UNEP GEF PIR Fiscal Year 2018
(1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018)

1. PROJECT GENERAL INFORMATION

Project Title:	Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use for Improved Human Nutrition and Well-being (Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition Project – BFN Project)
Executing Agency:	Bioversity International (formerly International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI))
Project partners:	Governments of Brazil, Kenya, Sri Lanka, Turkey. AVRDC, Crops for the Future, Earth Institute at Columbia University, World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), WFP.
Geographical Scope:	Global/Multi-country
Participating countries:	Brazil, Kenya, Sri Lanka and Turkey

GEF project ID:	3808	**IMIS number:**	UNEP: GFL-2328-2715-4B07
Focal Area(s):	Biodiversity	**GEF OP #:**	BD
GEF Strategic Priority/Objective:	BD SO2:SP4; SP5	**GEF approval date:**	November 2011
UNEP approval date:	November 2011	**Date of first disbursement:**	18 April 2012
Actual start date:	April 2012	**Planned duration:**	60 months
Intended completion date:	30 September 2017	**Actual or Expected completion date:**	30 September 2018
Project Type:	FSP	**GEF Allocation:**	US$5,517,618
PPG GEF cost:	$ 260,000	**PPG co-financing:**	$ 380,000
Expected MSP/FSP Co-financing*:	$ 29,552,314.20	**Total Cost:**	$35,709,932.20
Mid-term review/eval. (planned date):	Nov/Dec 2015	**Terminal Evaluation (actual date):**	TBD
Mid-term review/eval. (actual date):	September 2016	**No. of revisions:**	N/A
Date of last Steering Committee meeting:	November 2017	**Date of last Revision:**	N/A
Disbursement as of 30/6/2018:	UNEP US$ 2,463,211	**Date of financial closure:**	TBD
Date of Completion:	30 September 2018	**Actual expenditures reported as of 30/6/2018:**	UNEP US$ 2,684,889
Total co-financing realized as of 30/6/2018:	US$ 60,592,428	**Actual expenditures entered in IMIS as of 30/6/2018:**	UNEP US$ 1,890,044
Leveraged financing:	US$ 280,951		

Project summary	Hotspots of biodiversity, the countries of Brazil, Kenya, Sri Lanka and Turkey are home to a vast array of agricultural biodiversity, which are scarcely explored, appreciated or conserved. The nutritional potential of many of these plants and animals remains untapped, yet many of these species are rapidly disappearing due to environmental pressures or lack of use. The project seeks to address the issue of diminishing local agrobiodiversity by contributing to the improvement of global knowledge of biodiversity for food and nutrition and, by so doing, enhance the well-being, livelihoods and food security of target beneficiaries in the four countries through the conservation and sustainable use of this biodiversity and the identification of best practices for up-scaling.
	The Development Goal of the Project is to contribute to the improvement of global knowledge of biodiversity for food and nutrition and thereby enhance the well-being, livelihoods and food security of target beneficiaries in Brazil, Kenya, Sri Lanka and Turkey through the conservation and sustainable use of this biodiversity and the identification of best practices for up-scaling. The **<u>Project Objective</u>** is to strengthen the conservation and sustainable management of agricultural biodiversity through mainstreaming into national and global nutrition, food and livelihood security strategies and programmes.
	The project will address declining diversity by:
	1. PROVIDING EVIDENCE - Demonstrating the nutritional value of agricultural biodiversity and the role it plays in promoting healthy diets and strengthening livelihoods.
	2. INFLUENCING POLICIES - Using the evidence generated from the project to influence policies, programmes and markets that support the conservation and sustainable use of agricultural biodiversity with nutrition potential for improved human nutrition and wellbeing.
	3. RAISING AWARENESS - Developing tools, knowledge and best practices for scaling up the use of biodiversity for food and nutrition in development programmes, value chains and local community initiatives.
	Project implementation is based on three inter-related components that will directly address the identified barriers to mainstreaming biodiversity for food and nutrition through the following Outcomes:
	• *Outcome 1*: Relevant sectors, including agriculture, environment and public health in the four partner countries adopt and utilise the integrated knowledge base on BFN to build support for biodiversity conservation and enhanced well-being. • *Outcome 2:* Enhanced policy frameworks and markets support the mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use across sectors. • *Outcome 3*: Tools, knowledge and best practices adopted and scaled up in development programs, value chains and local community initiatives.

Project status FY 2013	In 2013, project implementation at the country level focused largely on developing working agreements among relevant national stakeholders to carry out project activities and identify roles and responsibilities. National Steering Committee meetings were held in all countries to review and approve work plan and budgets for 2013-2014; refine and validate criteria for site selection and for the prioritization of locally important agricultural biodiversity species; and agree on methodologies for carrying out baseline surveys of community biodiversity for food and nutrition at the study sites. Baseline surveys were carried out in Kenya and preliminary planning and logistics for baseline surveys in Sri Lanka and

	Turkey were made. In Brazil and Kenya contacts were established with national data holders for setting up national databases on the nutritional properties of local agrobiodiversity and associated traditional knowledge. Awareness-raising activities were carried out mostly at the global level through the setting up of a Global portal www.b4fn.org, the free online publication of the *Diversifying Food and Diets* and other relevant outreach material.
Project status FY 2014	In 2014, baseline surveys were completed in all countries, which also prioritised target species and undertook gap analysis for food composition data to drive further nutrition analysis. Brazil also pilot tested the FAO guidelines for the inclusion of biodiversity indicators in national food consumption surveys. Turkey analysed 33 of the 41 target species. Cross-sectoral national policy platforms were established in all countries and the project helped shape a number of important policy documents on biodiversity and human health that emerged from the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA 18) (23-28 June 2014) that assisted in defining and developing the COP12 Decision XII/21 in October of the same year. At the national level, countries continued to engage with decision-makers to mainstream biodiversity into the national policy framework. Countries also organized a number of awareness-raising events such as traditional food fairs, and participated in important international events linked to nutrition and food security.
Project status FY 2015	In 2015, countries generated evidence for **93 prioritised species** through gap analyses of existing food composition data and food composition analysis. Countries identified organizations for hosting their national databases on biodiversity for food and nutrition and associated traditional knowledge. Knowledge on BFN was also broadened thanks to collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and its FAO/INFOODS database and networks. At the global policy level, efforts to mainstream biodiversity into different sectors peaked with the endorsement of the *Voluntary Guidelines for Mainstreaming Biodiversity into Policies, Programmes and National and Regional Plans of Action* at the 15th Regular Session of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture in January 2015. The established cross-sectoral national policy working groupsrevised existing national legislation to identify entry points for the mainstreaming of biodiversity for food and nutrition. Country revisions to the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) in Brazil led to the inclusion of several indicators referring to BFN to monitor the general status of biodiversity conservation. Considerable efforts were devoted to increasing awareness of BFN in all countries via national and regional diversity fairs and conferences where the BFN initiative was highlighted. At the global level, milestones include contributions to the publication 'Connecting Global Priorities: Biodiversity and Human Health', which was published in June 2015.
Project status FY 2016	In 2016, nutrition data generated by Brazil and Turkey on target species was validated. In Brazil, data collection formed the basis for 5 MSc dissertations and fostered collaboration with more than 100 researchers and students in the country. Kenya expanded its list of food composition data to 11 species and countries (except for Kenya) created national portals for the hosting of data generated on the target species. In Brazil, Ordinance no. 163 was passed defining and recognizing the importance of "Sociobiodiversity of Native Food Species of Nutritional Value" and opening up market opportunities for BFN target species grown by family farmers. In 2018, this was replaced by Ordinance 284, which expanded the list to include 100 species. In Turkey, recommendations in support of BFN conservation were made in the policy document "Collection,

	Conservation and Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources". At the global level, BFN provided inputs to the document *Strategic Scientific and Technical Issues Related to the Implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (*UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/19/INF/1), which now includes much of the BFN experience. It published a peer-review paper on fostering enabling environments for BFN mainstreaming, and prepared a document highlighting the BFN experience at COP13 of the CBD. All countries explored marketing opportunities for BFN by promoting social entrepreneurship at the grassroots level (Sri Lanka), at the private sector level (Turkey) or by strengthening links with institutional markets (Brazil, Kenya). Additional grants from the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) and the MacArthur Foundation were used to link farmers to institutional markets in Busia, Western Kenya. Guidelines were developed by Brazil and Turkey for the sustainable production of a select number of target species. Trainings were carried out in all countries to better capture national food composition and consumption data. Information events that foster greater appreciation of BFN continued in all countries. Best practices for mobilizing BFN were captured in the new BFN website as information from the project countries became available. The project's Mid-Term Review took place at the end of 2016. The overall rating from the MTR is **highly satisfactory** with the likelihood of project outcomes leading to the expected impact and global environmental benefit rated as **likely**
Project status FY 2017	In 2017, Brazil and Turkey provided data to the FAO/INFOODS database and contributed to global knowledge of the Nutritional Indicators for Biodiversity on food composition and consumption. All countries started populating their national portals/databases with data generated by national research teams, while in Kenya, data generated was used to update the national food composition table. All countries influenced important national policy documents that affect the conservation of biodiversity for food and nutrition. In Brazil and Sri Lanka, the importance of biodiversity for food nutrition was included in the countries' National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP). Globally, the Project contributed to two important information documents: the *Draft Report on Nutrition and food systems,* of the High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition and the *First State of the World Report on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture* of the Commission on Genetic Resources on Food and Agriculture. The work in Kenya on linking farmers to markets was also highlighted in the Bioversity Annual Report 2016 and in the Solutions Search Farming for Biodiversity competition. New marketing options for local biodiversity were developed in all countries. Brazil is promoting target species through existing programmes that support family farms and extractivism, while Turkey is mobilizing large-scale food suppliers for the marketing of target species. BFN Sri Lanka scaled up its marketing and capacity building efforts through the Helabojun network, and in Kenya self-help groups successfully linked to schools through the rolling out of a tailor-made Farmer Business School model. Awareness raising activities continued throughout 2017 with national and international events providing an opportunity to highlight project achievements. Notable among these was the *Symposium on Biodiversity and Wild Edible Species* (BEWS2017) in Turkey and the International Conference on Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition in Brasilia (28-29 Nov 2017)..
Project status FY 2018	Countries have largely completed activities and are in the process of consolidating country results and project outcomes. In terms of project outputs, the four countries have generated nutrition data for **195** prioritised species (an additional 15 are being analysed by Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation while Sri Lanka is exploring nutrient composition of an addition 40 species) - well

above the endline target established at project outset. Significant amounts of data were also generated on traditional knowledge and use of the species. Food composition data is being made available on the national databases created by each country, while ethnobotanical information and traditional use is being captured in a number of country publications such as the *Plants for the Future* series in Brazil, and recipe books in Brazil, Kenya and Turkey.

Countries are also at various stages of linking rural entrepreneurs to markets while promoting the sustainable production and consumption of nutrient-rich crops and fruits to diversify diets. Regional diversity fairs where local biodiversity and associated traditional knowledge are showcased continued in the 2017-2018 period, with various major national conferences and events – the BFN Food Festival in Sri Lanka (6 Oct 2017); the BFN Symposium in Brazil (Nov 2017); the Alaçatı Herb Festival (April 2018); the 1st International Conference on School Gardens (April 2018) and the Gastro Alaturka Festival (May 2018). A BFN delegation from Brazil, Kenya and Sri Lanka also attended and presented project results during the 2018 Planetary Health Annual Meeting, held in Edinburgh, UK from 29-31 May 2018, while a poster presentation by Kenya at the 3rd Agriculture, Nutrition & Health (ANH) Academy Week held in Accra, Ghana from 25-29 June 2018 won the best poster award.

At the global level, milestones include the almost final development of the *BFN online course on mainstreaming biodiversity* hosted on the BFN website as well as contributions to several publications highlighting the role of agrobiodiversity in creating sustainable food systems for healthier diets. These include the *UNSCN Discussion paper on Schools as a System to Improve Nutrition* (Sept 2017); the *Mainstreaming Agrobiodiversity in Sustainable Food Systems* (2017); the *Routledge handbook of agricultural biodiversity* (2017).

The 6th International Steering Committee (ISC) meeting was held on 30 Nov-1 Dec 2017, in Pirenópolis, Brazil and, as well as reviewing project progress, focused largely on discussing national and international sustainability options beyond the end of the project in September 2018.

Planned contribution to strategic priorities/targets	The project will contribute to the **GEF Biodiversity Strategic Objective 2 (SO2)** to mainstream biodiversity in production landscapes/seascapes and sectors and its **Strategic Programmes 4** and **5**.
	SP4 Strengthening the policy and regulatory framework for mainstreaming biodiversity: The outcomes of the Project will contribute to the GEF's Strategic Programme 4 through the incorporation of biodiversity conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing in broader policy and regulatory frameworks. This will be achieved by improving scientific knowledge about the links between food systems and ecosystems, improving capacity, raising awareness, particularly at government level, and developing incentives for conservation. The Project will establish multi-sectoral policy platforms at the national level to target and monitor the mainstreaming of biodiversity into agriculture, health and nutrition sectors using indicators and information generated by the Project. The Project will also link its public awareness activities, aimed at consumer attitudes and behaviour, to public policy forums and institutions working to improve diets through use of biodiversity and re-focus food systems studies and agricultural census data to incorporate considerations of biodiversity. At the global level, successful models and experiences leading to specific policies and policy actions will be shared across countries to jump-start and accelerate mainstreaming biodiversity in sectors responsible for food, nutrition and food security policies. The process of mainstreaming Project results and outcomes will be facilitated by contributing to the new NBSAP process and by ensuring that both Implementing Agencies take measures to guarantee the Project is embedded in the UNDAF mechanism and their respective programmes of work.
	SP5 Fostering markets for biodiversity goods and services respectively: The outcomes of the Project will also contribute to GEF's Strategic Programme 5 through the analysis of market chains and the development of an enabling environment for improved, equitable value chains promoting underutilised plants. This will be done *inter alia* through capacity building activities targeting farmer groups, processors, agricultural educational organisations and institutions and policies, improving links to the formal market sector, improved marketing of traditional foods, and public awareness campaigns among consumers. Advocacy and awareness-building will address dietary diversity and nutrition as expressed in official, commercial and popular media. Specifically each country will link market chains to development of regional foods, linked to local ecosystems.

2.   PROJECT OBJECTIVE

Global environmental objective(s) of the project[1]

The Project objective is to strengthen the conservation and sustainable management of agricultural biodiversity through mainstreaming into national and global nutrition, food and livelihood security strategies and programmes. The Project has achieved these goals and objectives through implementation of 3 components designed to improve: the knowledge base (Component 1); the policy and regulatory framework (Component 2); and awareness and outscaling (Component 3). Global knowledge encompasses globally relevant tools, lessons and best practices.

*Progress made towards meeting the project objective(s). Describe any significant environmental or other changes (results) attributable to project implementation. Also, please discuss any major challenges to meet the **objectives** or specific project **outcomes** (not more than 300 words)*

Progress was made in all countries towards meeting the project objectives. According to the MTR report, the rating for Outcome 1 is satisfactory and highly satisfactory for Outcomes 2 and 3. Under **Component 1 - *Knowledge base***, Brazil and Turkey have submitted nutrition data on local edible biodiversity to the FAO/INFOODS database. National databases on biodiversity for food and nutrition and associated traditional knowledge were developed in Brazil, Sri Lanka and Turkey, while Kenya is using the information generated to update its national Food Composition Table to be launched in July 2018. With regard to **Component 2 – *Policy and Regulatory Framework***, countries have been successful in influencing national strategies in support of BFN conservation, chiefly the revision of their National Bioversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and other important policy documents such as Ordinance Nº 163 in Brazil and the endorsement in early 2018 of the first ever Biodiversity Conservation Policy in Kenya that recognizes the importance of nutrient-rich, underutilised species to combat food and nutrition security. Key messages around mainstreaming BFN were also included in strategic policy and conference papers presented at several meetings including the 44th Session of the FAO Committee on World Food Security (9-13 October 2017, Rome); the 1st International Conference on School Gardens (April 2018), the 2nd Planetary Health Annual Meeting (29-31 May 2018, UK) and the 3rd Agriculture, Nutrition & Health Academy Week held (25-29 June 2018 - Accra, Ghana). **Component 3 – *Raising awareness***. All countries organized seminars, workshops and food fairs to promote BFN. The documenting of best practices continues at the country and global level, with countries developing training manuals and guidelines for the collection and sustainable use of targeted biodiversity and documenting recipes and information based on traditional knowledge. The GPMU continues to document best practices from around the world. The project is creating opportunities for institutions and individuals at national level to bring about change and change in behaviour and attitude is evident amongst stakeholders. Several initiatives/examples exist within the Project, which are good contenders for replication and scaling out.

Progress towards the stated GEF Strategic Priorities and Targets if identified in project document [2](not more than 200 words)

SP4 Several national policy recommendations to improve enabling environments for promoting biodiversity for food and nutrition were successfully endorsed during the project lifetime. The scientific evidence base behind this policy development was significantly expanded and represents the largest contribution to global nutrition data for native and underutilised biodiversity to date. This evidence has helped with the establishment of markets, both private and institutional, with Brazil and Kenya providing noteworthy models for diversifying food procurement and school feeding. The Project also undertook a significant body of work to increase public awareness aimed at changing consumer attitudes and behaviour to native biodiversity. **SP5** linked to fostering markets for biodiversity goods. In Kenya, the food procurement model tested in Busia has demonstrated that linking entrepreneurial farmers to institutional markets can provide a sustainable solution to address barriers in the utilization and conservation of local

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[1] Or immediate project objective

[2] Projects that did not include these in original design are encouraged to the extent possible to retrofit specific targets.

biodiversity while contributing to improving livelihoods. A new grant was secured in 2018 from the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) to more rigorously explore the approach in new geographic locations, in the East Africa region. In Sri Lanka, 32 market outlets are now selling traditional biodiversity products, while in Turkey markets were established for three of the target species, namely einkorn wheat, foxtail lily and Golden thistle.

RATING PROJECT PERFORMANCE AND RISK

3.1   Progress towards achieving the project objective(s)

Project objective and Outcomes	Description of Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-term target	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2018	Progress rating
To strengthen the conservation and sustainable management of agricultural biodiversity through mainstreaming into national and global nutrition, food and livelihood security strategies and programmes	1. By the end of the project, NBSAPs, Nutrition and Health Action Plans/Strategies and National and Agricultural Strategies show enhanced promotion and awareness of conservation and deployment of biodiversity for food and nutrition	At baseline, relevant national plans and strategies show limited awareness of the benefit and value of nutritionally rich biodiversity	Project has drafted recommendations for revision of relevant national strategies and plans	At least one politically significant national document drawing attention to the importance of conservation and deployment of nutritionally rich biodiversity is endorsed in each country by the end of the project	In Brazil, the status of biodiversity for food and nutrition was included as an indicator of biodiversity loss in the National Biodiversity Targets 2011-2020. Several initiatives and targets related to BFN were included in the Multi-year Budget for 2016-2019. An Ordinance was published in May 2016 listing those sociobiodiversity products (some BFN priority species) to be included in food procurement and income generation initiatives. Recommendations for revision of relevant national strategies and plans (including NBSAPs) were also drafted in the other countries. In Kenya, the first County Biodiversity Policy that acknowledges the conservation of biodiversity (both agricultural and cultivated) as a way of maintaining important ecosystem services, including the provision of healthy and adequate food was endorsed at the County Assembly in March 2018. In Sri Lanka, BFN has integrated health and nutrition aspects of biodiversity into the country's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action plan NBSAP (2016-2022), with the setting of relevant national targets related to BFN and ensuring that BFN is embedded in any communication and outreach strategy for the NBSAP. In Turkey, BFN activities are well integrated in the Strategy on Agriculture (2013-2017), the GDAR Agricultural Research Master Plan 2016-2020, the Research Program of the Ministry of Health. the Agricultural Extension and training program for women farmers and the Youth Leadership Agricultural Camps organised by the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock in collaboration with the Ministry of Education. In addition, efforts are ongoing for the inclusion of BFN concepts in Turkey's national school curriculum.	S

Project objective and Outcomes	Description of Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-term target	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2018	Progress rating
	2. By the end of the project, relevant Ministries, NGOs and private sector routinely promote gender-sensitive good practices to deploy nutritionally rich biodiversity	At baseline, few Ministries, NGOs or private sector bodies consider deployment of nutritionally rich biodiversity	Project has undertaken extensive lobbying of relevant Ministries, NGOs or private sector to promote best practices for deployment of nutritionally rich biodiversity	At least one national agency/sector in each country routinely promotes gender sensitive good practices to deploy nutritionally rich biodiversity by the end of the project	In Brazil, public policies and programmes promote gender-sensitive good practices and consider the intellectual property rights of indigenous people to traditional knowledge regarding nutrient-rich biodiversity. The community-based organization SINGI, national partner to BFN Kenya, supports 26 farmer groups with good youth and gender representation in the sustainable production and marketing of indigenous crops. BFN Kenya is also working with Population Services Kenya (PSK) to promote gender-sensitive nutrition education in schools. In Sri Lanka, several gender-sensitive income-generating programmes are being implemented. Business training is offered to women working in the *Hela bojun* outlets and additional support is offered to women through a partnership with the Department of Ayurveda for the production of herbal products. The *Community Development Centre* (CDC), another national partner, is supporting women community leaders and farmers in the cultivation and marketing of local root and tuber crops. BFN Turkey, working in collaboration with the agricultural extension services in three geographical regions, is promoting gender-sensitive good practices in its trainings on sustainable agricultural production of a number of target species.	S

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Project objective and Outcomes	Description of Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-term target	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2018	Progress rating
	3. By the end of the project, the newly acquired knowledge on the composition and consumption of the prioritised species[3] and the awareness campaigns on the target[4] species will result in increased consumption and production of the target species	Dietary assessment surveys show limited use of the prioritised species Production/availability data not readily available or show limited use of target species	At least 2 countries have collected and analysed baseline data on the consumption of the prioritised species Production/availability data are collected in project sites for target species	At least 2 countries have demonstrated an increase of 10% in production/availability of the target species	Brazil continues to monitor the increased consumption of target species by observing the increase in demand by the School Feeding and Food Procurement programs. Sri Lanka has collected baseline consumption data from the 3 pilot sites, which will help monitor consumption patterns and trends until project end. Several interventions are being implemented (e.g. school gardens, home gardens and demonstration plots) to increase interest in the consumption of traditional crops. In Turkey, data on annual and per capita consumption of the 43 priority species was collected. Awareness surveys are showing increased consumption and production of the target species and wild edibles as well as: • Increased number of festivals in different regions devoted to wild edibles and underutilized species and increased participation therein • Increased production of target species • Increased sales of wild edibles in local markets and supermarket chains • Increased number of printed and media material on wild edibles This activity will not be carried out in Kenya due to budgetary constraints.	S

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[3] Prioritized species from existing wild and agricultural biodiversity are those selected by countries based on country-specific criteria (e.g. conservation, nutritional, cultural and economic value) for the purpose of food compositional analysis and associated traditional knowledge. In some cases it includes local cultivars or breeds.

[4] Target species are those selected from the prioritized species for which markets will be developed

		4. Enhanced awareness and political support contributes to increased budgetary support for the conservation and deployment of nutritionally-rich biodiversity in at least one country	At baseline, budgetary allocations for the conservation and deployment of nutritionally-rich biodiversity are largely unknown	Baseline information on current resources and budgetary allocations targeting the conservation and deployment of nutritionally-rich biodiversity collected	Increased allocation of resources and/or budget towards the conservation and deployment of nutritionally-rich biodiversity by the end of the project in at least one country	Political support for the BFN project in the four participating countries is strong. In Brazil, the Federal Government's Multi-year Budget planning for 2016-2019 includes several initiatives and targets related to BFN. An additional USD $2.4 million were made available by the Ministry of the Environment (SEDR/MMA) through the call "EcoForte Extrativista" to build capacity among local extractivist communities and cooperatives in the Amazon for the production of sociobiodiversity products. In addition, significant levels of co-financing are being provided by Brazil in support of BFN-related activities, with current reported co-financing levels reaching US$ 55M compared to the initially planned US$ 39M.	**S**
S						In Kenya, there is strong political support for the project. The promising results obtained from the pilot project in Busia aimed at linking farmers to institutional markets has secured additional funds from ACIAR to upscale the project to other parts of Kenya and to neighbouring countries. Funds from FAO were received to widen the evidence base on the nutritional value of local biodiversity. In addition, the County Ministry of Agriculture is availing funds to support the implementation of the Biodiversity Policy for Busia county by mainstreaming it into its agriculture programs and activities through the County Integrated Development Plan (2018-2022).	
						In Turkey, awareness and budgetary support for the conservation and deployment of nutritionally rich biodiversity are enhanced. BFN was included in a number of policy regulations, programs, master plans such as the:	
						• MFAL 2013-2017 Strategic Plan • 10. Development Plan 2014-2018 • GDAR Agricultural Research Master Plan 2016-2020 • The Healthy Nutrition and Active Life Program 2014-2017 • The Nutrition Friendly School Initiative	

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Project objective and Outcomes	Description of Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-term target	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2018	Progress rating
					• Nutrition and Health Research of Turkey (2017) Awareness of the project in relevant global forums (CBD, WHO, CGRFA, UNSCN, PHA etc.) is also strong and presenting useful opportunities.	
Outcome 1 Relevant sectors, including agriculture, environment and public health in the four partner countries adopt and utilise the integrated knowledge base on biodiversity for food and nutrition to build support for biodiversity conservation and enhanced well-being	1. Local communities, and national agencies have contributed to the documentation of the value and benefits of nutritionally-rich biodiversity for improving food security and income generation	No integrated knowledge base exists in any of the four countries	At least 3 local communities, and 10 national agencies have contributed information for database/national portal development	At least 7 local communities and 20 national agencies have contributed information for database/national portal development	Collaboration with national universities and agencies for data collection is ongoing in all countries. In Kenya, collaboration with universities, NGOs, government departments and research organizations led to the generation of food composition data to update the Food Composition Table for Kenya to be launched at the end of July 2018. In addition, 4 communities in Busia were involved in the provision of information used to compile recipe cards and a recipe book for Busia County. Similar multidisciplinary teams have helped BFN collect data in 121 villages in Turkey, in quilombola communities in the Centre-West region of Brazil and communities at the 3 pilot sites in Sri Lanka. Collaboration with well over 50 national agencies across the four countries, including NGOs, government institutions and universities, suppliers, extension services and civil society contributed to widening the knowledge base on local agricultural biodiversity of nutritional importance.	S

| | S | 2. Relevant sectors and agencies in the four partner countries have used information on the value and benefits of nutritionally-rich biodiversity for relevant plans and strategies | | At least one high level multi-sectoral meeting highlighting the importance of the database/national portal held in each country | At least one national sectoral plans or strategy highlighting the importance of nutritionally rich biodiversity developed in each country | Data generated by the project is informing relevant national plans and strategies. In Brazil the status of BFN conservation was included as an indicator of biodiversity health in the national revisions to the NBSAP, while Ordinance 163, approved in May 2016 by the federal government, defines and supports measures for the production and sale of native 'neglected and underutilized' species with nutritional value. In addition, the National Plan for Agroecology and Organic Production (PLANAPO) includes several activities and targets from different Ministries and federal agencies that aim to promote the sustainable production and use of sociobiodiversity species.

In Kenya, the Busia Biodiversity Policy that highlights the importance of nutrient-rich, local biodiversity was endorsed by the County Assembly, while two inter-ministerial meetings were held to discuss options of promoting biodiversity through policy using the integrated knowledge base.

BFN Sri Lanka provided substantial contributions to the revision of the NBSAP for 2016-2022. The document now addresses BFN project objectives and has recognised BFN as a key project for mainstreaming biodiversity conservation.

In Turkey BFN activities are well integrated into the Strategy on Agriculture (2013-2017) of the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock, as well as the GDAR Agricultural Research Master Plan 2016-2020 with various Research Opportunity Areas related to BFN. The Master Plan encourages research activities on agricultural biological diversity related to traditional knowledge having value for nutrition, food security and safety as well as agricultural production. Other relevant policies and strategies with strong links to BFN are the 10th Development Plan of Turkey (2014-2018), Nutrition and Health Research of Turkey, the Healthy Nutrition and Active Life Program (2014-2017), the Nutrition Friendly School Program, the | **S** |

Project objective and Outcomes	Description of Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-term target	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2018	Progress rating
					Agricultural Extension and training program for women farmers and the Youth Leadership Agricultural Camps.	
Outcome 2 Enhanced policy frameworks and markets support the mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use across sectors.	1. Policy recommendations developed by the project support cross-sectoral mainstreaming of nutritionally-rich biodiversity	No policy recommendations developed	Policy documents with relevant recommendations drafted in each of the countries	At least 1 policy recommendation per country developed by the project, which supports cross-sectoral mainstreaming of nutritionally-rich biodiversity is under consideration in at least 1 country	In Brazil, the project contributed recommendations to several cross-sectoral Programmes and Action Plans such as PLANAPO, the National Food and Nutrition Security Plan (PLANSAN), the School Feeding Programme (PNAE), and provided inputs for the revision of its NBSAP. In Kenya, the Busia County Biodiversity Policy was endorsed in March 2018 supporting BFN-related concerns and activities. Policy recommendations in the form of a policy brief were drafted by all countries and are to be finalised by mid-2018.	S

Project objective and Outcomes	Description of Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-term target	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2018	Progress rating
	2. New markets are contributing to improved income generation of smallholders	No new markets exist in pilot sites	New markets identified in pilot sites	Economic survey/analysis in target areas indicates income levels changing due to sales of nutritionally-rich biodiversity	All countries have identified new markets for nutritionally-rich biodiversity. Brazil is monitoring purchases of the prioritised species in the National School Meals and the Food Procurement Programmes as an indirect measure of increased supply and raised income for family farmers. With the publishing of Ordinance 163 in early 2016, increased purchases are being recorded. A new Ordinance that replaces n. 163 and that expands the list to include 100 sociobiodiversity species is expected to have important repercussions on the commercialization of target crops. In Kenya, 8 farmer group secured 14 tenders with institutional market for the supply of African Leafy Vegetables (ALVs) The demand for indigenous vegetables in schools has also grown, with specific tenders for ALVs being advertised. In 2017, the farm-to-school network was providing healthy school meals to approximately 5,500 students and having positive repercussions on farmer livelihoods In Turkey the private sector, farmer groups and rural collectors are engaged in the marketing of einkorn wheat and other wild edibles. Land cultivation devoted to one of the target species – einkorn wheat – has Sri Lanka now has 32 market outlets between the Hela bojun (18) and the National Food Promotion Board stores (14) along with 1 new outlet belonging to the Community Development Centre that sells organic local food crops as well as novel products made from traditional crops.	S

Project objective and Outcomes	Description of Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-term target	End-of-project target	Level at 30 June 2018	Progress rating
Outcome 3: Tools, knowledge and best practices adopted and scaled up in development programs, value chains and local community initiatives	1. Increased number and types of relevant programmes mobilizing nutritionally rich biodiversity using best practices developed by the project	Limited knowledge and awareness available to programs to deploy nutritionally-rich biodiversity at the beginning of the project	At least one initiative promoting the mobilization of nutritionally rich biodiversity using project-developed best practices under consideration and review in each country	At least one initiative promoting the mobilization of nutritionally rich biodiversity using project-developed best practices underway in each country	Countries and the Global Project Management Unit continue to develop knowledge tools and organise events to mobilize nutritionally rich biodiversity. Highlights in Brazil in the reporting period include the organization of the International Symposium on biodiversity for food and nutrition in November 2017 and finalizing of the e-learning course on mainstreaming biodiversity for food and nutrition, which is now online. Guidelines for the sustainable collection of wild foods were published in Brazil and Turkey while Kenya has completed the pilot testing of an approach for linking farming communities to institutional markets. In Sri Lanka, the *Hela bojun* campaign successfully mobilizes traditional foods, while an alignment with the national school feeding program is being sought for the homegarden and school garden programs being implemented in project sites. Awareness-raising activities are being organised in schools in Sri Lanka while food festivals and diversity fairs celebrating local biodiversity for food and nutrition were organized in Kenya (June 2018), Sri Lanka (Nov 2017) and Turkey (April 2018). This body of knowledge is routinely used to inform global panels and forums that focus food security and nutrition.	S

Overall rating of project progress towards meeting project objective(s)

FY 2013 rating	FY 2014 rating	FY 2015 rating	FY 2016 rating	FY 2017 rating	FY 2018 rating	Comments/narrative justifying the current FY rating and explaining reasons for change (positive or negative) since previous reporting periods
S	S	S	S	S	S	Overall performance at the objective and outcome level is satisfactory and all countries have largely completed activities in line with the global workplan. There is no change in this rating from the previous reporting period and a very high probability exists that the project outcomes may lead to global environmental benefits and impacts.

Action plan to address MS, MU, U and HU rating

Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
N/A		

This section should be completed if project progress towards meeting objectives was rated MS, MU, U or HU during the previous Project Implementation Review (PIR) or by the Mid-term Review/Evaluation.

Problem(s) identified in previous PIR FY 2017	Action(s) taken	By whom	When
N/A			

3.2   Project implementation progress

Outputs	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of 30 June 2018 (%)	Comments if variance. Describe any problems in delivering outputs	Progress rating
Output 1.1: Assessments of nutritional value of agrobiodiversity and associated traditional knowledge (ATK) of prioritised species is carried out in three ecosystems Turkey and Sri Lanka, one ecosystem in Kenya and at national level in Brazil				
Activity 1.1.1 National steering committees to refine and validate criteria and finalise site selection	March 2013	100%	Completed	S
Activity 1.1.2 Develop working and collaborative arrangements between stakeholders and communities in targeted ecosystems	March 2014 ongoing	100%	Completed	S
Activity 1.1.3 Plan and undertake training of appropriate groups in methodology to assess baseline data on local agrobiodiversity and foods (including loss of food options), collection of associated indigenous knowledge, and assess dietary diversity	May 2014	100%	Completed	S
Activity 1.1.4 Determine baseline status of community biodiversity for food and nutrition (including loss of food options), dietary diversity and where possible nutritional and health status and other relevant data	Dec 2016	100%	Completed	S
Activity 1.1.5 Document food-associated indigenous knowledge, including sustainable use practices for agricultural biodiversity	Mar 2018	Brazil – 100%[5] Kenya – 100% Sri Lanka – 100% Turkey – 100%	**Brazil**: Completed. Two *Plants for the future* books published along with 12 MSc dissertations and 3 PhD theses. **Kenya**: Completed **Sri Lanka**: Completed, but information currently available only in Sinhala. Translation into English will be completed in 2018. **Turkey**: Completed	S
Activity 1.1.6 Document the loss of options for food and nutrition security resulting from the degradation of the targeted ecosystems and erosion of biodiversity loss.	June 2016	100%	Completed	S

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[5] Although Brazil is not working at the community level, several activities carried out in collaboration with national partners (Universities) are contributing to community-level data

Activity 1.1.7 Prioritize locally important agricultural biodiversity species to be targeted for nutrient compositional analysis (activity linked to Output 1.2)	Mar 2014	100%	Completed, although all countries report expanding the analysis to include additional species of national nutrition importance beyond the original target set. **Turkey**: Additional composition analysis of 8 priority species is being carried out to determine volatile components and bioactive properties. Additional plants will be sent for analysis in June 2018. Polar and non-polar components will be analysed and their nutritional and health properties evaluated	**S**
Activity 1.1.8 Undertake participatory planning with communities for food-based intervention to improve community diets, including prioritization of key nutrient-rich traditional foods (see Output 3.1 key activities)	Mar 2018	Brazil – 100% Kenya – 100% Sri Lanka – 100% Turkey – 100%	**Brazil**: Recipes with prioritised fruits were developed by partner universities and are being used in local events and capacity-building activities. As the country does not work on pilot sites, no food-based interventions were undertaken. **Kenya**: Completed. In the reporting period, participatory planning with the County Ministry of Agriculture in Busia led to the distribution of underutilized fruit trees to farmer groups in 7 sub-counties. Guava, jackfruit, and gooseberry seedlings were distributed to farmer groups and seeds conserved in the national genebank. **Sri Lanka:** Participatory planning with communities continues for the inclusion of local agrobiodiversity into school meal programmes.**Turkey**: Participatory domestication of a select number of priority crops continues, with the involvement of local farmers in developing a recipe book for wild edibles. Cooking workshops were also organized in selected sites.	**S**
Activity 1.1.9 Monitor and assess the impact of the food-based intervention with local communities. Document and publish findings including presenting research findings back to communities.	Sept 2018	Brazil – N/A Sri Lanka – 50% Turkey - 100%	**Brazil:** As the country does not work on pilot sites, no food-based interventions were undertaken. **Kenya**: ACIAR funds are allowing the preliminary monitoring of impact of the	**S**

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			farm-to-school network established in Busia. *Sri Lanka*: Studies to monitor the impact of food-based interventions are ongoing. **Turkey**: Completed.	
Output 1.2: National portal on local foods, containing databases on nutritional properties of agrobiodiversity and associated traditional knowledge (ATK), developed in each country relying on pre-existing infrastructure and linked to relevant national and global nutritional databases				
Activity 1.2.1 Identify key national agrobiodiversity nutritional data holders and develop collaborative agreements between relevant partners for information access, sharing and exchange	June 2015	100%	Completed in all countries	**S**
Activity 1.2.2 Review existing relevant food and nutritional data at the national level and information management tools and approaches employed	June 2015	100%	Completed in all countries	**S**
Activity 1.2.3 Strengthen infrastructure and capacity for developing a national portal and database/information system on nutritional properties of agrobiodiversity according to international standards (INFOODS-FAO)	March 2018	Brazil – 100% Kenya – 90% Sri Lanka - 100% Turkey – 100%	**Brazil**: Completed **Kenya**: Kenya's updated food composition tables to be officially launched and published in July 2018. **Sri Lanka**: Completed **Turkey:** Completed.	**S**
Activity 1.2.4 Identify training needs and undertake relevant training	June 2016	100%	Completed in all countries	**S**
Activity 1.2.5 Design appropriate database for associated traditional knowledge of local foods and sustainable use practices for agricultural biodiversity	Mar 2018	Brazil – 100% Kenya – 90% Sri Lanka – 100% Turkey- 100%	**Brazil**: Recipes were collected and developed by partner universities. The published *Plants for the Future* books contain scientific and traditional knowledge about local biodiverse foods. **Kenya**: Due to budget restrictions, a database will not be produced. However, recipes from Busia were compiled in a recipe book to be launched in July 2018. **Sri Lanka:** Completed **Turkey**: Completed but information will not be shared publicly until results are published in scientific journals.	**S**

Activity	Date	Progress	Comments	Status
Activity 1.2.6 Update content with existing national data and update regularly with data emerging from project	Sept 2018	Brazil – 100% Kenya – 80% Sri Lanka – 100% Turkey – 95%	**Brazil**: The SiBBr database was completed and includes food composition data generated by the project. **Kenya**: See Activity 1.2.3 **Sri Lanka**: Completed **Turkey**: The national portal is being gradually updated with existing national data and data generated by the project.	S
Activity 1.2.7 Ensure national databases and information systems are linked to key global nutritional databases and information systems	Sept 2018	Brazil – 100% Kenya – N/A Sri Lanka - Turkey – 100%	**Brazil:** The database was developed according to FAO/INFOODS guidelines and data generated by the project was sent to FAO/INFOODS. **Kenya** will not be developing a database but updating its national food composition table Sri Lanka: A report was prepared and will be submitted to FAO/INFOODS by Sept 2018. **Turkey**: Completed	S
Output 1.3. Information generated by the project contributes to global knowledge generation and is reflected in an increase of the Nutritional Indicators for Biodiversity on food composition and consumption				
Activity 1.3.1 Provide training on collecting data for Biodiversity Indicators for Food Composition and Consumption	June 2015	100%	**Brazil**: Completed **Kenya**: This activity will not be carried out due to resource and budget constraints, as agreed in the 4th and 5th ISC meetings. **Sri Lanka:** Completed **Turkey**: Completed.	S
Activity 1.3.2 Determine in each country baseline data for Nutrition Indicator for Biodiversity on food composition and consumption, in collaboration with national coordinator of INFOODS-FAO	Sept 2018	Brazil – 100% Kenya – N/A Sri Lanka – 100% Turkey – 100%	This activity was completed in all countries except Kenya where budgetary constraints have led to a downsizing of activities	S
Activity 1.3.3 Identify food consumption surveys and methods used or to be used in each country	Dec 2014	Brazil – 100% Kenya – N/A Sri Lanka - 100% Turkey – 100%	This activity was completed in all countries except Kenya where budgetary constraints have led to a downsizing of activities.	S
Activity 1.3.4 Adapt Dietary Diversity methodology and/or other methods aimed at collecting intake data on consumption of foods from agrobiodiversity	Dec 2015	Brazil – 100% Kenya – N/A Sri Lanka - 100%	In **Brazil, Sri Lanka** and **Turkey** baseline data on nutrition indicators were collected and are being used to monitor indicator	S

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		Turkey – 100%	trends, particularly for priority and target species. In **Kenya** this activity will not be carried out due to lack of funds.	
Activity 1.3.5 Evaluate trend of the Nutrition Indicator for Biodiversity on food consumption and composition between the beginning and the end of the project	Sept 2018	Brazil - 100% Sri Lanka – 70% Turkey – 85%	**Brazil**: Completed for food composition. Since the project did not carry out nutrition interventions and no new national surveys were conducted since the beginning of the project indicators for food consumption will not be assessed. **Kenya**: This activity will not be carried out due to resource and budget constraints, as agreed in the 4th and 5th ISC meetings. **Sri Lanka:** Nutritional indicators on biodiversity consumption and composition were compiled by Wayamba University. A report is being prepared and will be ready for submission to FAO/INFOODS in September 2018. **Turkey**: Completed	S
Output 2.1: Cross-sectoral national policy platforms for mainstreaming agricultural biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into nutrition, health and education programmes established				
Activity 2.1.1 Develop terms of reference (TORs) for cross-sectoral national working group with core mandate for development of policies and strategies	July 2014	100%	Completed in all countries	S
Activity 2.1.2 Establish and collaborate with cross-sectoral national working group and identify individuals to spearhead policy development and implementation	July 2014	100%	Completed in all countries	S
Activity 2.1.3 Design action plan to build capacity and awareness of policy options and mainstreaming tools and disseminate relevant information widely	Sept 2018	Brazil – 100% Kenya – 100% Sri Lanka – 100% Turkey – 100%	**Brazil**: Completed. Greater engagement with CONSEA/CAISAN and partner Ministries as well as the publication of Ordinance 163/2016 is helping advance the inclusion of BFN in national Food and Nutrition Security policies. The federal initiatives that collaborated with the project are consistently promoting BFN in their activities. **Kenya**: Completed.	S

			Sri Lanka: Completed. BFN was a key contributor to the NBSAP document 2016-2022. **Turkey**: Engagement with relevant ministries and policy stakeholders has intensified and capacity building was provided for the mainstreaming of BFN in existing policy platforms. Awareness of policy options was created and relevant information was widely disseminated.	
Output 2.2: National and international policy guidelines and recommendations that promote the mainstreaming of agricultural biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into nutrition, health and education developed				
Activity 2.2.1 Undertake review of national policies and strategies, identifying barriers, gaps and opportunities	Dec 2015	100%	Completed in all countries	**S**
Activity 2.2.2 Draft guidelines and recommendations to promote the mainstreaming of biodiversity for food and nutrition and publish a policy brief	Dec 2017	Global – 100% Brazil -100% Kenya – 100% Sri Lanka – 100% Turkey – 100%	**Global**: Completed but ongoing as opportunities arise with different forums and networks. Policy briefs were drafted and are being reviewed by the NPMUs for publication in the second half of 2018.	**S**
Activity 2.2.3 Identify key 'change agents', potential champions and supporters of relevant policy reform	Dec 2017	100%	Completed in all countries	**S**
Activity 2.2.4 Host Policy Learning Events to disseminate best practices, current thinking and to share lessons of experiences	March 2018	100%	Completed in all countries	**S**
Activity 2.2.5 Develop implementation strategy and priority actions for international policies and strategies that promote the mainstreaming of local biodiversity into health, nutrition and agricultural programmes	Sept 2018	Global - 100% Brazil – 100% Kenya – 100% Sri Lanka – 100% Turkey –100%	**Global**: Completed but ongoing as opportunities arise with different forums and networks. Contributions to the *State of the World Report on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture* in 2018 is one such opportunity. **Brazil**: Completed **Kenya**: Completed. Although not directly influenced by the project, target species were mentioned in Kenya's food-based dietary guidelines published in 2017 and	**S**

			entitled "The National Guidelines for Healthy Diets and Physical Activity".	
			Sri Lanka: Completed	
			Turkey: A national BFN Policy platform was established and regular meetings organized with the Health, Environment and Education ministries as well as with the Extension services, academia, the private sector and local NGOs. BFN contributed to the 'Turkey Nutrition and Health Research in 2017. Case studies were completed and policy briefs were drafted and discussed during National Steering Committee meetings. Comments were sent to the GPMU for finalization.	
Output 2.3: New marketing options for biodiversity foods with high nutritional value identified and developed				
Activity 2.3.1 Undertake rapid appraisal to identify and assess markets or market niches and opportunities, including barriers and opportunities in project targeted ecosystems	June 2015	100%	Activities were completed in all countries	S
Activity 2.3.2 Identify key actors and steps and formulate a vision and upgrading strategy for value chain or market development	Dec 2017	Brazil -100% Kenya – 100% Sri Lanka – 100% Turkey – 100%	Activities were completed in all countries. **Brazil**: A book with a critical evaluation and case studies on local productive arrangements was published by MMA. CONAB is publishing trimestral "Sociobiodiversity Bulletins" with assessment of markets, value chains and expenditures on native products covered by PGPM-Bio. PGPM-Bio continues to assess value chains for native biodiversity products and one edible species (Buriti - *Mauritia flexuosa*) was included in the policy for the 2017/2018 harvest. Payments by PGPM-Bio for edible sociobiodiversity products more than doubled between 2016 and 2017 (from R$505k to R$1.2million). **Sri Lanka:** Completed	S

Activity 2.3.3 Develop guidelines/management plans for the sustainable production and use of wild and cultivated resources	June 2018	Brazil – 100% Kenya – 100%6 Sri Lanka – 100% Turkey – 100%	**Brazil**: Completed. A complete list of guidelines for the sustainable collection of wild fruits and nuts targeted by the project can be found here **Kenya**: Completed **Sri Lanka:** Completed **Turkey**: Completed. Guidelines were drafted on the safe and sustainable collection of wild edible species alongside a management plan for sustainable use of wild edibles	**S**
Activity 2.3.4 Develop marketing and promotion strategies including food, diversity and trade fairs (see output 3.4)	Sept 2018	100%	Completed in all countries, but opportunities to further promote BFN work will be taken as they arise. **Sri Lanka**: BFN will support the Festival of underutilized fruits organized by the Department of Agriculture planned for July 2018. **Turkey**: Completed	**S**
Output 3.1: Best practices for mobilizing biodiversity to improve dietary diversity identified and promoted				
Activity 3.1.1 Identify best practices for mobilizing and delivering biodiversity to improve dietary diversity and establish portal platform to document case studies covering GEF project experiences and other non-GEF examples	Ongoing	100%	**Global**: This is largely a globally-led activity identifying and documenting case studies and best practices on a platform hosted by the BFN project website. The website currently features 36 case studies from 26 different geographic locations as well as section on *Stories from the Field*. The four countries have identified country specific best practices that are being promoted and documented on their national portals.	**S**
Activity 3.1.2 Global publication reviewing current best practices for mobilizing biodiversity to improve dietary diversity at outset of the project	Mar 2013	100%	Completed. A follow up book publication is in the pipeline to showcase best practices for mobilizing biodiversity to improve	**S**

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[6] This is largely an activity linked to those countries working with wild species and also depends on countries having identified "target species". Kenya may decide not to undertake this activity.

			dietary diversity that have been tested and validated during the project lifetime	
Activity 3.1.3 Develop and disseminate information/materials and methodologies for implementing best practices in selected project pilot sites	Sept 2018	100% (ongoing)	This activity was completed in all countries, but writing and dissemination of information material continues at national events and seminars. Information is also captured on all national portals.	**S**
Activity 3.1.4 Organize participatory workshops with key stakeholders in selected sites and nationally to review and refine best practices	Sept 2018	100% (ongoing)	This activity was completed in all countries. **Turkey**: On 29-30 March 2018, in collaboration with the Department of Training, Extension and Publications of the Directorate of Food, Agriculture and Livestock and the Ministry of Education, BFN organised a Training of trainers' workshop, for the instructors of the "Youth Leadership Agricultural Camps" initiative that targets 4th grade students across 81 provinces. 166 people took part in the training that explored themes like wild edible plants, biodiversity, biotechnology, food safety and sustainable value chains among others.	**S**
Activity 3.1.5 Undertake training on best practices	May 2018	Brazil – 100% Kenya – 100% Sri Lanka – 100% Turkey – 100% (ongoing)	**Brazil**: Completed. Partner ministries continue to provide rural assistance and training to farmers and gatherers trough extension services such as the National Plan for Strengthening Gatherers and Riverine Communities (PLANAFE). Completed in Kenya, Sri Lanka and Turkey	**S**
Activity 3.1.6 Plan and implement best practices in selected sites	Sept 2018	Brazil- N/A Kenya – 100% Sri Lanka – 100% Turkey – 100%	Brazil is not operating at the pilot site level Completed in Kenya, Sri Lanka and Turkey **Turkey**: Between April and June 2018, approximately 2,500 4th grade students across 81 provinces took part in the *Youth Leadership Agricultural Camp* Initiative jointly organised by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Livestock and the Ministry of Education. Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition was chosen as this year's theme and children learnt about native wild	**S**

			edible plants, biodiversity and biotechnology.	
Activity 3.1.7 Develop a training module on best practices for mobilizing biodiversity to improve dietary diversity which can be adapted for use in nutrition and health programs in the four project countries and more widely	Sept 2018	Brazil - 95% Kenya – 100% Sri Lanka – 100% Turkey – 100%	This is largely a global activity being carried out by Brazil in collaboration with the GPMU. See updates below. **Brazil**: Five of the eight lessons of the online training module have been finalised and are available online in English and Portuguese. Designers are completing the insertion of the 3 remaining lesson on the online platform and will be available by Sept 2018. **Kenya, Sri Lanka** and **Turkey** provided country experiences and lessons learned for the online course. Translations of the online course into Turkish have begun	**S**
Output 3.2: Capacity of producers, processors, users and researchers to use and benefit from nutritionally relevant biodiversity enhanced				
Activity 3.2.1 Establish key competencies required among relevant stakeholder groups	Sept 2015	100%%	The activity was completed in all countries	**S**
Activity 3.2.2 Assess training needs required	Sept 2015	100%%	The activity was completed in all countries	**S**
Activity 3.2.3 Develop capacity building plan including action plan to implement training	Sept 2017	Brazil – 100% Kenya – 100% Sri Lanka – 100% Turkey – 100%	The activity was completed in all countries	**S**
Activity 3.2.4 Strengthen partnerships and collaborations and encourage south-to-south exchanges among GEF partner countries to share information and expertise	Sept 2018, ongoing	100%	This activity was completed in all countries All countries have benefited from key exchange visits to partner countries. The organization of BFN Conferences in all countries, as well as other international events has fostered the sharing of ideas and lessons learned. South-South exchange continued in the reporting period with country participation at the BFN Symposium in Brazil (Nov 2017), at the 9th edition of the Alaçatı herb Festival in April	**S**

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			2018 and at the Planetary Health Alliance meeting in May 2018**.**	
Output 3.3: Information events that foster greater appreciation of biodiversity for food and nutrition as a resource for development and wellbeing conducted				
Activity 3.3.1 Develop terms of reference for national information events	Jan 2015, ongoing	100%	This activity was completed in all countries.	**S**
Activity 3.3.2 Identify national information events taskforce	Jan 2015, ongoing	100%	This activity was completed in all countries.	**S**
Activity 3.3.3 Develop national information events strategies and action plans	July 2015	Brazil - 100% Kenya – 100% Sri Lanka – 100% Turkey – 100%	This activity was completed in all countries **Brazil**: In 2017 the NPMU hired a communications advisor to scale up the outreach of the project.	**S**
Activity 3.3.4 Implement selected national information events	Sept 2018	Brazil - 100% Kenya – 100% Sri Lanka – 100% Turkey – 100%	This activity was completed in all countries but will continue until project end. **Brazil:** The international BFN Symposium was organised and held in Brasilia in November 2018.*Turkey*: In the reporting period, BFN co-organized the 9th edition of the Alaçatı Herb Festival (April 2018), hosting a dedicated BFN side event. Presentations byBFN Turkey were delivered at the Çamlık Herb Festival and the Aci Ot (Black bryony) festival (March 2018) and the Gastro Alaturka event (May 2018), BFN also took part in the 4th edition of the Samsun Regional Herb Dishes Festival (9-13 May 2018).	**S**
Output 3.4: Guidelines for improved use of nutritionally-rich foods from local biodiversity, including processing, food safety measures, and recipes adapted to modern lifestyles based on traditional food systems developed				
Activity 3.4.1 Prepare guidelines for improved use; processing; food safety; packaging; quality control; marketing, certification (fair-trade, eco-labelling), promotion	Nov 2017	Brazil – 100% Kenya – 100% Sri Lanka – 100% Turkey – 100%	Completed in all countries	**S**
Activity 3.4.2 Publish books based on traditional recipes for nutritionally rich foods from local biodiversity and recipes adapted to modern lifestyles	Sept 2018	Brazil – 90% Kenya – 90% Sri Lanka – 100% Turkey – 90%	**Brazil**: This activity was partially implemented with the publication of the "Regional Foods" book in 2015. Partner Universities completed the development of	**S**

			recipes for prioritized species, which will be published both in the online database and in book format in 2018. **Kenya**: A recipe book collecting traditional recipes from Busia will be launched during National Nutrition Week in July 2018. **Sri Lanka**: Several publications are planned for 2018. **Turkey**: Several publications are in the pipeline at various printing stages: a regional recipe book and a children's book (drafted); an illustrated book on wild edibles and underutilised species (in the press); as well as an information brochure on wild edibles and underutilised species (; a book on a select number of Turkish Wild Edibles and Underutilized Species and Their Popular Recipes, and an Inventory of Antalya's Local and Regional Products, which have all been published	
Activity 3.4.3 Global publication on the improved use of selected nutritionally-rich food from local biodiversity	Sept 2018	Global – 80%	The case studies (both project and non-project) will contribute to this activity. Two consultants were hired to bring together project experiences and several publications on the BFN lessons learned are in the pipeline, including a follow up book publication to the 2013 Diversifying Food and Diets which will showcase BFN country achievements and outputs	S
Output 3.5: Tools and methods for mainstreaming biodiversity into food and nutrition strategies upscaled and disseminated				
Activity 3.5.1 Review current status of mainstreaming biodiversity instruments, tools and approaches by sector and cross-sectorally with emphasis on mainstreaming into food and nutrition activities	July 2015	100%	Completed. All countries reviewed their national mainstreaming approaches. The *Voluntary Guidelines for Mainstreaming Biodiversity,* developed by FAO in collaboration with Bioversity, are being translated, disseminated in several project countries and integrated into national policy recommendations.	S

Activity 3.5.2 Inventory relevant instruments, tools and methods	July 2015, ongoing	100%	Completed in all countries	**S**
Activity 3.5.3 Guidelines for using tools and instruments for mainstreaming	Dec 2017	Global - 95% Brazil – 100% Kenya – 100% Sri Lanka – 100% Turkey – 100%	**See 3.1.7** All countries contributed content for the drafting of the online course - an important tool for mainstreaming BFN in all countries and in relevant public policies. This is partially complete, with 5 lessons published and available online and 3 to be published by 2018. The Global Mainstreaming Toolkit was drafted and shared at the 5th ISC meeting. A consultant is updating the toolkit to be published in electronic format by Sept 2018.	**S**
Component 4 – Project management				
Activity 4.1 Establish arrangements for global and national project administration and implementation infrastructure including global and national coordination units	Mar 2013	100%	Completed	**S**
Activity 4.2 Plan and undertake a full project inception meeting	Mar 2013	100%	Completed	**S**
Activity 4.3 Establish and operate project budgeting and accounting system	Mar 2013	100%	Completed	**S**
Activity 4.4 Review and refine work plans with national project coordinators and partners in participating countries based on better understanding of local context	Yearly	100%	Original work plans and logframe were reviewed by national partners and amendments discussed following the MTR review	**S**
Activity 4.5 Establish project International Steering Committee and conduct annual meetings	Yearly	100%	The 1st ISC meeting was carried out in April 2012. The activity is ongoing and the 6th ISC meeting was successfully held in Brazil in November 2017.	**S**
Activity 4.6 Establish project National Steering Committees and conduct regular meetings	Yearly	100%	National Steering Committee meetings were held in all project countries. The activity is ongoing.	**S**
Activity 4.7 Where relevant, establish additional site or technical committees	Nov 2013	Kenya – 100% Turkey – 100%	Completed in Kenya and Turkey	**S**
Component 5 – Monitoring and evaluation				

Activity 5.1 Finalise and disseminate project Monitoring and Evaluation Plan	Mar 2013	100%	Completed	**S**
Activity 5.2 Establish reporting plan and requirements, templates	Mar 2013	100%	Completed	**S**
Activity 5.3 Submit project and financial reports to GEF	2013-2017	100%	Completed	**S**
Activity 5.4 Organise and implement project Mid-Term Evaluation	Mar 2015	100%	Completed	**S**
Activity 5.5 Organise and implement project Final Evaluation	TBD	Activity yet to commence	This activity was not planned to be initiated during the reporting period indicated.	**N/A**

Overall project implementation progress

FY2018 rating	Comments/narrative justifying the rating for this FY and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
S	The implementation of most activities and outputs has been achieved in compliance with the project workplan, which was again revised during the 5th ISC Meeting in Turkey to make indicators and targets clearer and more realistic. Some of the indicators and targets were revised by the MTR consultant who made further recommendations for revision. In Sri Lanka, the resolution of the administrative requirements involved for the disbursement of funds has enabled the country to significantly step-up implementation of a number of activities and outputs bringing the project's overall implementation rating to a satisfactory level. All activities linked to making use of collected data are ongoing in all countries. The rating for overall project implementation is also in line with the Highly Satisfactory (HS) rating awarded by the MTR.

Action plan to address MS, MU, U and HU rating

Action(s) to be taken	By whom?	By when?
N/A		

This section should be completed if project **progress** was rated MS, MU, U or HU during the previous Project Implementation Review (PIR) or by the Mid-term Review/Evaluation.

Problem(s) identified in previous PIR FY2017	Action(s) taken	By whom	When
MS Activity 1.3.2 Determine in each country baseline data for Nutrition Indicator for Biodiversity on food composition and consumption, in collaboration with national coordinator of INFOODS-FAO	Nutritional indicators on biodiversity consumption and composition were compiled by Wayamba University. A report is being prepared and will be ready for submission to FAO/INFOODS in September 2018.	NPMU Sri Lanka	September 2018

3.3.   Risk

RISK FACTOR TABLE

Risk Factor	Indicator of Low Risk	Indicator of Medium Risk	Indicator of High Risk	Project Manager Rating						Notes	Task Manager Rating					
				Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined		Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined
INTERNAL RISK																
Project management																
Management structure	Stable with roles and responsibilities clearly defined and understood	Individuals understand their own role but are unsure of responsibilities of others	Unclear responsibilities or overlapping functions which lead to management problems	X						**PM/UNEP TM; FAO** Roles and responsibilities are generally satisfactorily.						
Governance structure	Steering Committee and/or other project bodies meet periodically and provide effective direction/inputs	Body(ies) meets periodically but guidance/input provided to project is inadequate. TOR unclear	Members lack commitment Committee/body does not fulfil its TOR	X						**PM/ UNEP TM, FAO** Steering committees, both national and international, and site committees have met on a regular basis and continue to perform their required roles satisfactorily.						

Risk Factor	Indicator of Low Risk	Indicator of Medium Risk	Indicator of High Risk	Project Manager Rating						Notes	Task Manager Rating					
				Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined		Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined
INTERNAL RISK																
Project management																
Internal communications	Fluid and cordial	Communication process deficient although relationships between team members are good	Lack of adequate communication between team members leading to deterioration of relationships and resentment	X						**PM/ UNEP TM, FAO** Internal communications are generally satisfactory. The GPMU has clear lines of communication with all NPMUs as well as the wider number of country partners in the four countries. The project has also set up a project-related Listserve regarding specific activities across the project technical components.						
Work flow	Project progressing according to work plan	Some changes in project work plan but without major effect on overall timetable	Major delays or changes in work plan or method of implementation		X					**PM/ UNEP TM, FAO** Despite the now considerable workload on the GPMU, NPMUs and NPCs, across the four country partners, project progress has been satisfactory and progress is on schedule. Outstanding activities were reviewed by the MTR and new target dates and remedial actions put in place. Further revisions to the workplan were undertaken during the 5th ISC meeting and finalised by the MTR.						

Risk Factor	Indicator of Low Risk	Indicator of Medium Risk	Indicator of High Risk	Project Manager Rating						Notes	Task Manager Rating					
				Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined		Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined
INTERNAL RISK																
Project management																
Co-financing	Co-financing is secured and payments are received on time	Is secured but payments are slow and bureaucratic	A substantial part of pledged co-financing may not materialize	X						**PM/ UNEP TM, FAO** Co-financing commitments are on track. Further the project has managed to leverage additional support for the project						
Budget	Activities are progressing within planned budget	Minor budget reallocation needed	Reallocation between budget lines exceeding 30% of original budget		X					**PM/ UNEP TM, FAO** Following the recent MTR recommendation for a NCE for the project, the budget was revised with some reallocations between budget lines. There may be a challenge for Sri Lanka to spend their remaining allocation. The GPMU is monitoring this situation closely.						
Financial management	Funds are correctly managed and transparently accounted for	Financial reporting slow or deficient	Serious financial reporting problems or indication of mismanagement of funds	X						**PM/ UNEP TM, FAO** Funds are correctly managed and transparently accounted for.						

Risk Factor	Indicator of Low Risk	Indicator of Medium Risk	Indicator of High Risk	Project Manager Rating						Notes	Task Manager Rating					
				Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined		Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined
INTERNAL RISK																
Project management																
Reporting	Substantive reports are presented in a timely manner and are complete and accurate with a good analysis of project progress and implementation issues	Reports are complete and accurate but often delayed or lack critical analysis of progress and implementation issues	Serious concerns about quality and timeliness of project reporting	X						**PM/ UNEP TM, FAO** The recent MTR highlights that progress reports are timely and of a good standard though that there was a tendency for countries to report the same in-country activity under different activity headings in the PIR. The GPMU has tried to address this were possible. The MTR also noted country reports were very comprehensive and provided an accurate insight into country activities and that country missions by the GPC also ensured that progress in activities was closely monitored.						

Risk Factor	Indicator of Low Risk	Indicator of Medium Risk	Indicator of High Risk	Project Manager Rating						Notes	Task Manager Rating					
				Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined		Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined
INTERNAL RISK																
Project management																
Stakeholder involvement	Stakeholder analysis done and positive feedback from critical stakeholders and partners	Consultation and participation process seems strong but misses some groups or relevant partners	Symptoms of conflict with critical stakeholders or evidence of apathy and lack of interest from partners or other stakeholders	X						**PM/ UNEP TM, FAO** Having undertaken major stakeholder mapping during project preparation, countries have a steering committee and technical committees that provide guidance and enhance collaboration. Various bodies such as agricultural, health and conservation ministries, universities and NGOs are working collaboratively on project activities. Collaborative agreements, where appropriate, with identified stakeholders were established.						

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Risk Factor	Indicator of Low Risk	Indicator of Medium Risk	Indicator of High Risk	Project Manager Rating						Notes	Task Manager Rating					
				Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined		Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined
INTERNAL RISK																
Project management																
External com-munications	Evidence that stakeholders, practitioners and/or the general public understand project and are regularly updated on progress	Communications efforts are taking place but not yet evidence that message is successfully transmitted	Project existence is not known beyond implementation partners or misunderstand-ings concerning objectives and activities evident		X					**PM/ UNEP TM, FAO** External communications do present a challenge and, as highlighted in the MTR, the project could have benefited from the appointment of a communications specialist. Unfortunately, the funds for this are limited but a modest budget was deployed to hire one person on a short-term basis to assist. The GPMU has also regularly recruited and placed interns to assist with this aspect of the project in supporting the maintenance of the project website and other communication tools including flyers, project newsletter and relevant social media. As the project draws to a close, many BFN legacy products are being prepared which will be showcased at the CBD COP14						

Risk Factor	Indicator of Low Risk	Indicator of Medium Risk	Indicator of High Risk	Project Manager Rating						Notes	Task Manager Rating					
				Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined		Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined
INTERNAL RISK																
Project management																
Short term/long term balance	Project is addressing short term needs and achieving results with a long term perspective, particularly sustainability and replicability	Project is interested in the short term with little understanding of or interest in the long term	Longer term issues are deliberately ignored or neglected		X					**PM/ UNEP TM, FAO** The Project has addressed many short-term needs in BFN countries. In the long term, the project is creating the conditions and opportunities for institutions and individuals at country level to bring about change and many of the initiatives and activities commenced in the project are prime candidates for replicability including targeting school feeding and public procurement of food biodiversity. All countries involved have developed very supportive institutional frameworks and multi-sectoral platforms to help achieve this.						
Science and technological issues	Project based on sound science and well established technologies	Project testing approaches, methods or technologies but based on sound analysis of options and risks	Many scientific and /or technological uncertainties		X					**PM/ UNEP TM, FAO** The Project is largely based on sound scientific and technical approaches that have been validated elsewhere or tested in pilot sites.						

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Risk Factor	Indicator of Low Risk	Indicator of Medium Risk	Indicator of High Risk	Project Manager Rating						Notes	Task Manager Rating					
				Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined		Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined
INTERNAL RISK																
Project management																
Political influences	Project decisions and choices are not particularly politically driven	Signs that some project decisions are politically motivated	Project is subject to a variety of political influences that may jeopardize project objectives		X					**PM/ UNEP TM, FAO** Project decisions are based on the agreed project framework and work plan and opportunities for synergy with other initiatives. Staff was appointed based on agreed terms of reference. Transparency in financial and technical reporting, and country visits by the executing agency show that project decisions are not politically driven. This was also noted by the MTR.						
Other, please specify. Add rows as necessary										N/A						

Risk Factor	Indicator of Low Risk	Indicator of Medium Risk	Indicator of High Risk	Project Manager Rating						Notes	Task Manager Rating					
				Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined		Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined
EXTERNAL RISK																
Project context																
Political stability	Political context is stable and safe	Political context is unstable but predictable and not a threat to project implementation	Very disruptive and volatile		X					**PM/ UNEP TM, FAO** The attacks and unrest in Turkey of 2016 created some concerns especially in relation to the then planned for MTR and ISC. Both of these went ahead without any significant problems, though the project continues to monitor the situation. In Kenya, the build up to the 2017 August elections required the situation to be monitored as well, though activities were able to move ahead smoothly. In Brazil, the political environment is still unsettled though the day-to-day activities of BFN country partners is largely unaffected.						
Environmental conditions	Project area is not affected by severe weather events or major environmental stress factors	Project area is subject to more or less predictable disasters or changes	Project area has very harsh environmental conditions		X					**PM/ UNEP TM, FAO** Other than Sri Lanka, the pilot sites and other areas where the project is being implemented were not affected by severe weather events. In Sri Lanka certain areas of the country are experiencing severe drought, which has meant the rescheduling of a few activities.						

Risk Factor	Indicator of Low Risk	Indicator of Medium Risk	Indicator of High Risk	Project Manager Rating						Notes	Task Manager Rating					
				Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined		Low	Medium	Substantial	High	Not Applicable	To be determined
EXTERNAL RISK																
Project context																
Social, cultural and economic factors	There are no evident social, cultural and/or economic issues that may affect project performance and results	Social or economic issues or changes pose challenges to project implementation but mitigation strategies have been developed	Project is highly sensitive to economic fluctuations, to social issues or cultural barriers	X						**PM/ UNEP TM,FAO** No major social, cultural or economic factors (other than that referred to above under political stability) were encountered during the current reporting period.						
Capacity issues	Sound technical and managerial capacity of institutions and other project partners	Weaknesses exist but have been identified and actions is taken to build the necessary capacity	Capacity is very low at all levels and partners require constant support and technical assistance	X						**PM/ UNEP TM, FAO** Generally, capacity of institutions and project partners to implement project activities and objectives is satisfactory. However, the GPMU with a team of two is under-staffed.						
Others, please specify										N/A						

If there is a significant (over 50% of risk factors) discrepancy between Project Manager and Task Manager rating, an explanation by the Task Manager should be provided below

N/A

Project overall risk rating (Low, Medium, Substantial or High)

FY2018 rating	Comments/narrative justifying the current FY rating and any changes (positive or negative) in the rating since the previous reporting period
Medium	There is no change in the rating since the previous reporting period. There is little that will affect the remaining implementation of the project. The GPMU is monitoring the disbursement in Sri Lanka to ensure that their remaining budget allocation can be utilized during the project lifetime
If a risk mitigation plan had been presented for a previous period or as a result of the Mid-Term Review/Evaluation please report on progress or results of its implementation	
No Risk Mitigation plan presented in the previous PIR	

4. RATING MONITORING AND EVALUATION

*Based on the answers provided to the questions in 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 below, the **UNEP Task Manager** in collaboration with FAO will provide ratings for the following aspects of project monitoring and evaluation:*

> (i)   *Overall **quality** of the Monitoring &Evaluation plan*
> (ii)   *Performance in the **implementation** of the M&E plan*

4.1. Does the project M&E plan contain the following:
- Baseline information for each outcome-level indicator   Yes □   No **X**
- SMART indicators to track project outcomes   Yes **X**   No □
- A clear distribution of responsibilities for monitoring project progress. Yes **X**   No □

4.2. Has the project budgeted for the following M&E activities:
- Mid-term review/evaluation   Yes **X**   No □
- Terminal evaluation   Yes **X**   No □
- Any costs associated with collecting and analysing indicators-related information   Yes **X**   No □

Please rate the **quality** of the project M&E plan (use HS, S, MS, MU, U, HU): **S**

4.3 Has the project:
- Utilized the indicators identified in the M&E plan to track progress in meeting the project objectives;   Yes **X**   No □
- Fulfilled the specified reporting requirements (financial, including on co-financing and auditing, and substantive reports)   Yes **X**   No □
- Completed any scheduled MTR or MTE before or at project implementation mid-point;   Yes **X**   No □
- Applied adaptive management in response to M&E activities   Yes **X**   No □
- Implemented any existing risk mitigation plan (see previous section) Yes **X**   No □

Please rate the performance in **implementing** the M&E plan (use HS, S, MS, MU, U, HU): **S**

4.4. Please describe activities for monitoring and evaluation carried out during the reporting period

The Global Project Management Unit (GPMU) undertook a number of country missions during the reporting period including 1 trip to Brazil (Nov/Dec 2017), 5 trips to Sri Lanka (July 2017, Sept 2017, Oct 2017, Dec 2017 and Jan/Feb 2018), one trip to Turkey (March 2018), and two trips to Kenya (July 2017 and January 2018). Trip reports including information collected and recommendations made can be provided upon request, and were distributed to BFN project partners. National project coordinators and project teams in all countries continue to meet on a regular basis through national steering committees (NSCs) and other technical and site committees and make necessary visits to pilot sites to discuss project progress and implementation barriers.

4.5. Provide information on the quality of baseline information and any effects (positive or negative) on the selection of indicators and the design of other project monitoring activities

Baseline information, both quantitative and qualitative, now collected in all countries in relation to 1) biodiversity indicators for composition and consumption (except for Kenya) 2) increased awareness and purchases of species promoted by the project in school feeding and procurement programmes (Brazil and Kenya) 3) increased market for local food biodiversity (Turkey and Sri Lanka), are being used to monitor trends in increased use of project species. The documentation of traditional knowledge associated with target species is now available on national databases and is included in peer-review and other publications.

4.6. Provide comments on the usefulness and relevance of selected indicators and experiences in the application of the same.

The current set of indicators, which underwent considerable revision and refinement during the annual ISC meetings, provide a useful body of quantitative and qualitative information to measure success in implementing activities. Most indicators are realistic, measurable and achievable though some challenges remain with regards to fully capturing what is happening in relation to mainstreaming and 'enhanced awareness and political support', which are hard to measure.

4.7. Describe any challenges in obtaining data relevant to the selected indicators; has the project experienced problems to cover costs associated with the tracking of indicators?

The project has not experienced major problems in tracking of indicators, though the demands on national project coordinators and country partners' time does limit how effectively this is achieved. With the opportunity to revisit and revise the project indicators and activities during the ISC meetings and through the mid-term review (MTR), it is now felt that most indicators are more understandable and realistic, measurable and achievable.

4.8. Describe any changes in the indicators or in the project intervention logic, including an explanation of whether key assumptions are still valid

Reviews and revision of certain indicators was undertaken during the 2nd to the 5th ISC meetings, as well as taking on board recommendations by the MTR. Following the revisions, the key assumptions of the project remain were rechecked and found to be still largely valid by the MTR.

4.9. Describe how potential social or environmental negative effects are monitored

The project has employed participatory and community-based approaches and includes a broad range of stakeholders from local communities to government agencies. These processes provide an effective means to monitor potential social and environmental negative effects arising as a result of the project. To date, no negative social or environmental impacts were highlighted due to project interventions. Generally, the pilot sites and other areas where the project is being implemented have not been

affected by severe environmental events or major environmental stress factors, nor have they had significant environmental impacts. The project is also guided by the 'Checklist for Environmental and Social Issues' developed for the project to assist in the monitoring of potential negative effects.

4.10. Please provide any other experiences or lessons relevant to the design and implementation of project monitoring and evaluation plans.

See below in 5.1

5. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION EXPERIENCES AND LESSONS

5.1. Please summarize any experiences and/or lessons related to project _design_ and _implementation_.

Interaction with Government – this is fundamental to ensure that policy makers embrace the project and can act as influencers. Influencing decisions does not just depend on producing convincing science and useful information - it is also about influence and relationships. The Project has demonstrated the importance of both identifying strategic partnerships and nurturing those partnerships to influence country buy-in. The factors identified as contributing to strong partnerships are commitment, continuity and time.

Alignment with Government strategies - Ensuring that Project objectives are aligned and embedded with the Government's strategy and goals is an important element in ensuring a project's success; particularly as government goals and priorities change and develop over time.

Strong national teams – The value of building a strong national team, based on skills, expertise and experience must not be underestimated. Strong teams are vital for the Project should any external influences disrupt project implementation.

Flexibility - this ensures that opportunities that are beneficial for replication and out-scaling can be seized as they arise.

Effective backstopping and coordination mechanism provided by the International Steering Committee at the global level and by the National Project Coordinators and National Steering Committees at the national level. Funding should always be adequately allocated for these mechanisms despite the fact that international meetings can be considered wasteful of resources. The fact that the executing and implementing agencies were located in Rome also helped in the implementation of this global, multi-country Project.

Good planning - Countries acknowledged the importance of good planning at the start of the Project and comprehensive literature reviews to build on existing knowledge and to avoid duplication.

Effective pilot site team - The progress made by all countries working at the pilot site scale underlines the importance and benefits of having a cross-sectoral Pilot Site Implementing Committee and pilot site coordinators.

Enthusiasm/commitment - It is important to recognize and to acknowledge the contribution enthusiasm and commitment by national and global teams have made to engaging and maintaining partners, and will make to sustainability.

5.2. Please highlight a few major achievements resulting so far from the project implementation

Concrete results, both on-the-ground and normative

- As a result of project efforts, the first ever County Biodiversity Policy for any of Kenya's 47 counties was endorsed and adopted in March 2018.

- An additional grant was secured by the Australian Centre of International Agricultural Research to build on results achieved during the pilot project set up in Busia County, Kenya, as part of BFN. Funds will enable the project to gain a deeper and more rigorous understanding of the agroecological conditions and market linkage settings required for home-grown school feeding approaches such as the one tested in Busia to yield positive agricultural development and nutrition outcomes as well as the economic and social impacts of providing a reliable market for smallholder farmers. The approach will be expanded to include new locations in Kenya and to three additional countries: Ethiopia, Tanzania and Uganda.

- Ninth edition of the Alaçatı Food Festival in Turkey (April 2018)

- In 30 May 2018, a new ordinance was published in Brazil in support of BFN. Interministerial Ordinance N. 284 replaces Ordinance N. 163 and has resulted in an updated list of native Brazilian sociobiodiversity species of nutritional value. The 100 species included in the list are officially recognised as nutritionally important and are expected to become more attractive for growers and consumers alike resulting in improved to use and commercialization of the species, as well as of increased conservation efforts.

- All countries have set up national databases Traditional knowledge of the species was documented and converted to publications and recipe books for wider dissemination

- International Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition Symposium (Brazil - Nov/Dec 2017)

- Rapid national expansion of *Hela bojun* food outlets in Sri Lanka

- Two planned publications with Routledge on the BFN experience and School Gardens, including BFN experiences to date

6. Stories & Contributions to UN Environment's GEF Communications Work

6.1 Are there any especially interesting and impactful project results that you would like to bring to the attention of our GEF Corporate Communications efforts? Please provide a very brief summary.

In March 2018, Busia County became the first of Kenya's 47 counties to endorse a Biodiversity Conservation Policy that recognizes the economic and nutritional potential of indigenous species. The policy represents the culmination of efforts by the Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition (BFN) Initiative *to promote increased production and consumption of underutilised, indigenous food species.*

Located in Western Kenya, Busia County is home to a range of indigenous, semi-domesticated crops typically found growing only in smallholder farms. Although many of these plants are still associated with traditional cultural practices, their cultivation remains low compared to that of staple crops like maize.

Since 2012, BFN – with financial support from FAO - has collaborated with Kenyan universities and research institutes to conduct nutrient analyses of crops such as African nightshade, Bambara groundnut, amaranth and spider plant. Many of these species are highly nutritious, offering a promising solution to the region's high rates of malnutrition (over 26%), stunting, anaemia, and other dietary deficiencies. These are also locally-adapted crops, with pest and drought-resistant properties, making them sustainable growing choices that build smallholder farmer resilience.

The policy is the culmination of nearly two years of engagement and research by the [Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition Initiative](#) working with a range of multi-level partners including farmer groups, women's organizations, village leaders, government representatives and policymakers to spread awareness of the value of indigenous species. The final policy document was the result of a lengthy writing and approval process involving public participation, as well as the formation of a cross-sectoral policy taskforce.

The Busia biodiversity policy takes a four-pronged approach:
1. Enhancing biodiversity conservation;
2. Improving access to and ensuring equitable sharing of benefits accrued from access and utilization of county biodiversity;
3. Promoting biodiversity utilization; and
4. Promoting biodiversity research and development.

While the process required overcoming numerous barriers, it has been a strong step forward and a testament to a multi-level partnership-based approach to *increasing awareness, providing evidence,* and *influencing policy*. In the words of National Project Coordinator Dr. Victor Wasike, "This will be a case study that other counties can learn from and replicate".