



Adaptation Fund: Increasing Climate Resilience & Enhancing Sustainable Land Management in the Southwest of the Buenos Ai

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Implementing Agencies: Government Secretariat of Environment and Sustainable Development, The Argentine Republic, Ministry of Treasury

Key Dates

Key Project Dates

Bank Approval Date:20-Sep-2013

Effectiveness Date:27-May-2014

Original Closing Date:30-Dec-2018

Revised Closing Date:30-Dec-2018

Project Development Objectives

Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The PDO is to contribute to reducing climate and man-made vulnerability of the agroecosystems in the Southwest of the Buenos Aires Province by increasing adaptive capacity of key local institutions and actors and piloting and disseminating climate resilient and sustainable land management practices.

Has the Project Development Objective been changed since Board Approval of the Project Objective?

No

Components

Name

Overall Ratings

Name	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Progress towards achievement of PDO	● Satisfactory	● Satisfactory
Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	● Satisfactory	● Satisfactory

Implementation Status and Key Decisions

The project implementation pace and the progress achieved on the ground has continued proceeding in satisfactory terms. On-the-ground implementation of the 11 Specific Intervention Sites (SISs) is yielding expected results and enjoys strong ownership both by the direct beneficiaries, responsible partner agencies and further stakeholders at the local level. The Project Team (PT; the name that replaces Project Implementation Unit,



PIU after the recent Government reform to centralize project management functions within sector agencies) within the Government Secretariat of Environment and Sustainable Development (SGAyDS) has been able to overcome administrative challenges posed by the fiscal crisis. The implementation status per component is resumed as follows:

Component 1: Reducing Institutional and Community-level Vulnerability. The PT maintains strong working relations with the participating institutions and actors at local and national levels. This is particularly the case with the institutions that lead the execution of the adaptation pilots in the SISs under Component 2, namely the National Institute for Agricultural Technology (INTA) that manages eight SISs; National Southern University (UNS); Center of Renewable Natural Resources in the Semi-arid Zone-National Center of Scientific and Technical Research (CERZOS-CONICET); and Carlos Spegazzini Agrarian School, which all manage one SIS. The three Municipalities that are direct project beneficiaries, Puan, Villarino and Patagones, have been able to build their institutional capacity to address climate related challenges.

The main result of Component 1 is the establishment and interinstitutional operation of an innovative Information and Early Warning System (IEWS) on Climate Change and Desertification within the Southwest of the Province of Buenos Aires. The IEWS has produced, disseminated and constantly improved quarterly Meteorological and Agricultural Outlook Reports since December 2016, covering agrometeorological conditions, agricultural production forecasts, and risk of fire and wind erosion, available e.g. at the website of INTA (<https://inta.gob.ar/documentos/siat-sistema-de-informacion-y-alerta-temprana-del-sudoeste-bonaerense>). The National Meteorological Service (SMN) is working to upgrade the IEWS to cover (i) real-time monitoring of the beginning and geographical extent of droughts through climatic and satellite data and indices; (ii) forecasts of the possible temporal evolution of droughts; and (iii) participatory design of plans and actions for the issuance of early warnings destined to sectors affected by drought to allow managing related risks and mitigating impacts.

Component 2: Implementing Adaptation Measures in Productive Agroecosystems. Implementation of this most substantive project component on adaptation measures in productive agroecosystems continues in satisfactory terms. 11 SISs and five municipal pilot plans designed through participatory processes with the responsible institutions and beneficiary municipalities, farmers, and other local actors have received most of the necessary inputs and the thus far on-the-ground results are positive. A total of 12 climate-smart land use practices are under implementation in the SISs. Regarding the municipal plans, two are on reforestation in Puan and Villarino that have strengthened their municipal tree nurseries with the project support, and three on environmentally geared forage production in each of the beneficiary Municipalities to fix soil and reduce wind erosion through increased topsoil coverage, Patagones having been the pioneer in this activity. As with the SMN under Component 1, notable inter-institutional articulation between national and local public organizations beyond the original project design is taking place in Villarino, where the project contributes to a pioneering collaboration between the national Ministry of Health and Social Development, National Roads Agency, and the municipal government on one of the first green employment programs in Argentina. The program has established a cooperative called Foresta that has consolidated its work and started to expand it from the original planting of tree barriers along national roads to reduce wind erosion to production of compost and honey.

Component 3: Applying a Participatory Approach to Knowledge Management and Monitoring and Evaluation. Staff of the local partner institutions and the Municipalities of Puan, Villarino and Patagones, responsible for the SISs and the municipal plans, have been trained on the applicable monitoring and evaluation techniques that apply across the project activities. Implementation of consistent and periodic monitoring activities is conducted, and their systematic register in files and compilation of aggregated monitoring data continues under work. The annual results monitoring workshop took place on December 11, 2018 in Bahia Blanca together with representatives of each SIS and the participating institutions.

The PT has continued active work in communication to disseminate project results and has advanced preparation of knowledge management (KM) activities during the project extension period from January to September 2019. The project has remained visible in local media and has gained visibility also through the SGAYDS, World Bank and Adaptation Fund publications/websites. Farmers working on the SISs share monthly gatherings where information and experience is shared also with non-participating farmers interested in the pilot activities. The two local field technicians contracted by the project serve as key information disseminators across the SISs and the beneficiary municipalities.

Component 4: Developing a Sustainability Strategy. The four main interinstitutional work fronts on policies/plans that aim to develop/scale-up results that transcend the project implementation include:

(i) the IEWS whose interinstitutional legal agreement has been fully signed to consolidate its institutional set-up and the SMN is working to upgrade its substance content;



- (ii) Villarino Reforestation Plan that counts with innovative collaboration with the national Ministry of Health and Social Development and the National Roads Agency;
- (iii) municipal sustainable forage plans to support recovery of degraded soil and natural pastures through use of perennial and nitrogen-rich species; and
- (iv) dialogue within the Governmental Committee on Climate Change (GCCC), including elaboration of national adaptation plans e.g. on agroindustry.

Risks

Overall Risk Rating

Risk Category	Rating at Approval	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Overall	--	● Moderate	● Substantial

Comments

The project's overall risk rating is increased to Substantial due to the significant fiscal and administrative challenges the project and its participating institutions face at all levels due to the prevailing fiscal crisis and constraints in Argentina. During 2018, the Project Team gave significant efforts to overcome these challenges in a satisfactory manner and is prepared to continue with similar efforts in 2019 until the extended project closing date on September 30. Despite this satisfactory performance during 2018, Substantial overall risk is warranted as the fiscal crisis is expected to continue/worsen in 2019 and may impact the course and sustainability of the on-going project activities.

Results

Project Development Objective Indicators

► Targeted institutions that reflect institution-specific adaptation needs in their functional/operational structures, HR composition, work programs, etc. to increase their capacity to address climate-r (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	7.00	9.00	10.00
Date	22-Jul-2013	26-Apr-2018	04-Dec-2018	30-Dec-2018

Comments

The nine reported institutions are: (i) Municipality of Puan has allocated resources to strengthen its Bordenave Municipal Tree Nursery and established a Municipal Nature Reserve (protected area) and a Municipal Plan on Sustainable Forage Production that aims at fixing soil and reducing wind erosion through increased topsoil coverage; (ii) Municipality of Villarino has created a Municipal Environmental Agency and a Municipal Nature Reserve (protected area), is co-implementing a pilot program of green employment with a road-side afforestation plan aimed at reducing wind erosion ("Green Employment Pilot"), and has established a Municipal Plan on Sustainable Forage Production; (iii) Municipality of Patagones has established a Municipal Plan on Sustainable Forage Production; (iv) National Ministry of Health and Social Development is co-implementing the Green Employment Pilot; (v)



National Roads Agency is co-implementing the Green Employment Pilot; (vi) National Institute on Agricultural Technology (INTA: Ascasubi and Bordenave Experimental Stations) signed the Information and Early-Warning System (IEWS) Agreement in February 2018 and is implementing several related projects with own funding; (vii) National Meteorological Service (SMN) provides maintenance of meteorological stations, server space and data processing for the development of a Drought Index in the project area and signed the IEWS Agreement in April 2018; (viii) Center of Renewable Natural Resources in the Semiarid Zone (CERZOS) – National Center of Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET) signed the IEWS Agreement in May 2018; and (ix) National Southern University (UNS) signed the IEWS Agreement in October 2018.

The tenth expected inclusion in these institutional results is CORFO, the Development Corporation of the Colorado River in Bonaerense Valley that runs a mayor irrigation system on which some of the project-supported vegetable producers/SISs depend. With support by the project, CORFO is working to establish a new program to support financing of water efficiency measures by its members, as reported in the last CORFO Assembly in November 2018.

► Productive agroecosystems in the pilot sites maintained or improved to withstand conditions resulting from climate variability and change (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	13.00	13.00	10.00
Date	22-Jul-2013	26-Apr-2018	04-Dec-2018	30-Dec-2018

Comments

41 climate-smart land use practices/technologies have been identified through participatory processes and 13 of them are being implemented in 11 Specific Intervention Sites (SIS). The indicator bases on a proxy index with hypothetical values from 0 to 24, assuming a total of 12 SISs as planned during the project preparation. In said index, each SIS where the status of the agroecosystem improves adds 2 points; a SIS where it is maintained adds 1 point; and a SIS where the agroecosystem deteriorates adds 0 point.

Collection of the respective baseline information and development of a monitoring system on the SISs was completed in August 2017 by The Nature Conservancy (TNC) to determine the initial soil conservation status and the key variables to monitor the evolvement of soil quality in the Semi-arid, Irrigation and Arid Geographical Intervention Area (GIA). A control study on the baseline results of the selected variables in the 3 GIAs will be conducted by INTA in each SIS starting in December 2018. Until said results are available, reporting on the index value bases on visual observations.

The current indicator value of 13 is conservative by reflecting that out of the total of 11 SISs, 2 have improved and 9 maintained the quality of the agroecosystem to withstand conditions imposed by climate variability. The improved conditions are observed in 2 SISs in the Municipality of Patagones: (i) "San Jose Dryland" due to the use of paratill, a machine that lifts and bends subsoil to remove hardpans. It gently lifts the soil, allowing it to fracture along its natural planes of weakness and then settle back again. The soil loosening improves water infiltration and drainage, encourages root development, and allows for deeper fertilizer placement. The gentle lifting action leaves topsoil and subsoil layers intact, minimizes clods, and leaves valuable residue on the surface. The paratill financed by the project is the first in the project area; and (ii) "Patagones Rangelands/Monte Biome" due to soil fertilization through incorporation of perennial legumes.

Out of the 9 SISs maintained to withstand conditions resulting from climate variability, 2 are in irrigated areas in Patagones and Villarino and could already be calculated as having improved, taken the project-financed infrastructure improvements have increased water availability from 2 to 6-7 days per week and water use efficiency from 30-50% to 80-90%. 4 other SISs considered to have maintained their conditions



are in non-irrigated areas; 2 in Patagones and 1 in Puan and 1 in Villarino.

► Relevant threat and hazard information generated and disseminated to farmers and other stakeholders on a timely basis (Yes/No, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	N	Y	Y	Y
Date	22-Jul-2013	26-Apr-2018	04-Dec-2018	30-Dec-2018

Comments

A prototype Information and Early Warning System on climate change and desertification (IEWWS) has been developed jointly with local research and extension institutions and the National Meteorological Service (SMN) to generate and disseminate relevant (Project-related) information on threats and hazards to farmers and other stakeholders on a timely basis. Eight (8) quarterly reports (in Dec 2016; Feb, June, Sep and Dec 2017; March, June and Sep 2018) that include agro-meteorological information, productive forecasts and risk assessment on fires and wind-erosion, as well as land management and crop and animal management recommendations have been compiled and disseminated through rural radios, local institutions, particularly Municipalities and INTA, relevant public offices and websites, as well as social media, e.g. WhatsApp groups. The institutional arrangements, i.e. the institutional legal agreement and operational manual have been developed and signed by all the four key institutions: INTA, SMN, CERZOS-CONICET and UNS to sustain the IEWS operation beyond the project closure.

Overall Comments

The project's mid-term review (MTR) concluded on the need to improve the Results Framework (RF) to simplify it, adjust the wording or definition of several indicators that present issues with measuring or interpretation, and remove and replace some indicators that relate to two minor outputs that were agreed to be dropped, to focus implementation efforts more strategically. Overall, the RF would benefit of strengthening of its logical results chain. The PDO remains achievable and relevant for national, provincial and local level actors. It consists of 5 outcomes against which the indicators were mapped in a revised RF, product of the MTR. The Adaptation Fund Secretariat has confirmed its agreement with the revised RF as it does not present material changes in the original project design and associated targets. The present interim ISR is the final ISR to report on the original indicators as the belated restructuring of the RF is being processed simultaneously for approval.

Intermediate Results Indicators



► Targeted clients satisfied with agricultural services (percentage) (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Date	22-Jul-2013	26-Apr-2018	04-Dec-2018	30-Dec-2018

Comments

At the MTR, the PT suggested, and the WB agreed that, in this context, "agricultural services" refer to the provision of the quarterly IEWS reports. Further, it was agreed that "percentage of targeted clients" refers to the percentage of the 410 farmers who participate in the 11 SISs and the Municipal Plans on Sustainable Forage Production and Municipal Plans on Reforestation established with project support. The reception of the reports has been positive by local producers, agricultural technical advisers, and technicians from local and national institutions. An initial and still limited survey sent to more than 200 IEWS users was conducted in Aug-Sep 2018 with promising results: 95% of the 86 respondents manifested they have considered recommendations included in the IEWS reports. Based on the survey results, SMN and INTA have developed an on-line platform, through which the Dec 2018 IEWS report will be distributed. The platform will allow continued collection of user feedback, but its institutional arrangements remain under consideration. SMN and INTA are also developing a cellphone version of the IEWS as proposed by the survey respondents.

► Targeted local public employees trained (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	66.00	83.00	60.00
Date	22-Jul-2013	26-Apr-2018	04-Dec-2018	30-Dec-2018

Comments

The result reflects 10 trained public employees. The % is measured of the total of the relevant public employees in the Municipalities of Puan, Villarino and Patagones, where the project works directly, as defined by GSAyDS following the organic municipal structures in place since December 2015. The applicable total of 12 employees corresponds to the 3 Mayors and 3 Secretaries of Production, the Head of the Municipal Tree Nursery in Puan and in Villarino, the Production Assistant and Director of Environment in Villarino, and Director and Assistant of Production in Patagones. Currently, 9 of them are men and 3 women. No gender target has been set for this indicator, but the result is monitored by gender. The current gender result is that 3 of the 10 trained public employees are female (25% of the trained officials); 100% of the target women. The following have been trained: 3 Majors, 3 Secretaries of Production (2 women), 2 Heads of the Municipal Tree Nursery, 1 Director of Production in Patagones (woman), and 1 Director of Environment in Villarino.



► IEWS developed/operational through inter-institutional cooperation (Yes/No, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	N	Y	Y	Y
Date	22-Jul-2013	26-Apr-2018	04-Dec-2018	30-Dec-2018

Comments

A prototype Information and Early Warning System on climate change and desertification (IEWS) has been developed jointly with national and local research and extension institutions (INTA / UNS / CERZOS / SMN) to generate and disseminate relevant project-related information on threats and hazards to producers and other stakeholders on a timely basis. A total of 8 quarterly IEWS reports have been generated and disseminated thus far, including agro-meteorological information, agriculture production forecasts and risk related information on fires and wind erosion. The presentation of the reports has remained subject to improvement report by report, as well as their dissemination channels that include rural radios, local institutions, relevant public offices and websites, and social media (e.g. WhatsApp groups). Further, the institutional arrangements have been consolidated to sustain the IEWS beyond the project closure as the legal IEWS Agreement has been signed by the 4 responsible institutions. Related collaboration has also been broadened to include further agencies, e.g. CONAE, the national space agency and ORA, the Agricultural Risk Office of the national Secretariat of Agroindustry published the IEWS reports at its main page since August 2018.

► Active participation of at least the key institutions of the Observatory (Yes/No, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	N	N	N	Y
Date	22-Jul-2013	26-Apr-2018	04-Dec-2018	30-Dec-2018

Comments

The project MTR concluded, and the Adaptation Fund later agreed that the respective output on a "Regional Consultative Observatory of Public Policies on Climate Change and Desertification" (Observatory) will be dropped from the project design to rationalize the execution efforts by focusing them on the most strategic and promising work fronts. Based on the results of a consultancy that delivered proposed rules of procedure and a 5-year action plan both for the IEWS and the Observatory, the latter was not considered worth the effort: its agenda and key players would resemble closely those of the Development Plan of the Southwest of Buenos Aires Province and its Regional Council, established by the provincial law 13,647 in 2007; an initiative that hasn't prospered on the ground. On the other hand, the IEWS draws overall a keen interest and it also covers similar functions that initially planned for the Observatory. Consequently, the project has concentrated available human and other resources in further developing and strengthening the IEWS instead of trying to establish a similar network structure that is not sufficiently demanded on the ground. The Observatory is dropped from the project design through the project restructuring that is processed for approval parallel to this interim ISR.



►Consulted people who report on modification(s) in their Project-related practices (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.00
Date	22-Jul-2013	26-Apr-2018	04-Dec-2018	30-Dec-2018

Comments

At the MTR, the indicator was discussed in detail, concluding it is not meaningful for the project and should thus be revised or dropped. Per the PAD, the population targeted by this indicator refers to the 80,000 inhabitants of the directly targeted Municipalities of Puan, Villarino and Patagones. However, most of the inhabitants live in urban areas, while the project mainly targets rural farmers working on vulnerable agroecosystems. The 410 farmers that work directly on the project pilots under Component 2 don't compose a statistically representative fraction of the total population. This indicator will be dropped during restructuring.

►Client days of training provided (number) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	65.00	103.00	64.00
Date	22-Jul-2013	26-Apr-2018	04-Dec-2018	30-Dec-2018

Comments

The result reflects the cumulative training days delivered on various project-related topics by the PT or in close collaboration/with financial support by the project e.g. on participatory project planning, incorporation of climate considerations in productive activities and early-warning systems. The total of training days consists of 6 organized in 2015, 14 by June 2016, 45 between July 2016 and Dec 2017 and 38 until Dec 3, 2018. Some project beneficiaries were able to participate in 5 days of training provided in Montevideo through international collaboration in Nov 2017. During Oct-Nov 2018, 12 institutional representatives from national, provincial and local governments participated in a Green Employment Course by the International Labor Organization (ILO; 12 days). Per PAD, the indicator does not have a specific gender target, but training was to be monitored by gender. At least until now, full information on the number and gender of the participants is not available. The total of participants in the reported training days since July 2016 until Dec 3, 2018 is 1,858, out of which 367 were female.



►Teacher training institutes within SWBA that cooperate with the Project and offer related training (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	4.00	4.00	10.00
Date	22-Jul-2013	26-Apr-2018	04-Dec-2018	30-Dec-2018

Comments

The four educative institutions that collaborate with the project are the UNS, Agrarian School N°1 Carlos Spegazzini, Agrarian School of Patagones, and Agricultural School of Hilario Ascasubi. Further, the General Directorate of Schools, District of Southwest of the Ministry of Education of the Province of Buenos Aires facilitates the project's provision of educative material to schools within the targeted Municipalities. The project has produced useful and popular pedagogical material used across schools and other public institutions in the area, including elaboration and dissemination of a visual poster on climate change and sustainable land management in favor of greater climate resilience. The project has also organized/supported events like drawing competitions in local schools on project-related topics. In 2018, the project organized the 6th edition of the "My Footprint on the Ground" campaign. Despite these popular activities, the indicator requires that the reported training institutes would *offer* related training, and the final target of 10 institutes (still more specific "teacher training institutions within the SWBA") is not viable. During the MTR the Project Implementation Unit/MAYDS suggested and the WB and the Adaptation Fund agreed to remove this indicator to focus project implementation on more strategic work fronts. Collaboration with local schools is in every case continued through specific awareness raising events until the end of project implementation.

►Cultural and socio-productive activities carried out in the Project zone jointly with the municipal governments (fairs, exhibitions, etc.) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	9.00	13.00	28.00
Date	22-Jul-2013	26-Apr-2018	04-Dec-2018	30-Dec-2018

Comments

The latest results after May 2018 refer to the project having organized a workshop on the National Forest Law and protection of native forests for municipal officers in June in Patagones and supported a Fair of the Livestock Association in August in Patagones and the National Garlic Festival in Nov in Villarino. The project is not monitoring the related gender aggregated custom breakdown indicators as intended during project preparation, taken such monitoring amongst visitors at the project booth during public events has not resulted viable nor meaningful. However, the cumulative number of 104 participating women corresponds to the 7 events where the project participated between July 2016 and June 2018.



►Farmers adopting improved agricultural technology (Number, Corporate)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	408.00	410.00	1,400.00
Date	22-Jul-2013	26-Apr-2018	04-Dec-2018	30-Dec-2018

Comments

The current result refers to the total of 410 producers, 371 men and 39 women (9.5%), who participate in the implementation of the 11 SISs and the Municipal Plans on Sustainable Forage Production and Municipal Plans on Reforestation established with project support. This number will be revised after the annual monitoring and results workshop organized on Dec 11, 2018.

Per PAD, the original indicator wording was "Number of beneficiaries who have adopted an improved agricultural technology promoted by the project (disaggregated by gender), and the target values were 200 people (160 males and 40 females) in year 2 and 1,400 people (1,120 males and 280 females) at the end in year 4. At the MTR, two years after the project Inception Workshop, the respective result was 1,632 beneficiaries; 1,224 males and 408 females, considering the result reflecting an average of 3 additional family members beyond the farmer. Regarding gender, the number of female beneficiaries was considered in terms of each producer family including one woman.

"Improved agricultural technology adoption" is understood in terms of the "adoption" involving a process that comprises four stages:

- 1) Commitment: verified through the application letter of each ISI.
- 2) Implementation: verified in the field by means of physical investments, associated with the project activities.
- 3) Management and evaluation: verified through interviews with producers and field visit.
- 4) Adoption: verified through interviews with producers and field visit. Within the scope of the project implementation period, it needs to be noted that monitoring the number of people who reach the referred stages will only be feasible in terms of the two first stages of the process.

There will be a chance to see a trend toward potential adoption of the promoted technologies through verification related with the implementation and management stages, yet the remaining implementation period will be too short to verify reaching of the final adoption stage.

▲Clients who adopted an improved agr. technology promoted by project – female (Number, Custom Breakdown)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	39.00	39.00	280.00
Date	22-Jul-2013	26-Apr-2018	04-Dec-2018	30-Dec-2018



►Adaptation/sustainable land management (SLM) technologies identified/verified through local participatory consultations under the Project framework that are demonstrated within the GIAs (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	12.00	13.00	12.00
Date	22-Jul-2013	26-Apr-2018	04-Dec-2018	30-Dec-2018

Comments

The project has identified a total of 41 adaptation/sustainable land management technologies. The current result reflects 13 of them that are being implemented in the field: 1) Loosening of topsoil and deepening of soil profile by using paratill; 2) planting of perennial pastures to strengthen cattle raising; 3) inclusion of annual legumes in cattle raising management; 4) drip irrigation; 5) planning and implementation of crop rotation; 6) biologic pest management by means of strip cropping; 7) soil mapping; 8) land management zoning and mapping; 9) intercropping of legumes and perennial pastures for fodder; 10) consociated intercropping; 11) production of substrates through composting; 12) breeding of native plants; and 13) simulation and evaluation of effects of drought.

►Related articles/programs in the local media and political initiatives in the three municipal Councils of the directly targeted counties (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	171.00	294.00	22.00
Date	22-Jul-2013	24-Jan-2018	04-Dec-2018	30-Dec-2018

Comments

This indicator was not properly designed as it measures two separate aspects with mayor difference in scope/importance; media outputs and municipal level political initiatives. Thus, the indicator has been split into two separate subindicators. The total result 294 reflects 285 related articles/programs in the local media, monitored until Nov 30, 2018 and adding a WB Feature Story published on Dec 4, "Riding the Climate Storm in Patagones, Argentina", available at <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2018/12/04/riding-the-climate-storm-in-patagones-argentina>, and 9 political initiatives by the 3 targeted Municipalities (Puan, Villarino and Patagones). They refer to the establishment and functioning of: 2 protected areas (Puan and Villarino); an Environmental Agency (Villarino); a strengthened Municipal Tree Nursery (Puan); a pilot program of green employment with a road-side afforestation plan aimed at reducing wind erosion (Villarino); 3 Municipal Plans on Sustainable Forage Production; and a honey extraction plant established by the Carlos Spegazzini Agrarian School with bee keepers and support by the Municipality of Patagones.



▲Related articles/programs in the local media in the three municipal Councils of the directly targeted counties (Number, Custom Breakdown)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	164.00	285.00	18.00
Date	22-Jul-2013	24-Jan-2018	04-Dec-2018	30-Dec-2018

▲Related political initiatives in the three municipal Councils of the directly targeted counties (Number, Custom Breakdown)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	7.00	9.00	4.00
Date	22-Jul-2013	26-Apr-2018	04-Dec-2018	30-Dec-2018

▶Workshops and other Knowledge Management events meet their targets in terms of participation of different stakeholder groups (Yes/No, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	N	Y	Y	Y
Date	22-Jul-2013	26-Apr-2018	04-Dec-2018	30-Dec-2018

Comments

The PT/GSAyDS reports that the workshops and other knowledge management events thus far have met their targets in terms of participation of different stakeholder groups (local governments and technical institutions, national and provincial ministries/entities, producers, and local media). Beyond 2 workshops organized in September 2015 on the project indicators and formulation of the SIS proposals with focus on objectives, results and indicators, the PT organized a workshop to evaluate the project advance until the date in December 2016 and 2017, and the 2018 workshop takes place on December 11. These workshops focus on monitoring the advances in the SISs and the municipal plans, including the reporting on the indicators of each, as well as exchange of experience and lessons learnt, including with the IEWS. The PT/GSAyDS has invested a plenty of work into communication and KM activities and the project has gained visibility in local media.



► Targeted beneficiaries who have participated in related training and carry out their own means of M&E and continued improvement related to the measures they have adopted through participation in the P (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	70.00
Date	22-Jul-2013	26-Apr-2018	04-Dec-2018	30-Dec-2018

Comments

No result on this indicator is available, given the referred M&E processes resulted to be more institutional than individual in nature; the indicator will be revised to refer to the Institutions in charge of the Specific Intervention Sites. All the responsible institutions at the local level as well as the participating farmers involved in the SISs and the municipal plans have been trained on the project indicators and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) techniques that are applied across the project activities. To promote learning on and use of the M&E techniques applied by the project, for the 2017 and 2018 annual monitoring and results workshop each SIS was required to present the results of the indicators included in their respective plan and the related experience. The PT/GSAyDS informs the WB that the responsible institutions at the local level carry out M&E activities as integral part of implementing the pilot activities in the SISs and some individual farmers also apply them, yet systematic reporting on the results remains work in progress and needs to be consolidated during the project extension period between Jan and Sept 2019.

► Assumed institutional commitments for the continuity and sustainability of the Project results per sector and activity (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	13.00	16.00	7.00
Date	22-Jul-2013	26-Apr-2018	04-Dec-2018	30-Dec-2018

Comments

The result reflects the following 16 institutional commitments: SMN, INTA, CERZOS-CONICET and UNS participating in the IEWS (4); a municipal ordinance on a Municipal Plan on Sustainable Forage Production signed and operational in the Municipalities of Puan, Villarino and Patagones (3); the national Ministry of Health and Social Development, National Roads Agency and Municipality of Villarino participating in the pilot program on green employment on road side forestation (3); a Municipal Nature Reserve (protected area) established in the Municipalities of Puan and Villarino (2); Municipal Environmental Agency created and functioning in the Municipality of Villarino (1); Carlos Spegazzini Agrarian School has established a honey extraction plant with bee keepers and municipal support in Patagones (1); a collaboration agreement established between the Foresta cooperative and a major supermarket cooperative called Cooperativa Obrera (1); and an agreement between the INTA Prohuerta program and the National Ministry of Health and Social Development for financing a part of the water reservoirs under a new CORFO program for efficient water use that is under consolidation (1).



►Guidance material produced on critical pieces of policy framework, piloted adaptation practices, and potential sources of financing to support continued efforts to promote climate resilience at differ (Yes/No, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	N	Y	Y	Y
Date	22-Jul-2013	26-Apr-2018	04-Dec-2018	30-Dec-2018

Comments

Beyond abundant communication materials (leaflets, posters, videos etc.), the project has developed a document that systematizes the 3 Municipal Plans on Sustainable Forage Production. Otherwise, the bulk of work on guidance material on key pieces of the policy framework, piloted adaptation practices and potential sources of financing to support continued efforts to promote climate resiliency take place during the project extension period between January and September 2019. Over the past months, the PT has received proposals for collaboration on related publications by relevant international organizations that it expects to be able to materialize.

Overall Comments

The overall comments included under the PDO indicators apply equally under the intermediate results indicators.

Data on Financial Performance

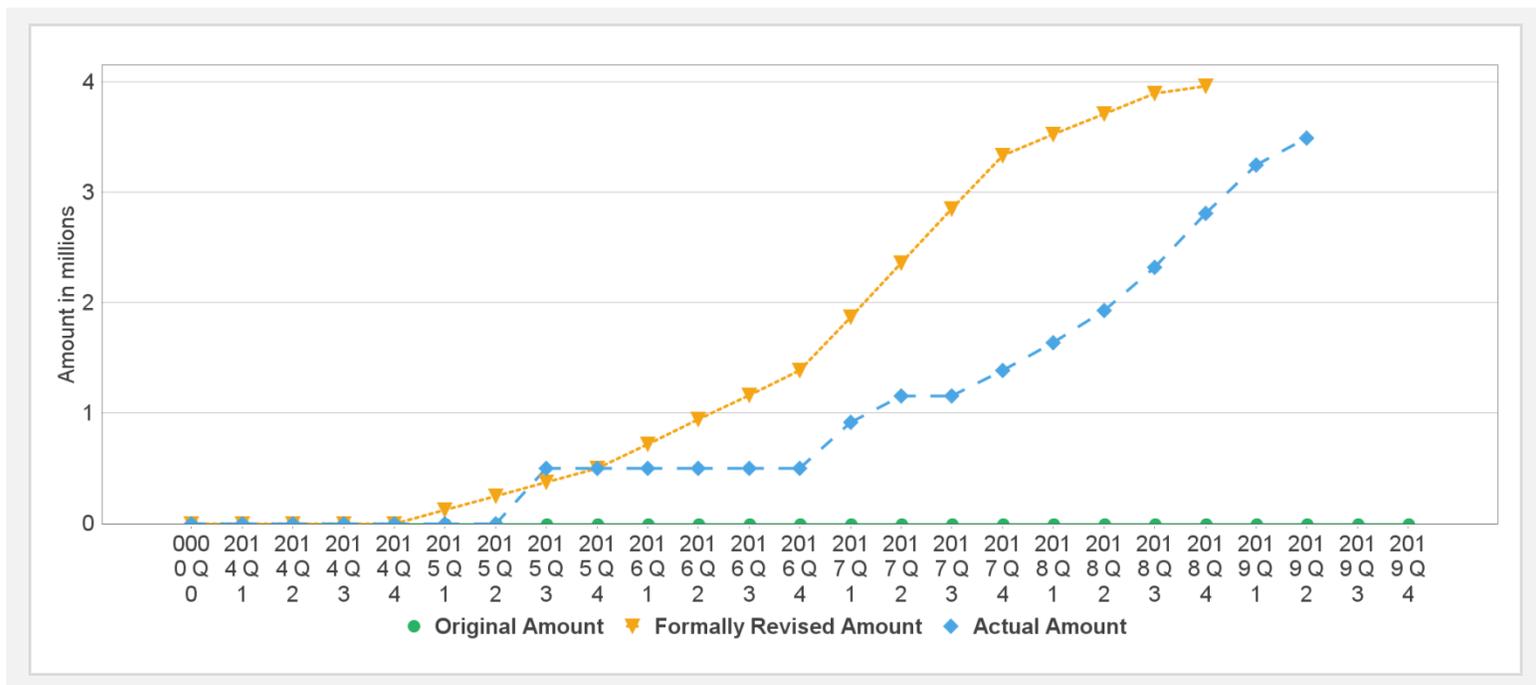
Disbursements (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Disbursed
P125804	TF-15041	Effective	USD	3.96	3.96	0.00	3.49	0.47	 88%

Key Dates (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P125804	TF-15041	Effective	18-Mar-2014	18-Mar-2014	27-May-2014	30-Dec-2018	30-Dec-2018

Cumulative Disbursements



Restructuring History

Level 2 Approved on 23-Jan-2018

Related Project(s)

There are no related projects.