

PROJECT STATUS REPORT (PSR)

07/01/2022 - 12/31/2022 - PSR-09556



PROJECT SUMMARY

Operation number

SU-T1135

Suboperation number

ATN/ME-18357-SU

Project Name

Community Conservation of Mangroves

Team Leader

Vashtie Dookiesingh

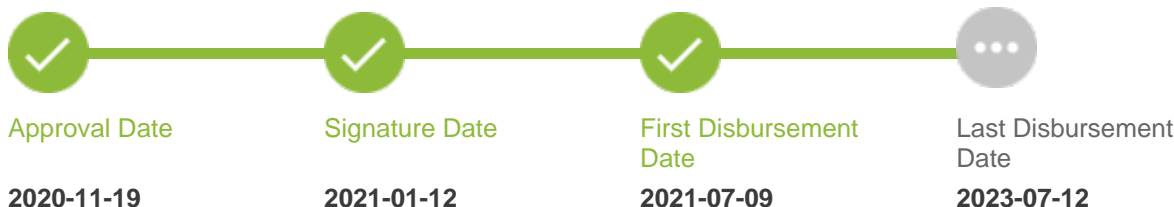
Executing Agency

Green Heritage Fund Suriname

Purpose



Project cycle



PSR SCORE



- 0 - 1 Red Flag
- 1 - 2 Yellow Flag
- 2 - 4 Green Flag

LEARNINGS

1. Risk and Lessons

1.1. Risk

1.1.1. What do you think is the biggest risk that threatens the achievement of the project objectives?

The biggest risk currently is the complexity of the relationships between different organizations and individuals working on mangrove protection, restoration and education. Among these organizations and individuals, not everyone wants to collaborate towards a joint goal that serves our nation. For some organizations and individuals it seems to be more important to have either their logo or individual person attached to mangrove work in Suriname. This does not serve our nation, and leads to misleading information being given to our politicians about mangrove loss in terms of hectares. This wrong information then finds its way into our nation's highest leaders' speeches that are delivered at international fora. Because of these complex relationships, the achievement of a joint action plan may be more difficult than first thought.

1.2. Greatest Achievement or Failure

1.2.1. What has been the greatest achievement or failure in the last semester that affected the implementation of the project?

The greatest achievement is that we managed to finish most of our activities with higher participation than we had expected. The most important failure was that we were not able to support the most important mangrove cooperative organization in taking on a leadership role with our assistance. For that reason we decided to organize the different stakeholders ourselves and started the exchange platform.

1.3. Findings and Lessons

1.3.1. What are the most useful findings and lessons from this project that when taken into consideration could improve the execution and results of existing projects and the design of similar projects in the future? A finding describes an action, circumstance or decision that was critical in determining the positive or negative evolution of the project (for example, switching from the development of a blockchain platform to a web-based shared database reduced the cost and time devoted to implementing the traceability capabilities required by the project). A lesson is a concrete, actionable proposal based on a finding that, in similar circumstances, would facilitate problem solving, risk mitigation, and the achievement of results (for example, Develop guidelines and criteria to identify candidates that could benefit from the implementation of a blockchain platform, and assess during the design if the selected project satisfies the criteria before committing to develop one).

There were several findings and lessons, that are inter-related: 1. Community-based conservation in Suriname is possible, but takes time. Building trust with communities and partner organisations takes time. As a result of COVID restrictions, we decided at a certain moment that we should show our faces in the communities, because otherwise we would not be able to progress, once the restrictions were lifted. The lesson we learned from this is that community participation starts with one-on-one interactions. The GHFS' ability to establish new and strengthen existing partnerships throughout the implementation of this project was driven by one-on-one in-person consultations with community members. 2. The execution time was too narrowly planned. It was overly ambitious for a two-year period that was riddled by restrictions due to the COVID pandemic. In normal circumstances, 24 months could have been sufficient, but in these circumstances we lost around six months of real field time. 3. Community participation was wrongly assessed. In certain cases positively in others negatively. Participation in the school visits and the digital business skills livelihood training were considerably higher than anticipated. Conversely, participation in the community mangrove expositions and the nature-based tourism livelihood training in Nickerie were considerably lower than anticipated. 4 Not everyone wants to collaborate. During the implementation of the project

activities, the GHFS were confronted by the fact that not all organizations or individuals want to collaborate, some would rather not collaborate to achieve a similar objective. The majority does want to collaborate and for that reason setting up the mangrove exchange, and again by having one-on-one interactions, helps build trust among this large group of stakeholders.

2. Scalability and replicability

2.1. Scalability Plan

2.1.1. Now that the Project is in the execution phase, have you developed any concrete plan or action that will allow it to reach a greater number of users/clients/beneficiaries (or broader environmental or resilience to climate change and natural disasters impacts) in the future?

We developed several products that can be used in other projects. GLOBE for example is now starting a Trees in Latin America and the Caribbean Campaign because of our lobbying to implement a Mangrove protocol within our region. The campaign will be launched in February 2023 and covers all member countries of GLOBE in LAC. In addition, we have developed several knowledge and information products that can be used by others in Suriname, these include the animation videos and other videos from this project. As well as booklets about bees and beekeeping and about mangroves.

2.2. Costs and Partners to Scale

2.2.1. Now that the project is in the execution phase, do you know how much it costs to offer your product / service per user / client / beneficiary? Is this a factor that could affect reaching a greater number of users / clients / beneficiaries in the future? Has any public or private institution requested this information from you, looking for scaling or replicating the model / product / service?

We have not yet made these calculations, but for example the digital skills training and beekeeping trainings can be easily replicated and scaled, and costs can be calculated per beneficiary.

2.3. Facilitating or Hindering Factors

2.3.1. Has any of these factors affected the number of users/clients/beneficiaries (more/fewer) reached by the project compared to what was originally planned (or environmental or resilience to climate change and natural disasters impacts)?

[Coordination with third parties, Complexity of the solution (high number of actors involved/interaction of many parts/components), Visibility for users/clients/beneficiaries of the advantages of the proposed solution]

2.4. Scalability Scope

2.4.1. How feasible it is that the organization could reach a number of users/clients/beneficiaries 5, 10 or 100 times the number originally planned in the project design, five years after the project ends?

[It could reach between 10 times and 100 times the number of users/clients/beneficiaries originally planned in the project design five years after its closure]

2.4.2. How likely is the organization to reach that number five years after the project ends?

[Probable (more than 50% but less than 90% chance)]

2.5. IDB Group business relation

2.5.1. Has a business relation been created with another part of the IDB Group different from IDB Lab?

No

2.6. Replicability Partners

2.6.1. Are you aware of any other entity at a national or international level that has copied / replicated completely or partially the business model of the project? Did you collaborate in the process with that entity?

[No]

2.7. Replicability Scope

2.7.1. Number of users / clients / beneficiaries reached by entities that have fully or partially replicated / copied the business model / products / services implemented with the support of the project?

[N/A]

2.7.2. Have you experienced, in the last year, significant expansion (50% or more) of the reach of the business model of the project beyond what was expected in the original project design (due to increasing of the organizational size, operational scope or geographic spread)?

[No]

2.7.3. Number of users / clients / beneficiaries reached as of the end of the year?

[At least 2 times but less than 5 times the number of users / clients / beneficiaries planned in the original project design]

2.8. Sustainability

2.8.1. How do you think the project will continue once the IDB Lab financing ends? Examples: it has identified external financing sources to continue operating, it has reached the breakeven point through the sale of services and products, it has obtained the support of public institutions or the private sector, it will adjust the business model to remain viable (via franchises, etc.)

As mangrove protection, education are part of our programming for many years, as it falls within the geographic scope of where our organization works, we have already been approached by other organizations who want to fund projects in the coastal zone and mangrove area.

3. Implementation

3.1. Facilitating or Hindering Factors

3.1.1. What specific aspects have (positively or negatively) affected the implementation of the project the most?

[Complexity or breadth of the proposed activities]

3.1.2. Explain in detail how these factors that you identified have made the implementation of the project easier or more difficult

As previously stated in the lessons learned section, the ambitious planning of the activities while there were still COVID restrictions made the biggest impact on our implementation. Although most of the activities were finished by the end of 2022, several of the activities required more extensive planning and preparation, especially those activities that required extensive stakeholder engagement and large groups to be in-person in one location.

3.2. Novel Technologies Factors

3.2.1. If the project makes use of novel technologies or methodologies, what factors have facilitated or hindered the implementation of the technological solution initially proposed by the project?

[Access to subject matter experts by executing agency/client]

Others, Which?

For the implementation of payment solutions by smartphone we found a willing partner in one of the banks offering the solution. This made a significant impact on the results of the digital skills training and the satisfaction of the beneficiaries about the training.

4. Development Outcomes (Quantitative)

4.0 Has your project contributed to any of the following indicators in the last 12 months (last year)?

[4.6. Not contribute]

5. Development Outcomes (Qualitative)

5.1. Target population identified in the design

Is the target population that was identified in the design being reached by the project? Select the target population actually reached by the project that was originally identified in the project design.

[Afro-descendants, Child and young, Entrepreneurs, Rural population]

5.2. Population served NOT identified in the project design

5.2.1. Select if there are Groups that were NOT originally identified in the project design but are being reached in the execution phase?

[None]

5.3. Facilitating or Hindering Factors

5.3.1. Factors that have affected (facilitated or hindered) reaching these groups, or the resilience/environmental impacts, in the numbers/dimensions that the project had originally planned.

[Changes in the implementation of the original design, Difficulties or advantages related to the adoption of technology, Other]

Others

COVID-pandemic

5.3.2. Explain in detail how these factors that you have identified have affected the ability of the project to reach the groups (achieve resilience/environmental impacts) in the numbers/dimensions originally expected

As stated previously the COVID restrictions made it in first instance more difficult to reach our beneficiaries, However, it also led to a positive outcome in the sense that once the restrictions were lifted, the children really wanted to participate in our holiday activities because they had not been able to go anywhere. Because of this we reached more children. With regard to the adoption of technology, during the digital business skills training, the presentations given by the people from the bank, and the information provided where the people could immediately open an account, really helped to reach more beneficiaries, because they called their family members to come to open bank accounts.

INDICATORS



 Overachieved  Achieved  Pending  In process  Overdue

C1: Community & Stakeholder Engagement

Weight: 20%

Qualification: Satisfactory

100%

Indicators	Planned	Achieved	Status
I1 Outreach and training for students in communities	150 (2023-12-12)	672 (2022-07-29)	
I2 Adult participants measured	100 (2023-12-12)	138 (2022-09-23)	



C2: Training to strengthen Livelihoods

Weight: 40%

Qualification: High Satisfactory

50%

50%

Indicators	Planned	Achieved	Status
I1	60 (2023-12-12)	86 (2022-12-31)	
I2	1 (2023-12-12)	0 (2021-07-30)	

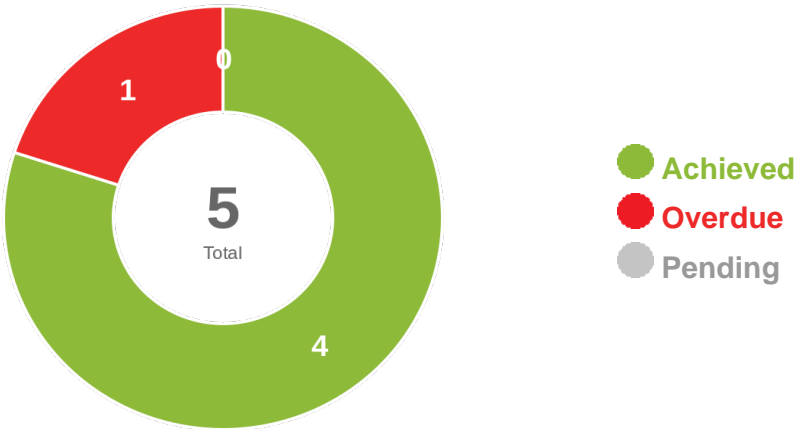
C3: Knowledge Exchange for coordination and sustainability

Weight: 40%

Qualification: High Satisfactory

100%			
Indicators	Planned	Achieved	Status
I1	4 (2023-12-12)	5 (2022-07-31)	
I2	1 (2023-12-12)	1 (2022-08-31)	
I3	1 (2022-12-12)	1 (2021-12-31)	
I4	1 (2023-12-12)	1 (2022-09-23)	

MILESTONES



Milestones	Achieved Value	Due Date	Achieved Date	Status
*Condiciones Previas / Prior Conditions	1	2021-07-12	2021-06-26	
*Commencement of activities in schools	2	2021-07-12	2022-03-03	
*Final training curriculum	1	2022-01-12	2022-06-29	
*Design and mobilization of survey on behavioral change	1	2022-04-12	2022-07-26	
*Coordinated mechanism for mangrove conservation	1	2022-09-12		