

A. COMPLETION REPORT SUBMITTED

Date submitted to AFB secretariat: February 10th, 2021

Implementing Entity: Fundación Natura

Country: Panama

Adaptation Fund Grant I.D.:

Grant Type: [TA-ESGP] Technical Assistance Grant for ESP

Project Description/Project Title: Technical Assistance Grant to support the Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks within projects and programmes in Panama

Activity	Expected Outcome	Outcome Achieved/Not Achieved	Comment/Explanation (also explain any deviation from initial plan)
<p>Development of procedures manual/guidelines for screening projects for environmental and social risks</p>	<p>Formal mechanism to assess social and environmental risk/impact, including the essentials of the correspondent environmental and social management plan, the monitoring process and the communication strategy to ensure beneficiaries and stakeholders participation.</p> <p>Activities include: 1. Analysis of current tools and procedures in place in F. Natura to asses/manage project environmental and social risks and impacts</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>The consultancy included the review of the existing policies and tools at Fundación Natura related to the evaluation and management of risks and environmental and social safeguards. The consultancy provided an updated framework, which includes procedures and tools to identify, evaluate and monitor risks, environmental and social impacts of projects and programs, incorporating the Adaptation Fund policies related to environmental and social</p>	<p>The recommendations presented as a result of the consultancy were approved by the Board of Trustees of NATURA and incorporated into the Quality Management System.</p> <p>Was not easy to find consultants and this caused delay. A call was opened requesting proposals of interest for this consultancy, but it was not awarded once the proponents did not reach the minimum score in their evaluation. The process was followed by a national and international call for experts with proven experience. We received two proposals, but the consultants gave up due to the short time available. Another international consultant showed interest but was unable to communicate in Spanish, which limited his ability to interact with staff, so his proposal was not accepted.</p> <p>Finally, after conducting countless consultations with different organizations and EINs, three consultants submitted proposals at the end of 2017. The consultancy was awarded and began on February 5, 2018 for a period of 60 days.</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Compare the current tools with the AF Env. & Soc. Policy requirements. Identify gaps and provide adequate measure to fill those gaps. 3. Review the Env&Social Policy developed by Fundación Natura to mainstream it through its processes (Note: accordingly the AF requirements, to strengthen its use in Fundación Natura as a standard operation procedure in the context of other Funds and grant activities conducted by the Foundation). 4. Harmonization of the above mentioned tool with the national legal requirements, the AF Env&Social Policy and with other relevant Env&Social policy frameworks. 5. Conduct a demonstration exercise to prove the relevance/pertinence 	<p>safeguards, as well as gender policies.</p>	
--	---	--	--

	<p>of the proposed process and procedures. (Note: This exercise will preferably be linked to the preliminary project idea to be presented by Fundacion Natura to the AF and in the context of the consultation process for the Water Security National Plan currently promoted by the Ministry of Environment in Panama)</p> <p>6. Support Executive Director to present it for approval of the Foundation's Board.</p> <p>7. Provide guidance to produce one informative material (flyer/brochure/fact sheet) to inform the general audience about the tool/process.</p>		
<p>Development of procedures manual/guidelines for undertaking project environmental and social risk assessment and for</p>	<p>Development of guidelines for Fundación Natura to formulate an environment and social risk management plan</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>The manual of procedures and guidelines for the</p>	<p>The institutional guidelines will be developed and included in the Quality Management System for the processes.</p>

formulating risk management plans		evaluation of environmental and social risks of the projects and for the formulation of risk management plans was prepared.	
Development of transparent and effective mechanisms for receiving and resolving complaints about environmental and social harms caused by projects/programs during the course of implementation of AF supported projects/programs	Mechanisms for receiving and resolving complaints about environmental and social harms caused by projects/programs during the course of implementation of AF supported projects/programs	Completed Mechanisms to receive and resolve complaints about environmental and social damage caused by projects / programs during their implementation were strengthened.	The update of mechanisms in place and uploaded in the website are already done.
Training of select entity staff to carry out the relevant tasks related to the implementation of the E&S Policy	At least in 3 sessions, with one session on the field directed to practice the use of the guidelines. Training may include few cost for sessions logistic and accommodation to travel locally to areas where will be implemented the project presented to AF.	Completed Three sessions were held with all Natura staff and workshop was held with the technical team of the executing entities of the Adaptation Fund Program.	Three sessions were held: one with all Natura staff and two with the technical and communications team to develop competencies, skills applying the gender, risk management approach and the procedures and forms that can be apply Additionally, a workshop was held with the technical team of the executing entities of the Adaptation Fund Program.
Other type of support requested (please describe)	It will be included the gender guidelines part of the reviewed policies of the AF.	Completed The gender policy was developed	The gender policy was presented to the Board of Trustees and approved. It was incorporated into the Quality Management System.
Budget	100% of the planned budget was executed		

<p>Summary of overall outcome including any challenges faced and how they were resolved, and an explanation of how achieved outcomes will be disseminated or taken forward*.</p>	<p>The results of the consultancy carried out to strengthen the issue of environmental and social safeguards and gender policy were presented to the Board of Trustees for approval and subsequent implementation.</p> <p>In the diagnosis of the processes, procedures and forms existing of the NATURA Foundation for the identification, evaluation and management of risks and impacts, it was concluded that the incorporation of new principles was required in according with the standard requirements of the different sources of financing to which the organization can have access to carry out projects for adaptation to climate change that benefit vulnerable communities in Panama.</p> <p>Adjustments were made and implemented to manage A&S risks at all stages of the project life cycle. The application of all these contributions allowed NATURA Foundation to guarantee that the environmental and social risks of the projects are identified, evaluated and valued, from their conceptualization, and the adoption of pertinent measures to avoid or when possible, minimize or mitigate risks during implementation.</p> <p>The Suggestion and Complaints Management Mechanism, as a tool to promote transparency and accountability of those projects that may generate risks or adverse E&S impacts on communities, was also modified. Complaints and suggestions can be submitted through different channels: NATURA website, email, letter, social networks, telephone, other means that the executors may enable that better adapt to local circumstances.</p> <p>All the policies are posted on Natura's website and also in the call and contract manuals.</p>
<p>Any feedback/general comment to the AFB secretariat</p>	

*If there have been any delays in project implementation that affected project completion dates, state the reasons for the delays.

Implementing Entity Contact Person: Rosa Montañez / Vilna Cuéllar

Email: rmontanez@naturapanama.org
vcuellar@naturapanama.org