Highly Satisfactory or Satisfactory depending on the indicator. Specifically: % of target groups exposed to awareness program on ABS, differentiating gender and youth – Target: 100% target groups informed of ABS. The project realised several awareness-raising and training events, provided to different target groups, that reached a total of 7,406 participants during the project's life cycle. # national indigenous organisations (as per Law 27811) contributing to ABS via intercultural training program, with emphasis on gender-based traditional knowledge and application – Target: 7 indigenous organisations. 13 organisations of Indigenous Peoples were involved in the design and implementation of the Intercultural Training Program. The project overachieved this target. The above indicators/targets were rated as Highly Satisfactory.

Outcome 2:	Relevant actors from public, private, academic, scientific/technical, society, and indigenous peoples, aware of and trained on ABS.
	% of participants in online course and interactive modules disaggregated by gender achieving the minimum mark in the capacity survey – Target: 80% in Course 1 and 80% in Course 2. 80% of participants were achieved in the implementation of the ABS training program. # of users and providers from ongoing initiatives scoring at least 2 TT Score Section 1 and Section 2 – Target: At least 3 initiatives have a mutually agreed terms negotiated for ABS. The PIR 2025 indicates that at least 3 initiatives have established MAT (Mutually Agreed Terms) agreements. The above indicators/targets were rated as Satisfactory.
Sources of Information /Evidence: <i>List specific source/s of information that demonstrate the uptake of outputs by intended beneficiaries</i>	– PIRs – MTR – Other project reports – Interviews with key stakeholders
Narrative Assessment: <i>Discuss the nature, depth, and scale of Outcome. Discuss the contribution, credible association, or attribution of the Outcome level change to the project.</i>	Outcome 2 encompasses 4 indicators. All their targets were fully achieved; one of them was overachieved. The project realised several events (122 awareness-raising and training events, virtual and in-person), with an intercultural and gender-sensitive approach, to different key actors (academics, researchers, innovators, entrepreneurs and Indigenous Peoples) on the importance of the Nagoya Protocol and the national regulatory framework related to ABS and associated traditional knowledge. According to the PIR 2025, 42% of participants were women. Furthermore, 13 organisations of Indigenous Peoples were involved in the design and implementation of the Intercultural Training Program, overachieving the outcome target. Between 2019 and 2022 the participation of women in the Program has been 58.74%, as reported in the PIR 2025. Also, adults, youth, adolescents, and children from organisations of Indigenous Peoples and communities from different regions of the country have been included. Concerning the online courses and interactive modules, the ABS training program, hosted on MINAM's "AULA APRENDE" virtual platform, was launched in October 2023. Organised by MINAM in coordination with the National Council of Science, Technology and Technological Innovation (CONCYTEC), and with the support of the Competent National Authorities (SERFOR, INIA, PRODUCE y SERNANP), counted with 175 participants enrolled by December 2024. Finally, results indicate that at least 3 initiatives have established MAT agreements. As reported in the PIR 2025, regarding TT SCORES, while authorities have developed procedures and legislation related to ABS and traditional knowledge, model contractual clauses for TK-related benefit-sharing are still lacking,

Outcome 2:	Relevant actors from public, private, academic, scientific/technical, society, and indigenous peoples, aware of and trained on ABS.
	even though several MAT agreements have already been negotiated and signed with the Peruvian State.
Level of Achievement:	Fully achieved

Outcome 3:	Conservation and sustainable use of local biodiversity is improved through interventions that lead to a better and more efficient application of ABS measures in the country.
Performance Indicator(s) and Target(s):	<i>(Performance against indicators and targets is a necessary condition but may not be sufficient to prove the achievement of an outcome)</i> Outcome 3 is rated as Highly Satisfactory or Satisfactory depending on the indicator. Specifically: # of Access Contracts with International Compliance Certificate (ICC) – Target: 1 ABS contract with ICC in compliance with national ABS regime. Up to December 2022, 4 access contracts and IRCC have been granted. The project overachieved this target. The above indicator/target is rated as Highly Satisfactory. # of initiatives comply with the conditions stipulated in the contracts/ agreements in accordance with the National ABS Monitoring System – Target: 2 initiatives. 4 initiatives have submitted final reports on compliance with the conditions stipulated in the contracts. These reports demonstrated that the stipulated deadlines were met. The above indicator/target is rated as Satisfactory.
Sources of Information /Evidence: <i>List specific source/s of information that demonstrate the uptake of outputs by intended beneficiaries</i>	– PIRs – MTR – Other project reports – Interviews with key stakeholders
Narrative Assessment: <i>Discuss the nature, depth, and scale of Outcome. Discuss the contribution, credible association, or attribution of the Outcome level change to the project.</i>	Outcome 3 encompasses 2 indicators. The first indicator was overachieved with 4 access contracts and IRCC granted. The second indicator was overachieved in terms of initiatives complying with agreements. 4 initiatives have submitted final reports on compliance with the conditions stipulated in the contracts. However, as part of the implementation of the new ABS regulations, changes have been implemented in the monitoring system. Consequently, a National ABS Monitoring System was not implemented; instead, each authority oversees monitoring compliance with their contracts.
Level of Achievement:	Fully achieved

93. Outcome 1.a was fully achieved. The National ABS Mechanism was established in 2020, integrating the Competent National Authorities and providing a coordinated platform to support implementation of the updated ABS regulation. Processing times for ABS permits and access contracts were significantly reduced, with permits averaging 61 working days (down from 173) and non-commercial contracts reduced from approximately 470 working

days to around 60. In addition, 52 access contracts with Internationally Recognised Certificates of Compliance (IRCC) were issued and reported as notified to the ABS-CHM. A diagnostic of ABS checkpoints was completed, and although only two checkpoints were formally recognised under the updated regulation, rather than the target of four, the regulatory framework now enables other research and innovation programmes to assume this role, and one national funding programme (Prociencia) had already incorporated this requirement.

94. Outcome 1.b was fully achieved, with both indicators overachieved. A list of 40 prioritised species containing strategic genetic resources for research and development was developed, alongside a second list of 40 wild flora species, resulting in a compilation of 80 species and the publication of a technical guide on the GENES-Peru platform. For the second indicator, at least 10 initiatives were identified, and nine draft analyses were completed. Five initiatives were analysed in depth, generating detailed assessments of administrative procedures, bottlenecks, and negotiation experiences, as well as lessons learned and recommendations. Two of these initiatives resulted in signed agreements, although their terms remain confidential.
95. Outcome 2 was fully achieved, with all four indicators meeting or exceeding their targets. The project delivered extensive awareness-raising and training activities, providing 122 events that reached 7,406 participants across academic, scientific, private-sector and Indigenous Peoples' groups, with 42% women participants. Thirteen Indigenous Peoples' organisations contributed to the design and implementation of the Intercultural Training Programme, surpassing the target of seven, and women represented 58.7% between 2019 and 2022. The online ABS training programme, launched on MINAM's "AULA APRENDE" platform and developed with support from CONCYTEC and the Competent National Authorities, enrolled 175 participants by December 2024, with 80% meeting the required threshold. Furthermore, at least three ongoing initiatives achieving Mutually Agreed Terms agreements, in line with the target.
96. Outcome 3 was fully achieved, with both indicators overachieved. Four access contracts with IRCC were granted (exceeding the target of one) and four initiatives submitted final compliance reports, demonstrating adherence to the conditions established in their contracts. Although the original design envisaged a National ABS Monitoring System, regulatory changes led to each Competent National Authority overseeing monitoring and supervision of its own awarded contracts. Additionally, follow-up procedures, tools, and guidance were developed and applied across authorities, supporting consistent supervision and enabling authorities to identify needs, critical points, and areas for improvement.

Likelihood of Impact

97. The likelihood of impact assessment is structured around the reconstructed TOC and examines the extent to which the drivers and assumptions required to move from outputs to outcomes, from outcomes to intermediate states, and ultimately toward the intended impact are in place. The narrative below explains how these elements interact to influence the project's potential to achieve impact.

Table 18: Likelihood of impact

Factors influencing likelihood of impact	Assessment	Justification
Drivers to support transition from Outputs to the Project Outcomes	In place	<i>Legal and institutional ABS frameworks strengthened, combined with enhanced capacity and awareness.</i> Legal and institutional ABS frameworks were strengthened through the development of the new ABS Regulation, harmonised procedures, updated guidelines and tools, and the establishment of the National ABS Mechanism. Awareness-raising and capacity-building activities reached a broad range of stakeholders, including public officials, researchers, private users and Indigenous organisations. Intercultural materials, guides and the Intercultural Training Programme were developed through consultation processes, and training approaches incorporated gender, intergenerational and intercultural considerations. These elements support the fact that this driver is in place, facilitating the transition from outputs to the intended outcomes.
Assumptions for the change process from Outputs to Project Outcomes	Partially	<i>Internal conditions of key institutions and actors do not delay political processes and capacity building.</i> Internal institutional processes contributed to delays in the approval of the updated ABS Regulation, which in turn slowed the completion of several activities dependent on the new legal framework. However, once the Regulation was approved, the project advanced as planned, and these delays did not prevent the achievement of outcome-level results.
Proportion of Project Outcomes fully or partially achieved	All	The project achieved or overachieved all its outcome targets demonstrating consistent progress in improving the ABS system functionality, supporting the effective application of ABS measures.
Drivers to support transition from Project Outcomes to Intermediate States	In place	<i>Institutionalisation of ABS frameworks complemented by technical support for case studies and ABS contracts.</i> <i>Strengthened inter-institutional coordination and adoption of new ABS regulatory framework.</i> The project strengthened ABS frameworks by providing guidelines, tools, and training that authorities continue to use in daily operations, with some institutions, like SERFOR, formally adopting these resources. MINAM institutionalized the ABS training program, ensuring ongoing capacity-building. Technical and legal support to all four authorities facilitated the negotiation and issuance of access contracts and IRCCs and supported the implementation of supervision and monitoring tools. The shift from predefined pilots to supporting ongoing ABS cases enabled broader institutional capacity-building consistent with project objectives.

Factors influencing likelihood of impact	Assessment	Justification
		Institutionalisation of the ABS framework progressed through the establishment and functioning of the National ABS Mechanism, the adoption of the updated ABS Regulation, and strengthened coordination among Competent National Authorities.
Assumptions for the change process from the Project Outcomes to Intermediate States	Hold	<i>Public and private institutions embrace and support the institutionalization of ABS frameworks</i> Evidence indicates that public institutions demonstrated sustained interest in, and support for, the institutionalisation of ABS frameworks throughout implementation. This is reflected in their active participation and regular engagement in the National ABS Mechanism and their use of tools, guidelines, and procedures developed under the project some of which have been formally adopted. Private sector also demonstrated support through their engagement in case analyses, contract negotiations and compliance processes during the project period. However, gaps remain, as, for example, the ABS National Mechanism and the Intercultural Training Program are not fully anchored institutionally.
Proportion of Intermediate States achieved	Some	Intermediate State 1: The national ABS mechanism is institutionalised and fully operational, with legal, technical and institutional frameworks in place to ensure functionality and coordination. Intermediate State 2: Public and private institutions, researchers and local communities, including indigenous peoples, have confidence in the ABS system as an accessible, fair and inclusive mechanism that supports sustainable development and enhances Peru's attractiveness for biotechnology and innovation. Both reconstructed intermediate states are supported by evidence: (i) the ABS mechanism has operational structures, unified procedures and coordination mechanisms in place; and (ii) a significant number of institutions and users, including Competent National Authorities, research centres and private users, have engaged with ABS tools, processes and training, resulting in a higher number of contracts in place, this shows confidence and uptake.
Drivers to support transition from Intermediate States to Impact	Partially	<i>Sustained institutionalisation of ABS functions, including permanent coordination mechanisms, formally adopted operational tools within authorities.</i> Elements of institutionalisation are in place, including the updated ABS Regulation, operational procedures, capacity-building processes and coordination arrangements. However, sustainability depends on formalising long-term coordination structures, securing stable institutional mandates.
Assumptions for the change process from	Hold	<i>Government administrations maintain political support for the ABS regime and allocate sufficient institutional</i>

Factors influencing likelihood of impact	Assessment	Justification
Intermediate States to Impact		<i>resources to ensure continuity of coordination mechanisms, capacity building and dissemination.</i> Progress toward the intended impact requires stable political support and consistent institutional resourcing across successive administrations. While reporting to Nagoya is a national commitment, hence ensuring a certain level of resources allocation, it is uncertain if those resources will be sufficient to ensure that the benefits brought by the project will sustain in the future.

98. Evidence indicates that the drivers required to support the transition from outputs to outcomes are largely in place. Legal and institutional ABS frameworks were strengthened through the development of the updated ABS Regulation, the harmonisation of procedures among Competent National Authorities, the production of guidelines and operational tools, and the establishment of the National ABS Mechanism. Awareness-raising and capacity-building activities reached a wide range of stakeholders, including public officials, researchers, private users and Indigenous organisations, with training approaches incorporating gender, intercultural and intergenerational considerations. Although internal institutional processes contributed to delays, particularly in the approval of the updated regulation, these did not prevent the achievement of the intended outcomes. All outcome targets were achieved or overachieved, demonstrating consistent progress toward improved ABS system functionality and the effective application of ABS measures.

99. Drivers supporting the transition from outcomes to intermediate states are assessed as being in place. The institutionalisation of the ABS framework advanced through the adoption of the updated ABS Regulation, strengthened coordination across Competent National Authorities, and the establishment and functioning of the National ABS Mechanism. Technical and legal assistance provided to all four authorities enabled the negotiation and issuance of access contracts and IRCCs, the application of monitoring tools, and broader institutional strengthening. Public institutions showed sustained support for institutionalisation, reflected in their active participation in the ABS Mechanism and the use (or formal adoption) of tools and processes developed under the project. Private-sector actors also contributed through engagement in case analyses, contract negotiations and compliance processes. Evidence supports progress toward both intermediate states: (i) operationalisation and coordination of the national ABS mechanism, and (ii) increased confidence and uptake among institutions and users. However, certain elements, such as the full institutional anchoring of the ABS National Mechanism, remain incomplete.

100. Drivers supporting the transition from intermediate states to the objective and long-term impact are assessed as partially in place. Several institutional elements required for sustained impact, such as updated regulations, operational procedures, capacity-building mechanisms and coordination arrangements, have been established. However, long-term sustainability will depend on formalising coordination structures, securing stable mandates and ensuring continued institutional use of tools and processes. The key assumption related to political support is considered to hold to date, as Peru's reporting obligations under the Nagoya Protocol imply a minimum level of institutional commitment. Nevertheless, the extent to which future administrations will allocate sufficient resources to maintain coordination, capacity-building and dissemination efforts remains uncertain. Progress toward impact is therefore likely but contingent on

maintaining political and institutional support for the ABS regime across successive government cycles.

Findings Statements on Effectiveness:

101. The project largely achieved its planned outputs across all three components, with most products fully delivered and of good quality, and only minor shortfalls related to the full roll-out and validation of the Intercultural Training Programme, the completion of macro-regional workshops under the ABS training modules, and finalisation of the GENES-Peru platform, which remained under quality review by MINAM at project closure.
102. The project fully achieved, and in several cases exceeded, its planned outcome targets across all components, demonstrating consistent progress in improving ABS system functionality, strengthening information for negotiation, and supporting the effective application of ABS measures through contracts and compliance processes.
103. The project has established the foundational conditions necessary to progress toward its objective and intended impact, with strengthened ABS regulatory and institutional frameworks, improved capacities, and operational coordination mechanisms. Progress toward both intermediate states is supported by evidence, although some institutional anchoring remains incomplete. While key assumptions generally hold, the sustainability of results will depend on maintaining political support and institutional resourcing across future administrations.

Rating for Effectiveness: Satisfactory

Rating for Availability of Outputs: Satisfactory

Rating for Achievement of Project Outcomes: Satisfactory

Rating for Achievement of Likelihood of Impact (Use 'Likely' scale): Likely

E. Financial Management

Adherence to UNEP's Financial Policies and Procedures

104. No evidence was found of shortcomings in the project's adherence to UNEP or GEF financial policies, procedures or rules. All required financial documents were available, and document reviews and interviews consistently indicated that financial management processes were carried out in line with applicable standards. Throughout implementation, as reported both from interviews and confirmed by documents, approval timelines were affected by the requirement for dual signatures from PROFONANPE and MINAM; however, financial information was reported through detailed quarterly financial reports that were positively assessed by UNEP and showed a clear improvement over time, with fewer requests for corrections in later submissions. Annual budget revisions allowed reallocations across budget lines, with corresponding adjustments in line with the Annual Work Plans, and in-kind co-financing was systematically reported by the project management unit and positively valued. Procurement procedures were implemented by PROFONANPE under its internal rules, which are aligned with UNEP/GEF requirements. The project ultimately executed 100 per cent of the allocated budget, supported by no-cost extensions and a bridging PCA, after an initial period of under-execution linked to administrative bottlenecks in project governance. The final reimbursement from UNEP to PROFONANPE had not yet occurred at the time of the review. Reported delays however do not represent instances of non-adherence, nor question the compliance with established policies and procedures.

Completeness of Financial Information

105. The completeness of financial information is assessed as satisfactory as all key financial documentation required to verify expenditures and fund flows, including the original budget and co-financing tables and reports, approved budget revisions, periodic expenditure reports, evidence of disbursements, and the external audit reports, were available. All relevant legal and administrative documents were available, including the PCA between UNEP, PROFONANPE and MINAM and the CEO Endorsement package. The information available was sufficiently complete to allow this review to confirm the overall accuracy of reported expenditures, the proper documentation of financial flows, and the consistency between financial reporting and project implementation progress.

Table 19: Financial management

Financial management components:		Rating	Evidence/ Comments
1. Adherence to UNEP's/GEF's policies and procedures:		S	Evidence indicates adherence to UNEP's/GEF's policies and procedures.
Any evidence that indicates shortcomings in the project's adherence ¹² to UNEP or donor policies, procedures or rules		No	No evidence was found indicating shortcomings in the project's adherence to UNEP or GEF policies, procedures or rules.
Was first disbursement carried out within 9 months of UNEP's project approval date.		Yes	Yes, it was carried out about 4 months after UNEP's project approval.
Were the procurement policies of UNEP and the donor(s) followed? (<i>where applicable</i>)		Yes	Procurement was carried out by PROFONANPE following its internal procedures which are in line with those of UNEP and GEF.
2. Completeness of project financial information:			
Provision of key documents to the evaluator (based on the responses to A-H below)		S	
A.	Co-financing and Project Cost's tables at design (by budget lines)	Yes	Detailed tables by budget lines and expenditure categories were provided, including a full co-financing breakdown.
B.	Revisions to the budget	Yes	
C.	All relevant project legal agreements (e.g. SSFA, PCA, ICA)	Yes	
D.	Proof of fund transfers	Yes	
E.	Proof of co-financing (cash and in-kind)	Yes	
F.	A summary report on the project's expenditures during the life of the project (by budget lines, project components and/or annual level)	Yes	Summary of expenditures provided through quarterly financial reports and budget revisions, presenting expenditure by budget component and main budget categories and indicating cumulative expenditure and remaining balances.
G.	Copies of any completed audits and management responses (<i>where applicable</i>)	Yes	
H.	Procure documents ¹³ , including the approved requisition document and Source Selection Plan (<i>where applicable</i>)	N/A	

¹² If the evaluation raises concerns over adherence with policies or standard procedures, a recommendation maybe given to cover the topic in an upcoming audit, or similar financial oversight exercise.

¹³ Relevant for procurement action over USD 10,000 in value.

Financial management components:		Rating	Evidence/ Comments
I.	Any other financial information that was required for this project (list):	N/A	
Overall rating		S	

Findings Statements on Financial Management:

106. The project adhered to UNEP and GEF financial policies and procedures, with no evidence of non-compliance. Financial reporting, procurement and budget management were conducted in line with applicable standards, and delays observed in approvals and reimbursement processes did not constitute instances of non-adherence.

107. Financial information is assessed as complete, all key documents required for verification were available, such as budget and co-financing tables, approved revisions, PCA documentation, expenditure reports, fund transfer evidence, procurement files and audits, allowing confirmation of consistency between reported expenditures and implementation.

Rating for Financial Management: Satisfactory

Rating for Adherence to UNEP's Financial Policies and Procedures: Satisfactory

Rating for Completeness of Financial Information: Satisfactory

F. Efficiency

108. In the early years, the project faced low budget execution and slow progress in activity implementation. A central factor behind this reduced pace was the limited availability of time within the Competent National Authorities, which delayed decision-making and created bottlenecks across processes. These delays were compounded by the approval workflow between MINAM and PROFONANPE, where each payment or procurement request could take between 15 and 30 days to be cleared before moving forward.

109. Efficiency improved once modifications were introduced to the approval flow, which significantly reduced processing times. A crucial governance adjustment, introduced after PROFONANPE's institutional restructuring, was the delegation of operational approvals directly to the Project Management Unit, while MINAM retained responsibility for normative or policy-related validations. Interviewees described this shift as producing "a clear improvement in timing", as it removed one layer of approval that had previously slowed down processes. In parallel, PROFONANPE also strengthened financial monitoring, and the increased visibility of expenditure progress generated a constructive sense of urgency that contributed to a more consistent pace of implementation during the second half of the year.

110. The arrival of a new coordinator also played a role in improving efficiency. With a stronger focus on inter-institutional articulation, the new coordinator facilitated smoother communication with partner entities and fostered faster decision-making. Additionally, the project's administrative assistant transitioned into a more technical role, enabling the team to leverage his specialised knowledge and engage him in technical tasks as well as administrative ones. This dual contribution improved day-to-day continuity and helped accelerate the implementation of routine activities.

111. The project completed its technical activities in December 2022, but an unspent balance remained due to savings and favourable exchange rates. This was reported by PROFONANPE in April 2023 via email. The process required to utilise these funds ended up being lengthy and complicated: the extension took months to be processed and

approved, and the signature of the bridging PCA by MINAM was only completed between May and August 2024. According to stakeholders, this process could have been avoided had the extension been initiated earlier.

112. The delays in approving the agreement meant that 2023 became a year with no execution. The project coordination team left and the responsibility for implementing the remaining activities shifted to MINAM personnel who were not fully familiar with the project's operational details; after revising the final report of the project, MINAM set the activities to be developed with the remaining funds. This further contributed to inefficiencies during the closing phase.

Type of project extension (cost/no-cost)	Duration (# months)	Reason for no-cost extension
No- cost extension	10 months	Eight-month delay in project start-up due to change of government and clarification of execution arrangements, as reported in the PIR 2019: "Recruitment of the project team and the kick-off of activities suffered considerable delays associated with the change of government in Peru and the clarification of the project's operational arrangements".
No- cost extension	21 months	Delays associated with the transition to the new regulatory framework (approved in July 2021), changes in national leadership, and continued institutional adjustments across the ABS authorities as new procedures were introduced.
Bridging PCA (No- cost extension)	9 months	Execute remaining funds that were still available.

Findings Statements on Efficiency:

113. The project's efficiency improved significantly over the course of implementation thanks to adjustments in administrative governance and the entry of a new coordinator, which helped overcome an initially slow execution phase.
114. The final phase of implementation was affected by administrative challenges, particularly in the management of the unspent balance, which resulted in months of limited execution.

Rating for Efficiency: Moderately Satisfactory

G. Monitoring and Reporting

Monitoring of Project Implementation:

115. No official monitoring framework or dedicated M&E system had been established during project design; however, the team generated an internal tool to monitor implementation. Monitoring was structured around annual workplan targets, which served as practical indicators to assess progress and determine whether activities were advancing as expected. These targets provided a reference point for evaluating implementation and helped guide prioritisation across tasks. To operationalise this

approach, the team created an activity-tracking tool in Excel that assigned percentage values to each activity. This allowed the project to quantify progress within each component and monitor completion sequences, ensuring that certain tasks were completed before moving on to subsequent ones. According to the project team, this structure helped maintain implementation flow by preventing advancement on “B without having completed A”, and offered a straightforward way to visualise progress across the workplan.

116. The national assistant played a central role in monitoring, being responsible for tracking the implementation of all activities as well as preparing the information required for UNEP reporting. This dual role contributed to continuity in day-to-day monitoring and ensured alignment between internal tracking and the data required for formal reporting. Overall, the project personnel agreed that the monitoring system provided the project with a functional mechanism to follow technical progress and adjust implementation as needed.

Project Reporting

117. Throughout implementation, the project submitted the required PIRs, progress reports and periodic expenditure statements through UNEP’s reporting systems (Anubis). The PIR 2025 illustrates complete reporting across all required sections, gender, stakeholder engagement, environmental and social safeguards, implementation ratings and co-finance, and confirms that reporting was prepared following UNEP’s standard formats. Financial reporting was also performed using UNEP’s periodic expenditure statements, which were reviewed and accepted by UNEP, as reflected in the approved Periodic Expenditures Reports.
118. Co-financing reporting requirements were fulfilled, with a detailed co-finance report from 2025 that includes planned and actual co-finance by budget line, signed by the Project Manager and MINAM, documenting cumulative contributions up to December 2024.
119. Reporting also addressed gender, Indigenous Peoples, and other stakeholder considerations in line with UNEP PIR templates. The PIR includes gender-disaggregated beneficiary data and information on the integration of gender and intercultural perspectives in training, communication materials and outreach activities. Reporting further documents engagement with Indigenous Peoples through the intercultural training programme and other ABS-related processes.

Findings Statements on Monitoring and Reporting:

120. The project did not have a formal monitoring system defined at design stage; however, the project team developed an internal tool to track technical progress, which helped organise implementation and supported adaptive management.
121. The project consistently complied with UNEP’s reporting requirements, submitting all mandatory technical and financial reports. Available documentation shows that reporting was delivered according to UNEP templates and procedures.

Rating for Monitoring and Reporting: Satisfactory

Rating for Monitoring of Project Implementation: Satisfactory

Rating for Project Reporting: Satisfactory

H. Sustainability

Socio-political Sustainability

122. As the national focal point to the Nagoya Protocol, MINAM retains the political mandate to coordinate and report on ABS implementation; and Peru's obligations under the Protocol create a structural incentive for the Ministry to uphold the agenda beyond the life of the project. This foundation has been reinforced by the update of the national ABS regulation (Supreme Decree No. 019-2021-MINAM), which signals a high commitment to modernising the country's ABS framework and aligns national policy with international biodiversity commitments. The project actively contributed to shaping the legitimacy and relevance of the ABS agenda among specialised actors. Consultations, validation processes, training and awareness-raising activities helped consolidate a shared understanding of ABS across Competent National Authorities, research institutions and Indigenous organisations, all aspects that represent an achievement that now underpins the socio-political conditions for sustaining ABS implementation in the country.
123. The project demonstrated that coherent technical dialogue among authorities is possible and valued, but maintaining this momentum requires ongoing leadership from MINAM to convene actors, follow up on commitments and ensure that the regulatory progress made in recent years continue to be operationalised. In this regard, high personnel turnover in MINAM and other key institutions represents a socio-political risk, as it can weaken the continuity of political interlocution and hinder the Ministry's ability to sustain ABS as a priority. While the broader political environment is favourable and national commitments under the Nagoya Protocol provide a clear anchor, the long-term socio-political sustainability of ABS in Peru depends on MINAM's ability to maintain attention on the agenda, preserve institutional memory, and foster stable collaboration across sectors.

Financial Sustainability

124. As mentioned above, being MINAM the national focal point for Nagoya, must fulfil its commitment, hence continue leading coordination, reporting and awareness-raising activities. This commitment guarantees a level of resource allocation for continued ABS implementation. Furthermore, several of the project's products/results require limited financial resources to maintain or institutionalise. For example, formalising the ABS mechanism, integrating guidelines into the authorities Institutional Administrative Procedures Manuals (TUPA, from its acronym in Spanish), institutionalising, updating or using training materials represent low-cost actions largely dependent on administrative decisions rather than new funding. Likewise, the GENES-Peru platform has low hosting and operational costs, which are already covered by MINAM, and its continued updating relies more on internal coordination than on financial availability. Competent National Authorities also maintain technical personnel responsible for ABS, ensuring baseline capacity despite variations in budget allocation across institutions.

Institutional Sustainability

125. The ABS mechanism contributed to harmonising criteria and supported more consistent technical coordination, and the project's guidelines, templates and procedural tools offer clear operational pathways for authorities. As reported by national institutions, many of these products continue to inform day-to-day processes, helping preserve the momentum gained during project execution. Some authorities have already formalised these products, such as SERFOR, while others, such as PRODUCE, are in the process of incorporating them into their Institutional Administrative Procedures Manuals. Overall, the system put in place by the project provides a coherent basis for sustained work on ABS

over time. The ABS training programme was similarly institutionalised within MINAM's "AULA APRENDE" platform, ensuring continuity in capacity-building beyond the project's duration.

126. While the ABS mechanism helped standardise approaches across authorities, it was not formally institutionalised within MINAM, representing a missed opportunity given that its procedures and ways of working are already established and could be easily anchored under MINAM's leadership. Several knowledge materials also lack a mechanism for periodic review and updating, placing them at risk of becoming outdated as the regulatory framework evolves. The intercultural training programme, which was developed through a rigorous process of co-creation, validation and piloting, remains unanchored institutionally, as it did not receive formal adoption by the Ministry of Culture. Likewise, although the GENES-Peru website constitutes the only comprehensive public repository of ABS information in the country, it has not been updated for more than a year due to technical restrictions. As recognised by all institutional stakeholders consulted, sustainability is further constrained by personnel turnover within the Competent National Authorities, which affects continuity and underscores the importance of formally embedding processes and tools so that their functioning extends beyond individual initiative.

Findings Statements on Sustainability:

127. The project benefits from strong country ownership and drivenness, supported by a favourable socio-political environment that increases the likelihood of sustaining ABS-related efforts in Peru. Looking ahead, the sustainability of these achievements depends on MINAM's capacity to continue driving the ABS agenda and to translate this political mandate into sustained interinstitutional coordination.
128. Financial sustainability for core ABS functions in Peru is partially assured, as the country must continue fulfilling its obligations under the Nagoya Protocol, and these responsibilities are embedded within the regular mandates of MINAM and the Competent National Authorities.
129. The project leaves a solid institutional base for ABS in Peru, having strengthened technical capacities, standardised procedures and generated tools that support continued progress. The durability of these institutional gains, however, depends on how consistently different entities embed and maintain the products developed under the project.

Rating for Likelihood of Sustainability (use 'Likely' scale): Likely

Rating for Socio-political Sustainability: Likely

Rating for Financial Sustainability: Likely

Rating for Institutional Sustainability: Moderately likely

I. Factors Affecting Performance and Cross-Cutting Issues

Quality of Project Management and Supervision

130. MINAM and PROFONANPE fulfilled their respective technical and administrative-financial roles competently, especially after the institutional restructuring in PROFONANPE and the change of National Coordinator (further discussed under the Efficiency section). Both institutions reported that the division of responsibilities was clear and functioned effectively, enabling complementarity in day-to-day implementation. MINAM, through the Project Management Unit, provided technical leadership and guided the development and validation of all substantive products, while PROFONANPE ensured

sound administrative and financial management, including procurement, contracting, and the preparation of financial information for reporting purposes. Interviewees from both institutions noted that coordination and communication between the technical and administrative teams were smooth and efficient, which facilitated timely decision-making and operational continuity.

131. According to both government actors and project personnel, UNEP provided regular and valued supervision. The project worked with three different Task Managers over its implementation period, stakeholders consistently highlighted the quality of UNEP's guidance, technical leadership and responsiveness. The Task Managers maintained open communication channels, provided systematic feedback on deliverables, and ensured compliance with GEF reporting requirements through the annual PIR process and financial reporting. Both UNEP's operations personnel and PROFONANPE administrative and financial personnel also confirmed a good working relationship, with effective coordination on financial reporting and approvals.
132. The Project Coordinator was highlighted across interviews as a key factor in the project's progress, providing direction and facilitating interinstitutional coordination. The support role of the Technical Assistant within the project management unit was also highlighted as a contributing factor to effective day-to-day management.

Stakeholders Participation and Cooperation

133. From the design phase, the project placed emphasis on stakeholder participation. As reported in the ProDoc and confirmed by interviewees, consultations were carried out, during the preparation phase, with national institutions and local actors to identify project priorities and validate the intercultural approach of the project. During implementation, the project worked with a broad range of stakeholders, including public servants, researchers, private sector actors, Indigenous Peoples, and the general public. According to the PIR 2025, in its fifth year the project organised and/or supported 21 events targeting all these stakeholder groups, reaching 2,059 participants through training and awareness-raising activities co-organised with MINAM and partners such as INDECOPI, PRODUCE, CONCYTEC, among others, and Indigenous communities or organisations.
134. Engagement with Indigenous Peoples was particularly substantive: the intercultural training programme and the guides on traditional knowledge were developed through participatory workshops, interviews and validation sessions with Indigenous organisations, teachers and community representatives, resulting in culturally adapted materials in Quechua, Aymara, Asháninka and Awajún. The project also collaborated with research institutions such as IIAP and CENSI in work related to traditional knowledge and awareness-raising and supported coordinated registration activities led by INDECOPI in Amazonian and Andean regions. Finally, articulation among the five Competent National Authorities, a key factor for a functioning ABS system in Peru, systematically reported in interviews as complex and a major challenge for implementation, was successfully advanced by the project through regular communication, joint work sessions and technical alignment efforts.

Responsiveness to Human Rights and Gender Equality

135. The project showed high responsiveness to gender, human rights and intercultural principles through its deliberate prioritisation of Indigenous organisations, including women's groups, and through the development of methodologies tailored to the learning contexts and social dynamics of participating communities. The intercultural training programme and the traditional knowledge guides were designed through participatory processes that involved Indigenous leaders, teachers, women's representatives and

community members of different ages, ensuring cultural appropriateness and respect for collective rights.

136. Gender considerations, while not framed through a standalone strategy, were addressed through the collection and monitoring of gender-disaggregated participation data and through practical design adaptations. The project reports that women represented 42% of participants in ABS awareness and training events, and 59% in the Intercultural Training Programme. Both interviewees and project documentation highlight that the project's intergenerational methodology, such as running activities for children in parallel with adult sessions during traditional knowledge registration events, helped remove logistical barriers that were limiting women's participation. Women Indigenous leaders also took active part in validation workshops, registration activities and training events coordinated with MINAM, INDECOPI and regional partners. Overall, the project's approach created inclusive learning spaces and supported the meaningful participation of Indigenous women and communities, reflecting good alignment with UNEP's human rights-based approach and gender policy, despite the absence of a formal gender strategy.

Environmental and Social Safeguards

137. Although the project was designed before UNEP introduced the Social and Environmental Safeguards Integrated Risk Framework as a requirement, it adopted the necessary measures to avoid negative impacts on the environment and the communities where it operated.
138. In line with the GEF Policy on Agency Minimum Standards on Environmental and Social Safeguards (2011) and UNEP's safeguard procedures applicable at the time, the project underwent the required environmental and social screening during the design phase, which required agencies to conduct an initial environmental and social risk assessment, assign a risk category, and monitor any safeguard-related issues during implementation. The CEO Endorsement does not identify any environmental or social risks or safeguard issues, nor does the ProDoc, where it states that *"this project is expected to achieve positive environmental and social impacts by effectively integrating ABS implementation mechanisms within government policies and plans, and no unintended negative impacts to people and the environment are foreseen from the implementation of proposed project activities"*.
139. Safeguard compliance was monitored through the annual PIR process; each PIR included a safeguard monitoring section which consistently reported: no safeguard-related incidents, no grievances or complaints, no emergence of new environmental or social risks, and no need for mitigation or corrective measures. The PIRs also confirmed that activities involving Indigenous Peoples were carried out through culturally appropriate and participatory processes, in line with UNEP's intercultural and human-rights based principles.

Country Ownership and Driven-ness

140. Peru's obligations as a Party to the Nagoya Protocol give MINAM a clear and enduring mandate to coordinate ABS implementation, report internationally, and lead the national agenda beyond the life of the project. Sustaining this drivenness will require continued leadership from MINAM, and clear institutional arrangements. This topic is further discussed under socio-political sustainability, section H. Sustainability.

Communication and Public Awareness

141. The project implemented a diversified communication strategy that raised awareness of access to genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge; it contributed to

raising awareness on ABS, strengthening understanding among user and expanding the national visibility of the topic. According to project reports (both the Final Project Report, and National Coordinator's handover), communication actions generated more than 200 media impacts, including television, radio, press and digital coverage, and maintained an active presence on institutional social media channels, disseminating content on biodiversity, science and traditional knowledge.

142. Public awareness activities were complemented by a strong programme of capacity-building and outreach events. Across its implementation period, the project organised 122 events (87 in person and 35 virtual), reaching 7,406 participants. Participation involved representatives from the public sector (34%), academia and research institutions (25%), Indigenous Peoples (21%), the general public (17%) and the private sector (3%), reflecting the project's efforts in engaging a wide range of ABS stakeholders. The project also co-organised communication and awareness initiatives with PRODUCE, SERFOR, SERNANP and INIA, supporting outreach tailored to the needs of Competent National Authorities, technical teams and researchers. Community-facing initiatives, such as the "Biodiversidad ConCiencia" interactive fair, created direct spaces for dialogue with citizens and helped contextualise ABS concepts for broader audiences.

Findings Statements on Factors Affecting Performance and Cross-Cutting Issues:

143. Project management and supervision were of good quality, with MINAM and PROFONANPE carrying out their respective execution responsibilities effectively and UNEP providing consistent oversight and quality assurance as implementing agency.
144. The project achieved effective coordination among public institutions, individual users and the general public, and ensured broad participation of Indigenous Peoples. It strengthened intersectoral technical dialogue and created inclusive spaces for shared learning at the community level.
145. The project demonstrated sensitivity and adaptability to incorporate human rights aspects, gender equality and intercultural approaches. Although it did not include a formal gender strategy, gender considerations were integrated through disaggregated data and inclusive methodological choices, particularly in activities at community-level.
146. Although the project was designed before UNEP introduced the Social and Environmental Safeguards Integrated Risk Framework as a requirement, it adopted the necessary measures to avoid negative impacts on the environment and the communities where it operated, as consistently reported in every PIR.
147. Communication and public awareness efforts were effective in positioning the ABS agenda, reaching diverse audiences and increasing visibility of genetic resources and traditional knowledge. The project combined mass media, institutional channels and community-focused activities, resulting in wide outreach and engagement across stakeholder groups.

Rating for Factors Affecting Performance and Cross-Cutting Issues: Satisfactory

Rating for Quality of Project Management and Supervision: Satisfactory

Rating for Stakeholders Participation and Cooperation: Satisfactory

Rating for Responsiveness to Human Rights and Gender Equality: Satisfactory

Rating for Environmental and Social Safeguards: Satisfactory

Rating for Country Ownership and Driven-ness: Satisfactory

Rating for Communication and Public Awareness: Highly satisfactory

V. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Conclusions

148. Overall, the project successfully achieved its objective of strengthening national capacities for the effective implementation of the ABS and traditional knowledge regimes in Peru. Despite operating within a volatile external context marked by continuous political instability and the COVID-19 pandemic, the project demonstrated satisfactory effectiveness and achieved or exceeded all its planned outcomes. The intervention acted as a critical catalyst, transforming a largely inoperable system into one that demonstrates functionality and increased institutional confidence.
149. The project's success was rooted in its strategy, which consisted in strengthening the institutional and regulatory framework combined with direct technical support to key institutional actors. A major achievement was facilitating the highly participatory process for updating the national ABS regulation through Supreme Decree No. 019-2021-MINAM. This regulatory update was crucial because it modernised the country's ABS framework, aligned national policy with international commitments, and simplified national procedures.
150. This regulatory and legal strengthening directly enabled improvements in institutional coordination and efficiency. The project fostered enhanced collaboration among the Competent National Authorities through the establishment of the National ABS Mechanism in 2020. This mechanism provided a dedicated technical space for Competent National Authorities to unify criteria and discuss complex case-by-case issues, which was crucial given the fragmented institutional landscape in Peru.
151. The most tangible evidence of success resulting from this institutional strengthening and effective coordination is the significant reduction in bureaucratic delays. The project successfully streamlined procedures and provided continuous technical assistance to Competent National Authorities. Consequently, the average time needed to issue non-commercial access contracts was reduced from approximately 470 working days before the project to 60 working days by closure. Similarly, ABS permits saw processing times drop from 173 to 61 working days. This acceleration of processes led to visible results, including the issuance of 52 IRCCs during the project's lifespan, indicating that the system is now generating formal outputs and building confidence among users.
152. The intervention was effective in addressing human rights, gender, and intercultural dimensions, demonstrating a culturally adapted approach. Recognising the critical link between genetic resources and Indigenous Peoples' traditional knowledge, the project prioritised meaningful engagement with indigenous organisations. The design and development of the Intercultural Training Programme and associated traditional knowledge guides were based on extensive participatory co-creation processes, involving 13 indigenous and community organisations. This material, which incorporated gender equity and intergenerational criteria, was designed to promote linguistic inclusion by being translated into four indigenous languages. The project consciously employed intergenerational methodologies, such as holding parallel activities for children alongside adult sessions during traditional knowledge registration, which served the dual purpose of facilitating women's participation by removing logistical childcare barriers, and supporting early awareness-raising among youth. Women constituted 59% of participants in the Intercultural Training Programme.
153. Despite these strengths, the project's legacy faces threats due to incomplete institutional anchoring of key mechanisms, which poses a sustainability challenge;

specifically, with regards to coordination and knowledge products. The National ABS Mechanism, while highly effective during its operational life, was not formally institutionalised within MINAM. Consequently, post-project closure, MINAM ceased to convene the mechanism, and the inter-institutional dialogue slowed down; this makes the system vulnerable to personnel turnover and political shifts. For example, as reported by national authorities, although regulatory and procedural clarity improved, some alignment challenges persist, such as the lack of unified technical criteria among Competent National Authorities on certain ABS definitions (e.g., distinguishing between a biological resource and a genetic resource derivative), for which the Mechanism could be highly useful.

154. Finally, administrative challenges during the final stage caused delays. The unspent budget balance that remained when the project team departed in December 2022 could have been managed more proactively. The resulting lengthy, multi-month process required to resolve this small remanent paused execution during 2023, undermined institutional memory complicating the final closure of the project.

155. In conclusion, the project successfully addressed the core barriers of regulatory fragmentation and institutional capacity, leading to tangible operational efficiency gains and a functional ABS system. However, the likelihood of impact is assessed as Likely but contingent upon maintaining political support and institutional resourcing. The project leaves a powerful legacy, such as updated regulations, clear procedures, improved technical capacity, and successful, culturally appropriate engagement models, but the full, long-term impact depends on MINAM's commitment to institutionalise the coordination structures and knowledge products initiated during the project's life, ensuring these efforts are not lost in personnel turnover.

Responses to Key Strategic Questions

156. The review Terms of Reference included a set of strategic question of interest to UNEP. Regarding strategic question one, the project captured the level of learning and knowledge of ABS among key stakeholders by first recognising a knowledge gap. To address and measure this, the project implemented an approach combining participatory co-creation, technical evaluations, and feedback mechanisms. The project developed and launched interactive online training modules on ABS on MINAM's "AULA APRENDE" platform, requiring participants to aim for an 80% minimum achievement score in capacity surveys to demonstrate acquired knowledge. Furthermore, a Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices questionnaire was designed for Indigenous Peoples, academia, Civil Society, and Business to determine the true level of knowledge of ABS, as reported in the PIRs. For community engagement, where standard surveys were limited by literacy challenges, as reported by professionals who worked in the project that knowledge was assessed and tailored using dialogue and intercultural methodologies. Complementing these efforts, a year-end survey was created and distributed via the project's database to measure general satisfaction, participant learning, and gather feedback on improvements for the following year.

157. Regarding strategic question two, the project effectively engaged institutions in the National ABS Mechanism by establishing this mechanism in 2020, integrating all Competent National Authorities. This space became essential for unified criteria, discuss case-by-case issues, and providing constant technical feedback to implement the revised ABS Regulation. As part of the project's support, technical personnel were placed within each Competent National Authorities to ensure procedural streamlining, which greatly contributed to institutional ownership. However, as mentioned above in the conclusions

section, and in the Sustainability section, it is key to have MINAM's leading role in institutionalising the mechanism to ensure continuity over time.

158. Regarding strategic question three, the project engaged the private sector to foster sustainability primarily through participation in the Project Steering Committee, technical support for specific cases, and general awareness-raising activities. The private sector was supported through legal guidance on ABS contracts and received assistance to streamline negotiation processes. The most concrete engagement involved supporting an ABS contract with Cosmo Ingredients. However, it is deemed important to continue engaging the private sector with diffusion efforts and keep informing them that processing times have been substantially reduced.
159. Regarding strategic question four, the project fostered the capacities of indigenous communities and women organisations primarily through the co-creation and piloting of the Intercultural Training Programme. As mentioned in the conclusions section, the training development involved consultations and piloting with a large number of organisations and communities, ensuring the materials were culturally appropriate, and ensured linguistic inclusion. Capacity building consciously integrated gender and intergenerational criteria through inclusive methods like organising parallel activities for children during adult sessions, thus removing logistical barriers for mothers.
160. The table below provides a summary of the ratings and finding discussed in Chapter IV. Overall, the project demonstrates a rating of Satisfactory.

UNEP Evaluation Office Validation of Performance Ratings:

The UNEP Evaluation Office formally quality assesses (see Annex X) management led Terminal Review reports and validates the performance ratings therein by ensuring that the performance judgments made are consistent with evidence presented in the Review report and in-line with the performance standards set out for independent evaluations.

The Evaluation Office assesses a Terminal Review report in the same way as it assesses the initial draft of a Terminal Evaluation report. It applies the following assumptions in its validation process:

- That what is being assessed is the contents of the report and the extent to which it makes a consistent and justifiable case for the performance ratings it records.
- That the consultant has, within the report, presented all the evidence that was made available to them.
- That the Review has been based on a robust Theory of Change, reconstructed where necessary, which reflects UNEP's definitions at all levels of results.
- That the project team and key stakeholders have already reviewed a draft version of the report and provided substantive comments and made factual corrections to the Review Consultant, who has responded to them. The Evaluation Office assumes, therefore, that it has received the Final (revised) version of the report.

In this instance the Evaluation Office finds that the Report is Highly Satisfactory and validates the overall project performance rating at the '**Satisfactory**' level.

Table 20: Summary of project findings and ratings¹⁴

Criterion	Summary assessment	Rating	Justification for any ratings' changes due to validation (to be completed by the UNEP Evaluation Office – EOU)	EOU Validated Rating
Strategic Relevance	The project demonstrated strong strategic relevance, aligning fully with national ABS priorities and international commitments under the Nagoya Protocol. It responded to clearly identified institutional needs and was coherent with MINAM's mandate and the roles of the Competent National Authorities.	HS	The rating is validated	HS
1. Alignment to UNEP MTS, POW and strategic priorities	The project aligned fully with UNEP's Medium-Term Strategies (2014–2017; 2018–2021; 2022–2025), contributing to the Ecosystem Management, Healthy and Productive Ecosystems, Environmental Governance and Nature Action subprogrammes, and directly supporting institutional capacity for equitable access and benefit-sharing. It was also fully consistent with the relevant Programmes of Work, which prioritise assistance to countries in developing policy and institutional conditions for ABS implementation.	HS	The rating is validated	HS
2. Alignment to Donor/Partner strategic priorities	The project was fully aligned with GEF-6 Biodiversity Focal Area priorities, specifically Objective BD-3 and Programme 8 on implementing the Nagoya Protocol. The project targeted the establishment and strengthening of Peru's legal, regulatory and administrative frameworks for ABS, fully consistent with the GEF-6 biodiversity strategy.	HS	The rating is validated	HS
3. Relevance to global, regional, sub-regional and national environmental priorities	The project was fully relevant to global and national environmental priorities. It directly supported Peru's commitments under the Nagoya Protocol and the CBD by strengthening the legal and institutional framework for ABS. Nationally, it responded to MINAM's mandate and to the country's priority to regulate access to genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge.	HS	The rating is validated	HS

¹⁴ Most criteria will be rated on a six-point scale as follows: Highly Satisfactory (HS); Satisfactory (S); Moderately Satisfactory (MS); Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU); Unsatisfactory (U); Highly Unsatisfactory (HU). Sustainability and Likelihood of Impact are rated, also on a six-point scale, from Highly Likely (HL) down to Highly Unlikely (HU) and Nature of External Context is rated from Highly Favourable (HF) to Highly Unfavourable (HU).

Criterion	Summary assessment	Rating	Justification for any ratings' changes due to validation (to be completed by the UNEP Evaluation Office – EOU)	EOU Validated Rating
4. Complementarity with relevant existing interventions/coherence	The project demonstrated complementarity and coherence with existing national interventions on genetic resources, traditional knowledge and biological diversity. It built on Peru's ongoing regulatory and institutional efforts by working through MINAM and the Competent National Authorities and aligned with initiatives led by research institutions without duplicating existing efforts.	S	The rating adjusted to Highly Satisfactory The review indicates that the project showed a high level of complementarity and coherence with existing interventions in the country and region (paras 82, 84)	HS
Quality of Project Design	The design was sound and well-aligned, providing a solid foundation, despite minor limitations in indicator phrasing and lacking a formal gender strategy.	S	The rating is validated	S
Nature of External Context	The external context was marked by a sequence of political events including a series of presidential transitions, dissolutions of Congress (in 2018, 2019, 2020–2021) and nationwide social unrest (2022), with turnover of government personnel affecting continuity in coordination. Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic limited in-person activities delaying fieldwork. However, the project demonstrated good adaptive management.	F	The rating adjusted to Moderately Unfavourable The report refers to numerous disturbances occurring during the project's lifespan, including political upheaval, turnover of government personnel, social unrest, as well as the COVID-19 Pandemic. Para 148 in 'Conclusions' reiterates this point. Although the project's adaptive management is commended for upholding implementation progress, these external circumstances were significant	MU
Effectiveness	The project delivered planned outputs and achieved its intended outcomes. The regulatory and institutional improvements provide a reasonable basis for future impact, but continued consolidation is required to ensure lasting effects.	S	The rating is adjusted to Highly Satisfactory based on a weighted scoring of the sub-category ratings.	HS
1. Availability of outputs	Planned outputs were delivered, including regulatory instruments, technical guides, training materials and communication products. Two activities under component 2 are still ongoing.	S	The rating is validated	S
2. Achievement of project outcomes	All outcomes were achieved, with several targets met or exceeded. Though some aspects require continued effort to consolidate their effect.	S	The rating is adjusted to Highly Satisfactory Although there is scope for further development, the review indicates that all outcomes were fully achieved. Additionally, the Assumptions for the change process from project Outcomes to Intermediate States were found to hold, and the Drivers were found to be in place.	HS

Criterion	Summary assessment	Rating	Justification for any ratings' changes due to validation (to be completed by the UNEP Evaluation Office – EOU)	EOU Validated Rating
3. Likelihood of impact	The project created regulatory, institutional and capacity foundations that make future impact likely. Continued commitment and resourcing will be important to build on these gains and translate them into a sustained ABS system.	L	The rating is validated	L
Financial Management	The project executed the full budget, maintained compliant with financial processes and addressed initial delays without affecting overall financial management.	S	The rating is adjusted to Highly Satisfactory The findings presented suggest exemplary financial management and documentation	HS
1. Adherence to UNEP's financial policies and procedures	No evidence of non-compliance was identified, and all financial, procurement and approval processes were carried out in line with required procedures.	S	The rating is adjusted to Highly Satisfactory There are no shortcomings observed in the project's adherence to UNEP financial policies	HS
2. Completeness of project financial information	All key financial documents were available, enabling verification of expenditures, co-financing and approved budget revisions.	S	The rating is adjusted to Highly Satisfactory There are no gaps identified in the availability of key financial documents	HS
3. Communication between finance and project management staff	Coordination between the project team and PROFONANPE finance staff was reported as close and effective, supporting timely reporting and smooth financial processing.	S	<i>Note: assessment of this sub-category, though included in the summary, has been discontinued (ref. Tool#15 https://communities.unep.org/spaces/EOU/pages/70320228/MANAGEMENT-LED+REVIEW+TOOLS)</i>	N/A
Efficiency	The project's efficiency improved over the course of implementation thanks to adjustments in administrative governance and the entry of a new coordinator. The final phase of implementation was affected by administrative challenges, particularly in the management of the unspent balance.	MS	The rating is validated	MS
Monitoring and Reporting	The project team developed an internal tool to track technical progress, which helped organise implementation and adaptive management. The project consistently complied with UNEP's reporting requirements, submitting all mandatory technical and financial reports.	S	The rating is validated	S
1. Monitoring design and budgeting	The project document included a monitoring plan with a dedicated budget covering inception, mid-term and terminal reviews, audits and related monitoring activities. Monitoring responsibilities were clearly defined, with mechanisms such as annual PIRs and Steering Committee meetings specified.	S	<i>Note: assessment of this sub-category, though included in the summary, has been discontinued (ref. Tool#15 https://communities.unep.org/spaces/EOU/pages/70320228/MANAGEMENT-LED+REVIEW+TOOLS)</i>	N/A

Criterion	Summary assessment	Rating	Justification for any ratings' changes due to validation (to be completed by the UNEP Evaluation Office – EOU)	EOU Validated Rating
2. Monitoring of project implementation	Monitoring was structured around annual workplan targets, which served as practical indicators to assess progress. To operationalise this approach, the project created an activity-tracking tool system, allowing to quantify progress within each component and monitor completion sequences.	S	The rating is validated	S
3. Project reporting	Throughout implementation, the project submitted the required Project Implementation Reports, progress reports and periodic expenditure statements through UNEP's reporting systems (Anubis). Co-financing reporting requirements were also fulfilled.	S	The rating is validated	S
Sustainability	The project established a solid institutional base and benefits from country ownership, with core ABS functions embedded in existing mandates. The long-term sustainability depends on sustained coordination and continued institutional uptake of the tools and procedures developed.	L	The rating is adjusted to Moderately Likely Sustainability sub-categories are aggregated to the lowest rating, as they are mutually limiting factors.	ML
1. Socio-political sustainability	The project benefits from strong country ownership and drivenness, supported by a favourable socio-political environment that increases the likelihood of sustaining ABS-related efforts in Peru.	L	The rating is validated	L
2. Financial sustainability	Financial sustainability for core ABS functions in Peru is partially assured, as the country must continue fulfilling its obligations under the Nagoya Protocol, and these responsibilities are embedded within the regular mandates of MINAM and the Competent National Authorities.	L	The rating is validated	L
3. Institutional sustainability	The project leaves a solid institutional base for ABS in Peru, having strengthened technical capacities, standardised procedures and generated tools that support continued progress. The durability of these institutional gains, however, depends on how consistently different entities embed and maintain the products developed under the project and on MINAM's leadership.	ML	The rating is validated	ML

Criterion	Summary assessment	Rating	Justification for any ratings' changes due to validation (to be completed by the UNEP Evaluation Office – EOU)	EOU Validated Rating
Factors Affecting Performance	Overall, the project was well prepared, and implementation benefitted from country ownership, effective execution by MINAM and PROFONANPE, and consistent UNEP supervision. Stakeholder participation was effective across institutions, Indigenous organisations and research actors, and communication and awareness-raising were highly effective. Gender and human rights considerations were reasonably integrated, though without a formal gender strategy, and the project complied with applicable safeguard requirements throughout implementation.	S		
1. Preparation and readiness	The project was generally well prepared, with a good problem analysis, clear alignment to national strategies and a costed workplan, despite some delays in kicking off implementation. Gender considerations were included in selected outputs and indicators, but no gender action plan was developed.	S	<i>Note: assessment of this sub-category, though included in the summary, has been discontinued (ref. Tool#15 https://communities.unep.org/spaces/EOU/pages/70320228/MANAGEMENT-LED+REVIEW+TOOLS)</i>	N/A
2. Quality of project management and supervision	MINAM and PROFONANPE carried out their respective execution responsibilities effectively and UNEP provided consistent oversight and quality assurance.	S	The rating is validated	S
2.1 UNEP/Implementing Agency:	UNEP provided regular and responsive supervision.	S	The rating is validated	S
2.2 Partners/Executing Agency:	National execution improved substantially after early delays, with clear roles between MINAM and PROFONANPE and effective coordination throughout implementation.	S	The rating is validated	S
3. Stakeholders' participation and cooperation	Stakeholder participation and cooperation were effective, with engagement of public institutions, Indigenous organisations and research actors, leading to inclusive and well-coordinated collaboration across different stakeholder groups.	S	The rating is validated	S

Criterion	Summary assessment	Rating	Justification for any ratings' changes due to validation (to be completed by the UNEP Evaluation Office – EOU)	EOU Validated Rating
4. Responsiveness to human rights and gender equality	Gender and human rights considerations were reasonably integrated through inclusive methodologies, strong participation of Indigenous women and gender-disaggregated data collection, although the project lacked a formal gender strategy.	S	The rating is adjusted to Highly Satisfactory Despite the absence of a formal gender strategy in the project design, the review indicates that project management showed high responsiveness to gender, human rights and intercultural principles by adopting an approach that promoted inclusive learning spaces and meaningful participation of Indigenous women and communities, (para 135-136). The findings in Section D para 98 and Section G para 119 also support this view	HS
5. Environmental and social safeguards	Safeguard requirements applicable at the time of approval were met: the project was screened and safeguard aspects were monitored through annual PIRs, and no environmental or social issues, grievances, or need for mitigation measures were reported during implementation.	S	The rating is validated	S
6. Country ownership and driven-ness	National commitment under MINAM's leadership and responsibilities assumed by the national competent authorities underpin country ownership.	S	The rating is validated	S
7. Communication and public awareness	Communication and awareness-raising were highly effective, combining mass media outreach, social media engagement and a broad programme of events that reached more than 7,000 participants.	HS	The rating is validated	HS
Overall Project Performance Rating	The project successfully addressed the core barriers of regulatory fragmentation and institutional capacity, leading to tangible operational efficiency gains and a functional ABS system. The project leaves a powerful legacy, such as updated regulations, clear procedures, improved technical capacity, and culturally appropriate models, but the long-term impact depends on MINAM's commitment to institutionalise the coordination structures initiated during the project's life, ensuring these efforts are not lost.	S	The rating is validated	S

B. Lessons learned

Lesson Learned #1:	Establishing clear, written approval processes within regulatory frameworks is essential to reduce discretionary decision-making and ensure operational continuity, particularly in contexts of high government turnover.
Context/comment:	Integrating well-defined procedures and requirements into their Institutional Administrative Procedures Manual and setting out explicit regulatory pathways proved fundamental in Peru's institutional environment, where frequent changes in leadership can disrupt implementation.
Cross-reference(s) to relevant paragraphs	Quality of project management and supervision; Efficiency
Lesson Learned #2:	A clear division of approval routes and responsibilities between the co-executing agencies improves efficiency and accelerates implementation.
Context/comment:	The project benefitted from a clear division of approval routes between co-executing agencies: PROFONANPE for operational and financial matters, and MINAM for policy and regulatory tasks. This was critical to streamlining processes and improving efficiency, leveraging PROFONANPE's comparatively faster administrative procedures.
Cross-reference(s) to relevant paragraphs	Quality of project management and supervision; Efficiency
Lesson Learned #3:	Early incorporation of a communications specialist is crucial for effective outreach strategies and for ensuring institutional validation of communication products.
Context/comment:	The project benefitted from having a dedicated communications specialist in the team - crucial for designing dissemination strategies and securing institutional validation of project materials, as well as liaising with government communication counterpart for products validation, hence streamlining processes and strengthening outreach and visibility of project results.
Cross-reference(s) to relevant paragraphs	Communication and public awareness
Lesson Learned #4:	Intergenerational approaches and parallel spaces for children are good practices that facilitate women's participation while supporting early awareness-raising.
Context/comment:	Running project-related activities for children during activities at community level for parents had the double positive effect: it facilitated women's participation to project's activities, reducing an identified barrier, while also contributing to early awareness-raising among younger generations.
Cross-reference(s) to relevant paragraphs	Responsiveness to human rights and gender equality
Lesson Learned #5:	Implementing agencies should anticipate and expedite administrative processes for project extensions and the use of remaining funds, as delays can halt implementation, lead to the loss of technical staff, and undermine institutional memory.
Context/comment:	Delays related to extension processes showed the need for early planning and proactive coordination to avoid operational disruption near project closure.
Cross-reference(s) to relevant paragraphs	Efficiency

Lesson Learned #6:	Investments in strengthening partner institutions' capacities contribute to a lasting pool of specialised human capital in the country.
Context/comment:	Investing in capacity-building for partner institutions resulted in strengthened national human capital; even when staff rotate, capacities remain in the system and can contribute to future/other efforts.
Cross-reference(s) to relevant paragraphs	Effectiveness

Lesson Learned #7:	Maintaining continuity between personnel involved in project design implementation teams provides a significant advantage, as it preserves institutional memory, ensures accurate interpretation of the project logic, and supports adaptive management.
Context/comment:	The Technical Assistant's involvement in the project's design allowed to easily adapt its management to changing contexts, and reduced the time needed to understand the project and translate the design into effective implementation.
Cross-reference(s) to relevant paragraphs	Changes in design during implementation

Lesson Learned #8:	Implementing adaptive and context-sensitive practices can contribute to achieve gender and human rights responsive results even in the absence of formal strategies. Embedding such strategies at design stage would strengthen the consistency, scalability and traceability of effective gender and human rights-based practices.
Context/comment:	Gender equality and human rights considerations were addressed primarily through adaptive implementation choices rather than through a formalised strategy. Several context-responsive approaches emerged during implementation and proved effective in facilitating the participation of women and Indigenous Peoples. However, the lack of a formal gender action plan and human rights framework limited the project's ability to systematise these approaches, track their results more consistently, and ensure their replication beyond the project.
Cross-reference(s) to relevant paragraphs	Responsiveness to human rights and gender equality.

C. Recommendations

Recommendation #1:	Institutionalise the ABS Coordination Mechanism. Recommendation 1.1: It is recommended that MINAM, as the coordinating body and National Focal Point for the Nagoya Protocol, issue a regulatory instrument to formalise the National ABS Mechanism as a permanent coordination mechanism among the Competent National Authorities, thereby ensuring its operational continuity beyond changes in government administrations.
Challenge/problem to be addressed by the recommendation:	While the project successfully established the National ABS Mechanism, integrating all Competent National Authorities to ensure coordinated management, unify criteria, and discuss complex cases, this mechanism was not formally institutionalised within the MINAM. This mechanism is a proven, effective coordination structure, and if not formalised, it risks losing the unified technical criteria and enhanced operational efficiency it provided to Competent National Authorities and users, thereby undermining the long-term objective of maintaining a functional national ABS system.
Cross-reference(s) to relevant paragraphs	Effectiveness, Sustainability.
Priority Level:	High
Type of Recommendation	Country – level / Institutional
Responsibility:	MINAM
Proposed implementation time-frame:	3 months

Recommendation #2:	Institutionalise knowledge products and strengthen continuous and strategic dissemination of the ABS system. Recommendation 2.1 It is recommended that MINAM actively promote the formal adoption of the Intercultural Training Programme and its associated educational materials, liaising with the Ministry of Culture to ensure validation and authorisation for implementation. Recommendation 2.2 It is recommended that MINAM establish a communication protocol requiring all Competent National Authorities to regularly update the GENES-Peru website with information on new guidelines, approved contracts on access to genetic resources, and relevant ABS-related events. This will ensure that GENES-Peru effectively operates as the national and international public window for the ABS system, leveraging an already functional platform with low maintenance costs. Recommendation 2.3 It is recommended that MINAM coordinate a dissemination strategy for ABS technical modules with SUNEDU (National Superintendence of Higher Education) to integrate knowledge of the Nagoya Protocol and the national ABS system into university curricula nationwide. This would expand the reach of training efforts and enhance long-term sustainability.
Challenge/problem to be addressed by the recommendation:	Incomplete institutional anchoring of key educational and communication tools, which could jeopardise the long-term sustainability of capacity gains and system transparency achieved by the project. For example, the

	meticulously developed Intercultural Training Programme, which included intergenerational and gender approaches and was validated by Indigenous organisations, is unutilised because it has not received formal adoption and validation from the Ministry of Culture.
Cross-reference(s) to relevant paragraphs	Effectiveness; Sustainability
Priority Level:	High
Type of Recommendation	Country – level / Institutional
Responsibility:	MINAM
Proposed implementation time-frame:	12 months

Recommendation #3:	Develop a National ABS Roadmap. Recommendations 3.1 It is recommended that MINAM convene a structured internal reflection process with all Competent National Authorities and relevant stakeholders to analyse the current state of ABS in Peru, including a review of the implementation of existing access contracts and the benefits generated to date. Recommendations 3.2 It is recommended that MINAM use the results of this reflection exercise (Suggestion 3.1) to formulate a National Strategic ABS Roadmap. This roadmap should clearly define roles, responsibilities, timelines and follow-up mechanisms, and incorporate suggestions outlined under recommendations 1 and 2, to ensure continuity of the progress achieved under the project and maintain an effective ABS system in Peru.
Challenge/problem to be addressed by the recommendation:	The challenge addressed in this recommendation is the need of sustained strategic direction necessary to solidify the gains of the project and ensure the long-term effectiveness of the ABS system in Peru. Although the project successfully facilitated coordination, strengthened the regulatory framework, and improved operational efficiency, these advances risk being lost without a clear mechanism to ensure its continuity and future evolution. The recommendation for an internal reflection process (Suggestion 3.1) and subsequent Roadmap (Suggestion 3.2) is intended to overcome this challenge by providing MINAM, in its role as coordinator and National Focal Point, with a unified, documented strategic plan that defines clear roles, responsibilities, and follow-up mechanisms for all actors, ensuring that the necessary efforts are sustained.
Cross-reference(s) to relevant paragraphs	Effectiveness; Sustainability
Priority Level:	High
Type of Recommendation	Country – level / Institutional
Responsibility:	MINAM
Proposed implementation time-frame:	3 months

Recommendation #4:	Integrate and formalise gender and human rights implementation approaches demonstrated to be effective in practice into the design of projects. Recommendations 4.1 It is recommended that UNEP ensure that projects systematically incorporate a gender action plan and human rights-based frameworks. These should include specific operational methodologies identified as good practices in previous projects, such as those identified in this review on the use of parallel intergenerational learning spaces for children to facilitate women's participation and the co-creation of multilingual intercultural materials, so that these measures are treated as core requirements rather than <i>ad hoc</i> management choices.
Challenge/problem to be addressed by the recommendation:	The primary challenge is that the project's high responsiveness to gender and human rights was achieved despite the lack of formal gender and human rights strategies. The successful results relied on the initiative and specialised knowledge of the project team. Without formalising these effective methodologies into the design of other UNEP interventions, they could be lost and not replicated in other regions.
Cross-reference(s) to relevant paragraphs	Responsiveness to human rights and gender equality
Priority Level:	Medium / High
Type of Recommendation	UNEP – level
Responsibility:	UNEP
Proposed implementation time-frame:	Ongoing

ANNEX I. REVIEW FRAMEWORK

REVIEW QUESTIONS	METHODS	EVIDENCE	SOURCES OF INFORMATION
Strategic questions			
1. In which ways and to what extent has the project been able to capture the true level of learning and knowledge of ABS amongst key stakeholders?	Document review; KIs	• Delivery and reach of trainings/awareness activities and knowledge products. • Participation data (disaggregated). • Stakeholder perceptions of changes in knowledge and awareness. • Satisfaction surveys.	Primary: UNEP personnel, Profonanpe, MINAM, technical institutions, Indigenous Peoples' organisations, private sector partner, Steering Committee members. Secondary: Training reports, participant lists, communication/knowledge materials, PIRs, half-year progress reports, MTR, Terminal Report
2. In which ways and to what extent has the project engaged institutions in the National ABS Mechanism to ensure ownership and continuity within the context of the revised ABS Regulation after the project ends?	Document review; KIs	• Institutional roles, procedures and coordination mechanisms established or strengthened. • Evidence of institutional commitments for continuity post-project. • References to/implementation of the revised ABS Regulation	Primary: MINAM, Profonanpe, technical institutions (INDECOPI, INIA, SERFOR, SERNANP, CENSI, IIAP, CONCYTEC), Steering Committee members. Secondary: ABS Regulation/amendments, SC minutes, PIRs, half-year progress reports, MTR, Terminal Report.
3. In which ways and to what extent has the project engaged the private sector to foster sustainability in the future?	Document review; KIs;	• Evidence of private sector participation (e.g. consultations, partnerships, pilot contracts). • Perceived value and challenges of engagement. • Indications of continued collaboration	Primary: Cosmo Ingredients, MINAM, Profonanpe, Steering Committee members. Secondary: Pilot ABS contract, PIRs, half-year progress reports, SC minutes, MTR, Terminal Report
4. In which ways and to what extent has the project fostered capacities of Indigenous communities and women organisations on the ABS procedures and guidelines within the context of the revised ABS Regulation?	Document review; KIs	• Participation data disaggregated by gender and group. • Outputs with intercultural/gender criteria. • Stakeholder perceptions of inclusiveness and capacity gains	Primary: Indigenous Peoples' organisations, women's organisations, Profonanpe, MINAM, CENSI, Steering Committee members.

REVIEW QUESTIONS	METHODS	EVIDENCE	SOURCES OF INFORMATION
			Secondary: ProDoc, training reports, participant lists, PIRs, MTR, Terminal Report
Strategic relevance			
To what extent is the project aligned with UNEP, GEF, CBD/Nagoya Protocol and national priorities, policies and strategies?	Document review	- Alignment to the UNEP's Medium-Term Strategy¹⁵ (MTS), Programme of Work (POW) and Strategic Priorities under which the project was approved. Including the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity Building¹⁶ and South-South Cooperation. - Alignment with GEF-6 biodiversity focal area strategy on ABS. - Alignment with CBD and Nagoya Protocol commitments. - Alignment with Peru's ABS Regulation, National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) and other relevant national policies.	Secondary: ProDoc, CEO Endorsement, PIF, UNEP MTS, UNEP PoW, Bali Strategic Plan, GEF-6 Biodiversity Strategy, CBD/Nagoya Protocol texts, PIRs, MTR, Terminal Report
To what extent is the project coherent with stakeholder needs and complementary to other initiatives?	Document review; KIs	- Evidence of consultation with stakeholders in design and implementation. - Inclusion of gender and intercultural commitments in project outputs. - Evidence of coordination and complementarity with other initiatives. - Evidence of synergies or avoidance of duplication.	Primary: MINAM, Profonampe, Indigenous Peoples' organisations, partner institutions (IIAP, CONCYTEC, universities), Steering Committee members Secondary: ProDoc, CEO Endorsement, PIF, training materials, participant lists, half-year progress reports, Steering Committee minutes, PIRs, MTR, Terminal Report

¹⁵ UNEP's Medium-Term Strategy (MTS) is a document that guides UNEP's programme planning over a four-year period. It identifies UNEP's thematic priorities, known as Sub-programmes (SP), and sets out the desired outcomes, known as *POW Outcomes* and *POW Direct Outcomes*, of the Sub-programmes. <https://www.unenvironment.org/about-un-environment/evaluation-office/our-evaluation-approach/un-environment-documents>

¹⁶ <http://www.unep.fr/ozonaction/about/bsp.htm>

REVIEW QUESTIONS	METHODS	EVIDENCE	SOURCES OF INFORMATION
		Stakeholder perceptions of responsiveness and coherence.	
Quality of project design			
To what extent is the project design, including its TOC, results framework, risk analysis and institutional arrangements, coherent and appropriate to achieve its objectives?	Document review; KII	- Logical coherence of outputs–outcomes–impact pathways. - Presence and clarity of drivers and assumptions. - Realism of outcomes given timeframe and resources. - Identification of risks and mitigation measures. - Integration of gender equality, human rights and participation of Indigenous Peoples. - Evidence of stakeholder consultations and baseline analysis informing design. - Clarity of roles and responsibilities and governance arrangements. - Adequacy of M&E arrangements at design stage.	Primary: UNEP personnel, former project team. Secondary: ProDoc, CEO Endorsement, PIF, MTR, Terminal Report.
Nature of external context			
To what extent did the external context affect project implementation and results?	Document review; KIIs	- Influence of contextual factors such as COVID-19 pandemic, and institutional changes. - Evidence of political, institutional, or economic conditions that supported or constrained project delivery. - Stakeholder perceptions of how the external context shaped progress and outcomes.	Primary: UNEP personnel, Profonanpe, former project team, MINAM, Steering Committee members, technical institutions Secondary: ProDoc, PIRs, half-year progress reports, Steering Committee minutes, MTR, Terminal Report
Effectiveness			
To what extent were the planned outputs delivered with the expected quality and timeliness?	Document review; KIIs	Evidence of reported outputs delivered (e.g. revised ABS Regulation, guidelines, procedures, platforms such as ABS-CHM	Primary: UNEP personnel, Profonanpe, former project team, MINAM, Steering

REVIEW QUESTIONS	METHODS	EVIDENCE	SOURCES OF INFORMATION
		and GENES-Peru, training programmes, communication materials). • Quality and usefulness of outputs as perceived by stakeholders. • Timeliness of delivery against workplans.	Committee members, technical institutions, private sector partner Secondary: ProDoc, PIRs, half-year progress reports, Steering Committee minutes, training reports, knowledge products, ABS-CHM/GENES-Peru records, MTR, Terminal Report
To what extent has the project achieved its intended outcomes?	Document review; KIs; selective FGDs	• Evidence of strengthened national capacity to operationalise ABS frameworks. • Evidence of improved inter-institutional coordination among MINAM, technical agencies and Profonampe. • Functionality and use of ABS-CHM/GENES-Peru platforms. • Evidence of application of ABS procedures and pilot contracts. • Stakeholder perceptions of outcome achievement.	Primary: UNEP personnel, Profonampe, former project team, MINAM, Steering Committee members, technical institutions, Indigenous Peoples' organisations, private sector Secondary: ProDoc, PIRs, half-year progress reports, Steering Committee minutes, training reports, pilot ABS contract, ABS-CHM/GENES-Peru records, MTR, Terminal Report
What is the likelihood that the project has contributed, or will contribute, to its intended impact?	Document review; KIs	• Examples of institutionalisation and continuity of ABS mechanisms beyond project closure. • Stakeholder trust in and use of ABS procedures.	Primary: UNEP personnel, Profonampe, former project team, MINAM, Steering Committee members, technical institutions, Indigenous Peoples' organisations, private sector partner Secondary: ProDoc, PIRs, half-year progress reports, Steering Committee minutes, national ABS Regulation and amendments, MTR, Terminal Report
Financial management			
To what extent were financial resources managed transparently, efficiently and in line with UNEP and GEF requirements,	Document review; KIs	• Evidence of transparent financial management and compliance with UNEP/GEF rules.	Primary: UNEP personnel, Profonampe

REVIEW QUESTIONS	METHODS	EVIDENCE	SOURCES OF INFORMATION
including the mobilisation of planned co-financing?		- Budget execution against planned allocations. - Timeliness and adequacy of financial reporting. - Audit results and any issues resolved. - Evidence of co-financing commitments realised vs. planned (including whether co-financing achieved/exceeded 35%). - Time from CEO Endorsement to first disbursement; disbursement balance; time between CEO Endorsement and end of Terminal Review.	Secondary: ProDoc, CEO Endorsement, PIRs, half-year progress reports, financial reports, audit reports, co-financing reports, MTR, Terminal Report
Efficiency			
To what extent were project resources (time, expertise, funds) used efficiently to deliver the planned results?	Document review; KIs	- Evidence of outputs delivered on time and within budget. - Evidence of cost-effectiveness measures or adaptive management to optimise resources. - Stakeholder perceptions of efficiency in project delivery.	Primary: UNEP personnel, Profonanpe, former project team, MINAM, Steering Committee members Secondary: ProDoc, PIRs, half-year progress reports, workplans, financial reports, MTR, Terminal Report
Monitoring and reporting			
To what extent were monitoring and reporting systems effective in tracking project implementation and informing decision-making?	Document review; KIs	<u>Monitoring Design and Budgeting:</u> evidence of a sound M&E design. <u>Monitoring of Project Implementation:</u> evidence of a functioning monitoring system, including tracking of outputs and outcomes; evidence that monitoring information was used for adaptive management or course correction. <u>Project Reporting:</u> timeliness, completeness and quality of reporting.	Primary: UNEP personnel, Profonanpe, former project team, MINAM, Steering Committee members Secondary: ProDoc, PIRs, half-year progress reports, monitoring plan, Steering Committee minutes, MTR, Terminal Report
Sustainability			

REVIEW QUESTIONS	METHODS	EVIDENCE	SOURCES OF INFORMATION
What is the likelihood that the project's results will be sustained over time (socio-political, financial and institutional)?	Document review; KIs	- Evidence of continued political support and stakeholder ownership of ABS processes (socio-political). - Evidence of financial commitments or budget allocations to sustain ABS functions (financial). - Evidence of institutionalisation of ABS roles, procedures and capacities in relevant institutions (institutional). - Stakeholder perceptions of the likelihood of sustaining results.	Primary: UNEP, Profonanpe, former project team, MINAM, Steering Committee members, technical institutions, Indigenous Peoples' organisations, private sector Secondary: ProDoc, PIRs, half-year progress reports, Steering Committee minutes, ABS Regulation and amendments, national budgets/financial statements, training materials, MTR, Terminal Report
Factors affecting project performance and cross-cutting issues			
Preparation and readiness – To what extent was the project adequately prepared and ready at mobilisation?	Document review; KIs	- Measures taken between approval and first disbursement to address design gaps or changed context. - Early engagement with stakeholder groups; confirmation of partner capacity and partnership agreements. - Initial staffing and financing arrangements in place.	Primary: UNEP, Profonanpe, former project team Secondary: ProDoc, workplans, partnership/MoU documents, staffing/financing plans, PIRs, half-year progress reports, Steering Committee minutes, MTR, Terminal Report
Quality of project management and supervision – To what extent did project management and supervision support delivery and adaptation?	Document review; KIs	- Clarity of roles/responsibilities; leadership and team management. - Evidence of supervision, risk management and adaptive/problem-solving decisions. - Stakeholder views on the quality of management and UNEP backstopping.	Primary: UNEP, Profonanpe, former project team, MINAM, Steering Committee members Secondary: ProDoc, PIRs, half-year progress reports, Steering Committee minutes, MTR, Terminal Report
Stakeholder participation and cooperation – To what extent was participation and cooperation effective throughout implementation?	Document review; KIs; selective FGDs	- Engagement of key groups (government, technical institutions, Indigenous Peoples, private sector, academia). - Evidence of collaboration/partnerships and information sharing. - Perceptions of inclusiveness and quality of cooperation.	Primary: MINAM, Profonanpe, technical institutions, Indigenous Peoples' organisations, private sector, Steering Committee members Secondary: ProDoc, PIRs, half-year progress reports, training reports, Steering Committee minutes, MTR, Terminal Report

REVIEW QUESTIONS	METHODS	EVIDENCE	SOURCES OF INFORMATION
Responsiveness to human rights and gender equality – To what extent did the project apply HRBA and address gender equality?	Document review; KIs	- Implementation of identified gender/HR actions and attention to UNDRIP commitments. - Participation of women and Indigenous Peoples in activities (disaggregated where possible). - Evidence that inequalities/vulnerabilities were considered and addressed.	Primary: Profonanpe, MINAM, Indigenous Peoples' organisations, Steering Committee members Secondary: ProDoc, PIRs, training reports, participant lists, MTR, Terminal Report
Environmental and social safeguards – To what extent were UNEP safeguards applied during implementation?	Document review; KIs	- Safeguards screening/risk rating completed; monitoring of safeguard issues. - Evidence of mitigation/management measures where relevant. - Any steps taken to minimise the project's environmental footprint.	Primary: UNEP, Profonanpe, former project team Secondary: safeguard screening forms, ProDoc, PIRs, MTR, Terminal Report
Country ownership and driven-ness – To what extent did national/public institutions drive progress from outputs to outcomes/intermediate states?	Document review; KIs	- Leadership by public agencies. - Government support for ABS processes and forward momentum. - Stakeholder perceptions of ownership.	Primary: MINAM, Profonanpe, Steering Committee members, technical institutions Secondary: ProDoc, ABS Regulation/amendments, PIRs, Steering Committee minutes, MTR, Terminal Report
Communication and public awareness – To what extent did communication and outreach support learning and behaviour change?	Document review; KIs	- Delivery and reach of communication/knowledge products. - Use of channels/platforms and any feedback mechanisms. - Stakeholder views on usefulness and influence of communication efforts.	Primary: Profonanpe, MINAM, Steering Committee members Secondary: communication materials, training materials, knowledge products, ProDoc, PIRs, MTR, Terminal Report

ANNEX II. STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTED DURING THE REVIEW

People consulted during the Review

Organisation	Position	Role in the project	Gender
INDECOPI- CNBIIIO	President of the National Commission Against Biopiracy	Partner Institution	M
INDECOPI-DIN	Coordinator for Collective Knowledge and Plant Varieties, Directorate of Inventions and New Technologies	Partner Institution	F
MINAM	Former Director General of Biological Diversity	Nagoya Focal Point	M
MINAM	Former Director of the Directorate of Genetic Resources and Biosafety	Project National Director	F
MINAM	Legal Coordinator for Climate Change	Legal Specialist	F
MINAM	Analyst for the Management of Access to Genetic Resources	Technical counterpart	F
MINAM	Responsable de comunicaciones de la Dirección de Recursos Genéticos y Bioseguridad	Communications counterpart	F
MINAM	Communications Officer, Directorate of Genetic Resources and Biosafety	Project counterpart	F
PRODUCE	Technical officer supporting the evaluation and follow-up of access contracts	Partner Institution	M
PROFONANPE	Independent	Project Coordinator	F
PROFONANPE	Independent	Technical Assistant	M
PROFONANPE	Director of Administration and Finances	Director of Administration and Finances	M
PROFONANPE	Operations and budget Specialist	Operations and budget Specialist	M
PROFONANPE	M&E Specialist	Member of Steering Committee	M
PROFONANPE	Director of M&E	Project main counterpart	M
PROFONANPE	Legal Consultant	Legal Expert	F
PROFONANPE	Consultant	Processes Consultant	F
PROFONANPE	Consultant	Intercultural Training Programme Consultant	F
SERFOR	Specialist in Access to Genetic Resources	Partner Institution	F
SERFOR	Wildlife Analyst	Partner Institution	F
SERNANP	Former Officer for access to genetic resources	Partner Institution	M
UNEP	Task Manager	Task Manager	M
UNEP	Former Task Manager	Tas Manager	F
UNEP	Finance Assistant	Finance Assistant	M
UNEP	Programme Assistant	Programme Assistant	F

ANNEX III. KEY DOCUMENTS CONSULTED

Project planning and reporting documents

- ProDoc
- CEO Endorsement
- PIF
- PIRs (2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025)
- Half Yearly Progress Reports
- Steering Committee minutes
- Workplans
- Budget Revisions
- Periodic Expenditure Reports
- Co-finance Budget
- Co-finance Report
- Audit Reports (2018-2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023-2024)
- PCA (Project Cooperation Agreement)
- Bridging PCA
- Final Activity Report (2022)
- Final Report (2025)

Project outputs – Overall

- Systematization of Results of the GEF ABS Nagoya Project (2024)
- Main Results and Lessons Learned
- Ppt presentation “Project Results”
- Ppt presentation “Lessons Learned”

Project outputs Component 1: Effective functioning of national ABS system, in agreement with Nagoya Protocol

- Prod. 2019.C.012. Technical assistance in negotiation of benefits (1.b.2.3)
- Prod. 20202.C.004. Elaboration of guidelines and directives for the access to the genetic (1.a.1.1)
- Prod. 2020.C.007. Identification of wild plant species with potential (1.b.1.2)
- Guidelines for Accessing Genetic Resources and Their Derivatives in Peru
- Six intercultural guides on the protection of Indigenous Peoples’ Collective Knowledge:
- Guide 1: Protection of the Collective Knowledge of Indigenous Peoples Related to Biological Resources
- Guide 2: Prior Informed Consent for Access to Collective Knowledge

- Guide 3: Distribution Of Benefits Derived from the Use of Collective Knowledge
- Guide 4: Resolving Disagreements Between Indigenous or Originary Peoples
- Guide 5: Actions For Infringement
- Guide 6: Registry Of Collective Knowledge of Indigenous Peoples
- Guide to Wild Flora Species with Potential for R&D Activities Related to Access to Genetic Resources

Project outputs Component 2: Capacity building of relevant actors in relation to Access to genetic resources and traditional knowledge.

- Prod. 2019.C.006. Awareness campaigns (2.a.1.3-2.a.1.4)
- Prod. 2019.C.011. Diagnosis on the expectations and demands of indigenous people (2.a.3.1)
- Prod. 2020.C.009. Development of awareness-raising activities and communication (2.a.1.3-2.a.1.4)
- Prod. 2020.C.016. Accompaniment and organisation of activities for capacity building and sensitisation (2.a.1.3-2.a.1.5-2.a.3.3)
- Project publication: "We are the legacy that builds the future. The Intercultural Training Programme in histories" (*"Somos herencia que construye el futuro. El Programa de Capacitación Intercultural en historias"*)

Project outputs Component 3: Projects and initiatives on ABS contributing to conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity

- Prod. 2020.C.010. Identification of pilot initiatives of cultivated and domestic continental species (3.a.1.1-3.a.1.2-3.a.1.3)
- Prod. 2020.C.011 Elaboration of analysis and technical-economic-legal support with emphasis on monetary and non-monetary (3.a.1.1-3.a.1.2-3.a.1.3)
- Prod. 2020.C.012 Legal accompaniment and guidance to EPA and users of ABS projects (3.a.1.1-3.a.1.2-3.a.1.3-3.a.1.4-3.a.1.6-3.1.2.1)
- Proposed negotiation criteria for the signing of contracts for access to genetic resources and their derivatives (2024)

Previous reviews/evaluations

- MTR (Mid-Term Evaluation Report)

Reference documents

- UNEP Medium-Term Strategy (MTS) 2014-2017, 2018-2021-2022-2025.
- UNEP Programme of Work (PoW) 2016-2017, 2018-2019.
- CBD Secretariat (2011). *Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to*

the Convention on Biological Diversity. Montreal, Canada, Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, UNEP.

- CBD Secretariat (2018). *Update on existing capacity-building and development initiatives and resources supporting the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on access and benefit-sharing and lessons learned*. CBD/ABS/CB-IAC/2018/1/2. Montreal: Convention on Biological Diversity.
- United Nations (2004). *Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building*. United Nations Digital Library System.
- Global Environment Facility (2014). *The GEF-6 Biodiversity Strategy*. GEF Secretariat.
- Global Environment Facility (2017). *Policy on Gender Equality (GEF/C.53/04)*. 53rd GEF Council Meeting. GEF Secretariat
- Global Environment Facility (2019). *Updated Policy on Environmental and Social Safeguards (GEF/C.55/07/Rev.01)*. 56th GEF Council Meeting. GEF Secretariat
- Global Environment Facility (2011). *GEF Policy on Agency Minimum Standards on Environmental and Social Safeguards (GEF/C.41/10/Rev.1)*. GEF Council Meeting November 8–10, 2011 Washington, D.C.
- GEF/UNDP (2021). *Access to genetic resources and benefit sharing: Theory to practice under the Nagoya Protocol*. United Nations Development Programme, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support.
- Laird, S., Wynberg, R., Rourke, M., Humphries, F., Muller, M. R., & Lawson, C. (2020). Rethink the expansion of access and benefit sharing. *Science*, 367(6483), 1200–1202.
- Walløe, M., & Young, T. (2007). *Beyond access: exploring implementation of the fair and equitable sharing commitment in the CBD*. IUCN Environmental Policy and Law Paper No. 67/2, ABS Series No. 2. Gland, Switzerland: IUCN.
- Regional Strategy for Biological Diversity for Countries in the Andean Community (2003)
- General Environment Law (Law N. 28611/2005) - Peru
- Biological Diversity Law (law N° 26839 of 1997) and regulations (Supreme Decree N° 068-2001-PCM of 2001) - Peru
- National Strategies of Biological Diversity (Supreme Decree 102-2001, Strategies 2015-2021 and 2022-2050) - Peru
- Law on Protection of Collective Knowledge of Indigenous People Relating to Biodiversity (Law N. 27811/2002) - Peru
- Supreme Decree No. 019-2021-MINAM – Peru

ANNEX IV. REVIEW ITINERARY

Sunday 5 October 2025

- Arrival in Lima

Monday 6 October 2025

- **AM:** In-person interviews with representatives of national partner institutions
- **AM:** Internal coordination with UNEP Task Manager
- **PM:** In-person interviews with representatives of national partner institutions

Tuesday 7 October 2025

- **AM:** In-person interviews with PROFONANPE personnel
- **PM:** Mission launch meeting with PROFONANPE, MINAM and UNEP

Wednesday 8 October 2025

- **AM:** In-person interview with PROFONANPE personnel
- **AM:** In-person interview with UNEP Task Manager
- **PM:** In-person interview with former project personnel

Thursday 9 October 2025

- **AM:** In-person interviews with representatives of implementing partners and associated institutions
- **PM:** Virtual interview with a stakeholder unavailable for in-person meetings
- **PM:** Internal work, document review and data systematisation

Friday 10 October 2025

- **AM:** In-person interviews with representatives of implementing partners and associated institutions
- **PM:** Debrief with PROFONANPE and UNEP

Following weeks (remote)

- Additional interviews conducted virtually with representatives of national institutions, implementing partners and other stakeholders who were unavailable during the in-country mission.

ANNEX V. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS ASSESSMENT

ESS PLANNING AT PROJECT DESIGN	
List any ESS issues identified at project design (e.g. SS 1.7, SS 2.3, etc.)	None identified.
For any ESS issues identified at project design, were <u>mitigation strategies</u> developed (Y/N)? (If yes, briefly describe)	N/A
Were any <u>gaps</u> in ESS issues identified at the review inception phase (Y/N)? (If yes, briefly describe)	No
ESS MONITORING AT PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION	
Is there evidence that the potential emergence of ESS issues was actively <u>monitored</u> during project implementation (Y/N)? (If yes, briefly describe)	Yes
Is there a justification for the absence of ESS monitoring (Y/N)? (If yes, briefly describe)	Each PIR included a safeguard monitoring section which consistently reported: no safeguard-related incidents, no grievances or complaints, no emergence of new environmental or social risks, and no need for mitigation or corrective measures. The PIRs also confirmed that activities involving Indigenous Peoples were carried out through culturally appropriate and participatory processes, in line with UNEP's intercultural and human-rights based principles.
MANAGEMENT RESPONSIVENESS DURING PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION	
Identify the ESS issues/events <u>triggered</u> by the project.	None identified.
Describe <u>consequences</u> of ESS issues/events during project implementation.	None identified.
Describe the management response and identify supporting documentation.	None identified.
Were negative ESS effects offset by management response (Y/N)? (If yes, briefly describe)	No.

ANNEX VI. COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH TOOLS

Presentación de hallazgos preliminares

Revisión final del proyecto

Implementación efectiva del régimen de acceso y distribución de beneficios y conocimiento tradicional en Perú de conformidad con el Protocolo de Nagoya

Carolina Turano
4 de noviembre de 2025



Complete presentation at this link:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1vnRf5Gu9u_ZFZZCQ1yl3y8zmyQexftE3/view?usp=drive_link

ANNEX VII. BRIEF CV OF THE REVIEWER

Name	Carolina Turano
Profession	Evaluation Consultant
Nationality	Italian/ Bolivian
Country experience	- Europe: Italy, United Kingdom. - Africa: The Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Somalia, Ethiopia. - Americas: Chile, Honduras, Suriname, Uruguay, Mexico, Argentina, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Colombia, Bolivia, Peru. - Asia: Nepal, Viet Nam, Tajikistan, Pakistan.
Education	- Masters of Science in Development Studies - Bachelor's Degree in Political Science/ International Development

Short biography:

Carolina Turano is an independent evaluation consultant specialised in environmental, climate, biodiversity, food security and development programmes. She has experience designing, managing and conducting mid-term, final and real-time evaluations for UN agencies, the GEF, the GCF, the EU and bilateral partners. Her work focuses on qualitative and mixed-methods analysis, evidence synthesis, stakeholder engagement and assessment of governance, biodiversity and climate-related interventions mainly in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as in other regions.

Key specialties and capabilities cover:

- Evaluation design, management and conduct (final, mid-term, real-time, strategic and synthesis reviews)
- Theory of change development and assessment
- Environmental governance, biodiversity, climate-smart agriculture and climate action, food security, rural development
- Gender-responsive and human-rights-based approaches
- Participatory methods and multi-stakeholder consultation
- Knowledge synthesis and learning facilitation
- Evaluation quality assurance and guidance development
- Reporting, communication of findings and facilitation of learning events

Selected assignments and experiences

Independent reviews/evaluations:

As Evaluation Manager/ Lead:

- Final evaluation "Suriname Access Market Project (SAMAP)". 2025. Donor: EU
- Mid-term evaluation "Chile REDD-plus results-based payments for results period 2014–2016". Publ. 2025. Donor: Green Climate Fund
- Final evaluation "Establish a Network of Nationally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems" in Chile. Publ. 2025. Donor: GEF
- Final evaluation "Women's Empowerment for Climate Action in the Forestry Sector in Western Honduras". Publ. 2024. Donor: Canada Global Affairs
- Final Evaluation "Climate-Smart Livestock Production and Land Restoration in the Uruguayan Rangelands". Uruguay. Publ. 2024. Donor: GEF
- Final Evaluation "Ensuring the future of global agriculture in the face of climate change by conserving the genetic diversity of Mexico's traditional ecosystems". Publ. 2024. Donor: GEF

- Final evaluation of the project “Mainstreaming conservation and valuation of critically endangered species and ecosystems in development-frontier production landscapes in the regions of Arica y Parinacota and Biobío” in Chile. Publ. 2024. Donor: GEF
- Final Evaluation "Strengthening of governance for the protection of biodiversity through the formulation and implementation of the national strategy on invasive alien species" in Argentina. Publ. 2023. Donor: GEF
- Final Evaluation "Promoting climate-smart livestock management in the Dominican Republic": Publ. 2023. Donor: GEF
- Final Evaluation "Strengthening institutions and capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture and State Veterinary Inspection Service for Policy Formulation" in Tajikistan. Pub. 2023. Donor: EU
- Final Evaluation of the project "Improving food security and nutrition in The Gambia through food fortification". Publ. 2022. Donor: EU
- Evaluation "Building social cohesion in communities receiving returned youth as a bridge to peaceful and effective reintegration" in Guatemala. Publ. 2022. Donor: Peace Building Fund
- Mid-Term Evaluation “Forest and Farm Facility Phase II”. Countries covered: The Plurinational State of Bolivia, Ecuador, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Nepal, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam and Zambia. Publ. 2021.
- Real-Time Evaluation of FAO's Response to the Desert Locust Upsurge 2020–2021. East Africa and South Asia. Publ. 2021.
- Final Evaluation “Promotion of Biomass-Derived Energy (PROBIOMASA)” in Argentina. Publ. 2020. Donor: Argentina

ANNEX VIII. GEF PORTAL INPUTS (FOR GEF FUNDED PROJECTS)

The following table contains text to be uploaded to the GEF Portal. **It will be drawn from the Review Report, either as copied or summarised text.** In each case, references should be provided for the paragraphs and pages of the report from which the responses have been copied or summarised.

Table X: GEF portal inputs

Question: What was the performance at the project's completion against Core Indicator Targets? (For projects approved prior to GEF-7¹⁷, these indicators will be identified retrospectively and comments on performance provided¹⁸).
Response: The project was designed and approved prior to the introduction of the GEF-7 Core Indicator framework; consequently, no Core Indicator Targets were included at CEO Endorsement, and none were monitored throughout implementation. The latest PIR confirms that the project did not set Core Indicator targets (<i>"This project precedes GEF Core Indicator definition. It did not set any targets in this regard."</i>). Given the project's focus on strengthening the regulatory, institutional and procedural framework for ABS, none of the quantitative Core Indicators (e.g., hectares under improved management, GHG reductions, etc.) are applicable. Therefore, no performance against GEF Core Indicators can be reported.
Question: What were the progress, challenges and outcomes regarding engagement of stakeholders in the project/program as evolved from the time of the MTR? (<i>This should be based on the description included in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan or equivalent documentation submitted at CEO Endorsement/Approval</i>)
Response: Stakeholder engagement remained broadly consistent with what observed at mid-term. The MTR reported strong participation from MINAM and the Competent National Authorities, as well as active collaboration with technical institutions and a modest level of engagement from the private sector. Evidence from for this review indicates that these dynamics continued during the second half of the project, with regular interaction among institutional stakeholders and contributions from academia, research centres and the private sector. Participation of Indigenous Peoples' organisations and women's groups was sustained through their involvement in training and intercultural and awareness raising activities.
Question: What were the completed gender-responsive measures and, if applicable, actual gender result areas? (<i>This should be based on the documentation at CEO Endorsement/Approval, including gender-sensitive indicators contained in the project results framework or gender action plan or equivalent</i>)
Response: Gender considerations were addressed through disaggregated data collection and practical design adaptations, despite the absence of a formal gender strategy. A key gender-responsive measure was the design and development of the Intercultural Training Programme, which explicitly included gender criteria. The project consciously employed intergenerational methodologies which served to facilitate women's participation by removing logistical childcare barriers. In terms of participation

¹⁷ The GEF is currently operating under the seventh replenishment period of the GEF Trust Fund covering the period July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2022. The GEF Portal Reporting Guide for FY20 Reporting Process indicates that GEF-6 projects that have yet to map existing indicators to GEF-7 Core Indicators need to do so at MTR stage or (if already there) at the time of the TE. (i.e. not GEF projects approved before GEF-6)

¹⁸ This is not applicable for Enabling Activities

rates, women represented 42% of participants in overall ABS awareness and training events, and a higher proportion, 59%, in the Intercultural Training Programme, demonstrating strong engagement of Indigenous women. Furthermore, women Indigenous leaders actively participated in validation workshops and training events.

Question: What was the progress made in the implementation of the management measures against the Safeguards Plan submitted at CEO Approval? The risk classifications reported in the latest PIR report should be verified and the findings of the effectiveness of any measures or lessons learned taken to address identified risks assessed. *(Any supporting documents gathered by the Consultant during this review should be shared with the Task Manager for uploading in the GEF Portal)*

Response:

The project demonstrated full compliance with the safeguard requirements applicable at the time of its approval, and no management measures against a Safeguards Plan were necessary as the project was screened and classified as low risk during the design phase. The project was designed before UNEP introduced the Social and Environmental Safeguards Integrated Risk Framework. Nevertheless, minimum standards for GEF-financed projects were applied during preparation and implementation. The CEO Endorsement document and the Project Document stated that the project was expected to achieve positive environmental and social impacts and that no unintended negative impacts to people and the environment were foreseen. Safeguard aspects were monitored through the annual PIRs. Each PIR consistently reported no safeguard-related incidents, no grievances or complaints, no emergence of new environmental or social risks, and therefore, no need for mitigation or corrective measures during the project's implementation.

Question: What were the challenges and outcomes regarding the project's completed Knowledge Management Approach, including: Knowledge and Learning Deliverables (e.g. website/platform development); Knowledge Products/Events; Communication Strategy; Lessons Learned and Good Practice; Adaptive Management Actions? *(This should be based on the documentation approved at CEO Endorsement/Approval)*

Response:

Key knowledge and learning deliverables included the development of intercultural guides; the creation of interactive online training modules on ABS launched on MINAM's "AULA APRENDE" platform; and the update and launch of the GENES-Peru platform, consolidating it as a key tool for information sharing, monitoring and transparency. Results from the Communication Strategy were effective, generating more than 200 media impacts and organising 122 events (virtual and in-person) that reached 7,406 participants. Communication efforts combined mass media, social media and capacity-building activities, helping to strengthen awareness of ABS among users and institutional actors. Challenges are mainly related to the sustainability and institutional uptake of knowledge products. While communication materials were widely disseminated, maintaining updated online content and ensuring continued use of platforms such as GENES-Peru will require formalised roles and coordination mechanisms within MINAM and partner institutions.

Question: What are the main findings of the evaluation?

Response:

The project has demonstrated strong performance (Satisfactory or Highly Satisfactory) in the areas of Strategic Relevance (HS), Effectiveness (S), Financial Management (S), Monitoring and Reporting (S), Stakeholders Participation and Cooperation (S), and Communication and Public Awareness (HS). The project successfully achieved or overachieved all planned outcomes. A major achievement was the support provided for updating the national ABS regulation through Supreme Decree No. 019-2021-MINAM, which provided the necessary regulatory clarity to streamline

national processes. This regulatory strengthening, combined with the successful establishment of the National ABS Mechanism in 2020, led to a reduction in bureaucratic delays. The average time needed to issue non-commercial access contracts was reduced from approximately 470 working days before the project to 60 working days by closure. Furthermore, the project's efforts resulted in the issuance of 52 Internationally Recognised Certificates of Compliance during its lifespan. Finally, the project was also effective in incorporating human rights and gender dimensions, notably through the co-creation of the Intercultural Training Programme, where women constituted 59% of participants, and materials were translated into four indigenous languages.

Areas that would have benefited from further attention are Sustainability and Efficiency. The key challenge identified is the lack of formal institutional anchoring of key mechanisms established by the project. Specifically, the highly effective National ABS Mechanism was not formalised within MINAM, leading to inter-institutional dialogue to slow down after project closure and making the system vulnerable to personnel turnover. Similarly, the Intercultural Training Programme remains unanchored because it is awaiting formal validation from the Ministry of Culture, preventing its wide implementation. Additionally, the final phase of implementation suffered from administrative delays in processing the final unspent budget balance, which led to months of limited execution and the loss of the core project coordination team, undermining institutional memory and overall efficiency.

ANNEX IX. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Project Title and Reference No.: Effective Implementation of the Access and Benefit Sharing and Traditional Knowledge Regime in Peru in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol - SMA ID: 28972 – GEF ID 8025

Contact Person (TM/PM): Robert Erath

RECOMMENDATIONS	PLANS			
	ACCEPTED (YES/NO/PARTIALLY)	WHAT WILL BE DONE?	EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER/ UNIT/ DIVISION/ AGENCY
Recommendation #1: Institutionalise the ABS Coordination Mechanism. Recommendation 1.1: It is recommended that MINAM, as the coordinating body and National Focal Point for the Nagoya Protocol, issue a regulatory instrument to formalise the National ABS Mechanism as a permanent coordination mechanism among the Competent National Authorities, thereby ensuring its operational continuity beyond changes in government administrations.	This recommendation will be shared and discussed with the relevant stakeholders once the final report is vetted by the evaluation office and formally distributed to partners.	Should the recommendation be accepted, the respective actions to be taken will emanate from a participative process with relevant stakeholders and partners to develop the official management response to the review.	To be defined in accordance with the management response process.	To be defined in accordance with the management response process.
Recommendation #2: Institutionalise knowledge products and strengthen continuous and strategic dissemination of the ABS system. Recommendation 2.1 It is recommended that MINAM actively promote the formal adoption of the Intercultural Training Programme and its associated educational materials,	This recommendation will be shared and discussed with the relevant stakeholders once the final report is vetted by the evaluation office and formally distributed to partners.	Should the recommendation be accepted, the respective actions to be taken will emanate from a participative process with relevant stakeholders and partners to develop the	To be defined in accordance with the management response process.	To be defined in accordance with the management response process.

RECOMMENDATIONS	PLANS			
	ACCEPTED (YES/NO/PARTIALLY)	WHAT WILL BE DONE?	EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE	REPOSIBLE OFFICER/ UNIT/ DIVISION/ AGENCY
liaising with the Ministry of Culture to ensure validation and authorisation for implementation. Recommendation 2.2 It is recommended that MINAM establish a communication protocol requiring all Competent National Authorities to regularly update the GENES-Peru website with information on new guidelines, approved contracts on access to genetic resources, and relevant ABS-related events. This will ensure that GENES-Peru effectively operates as the national and international public window for the ABS system, leveraging an already functional platform with low maintenance costs. Recommendation 2.3 It is recommended that MINAM coordinate a dissemination strategy for ABS technical modules with SUNEDU (National Superintendence of Higher Education) to integrate knowledge of the Nagoya Protocol and the national ABS system into university curricula nationwide. This would expand the reach of training efforts and enhance long-term sustainability.		official management response to the review.		
Recommendation #3: Develop a National ABS Roadmap. Recommendations 3.1 It is recommended that MINAM convene a structured internal reflection process with all Competent National Authorities and relevant stakeholders to analyse the current state of ABS in Peru, including a review of the implementation of existing access contracts and the benefits generated to date.	This recommendation will be shared and discussed with the relevant stakeholders once the final report is vetted by the evaluation office and formally distributed to partners.	Should the recommendation be accepted, the respective actions to be taken will emanate from a participative process with relevant stakeholders and partners to develop the	To be defined in accordance with the management response process.	To be defined in accordance with the management response process.

RECOMMENDATIONS	PLANS			
	ACCEPTED (YES/NO/PARTIALLY)	WHAT WILL BE DONE?	EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER/ UNIT/ DIVISION/ AGENCY
Recommendations 3.2 It is recommended that MINAM use the results of this reflection exercise (Suggestion 3.1) to formulate a National Strategic ABS Roadmap. This roadmap should clearly define roles, responsibilities, timelines and follow-up mechanisms, and incorporate suggestions outlined under recommendations 1 and 2, to ensure continuity of the progress achieved under the project and maintain an effective ABS system in Peru.		official management response to the review.		
Recommendation #4: Integrate and formalise gender and human rights implementation approaches demonstrated to be effective in practice into the design of projects. Recommendations 4.1 It is recommended that UNEP ensure that projects systematically incorporate a gender action plan and human rights-based frameworks. These should include specific operational methodologies identified as good practices in previous projects, such as those identified in this review on the use of parallel intergenerational learning spaces for children to facilitate women's participation and the co-creation of multilingual intercultural materials, so that these measures are treated as core requirements rather than <i>ad hoc</i> management choices.	This recommendation will be shared and discussed within UNEP with the relevant colleagues once the final report is vetted by the evaluation office and formally distributed.	Should the recommendation be accepted, the respective actions to be taken will emanate from a participative process with relevant UNEP staff to develop the official management response to the review.	To be defined in accordance with the management response process.	To be defined in accordance with the management response process.

ANNEX X. QUALITY ASSESSMENT OF THE REVIEW REPORT

Review Title: Effective Implementation of the Access and Benefit Sharing and Traditional Knowledge Regime in Peru in accordance with the Nagoya Protocol” (GEF ID 8025)

Consultant: Carolina Turano

All UNEP Reviews are subject to a quality assessment by the UNEP Evaluation Office. This is an assessment of the quality of the review product (i.e. Main Review Report).

Report Quality Criteria	UNEP Evaluation Office Comments	Final Report Rating
Section A: Executive Summary	Assessment	
1. Does the Executive Summary act as a concise, accurate standalone section, especially to inform decision-making? Consider how clearly and concisely the report presents: - a clear summary of the evaluation object - evaluation objectives, scope and methodology - the overall project evaluation rating - a summary of main evaluation findings, including key features of performance (strengths and weaknesses) - summary responses to key strategic evaluation questions - summary of main conclusions, lessons learned and recommendations	<u>Coverage/omissions:</u> The section is complete and includes all the required elements. <u>Strengths/weaknesses:</u> The Executive Summary provides a concise narrative of the project review, in a well-balanced manner. It enables readers to understand the main substance of the project's performance. The section includes responses to the key strategic questions of the Review, although it is noted here that it would have been beneficial if the questions themselves had also been included.	5.5
Section B: The Project	Assessment	
2. Does the report clearly describe the key parameters, scale and complexity of the evaluand? Consider how well the report presents: - an overview of the main issue that the project is trying to address - timeline, including dates of project approval, duration and number of phases (where appropriate) - geographic coverage (regions/countries) - total secured budget and project financing, including a table with funding sources - implementing and funding partners - institutional context (i.e. UNEP sub-programme, Division, Branch etc) - implementation structure with diagram - UNEP results frameworks to which it contributes (e.g. PoW Direct Outcome) - summary of results framework as stated in the ProDoc (or as officially revised) - stakeholder groups organised according to relevant common characteristics	<u>Coverage/omissions:</u> All required elements are adequately addressed <u>Strengths/weaknesses:</u> The introduction is well presented, covering the required information in sufficient detail. It provides a clear description of the evaluand and its parameters, stakeholders, funding sources and budget.	6

Report Quality Criteria	UNEP Evaluation Office Comments	Final Report Rating
- whether the project has been evaluated in the past (e.g. mid-term, by an external agency, etc.) - substantive or significant changes in design during implementation		
Section C: Evaluation Methods and Theory of Change	Assessment	
3. Does the report present a clear, comprehensive and adequate description of the evaluation methodology? Consider how well it presents the following elements, and their adequacy based on the scope of the evaluation: - statement of the purpose of the evaluation and the key intended audience for the evaluation findings - data collection methods and information sources - justification for methods used (e.g. electronic/face-to-face interviews, qualitative/quantitative analysis) - criteria and sampling strategies used to select stakeholders for consultations, and for sites/countries visited - number and types of respondents (<i>including in a table broken down by gender</i>) - strategies used to increase stakeholder engagement and response rate - methods used to include the voices/experiences of different and potentially excluded groups (e.g. women, marginalised) - data verification methods (e.g. triangulation) - data analysis methods (e.g. scoring, thematic analysis) - evaluation limitations and mitigation measures (e.g. how these were addressed by the evaluator) - consideration for ethics and human rights issues, including how anonymity and confidentiality were protected	<u>Coverage/omissions:</u> The section is complete <u>Strengths/weaknesses:</u> It clearly presents the main data collection methods and sources, including the rationale for their selection. Gender and ethical considerations are discussed, including efforts to increase stakeholder engagement at the local level. A table summarising the respondents' sample is included and is disaggregated by male/female. Methods used to verify and analyse data have been adequately explained. Limitations to the review have also been discussed.	6
4. Does the report describe an assessment and reformulation of the Theory of Change, and present an adequate articulation of the TOC causal pathways that were used to assess project performance (<i>narratively and diagrammatically</i>)? Consider how well the report presents: - whether the project design included a TOC - how the <i>TOC at Evaluation</i>¹⁹ was designed (e.g. who was involved, etc) - confirmation/reconstruction of results in accordance with UNEP definitions (<i>including</i>	<u>Coverage/omissions:</u> The TOC is presented in diagrammatic format and there is an accompanying narrative. <u>Strengths/weaknesses:</u> The reconstructed TOC has been presented in a clear and systematic manner. The TOC narrative and its diagrammatic representation are consistent. Drivers and Assumptions are also identified –	5

¹⁹ During the Inception Phase of the evaluation process a *TOC at Evaluation Inception* is created based on the information contained in the approved project documents (these may include either logical framework or a TOC or narrative descriptions), formal revisions and annual reports etc. During the evaluation process this TOC is revised based on changes made during project intervention and becomes the *TOC at Evaluation*.

Report Quality Criteria	UNEP Evaluation Office Comments	Final Report Rating
<i>reformulation table, which may have initially been presented in the Inception Report and should appear in the Main Evaluation report.)</i> • articulation of causal pathways • identification of drivers and assumptions • identification of key actors in the change process	both in the narrative and the diagram. The section includes a summary of the reconstruction/results re-formulation in table format. The process used to develop the reconstructed TOC at Review has been clearly described. However, the reconstructed TOC includes reformulation of [output and outcome] indicators, which carries a risk of “shifting goalposts” post project. The reformulated indicators could instead have been presented as the TOC Drivers/ Assumptions influencing the change process. Additionally, while the key agents in the change process can be inferred from the narrative, they are not explicitly defined.	
Section D: Evidence and Analysis	Assessment	
5. Is the report based on <i>sufficient and adequate data</i> and <i>clear and credible evidence</i>? Consider how well the report presents: • sufficient evidence that is consistent throughout the report • evidence that is supported by data sources (e.g. quotes, reports, etc) • evidence that is explicitly triangulated, unless noted as having a single source • gaps in data are explained and justified • data sources that are reliable, adequate, sufficient for the scope of the evaluation	The findings presented within the report are evidence-based, adequate and consistent throughout the report. Triangulation of data can be observed in the assessment of the various criteria. Limitations/gaps in data collection are mentioned where applicable. The data sources mentioned appear to be appropriate to the scope of the Review.	6
6. Does the report include <i>rigorous analysis</i> and <i>logical findings</i>? Consider the extent to which the findings are: • supported by clear analysis that is consistent with the evidence presented • logical, clear and coherent • aligned with UNEP’s Criteria Ratings Matrix • aligned with the evaluation framework • more than descriptions and provide insights into ‘how’ and/or ‘why’ the project performed a certain way • balanced, presenting both successes and weaknesses	The analyses are clear, logical, and consistent with the evidence presented. The review describes how data were verified. The findings are balanced as they provide useful insights into both the successes and shortcomings in projects performance The analyses and ratings are for the most part sufficiently aligned with UNEP’s criteria ratings matrix	6
Section E: Evaluation Findings	Assessment	
7. Does the report present evidence and analysis of project <i>Strategic Relevance</i> with respect to UNEP, partner and	<u>Coverage/omissions:</u>	6

Report Quality Criteria	UNEP Evaluation Office Comments	Final Report Rating
geographic policies and strategies at the time of project approval? Consider how well the report addresses: - Alignment to the UNEP Medium Term Strategy (MTS), Programme of Work (POW) and Strategic Priorities - Alignment to Donor/GEF/Partners Strategic Priorities - Relevance to Regional, Sub-regional and National Environmental Priorities - Complementarity with Existing Interventions: complementarity of the project at design (or during inception/mobilisation²⁰), with other interventions addressing the needs of the same target groups.	The report adequately covers all the required dimensions of relevance. <u>Strengths/weaknesses:</u> The preview presents a comprehensive analysis of the project's alignment with UNEP MTS/POW, donor and partner priorities, national and regional priorities, and complementarity with existing interventions	
8. Does the report present a summary of the strengths and weaknesses of the Quality of Project Design, based on the detailed assessment presented in the Inception Report?²¹	<u>Coverage/omissions:</u> All required elements are addressed. <u>Strengths/weaknesses:</u> The review provides a comprehensive analysis of all the design criteria and the summary provided adequately supports the rating	NOT RATED
9. Does the report recognise and describe, when appropriate, key features of the Nature of the External Context under which the project was implemented that limited the project's performance (e.g. conflict, natural disaster, political upheaval²²), and how they affected performance?²³	<u>Coverage/omissions:</u> Section is complete <u>Strengths/weaknesses:</u> The review provides a description of key external features of the project's implementing contexts, covering political upheaval and turnover of government personnel, social unrest, as well as the COVID-19 Pandemic all occurring during the project's lifespan. It also mentions how the project coped under the circumstances, although the rating given downplays the significance of the nature of these external events as being 'favourable'	NOT RATED
10. Does the report present a well-reasoned, complete and evidence-based assessment of the Availability of Outputs to the intended beneficiaries? Consider how well the report presents:	<u>Coverage/omissions:</u> The section is complete – covers all the project's programmed outputs	6

²⁰ A project's inception or mobilization period is understood as the time between project approval and first disbursement. Complementarity during project implementation is considered under Efficiency, see below.

²¹ The Quality of Project Design criterion is not rated in this table because the majority of the analysis is presented in the Inception Report and the Final Terminal Review report only contains a summary.

²² Note that 'political upheaval' does not include regular national election cycles, but unanticipated unrest or prolonged disruption. The potential delays or changes in political support that are often associated with the regular national election cycle should be part of the project's design and addressed through adaptive management of the project team.

²³ The Nature of External Context is not rated in this table because it is not consistently applicable across all projects. Some review reports will simply record that there was no unexpected unfavourable external factors, while others may have to describe critical external events.

Report Quality Criteria	UNEP Evaluation Office Comments	Final Report Rating
- a convincing, evidence-supported and clear presentation of the outputs made available by the project compared to its approved plans and budget - assessment of the nature and scale of outputs versus the project indicators and targets - assessment of the timeliness, quality and utility of outputs to intended beneficiaries - identification of positive or negative effects of the project on disadvantaged groups, including those with specific needs due to gender, vulnerability or marginalisation (e.g. through disability).	<u>Strengths/weaknesses:</u> The review is clear and evidence based. Each output has been assessed in depth, and the review provides useful insights into the quality, utility and timeliness of the outputs to intended beneficiaries. There were no indicators defined in the logical framework; therefore, no comparisons have been made in this regard. Consequently, the assessment of performance is predominantly qualitative. The nature of the intervention supported the protection of disadvantaged groups, and the review identifies several positive effects to indigenous communities. Project performance under this criterion has been summarised clearly, it balanced and well-reasoned.	
11. Does the report present a well-reasoned, complete and evidence-based assessment of the Achievement of Outcomes, as a result of the uptake, adoption and/or implementation of outputs by the intended beneficiaries? This may include behaviour changes at an individual or collective level. Consider how well the report presents: - a convincing and evidence-supported analysis of the uptake of outputs by intended beneficiaries - assessment of the nature, depth and scale of outcomes versus the project indicators and targets - discussion of the contribution, credible association and/or attribution of outcome level changes to the work of the project itself - any constraints to attributing effects to the projects' work - identification of positive or negative effects of the project on disadvantaged groups, including those with specific needs due to gender, vulnerability or marginalisation (e.g. through disability).	<u>Coverage/omissions:</u> The section is complete – covers all the project's expected outcomes <u>Strengths/weaknesses:</u> The review provides a detailed and evidence-based assessment of Outcome achievement; contribution, credible association and/or attribution of outcome level changes are adequately supported in the review. The analysis compares the scale of outcomes versus the project indicators and specifies who the beneficiaries are in each case. It also includes discussions relating to gender and disadvantaged groups. There are no unintended negative effects mentioned in the review. Constraints to outcome achievement are also not discussed but this is consistent with the high level of outcome achievement observed by the reviewer.	6
12. Does the report present an integrated analysis, guided by the causal pathways represented by the TOC, of all evidence relating to Likelihood of Impact? Consider how well the report presents: an explanation of how causal pathways emerged and the resulting change processes	<u>Coverage/omissions:</u> All the required elements are covered in this section <u>Strengths/weaknesses:</u> The review describes the causal pathways from outputs through to impact and provides a detailed and	5

Report Quality Criteria	UNEP Evaluation Office Comments	Final Report Rating
- an explicit discussion of how drivers and assumptions played out - an explanation of roles played by key actors and change agents - identification of any unintended negative effects of the project, especially on disadvantaged groups, including those with specific needs due to gender, vulnerability or marginalisation (e.g. through disability).	well-reasoned analysis of the Drivers and Assumptions that have influenced/ are influencing the change process. The roles played by key actors and change agents are however not explicitly described.	
13. Does the report present an integrated analysis of all dimensions evaluated under Financial Management and include a completed 'financial management' table? Consider how well the report addresses the following: <i>adherence</i> to UNEP's financial policies and procedures <i>completeness</i> of financial information, including the actual project costs and actual co-financing used and explanation of any variances between planned and actual expenditures	<u>Coverage/omissions:</u> The section covers all the required sub-categories. <u>Strengths/weaknesses:</u> All the dimensions of financial management have been adequately assessed; the 'financial management' table has been included within the section to support the findings. However, the rating of this criterion and its sub-categories is rather inconsistent with the evidence, which suggests a higher level of performance.	5
14. Does the report present an integrated analysis of all dimensions evaluated under Efficiency? Consider how well the report presents: - cost-effective or time-saving measures put in place to maximise results within the secured budget and agreed project timeframe - implications of any delays and no cost extensions - discussion of making use, during project implementation, of/building on pre-existing institutions, partnerships and complementarities with other initiatives, programmes and projects etc. - the extent to which the management of the project minimised UNEP's environmental footprint.	<u>Coverage/omissions:</u> The section covers most of the required aspects of efficiency. <u>Strengths/weaknesses:</u> The review describes the extent of project delays and extensions, including efforts that were made to minimise the adverse effects. The use of pre-existing institutions to improve efficiency are also described briefly, as well as the project's efforts to utilise unspent balances. However, the review does not provide details any details on efforts to minimise UNEP's environmental footprint.	5
15. Does the report present a well-reasoned, complete and evidence-based assessment of the project's Monitoring and Reporting? Consider how well the report addresses the following: - the quality of <i>monitoring of project implementation</i> (including use of monitoring data for adaptive management) - the quality of <i>project reporting</i> (e.g. PIMS and donor reports)	<u>Coverage/omissions:</u> Both sub-categories of have been assessed <u>Strengths/weaknesses:</u> The review provides a clear and well-reasoned assessment the project's monitoring and reporting performance. Sufficient evidence has been provided to support the assessment and ratings. The review could have benefited from more details on the quality of the monitoring data and/or its utility to adaptive management	5

Report Quality Criteria	UNEP Evaluation Office Comments	Final Report Rating
16. Does the report present an integrated analysis of all dimensions evaluated under Sustainability (i.e. the endurance of benefits achieved at outcome level)? Consider how well the report addresses the following: - socio-political sustainability - financial sustainability - institutional sustainability	<u>Coverage/omissions:</u> The section is complete. All the sub-categories of sustainability are adequately covered. <u>Strengths/weaknesses:</u> The assessment of each dimension of sustainability is clear, well-reasoned and supported with relevant examples. The review provides useful insights into the likelihood of the continuation of project results and identifies some of the risks that have the potential to adversely affect sustainability. The key stakeholders that are needed to support sustainability have also been discussed.	6
17. Does the report present a well-evidence analysis of the Factors Affecting Performance, either in this section or in <u>cross-referenced sections</u>? <i>These factors are not always discussed in stand-alone sections and may be integrated in the other performance criteria as appropriate. However, if not addressed substantively in this section, a cross reference must be given to where the topic is addressed, and that entry must be sufficient to justify the performance rating for these factors.</i> Consider how well the report addresses the following cross-cutting issues: - quality of project management and supervision²⁴ - stakeholder participation and co-operation - responsiveness to human rights and gender equality - environmental and social safeguards - country ownership and driven-ness - communication and public awareness	<u>Coverage/omissions:</u> All the factors affecting performance have been presented in stand-alone subsections in this chapter. <u>Strengths/weaknesses:</u> The assessment of factors affecting performance is detailed, well-evidenced and consistent with the findings presented in the report. Cross-references to the relevant sections within the report have been included where appropriate.	6
Section F: Conclusions, Lessons Learned and Recommendations	Assessment	
18. Do the Conclusions present a summative assessment of the evaluand as a whole, reflecting on prominent aspects of the project's performance? Consider how well the conclusions: provide a compelling narrative and integrated assessment of project project's performance (i.e.	<u>Coverage/omissions:</u> The review includes conclusions, responses to the key strategic questions, and a summary the performance ratings <u>Strengths/weaknesses:</u>	6

²⁴ In some cases, 'project management and supervision' will refer to the supervision and guidance provided by UNEP to implementing partners and national governments while in others, specifically for GEF funded projects, it will refer to the project management performance of the executing agency and the technical backstopping provided by UNEP. This includes providing the answers to the questions on Core Indicator Targets, stakeholder engagement, gender responsiveness, safeguards and knowledge management, required for the GEF portal.

Report Quality Criteria	UNEP Evaluation Office Comments	Final Report Rating
achievements and limitations) • add deeper insights and analysis beyond the findings under each individual criterion • are derived from the synthesized analysis of evidence gathered during the evaluation process • provide clear and succinct response to the key strategic questions • address the human rights and gender dimensions of the intervention explicitly (e.g. how these dimensions were considered, addressed or impacted on) • provide lessons that are rooted in real project experiences, describe the context from which they are derived, and do not duplicate recommendations	The review provides a succinct summary on the extent to which the project achieved its overall objective. the section provides a compelling narrative that captures both the achievements and limitations of project implementation in a balanced manner. The extent to which the project was effective in addressing gender and human rights issues is adequately addressed. The conclusions made are consistent with the findings reported under the various criteria. The responses to the Key Strategic Review Questions are clear and well-reasoned. However, this part could have benefitted from an inclusion of the questions themselves (either in footnotes or within the text) Lessons learned are anchored on actual findings presented in the report, they are clear and have potential for wider application.	
19. Does the report present Recommendations for specific action to be taken by identified people/position-holders to resolve concrete problems affecting the project or the sustainability of its results? Consider how well the recommendations: • are clearly formulated and logically derived from the findings and/or conclusions • are feasible to implement within the timeframe and resources available (including local capacities) and specific in terms of who would do what and when • include at least one recommendation relating to strengthening the human rights and gender dimensions of UNEP interventions • represent a measurable performance target in order that the Evaluation Office can monitor and assess compliance with the recommendations. <u>NOTES:</u> (i) In cases where the recommendation is addressed to a third party, compliance can only be monitored and assessed where a contractual/legal agreement remains in place. Without such an agreement, the recommendation should be formulated to say that UNEP project staff should pass on the recommendation to the relevant third party in an effective or substantive manner. The effective transmission by UNEP of the recommendation will then be monitored for compliance.	<u>Coverage/omissions:</u> <u>Strengths/weaknesses:</u> The recommended actions are clearly formulated and logically derived from the review findings. This section could have benefited from an update/correction in the categorisation of 'type of recommendation' following UNEP Evaluation Office guidelines on the same As most of the recommendations are addressed to third parties in the project country, they would be more aptly formulated to direct UNEP project staff to pass on the respective recommendations to the relevant third party. The effective/ substantive transmission by UNEP of such recommendations to the appropriate agents would then be monitored for compliance.	5

Report Quality Criteria	UNEP Evaluation Office Comments	Final Report Rating
(ii) Where a new project phase is already under discussion or in preparation with the same third party, a recommendation can be made to address the issue in the next phase.		
Section G: Report Structure and Presentation	Assessment	
20. Is the report <i>well-structured and complete</i>? Does it: - follow the Evaluation Office structure and formatting guidelines - include all required sections and annexes, as applicable - not exceed 50 pages in length from the Executive Summary to the end of the Conclusion Does the report present information clearly and appropriately? Is it written: - in clear and accessible language - largely free from grammar, spelling and punctuation errors - in an adequate and professional tone - with the use of visual aids, such as maps, graphs tables and photos	<u>Coverage/omissions:</u> The report is complete and includes relevant annexes <u>Strengths/weaknesses:</u> The review is well-structured and for the most part adequately meets the UNEP Evaluation Office formatting guidelines. It however exceeds the recommended report length. The review is well written and uses clear and professional language and tone. Tables have been used to support the review where appropriate.	5
OVERALL REPORT QUALITY RATING		5.6

A number rating 1-6 is used for each criterion: Highly Satisfactory = 6, Satisfactory = 5, Moderately Satisfactory = 4, Moderately Unsatisfactory = 3, Unsatisfactory = 2, Highly Unsatisfactory = 1. The overall quality of the review report is calculated by taking the mean score of all rated quality criteria.

Rating the Report Quality Criteria

Rating (1–6)	Description
6	Provides all content with high quality.
5	Provides all content with minor weaknesses.
4	Provides most content with minor weaknesses.
3	Provides most content with significant weaknesses.
2	Omits substantive content with significant weaknesses.
1	Omits almost all content with major weaknesses.