



## Management and Protection of Key Biodiversity Areas in Belize (P130474)

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN | Belize | Environment & Natural Resources Global Practice |  
Global Environment Project | Investment Project Financing | FY 2015 | Seq No: 6 | ARCHIVED on 27-Dec-2017 | ISR30761 |

Implementing Agencies: Ministry of Forestry, Fisheries, and Sustainable Development, Protected Areas Conservation Trust, Belize

### Key Dates

#### Key Project Dates

Bank Approval Date:29-Sep-2014

Effectiveness Date:26-Jan-2015

Planned Mid Term Review Date:19-Mar-2018

Actual Mid-Term Review Date:--

Original Closing Date:30-Sep-2019

Revised Closing Date:30-Sep-2019

### Global Development Objectives

Global Environmental Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to strengthen natural resource management and biodiversity conservation in Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) of Belize.

Has the Global Environmental Objective been changed since Board Approval of the Project Objective?

No

### Components

Name

Component 1: Supporting Forest Protection and Sustainable Forest Management Activities in Key Biodiversity Areas:(Cost \$2.18 M)

Component 2: Promoting Effective Management of Key Biodiversity Areas:(Cost \$2.29 M)

Component 3: Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building for Enhanced Enforcement of Environmental Regulations:(Cost \$1.00 M)

Component 4: Project Management, Monitoring and Assessment:(Cost \$0.61 M)

### Overall Ratings

Name	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Progress towards achievement of PDO	● Moderately Satisfactory	● Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	● Moderately Unsatisfactory	● Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	● Moderate	● Substantial

### Implementation Status and Key Decisions



**Overview.** An implementation support mission was conducted on Nov 27-30, 2017. Expenditures including commitments have increased to 33% as of Nov 2017, by 11 points in 6 months since the new PIU took over. However, it is considered still low. An action plan has been agreed and is being implemented in order to complete remaining activities in the next 22 months. All FM issues have been resolved and the FM rating is upgraded to MS. An MTR is planned in Mar 2018.

#### **Component 1: Supporting Forest Protection and Sustainable Forest Management in Key Biodiversity Areas**

- **1.1a - An analysis of the taxation system for clearing forested lands within the Lands Act:** It was agreed that the focus be changed to assess incentives for various sectors to support a review of land tax such as economic analysis would be considered and implemented.
- **1.1c – Support for the fire incidence rapid response team (FIRRT):** This has been on track.
- **1.2a – An assessment of priority rehabilitation of critical areas of high conservation values:** Few responses to the consultancy advertisement continued to be the cause of delay.
- **1.2b – An assessment of priority Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs) opportunities:** This is on track.
- **1.2c – Raising awareness on sustainable forest management:** This is on track. A full-time communications officer has been on board since June 1st, 2016. Two informercials of the Project have been produced. A fires prevention communication strategy has been drafted. A KAP survey has been carried out. It was agreed that these products would be shared with the Bank.
- **1.2d/3.2b – Development of the Information Management Systems for the Forest Department (FD) and the Department of the Environment (DOE):** This is on track. A needs assessment has been completed. As Phase I took longer than planned, it was recommended that the measures be incorporated in the TOR for Phase II to prevent delays in the consultant's activities and deliverables.
- **1.2d – Establishment of permanent sample plots (PSPs):** The Project has established 4 PSPs and provided training. A total of 16 PSPs are planned at the end of Project.

#### **Component 2: Promoting Effective Management of Key Biodiversity Areas**

- **2.1a – Operationalize the new Protected Areas Legislation:** This activity is deferred to start in later 2017.
- **2.1b – Development/updates of protected areas management plans for Columbia River FR, Vaca FR, Freshwater Creek FR, and Chiquibul NP:** These have been delayed. For Columbia River FR, the Project is working with the Maya groups to establish an engagement and collaboration framework in order to appropriately engage the Maya people in the development of the management plan.
- **2.1c – Dissemination of the revised National Protected Areas System Plan:** This has been deferred to 2017 for the new NPAS Director to be fully on board.
- **2.2a – Updating the Forest Act:** The procurement process has been initiated.
- **2.2b – Development of a compliance management strategy for the FD:** This is on track.

#### **Component 3: Institutional Strengthening and Capacity Building for Enhanced Enforcement of Environmental Regulations**

- **3.1a – An assessment to develop inter-sectoral mechanisms to balance between environmental management and development:** The PSC decided that it is no longer a critical activity and should be removed. This adjustment will be discussed at the mid-term review (MTR).
- **3.1b – An assessment of the institutional capacity of the DOE with an emphasis on the environmental compliance monitoring and enforcement:** This is on track. Development of a Water Quality Monitoring Program is deferred until this assessment is completed.
- **3.2a – An analysis of the existing EIA programs within Central America and the Caribbean:** This is on track. Development of a manual for EIA preparation has been deferred until this analysis is completed.

#### **Component 4: Project Management, Monitoring, and Assessment**

- **Project Management** – The Project Manager's resignation was accepted by PACT as of March 20, 2017. The Project Steering Committee has put in place a transition team led by the Director of National Protected Areas Secretariat (NPAS). In June 2017, a new Project Management Team was assigned, which is led by Chief Forest Officer and consisting of the NPAS Director and two Forest Officers. In addition, a Focal Point in the DOE has been appointed to serve as the technical liaison for Component 3.
- **Financial Management** – PACT has worked closely with the Bank FM team to improve their FM system and the quality of the financial statements. As of June 2017, there are no pending IFRs.
- **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and PSC** – Each committee was convened four times in 2016. Timely reviews and decisions are crucial to the Project implementation. Thus, decision-making on an AOB basis has been agreed. In addition, technical reviews are the responsibility of TAC. PSC should concentrate on strategic guidance at a higher level.

**Risks****Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool**

Risk Category	Rating at Approval	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Political and Governance	--	● Low	● Low
Macroeconomic	--	● Moderate	● Moderate
Sector Strategies and Policies	--	● Moderate	● Moderate
Technical Design of Project or Program	--	● Moderate	● Moderate



Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability	--	● Moderate	● Substantial
Fiduciary	--	● Moderate	● Moderate
Environment and Social	--	● Substantial	● Substantial
Stakeholders	--	● Substantial	● Substantial
Other	--	--	--
Overall	--	● Moderate	● Substantial

## Results

### Global Environmental Objective Indicators

#### ► Forest area brought under management plans(Hectare(Ha), Corporate)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	2,987.00	2,987.00	106,557.00
Date	28-Aug-2014	22-Jun-2017	01-Dec-2017	30-Sep-2019

#### ► Areas brought under enhanced biodiversity protection (ha)(Hectare(Ha), Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	2,987.00	2,987.00	106,557.00
Date	28-Aug-2014	22-Jun-2017	04-Dec-2017	30-Sep-2019

#### Comments

Rehabilitation activities have not started.



► People in forest&adjacent community with monetary/non-monetary benefit from forest(Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00
Date	28-Aug-2014	22-Jun-2017	04-Dec-2017	30-Sep-2019
Comments Livelihoods activities have not started.				

▲ People in forest and adjacent community with benefits from forest-female(Number, Custom Breakdown)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00
Date	28-Aug-2014	22-Jun-2017	04-Dec-2017	30-Sep-2019

▲ People in forest&adj. commy with benefit from forest-Ethnic minority/indigenous(Number, Custom Breakdown)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.00
Date	28-Aug-2014	22-Jun-2017	04-Dec-2017	30-Sep-2019

► Govt institutions provided w/ capacity buildg to improve mgt of forest resources(Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	2.00	2.00	4.00
Date	28-Aug-2014	22-Jun-2017	04-Dec-2017	30-Sep-2019



## Overall Comments

## Intermediate Results Indicators

## ► Reforms in forest policy, legislation or other regulations supported (Yes/No, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	N	Y	Y	Y
Date	28-Aug-2014	22-Jun-2017	04-Dec-2017	30-Sep-2019

## Comments

National Protected Areas Strategy and Plan was updated in 2016.

## ► At least 50 people trained and equipped in enforcement and forest fire reduction techniques (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	49.00	49.00	50.00
Date	28-Aug-2014	22-Jun-2017	04-Dec-2017	30-Sep-2019

## Comments

Training in forest fire brigade was provided.

## ► Area restored or re/afforested (Hectare(Ha), Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,425.00
Date	28-Aug-2014	22-Jun-2017	04-Dec-2017	30-Sep-2019

## Comments

An assessment of potential restoration/reforestation is in process.



#### ▲ Area restored (Hectare(Ha), Custom Breakdown)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,425.00
Date	28-Aug-2014	22-Jun-2017	04-Dec-2017	29-Nov-2019

#### ▶ Men and women engaged in Sub-projects supporting sustainable harvesting and marketing of NTFPs in target areas (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Date	28-Aug-2014	22-Jun-2017	04-Dec-2017	29-Nov-2019

#### Comments

An assessment of potential livelihoods activities is in process.

#### ▶ Forest Management Plans developed and implemented in the targeted forests (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	1.00	1.00	4.00
Date	28-Aug-2014	22-Jun-2017	04-Dec-2017	29-Nov-2019



## Comments

One for the Vaca FR has been completed. The process for Columbia River FR has been interrupted by social issues. (See Key Issues #3)

► 2.5 M mt CO2e due to avoided emissions and/or increased sequestration (Metric ton, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,500,000.00
Date	28-Aug-2014	22-Jun-2017	04-Dec-2017	29-Nov-2019

## Comments

No data yet since the establishment of PSPs has not been completed.

► Establishment of clear procedures and criteria for the declaration, re-alignment and de-reservation of PAs (Yes/No, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	N	N	N	Y
Date	28-Aug-2014	22-Jun-2017	04-Dec-2017	28-Dec-2018

► Six (6) PA management plans developed and implemented in the targeted areas (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	2.00	2.00	6.00
Date	28-Aug-2014	22-Jun-2017	04-Dec-2017	30-Sep-2019

## Comments

This target needs to be revised to 2 during the MTR, since these apply to only Spanish Creek Wildlife Sanctuary and Chiquibul National Park.





► The 2005 NPASP updated to incorporate climate change mitigation and resiliency measures (Yes/No, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	N	Y	Y	Y
Date	28-Aug-2014	22-Jun-2017	04-Dec-2017	30-Sep-2019

► Increased sightings of target indicator species (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00
Date	28-Aug-2014	22-Jun-2017	04-Dec-2017	30-Sep-2019

► Govt institutions provided w/ capacity build to improve mgt of forest resources (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	2.00	2.00	20.00
Date	28-Aug-2014	22-Jun-2017	04-Dec-2017	30-Sep-2019



## ▶ The EIA Program revised and the EIA Manual updated and endorsed (Yes/No, Custom)


	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	N	N	N	Y
Date	28-Aug-2014	22-Jun-2017	04-Dec-2017	30-Sep-2019

## Overall Comments

M&E needs to be improved to collect data adequately.

## Data on Financial Performance

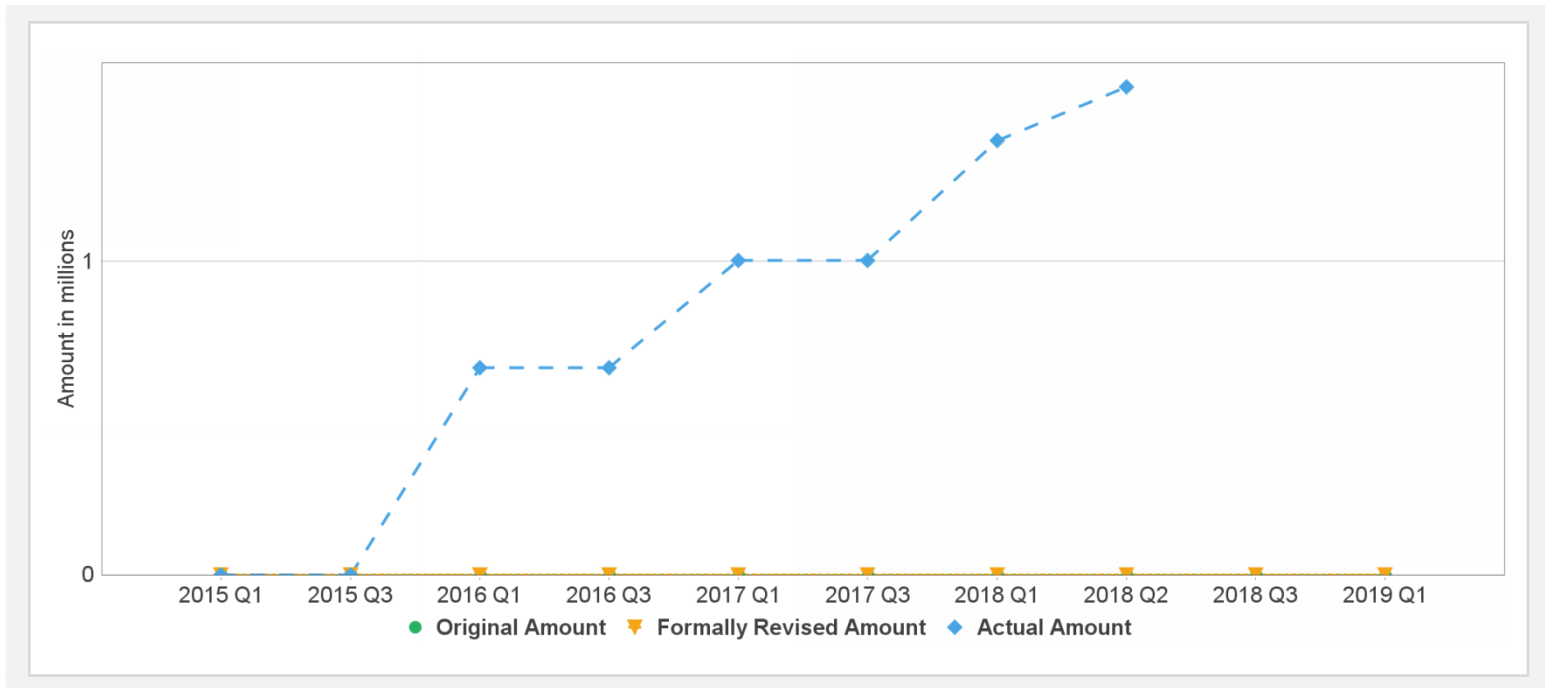
## Disbursements (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Disbursed
P130474	TF-16773	Effective	USD	6.09	6.09	0.00	1.56	4.53	 26%

## Key Dates (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P130474	TF-16773	Effective	05-Nov-2014	05-Nov-2014	26-Jan-2015	30-Sep-2019	30-Sep-2019

## Cumulative Disbursements



## Restructuring History

Level 2 Approved on 02-Nov-2017

## Related Project(s)

There are no related projects.