

TITLE W+ Project Idea Note (PIN) Template Version 1.2	ORIGINAL DATE April, 2015
	REVISION DATE May, 2019
FILE LOCATION(S) www.wplus.org/	



W+ PROJECT IDEA NOTE (PIN)

Country:	Costa Rica
Title of Project:	Costa Rica REDD+ Result-based Payment (RBP) for results period 2014-2015

1. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Title of Project	Costa Rica REDD+ Result-based Payment (RBP) for results period 2014-2015
Project Start Date	February 10th 2021
Project End Date	February 10th 2026
Bref Summary of Women's Empowerment Activity(ies):	<p>The GCF REDD+ RBP project aims to build on the strong existing legal and institutional framework while strengthening the Payment for Environmental Services (PES) Programme as a policy instrument to guarantee forest conservation and carbon stock enhancement. Such work will be achieved through reforestation, tree planting, agroforestry and silvopastoral systems as well as strengthening fire prevention measures that have already proven effective in recent years. Additionally, the project seeks to further increase stakeholder participation in the PES programme, engaging both public and private sectors, including Indigenous peoples and women.</p> <p>Strengthening women's capacity to influence rural and environmental public policy through the establishment of a National Forum of Rural Women, and increased engagement of Indigenous women in decision-making processes on forest and land through gender-responsive territorial planning.</p>
W+ Domains applied:	<p>Education & Knowledge</p> <p>Leadership</p>
W+ Labeling:	NA
Date of submission:	3 September 2025

2. APPLICANT DETAILS

Applicant	
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Name	UNDP, Costa Rica
Type of organisation	<input type="checkbox"/> Government agency _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Municipality _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Private company _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NGO _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Intergovernmental Organization
Name of contact person	Sandra Sosa Cárcamo
Address	Sigma Business Center, Edificio B, Piso 4 Costado Oeste del Mall San Pedro San Pedro Montes de Oca, Costa Rica
Phone	+506 2296 1544
E-mail	Sandra.sosa@undp.com
URL	https://www.undp.org/es/costa-rica

Co-Applicant(s) (if applicable)	
Name of co-applicant(s)	FONAFIFO
Type of organisation(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government agency _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Municipality _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Private company _____ <input type="checkbox"/> NGO _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Name of contact person(s)	Gilmar Navarrete Chacón
Address	San Vicente de Moravia. Del Mall Lincoln Plaza 200 metros oeste, 100 metros sur y 200 metros oeste. Edificio IFAM
Phone	(506) 2545-3500 ext. 3501
E-mail	gilmar.navarrete@fonafifo.go.cr
URL	fonafifo.go.cr

3. LOCATION OF PROJECT

Location of Project	
Country	Costa Rica
Region/State/Province etc.	The project was implemented across multiple regions of Costa Rica, including both rural and Indigenous territories. Activities were carried out in forest-dependent areas associated with the REDD+ Results-Based Payments framework, covering territories with varying degrees of remoteness, infrastructure access, and governance arrangements.
City/Town/Community etc.	Project activities took place in rural communities and Indigenous territories participating in the National Forum of Rural Women and in the development and implementation of Territorial Forest Action Plans (Planes de Acción Forestal Territorial – PAFT). These include communities located in geographically isolated areas, as well as territories with closer links to regional and national institutions.
Brief narrative description of the project location	The project was implemented in forested rural and Indigenous territories characterized by strong dependence on natural resources for livelihoods and well-being. Many of these areas face structural challenges such as limited connectivity, long travel distances, constrained access to public services, and persistent gender inequalities in governance and decision-making spaces. Indigenous territories, in particular, are marked by distinct cultural identities, governance systems, and cosmovisions that shape women’s leadership pathways. The diversity of territorial contexts informed the project’s differentiated strategies to strengthen women’s leadership and participation in forest governance.
GPS coordinates of the project’s activity(ies)	Latitude: 8.0° N – 11.2° N Longitude: 82.5° W – 85.9° W

4. WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT ACTIVITIES

General Information	
<p>Provide a brief description of the rationale for applying the W+ Standard and selected domains (reason or opportunity)</p>	<p>Education & Knowledge The project has driven multiple training, exchange, and knowledge-generation processes targeted at rural and Indigenous women, strengthening their technical, organizational, and social capacities. Concrete examples include the “Gender, Forest and Fire” course, which opened opportunities in a traditionally male-dominated sector such as forest fire management; the field schools “women teaching women”; and the inclusion of women in territorial planning processes through the PAFTs. These actions have expanded women’s access to information, resources, and practical tools, fostering collective learning and a cultural shift toward gender equality in sustainable forest management.</p> <p>Leadership The project has fostered an enabling environment for women’s leadership by creating spaces, building capacities, and supporting their participation in decision-making processes. The establishment of the National Forum of Rural Women, with representation from 29 territories, has provided a national platform for women to influence policies and even draft a law to secure women’s land rights. In Indigenous territories, the project has trained and empowered women cultural mediators to actively participate in the design of PAFTs, while also promoting the</p>

	involvement of female forest firefighters in mixed brigades. Through these measures, the project not only increases women’s presence but also strengthens their skills, confidence, and opportunities to lead within environmental and climate governance structures.
Describe number of women benefiting from activities associated with the project.	Education & Knowledge: 108 Leadership: 3,557
If the Project intends to generate W+ Units <i>and</i> seek W+ labelling of carbon credits, explain how the applicant will differentiate W+ Units from W+ labelling to ensure there is no double-monetizing of units.	NA

W+ domains applied and associated activity(ies)	
For each W+ domain applied, describe associated activities and expected benefits	<p><u>Education & Knowledge:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The design and delivery of the course “Gender, Forests and Fires”, composed of six modules addressing gender equality, forest management, women’s rights, safety, and the prevention of harassment in forest-related contexts. Delivery of training activities in a virtual format to improve accessibility and reach participants across different territories.</i> • <i>Adaptation of gender training modules for environmental institutions, integrating content on biodiversity and Indigenous peoples to ensure institutional relevance and cultural sensitivity.</i> • <i>Facilitation of knowledge exchange activities aimed at improving understanding of gender-responsive approaches to forest governance and fire prevention and response.</i> <p><u>Leadership</u></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The facilitation and strengthening of collective leadership spaces for rural women at the national level, including the National Forum of Rural Women, providing a platform for dialogue, articulation, and engagement with public policy processes.</i> • <i>Support for women’s participation in territorial planning and governance processes in Indigenous territories, particularly through engagement in the development of Territorial Forest Action Plans (PAFt).</i> • <i>Capacity-building and accompaniment processes focused on leadership skills, confidence, participation in decision-making, and representation within community, territorial, and institutional spaces.</i> • <i>Provision of enabling support measures—such as cultural mediation, translation into Indigenous languages where relevant, and logistical support including travel allowances—to facilitate women’s participation in leadership-related activities.</i>
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Additional information	
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<p>Summarize potential concerns and mitigating measures, and how they have been identified</p>	<p>Several risks were identified that could undermine the empowerment of women within REDD+ activities, along with concrete measures to mitigate them. One important risk is that women may not be able to engage in project activities due to lack of time, resources, or interest. To address this, the project includes targeted outreach and capacity-building specifically designed for women, as well as technical assistance and extension services adapted to their needs.</p> <p>Another significant risk is the potential increase in sexual harassment and gender-based violence (GBV) when women access forest incentives. To mitigate this, the proposal integrates safeguards such as a strengthened Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM), anti-harassment and GBV training, and specific monitoring indicators to ensure risks are identified and addressed.</p> <p>The project also recognizes that women may face exclusion from forest credit, incentives, and PES schemes due to lack of access to information or resources. To counter this, the proposal calls for gender-sensitive communication strategies, the creation of platforms that make information about financial and PES opportunities accessible to women, and the establishment of induction and accompaniment processes to support women applicants.</p> <p>For Indigenous women, a particular risk lies in the lack of recognition of their land use rights in planning processes. To respond, the project ensures Indigenous women’s participation in the design of Forest and Territorial Environmental Plans (PAFTs) as cultural mediators, and supports efforts to recognize communal and ancestral land rights. Finally, the proposal notes the risk that women’s contributions to conservation and sustainable production could remain invisible. To prevent this, it introduces mechanisms such as the Gender Equality Award</p>
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	(GIGUP) for ecological farms and productive units, and the National Forum of Rural Women, which elevates women's voices and ensures their perspectives are integrated into public policy.
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Linkages to other types of projects	
Is this project registered under any other standard or certification scheme?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CDM - Gold Standard - Voluntary Carbon Standard - Social Carbon - Plan Vivo - Fair Trade - Forest Stewardship Council - Organic Certification - SA 8000 - GlobalGAP - Other (please specify)
Crediting period under the other Standard or certification scheme	NA
Name of certification body	

5. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION & W+ MEASUREMENT TEAM

Project implementation team	
Describe the organisations and persons that carry the responsibilities related to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - planning and implementing activities - monitoring and evaluation - gender/women's empowerment <i>The essential qualifications and experiences should be briefly presented.</i>	<p>Nielsen Pérez, especialista en igualdad de género y emprendimiento de las mujeres. Proyecto REDD+PBR</p> <p>Yanory Rojas Morales, especialista en trabajo con pueblos indígenas, proyecto REDD+PBR.</p>

W+ measurement team	

<p>Qualifications related to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Monitoring and evaluation - Gender/women’s empowerment <p><i>The essential qualifications and experiences should be briefly presented.</i></p>	<p>Larissa Eugenia Domínguez Fuentes, WOCAN consultant: Gender specialist with more than 10 years of experience in project design and M&E, specializing in agriculture and forest conservation programs. She has conducted 5 W+ Standard measurements and has provided ongoing technical backstopping, methodological guidance, and support to multiple additional W+ assessments across diverse contexts.</p> <p>Atzin Elihu Calvillo Arriola, consultant: Sustainable development, forest restoration, and M&E specialist with over 15 years of experience in project design, implementation, and evaluation, particularly in forest conservation, community development, and social economy initiatives. Has led numerous participatory monitoring processes in rural and Indigenous communities, and provided technical leadership and backstopping to multi-stakeholder projects at national and regional levels.</p>
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Schedule	
Current status of women’s empowerment project activities (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/> planning stage <input type="checkbox"/> operating less than 2 years <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> operating more than 2 years
Status of financing women’s empowerment activities	Ongoing
Has permission been obtained from relevant authorities, if needed?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no <input type="checkbox"/> other (please specify):

PIN Template Revision History (box to be removed from final document)		
#	Date	Description
1	2015 (version 1.0)	Original
2	May, 2017 (version 1.1)	Edits to nomenclature for consistency. Removal of redundant information requests. Addition of time-frames and specificity regarding multiple domains and prevention of double-counting.
3	May 2019 (version 1.2)	Addition of overall start and end dates of project, number of women per activities, expected benefits instead of indicators (indicators would be required at the PDD level)
4		