



**USAID | ECUADOR**

**USAID SUSTAINABLE FORESTS AND COASTS**  
IMPROVING LIVELIHOODS BY CONSERVING BIODIVERSITY



# FY12 SEMI-ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

OCTOBER 2011 – MARCH 2012

**USAID SUSTAINABLE FORESTS AND COASTS**

**April 16, 2012**

This report was prepared for the review of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). It was prepared by Chemonics International.

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## Acronyms

ECAs	Field Schools
FECCHE	Federación de Centros Cháchis de Ecuador (Ecuadorian Federation of Cháchi Communitites )
FY	Fiscal Year
FRA	Fichas de Revisión Ambiental (Environmental Review Worksheet)
INHAMI	Instituto Nacional de Meteorología e Hidrología (National Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology)
INP	Instituto Nacional de Pesca (National Institute of Fisheries)
MAE	Ministerio de Ambiente (Ministry of Environment)
MAGAP	Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería, Acuacultura y Pesca (Ministry of Agricultural, Livestock, Aquaculture and Fisheries)
MINTUR	Ministerio de Turismo del Ecuador (Ministry of Tourism of Ecuador)
PIR	Project Intermediate Results
PN	Parque Nacional (National Park)
POAM	Plan de Ordenamiento Ambiental
PNM	Parque Nacional Machalilla (Machalilla National Park)
RE	Reserva Ecológica (Ecological Reserve)
RM	Reserva Marina (Marine Reserve)
RPF	Reserva de Producción Faunística (Wildlife Production Reserve)
SIGA	Sistema de Información de Gestión Ambiental (Environmental Management and Information System)
SNAP	Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas (National System of Protected Areas)
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The present Semi-Annual Progress Report provides an update on implementation of FY12 annual work plan activities and progress made towards FY12 targets established in the updated Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP)<sup>1</sup>. It complements the weekly and monthly reports that are submitted to the Contracting Officer's Representative (COR).

The Project's implementation strategy remains focused on reducing the following four main threats to biodiversity conservation in six priority sites along the coast of Ecuador: (1) Loss and/or alteration of critical habitats, (2) Climate change, (3) Lack of economic alternatives, and (4) Insufficient institutional capacity for biodiversity conservation. To this end, the project has built local capacity to manage Protected Areas, implement climate change adaptation measures, and manage integrated farms. In addition, the project has provided tools for communities and local governments to mitigate and respond to climate risks and is helping develop a climate change strategy for the entire Guayas province. It is also promoting market access for products that support conservation (such as red crab, which depend on protecting mangroves; tagua, which depends on forest conservation; and organic cacao produced using environmentally safe practices). To improve livelihoods it also helps people access cash-for-conservation payments for protecting natural forests under the Ministry of Environment's (MAE) Socio Bosque Program. The project continues to work in close partnership with the MAE and provide high level policy guidance, which this semester included helping guide integration of the national biodiversity and climate change programs into the new Environmental Code proposal.

To date, the Project has trained 3,399 people, promoted 14 new commercial linkages, and helped individuals and communities access \$7.7M in cash-for conservation payments for protecting 33,285 hectares<sup>2</sup>. As a result of project technical assistance, over 10,135 people are benefiting economically and 362,575 hectares are under improved management. Parallel to this, the Project strengthened conservation coalitions that serve as platforms for coordinating natural resource management with local public and private sector actors, and has leveraged over \$13.7 million. For a more detailed summary of results to date please see Section 1.

Especially noteworthy achievements this reporting period include (1) expanding the conservation coalition in the Gulf of Guayaquil and concluding one year of data collection for the red crab stock analysis, (2) implementing climate change adaptation measures in El Salado and initiating them for Parque Nacional Machalilla, (3) supporting tagua collectors in adding value to their harvests, (4) developing a Manual on Best Practices for Developing Climate Change Adaptation Measures in Coastal Regions (5) strengthening mangrove concession management, helping new groups apply for concessions and helping the 6 de Julio Crabber's Association renew its concession, (6) incorporating activities from the Ayampe Environmental Land Use Plan into the Territorial Land Use Plan (*Plan de Ordenamiento Territorial – POT*) for

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<sup>1</sup> This semester the PMP is being revised in response to changes requested in TO Mod 4. In addition the project has proposed increasing several targets and making some other minor revisions in the updated PMP. The targets presented in this report are in accordance with the PMP submitted on March 29, 2012 for COR approval.

<sup>2</sup> The project supported submitting applications for an additional \$1M and 3,058 hectares, which are not counted here as they are pending MAE approval

the municipality on Jipijapa and presenting the respective municipal ordinance for approval, (7) facilitating reforestation to protect water sources (8) providing technical assistance for integrated farm management (10) presenting an assessment regarding small producer's perceptions of profitability for timber products in Ecuador ("*Sondeo sobre la percepción de la rentabilidad del aprovechamiento de madera por parte de pequeños productores en Ecuador*") to high level MAE authorities (11) continuing to support the MAE to improve protected area management, including tourism and fishery management and strengthening surveillance and monitoring systems (12) initiated participatory process for developing a Protected Area Management Manual that will be used across Ecuador, and (13) supporting new applications to protect over 7,000 hectares under Socio Bosque and helping communities already in Socio Bosque increase their payments by over \$2.6M per the updated rates approved in 2011. This period the project has also expanded communications materials, launching the first project video regarding its work to strengthen livelihoods and protect mangroves in the Gulf of Guayaquil, and initiating monthly newsletters in English. The project recognizes the role that the guidance and continual support the COR, Rocío Cedeño, has played in meeting its goals and implementing work plan activities to date.

## SECTION 1: SUMMARY OF RESULTS

The Project continued reducing threats to biodiversity conservation in six priority sites along the coast of Ecuador. The following is a summary of results to date through March 31, 2012:

- 33,285 hectares (ha)<sup>3</sup> of natural forest being protected under the Socio Bosque Program for which \$7.7M in cash-for-conservation payments have been committed, benefiting 8,040 people:
  - Ayampe River Watershed: 7,604 ha
  - Coastal Watersheds by Galera San Francisco Marine Reserve, 395 ha
  - Gran Reserva Chachi, 25,286 ha
- As part of technical assistance to meet Socio Bosque requirements for applying for conservation incentives, to date the Project has provided legal and technical assistance with land titling for 6,864 ha (406 ha in Esmeraldas and 6,458 ha in Ayampe), which will benefit 495 people and result in increasing property values by approximately 170% -- \$1,441,524 in total value.
- 295,816 ha Under Surveillance and Enforcement Systems:
  - Churute Mangrove Ecological Reserve/Concessions, 65,110ha
  - Centros Chachi Sabalito, Capuli, Guadual and Calle Manza, 8,108 ha
  - Ayampe River Watershed/ Machalilla National Park: 167,977 ha
  - Galera San Francisco Marine Reserve, 54,621 ha
- 25,545 ha under new Mangrove Concessions (representing 80% of concession areas in the Gulf of Guayaquil) and successfully renewed a concession with 1,284 ha.
- 2,889 ha of forest under protection/regeneration
  - Ayampe River Watershed, 1,556 ha
  - Esmeraldas, 1333 ha
- 10,135 people with increased economic benefits:
  - 1) 8640 people as a result of the Project's assistance in obtaining Socio Bosque economic incentives as well as resources obtained from the PMRC for surveillance of mangrove concessions.
  - 2) 120 people as a result of new commercial relationships facilitated for red crab pulp processors in the Gulf of Guayaquil.
  - 3) 1,170 people as a result of improved management practices (ECAs).
  - 4) 30 people benefiting from improved tourism resources (recycling centers in Las Tunas)
  - 5) 175 people as a result of improved practices for non timber products (tagua sales).

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<sup>3</sup> This represents the hectares from the applications that have already been approved by Socio Bosque. Applications for an additional \$1M and 3,058 hectares have been submitted and are pending MAE approval.

- 3,399 People trained (2,708 men and 691 women) in Natural Resource Management and Initiating Improved Practices:
  - 1) 301 in La Gran Reserva Chachi,
  - 2) 700 in Galera San Francisco,
  - 3) 980 in Ayampe
  - 4) 1,418 Gulf of Guayaquil
  
- 14 new commercial linkages
  - 1) Las Delicias (linked with Tagua buyer, Alen Bosligua)
  - 2) Ecocacao Producer´s Association (linked with Hotel Club del Sol for sales of tropical fruit)
  - 3) Ecocacao Producer´s Association (linked with Hotel Tiburon)
  - 4) Ecocacao Producer´s Association (linked with Hotel Hotel Siona)
  - 5) Ecocacao Producer´s Association (linked with Hotel Cielo Azul)
  - 6) Ecocacao Producer´s Association (linked with Hotel Aldea Mar)
  - 7) Crab Women Association 6 de Julio (linked with Marrecife)
  - 8) Crab Women Association 6 de Julio (linked with Unipark)
  - 9) Crab Women Association 6 de Julio (linked with Rey de las Ostras)
  - 10) Producers from the Upper Ayampe River Watershed ECAs (linked with the municipal market in Jipijapa to sell produce)
  - 11) Producers from Vueltas Largas - Venta de hortalizas a hoteles de la zona
  - 12) Crab Association Bella Vista - venta directa de cangrejo en la Caraguay
  - 13) Producers from El Corocito - acuerdos de comercialización en el mercado de Jipijapa
  - 14) Ecocacao Producer´s Association (exporting organic cacao to Nova Munda)
  
- 156 model integrated farms implementing integral farm management plans for 4,060 ha.
  - 96 Ecocacao Producer´s Association (3,204 ha)
  - 60 in Ayampe (856 ha)
  
- 5 Conservation Coalitions formed and operating: 1) Stakeholders in Gran Reserva Chachi, 2) Stakeholders in Galera San Francisco, 3) Crabbing Associations in Mondragón, 4) Stakeholders in Ayampe, 5) INP and crab associations in Gulf of Guayaquil.
  
- A Security Committee Operating in Puerto López (Comité De Seguridad Ciudadana) and receiving institutional strengthening support as well as technical assistance.
  
- Continued Strong Coordination with:
  - 1) Municipalities: Puerto Lopez, Jipijapa, and Paján;
  - 2) Provincial Governments: Manabí, Esmeraldas, and Guayas;
  - 3) Juntas Parroquiales: Quingue, Galera, San Francisco Del Cabo, Pedro Pablo Gómez;
  - 4) Ministries: MAE, Ministry of Tourism (MINTUR), and Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería, Acuacultura, y Pesca (MAGAP); and
  - 5) National Fishery Institute (INP)
  - 6) National Bureau of Aquatic Spaces (DIRNEA)

7) Ecuadorian Navy's Oceanography Institute (INOCAR)

- \$13,734,131 in Funds Leveraged for Biodiversity Conservation:

Alianza Sur - Mondragón	\$ 18,609.00
Asociación Balao	\$ 13,700.00
Asociación Costa Rica	\$ 15,500.00
Asociación Seis de Julio	\$ 12,060.00
BID	\$ 4,000,000.00
CI Internacional	\$ 575,900.00
Corporación Andina de Fomento	\$ 24,000.00
Fundación McArthur	\$ 14,250.00
Gobiernos locales de Manabi y Puerto López	\$ 3,750.00
Groenhart	\$ 5,000.00
MAE Socio Bosque	\$ 7,659,035.79
MAE	\$ 886,111.15
MINTUR	\$ 57,950.00
PROFORESTAL	\$ 4,000.00
EcoCacao y otros	\$ 33,904.87
MAGAP	\$ 6,800.00
TNC	\$ 40,000.00
FFLA	\$ 20,000.00
ECOLAP	\$ 5,970.00
Nazca	\$ 27,190.00
FFI	\$ 150,000.00
Fundación Lighthouse	\$ 70,000.00
Fundación WildAid	\$ 22,000.00
Municipalidad de Jipijapa	68,400.00
<b>Total general</b>	<b>13,734,131</b>

- Supported development and formally proposing three municipal ordinances: i) creation of a security committee in Puerto Lopez, ii) creation of an environmental management division in Jipijapa and iii) approval of the Territorial Management Plan for Jipijapa.
- 362,575 ha under improved management and an additional 63,184 ha underway
  - 1) 227,067 ha in terrestrial ecosystems (an additional 13,224 ha underway)
  - 2) 135,508 ha in marine ecosystems (an additional 49,960 ha underway)
- 112,944 hectares under Environmental Land Use Plans (POAMs for the Spanish acronym) with local governments/communities leading local environmental planning in:
  - 1) Ayampe River Watershed: 61,257 ha
  - 2) Coastal Watersheds by Galera San Francisco Marine Reserve: 34,260 ha
  - 3) Centro Chachi Capulí: 13,929 ha
  - 4) Centro Chachi Hoja Blanca: 3,498 ha
- In response to a request by the MAE, the project has expanded high level guidance and technical assistance being provided for policy development to the Sub-Secretary for Natural Patrimony, which has included (1) restructuring the forestry policy as needed to be incorporated into the new Environmental Code, (2)

restructuring the section on biodiversity in the Environmental Code and (3) incorporating chapters on environmental services and climate change within the section on Institutional Framework in the Environmental Code, which have been formally presented for the Government of Ecuador's review and approval. Also conducted and presented two studies to guide alignment of national program in biodiversity and climate change within the new Environmental Code. Under the climate change study key steps were identified that will be necessary to align the national climate change plans for mitigation and adaptation with the required decentralization of land use planning that is advancing in Ecuador. The study for biodiversity identified that the current administrative structure for protected areas that is a limitation to effective protected area management.

- The project has helped authorities analyze and respond to climate variability. It first conducted a climate change vulnerability analysis for the El Salado Mangrove and Wildlife Production Reserve, which borders the city of Guayaquil. Next the project led implementation of key adaptation measures, which included training local government representatives, journalists, and youth on climate change vulnerability and adaptation and how to involve decision makers in reducing climate risks. In addition to workshops, the project used a virtual (web based) classroom to distribute training and reference materials and provide a space for participant discussions. The training contained modules on climate change adaptation measures, trends in Ecuador, and risk management, among others. The project also worked with local governments, media figures, and youth to promote protecting the Reserve and recovering the estuary that feeds into its waters, which is highly polluted. As a result, the project has raised awareness on climate risks and vulnerability and provided tools for communities and local governments to mitigate and respond to climate risks.

## SECTION 2: INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the Semi-Annual Progress Report is to report on the status and impact of activities through March 2012 that are contemplated in FY12 Annual Work Plan. While Section 1 provided a summary of FY12 mid-term results and Section 2 is the present Introduction, Section 3 provides a narrative of progress to date on FY12 work plan activities and is organized using the Project’s implementation framework, which lists activities, based on the threats and strategies under each PIR, as summarized in the following table for FY12:

PIR 1: Biodiversity conservation in critical habitats improved		
Threats	Strategies	Activities
1. Loss and/or alteration of critical habitats	1.1. Improve management of critical terrestrial and coastal marine habitats	1.1.1. Improve management of and information regarding timber and non-timber forest products and coastal marine resources
		1.1.2. Promote forest management and conservation (timber and non-timber forest products)
		1.1.3. Strengthen Mangrove/concessions management
		1.1.4. Promote implementation of critical actions in the environmental management plan for the Ayampe River watershed and selected micro-watersheds of the Galera San Francisco Peninsula.
		1.1.5 Promote protection of water source/riverbank vegetation
	1.2. Rehabilitate degraded terrestrial and coastal marine habitats	1.2.1. Promote reforestation/regeneration
2. Climate change	2.1. Establish and implement climate change response and adaptation measures	2.1.1. Implement adaptation measures to climate change
	2.2. Reduction of greenhouse gases caused by deforestation and carbon sink conservation	1.1.2., 1.1.3., and 1.2.1.

PIR 2: Improved local livelihoods		
Threats	Strategies	Activities
3. Lack of economic	3.1. Development and promotion of	3.1.1. Facilitate access to environmentally responsible markets and support for microenterprises

alternatives	market-based economic alternatives and economic incentives for critical habitat conservation	3.1.2. Develop legal/economic conservation incentives
		3.1.3. Support accessing and maintaining Socio Bosque incentives
		3.1.4. Strengthen value chains that promote biodiversity conservation

PIR 3: Partnerships formed for ongoing support for biodiversity conservation		
Threats	Strategies	Activities
4. Insufficient institutional capacity for biodiversity conservation	4.1. Strengthen management of protected areas	4.1.1. Build institutional capacity
		4.1.2. Design and support implementation of surveillance and monitoring systems
	4.2. Improve inter-institutional communication and coordination	4.2.1. Strengthen coalitions/partnerships
		4.2.2. Obtain co-financing and/or leverage funds
	4.3. Public policy advocacy	4.3.1. Provide technical assistance to review and revise policies and programs related to biodiversity conservation and management.
		4.3.2. Technical and legal assistance for drafting the Forests Law

Section 4 summarizes activities related to the project’s environmental compliance, Section 5 discusses challenges encountered and solutions identified, Section 6 discusses the project’s adaptive management approach, and Section 7 summarizes best practices that can be replicated.

Annex 1 includes Work Plan Status Charts by Geographic site, which summarize the status of each work plan activity. Annex 2 contains the following project’s results reporting tables:

- a) Summary of the Project’s USAID/Ecuador indicators
- b) Summary of the Project’s indicators by PIR
- c) Summary of the Project’s indicators by PIR (with geographic references)

Annex 3 contains a narrative summary of the performance indicators. Annexes 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 contain SIGA updates for environmental compliance and annex 10 presents a tentative project calendar that lists upcoming events and dates. Annex 11 presents the case study developed this semester and approved by the COR titled “Benefiting Farmers and Conservation.”

## SECTION 3: FY12 WORK PLAN PROGRESS BY PIR

The following is a narrative explanation of progress/status of each activity (and key actions) presented in the approved FY12 Work Plan and is organized by PIR.

### PIR 1: Biodiversity conservation in critical habitats improved

All project activities tie into PIR 1 and address the need to conserve the last remnants of ecosystems and critical habitats on the Ecuadoran Coast. The FY12 targets and progress to date are as follows in accordance with the Project's PMP<sup>4</sup>:

FY12 Targets and Progress to Date for PIR 1, by KRA	
<b>KRA 1.1 Management strategies that address threats to biodiversity and harness opportunities for improved livelihoods designed.</b>	<b>KRA 1.2 Capacity of local stakeholders to implement best practices in NRM strengthened.</b>
<b>Accumulative Project Targets FY12 Per Updated PMP</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicator 1.1: 239,290 hectares of terrestrial areas of biological significance a/o natural resources under improved management as a result of USG assistance</li> <li>Indicator 1.2: 135,508 hectares of coastal-marine areas of biological significance a/o natural resources under improved management as a result of USG assistance</li> </ul>	<b>Accumulative Project Targets FY12 Per Updated PMP</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicator 1.3: 3,000 people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation resources and in BMP along value chains</li> <li>Indicator 1.4: 20 initiatives co-financed</li> </ul>
<b>Progress to Date:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicator 1.1: 227,067 hectares of terrestrial areas of biological significance a/o natural resources under improved management as a result of USG assistance (and an additional 13,224 hectares underway)</li> <li>Indicator 1.2: Target met - 135,508 hectares of coastal-marine areas of biological significance a/o natural resources under improved management as a result of USG assistance (and an additional 49,960 underway)</li> </ul>	<b>Progress to Date:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicator 1.3: 3,399 people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation resources and in BMP along value chains</li> <li>Indicator 1.4: 17 initiatives co-financed (an additional 3 underway)</li> </ul>

For details regarding progress reported to date please reference the PMP narrative in Annex 3.

### Threat 1: Loss or alteration of critical habitats

#### Strategy 1.1: Improve management of critical terrestrial and coastal marine habitats

<sup>4</sup> This semester the PMP is being revised in response to changes requested in TO Mod 4. In addition the project has proposed increasing several targets and making some other minor revisions in the updated PMP. The targets presented in this report are in accordance with the PMP submitted on March 29, 2012 for COR approval.

In FY12, the Project is consolidating conservation and improved management practices by promoting rehabilitation of degraded habitats and engaging in public policy advocacy to ensure that this is sustainable in the long term.

*Progress/Impact of Activity 1.1.1: Improve management of and information regarding timber and non-timber forest products and coastal marine resources*

- In the Gulf of Guayaquil, the project continues to implement the red crab stock analysis with the National Fishery Institute (INP for its Spanish acronym), to help assure sustainable management of the \$16M in crabbing activities on which over 2,215 crabbers and their families depend on in the Gulf of Guayaquil. The participatory methodology being used is ground breaking as over 700 crabbers have been trained in data collection and over 480 crabbers from 19 crab associations are collaborating with the project and INP authorities to collect, compile, and report data on crab populations on a monthly basis. As a result, authorities and crabbers now have having extensive and accurate field data from over a one year period for the first time ever. As a result of this study, the authorities and crabbers' associations will be able to manage this resource sustainably, and establish respective management policies. Specific activities and results this period include:
  - Finalized protocol for monitoring red crabs in the Gulf of Guayaquil, which details how to measure and tabulate crab sizes.
  - Developed protocol for the sampling methodology to be used for collecting data on red crab population and reproductive capacity, which was used from December 2011 – April 2012 by project Biologists. The data will help communities and Ecuadorian government authorities assure proper management of red crabs. Knowing the reproductive capacity helps set capture limits on quantity and size and will build local capacity for protecting the population of red crabs, which thousands of families depends on for their livelihoods.
  - Led a series of regular workshops with crab associations to present periodic results, provided feedback to strengthen data collection, and validate data collected.
  - Through USAID, transferred ownership of a boat, a motor, and a series of office equipment purchased by the project to the INP to strengthen their research capabilities in the future.
  - Supported the INP to establish a budget to continue related research.
  - While final results will be published and presented next semester, initial results for the first year estimate that:
    - 19 crab associations captured almost 11 million crabs in 1 year.



- At least 22 million crabs were captured over the past year in the Gulf of Guayaquil.
  - 36 million crabs inhabited 5,110 hectares of key crabbing sites in December 2011.
  - Crabbers appear not to be over crabbing or depleting the resource for future generations.
- As part of improving fishery management within the Churute Mangrove Reserve, the Project supported the Reserve’s Director in designing and implementing a new system for issuing fishery permits. The Project also provided an ID printer and trained 4 park guards in its use. It also helped design the new fishing permits, identified the number of crabbers that need them (1,049), and established a timeline for their distribution.
- Assessed management challenges and needs in Machalilla National Park, which is serving as the key input for updating the park’s Management Plan, which covers over 41,000 hectares of terrestrial areas and over 14,000 hectares of marine areas. The project continued to supporting Machalilla National Park in assessing and evaluating the extent and impact of traditional “artisan” fishing within the Park so that the park can make a decision regarding how to manage it appropriately and evaluate any legal implications of doing so within the Park. Likewise, together with the MAE, the project developed a roadmap (“hoja de ruta”) and scope of work (SOW) for obtaining a high definition image of the park to determine land use and based on that image conduct an analysis of existing human settlements within the park. The SOW has been shared with the Sub-Secretary for Coastal and Marine Management as well as the Global Environmental Fund (GEF) Manager to explore if the image and study can be financed by the GEF project.
- Carried out a workshop together with Machalilla National Park and approximately 30 members of local communities (Matapalo, Río Plátano, Manantial, La Colombia) to assess tagua nut collection currently occurring within the park. During the workshop participants analyzed tagua collection sites, collection methods, and how many people are collecting tagua, etc. As a result, each community designated a representative to continue coordinating tagua collection and agreed on tagua management practices to be implemented. Project is now supporting the MAE in an effort to assess the extent of tagua production and collection within the park. This includes assessing the volume produced, the collection methods used, the timeframes for collection, number of people that collect tagua/depend on tagua as a means of income, and how/where the tagua is sold. This assessment will serve as a tool to decision makers in developing regulations. Data is being collected in the Matapalo-Manantial, La Colombia and Río Plátano communities that are located within the Park. The project designed the scope of the assessment together with the Park Director and MAE Provincial Director and received a request from the MAE to conduct it. The assessment will include maps of collection sites with GPS coordinates that each community uses, an evaluation of the condition of the tagua trees, and technical recommendations on how to promote and enforce sustainable tagua tree management going forward.
- Promoted sustainable management in the Galera San Francisco Peninsula and Ayampe River Watershed using field schools and technical assistance to promote best practices for natural resource management.

***Progress/Impact of Activity 1.1.2.: Promote forest management and conservation (timber products)***

- Supported developing forestry management plans (*Planes de manejo forestal simplificados* – PAFSIs for their Spanish name) to be implemented by families in the Ayampe River watershed, however, this process has run into several challenges (lack of clarity regarding when/where harvesting is permitted in the Chongón Colonche Protected Forest, the MAE’s lack of experience using its software for managing forestry activities/approving PAFSIs in Santa Elena, and the MAE’s staffing turnover). As a result and in response to farmer’s needs, the project has refocused activities on promoting integrated farm management – helping farmers to improve overall management of all aspects of their farm (productive areas, conservation areas, forested areas, etc) to improve conservation and their productivity.
- Supported regeneration of commercially valuable tree species. To date, identified and mapped out 450 hectares in Vueltas Largas for which it will train farmers on managing natural regeneration starting in April.
- Worked with Machalilla National Park Director to implement priority activities under the surveillance and enforcement system (see Activity 4.1.2).

***Progress/Impact of Activity 1.1.3: Strengthen mangrove/ concession management***

Concessions and mangrove management have proven to be an effective strategy and incentive for the conservation of this important resource. Mangrove conservation also plays an important role in regulating the carbon cycle: according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), mangroves have an important role to play in capturing atmospheric carbon and trapping it in sediments. The IUCN has established that mangroves could be more efficient in carbon sequestration than tropical or temperate woodlands. The Project supports critical actions relating to mangrove concession management, including the design and implementation of a surveillance and enforcement system (which currently covers an area of 60,000 ha in the Gulf of Guayaquil) and technical assistance for communities to obtain new mangrove concessions and/or renew existing ones. The economic impact (PIR 2) of mangrove protection lies in the sustainability of the red crab value chain which represents \$16M and benefits more than 2,215 crabbers and their families.

***Progress/Impact of Key Actions for Activity 1.1.3***

- Continued technical assistance to strengthen the surveillance and enforcement systems for mangrove concessions (including training in equipment use/maintenance, complaint follow-up, coordination with authorities, etc). See details under Activity 4.1.2 below.
- Provided technical assistance to concessionaires in 6 de Julio, Balao, Nuevo Porvenir and Mondragón, Puerto la Cruz, Buena Vista and El Conchal for: i) implementation of the actions set out in their management plans, ii) preparation and submission of reports to the MAE the areas under their custody, iii) support with data recording, iv) liaising with the MAE, v) reporting infractions, and vi) training in best fishery practices. Highlights include: zoning concessions, institutional capacity building for organizational management, closed season

enforcement, participation in data collections for the red crab stock analysis, and implementation of mangrove surveillance and monitoring activities.

- Assisted 6 de Julio Association renew its mangrove concession, which covers 1,284 hectares. The MAE issued the respective Ministerial Agreement on February 10, 2012 (No. 001-2012).
- Began documenting experiences with mangrove concessions in response to request by the Minister of the Environment. To date, the following has been prepared: (1) overview of the situation prior concessions being awarded in 1999 (2) background on origin of concession in Ecuador (3) description of procedures for implementing as well as monitoring and evaluation. During next semester the results to date will be compiled.
- Together with the MAE, the project facilitated a workshop with 40 mangrove concessionaires to evaluate the successes and lessons learned over the past 11 years. As a result, the project is now working with the MAE to help replicate the best practices and resolve the management challenges.
- In March the project worked with the Puerto Roma, Puerto Salinas, and Puerto Arturo communities to prepare applications for over 3,800 hectares of new mangrove concessions in the Gulf of Guayaquil. As a result, Puerto Roma now has a management plan, maps of the area they are applying for, internal guidelines for concession management, and potential technical advisor identified, all of which are prerequisites for applying for the concession. In Puerto Salinas and Puerto Arturo the process of developing the concession application began this month with a workshop with over 180 community members to explain the process and the commitments they'd be taking on to manage the concession. In addition, site visits were made to measure the area they are applying for.

***Progress/Impact of Activity 1.1.4: Promote implementation of critical actions in the environmental management plan for the Ayampe River watershed and selected micro-watersheds of the Galera San Francisco Peninsula Francisco.***

In FY12, the Project continues to support the authorities in implementing the activities from the Environmental Land Use Plans (POAMs) developed in FY10, with a goal of having at least two new municipal ordinances adopted for the Ayampe River watershed and the POAMs included in the Land Management Plans [Planes de Ordenamiento Territorial - POTs]. The project also promoted implementation of best management practices (conservation corridors, reduced use of pesticides, forest conservation, and integrated farms) for natural resources conservation to achieve the POAM's conservation goals.

***Progress/Impact of Key Actions for Activity 1.1.4***

- Continued to use the field school methodology [escuelas de campo – ECA] in the Ayampe River watershed as a tool for promoting best practices and for implementing critical actions such as protecting forests, terracing to prevent erosion, reducing monocultures, integrated farm zoning, limiting the use of agrochemical products, and protecting water sources. The Project also supported municipal environmental education/communications programs in this watershed.

To this end, the project worked with farmers to develop 60 sustainable model farm management plans that focus on conserving natural resources. The plans include a participatory diagnostic of the farm, a farm diagram, and a 3 year action plan (activities, implementation timeline, necessary resources, and those responsible for implementation). Farmers are now implementing the plans and the project is providing field materials to 20 model farms to demonstrate replicable practices and in particular those for managing water.

- In the Galera San Francisco Peninsula, the project worked with the EcoCacao farmer's association (as an implementing partner) on micro-watershed and farm management, including the dissemination of best practices. As a result, at least 96 of Ecocacao farmers began implementing an integrated farm management plan. Farmers are now implementing the plans and the project is providing field materials through the grant to Ecocacao to demonstrate replicable practices and in particular those for managing water.
- A photograph showing two individuals in a small wooden boat on a river. The person on the left is wearing a blue life vest and a yellow cap, while the person on the right is wearing a white shirt, a dark vest, and a white cap, and is holding a telescope to their eye. The water is turbulent, suggesting they are navigating rapids. The boat is blue and has some equipment on board.
- Provided technical assistance to local governments connected to the Ayampe River watershed for implementation of the activities set out in the POAMs, and to ensure that POAM recommendations are incorporated into at least two municipal ordinances (which also entails including the POAMs in POTs) in Puerto López and Jipijapa. As a result, Jipijapa has (1) included POAM activities and their respective budget in its annual work plan, (2) is processing an ordinance to create an environmental management department, and (3) prepared an ordinance to approve its POT, which incorporated POAM activities, which is going through the approval process (and has passed the first round of approvals). In Puerto López, the project provided assistance with its ordinance regarding solid waste management, which is also being reviewed by the PROMUNI project for improving municipal services.
  - Provided technical assistance to the municipalities of Puerto López and Jipijapa and to Machalilla National Park to develop a common environmental education program, aimed at addressing solid waste management. The Project has also taken steps to ensure that municipal budget allocations include funding for environmental education for next year, which has been successful to date in Jipijapa.
  - After helping the Las Tunas community in Manabí develop an integrated beach management plan, the project now helps community leaders design and implement key activities and leverage funding to do so. This semester the beach management committee succeeded in pushing forward a recycling initiative for which the Provincial government has provided over 1,000 trash bins and together with the

project trained community members on how to separate out solid waste in their homes. The project is also supporting the creation of collection centers where the trash can be purchased for recycling.

#### ***Progress/Impact of Activity 1.1.5: Promote protection of water source/riverbank vegetation***

Water is scarce and vital to agriculture, yet farmers are often unaware of techniques to better manage and store water. They also often widely use practices that threaten the very natural resources on which they depend – the soil, the water, and the forests. These harmful farming practices jeopardize the entire watershed as well as surrounding areas, which in Ecuador often includes protected areas that are home to endangered species. The USAID Sustainable Forests and Coasts project is helping farmers living near protected areas improve water management, use, and storage on their farms. Farmers are learning how to store water so that it is available for use in their homes and on their farms for longer periods during the year. As a result, farmers are benefiting from increased availability of water during the dry season, which allows them to increase sales. Plantain trees are now being used to filter waste water and farmers are using new techniques to restore creeks to increase their water supply. The project is also helping farmers use integrated farm management techniques and conserve remaining forests. Integrated farms improve overall watershed management by preventing erosion, linking remaining forests together to form conservation corridors, and reducing contamination. Improved farming practices in Esmeraldas are helping protect the adjacent Galera San Francisco Marine Reserve that is home to humpback whales and marine turtles, among other species.

#### ***Progress/Impact of Key Actions for activity 1.1.5***

- Continued promoting and providing training on restoration mechanisms (in Ayampe -Vueltas Largas and La Crucita- and in micro-watersheds of the Galera-San Francisco Peninsula- Quingue and Caimito) based on integrated model farms. Activities included reforestation, prevention and mitigation of erosion, best management practices (like reducing or eliminating pesticides, shifting from monocultures to agroforestry schemes, etc.). In all, assisted at least 780 people (family members from 96 farms in Esmeraldas and 60 farms in Ayampe) address key environmental problems on their farms (such as water management), which will protect their crops, increase productivity, and ultimately increase sales while promoting conservation. The project has taught farmers how to prevent erosion, protect water sources, and improve waste management. The project also helped farmers create and maintain tree nurseries to support reforestation (detailed below under Activity 1.2.1). Assistance is also being provided to help farmers maximize the limited water supply in the region by capturing and retaining rain water.
- Provided technical assistance to families in Ayampe and on the farms of EcoCacao members for implementation of best practices for the protection of water sources and riverbanks on integrated farms, and for water management and storage (as mentioned under Activity 1.1.4).

- Assisted farmers develop new mechanisms for storing water and restoring creeks in order to extend the portion of the year in which they can access water. Project support is building local capacity to improve natural resource management, which in turn helps protect the adjacent protected areas that are home to endangered species.

### **Strategy 1.2: Rehabilitate degraded habitats**

This strategy focuses on restoring habitats for establishing conservation corridors. The Project seeks out partnerships or incentives to ensure the sustainability of these actions.

#### ***Progress/Impact of Activity 1.2.1: Promote reforestation/regeneration***

In FY 2010 and 2011, the Project supported reforestation activities, including the establishment of nurseries, in watersheds of the Galera San Francisco Peninsula and in the Ayampe River watershed. In FY12, it continues to pursue reforestation efforts using these nurseries as part of a strategy to promote and develop integrated farms on the property of farmers who belong to EcoCacao, with a focus on developing conservation corridors. Reforestation, recovery, and natural regeneration promotion/protection activities are being implemented in the Ayampe River watershed.

#### ***Progress/Impact of Key Actions for activity 1.2.2:***

- Coordinated reforestation with provincial governments in Manabí and Esmeraldas to help them target reforestation in critical areas identified in the POAMs and leverage resources for obtaining plants.
- As mentioned under Activity 1.1.5, the project helped farmers create and maintain tree nurseries to support reforestation. This semester over 3,000 plants were planted for regeneration and 20,000 plants were provided to farmers to be planted for agro-forestry purposes on Ecocacao member farms. In March 800 plants were donated by the Provincial government of Manabí for reforestation in Ayampe. Reforestation will reduce sediment and protect each family's water supply. For next semester an additional 3,000 plants are expected to be planted for regeneration and another 35,000 plants were provided to farmers to be planted for agro-forestry purposes on Ecocacao member farms.
- Promoted reforestation and natural regeneration promotion/management activities on EcoCacao's integrated farms and on farms in the Ayampe River watershed - Vueltas Largas, La Crucita, El Sobrero, Río Blanco, and San José de Piñas-, including the promotion and development of conservation corridors through farm management plans.
- As mentioned under Activity 1.1.2 above, the project began support for regeneration of commercially valuable tree species. To date it has identified and mapped out 450 hectares in Vueltas Largas for which it will train farmers on managing natural regeneration starting in April.

## Threat 2: Climate change

The project provides support at three levels:

- To the Sub-Secretariat of Climate Change at the National Level.
- To the provincial government of Guayas.
- At the local level to establish and implement climate change response and adaptation measures.

### *Activity 2.1.1: Implement climate change adaptation measures*

#### *Progress/Impact of Key Actions for activity 2.1.1*

- Carried out the following to support implementation of the two climate change adaptation measures for RVS Manglares El Salado (*3.1: To promote coordinating efforts among the national, provincial and Guayaquil Municipal government entities to recover the Salado Estuary. 4.3: To develop and strengthen the role of youth as agents of change by working with existing groups and by implementing cultural incentive programs*):
  - Developed and implemented a virtual training system (available at <http://ac.ciifen-int.org/moodle/>) on Climate Vulnerability and Adaptation. The training system contains the following sections: I introduction to climate change, general concepts, and tendencies in Ecuador; II Climate Change Vulnerability, methodologies, and analysis for El Salado Mangrove Reserve; III Adaptation, ecosystems and governance, tools for integrating adaptation, risk management, environment and development proposals; IV Community and Adaptation, case studies, and proposals for sustainability; V Communicating climate change and adaptation strategies for Ecuador; and VI Student Evaluations.
  - Developed training of trainers materials and an Educational Kit that contains a mix of multimedia materials, printed materials, bibliographic references, and an instructor's manual, all of which were validated in various workshops with target groups.
  - Conducted three training events for 19 local authorities, 9 young leaders, and 9 social communicators (including members of the press) as well as the virtual training conducted. Training topics will consist of those mentioned above.
  - Lobbied for coordination between the Municipality, Guayas Provincial Government, and the MAE.
  - Facilitated 3 Youth Forums that resulted in promoting climate change adaptation measures and recovery of the El Salado Estuary. Also formed partnerships with public figures to promote saving the El Salado estuary.
- Began technical assistance to implement adaptation measures for Machalilla National Park (*3.4 Develop training sessions for representatives of local governments and institutions on risk and disaster management, environmental management, and climate change adaptation. 3.5 Provide technical assistance to municipal and government planning teams to include climate change and risk management topics in their Territorial Management Plans*). During the second semester the project will design Risk Management/Environmental Management training materials and conduct training oriented at two audiences: technical staff of Machalilla National Park and technical staff from local governments in areas

surrounding the park (Jipijapa, Puerto Lopez, Paján, and the Provincial Counsel for Manabí).

- Developed and is distributing hard and electronic copies of a Manual on Best Practices for Developing Climate Change Adaptation Measures in Coastal Regions as well as a Comparative Study on Development of Adaptation Measures for Machalilla National Park and El Salado Wildlife Production Reserve.
- Following the Guayas Provincial government's financing of a climate change vulnerability assessment, began developing SOW to design a Climate Change Strategy for the Guayas Province. This initiative is in response to the Province's request for support to develop this strategy and will be developed in the second half of FY12. Project support is contingent on the funds the political will to pursue this process, which is likely to be very positive based on initial consultations.
- At the national level, in accordance with requests from the MAE, the Project supported the Sub-Secretariat for Climate Change by preparing a roadmap for supporting development of the national level climate change policy. Additional support is subject to additional funding being available.



### **Strategy 2.2.: Reduction of greenhouse gases and carbon sink conservation**

This strategy does not include its own activities, but instead ties in to other Project activities that promote best practices (such as changing slash-and-burn practices) and conservation of carbon sinks by preserving forest remnants and promoting restoration and reforestation. The work plan's activities that relate to this strategy are:

1.1.2. Promote forest management and conservation (timber and non-timber forest products)

1.1.3. Strengthen mangrove/concession management

1.2.1. Promote reforestation/natural regeneration of woodlands.

## PIR 2: Improved Local livelihoods

Because many of the primary threats stem from human pressures exacerbated by poverty and the lack of economic alternatives, the objective of this PIR is to reduce such threats by creating incentives for conservation and improving the living conditions of local communities in and/or around critical ecosystems. The FY12 targets and progress to date are as follows:

FY12 Targets and Progress to Date for PIR 2, by KRA	
<b>KRA 2.1 Markets matched with environmentally responsible producers</b>	<b>KRA 2.2 Best practices applied along key value chains</b>
<b>Accumulative Project Target FY12 Per Updated PMP</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicator 2.1: 16 new commercial linkages derived from sustainable natural resource management and conservation as a result of USG assistance</li> </ul>	<b>Accumulative Project Target FY12 Per Updated PMP</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicator 2.2: 8,500 people with increased economic benefits derived from sustainable natural resource management and conservation as a result of USG assistance</li> </ul>
<b>Progress to Date:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicator 2.1: 14 new commercial linkages derived from sustainable natural resource management and conservation as a result of USG assistance (an additional 3 underway)</li> </ul>	<b>Progress to Date:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicator 2.2: target met - 10,135 people with increased economic benefits derived from sustainable natural resource management and conservation as a result of USG assistance (an additional 543 underway)</li> </ul>

For details regarding progress reported to date please reference the PMP narrative in Annex 3.

### Threat 3: Lack of economic alternatives

The Project's mandate is biodiversity conservation by reducing threats. One of the greatest threats to biodiversity in Project intervention areas is the lack of economic alternatives that leads to the unsustainable use of natural resources. Living in remote areas without access to credit or markets, local residents frequently focus on opportunity costs (particularly illegal logging, farming and livestock) mainly for self-consumption. These activities bring about changes in land usage and residents generally face obstacles in trying to market or sell any of the products not consumed by their family. The Project has not promoted traditional farming activities (such as corn farming or stock-raising) with potential to boost community incomes, because they pose a potential threat to biodiversity conservation.

#### Strategy 3.1: Development and promotion of market-based economic alternatives and economic incentives for critical habitat conservation

To reduce this threat, the Project has focused on generating economic initiatives that are based on existing biodiversity and rely on its conservation. One example of a successful link between habitats and ecosystem conservation and economic resource generation that the Project has promoted is support for mangrove concessions, which have generated economic resources through the harvesting of red crab. This in turn creates incentives for conserving its ecosystem.

### *Activity 3.1.1 Facilitate access to environmentally responsible markets and support for microenterprise*

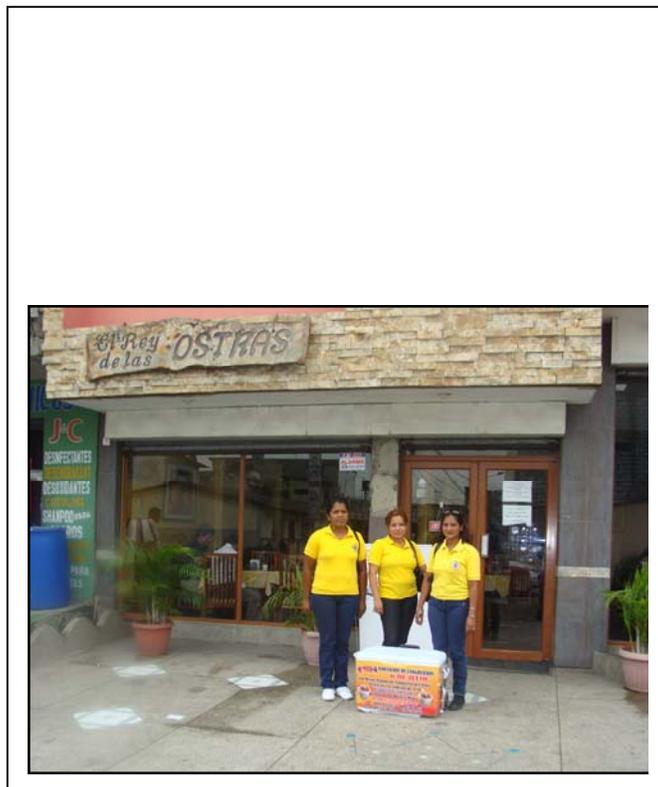
The Project continues to facilitate market access for products associated with, or that promote, biodiversity conservation. It will approach this from two angles: 1) by strengthening value chains by connecting responsible markets to producers that apply environmentally friendly practices based on the “honest broker” principle, and 2) by providing technical assistance for microenterprises working with products such as red crab, tagua, and tourism, all of which depend on biodiversity conservation.

#### *Progress/Impact of Key Actions for Activity 3.1.1*

- Building local capacity for farmers from the Ecocacao Association to maintain organic certification and increase their sales. As a result of the project’s small grant and technical assistance to Ecocacao, at the end of 2011 farmers sold over 2.5 tons (5,700 pounds) organic cacao products for the first time to Nova Monda, an artisanal chocolate maker located in Boulder County, Colorado in the United States. The grant aims at strengthening conservation of fragile habitats by promoting sustainable agricultural practices (including organic certification) throughout its member’s farms while facilitating linkages and developing commercial relationships with responsible markets. This year Nova Monda has agreed to maintain sales of no less than 2 tons at a fixed price of \$180 per quintal for toasted and ground cacao. There are also promising new commercial relationships underway with additional buyers to further expand sales. While the project also initially provided assistance with selling tropical fruit to local hotels, the transportation costs were too great for the farmers to assume and still be competitive in the long term.

- Supported EcoCacao in exploring opportunities to obtain credit from Nova Monda, Yanapuma, and the SKS Chocolate company.

- Helped farmers add value to their tagua harvest. To this end, this semester the project trained over 75 farmers (56 men and 19 women) on how to use a simple drill and saw to produce a product that they will be able to sell for a higher price than the raw tagua nut. The project is also helping farmers add value by drying the seeds and develop linkages with buyers in the region,



which are more competitive activities than handicrafts. New commercial relationships are expected to be formalized in the second half of FY12.

- Initiated technical assistance to crabbers to improve their business relationships (in live crab sales). To this end, the project has liaised with the Guayaquil's Municipal authorities to explore facilitating free access to docs (through *Federación de Cooperativas Pesqueras del Ecuador - FENACOPET*), preferential treatment for concessionaires, or the establishment of a new market where they could insure more fair prices. The project also facilitated meetings with potential crab buyers (Red Crab and Don Chinto) with three crab associations from Mondragón Island.
- Met with the provincial Tourism Director for Manabí, Maira Cedeño García, and MINTUR to assess interest in putting on a joint event to promote ecotourism in Ayampe, however, there was not interest on behalf of the counterparts for moving forward.
- Supported farmers from four communities that are implementing good natural resource management practices in Manabí promote their produce in order to create new commercial linkages at the “Primer festival de emprendimiento patrimoniales comunitarios”, organized by the Ministerio Coordinador de Patrimonio, La Organización de Estados Iberoamericanos, La Agencia de Cooperación Extremeña, and el Municipio del Cantón Puerto López.
- Continued supporting women that process crab pulp in maintaining commercial linkages created by the project and establishing new ones. This semester the project facilitated a new commercial relationship with El Rey de las Ostras restaurant, to which they are now selling 150 - 200 pounds of crab meat per week for the first time at a price of \$8 per pound, which is double the price they sold crab meat for prior to the project's assistance. Currently the women are operating in two groups and maintain a flexible production and sales strategy to accommodate their other responsibilities and social context in which they work. One group sells to Unipark while the other group sells to Rey de las Ostras and Marrecife. The project continues exploring how to facilitate obtaining a sanitary certificate given the group dynamics. The project also helped them participate in local promotional events (i.e. crab festival).

### **Activity 3.1.2: Develop economic incentives for conservation**

In FY11, the Project supported programs and activities that generate income through conservation incentives. Examples include imparting best practices through field schools and facilitating market access for farmers who have signed conservation agreements.

#### ***Progress/Impact of Key Actions for Activity 3.1.2***

- In FY11, the project obtained a commitment from the Municipality of Jipijapa to provide space in the municipal market to farmers who have signed conservation agreements with the Project. By accessing the market farmers sell directly to end-buyers without having to depend on intermediaries. In FY12, the project has

supported families to continue selling products in the Jipijapa market. Given that the produce production varies, when produce isn't available meat is sold. The market remains an effective incentive for implementing best practices and selling produce when available.

### **Activity 3.1.3 Support accessing and maintaining Socio Bosque's incentives**

Since its inception, the project has provided technical assistance to families and communities to help them meet Socio Bosque Program eligibility requirements in order to increase their incomes through cash-for-conservation payments from the Ecuadorian government.

#### ***Progress/Impact of Key Actions for Activity 3.1.3***

- Promoted Socio Bosque and assisted families and communities in applying for Socio Bosque cash-for-conservation incentives. This includes selecting the conservation area, preparing an investment plan indicating how the cash payments will be used, and compiling legal documents on land titles, among others. Investment plans often designate money to health, education, and monitoring forest conservation. Once accepted into the program, applicants sign an agreement with Socio Bosque committing to conserve their forests for 20 years and the project helps both applicants and Socio Bosque monitor forest conservation. The areas supported to date in FY12 include:
  - In the Ayampe Watershed/Chongón Colonche Protected Forest the project is supporting applications for at least 7,000 hectares of land to be dedicated to conservation, which will correspond to approximately \$2.5M in cash-for-conservation payments over 20 years. Applications have been submitted for communities of Las Balsas, Sube y Baja, and Febres Cordero for a total of 3,897 hectares which are expected to be submitted for Socio Bosque approval in April and which will benefit 835 families (4,175 people). These are considered to be “underway” until Socio Bosque approves their applications. Additional applications are underway for Sinchal Barcelona, Salanguillo and other communities to reach the target of 7,000 hectares.
  - At least 200 hectares in Esmeraldas belonging to Ecocacao Association member farmers. They hope to apply with 241 hectares, which will correspond to approximately \$168,700 in cash-for-conservation payments over 20 years and benefit 50 people.
  - An increase in 1,001 hectares to the conservation area belonging to the Sabalito community located in the Gran Reserva Chachi in Esmeraldas for a new total of 1,955.1 hectares. The increase will correspond to approximately \$250,411 in cash-for-conservation payments over 20 years. The community uses their incentive to improve education, infrastructure, and health as well as to monitor, oversee, and protect the conservation area and improve its organizational management.
  - Approximately 700 hectares in the Pichiyacu community territory in the Gran Reserva Chachi. To date the conservation area has been identified. In April, the Project will measure the conservation area, prepare the official map, help the community prepare an investment plan reflecting how they will use the cash payments, and submit their application to Socio Bosque. It is expected that in May Socio Bosque will begin making payments to the community that will total approximately \$298,000 over 20 years (approximately \$14,900 a year).

- The project will potentially promote the program in the Churute Mangrove Reserve and Machalilla National Park. In Churute, the project facilitated a meeting between the Churute Mangrove Director and the Socio Bosque Director as well as permission to proceed from the MAE's Biodiversity office. For Machalilla, the project confirmed that there is a ministerial agreement that permits Socio Bosque participation for land owners within the park.
- Provided technical assistance for land titling and finalize titling processes begun in previous years, most of which are still pending due to repeated and frequent turnover of Government of Ecuador staff that are processing the titles.
- Provided technical assistance so that Socio Bosque Program participants (Calle Mansa, Capuli, Guadual, Sabalito, Playa de Oro, Chispero, Loma Alta, San Miguel Negro, Tsejpi, and Dos Mangas) could meet requirements to maintain approximately \$292,000 in annual cash-for-conservation payments that protect 25,112 hectares of forest.
- Provided technical assistance so that communities participating in Socio Bosque Program (Calle Mansa, Capuli, Guadual, Sabalito, Playa de Oro, Chispero, Loma Alta, San Miguel Negro, Tsejpi, and Dos Mangas) could access the updated/increased incentive rates approved by Socio Bosque in 2011. The new rate resulted in an increase of 107% in annual incentives. To achieve this, the project helped expand their investment plans for the increase in cash-for-conservation payments, which overall totaled over \$2.6M over 20 years (\$292,095 per year).
- The project began coordinating with Socio Bosque to sign a modification to extend the term for the memorandum of understand that was signed in November 2009. The MOU formalizes the project's support to communities and families to apply to the Program.

#### **Activity 3.1.4.: Strengthen value chains that promote biodiversity conservation**

Since its inception, the Project has been providing technical assistance to stakeholders in key positions in value chains related to biodiversity. In the red crab value chain, for example, the Project has provided technical assistance for resource management (stock assessment, surveillance and enforcement), improved fishery practices (elimination of harvest nets), production (improved hygiene and processing of crab pulp), and marketing (identified new buyers, facilitated agreements between buyers and producers, and improved the cold chain). While these activities have contributed significantly to improving the economic benefits of the chain, (bigger harvests, eliminating losses to pirating, better prices for crab pulp), their impact had not been quantified. This activity focuses on evaluating the impact of the Project's technical assistance to the chains and identifying functions that require strengthening.

*Progress/Impact of Key Actions for Activity 3.1.4*

- Assessed the economic impact the Project's technical assistance has had on the red crab value chain and its contribution to the incomes of the beneficiary families. The study shows that the project has benefited at least 722 families (3,610 people) directly and 160 families (800 people) indirectly. The report is being edited and will be shared shortly with the COR. The value chain study also determines the bottlenecks and the profit margins within each section of the value chain. Follow on work to strengthen the value change further based on the findings is planned for next semester, such as promoting new market linkages for crabbers to obtain better prices for live crabs.

- Provided training and technical assistance to build institutional capacity for mangrove concessionaires in Mondragón, Buena Vista, Puerto La Cruz, el Conchal, 6 de Julio, Balao, Nuevo Porvenir, and in RE Manglares Churute. This included assistance with crab bed zoning, promoting good fishery practices, extensive work to strengthen institutional capacity for organizational management, and support for strengthening mangrove surveillance and monitoring (use and maintenance of radio equipment, how to notify authorities of violations, protocols for patrolling, routes to use during the closed season), how to prepare semiannual reports to the MAE on implementation of their management plans, etc. In Churute support focused on improving fishery management (as detailed above).



## PIR 3 Partnerships formed for ongoing support for biodiversity conservation

PIR 3 aims at consolidating and promoting partnerships to leverage public and private funding to ensure the financing and sustainability of project initiatives. The main strategy is to develop local capacity by empowering the organizations we work with, such as MAE, local governments, grassroots organizations (such as FECCHE, ECOCAAO), and other institutions (such as the National Institute of Fisheries) to play a leadership role in conservation activities and initiatives and to establish/improve coordination with other organizations or donor projects sharing similar objectives. The FY12 targets and progress to date are as follows:

FY12 Targets and Progress to Date for PIR 3, by KRA		
<b>Flow of public and private investment to support biodiversity conservation increased.</b>	<b>Enabling environment for sustainable management at the local and regional level improved.</b>	
<b>Accumulative Project Target FY12 Per Updated PMP</b>	<b>Accumulative Project Target FY12 Per Updated PMP</b>	<b>Project Target FY12 Per Updated PMP</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicator 3.1: US\$ 13,800,000 in public and/or private investment leveraged</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicator 3.2: 5 coalitions and alliances created and/or strengthened with USG assistance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicator 3.3: 1 law, policy, strategy, plan, agreement, or regulation addressing climate change (mitigation or adaptation) and/or biodiversity conservation officially proposed, adopted, or implemented as a result of USG assistance (accumulative target is 4).</li> </ul>
<b>Progress to Date:</b>	<b>Progress to Date:</b>	<b>Progress to Date:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicator 3.1: US\$13,734,131 in public and/or private investment leveraged (an additional US\$2,238,402 underway)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicator 3.2: Target met - 5 coalitions and alliances created and/or strengthened with USG assistance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Indicator 3.3: Target met - 1 law, policy, strategy, plan, agreement, or regulation addressing climate change (mitigation or adaptation) and/or biodiversity conservation officially proposed, adopted, or implemented as a result of USG assistance (accumulative progress is 4).</li> </ul>

For details regarding progress reported to date please reference the PMP narrative in Annex 3.

### Threat 4: Insufficient institutional capacity for biodiversity conservation

#### Strategy 4.1 Strengthen management of protected areas

The Project is building local institutional and management capacity by providing technical assistance to (1) directors of protected areas and MAE regional directors to support the planning and implementation of critical actions, (2) provincial, municipal

and parochial governments and (3) grassroots organizations and community-based associations or businesses where opportunities for biodiversity conservation exist. Given that the project's objective is to "conserve biodiversity in critical habitats along the Ecuadorian coast" its local capacity building strategy is tailored to each client's role and potential to contribute to achieving the project's goal as measured by the performance indicators. A collaboration agreement with the MAE provides the basis for project activities. The project's partner and clients include a large number of public and private sector organizations that range from national level institutions to parochial governments, and the communities that live in and around the critical habitats. The project seeks to strengthen institutional/organizational capacity of our partner and client organization for clearly defined purposes. The project uses a building block approach to help develop capacity that is sustainable and within the means and resources of the clients. The project is careful not to create capacity that cannot be sustained without permanent infusions of external financial and technical assistance. The project seeks to maximize the capacity of its partners and clients by focusing on their strengths and their potential to play critical roles in biodiversity conservation and in institutional coordination/collaboration.

#### **Threat 4: Insufficient institutional capacity for biodiversity conservation**

The MAE has made significant efforts in the area of biodiversity conservation from the outset. However, budget constraints and the size of the protected areas hamper its ability to reach its goals. The Project worked with the MAE throughout FY11 to improve its capacity to manage protected areas (RM Galera San Francisco, PN Machalilla, RE Manglares Churute and RVS Manglares El Salado) and continues to do so in FY12. In addition, local governments sometimes fail to include biodiversity conservation in their planning and management processes and this creates gaps at the regulator and planning level that pose a threat to natural resource conservation.



Another dimension of this threat is that many of the resources that might be earmarked for biodiversity conservation get lost, are duplicated, or are not sustained over time due to poor inter-institutional coordination, which undermines the effectiveness of conservation activities.

#### **Strategy 4.1 Strengthen management of protected areas**

In FY12, project has focused technical assistance on directors of protected areas connected to the Project. Advisory services are provided based on the needs of the directors of each area and are focused on activities related to Project goals. The Project also provides technical assistance as needed to the MAE's regional directors as well as to high-level MAE officials focused on policy-making. Upon request by the Government of Ecuador, the project conducted two studies to guide alignment of national program in biodiversity and climate change with the new Environmental Codes. Under the climate change study key steps were identified that will be

necessary to align the national climate change plans for mitigation and adaptation with the required decentralization of land use planning that is advancing in Ecuador. The study for biodiversity identified that the current administrative structure for protected areas that is a limitation to effective protected area management.

#### *Activity 4.1.1 Build institutional capacity*

The Project continued providing technical assistance to protected areas directors and the MAE regional directors, with a focus on planning, strengthening management, and optimizing budgets and leveraging financial resources. The project also purchased equipment for use by protected areas in some cases.

The approach the project takes when working with MAE or other authorities on environmental matters is to empower them to more effectively play their roles as environmental authorities. The support takes multiple forms, all tailored to serve as catalysts of actions that strengthen and build institutional capacity. Examples of the approach and its effectiveness include the formulation of forestry legislation and the environmental code, the preparation of training materials and operational manuals for protected area management, the development and implementation of critical studies to determine sustainable management and use of resources (Crabs and Tagua), the streamlining of burdensome administrative processes to obtain and keep mangrove concessions, conservation incentives, the formation of conservation coalitions as means to communicate and coordinate public/private and donor actions in areas of common interest, and the development of Environmental Management Plans as input for land use regional planning and municipal governance.

From the start the project has been working to strengthen protected area authorities capacity. The project uses a variety of approaches depending on the protected area and its needs. The support the project has and is providing the Machalilla National Park (PNM) in the Ayampe watershed illustrates best the impact the approach and results in institutional capacity development of partner organizations. A project office operates out of the PNM facilities in Puerto Lopez. The office is manned by the project's regional deputy director and a senior protected areas advisor. Part of their functions includes providing on-the-job training and technical assistance support to the Park Director and staff. The results in capacity building have been dramatic. The project help has empowered the Park authorities to fully assume their leadership role by providing it with tools and advice on the operation of the park. This has, in turn, led to a change in approach to planning and operating the park and to leveraging additional resources. Rather than passively waiting to be "arbitrarily" assigned annual financial resources by the Ministry, the Park now actively plans, budgets its operation annually, and it also makes its case to central planning Ministry authorities. In addition, the annual and long-term plans of the Park are also used to leverage resources from other sources, such as projects and NGOs. The empowerment and increased capacity of the Park contrasts dramatically with the way it operated two years ago. Traditionally, the Park organized and attempted to finance its operations by engaging in activities that NGOs or Donors were financing regardless of the priorities and plans of the Park.

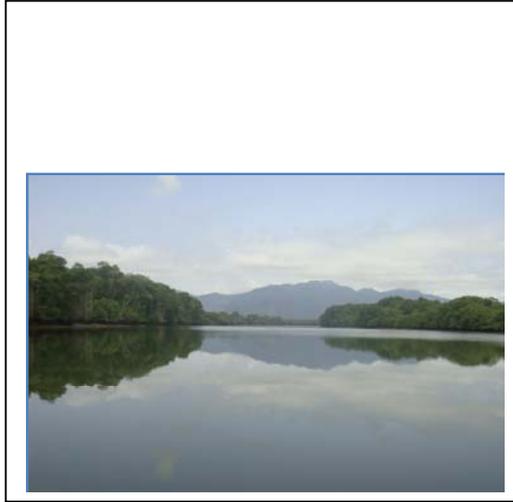
The project has also been working with the authorities of the Churute and El Salado reserves on reserve management, mangrove protection, and adaptation and mitigation of climate change with similar results.

#### *Progress/Impact of Key Actions for Activity 4.1.1*

- Provided technical assistance to improve management and administration of protected areas in the Project's geographic target areas (RE Manglares Churute, RVS Manglares El Salado, PN Machalilla, and RMC Galera San Francisco).
- Supported the First Environmental Fair held at the Churute Mangrove Ecological Reserve in which technical staff had the opportunity to share the project's work to protect mangroves in the Gulf of Guayaquil with over 300 students. The project helped organization participation of private and public sector institutions as well as civil society groups, such as crab associations.
- Assisted Machalilla National Park develop application and budget for the National Environmental Fund for which it won a \$5,000 award as a result of its work with introduced species.
- The Project worked with Machalilla National Park Director, park guards, and local service providers (such as moto-taxis) to improve tourism management in Machalilla National Park. Support in February focused on managing the massive influx in tourist that visit the "Los Frailes" beach for the Carnival holiday weekend. As a result, for the first time park guards enforced limits on the number of vehicles (150) and visitors (1,000) that could access the beach. In addition, a specific site was specified for moto-taxis to park and a speed limit was set, which was abided by. The project also helped the Park design a strategy and work plan for opening a new tourist visitation site within the park and develop a new ecotourism route, which may be implemented under the Walton III project.
- Helped lead a collaborative effort to repair trails damaged by rain on Isla de la Plata. The Project helped organize and facilitate groups of local volunteers and workers to repair the network of trails throughout the island. As a result, the island was reopened to visitors in just 5 days and local businesses could resume tours to the island. Without this support the island could have been closed for over a month, which would have severely affected the 11 tour operators and many local businesses that depend on tourism to the island.
- Assisted El Salado in developing scope of work for hiring consultant to design signage.
- Provided technical assistance for the development of annual operating plans, prioritizing budget related activities with strategies for leveraging funds and assistance for budget execution. Highlights include:
  - Helped prepare work plans and budgets for the Fondo Areas Protegidas (FAP) for Churute and Machalilla.
  - Developing work plans, scopes of works, and budgets for implementation of the Walton II project in Machalilla.
- Carried out Strengths, Weaknesses/Limitations, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis for the Churute Mangroves Reserve as part of developing a strategic plan for Churute.
- The Project is helping the MAE manage Protected Areas by preparing an operational manual to serve as a guide and reference tool for protected area managers. To date the Project has outlined the manual's content, which is being

reviewed by Ecuadorian and international experts as well as focus groups made up of MAE staff and has been presented to the USAID COR. Various workshops have been held with MAE staff to exchange experiences. The MAE has requested training its protected area managers on the manual during the next semester.

- In March the project supported the MAE by facilitating a workshop to gather lessons learned on managing the Chongón-Colonche Protected Forest and by participating in the MAE's workshop on Participatory Governance and the Role of Management Committees in Protected Areas.
- Provided technical assistance to the MAE's provincial office in Esmeraldas and Manabí. In Esmeraldas support focused on reviewing the Galera San Francisco Management Plan as well as assessing and implementing surveillance and monitoring system (see activity 4.1.2) and in Manabí support has focused on Machalilla National Park for which the provincial office is involved in (land tenure, fishery management, tagua management, forestry control, and the management plan).
- Provided technical assistance to the municipality of Jipijapa in activities related to biodiversity conservation set out in the POAM. As a result, the environmental section of the POT has been based on the POAM.
- Continued providing technical assistance to the security committee of the Ayampe River watershed and PN Machalilla to strengthen the integrated surveillance and enforcement system.
- In response to requests from Machalilla National Park and in view of the fact that communities are settled within the area and lack economic options, the Project has assisted with the following activities:
  - Provided inputs for updating the park's management plan (See activity 1.1.1 above).
  - Initiated analysis of tagua harvesting within the protected area in order to regulate this activity and tagua management (See activity 1.1.1 above).
  - Began analysis of traditional fishing activities in the park's marine area in consideration of its management category.
  - Confirmed applicability of Socio Bosque incentives for communities that settled in the park before the protected area was established, in accordance with the respective Ministerial Agreement.
  - Helped the Park Director develop proposals for tourism management alternatives in the PNM. This included making site visits, developing roadmaps for use of funding from third parties (CI-Walton), and leveraging funding (from CI-Walton) to obtain equipment for surveillance and monitoring activities in the marine section of the park.
  - Supported develop a program for environmental education (together with municipalities of Jipijapa and Puerto López).

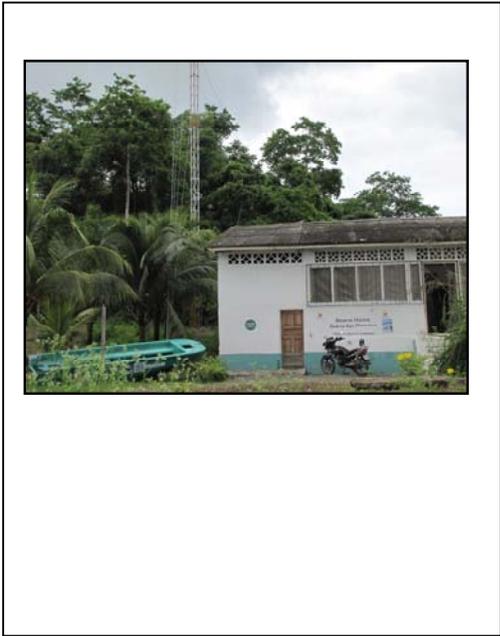


- Helped design road map for resolving issues related to human settlements within the park for which the project is helping leverage funds to implement.

**Activity 4.1.2 Design and support implementation of surveillance and monitoring systems**

Surveillance and enforcement systems are a priority for biodiversity conservation and improving public security through their impact on threat reduction, particularly in areas where resource users play an active role in their design and implementation.

In FY12, the Project continued to support surveillance and enforcement systems for mangrove concessions in the Gulf of Guayaquil and RE Manglares Churute, and for Socio Bosque, particularly in the Gran Reserva Chachi. It also provided technical assistance for surveillance and enforcement systems in the marine area of PN Machalilla, and in RM Galera San Francisco. The Project’s role in surveillance and enforcement systems is to facilitate and serve as a catalyst for the actions of the responsible institutions and others working in those areas, and provide essential equipment for those activities.



**Progress/Impact of Key Actions for activity 4.1.2**

- Provided technical assistance to strengthen the surveillance and enforcement system for the Gulf of Guayaquil, which now has a radio communication system with coverage of over 800,000 hectares. Highlights include:
  - Provided training to crabbers on how to complete patrol reports under the mangrove control and surveillance system. Representatives of the Navy brigade from Puná participated in the training event. Crabbers from the Mondragón Island also submitted a request for increased police presence to increase marine safety and security in the region, which resulted in having a police officers assigned to Buena Vista and El Conchal.
  - Trained crabbers on use and maintenance of radio equipment, how to notify authorities of violations, protocols for patrolling, and routes to use during the closed season, etc)
  - Worked with the DIRNEA (National Bureau of Aquatic Spaces) and the MAE to monitor compliance with red crab close seasons.
  - Led formation of a partnership between a private shrimp company (PESALMAR) and a crabbing association that holds a mangrove concession (Aguas Vivas) to jointly monitor and control activities in the Estero Corvinero in the Gulf of Guayaquil. The agreement stipulates procedures for overseeing fishing access in order to prevent robberies in the region. This week PESALMAR and Aguas Vivas signed a memorandum of understanding in

- which project Chief of Party, Claudio Saito, and the Navy's Port Captain signed as witnesses of honor.
- Assisted concessionaires enforce closed season for crabbing from January 15 – February 15, which resulted in crabbing organizations in Naranjal joining efforts to rotate patrolling the mangroves and assuring the presence of the police and fishery authorities to provide the necessary oversight.
  - Prepared a GIS map of patrol routes for Mondragón Island and facilitated requesting ecologically safe buoys that the crabbers can anchor their boats to while doing patrols, especially during closed seasons for crabbing, which will reduce the cost of gas. To formalize the request, INOCAR requires a request letter from the MAE.
  - Assessed equipment needs and operations in the EL Salado and Churute reserves.
  - Continued technical assistance for implementation of a unified surveillance system for Socio Bosque in the Gran Reserva Chachi, in conjunction with the MAE, FECCHE, GIZ, CI, and Socio Bosque. This semester the project provided various materials to increase coverage of the radio communication system and supported planning and conducting forest patrol activities.
  - Strengthen priority activities in the surveillance and control system for PN Machalilla together with Park Director. Highlights include:
    - Assisting Machalilla National Park improve guidelines and procedures for implementing the marine enforcement and oversight activities.
    - Assisted in improving coordination between the Ecuadorian navy and Machalilla National Park.
    - Provided solar panels and a metallic shed to protect the solar panels (which are on loan to the park by the project) and various materials to increase coverage of the radio communication system.
    - Re-installed equipment in the Bola de Oro sector to increase coverage of the radio communication system.
  - Provided technical support for the surveillance and control system for the Reserva Marina Galera San Francisco. This involved reviewing, together with the Ministry of Environment Director for Esmeraldas, the management plan for the Galera San Francisco Marine Reserve and assessing priorities for implementing the Reserve's enforcement and oversight activities. The project then installed a new tower and antenna in the Galera San Francisco Marine Reserve and provided radio equipment materials (batteries, chargers, etc). As a result, park guards can now communicate with the Navy in Tonchigue. In addition, for the first time, the park office can now contact its boat while on patrols, as well as with fishermen from the local community. This allows park guards to more adequately protect the Reserve and collaborate with fishermen and other authorities.

#### **Strategy 4.2.: Improve inter-institutional communication and coordination**

This strategy is designed to strengthen existing and promote new conservation coalitions. These coalitions are platforms to coordinate and plan conservation efforts among a wide range of stakeholders within specific Project areas and to complement the activities of USAID and other donors through similar or complementary projects. The strategy is also to promote direct partnerships with public, private and community stakeholders to leverage funds and to implement Project activities. The Project has

begun to focus on five central coalitions and on their impact since the PMP is being revised accordingly.

#### *Activity 4.2.1: Strengthen coalitions/partnerships*

One of the threats to biodiversity conservation is the lack of a mechanism for relevant organizations and institutions to come together to complement and strengthen their capacity to take action to diminish or eliminate threats to biodiversity conservations. Often organizations with similar mandates fail to join forces to achieve common goals. Because of the lack of a coordination mechanism/platform, organization often duplicate efforts and, what is worse, organizations working in isolation commit mistakes that could be avoided by knowing what has worked and what has not. In response to this situation the project has been promoting the use of coalitions for the conservation of biodiversity as a mechanism to allow organizations and institutions with interconnected mandates to come together to discuss common interests and take actions. As such, coalitions should not be expected to necessarily become permanent organizations, but instead, should be viewed and used as platforms for organizations to recruit other organization or institutions to undertake common action to achieve shared goals. It is important to note that broad based coalitions can be multi or single purpose arenas for stakeholders to meet and coordinate actions. The project is working with both single and multipurpose coalitions in response to member's common interests and needs. Coalition should be flexible and evolve according to its participant's needs.

Focusing on the common interest or mandates of institutions and organizations, the project has acted as a catalyst in the formation of coalitions to pursue specific goals. In all cases, the project promotes and assists MAE to play leadership roles in the coalitions and/or actions undertaken by members of the Coalitions. Coalitions are work-in-progress and depending on local leadership, needs, and shared interests can be activated when needed. The project plays the role of a catalyst and facilitator in bringing together public sector and civil society organizations around issues related to natural resource management and biodiversity conservation. To date, the project has been instrumental in the formation of five coalitions, one for each one of the critical areas the project works with. Each coalition has its own characteristics and some are more active than others. The degree of institutional capacity varies per coalition and per member. To facilitate coalition members' awareness of action in their respective areas, in two cases the Project helps publish Coalition Bulletins that reach not only coalition members, but other actors in their respective areas.

#### *Progress/Impact of Key Actions for activity 4.2.1*

- In FY12, as recommended by USAID, the project strategy has shifted to focus on strengthening five core coalitions that serve as platforms to share information, avoid duplication of efforts, and coordinate among actors to improve natural resource management. The project has focused on strengthening the following conservation coalitions:
  1. **Gulf of Guayaquil Coalition for the red crab stock study.** This coalition is helping to protect a\$16M in crabbing activities in the Gulf of Guayaquil on which at least 2,215 crabbers and their families depend. It's MOU states that it will serve as the basis for the long-term monitoring of the crab stock and

evolve into a coalition to promote the conservation of biodiversity in the Gulf of Guayaquil. The first meeting of the coalition as such took place in June 2011, and it included the following organizations: Instituto Nacional de Pesca, Subsecretaria de Gestión Marino Costera del Ministerio del Ambiente, Reserva Manglares Churute, Fundación BioEducar, Prefectura, Capitanía de Puerto de Guayaquil, the crabbers's associations of 6 de Julio, Balao, Nuevo Porvenir, 25 de Julio, Puerto Baquerizo, Puerto La Cruz, El Conchal, Mondragón, Buena Vista, Puerto Santo, Soledad Grande, 24 de Marzo, 26 de Febrero, Caimital, La Flora, 5 de Septiembre, ASORCMAF and the Project. The meeting resulted in the formation of a working group to ensure the continuity of the stock study and the operation of the surveillance and enforcement systems of the concessions. Two additional coalition meetings (October 2011 and February 2012) have taken place since the first one with the majority of the members participating and reaching additional agreements to move forward with stock studies and the system of surveillance and enforcement. The Coalition continues to add members as more crabber's associations join it.

This semester new stakeholders have joined the coalition (13 new fishermen's associations and the MAE) and the INP is now leading coalition meetings every 2 months. Two coalition meetings were held this semester in which over 50 crabbers and local authorities participated and which served as a platform for exchanging experiences. Coalition meetings focus on coordinating efforts and lessons learned for crabbing, collecting data for the stock analysis, and sharing stock analysis results. It also provides a unique venue for crabbers to exchange ideas among themselves as well as work with national authorities to address conservation issues, protect crabbing (by promoting sustainable management tools), and collaborate on fishery regulation enforcement. Coalition members are extremely active, with approximately 82% of crabbing organizations participating in meetings on a regular basis.

- 2. Conservation Coalition in Esmeraldas.** This coalition is a platform for stakeholders in Esmeraldas to coordinate natural resource management in order to protect Ecuador's only marine reserve (Galera San Francisco Marine Reserve). The coalition allows stakeholders to exchange experiences, coordinate efforts, and identify synergies. The Project serves as secretary and supported developing and distributing the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> editions of the coalition's bimonthly newsletters, which has proven to be an effective tool for coordinating and disseminating information. It coordinates efforts with and participates in Esmeralda's environmental roundtable (Mesa Ambiental). It also promotes linkages (Nazca, MAE, and Navy, etc) for supporting radio communication and monitoring activities within the Reserve and for promoting good natural resource management practices and water storage systems (MAGAP and Provincial Government).

Over the past two years, the coalition has served as a platform for the regional offices of MAE to exert their authority in the region and for the Galera San Francisco Reserve (protected Area) authorities to establish a more active and visible presence in the Reserve itself, setting up Protected Area Offices and establishing a surveillance and enforcement systems. The Coalition has also

played a role in the validation of the reformulated Reserve Management Plan led by MAE and in the development POAM for the Parroquias Galera, Quingue y El Cabo San Francisco as input for the Muisne Municipality Land Use Plan (Plan de Ordenamiento Territorial). Coalition members EcoCacao as the implementor of the Fragile Ecosystems conservation through environmentally sustainable agriculture project (Conservación de Ecosistemas Frágiles mediante una agricultura ambientalmente sostenible) is working with the Junta Parroquial of El Cabo San Francisco; Junta de Agua de la comunidad de La Carmelita, CEFODI in reforestation of critical areas in their respective watersheds and the construction of water reservoirs to mitigate impact of deforestation and climate change in the region.

- 3. Conservation Coalition in the Ayampe River watershed.** The Coalition for the conservation of Ayampe watershed has at its center the Machalilla National Park (PNM), which covers 40,883 has of land in the watershed and an additional marine area of 24,165 has. The land area of the watershed itself covers 61,257 Has including the PNM. The Ayampe watershed and more specifically the PNM contains the last remnants of the last coastal dry forest habitats and a number of threatened species. Project activities in the area include technical assistance and on-the job training for the PNM staff, POAM, integrated farm management and sound environmental practices and economic development activities.

For the project itself the coalition is an arena where it can find and leverage additional fund for project sponsored activities. In 2011, it generated over US\$ 2.8 million in leveraged funds from five public sector and two NGO organizations with projects in the region. It is through the coalition, that the project has also found partners interested in signing cooperative agreements (convenios) to leverage resources to achieve common goals and objectives.

In its first two years the coalition identified the following pressing issues that needed attention:

- A climate of insecurity that affected citizen and businesses alike
- Land tenure issues
- Deforestation and illegal logging
- Water mismanagement/misuse
- Insufficient capacity by the MAE to monitor and control environmental problems
- Destruction of turtle breeding beaches.

The coalition took actions regarding the above concerns. The first was to form a security council, which developed and implemented a plan to enhance citizen security in the region. Led by the Machilla National Park, the municipalities of Jipijapa, Paján, and Puerto López worked with the Project to develop an environmental education plan for the region with special focus on waste disposal and water management. More recently, PROMUNI, a USAID project s working with the same municipalities in waste disposal. The Coalition was also instrumental in the development of the Environmental

Management Plan (POAM) for the region, with the municipalities of Puerto Lopez, JijiJapa y Jajan, as well as the Parroquia de Solango, assigning financial resources to undertake the activities identified in the POAM in their annual budgets.

The Coalition is very fluid and the degree to which members participate depends on the issues being dealt with. To illustrate the varied and dynamic nature of the coalition, the following list of organization that participated in the last Coalition meeting includes the following organizations:

Grass Roots Organizations	Donor Projects and NGOs	Public Sector Institutions
Asociación Río Matapalo, Asociación De Turismo Sostenible Community Vueltas Largas Community Comuna Las Tunas Asociación El Jaile	USAID Sustainable Forest and Coasts PROMUNI Fundación Jocotoco Conservación y Desarrollo / Costas y Bosques Cuerpo de Paz CIIFEN	Secretaría de Gestión Marino Costero Gestión de Riesgos Municipio Puerto López Gestión Ambiental Municipio Puerto López SENPLADES Municipio Pajan Parque Nacional Machalilla (PNM) Ministry of Environment (MAE) Municipio Jipijapa

Membership expanded this semester (adding Fundación Jocotoco and the Climate Change Project for the Coastal Mountain Range, for example). The coalition held one broad meeting with all members this semester (39 participants) and plans to hold quarterly meetings and is led by the MAE's Sub-secretariat for Coastal and Marine Management. The project serves as secretary, distributing newsletters to members every 2 months to keep them informed of member activities (this semester distributing the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> editions). Members (Machalilla National Park, Municipality of Puerto López, and National Police) coordinate security efforts and to control environmental threats, such as illegal logging, that were identified in the POAM. They also collaborate for tourism management, environmental education (Machalilla National Park, Municipality of Puerto López, and Municipality of Jipijapa), beach management (in Las Tunas) and waste management.

4. **Conservation Coalition in the Gran Reserva Chachi.** This coalition is a platform for stakeholders in the Gran Reserva Chachi and its buffer zone (approximately 70,000 hectares) to promote biodiversity conservation, especially for protecting forest conservation. The coalition is a venue for forming partnerships among public, private, and community actors (both Chachi and Afro-Ecuadorian). It's main activity is coordinating forest conservation monitoring and control among the FECCHE, GIZ, CI, MAE/Socio Bosque, and Chachi Centers and is having significant impact in streamlining monitoring and control activities, sharing experiences, and helping communities maintain their cash-for-conservation payments from Socio Bosque. The coalition has also helped resolve territorial conflicts in Corriente Grande and legalize a plot of land in San Miguel Chachi. Next

semester the goal is to develop a work plan with the MAE and foment the coalition being led by a coalition member.

Two years after the project begun work in the Grand Reserva Chachi, FECCHE, the Federation of Chachi Communities, the Regional Office of the Ministry of Environment and NGO Altropico formalized the Coalition for the Conservation of Biodiversity in the Gran Reserva Chachi through a memorandum of understanding (MOU), where they commit themselves to promote and to establish biodiversity conservation through public/private partnerships. The Coalition grew out of the work the project has been carrying out through implementation partner Altropico, an NGO with a solid track record and long term commitment to supporting the Chachi. More specifically, the project has been supporting the application and implementation of conservation agreements to set aside parts of their territories for conservation under the SocioBosque Program and to establish and operate a surveillance and enforcement systems of the the Chachi territory in general and of the Socio Bosque protected forests in particular. The coalition is open to any other public or private actors who can use it as a platform to form new partnerships or join forces with existing member of the coalition to achieve specific results. Very importantly, the coalition's MOU refer to the need to set in motion a gradual process for the sustainable use of resources and the conservation of the biodiversity. Each one of the three members of the coalitions contributes to biodiversity conservation according to their strengths. The coalition has a term of two years and can be renewed by the parties to the agreement. The coalition has taken several actions since it was formalized. It has worked to establish and operate protected areas in member communities and it provides support in the development of the Communal Investment Plans required by SocioBosque, it has worked with MAE and Cotacachi-Cayapas Ecological Reserve to delineate the reserve border and regularize land tenure by FECCHE member communities.

5. **Mondragon Crabbing Associations.** The coalition was originally formed for the associations to coordinate implementation of the mangrove surveillance and monitoring system and the use of equipment (radios, life vests, boat and motor) donated by the MAE for patrolling efforts to protect 3,082 hectares of mangroves. The project has supported these 4 crab associations through their designated mangrove concession technical advisor (Fundación Bioeducar) to strengthen the coalition and mangrove protection. To this end, the project has facilitated regular organizational strengthening workshops, training in mangrove surveillance (use and maintenance of equipment, patrol and reporting protocols) as well as with promoting good mangrove concession management (zoning, implementation of management plan, good fishery practices, mangrove reforestation, etc). To this end, coalitions members have fulfilled their commitments to the MAE of submit quarterly reports on the use of the equipment. Starting this month, groups are no longer required to report to the MAE regarding use of the donated equipment, yet members will continue to coordinate patrols during the closed season and are analyzing needs and opportunities for further collaboration.

- Coordinated activities with other projects by USAID and other donors, as well as with government institutions (PROMUNI, GEF, MAGAP, MINTUR, SETECI etc.).
- Continued collaborating with the Guayas Prefecture on the issue of climate change. During the second half of FY12 the project will be supporting the Prefecture in developing a climate change strategy.
- Began exploring possibility of strengthening a coalition that would be led by CIIFEN to foment diffuse information and resources regarding climate change.

#### *Activity 4.2.2 Obtain co-financing and/or leverage funds*

The Project continued working with Ecocacao through a small grant to support actions that contribute to achieving Project objectives, such as creating commercial linkages. The Project also continued leveraging funds from other organizations to ensure the sustainability of key actions once the Project has ended and supported effective partnerships the project had initiated in FY11.

#### *Progress/Impact of Key Actions for activity 4.2.2*

- Issued a follow-on small grant to EcoCacao to help farmers living in coastal watersheds near the Galera San Francisco Marine Reserve address key environmental challenges on their farms. The assistance protects their crops, increases productivity, and ultimately increases sales while promoting conservation. The project is helped a group of 96 cacao farms obtain and maintain organic certification and has linked them with new markets that offer higher prices (see Activity 3.1.1 above). The project also helps farmers establish tree nurseries to support reforestation and to access payments provided by the Ecuadorian government's Socio Bosque Program for forest conservation.
- Leveraged funds, totaling over \$13.7M that are detailed in Section 1. Funds leverages this period include \$68,400 from the municipality of Jipijapa for and budgeting for implementing POAM activities in their POT. Additional leveraging is underway with Socio Bosque, GIZ (surveillance and monitoring systems), Ecocacao (co-financing of small grant) and Conservation International (Walton, Management Plan in Machalilla, and surveillance and monitoring in Galera San Francisco).
- Documented and disseminated technical materials, success stories, lessons learned, and fostered their replication through the following activities:
  - Continued preparing and distributing weekly reports. Half way through this semester those reports have been modified to be distributed to the COR and project staff/subcontractors. Upon request by the Mission Director and COR, in January initiated monthly reports in English to present short articles and photos that explain project impact to USAID staff and other implementers.
  - Updated project's web page.
  - Prepared press releases for project related events.
  - Updated Case Studies regarding Conservation of Mangroves as well as Socio Bosque Incentives, Reflecting FY11 Results.
  - Two women that the project has trained in good manufacturing practices for crab pulp extraction and assisted in creating new commercial linkages for their

- products at a higher price, Patricia Flores and Teresa Mendoza, traveled to Quito to host a stand at USAID's 50th Anniversary commemoration event to share their story about receiving support from USAID.
- Launched project video "Improving Livelihoods, Conserving Mangroves" on Youtube (<http://youtu.be/hIcZ5lkCwnc>), which was also spotlighted on USAID's Natural Resources Management and Development Portal: <http://www.rmportal.net/>
  - Began editing a second project video on watershed conservation in Ayampe.
  - Prepared a case study titled "Benefiting Farmers and Conservation" that shares how over 1,800 people are receiving financial benefits from improving farming practices, accessing new markets, or accessing cash-for-conservation payments as a result of project technical assistance (see Annex 9).
  - The project was highlighted on page 9 in the February edition of the Global Water's magazine: [http://www.usaid.gov/our\\_work/cross-cutting\\_programs/water/globalwaters/gw\\_ezine\\_q1\\_2012.html](http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/cross-cutting_programs/water/globalwaters/gw_ezine_q1_2012.html).
  - This period the project also had the opportunity to meet with members of the US Congress and present the project's impact to them.

#### **Strategy 4.3.: Public policy advocacy**

The Project engages in public policy advocacy to promote good resource management and create a legal and institutional framework for biodiversity conservation.

##### ***Activity 4.3.1.: Promote technical assistance to review and revise policies and programs related to biodiversity conservation and management.***

In FY12, the Project continues to support policies related to POAM implementation, mangrove concessions, and protected areas. The Project's support in the public policy arena focuses on responding to requests from the MAE for technical assistance on issues related to the Forests Law (now part of the Environmental Code), biodiversity, and climate change.

##### ***Progress/Impact of Key Actions for activity 4.3.1***

- Upon request by the MAE, conducted an assessment of the skills, capabilities, institutional structure, and legal application of policies as they related to biodiversity and climate change. Then presented the outcomes of two studies to guide alignment of national program in biodiversity and climate change with the new Environmental Codes. Under the climate change study key steps were identified that will be necessary to align the national climate change plans for mitigation and adaptation with the required decentralization of land use planning that is advancing in Ecuador. The study for biodiversity identified that the current administrative structure for protected areas that is a limitation to effective protected area management.
- Continued collaborating with the Guayas Prefecture on the issue of climate change. During the second half of FY12 the project will be supporting the Prefecture in developing a climate change strategy.
- Continued supporting management of Parque Nacional Machalilla (updating the management plan, strengthening surveillance and enforcement, administration and management), Reserva Marina Galera San Francisco (surveillance and

- enforcement), RE Manglares Churute (surveillance and enforcement; administration and fishery management), and RVS Manglares El Salado (signage).
- Supported research and data collection necessary for policy-making for protected areas (fishing and non-timber forest resource management in protected areas).
- Continued supporting access to Socio Bosque and promoting the program.
- Provided technical assistance to municipal governments for implementing activities set out in the POAM (Jipijapa and Puerto López).
- Continued technical assistance for the Sub-Secretariat of Natural Patrimony related to the Forestry Law, which is now part of the Environmental Code.

#### ***Activity 4.3.2. Technical and legal support for drafting the National Forest Patrimony Registry of the Environmental Organic Code***

At the request of the MAE's Sub-Secretariat of Natural Patrimony, the Project continued to provide technical assistance and advisory services for drafting the National Forest Patrimony Chapter of the Environmental Organic Code. The Project is playing a key role in the development of technical standards and regulations for its implementation. This support is flexible and subject to needs and requests of the Sub-Secretariat of Natural Patrimony and other government entities with responsibilities related to the Environmental Code and to drafting its regulations. The forestry law is currently under approval process by the Ecuadorian government, and to this end on January 31, 2012 the RCO approved extending the due date for preparing the regulatory framework and providing the respective training indicated until June 2013.

#### ***Progres/Impact of Key Actions for activity 4.3.2***

- On November 21, 2011, the project submitted the related deliverables to USAID, which received COR approval on December 28, 2012:
  - Five of at least six key technical studies developed and used in development of one policy – the new Forestry Law and its regulatory framework” as follows:
    - (1) *Actualización de la legislación forestal ecuatoriana;*
    - (2) *Selección y caracterización de sitios para realizar estudios de caso sobre el uso de los recursos forestales;*
    - (3) *Culturas de manejo y recursos forestales;*
    - (4) *Análisis de las normas sobre ordenamiento territorial en Ecuador;*
    - (5) *Exposición de motivos para libro de patrimonio forestal, y artículos sobre servicios ambientales y cambio climático del código ambiental.*
  - A Summary (“Memoria: Proceso De Formulación De Consenso Entre Actores Claves Para La Ley De Bosques”) that demonstrates that “the Forestry Law and its regulatory framework followed a consultation and consensus-building process among key stakeholders”
  - Final draft of the law (“Ley de Bosques, V16 de Julio 2011”) and inputs (Deforestación, Plantaciones Forestales, Servicios Ambientales, Libro de Biodiversidad, Capitulo de Cambio Climático, y el Capítulo preliminar) for the Environment Code (Codigo Organico Ambiental – COA”) as well as a copy of the COA proposal with the Forestry Law included (August 10th version), which is following the protocol by the Government of Ecuador for its review and approval process.

- The project presented the sixth key technical study (“*Sondeo sobre la percepción de la rentabilidad del aprovechamiento de madera por parte de pequeños productores en Ecuador*”) to the COR and subsequently to the Subsecretary for National Patrimony (March 27th). The Project requested that the MAE provided any comments it may have prior to officially submitting to USAID. The Subsecretary for National Patrimony subsequently held a workshop during the first week of April with the National Forestry Division in which the Project presented the study’s results.

## SECTION 4: ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

Activities continue to be focused on the following four types of ecosystems: 1) coastal rainforests in the Chocó region; 2) dry forests along the central and southern regions of the coast; 3) mangroves; and 4) other coastal/marine areas bordering the ocean. The main threats to biodiversity conservation in these areas are related to changes in land use, lack of economic alternatives, and weak local capacity for coordination and management. The primary potential negative impacts that could result from these activities and their respective prevention/mitigation measures are:

- Risk of erosion resulting from the spread of agro-forestry and integrated farms, which will be prevented by promoting and providing training in using soil conservation techniques.
- Possible changes in/impact on existing vegetation, which will be mitigated by using careful analysis in selecting and preparing intervention sites. To this end, only secondary forests and brush would be affected.
- Risk of water contamination as a result of inadequate residual solid waste management, which will be prevented by using targeted criteria for implementation.
- Risk of displacement of important animal (birds and reptiles) species, which is mitigated by tree regeneration in accordance with the approved Environmental Assessment.

Prior to FY12, the project had prepared environmental impact checklists (FRAs for its Spanish Acronym) for: 1) agro-forestry/reforestation, 2) integrated farms, 3) mangrove management and sustainable red crab collection, and 4) improved forestry harvesting. This reporting period the project prepared additional FRAs for 5) tagua management and 6) manual control of the African snail. To date, the tagua management FRA has received USAID approval. Additional environmental compliance activities implemented this reporting period include:

- 1) Updated progress online via SIGA for implementing the environmental plans the 5 above mentioned FRAs that have been approved by USAID (see Annexes 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8).
- 2) Continued natural tree regeneration activities in Ayampe as a mitigation measure for improving forestry harvesting.
- 3) Henry Quiroz attended USAID's environmental regulation 216 regional training event in Peru.

## SECTION 5: CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED, SOLUTIONS IDENTIFIED, AND LESSONS LEARNED

In addition to those reported in previous reports, which remain valid, the following bullet points summarize the challenges encountered in this reporting period:

- **Improving Forestry Harvesting:** One of the main challenges to supporting forestry harvesting is that the forests are divided into many small properties, most of which are less than 50 hectares, a size in which where forestry management is not viable. For this reason the project is focusing on integral farm management, which is much more technically sound than trying to support forestry harvesting as an independent activity. The project is helping farmers use integrated farm management techniques and conserve and manage remaining forests. To this end, forestry harvesting is one of many sustainable practices that the project is helping farmers implement on their farms. Integrated farms improve overall watershed management by preventing erosion, linking remaining forests together to form conservation corridors, and reducing contamination. The focus on integrated farms is supported by the findings in the assessment regarding small producer's perceptions of profitability for timber products in Ecuador ("*Sondeo sobre la percepción de la rentabilidad del aprovechamiento de madera por parte de pequeños productores en Ecuador*") that the project presented to USAID and MAE authorities this semester.

In addition, there have been several bottlenecks to being able to obtain MAE approval of forestry management plans (lack of clarity regarding when/where harvesting is permitted in the Chongón Colonche Protected Forest, the MAE's lack of experience using its software for managing forestry activities/approving PAFSIs in Santa Elena, and the MAE's staffing turnover), which is a prerequisite for timber harvesting. The project is working with MAE authorities to resolve these issues.

- **Government of Ecuador Staffing Changes.** A large amount of MAE staff have changed, some of which resulting in delays in obtaining approvals, such as for the land titling applications for Río Blanco and San Francisco with the MAE Santa Elena. The project continues to collaborate with the new officials to try to expedite activities.
- **Limited access to farms in Ayampe and climate conditions:** Heavy rains in Manabí have made accessing some farms difficult or impossible as rivers are high and cut of roads. As a result some training events and technical assistance related to tagua post-harvesting practices, best practices for natural resource management, and forestry management have either been revised to focus on communities where access was feasible or postponed for when access becomes feasible again.
- **Bilateral Relationships.** The project has always has a close working relationship with the MAE, which has continued for the most part, however, since the higher level bilateral relationship between the MAE and USAID Ecuador is being analyzed, MAE authorities have been instructed to be careful with its relationships with USAID projects, which creates an uncertain environment to work under. It is unclear how long or to what extent this could affect project implementation. The project's MOU with the MAE end in November 2012 and the project will need guidance from USAID Ecuador regarding how to proceed in terms of renewing the MOU.

- **Option Year Execution.** The first option year was executed on the last day of FY11 and although the base period ended in June the project had conducted work planning for all of FY12 (through September). Since the second option year begins  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way through FY13, the project hopes to receive confirmation regarding execution of the second option prior to starting FY13 work planning (in July 2012) and negotiating the respecting subcontracts in order to be able to plan effectively with partners and stakeholders.

## SECTION 6: ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT APPROACH

An adaptive management concept is integrated into activity implementation to adapt and learn, ultimately leading to adjustments to our implementation strategy if needed. Examples of such adjustments during this reporting period in no specific order include:

- 1) **Delays in Land Titling.** The project continued technical assistance for land titling for the communities of Río Blanco and San Francisco, however delays in their approval persisted with government authorities. Since those communities will not be able qualify to apply for Socio Bosque until the GOE approves their titles the project is supporting at least 2,000 ha in other communities apply for Socio Bosque that already have land titles (either in Ayampe or in the bordering Chongón Colonche Protected Forest). The new communities were selected in strategic sites so to form a conservation corridor while the land titling process continues for Río Blanco and San Francisco.
- 2) **Continued immediate responses to Forestry Policy Needs.** The project continued to provide immediate and responsive technical assistance to MAE authorities as requested for forestry policy support. This semester it has obtained an extension for developing the regulatory framework and conducting the respective training through June 2013 to allow for the policy to first be approved.
- 3) **Revised line item spending to accomplish project results.** Chemonics assures the completion of project results by using the most appropriate line item and proposing budget realignments to USAID, as needed. This includes any needed staffing changes or changes in local partners or the scope of their work.
- 4) **Communication tools.** In response to a request by the Mission Director, the project adapted its weekly reports into a more consolidated monthly report.

## SECTION 7: BEST PRACTICES TO BE TAKEN TO SCALE

The following are examples of replicable models the project has developed:

- 1. Climate Change Adaptation Measures.** The project developed climate change adaptation measures for more than 5,000 hectares of the El Salado Wildlife Production Mangrove Reserve and its surrounding communities, providing a replicable model for other coastal areas of Ecuador. The methodology began with a climate and oceanographic analysis with emphasis on the variability associated with strong El Niño events such as 1982-1983 and 1997-1998. Next, the project analyzed main trends and past conditions, such periods of rain and droughts and variations in water salinity and temperature. The results served as input to simulate possible future trends and scenarios for the Gulf of Guayaquil by using a hydrodynamic model. This analysis was then combined with field work and geographic, social and economical data in order to estimate vulnerability levels for the reserve and surrounding communities. Lastly, the project used research results to conduct a participatory process with local stakeholders to develop more than twenty climate change adaptation measures and present them to local authorities.
- 2. Local Capacity Building through Embedded Advisors Leads to Preparation of a National Manual.** Having embedded technical advisors working on a day to day basis with local authorities (protected area managers, local government authorities, etc) facilitates developing a close relationship that results in authorities being open to receiving technical assistance and fomenting changes to improve natural resource management. It also allows advisors to contribute to strategic planning and leverage funding to benefit local institutions and provided responsive and adequate training, as they are aware of the local authorities' day to day needs and goals. The assistance has also resulted in the development of tools that can be replicated. This assistance has led to the project's collaboration at a national level to develop a manual for Protected Area Management, which will provide tools for planning, budgeting and monitoring and evaluations that will be replicated in Protected Areas throughout Ecuador.
- 3. Simplifying Mangrove Concession Reporting Mechanisms.** Together with the MAE, the project facilitated a workshop with 40 mangrove concessionaires to evaluate the successes and lessons learned over the past 11 years. As a result, the project is now working with the MAE to help replicate the best practices and resolve the management challenges for mangrove concessions throughout the country. The MAE or other authorities can use this as a model to simplify other procedures as well, even in other sector.
- 4. Protocols for Participatory Fishery Research.** The protocols and methodologies being used with the INP for the red crab stock analysis is groundbreaking given the extensive participation of crabbers, expanding the amount of data collected to levels never before imagined. This methodology can be replicated in other parts of the country or for other species. Results of such research leads to more adequate fishery management policies and enforcement and buy-in on behalf fishermen due to their involvement in data collection and understanding of research results.

Ultimately engaging resource users in a resource base study leads to commitment to conservation when sustainability is in question.

5. **Water storage systems.** The project is helping farmers living near protected areas improve water management, use, and storage on their farms. Farmers are learning how to store water so that it is available for use in their homes and on their farms for longer periods during the year. As a result, farmers are benefiting from increased availability of water during the dry season, which allows them to increase sales. Plantain trees are now being used to filter waste water and farmers are using new techniques to restore creeks to increase their water supply.
6. **Promoting Adaptation of Conservation Practices.** Improved farm practices (or more environmentally friendly practices) enhances resource conservation and ultimately the productivity of the farm. Making this connection clear with practices such as water storage increases appreciation of conservation measures and their economic benefits.
7. **Coalition Impact.** Broad based coalitions can be multi or single purpose arenas for stakeholders to meet and coordinate actions that help them reach common goals. Coalitions should be flexible and evolve according to its participant's needs.
8. **Leveraging Funds.** Using project resources as strategic catalyst that leverage additional resources and have wider impact than the specific action.
9. **Integrated Farm Management.** The project is helping farmers develop and implement integrated farm management plans to increase productivity, protect water sources, and conserve remaining forests. Integrated farm management improves overall watershed management and is a methodology that the MAE and SENPLADES are interesting in supporting at the national level.

## ANNEX 1: WORK PLAN STATUS CHARTS BY GEOGRAPHIC AREA

### 1) Gran Reserva Chachi and its buffer zone

Threats	Expected results	Progress	Status (on-going, completed, etc)	Responsible staff/ Implementing partner
<b>Illegal logging and change in land use (deforestation)</b>	18,945.67 Has continue to benefit from the Socio Bosque program and an additional 1,500 has. enter the program	<p>Provided technical assistance to communities to meet the requirements for maintaining/accessing Socio Bosque's incentives: i) updating of investment plans, and ii) monitoring forest conditions. This includes updating incentive amounts per new (increased) rates.</p> <p>Chachi Capuli, Guadual, Calle Manza, Sabalito and Tsejpi Centers as well as Afrodescendent communities of San Chispero, San Miguel and Playa de Oro remain in Socio Bosque.</p> <p>Centro Chachi Pichiyacu is applying with approximately 700 hectares. Sabalito is expanding its participation with an additional 1,001 hectares.</p>	On-going	Altrópico
	At least one community expands their conservation area under Socio Bosque	Provided technical assistance in creating and submitting application (map and investment plan) for expanding Sabalito with an additional 1,001 hectares.	On-going (application submitted, Socio Bosque approval pending)	Altrópico
	Unified monitoring system operating	Strengthened surveillance and control system. A workshop with forest guards is planned for next semester to exchange experiences and solidify actions.	On-going	Altrópico
<b>Weak coordination and technical/financial capacity of local stakeholders</b>	Coalition for Gran Reserva Chachi and area of influence led by a coalition member	Began facilitating FECCHE or other member to lead the coalition. Helped resolve territorial conflicts in Corriente Grande and legalize a plot of land in San Miguel Chachi. Next semester the goal is to develop a work plan with the MAE.	On-going	Altrópico
<b>Lack of economic initiatives</b>	At least 300 families have improved their income through implementation of environmentally friendly productive activities.	Supported developing investment plans (Socio Bosque) with a focus on productive activities to maintain the incentive.	Completed	Altrópico
		Next semester the project plans on documenting the impact of implementing conservation incentives on the family economy. A meeting to coordinate methodology with Socio Bosque is planned for April.	Planned for next semester	Altrópico

## 2) Reserva Marina Galera San Francisco and watersheds of the Galera San Francisco Peninsula

Goals	Expected results	Progress	Status	Responsible staff/ Implementing partner
Conservation and/or restoration of natural habitats	96 properties with conservation areas are implementing farm management plans	Consolidated conservation corridors through farm plans emphasizing best practices (conservation of water sources/riverbanks/ agro-forestry, organic farming, etc.)	On-going	EcoCacao, George Fletcher
	30 farms have a water management system through implementation of climate change adaptation measures.	Provided technical assistance and training in water management for farmers.	On-going	
	At least five applications (aprox 200 has.) submitted to the Socio Bosque program.	Began implementing basic water management adaptation measures (replicable models for water storage).	On-going	
		Supported accessing Socio Bosque with submission of applications for 241 ha underway	On-going	
Biodiversity conservation	Coalition for la REMGSF led by the MAE	Supported the MAE so that it can lead the coalition and coordinated collaboration with the Mesa Ambiental in Esmeraldas. Prepared and distributed three bimonthly newsletters (editions 10, 11, and 12) for the Coalition. Coordinated promotion of best practices.	On-going	Cristóbal Rodas
	The Marine Reserve has an action plan and secures a budget for implementation of the management plan.	Provided advisory services to MAE to review the management plan. Assisted MAE to prioritize actions and project costs. Provided NAZCA with a detailed edits to plan. NAZCA is managing the plan's overall budget.	Completed	Manuel Bravo
	The Marine Reserve has an operating surveillance and control system.	Supported the MAE in monitoring and implementation of the surveillance and control system for Reserva Marina Galera San Francisco. Conducted needs assessment. Provided materials, installed antenna/tower, provided protocol for use. Prepared summary of needs and expenses to optimize system's operations going forward. Drafted agreement between Port Captain and MAE Esmeraldas to implement the system.	Completed	Patricio Goyes and Manuel Bravo
Improvement of economic activities	At least 96 families have improved their incomes through implementation of environmentally friendly productive activities.	Supported EcoCacao's marketing system under Ecocacao's grant. Established commercial linkage with Nova Munda and are expanding marketing efforts in the US and Ecuador.	On-going	EcoCacao
		Under Ecocacao's grant they are working to establish partnerships for accessing financing for infrastructure and work capital.	On-going	EcoCacao
		Next semester the project plans on documenting the impact of implementing good practices for natural resource management on the family economy.	Planned for next semester	Henry Quiroz

### 3) Parque Nacional Machalilla and Ayampe River Watershed

Threats	Expected results	Progress	Status	Responsible staff/ Implementing partner
<b>Insufficient institutional capacity for biodiversity conservation</b>	Administration of the Parque Nacional Machalilla strengthened in planning, information management for decision-making and strengthening sanctions	Provided technical assistance for strategic planning and budgeting	Completed/on-going	Manuel Bravo
		Prepared project proposal to obtain internal and external resources. (Walton II project, \$5,000 from National Environmental Fund)	Completed	
		A park ranger course for the marine area to improve its capabilities and strengthen administrative procedures for civil and criminal penalties as necessary is planned for next semester.	Planned for next semester	
	Management plan updated, disseminated, and being implemented.	Provided technical assistance to update the plan provided. Data collected regarding the park was shared with stakeholders and communities. CI is helping update the plan, after which the project will assist with dissemination and implementation.	On-going	Luis Arriaga Manuel Bravo
	Policy for harvesting and management of the tagua resource for communities settled in the PNM.	Upon request by the MAE, the project began assessing tagua harvesting within the Park so that the MAE can use this information to create a policy to regulate tagua harvesting and management in PNM. The project will make technical recommendations for tagua management. The MAE will lead development of legal mechanisms and policy making.	On-going	Diana Vinueza, Jame Perez, Walter Palacios
	Human Settlements Policy in process and included in the Management Plan.	Prepared a roadmap based on the experience of working with Human Settlements in SNAP.	Completed	Diana Vinueza, Manuel Bravo
		Supported securing resources to update the information on current land use in the PNM which will guide decision-making processes concerning population settlements, road infrastructure, and zoning. Implementation of the actions set out in the roadmap for developing a policy on settlements will depend of leveraging funds.	On-going	Manuel Bravo
		Advisory services provided regarding the structure and incorporation of the Introduced Species Management Program.	On-going	Diana Vinueza
	Analysis of the legal and fisheries situation to regularize this activity in the PNM marine area based on its management category.	Drafted Rapid Assessment of fishing activity in the PNM (types of fisheries, fishing gear, target species, places caught and estimated number of boats operating each day to facilitate conflict management in fishing communities.	On-going	Manuel Bravo
		Provided advisory services to decide whether fisheries would be compatible with conservation objectives for PNM.	On-going	Manuel Bravo

		Provided advisory services to the PNM and the Provincial Office in Manabí for identifying and implementing specific fishing management measures.	On-going	Manuel Bravo
	Proposal for tourism management alternatives in the PNM	Provided technical assistance for tourism management and developed proposal for new visitation site and ecotourism route. Support for implementation will be on-going.	Completed	Manuel Bravo
	Manual for directors of protected areas prepared and approved by the MAE, disseminated and distributed.	Began participatory process for developing a Manual for Protected Area Management	Initiated	Karin Columba
	Systematization of experiences in protected areas management.	Workshops have been held to gather and share experiences in protected areas management. The systematization of experiences will be incorporated in the above mentioned manual.	Initiated	Karin Columba
	Terrestrial and marine surveillance and enforcement system (including the Puerto Lopez security committee) strengthened.	Supported priority activities of the Surveillance and Enforcement System together with PNM.	On-going	Cecilia Araujo Manuel Bravo
		Fundraised for implementation of security projects (communications network and community alert systems). The radio communication project was approved by the Ministry of the Interior. The Puerto Lopez's security committee's budget obtained approval. Police presence has increased (new post assigned in Salango).	On-going	
		Facilitated inter-institutional relations between the PNM and National Police for surveillance and enforcement in the PNM and security.	On-going	
Coalition led by the MAE coordinating actions for management of the PNM and Ayampe River watershed.	The Sub-Secretary for Coastal and Marine Management leads the coalition. Membership has expanded and members have joined efforts to address key environmental threats in the region and implement priority activities from the POAM. A coalition meeting was held in November and another is being planned.	On-going	Diana Vinueza	
	The project prepared and distributed three bimonthly newsletters (editions 10, 11, and 12) for the Coalition.	On-going		
<b>Climate Change</b>	PNM is implementing at least two climate change adaptation measures.	Completed and printed a comparative analysis of the vulnerability studies in PNM and El Salado. Presentations to authorities are planned for next semester.	Completed	CIIFEN
		Completed and printed guide to best practices for climate change adaptation along the coast. Presentations to authorities are planned for next semester.	Completed	
		Initiated implementation of 2 climate change adaptation measures resulting from the vulnerability study (3.4 Develop training sessions for representatives of local governments and institutions on risk and disaster management, environmental management, and climate change adaptation. And 3.5 Provide technical assistance to municipal and government planning teams to include	Initiated	

		climate change and risk management topics in their Territorial Management Plans). During the second semester the project will design Risk Management/Environmental Management training materials and conduct training orienteed at two audiences: technical staff of Machalilla National Park and technical staff from local governments in areas surrounding the park (Jipijapa, Puerto Lopex, Paján, and the Provincial Counsel for Manabí).		
<b>Loss or alteration of critical habitats</b>	PNM has a land tenancy management plan included in its management plan.	Together with the MAE, the project developed a roadmap and SOW for obtaining a high definition image of the park to determine land use and based on that image conduct an analysis of existing human settlements within the park. The SOW has been shared with the Sub-Secretary for Coastal and Marine Management as well as the Global Environmental Fund (GEF) Manager to explore if the image and study can be financed by the GEF project.	On-going	Manuel Bravo
	At least two ordinances approved on environmental issues related to the POAM (including activities in the Land Management Plan/POA).	Technical assistance provided to local governments to implement priority activities of the POAM. In Jipijapa ordinances have been presented to approve the POT (which includes POAM activities) and to create an environmental management division.	On-going	ECOLEX
	An environmental education program designed and being implemented by the local governments of Jipijapa, Puerto López, and PNM.	Designed environmental education program and implementation is underway.	On-going	ECOLEX
	At least five communities are implementing good practices for natural resources conservation management, including water storage and conservation of water sources and riverbanks	Promoted good practices for natural resources management through implementation of 60 integrated farm management plans and 20 model farms.	On-going	CyD
	Continue promoting forestry management in 3,000 Has (for FY12 includes 22 PAFSIs and strengthening regeneration in 1,500 has)	Submitted 3 new PAFSIs and followed up on 9 submitted last year. Identified and mapped 450 has for regeneration. The project is working with MAE authorities to resolve bottlenecks in obtaining PAFSI approval. The project is focusing on integrated farm management given that the forests are dividing into many small properties where forestry management isn't viable.	Initiated	Cesar Yanqui, Marco Cuasapaz, Walter Palacios
	At least 2,000 Has that have been titled, and have joined Socio Bosque.	Continued technical assistance for land titling. Río Blanco and San Francisco will not be able qualify to apply for Socio Bosque until the GOE approves their titles. While the land titling process continues, the project is supporting at least 2,000 ha in other	On-going/Reprogrammed	ECOLEX ECOLEX

		communities that already have land titles apply for Socio Bosque (either in Ayampe or in the bordering Chongón Colonche Protected Forest) in strategic sites so to form a conservation corridor.		
	6,500 Has maintained in Socio Bosque	Provided technical assistance to maintain Socio Bosque incentives (Loma Alta, Dos Mangas, José Briones, Margarita Baque, Teodulio Plua, Luis Cruz) by: i) updating of investment plans and ii) monitoring forest conservation.	On-going	ECOLEX
<b>Lack of economic alternatives</b>	At least 500 families have improved incomes.	Followed-up on sales in the Jipijapa market (Originally 60 families participated, but to save on transportation costs, sales are channeled through lead farmers to sell in the market).	On-going	Cecilia Araujo Diana Vinueza
		Strengthened collection and marketing of tagua and assistance to add value (dry tagua and animelas). Commercial linkages are underway (80 families). Trained 75 people (56 men and 19 women) on how to use a simple drill and saw to produce a product that they will be able to sell for a higher price than the raw tagua nut.	On-going	CyD
		Determined that MINTUR is not interested in jointly organizing and financing an event to promote tourism in the Ayampe watershed.	Completed	Diana Vinueza
		As mentioned above continued to help with land titling for Río Blanco and San Francisco to enter into Socio Bosque (397 families), however, due to delays in approving the land title their applications to Socio Bosque will likely be postponed until FY13. The project has reprogrammed support to help other communities apply to Socio Bosque (in Chongón Colonche).	On-going	ECOLEX
		Timber sales depend on PAFSIs first being approved. Project efforts are focusing on promoting integrated farm management.	Initiated	Cesar Yanqui, Marco Cuasapaz, Walter Palacios
	Socio-economic and environmental impact assessment of the application of best management practices.	During the 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester the project will document the impact of applying best management practices.	Planned for 2nd semester	Henry Quiroz

4) **Gulf of Guayaquil (including Reserva Ecológica Manglares Churute, la Reserva de Producción de Fauna Manglares El Salado, and mangrove concessions)**

Threats	Expected results	Progress	Status	Responsible staff/ Implementing partner	
<b>Loss and/or alteration of critical habitats</b>	Surveillance and enforcement system operating on 60,000 hectares in the Gulf of Guayaquil (concessions and protected areas)	<p>Provided technical assistance to strengthen surveillance and control system (training/local capacity building, protocols for reporting and equipment maintenance, maps for patrolling, coordination with authorities). Provided training on equipment use and maintenance, use of GPS, protocols for reporting, etc.)</p> <p>Balao will purchase equipment financed with USAID's small grant in April. Also assessed equipment needs for El Salado and Churute reserves. Assisted crab organizations in submitting quarterly reports on implementation to the MAE.</p>	On-going	Patricio Goyes Juan Carlos Santos BIOEDUCAR	
		Support operations with DIRNEA to enforce red crab close seasons. Also obtained support from the Fishery authorities to join patrolling trips.	Completed for first closed season/On-going for 2 <sup>nd</sup> one		
		Requested that DIRNEA provide access to a marine VHF frequency activated in the Gulf. The DIREA is open to doing so if the communities have radio relay stations (valued at \$20,000)	Completed		
		Landowners with forested areas in Reserva Churute are aware of existing conservation incentives.	Coordinated with authorities to promote Socio Bosque for properties within the Churute Reserve that have land titles in Naranjal and Guayaquil.	On-going	Manfred Altamirano
		9,258. 57 Has of mangrove concessions are complying with their commitments to the MAE	<p>Provided technical assistance to concessionaires for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) implementation of the actions set out in their management plans,</li> <li>ii) preparation and submission of reports to the MAE for the areas under their custody,</li> <li>iii) data collection for red crab stock study,</li> <li>iv) requests for information/liasing with authorities,</li> <li>v) processing complaints,</li> <li>vi) training in best fishing practices,</li> <li>vii) implementing zoning/signage,</li> <li>viii) enforcing closed season,</li> <li>ix) simplifying reporting mechanisms,</li> <li>x) updating management plans per revisions in ministerial agreement,</li> <li>xi) strengthening local capacity for organizational management,</li> <li>xii) supported reforestation</li> </ul>	On-going	Juan Carlos Santos Bioeducar
		Participatory monitoring protocol for red crab	Provided oversight for data collection, tabulation and reporting		Iván Cedeño Juan Carlos Santos BIOEDUCAR

	harvesting developed and being applied.	During next semester, will work with the INP on lobbying/drafting regulations for managing the red crab resource based on monitoring data.	Planned for next semester	Ivan Cedeño
		Worked on including resources for crab monitoring in the INP budget	On-going	Ivan Cedeño
<b>Insufficient institutional capacity for biodiversity conservation</b>	RE Manglares Churute has a proposal for a strategic plan with key actions	Supported preparing a strategic plan (conducted SWOT analysis) that contributes to protected area management and includes priorities and strategies for leveraging funds.	On-going	Manfred Altamirano
	La RE Manglares Churute has a fishing management system that grants fishing rights (fishing registry) and establishes differentiated fishing areas for different groups of fishermen	Supported the Reserve's Director in designing and implementing a new system for issuing fishery permits. The Project also provided an ID printer and trained 4 park guards in its use. It also helped design the new fishing permits, identified the number of crabbers that need them (1,049), and established a timeline for their distribution.	On-going	
	Administration of the protected area has increased its budget by at least 20% and budget execution by more than 180%.	Provided technical assistance for fundraising and budget execution via the FAP, CI, GEF.	On-going	Manfred Altamirano
	Management of RPFM El Salado strengthened	Support management of the reserve area: i) planning; ii) review technical information; iii) needs assessment for monitoring mangrove conservation. Promoted including El Salado in the Guayaquil Ecologico project.	On-going	Manfred Altamirano
	Coalition lead by the INP	Supported 2 coalition meetings and expanding membership. Coalition is now led by the INP.	Completed	INP, Manuel Bravo, Ivan Cedeño
	Experiences and lessons learned about mangrove concessions disseminated.	Initiated documenting experiences and lessons learned about mangrove concessions.	On-going	Manuel Bravo
		In February, the project facilitated a workshop with 40 mangrove concessionaires to evaluate the successes and lessons learned over the past 11 years. As a result, the project is now working with the MAE to help replicate the best practices and resolve the management challenges.	On-going	Manuel Bravo
<b>Climate Change</b>	At least two priority climate change adaptation measures implemented	Promoted coordination of efforts between the national, provincial, and Guayaquil municipal governments for the recovery of Estero Salado	Completed	CIIFEN
		Coordinated and strengthened youth to consolidate their role as local agents of change	Completed	
		Trained local government representatives, journalists, and youth on climate change vulnerability and adaptation and how to involve decision makers in reducing climate risks. In addition to workshops, the project used a virtual (web based) classroom to distribute training and reference materials and provide a space for participant discussions. The training contained modules on climate change adaptation measures, trends	Completed	

		in Ecuador, and risk management, among others. The project also worked with local governments, media figures, and youth to promote protecting the Reserve and recovering the estuary that feeds into its waters, which is highly polluted. As a result, the project has raised awareness on climate risks and vulnerability and provided tools for communities and local governments to mitigate and respond to climate risks.		
<b>Lack of economic alternatives</b>	A crab pulp processing initiative obtains certification that enables it to penetrate new markets	Provided guidance to women regarding obtaining sanitary registration and explored options for doing so based on how the women are organized.	On-going	Juan Carlos Santos
	Impact of the technical assistance along the red crab value chain ascertained.	Determined the impact of the Project's technical assistance on red crab value chain (concession management plan, surveillance and enforcement of crab, close seasons, etc.)	Completed	Jose Daniel Flores
	At least 21 households have increased their incomes through the Project's technical assistance.	Strengthened the organizational capacity of productive groups	On-going	Juan Carlos Santos Bioeducar
		Maintained and created new marketing links for crab sales (Rey de las Ostras for crab pulp). Helped crabbers request clarification on municipal fees for selling crab at Caraguay market (via FENACOPET)	On-going	Juan Carlos Santos
	Participated in local promotional events (women crab pulp processors participated in crab festival in Naranjal on November 7th, where they won a prize for the best stand and best typical dish.).	On-going	Juan Carlos Santos Bioeducar	

## 5) Chongón Colonche Mountain Range

Threats	Expected results	Progress	Status	Responsible staff/ Implementing partner
<b>Insufficient institutional capacity for biodiversity conservation</b>	Bosque Protector Chongón management strengthened	Held a workshop with MAE authorities and stakeholders to exchange lessons learned for managing the Bosque Protector (BP) Chongón Colonche. The design a management model will depend on the MAE leading this effort.	Initiated	Walter Palacios and Diana Vinueza
<b>Loss and/or alteration of critical habitats</b>	At least 5,000 Has join the Socio Bosque program.	Supported communities develop applications (maps, investment plans, legal documents, etc) and submitting applications to Socio	On-going	ECOLEX

		<p>Bosque. 3 applications have been submitted to date (Febres Cordero, Sube and Baja and Las Balsas) totaling 3,897 hectares and benefiting 835 families (4,175 people). Due to delays in land titling with Río Blanco and San Francisco in Ayampe, an additional 2,000 ha will be added for Chongon Colonche, totaling at least 7,000 new hectares in FY12.</p>		
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## 6) Guayas Province

Threats	Expected results	Progress	Status	Responsible staff/ Implementing partner
<b>Climate change</b>	Climate change strategy for Guayas province developed	The Prefecture implemented first phase (vulnerability assessment). The project began developing scope of work with the Prefecture to support developing a climate change strategy for Guayas.	Planned for next semester	CIIFEN

## ANNEX 2: RESULTS REPORTING TABLES

### A. SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT'S USAID/ECUADOR INDICATORS

INDICATORS	Accumulative Results To Date (March 2012)		
	FY12 Target (Sept 2012)	FY11 Results (Sept 2011)	FY12 Results to Date (March 2012)
<b>Summary of the Project's USAID/Ecuador Indicators</b>			
<b>INDICATOR ENV-1:</b> Number of hectares of biological significance and/or natural resources under improved management as a result of USG assistance. (1.1. and 1.2. PMP)	374,797 ha.	362,575 ha.	<b>362,575 ha</b> (63,184 ha on-going)
<b>INDICATOR ENV-2:</b> Number of people with increased economic benefits derived from sustainable natural resource management and conservation that are implemented as a result of USG assistance (2.2. PMP)	8,500 people	1,153 households	<b>10,135 people</b> (543 people on-going)
<b>INDICATOR ENV-3:</b> Number of people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation. (1.3. PMP)	3,000 people	2,868 people	<b>3,399 people</b>

## B. SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT'S INDICATORS BY PIR

Indicators	FY12 Target	FY11 Results	FY12 Results To Date (March 2012)
<b>PIR 1: Improved biodiversity conservation in critical habitats</b>			
<b>Indicator 1.1.</b> Number of hectares of terrestrial areas of biological significance a/o natural resources under improved management as a result of USG assistance	239,290	227,067	227,067 (13,224 underway)
<b>Indicator 1.2.</b> Number of hectares of coastal marine areas of biological significance a/o natural resources under improved management as a result of USG assistance	135,508	135,508	135,508 (49,960 underway)
<b>Indicator 1.3.</b> Number of people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation	3,000	2,868	3,399
<b>Indicator 1.4.</b> Number of initiatives co-financed	20	16	17 (3 underway)
<b>PIR 2: Local livelihoods improved</b>			
<b>Indicator 2.1.</b> Number of new commercial linkages derived from sustainable natural resource management and conservation as a result of USG assistance	16 commercial linkages	7 producer's organizations linked to 11 new markets	14 commercial linkages (3 underway)

<b>Indicator 2.2.</b> Number of people with increased economic benefits derived from sustainable natural resource management and conservation as a result of USG assistance	8,500 people	1,153 households	10,135 people (543 people underway)
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<b>PIR 3: Partnerships formed for ongoing support for biodiversity conservation</b>			
<b>Indicator 3.1.</b> Private and/or public investment leveraged	13,800,000	13,665,731	13,734,131 (2,238,402 underway)
Public	8,700,00	8,617,647	8,686,047 (2,111,302 underway)
Private	5,100,00	5,048,084	5,048,084 (127,100 underway)
<b>Indicator 3.2.</b> Number of coalitions created and/or strengthened	5	9	5
Public	4	5	4
Private	1	4	1
<b>Indicator 3.3.:</b> Number of laws, policies, strategies, plans, agreements, or regulations addressing climate change (mitigation or adaptation) and/or biodiversity conservation officially proposed, adopted, or implemented as a result of USG assistance.	4	3	4

## C. SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT'S INDICATORS BY PIR (WITH GEOGRAPHIC REFERENCES)

PIR 1: Improved biodiversity conservation in critical habitats	FY12 Target	FY11 Results	FY12 Results To Date (March 2012)
<b>Indicator 1.1.</b> Number of hectares of terrestrial areas of biological significance a/o natural resources under improved management as a result of USG assistance	239,290	<u><b>227,067 Has</b></u> 62,777 Gran Reserva Chachi 34,239 Galera San Francisco 117,669 Ayampe 12,382 RM Churute	<u><b>227,067 Has</b></u> 62,777 Gran Reserva Chachi 34,239 Galera San Francisco 117,669 Ayampe 12,382 RM Churute  <u><b>13,224 underway:</b></u> 4,511 Gran Reserva Chachi 8,713 Galera San Francisco
<b>Indicator 1.2.</b> Number of hectares of coastal marine areas of biological significance a/o natural resources under improved management as a result of USG assistance	135,508	<u><b>135,508 Has</b></u> 54,621 Galera San Francisco 14,437 Ayampe 66,449 RM Gulf (Churute and Mangrove Concessions)	<u><b>135,508 Has</b></u> 54,621 Galera San Francisco 14,437 Ayampe 66,449 RM Gulf (Churute and Mangrove Concessions)  <u><b>49,960 underway:</b></u> 49,960 Ayampe
<b>Indicator 1.3.</b> Number of people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation	3,000 people	<u><b>2,868 people:</b></u> 301 Gran Reserva Chachi 652 Galera San Francisco 934 Ayampe 981 Gulf (RM Churute/El Salado and concessions)	<u><b>3,399 people:</b></u> 301 Gran Reserva Chachi 700 Galera San Francisco 980 Ayampe 1,418 Gulf of Guayaquil

<p><b>Indicator 1.4.</b> Number of initiatives co-financed</p>	<p>20</p>	<p><b>16:</b>  3 Gran Reserva Chachi  4 Galera San Francisco  4 Ayampe  3 Cross-Cutting  2 Gulf of Guayaquil</p>	<p><b>17:</b>  3 Gran Reserva Chachi  5 Galera San Francisco  4 Ayampe  3 Cross-Cutting  2 Gulf of Guayaquil</p> <p><b><u>3 underway</u></b>  1 Gran Reserva Chachi  1 Galera San Francisco  1 Ayampe</p>
<p><b>PIR 2: Local livelihoods improved</b></p>			
<p><b>Indicator 2.1.</b> Number of new commercial linkages derived from sustainable natural resource management and conservation as a result of USG assistance</p>	<p>16 new commercial linkages</p>	<p><b><u>7 producer's organizations linked to new markets:</u></b>  1 Galera San Francisco  5 Ayampe  1 RM Churute</p>	<p><b><u>14 New Commercial Linkages</u></b>  6 Galera San Francisco  4 Ayampe  4 Gulf of Guauyaquil</p> <p><b><u>3 commercial links underway</u></b>  3 Ayampe</p>
<p><b>Indicator 2.2.</b> Number of people with increased economic benefits derived from sustainable natural resource management and conservation as a result of USG assistance</p>	<p>8,500 people</p>	<p><b><u>1,153 households:</u></b>  376 Gran Reserva Chachi  208 Galera San Francisco  425 Ayampe  144 RM Churute</p>	<p><b><u>10,135 people</u></b>  2,635 Gran Reserva Chachi  1,115 Galera San Francisco  5,665 Ayampe  720 Gulf of Guauyaquil</p> <p><b><u>543 people on-going</u></b>  543 Ayampe</p>

<b>PIR 3: Partnerships formed for ongoing support for biodiversity conservation</b>			
<b>Indicator 3.1.</b> Private and/or public investment leveraged	13,800,000	<b><u>U\$ 13,665,731</u></b> 5,514,005 Reserva Chachi 794,657 Galera S Francisco 2,879,089 PNM and Ayampe 438,980 RM Churute 4,039,000 BID and others	<b><u>U\$ 13,734,131</u></b> 5,514,005 Reserva Chachi 794,657 Galera S Francisco 2,947,489 PNM and Ayampe 438,980 RM Churute 4,039,000 BID and others  <b><u>2,238,402 on-going</u></b> 277,511 Reserva Chachi 210,400 Galera S Francisco 1,750,491 PNM and Ayampe
Public	8,700,00	<b><u>U\$ 8,617,647</u></b> 5,429,755 Reserva Chachi 236,692 Galera S, Francisco 2,572,089 PNM and Ayampe 379,111RM Churute and concessions	<b><u>U\$ 8,617,647</u></b> 5,429,755 Reserva Chachi 236,692 Galera S, Francisco 2,640,489 PNM and Ayampe 379,111RM Churute and concessions  <b><u>U\$ 2,111,302 on-going</u></b> 257,411 Reserva Chachi 113,400 Galera S, Francisco 1,740,491PNM and Ayampe
Private	5,100,00	<b><u>5,048,084</u></b> 84,250 Reserva Chachi 557,965 Galera S Francisco 307,000 PNM y Ayampe 59,869 RM Churute 4,039,000 BID and others	<b><u>5,048,084</u></b> 84,250 Reserva Chachi 557,965 Galera S Francisco 307,000 PNM y Ayampe 59,869 RM Churute 4,039,000 BID and others  <b><u>U\$ 127,100 on-going</u></b> 20,100 Reserva Chachi

			97,000 Galera S, Francisco 10,000 and Ayampe
<b>Indicator 3.2.</b> Number of coalitions and alliances created and/or strengthened	5	<b><u>9 coalitions and alliances</u></b> 2 Reserva Chachi 2 Galera S. Francisco 1 Ayampe 3 RM Churute/Gulf 1 Global	<b><u>5 coalitions</u></b> 1 Reserva Chachi 1 Galera S. Francisco 1 Ayampe 2 RM Churute/Gulf
Public	4	<b><u>6</u></b> 1 Reserva Chachi 1 Galera S. Francisco 1 Ayampe 2 Golfo de Guayaquil 1 Global	<b><u>1</u></b> 1 Golfo de Guayaquil
Private	1	<b><u>3</u></b> 1 Reserva Chachi 1 Galera S. Francisco 1 RM Churute	<b><u>4</u></b> 1 Reserva Chachi 1 Galera S. Francisco 1 RM Churute 1 Golfo de Guayaquil
<b>Indicator 4.1.:</b> Number of laws, policies, strategies, plans, agreements, or regulations addressing climate change (mitigation or adaptation) and/or biodiversity conservation officially proposed, adopted, or implemented as a result of USG assistance.	4	<b><u>3</u></b> 2 Ayampe 1 Global (Forestry)	<b><u>4</u></b> 3 Ayampe 1 Global (Forestry)

## ANNEX 3: PERFORMANCE INDICATOR NARRATIVE

### Indicator 1.1: 227.067 hectares of terrestrial areas of intervention under improved management (and 13,224 underway)

The corresponding activities focus on responding to the threats and opportunities identified for each project intervention area. The main purpose of these activities is to create incentives for conservation through coalitions and efficient management systems that include surveillance and enforcement. The Project made important progress in improving management of watersheds that supply coastal-marine ecosystems and improving mangrove concession management. To measure the project's impact, the monitoring and evaluation system uses the following formula: Biodiversity (Threat + Intervention). The factors considered as interventions are alliances formed, good management practices promoted, local environmental planning facilitated, and linkages to responsible markets created. Each geographic area where the project is working is evaluated based on these factors, and using the above formula. Focal groups are being used to evaluate/score the project's intervention.

- 1) Gran Reserva Chachi (62,777 hectares): Centros Chachi El Encanto, Corriente Grande, Capulí, Calle Manza, Guadual, Sabalito y Hoja Blanca; Comunidades Afrodescendientes Playa de Oro, San Miguel Negro, Chispero y Tsejpi.
- 2) The Ayampe River Watershed (117,669 hectares): Parque Nacional Machalilla, Ayampe River watershed
- 3) Reserva Manglares Churute (12,382).
- 4) Watersheds affecting the Galera San Francisco Marine Reserve (34,239).

AREA	FY 12 Target = 239 290 Actuals = 227 067	AREA	FY 12 Target = 239 290 Actuals = 227 067
	Hectares		Hectares
Gran Reserva Chachi	62.777	Galera San Francisco	34.239
Management terrestrial, score*	36,68	Management terrestrial, score*	31,39
Area terrestrial cummulative	62.777	Area terrestrial cummulative	34.239
Cuenca del Ayampe	117.669	Golfo de Guayaquil	12.382
Management terrestrial, score*	31,17	Management terrestrial, score*	32,39
Area terrestrial cummulative	117.669	Area terrestrial cummulative	12.382
		<b>Total Terrestrial Has</b>	227.067

The additional 13,224 hectares underway includes 4,511 hectares in the Gran Reserva Chachi and 8,713 hectares in Galera San Francisco.

**Indicator 1.2: 135,508 hectares of marine areas of intervention under improved management (49,960 underway)**

- 1) Reserva Marina Galera San Francisco (54,621 Has with an index of 28.58)
- 2) Parque Nacional Machalilla and area of influence for Ayampe (14,437 Has with an index of 30.59)
- 3) Gulf of Guayaquil (66,450 Has with an index of 30)

AREA	FY 12 Target = 135 508 Actuals = 135 508 Hectares	AREA	FY 12 Target = 135 508 Actuals = 135 508 Hectares
Gran Reserva Chachi		Galera San Francisco	54.621
Management marine, score*		Management marine, score*	28,58
Area marine cummulative		Area marine cummulative	54.621,00
Cuenca del Ayampe	14.437	Golfo de Guayaquil	66.450
Management marine, score*	30,59	Management marine, score*	30
Area marine cummulative	14.437	Area marine cummulative	66.450
		<b>Total marine Has</b>	<b>135.508</b>

The additional 49,960 underway is in the Ayampe River Watershed.

**Indicator 1.3: 3,399 people receiving USG supported training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation**

The Project trained a total of 2,7081 men and 691 women on micro-watershed management, soil management and conservation, tagua management and post-harvesting practices, agro-systems for cacao, and maintaining water sources, among other topics. The following is a list of field schools and other venues where training was provided:

Field Schools in Galera San Francisco watersheds included: 1) Estero de Plátano, 2) Cabo San Francisco, 3) Galerita, 4) Quinqué, 5) Caimito and 6) Los Laureles.

\*Training was also provided to community members of 7 de Agosto, Abdón Calderón, Aguacate, Barlovento, Cabito, Carmelita, Chipa, Colegio Galera, Crisanto, Cumba, EcoCacao, Escuela Eugenio Espejo, Escuela Lautaro Ortiz, Estero Ancho, Galera, Guachal, La Mina, La Tablada, Macará, Muchín, Nueva Sonrisa, Nueva Unión, Quitito, San Pablo, Tongora, Tongorachi and Tres Vías.

Field Schools in the Ayampe River watershed included: 7) Casas Viejas, 8) La Crucita, 9) Las Delicias, 10) Las Tunas, 11) Pedro Pablo Gómez, 12) Río Blanco, 13) San Francisco, 14) San José de Pinas, 15) San Pablo, 16) Sombrero and 17) Vueltas Largas.

\*Training was also provided to community members of Agualán, Ayampe, Barranco Alto, Barcelona, Boya Grande, Colegio Fisco Misional Pedro Pablo Gomez and Colegio Municipal 13 de Diciembre, Dos Mangas, El Azufrado, El Higueron, El Pital, El Trinfo, Guale, La Colonia, La Encantada, La Entrada, La Florida, La Maravilla, La Pila, Las

Balsas, Olón, Puerto Rico, Salanguillo, San Isidro, San Jacinto, San Pedro, Sinchal, Sube y Baja y Vueltas Perdidas.

Gran Reserva Chachi and buffer zone: training was also to community members of Calle Manza, Capuli, Chorrera Grande, Colón del Onzole, Corriente Grande, El Encanto, Guadual, Gualpi, Guayacana, Hoja Blanca, Jeyambi, Las Pavas, Loma Linda, Naranjal, Piedra Blanca, Playa de Oro, Sabalito, San Miguel, Tsejpi y Zapallo Grande.

Gulf of Guayaquil (REM Manglares Churute y concesiones de manglar): training was also to community/associations/cooperative members of 24 de Marzo, 25 de julio, 26 de Febrero, 5 de Septiembre, 6 de Julio, Buena Vista, Balao, Caimital, El Conchal, La Flora, Mondragón, Nuevo Porvenir, Puerto Baquerizo, Puerto La Cruz, Puerto Santo and Soledad Grande.

AREA	FY 12 Target Sep = 3,000 Actuals March = 3 399			AREA	FY 11 Target Sep = 900 Actuals March = 3 399		
	M	F	Total		M	F	Total
<b>Gran Reserva Chachi</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>Galera San Francisco</b>	<b>481</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>700</b>
Government sector	-	-	-	Government sector	26	10	36
Private sector	5	-	5	Private sector	25	23	48
People from Community	229	67	296	People from Community	430	186	616
<b>Cuenca del Ayampe</b>	<b>700</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>980</b>	<b>Gulf of Guayaquil</b>	<b>1.293</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>1.418</b>
Government sector	62	27	89	Government sector	12	23	35
Private sector	14	-	14	Private sector	8	4	12
People from Community	624	253	877	People from Community	1.273	98	1.371
				<b>Total</b>	<b>2.708</b>	<b>691</b>	<b>3399</b>

#### Indicator 1.4: 17 initiatives co-financed (and 3 underway)

- 1) The Galera San Francisco Marine Reserve's management plan through a small grant to marine research institute NAZCA for the tourism component co-financed by CI and Ecolap.
- 2) Forest Plantations co-financed by Groenhart.
- 3) Updated the measurements of communities in Gran Reserva Chachi that border Reserva Ecológica Cotacachi Cayapas (RECC) co-financed by McArthur Foundation.
- 4) Territorial consolidation of community lands in the buffer zone of Gran Reserva Chachi and RECC co-financed by Conservation International (CI).
- 5) Implementation of surveillance and enforcement activities in the Gran Reserva Chachi co-financed by GTZ.
- 6) Land titling security and initiatives for forest conservation co-financed by Corporación Andina de Fomento (CAF)
- 7) Designing fiscal incentives for natural forest conservation and associated ecosystems co-financed by CI.
- 8) Proposal for fiscal incentive for conserving natural forests co-financed by CI and Ecolap.
- 9) Ecocacao grant for strengthening conservation of fragile habitats by promoting sustainable agricultural practices throughout its member's farms
- 10) Red crab stock analysis with INP and 7 crab associations
- 11) Updating Management Plan (MAE – PNM)
- 12) Climate Change Strategy for Guayas (Prefectura del Guayas)

- 13) Developed and presented ordinance for creating an environmental management división in Jipijapa (Municipio de Jipijapa)
- 14) Protecting wáter sources, baboo reforestation (SENAGUA)
- 15) Value added cacao production (EcoCacao)
- 16) Watering systems (MAGAP-Santa Elena)
- 17) Sistema de control y vigilancia en Galera San Francisco (MAE – CI, Walton)

AREA	FY 12 Target Sep = 20 Actuals March=17	AREA	FY 12 Target Sep = 20 Actuals March=17
	<b>Iniciativas</b>		<b>Iniciativas</b>
<b>Gran Reserva Chachi</b>	3	<b>Galera San Francisco</b>	5
Government	-	Government	1
NGO	-	NGO	-
Associations	-	Associations	3
Private sector	-	Private sector	-
Community	3	Community	1
<b>Cuenca del Ayampe</b>	4	<b>Golfo de Guayaquil</b>	2
Government	4	Government	2
NGO	-	NGO	-
Associations	-	Associations	-
Private sector	-	Private sector	-
Community	-	Community	-
<b>National</b>	3		
Government	3		
NGO	-		
Associations	-		
Private sector	-		
Community	-		
		<b>Total</b>	17

The three underway are:

- 18) Water storage systems with the Provincial Government of Esmeraldas
- 19) Community Banks with Altrópico (with third party financing)
- 20) Integrated Farms (credit from Conservación y Desarrollo)

**Indicator 2.1: 14 new commercial linkages (and 3 underway) derived from sustainable natural resource management and conservation as a result of USG assistance**

- 1) Las Delicias (linked with Tagua buyer, Alen Bosligua)
- 2) Ecocacao Producer’s Association (linked with Hotel Club del Sol for sales of tropical fruit)
- 3) Ecocacao Producer’s Association (linked with Hotel Tiburon)
- 4) Ecocacao Producer’s Association (linked with Hotel Hotel Siona)
- 5) Ecocacao Producer’s Association (linked with Hotel Cielo Azul)
- 6) Ecocacao Producer’s Association (linked with Hotel Aldea Mar)
- 7) Women from Crab Association 6 de Julio (linked with Marrecife)
- 8) Women from Crab Association 6 de Julio (linked with Unipark)
- 9) Women from Crab Association 6 de Julio (linked with Rey de las Ostras)
- 10) Producers from the Upper Ayampe River Watershed ECAs (linked with the municipal market in Jipijapa to sell produce)
- 11) Producers from Vueltas Largas (vegetables sales to local hotels)
- 12) Buena Vista (red crab sales in the Caraguay market)

- 13) Producers from El Corocito (produce sales in the Jipijapa market)
- 14) Ecocacao Producer's Association (linked with Nova Monda)

The three underway are:

- 15) Dried tagua in Ayampe
- 16) Tagua beads (animelas) in Ayampe
- 17) Timber products in Ayampe

**Indicator 2.2: 10,135 people with increased economic benefits derived from sustainable natural resource management and conservation as a result of USG assistance**

- 8640 people<sup>5</sup> as a result of the Project's assistance in obtaining Socio Bosque economic incentives as well as resources obtained from the PMRC for surveillance of mangrove concessions.
- 120 people as a result of new commercial relationships facilitated for red crab pulp processors in the Gulf of Guayaquil.
- 1,170 people as a result of improved management practices (ECAs).
- 30 people benefiting from improved tourism resources (recycling centers in Las Tunas)
- 175 people as a result of improved practices for non timber products (tagua sales).

AREA	FY 12		AREA	FY 12	
	Target Sep 12= 8 500	Actuals March 12= 10 135		Target Sep 12= 8 500	Actuals March 12= 10 135
	People			People	
<b>Gran Reserva Chachi</b>	2,635		<b>Galera San Francisco</b>	1,115	
Agricultura	-	-	Agricultura	-	1,040
Ganaderia	-	-	Ganaderia	-	-
Pesca - recolección productos bioacuáticos	-	-	Pesca - recolección productos bioacuáticos	-	-
Forestal	-	-	Forestal	-	-
Turismo	-	-	Turismo	-	-
Artesanias	-	-	Artesanias	-	-
Socio Bosque - incentivos para cons.	2,635	-	Socio Bosque - incentivos para cons.	-	75
<b>Cuenca del Ayampe</b>	5,665		<b>Golfo de Guayaquil</b>	720	
Agricultura	130	-	Agricultura	-	-
Ganaderia	-	-	Ganaderia	-	-
Pesca - recolección productos bioacuáticos	-	-	Pesca - recolección productos bioacuáticos	-	120
Forestal	175	-	Forestal	-	-
Turismo	30	-	Turismo	-	-
Artesanias	-	-	Artesanias	-	-
Socio Bosque - incentivos para cons.	5,330	-	Socio Bosque - incentivos para cons.	-	600
			<b>Total</b>	<b>10,135</b>	

**Indicator 3.1: \$13,734,131 in public and/or private investment leveraged (and \$2,238,402 underway)**

The following table summarized funds leveraged to date:

Community/Landowner	Source	Amount
Alianza Cangrejeros Sur - Isla Mondragón	Alianza Sur - Mondragón	18,609.00
	MAE	19,620.00
Antonio Carrasco	MAE Socio Bosque	

<sup>5</sup> The 1,608 households (8,040 people) reported as having increased economic benefits from Socio Bosque are those that have already begun receiving bank deposits from the MAE.

		4,026.00
Asociación de Cangrejeros Balao	Asociación Balao	13,700.00
	MAE	14,360.00
Asociación de Concheros Costa Rica	Asociación Costa Rica	15,500.00
	MAE	15,330.00
Asociación de cangrejeros 6 de Julio	Asociación Seis de Julio	12,060.00
	MAE	19,081.15
Centro Chachi Calle Manza	MAE Socio Bosque	160,876.00
Centro Chachi Capuli	MAE Socio Bosque	910,481.60
Centro Chachi Corriente Grande	MAE Socio Bosque	815,812.80
Centro Chachi El Encanto	MAE Socio Bosque	553,198.80
Centro Chachi Guadual	MAE Socio Bosque	376,945.60
Centro Chachi Sabalito	MAE Socio Bosque	345,200.40
Centro Chachi Tsejpi	MAE Socio Bosque	592,077.00
Chispero	MAE Socio Bosque	99,751.80
Comuna Dos Mangas	MAE Socio Bosque	691,675.43
Comuna Febres Cordero	MAE Socio Bosque	376,000.00
Comuna Loma alta	MAE Socio Bosque	755,459.43
Comuna Playa de Oro	MAE Socio Bosque	1,013,864.00
Comunas Vueltas Largas y Rio Blanco	MAGAP	6,800.00
Costa ecuatoriana	BID	4,000,000.00
Diego Tirira	MAE Socio Bosque	7,200.00
Filemón Magallán	MAE Socio Bosque	12,840.00
Finqueros de Galerita	Groenhart	5,000.00
Finqueros socios de EcoCacao	EcoCacao y otros	

		33,904.87
Global	CI Internacional	15,000.00
	Corporación Andina de Fomento	24,000.00
Godefridus de Koning	MAE Socio Bosque	12,312.00
Gran Reserva Chachi y Area de Influencia	CI Internacional	70,000.00
	Fundación Mc Artur	14,250.00
Guttembert Moreno	MAE Socio Bosque	1,560.00
Hosterias de la zona (14)	MINTUR	57,950.00
Inés Elvira Echavarría Uribe	MAE Socio Bosque	1,098.00
Jorge Alejandro Chila Bolaños	MAE Socio Bosque	4,128.00
José Abel Briones	MAE Socio Bosque	18,672.00
Juan Carlos Galarza Dávila	MAE Socio Bosque	34,820.00
Judith Jane Barrett	MAE Socio Bosque	33,952.00
Junta parroquial de Pedro Palo Gómez y recinto Vueltas Largas	Gobiernos locales de Manabí y Puerto López	3,750.00
Juntas parroquiales de Galera, Quingue y San Francisco	PROFORESTAL	4,000.00
Luis Cruz	MAE Socio Bosque	71,660.00
Manuel Pallares	MAE Socio Bosque	16,098.00
Margarita Teodora baque	MAE Socio Bosque	8,100.00
Mariano del Jesús Zambrano Ortiz	MAE Socio Bosque	22,110.00
Martin Couell	MAE Socio Bosque	11,466.00
Pablo Espinoza Romero	MAE Socio Bosque	53,016.00
Parque Nacional Machalilla	CI Internacional	300,000.00
	Fundación WildAid	7,000.00
	MAE	507,000.00
Primitivo Pihuave	MAE Socio Bosque	

		40,300.00
Reserva Manglares Churute	MAE	310,720.00
Reserva Marina Galera San Francisco	CI Internacional	190,900.00
	ECOLAP	5,970.00
	FFI	150,000.00
	FFLA	20,000.00
	Fundación Lighthouse	70,000.00
	Fundación WildAid	15,000.00
	Nazca	27,190.00
	TNC	40,000.00
San Miguel	MAE Socio Bosque	561,546.93
Sigrid Vásconez	MAE Socio Bosque	13,680.00
Teodulio Plúa	MAE Socio Bosque	21,882.00
Wilson Hernán Merino Machado	MAE Socio Bosque	17,226.00
Cuenca Alta del Ayampe, POAM	Municipio de Jipijapa	68,400.00
TOTAL		13,734,131

### Indicator 3.2: 5 coalitions or alliances created and/or strengthened

The 5 coalitions created to date serve as coordination platforms to improve natural resource management and biodiversity conservation. The following is a list of the coalitions and a brief summary of their impact:

1. **Gulf of Guayaquil Coalition for the red crab stock study.** This coalition is helping to protect a\$16M in crabbing activities in the Gulf of Guayaquil on which at least 2,215 crabbers and their families depend. This semester new stakeholders have joined the coalition (13 new fishermen's associations and the MAE) and the INP is now leading coalition meetings every 2 months. Two coalition meetings were held this semester in which over 50 crabbers and local authorities participated and which served as a platform for exchanging experiences. Coalition meetings focus on coordinating efforts and lessons learned for crabbing, collecting data for the stock analysis, and sharing stock analysis results. It also provides a unique venue for crabbers to exchange ideas

among themselves as well as work with national authorities to address conservation issues, protect crabbing (by promoting sustainable management tools), and collaborate on fishery regulation enforcement. Coalition members are extremely active, with approximately 82% of crabbing organizations participating in meetings on a regular basis.

2. **Conservation Coalition in Esmeraldas.** This coalition is a platform for stakeholders in Esmeraldas to coordinate natural resource management in order to protect Ecuador's only marine reserve (Galera San Francisco Marine Reserve). The coalition allows stakeholders to exchange experiences, coordinate efforts, and identify synergies. The Project serves as secretary and supported developing and distributing the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> editions of the coalition's bimonthly newsletters, which has proven to be an effective tool for coordinating and disseminating information. It coordinates efforts with and participates in Esmeralda's environmental roundtable (Mesa Ambiental). It also promotes linkages (Nazca, MAE, and Navy, etc) for supporting radio communication and monitoring activities within the Reserve and for promoting good natural resource management practices and water storage systems (MAGAP and Provincial Government).
3. **Conservation Coalition in the Ayampe River watershed.** This coalition is a platform for stakeholders in Manabí and Santa Elena to coordinate natural resource management in order to protect Machalilla National Park and the Ayampe River Watershed (60,000 hectares). Membership expanded this semester (adding Fundación Jocotoco and the Climate Change Project for the Coastal Mountain Range, for example). The coalition plans to hold quarterly meetings and is led by the MAE's Sub-secretariat for Coastal and Marine Management. The project serves as secretary, distributing newsletters to members every 2 months to keep them informed of member activities (this semester distributing the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> editions). Members (Machalilla National Park, Municipality of Puerto López, and National Police) coordinate security efforts and to control environmental threats, such as illegal logging, that were identified in the Environmental Land Use Plan (POAM). They also collaborate for tourism management, environmental education (Machalilla National Park, Municipality of Puerto López, and Municipality of Jipijapa), beach management (in Las Tunas) and waste management.
4. **Conservation Coalition in the Gran Reserva Chachi.** This coalition is a platform for stakeholders in the Gran Reserva Chachi and its buffer zone (approximately 70,000 hectares) to promote biodiversity conservation, especially for protecting forest conservation. The coalition is a venue for forming partnerships among public, private, and community actors (both Chachi and Afro-Ecuadorian). It's main activity is coordinating forest conservation monitoring and control among the FECCHE, GIZ, CI, MAE/Socio Bosque, and Chachi Centers and is having significant impact in streamlining monitoring and control activities, sharing experiences, and helping communities maintain their cash-for-conservation payments from Socio Bosque. The coalition has also helped resolve territorial conflicts in Corriente Grande and legalize a plot of land in San Miguel Chachi. Next semester the

goal is to develop a work plan with the MAE and foment the coalition being led by a coalition member.

5. **Mondragon Crabbing Associations.** The coalition was originally formed for the associations to coordinate implementation of the mangrove surveillance and monitoring system and the use of equipment (radios, life vests, boat and motor) donated by the MAE for patrolling efforts to protect 3,082 hectares of mangroves. The project has supported these 4 crab associations through their designated mangrove concession technical advisor (Fundación Bioeducar) to strengthen the coalition and mangrove protection. To this end, the project has facilitated regular organizational strengthening workshops, training in mangrove surveillance (use and maintenance of equipment, patrol and reporting protocols) as well as with promoting good mangrove concession management (zoning, implementation of management plan, good fishery practices, mangrove reforestation, etc). To this end, coalitions members have fulfilled their commitments to the MAE of submit quarterly reports on the use of the equipment. Starting this month, groups are no longer required to report to the MAE regarding use of the donated equipment, yet members will continue to coordinate patrols during the closed season and are analyzing needs and opportunities for further collaboration.

**Indicator 3.3: 4 laws, policies, strategies, plans, agreements, or regulations addressing climate change (mitigation or adaptation) and/or biodiversity conservation officially proposed, adopted, or implemented as a result of USG assistance**

1. Forestry law proposal
2. Ordinance for security council in Puerto Lopez
3. Ordinance for Environmental Management Unit in Puerto López
4. Ordinance for POT approval in Jipijapa with POAM activities

**ANNEX 4: FRA UPDATE FROM SIGA: AGRO-FORESTRY-  
REFORESTATION**

See Attachment in PDF.

**ANNEX 5: FRA UPDATE FROM SIGA: INTEGRATED FARMS**

See Attachment in PDF.

**ANNEX 6: FRA UPDATE FROM SIGA: MANGROVE  
MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABLE RED CRAB COLLECTION**

See Attachment in PDF.

**ANNEX 7: FRA UPDATE FROM SIGA: FORESTRY  
HARVESTING**

See Attachment in PDF.

**ANNEX 8: FRA UPDATE FROM SIGA: TAGUA MANAGEMENT**

**ANNEX 9: FRA UPDATE FROM SIGA: AFRICAN SNAIL  
CONTROL**

**ANNEX 10: UPDATED PROJECT CALENDAR**

See below.

**ANNEX 11: BENEFITING FARMERS AND CONSERVATION  
CASE STUDY**

See Attachment in PDF.

USAID Costas y Bosques Sostenibles / Agenda Tentativa 15 Abril al 15 de Julio de 2012						
Evento	Fecha(s)	Sitio	Propósito	Socio Implementador A Cargo	Contacto A Cargo	Comentarios
<b>ABRIL 2012</b>						
Siembra de cercas vivas	Semana 1	Vueltas largas El sombrero Las crucitas Rio blanco P.P. Gómez	Protección de cultivos de fuertes vientos	Conservación de Desarrollo.	Patricio Yucta Enrique Sánchez	
Aplicación de biol en café y otros  Construcción de marquesinas	Semana 2	Vueltas largas El sombrero Las crucitas Rio blanco  P.P. Gómez	Disminuir contaminación del suelo por uso de fertilizantes químicos.  Disminuir el tiempo en el secado de la tagua y otros productos.	Conservación de Desarrollo.	Patricio Yucta Enrique Sánchez	
Entrega del material educativo	15 abril 2012	CIIFEN	Diseño de material educativo para taller de capacitación en gestión ambiental, gestión de riesgo y adaptación al cambio climático	CIIFEN	R.martinez@ciifen.org / a.rivadeneira@ciifen.org	
Delimitación de área de conservación en Centro Chachi Pichiyacu	15 al 19 de abril de 2012	Pichiyacu	Ingreso al Programa Socio Bosque	ALTROPICO	Cristhian Rodas	Delimitación de área de conservación en Centro Chachi Pichiyacu
Coordinación logística para taller de intercambio de experiencias con los	17 a 21 abril	Centros Chachis	Entrega de invitaciones y coordinación del evento	ALTROPICO	Cristhian Rodas	

Centros Chachis que son parte del Programa Socio Bosque						
Elaboración de Mapa- y Plan de inversión	20–21 abril	Pichiyacu	Ingreso al Programa Socio Bosque	ALTROPICO	Cristhian Rodas	Elaboración de Mapa- y Plan de inversión
Reunión con el MAE – Esmeraldas y FECCHE	abril 2012 (definir de acuerdo agenda de Directora)	Esmeraldas	Coordinar acciones de la coalición	ALTROPICO	Cristhian Rodas	Reunión con el MAE – Esmeraldas y FECCHE
Agroforestería	Semana 3	Vueltas largas El sombrero Las crucitas Rio blanco P.P. Gómez	Optimización de la superficie de siembra.	Conservación de Desarrollo.	Patricio Yucta Enrique Sánchez	
Taller de capacitación en el marco de la Estrategia de Educación Ambiental	19-20 abril	Municipio de Paján	Fortalecer las capacidades de los funcionarios municipales y PNM en manejo de desechos sólidos y gestión social del agua. Adicionalmente herramientas comunicacionales	ECOLEX	José Luis Freire	
Siembra de árboles en cauce del rio.	Semana 4	Vueltas largas El sombrero Las crucitas Rio blanco  P.P. Gómez	Protección de fuentes de agua	Conservación de Desarrollo.	Patricio Yucta Enrique Sánchez	

MAYO 2012						
Taller de capacitación en el marco de la Estrategia de Educación Ambiental	03-04 mayo	Municipio de Puerto López	Fortalecer las capacidades de los funcionarios municipales y PNM en manejo de desechos sólidos y gestión social del agua. Adicionalmente herramientas comunicacionales	ECOLEX	José Luis Freire	
Taller de intercambio de experiencias con los Centros Chachis que son parte del Programa Socio Bosque	06 – 09 Mayo	San Miguel Negro	Intercambio de experiencias en el sistema de control y vigilancia y rendición de cuentas financieras	ALTROPICO	Cristhian Rodas	
Manejo de terrazas	Semana 1	Vueltas largas El sombrero Las crucitas Rio blanco  P.P. Gómez	Protección del suelo e incremento de materia orgánica	Conservación de Desarrollo.	Patricio Yucta  Enrique Sánchez	
Siembra de árboles en linderos	Semana 2	Vueltas largas El sombrero Las crucitas Rio blanco  P.P. Gómez	Protección de suelo y aprovechamiento de arboles para cercas naturales.	Conservación de Desarrollo.	Patricio Yucta  Enrique Sánchez	
Manejo de hortalizas	Semana 3	Vueltas largas El sombrero Las crucitas Rio blanco	Siembra de hortalizas aplicando buenas prácticas.	Conservación de Desarrollo.	Patricio Yucta  Enrique Sánchez	

		P.P. Gómez				
Entrega de informe del taller de capacitación	30 mayo	PNM – Pto. López	Entrega de la memoria del taller de capacitación a actores claves en adaptación al cambio climático en el PNM	CIIFEN	R.martinez@ciifen.org / a.rivadeneira@ciifen.org	
Elaboración de biol	Semana 4	Vueltas largas El sombrero Las crucitas Rio blanco  P.P. Gómez	Disminuir costos de producción por uso de fertilizantes orgánicos.	Conservación de Desarrollo.	Patricio Yucta  Enrique Sánchez	
<b>JUNIO 2012</b>						
Foro teatro	Primera semana de junio	Diferentes comunidades de la Cuenca del Ayampe	Visibilizar la problemática del agua a la población local y discutir alternativas de solución	ECOLEX	<a href="mailto:jlfreire@ecolex-ec.org">jlfreire@ecolex-ec.org</a> / <a href="mailto:mcortez@ecolex-ec.org">mcortez@ecolex-ec.org</a>	
Entrega del curso virtual de apoyo y seguimiento de capacitación	30 junio 2012	CIIFEN	Entrega del acceso al aula virtual del curso.	CIIFEN	r.martinez@ciifen.org / a.rivadeneira@ciifen.org	
4ta Reunión Coalición Golfo de Guayaquil	18 junio	Instituto Nacional de Pesca	Seguimiento de la operatividad y funcionamiento del sistema de monitoreo de cangrejo rojo de manglar, control y vigilancia , concesiones de manglar y otras acciones	INP/USAID CBS	Fedra Solano/Iván Cedeño	La fecha establecida es tentativa

Taller de Divulgación de Experiencias Adquiridas del Monitoreo Pesquero Participativo del Cangrejo Rojo de Manglar en el Golfo de Guayaquil	25/06/2012	Machala	Difusión del proceso y de los resultados obtenidos del monitoreo pesquero participativo de cangrejo rojo de manglar implementado en el Golfo de Guayaquil	INP/USAID CBS	Fedra Solano/Iván Cedeño	La fecha establecida es tentativa