



INDO-PACIFIC STRATEGY (IPS) NATURAL RESOURCES SAFEGUARDS AND SECURITY (NRSS) FY 2022 ANNUAL REPORT: SUMMARY OF RESULTS

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How to Use This Report:

- For the high-level results across the Goals/Outcomes, please refer to the [Key Results and Achievements](#) section.
- For results listed by Mission/OU, please refer to [Table II](#) in [Annex I](#).
- For indicator results, see [Annex II](#).

ACRONYMS

AC	Agricultural cooperatives
ACLF	Asia Climate-Smart Landscape Fund
ACTIVE	Advancing Cocoa Agroforestry towards Income, Value and Environmental Sustainability
ACWC	ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Women and Children
AI	Artificial Intelligence
AICHR	ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights
APS	Annual Program Statement
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ASEANAPOL	ASEAN Chiefs of National Police
BAF	Blue Abadi Fund
BCA	Biodiversity Conservation Activity
BDN	Blue Dot Network
Ber-IKAN	Collaborative Fisheries Management Project
BFAR	Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
BFC	Bismarck Forest Corridor
BFD	Bangladesh Forest Department
BHC	Building Healthy Cities
BIPAD	Building Information Platform Against Disaster
CBET	Community-based ecotourism
CBO	Community-based organization
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CCAA	Climate Change Adaptation Activity
CCB	Climate, Community and Biodiversity
CCBO	Clean Cities Blue Ocean
CCG	Community Conservation Groups
CCS	Climate Change Secretariat (Government of Sri Lanka)
CDRI	Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure
CEPA	Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (Government of Papua New Guinea)
CF	Community forest
CFF	Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security
CHT	Chittagong Hill Tracts
CHTWCA	Chittagong Hill Tracts Watershed Co-Management Activity
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CMO	Co-management organizations
COP	Conference of Parties

Internal to USAID

COP27	27th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (November 2022)
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease
CPA	Community protected areas
CPG	Community patrol groups
CPT	Community-based patrols
CRA	Climate Risk Assessment
CRC	Climate Resilient Cities
CRM	Climate risk management
CSE	Civil Society Engagement
CSG	Community savings groups
CSISA	Cereal Systems Initiative for South Asia
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CSR	Corporate social responsibility
CTI-CFF	Coral Triangle Initiative for Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security
CWT	Counter wildlife trafficking
DCA	Development Credit Authority
DENR	Department of Environment and Natural Resources
DFC	Development Finance Corporation
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid
DOI	Department of the Interior (U.S. Government)
DRM	Disaster risk management
DRR	Disaster risk reduction
ECO LIFE	Ecosystem Conservation through Livelihood Improvement and Forest Enhancement
ECLOF	Ecumenical Church Loan Fund
ECOFISH II	Enhanced Coastal Fisheries project
EEZ	Exclusive economic zone
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. Government)
ERT	Elephant response team
ESG	Environmental, social, and governance
FAW	Fall armyworm
FIP	Fishery Improvement Project
FLR	Forest landscape restoration
FMA	Fisheries management areas
FPD	Forest Protection Department
FREL	Forest Reference Emission Level
FSM	Federated States of Micronesia
FTF	Feed the Future
FTFNIPM	FTF Nepal Integrated Pest Management

Internal to USAID

FY	Fiscal Year
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
GESI	Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
GFA	Green Future Activity
GGGI	Global Green Growth Institute
GHG	Greenhouse gas
GIA	Green Invest Asia
GIS	Geographic information system
GOI	Government of India
GON	Government of Nepal
GOTL	Government of Timor-Leste
GPH	Government of Philippines
GPL	Greening Prey Lang
GVN	Government of Vietnam
HCS	High Carbon Stock
HCV	High Conservation Value
IEBR	Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources
I-FIT	IUU fishing threat assessment and index tool
INL	International Narcotics and Law Enforcement (State Department Bureau)
INP	Indonesian National Police
INSPIRE	Investing in Sustainability and Partnerships for Inclusive Growth and Regenerative Ecosystems
INTERPOL	International Criminal Police Organization
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
IPS	Indo-Pacific Strategy
ITAP	International Technical Assistance Program
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
IUU	Illegal, Unregulated, and Unreported
IUWASH PLUS	Indonesia Water, Sanitation and Hygiene ' <i>Penyehatan Lingkungan Untuk Semua</i> '
IUWASH Tangguh	Indonesia Urban Resilient Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
KISAN II	Knowledge-based Integrated Sustainable Agriculture in Nepal II
KOICA	Korea International Cooperation Agency
KSWS	Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary
LGP	Lukautim Gran Project
LGU	Local Government Units
LPG	Liquefied petroleum gas
LSPP	Local Solutions for Plastic Pollution project
MARD	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (Government of Vietnam)
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

Internal to USAID

MMAF	Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (Government of Indonesia)
MMRI	Maldives Marine Research Institute
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOBPLS	Masinloc-Oyon Bay Protected Landscape and Seascape
MoECCT	Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology (Maldives)
MOEF	Ministry of Environment and Forestry (Government of Indonesia)
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPA	Marine protected area
MPDS	Multi-Purpose Disaster Shelter project
MRC	Mekong River Commission
MRP	Marine Resources Program
MSP	FTF Market Systems and Partnerships
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NDC	Nationally Determined Contributions
NFRDI	National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (Government of the Philippines)
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (U.S. Government)
NRM	Natural Resource Management
NSAF	Nepal Seed and Fertilizer Activity
NSAP	National Stock Assessment Program
NTFP	Non-timber forest products
NWFSC	Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NOAA)
OPDAT	Department of Justice Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development Assistance and Training (U.S. Government)
OU	Operating Unit
PAF	Pacific American Fund
PaFMaC	Pacific Coastal Fisheries Management and Compliance
PCC	Provincial Climate Cells
PES	Payment for ecosystem services
PFES	Payment for Forest Environmental Services
PFM	Public Financial Management Activity
PIRS	Performance Indicator Reference Sheets
PNG	Papua New Guinea
POWER	Producer-Owned Women Enterprises Activity
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
PPR	Performance Plan and Report
PSE	Private Sector Engagement
PSMA	Agreement on Port State Measures
PSP	Private sector partner

Internal to USAID

PUA	Plastics Upcycling Alliance
RAT-Mekong	Mekong Reservoir Assessment Tool
RCF	Research Conservation Foundation
RDMA	Regional Development Mission for Asia (USAID)
RDW	Reducing Demand for Wildlife Activity
REDD+	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
REFRESH	Remote Sensing for Forest Renewal, Ecosystem Services, and Sustainable Hydrological Management Activity
REGENERATE	Reefs Generate Environmental and Economic Resiliency for Atoll Ecosystems project
RFSA	Resilience Food Security Activities
RLCMS	Regional Land Cover Monitoring System
RPOA	Regional Plan of Action
SAWEN	South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network
SBCC	Social and behavior change communication
SCS	South China Sea
SDFC	SME Development Finance Corporation
SEAFDEC	Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center
SEGAR	Sustainable Environmental Governance across Regions project
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management Activity
SHOUHARDO III	Strengthening Household Ability to Respond to Development Opportunities III
SIBOL	Sustainable Interventions for Biodiversity, Oceans, and Landscapes Activity
SIM	Smart Infrastructure for the Mekong program
SMART	Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool
SMART Climate	PNG Strengthening Multi-Sectoral Adaptation Responses Through Climate-related information project
SME	Small and Medium Enterprise
SMP	Sustainable Management Plans
SNAPPER	Supporting Nature and People Partnerships for Enduring Resources Activity
SPREP	Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program
STW	Saving Threatened Wildlife Activity
SuFiA LCD	Sustainable Fish Asia Local Capacity Development Activity
SUFiA TS	Sustainable Fish Asia Technical Support Activity
SWM	Solid Waste Management
TFA	Tourism For All Activity
TLS	Timber Legality Standard (Papua New Guinea)
TLVS	Timber Legality Verification System
TOC	Theory of Change
TOFI	Trees Outside Forest in India Activity
UN	United Nations

Internal to USAID

UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
US-SEGA	U.S. Support for Economic Growth in Asia Activity
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USFS	U.S. Forest Service
USG	United States Government
VCF	Village common forest
VSLA	Village savings and loan associations
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WFP	World Food Programme
WISE	Workforce for an Innovation and Start-Up Ecosystem Activity
WOM	Wonders of the Mekong
WPA	Wildlife Protection Activity
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature
YIL	Youth Innovations Lab
YPRCFI	Yayasan People Resources and Conservation Foundation Indonesia
ZOR	Zone of Resilience

INTRODUCTION

The [Indo-Pacific Strategy](#) (IPS) is a whole-of-government commitment to advancing a free and open, connected, prosperous, secure, and resilient Indo-Pacific region. USAID contributes to the IPS through three Government-wide Initiatives¹ and five USAID Program Focus Areas.² Each Initiative/Program Focus Area consolidates USAID programming contributing to one or more of the five IPS Pillars and three USAID Objectives.³ Natural Resources Safeguards and Security is a Program Focus Area for all USAID environment and climate programming and it contributes principally to the IPS Pillar “Build Regional Resilience to 21st Century Transnational Threats” and the USAID IPS Objective “Improve Resilience to Health and Climate Threats.” The NRSS model promotes the value of natural resources as one that should be safeguarded and protected to support the region’s long-term economic growth, including increasing resilience to support healthy and prosperous citizens and communities, particularly in the face of the climate and biodiversity crises. Through NRSS, USAID seeks to strengthen natural resources safeguards and security in the Indo-Pacific region. The NRSS Theory of Change (TOC) posits that:

IF laws, policies, regulatory frameworks and standards are implemented and/or enforced (Outcome 1); and

IF transnational environmental crimes, illegal or legal but unsustainable practices, uses or consumption of natural resources are reduced (Outcome 2); and;

IF conservation and sustainable practices, businesses, trade and investment (of natural resources or related to natural resources) are implemented (Outcome 3);

THEN natural resources safeguards and security in the Indo-Pacific region will be strengthened (Goal).

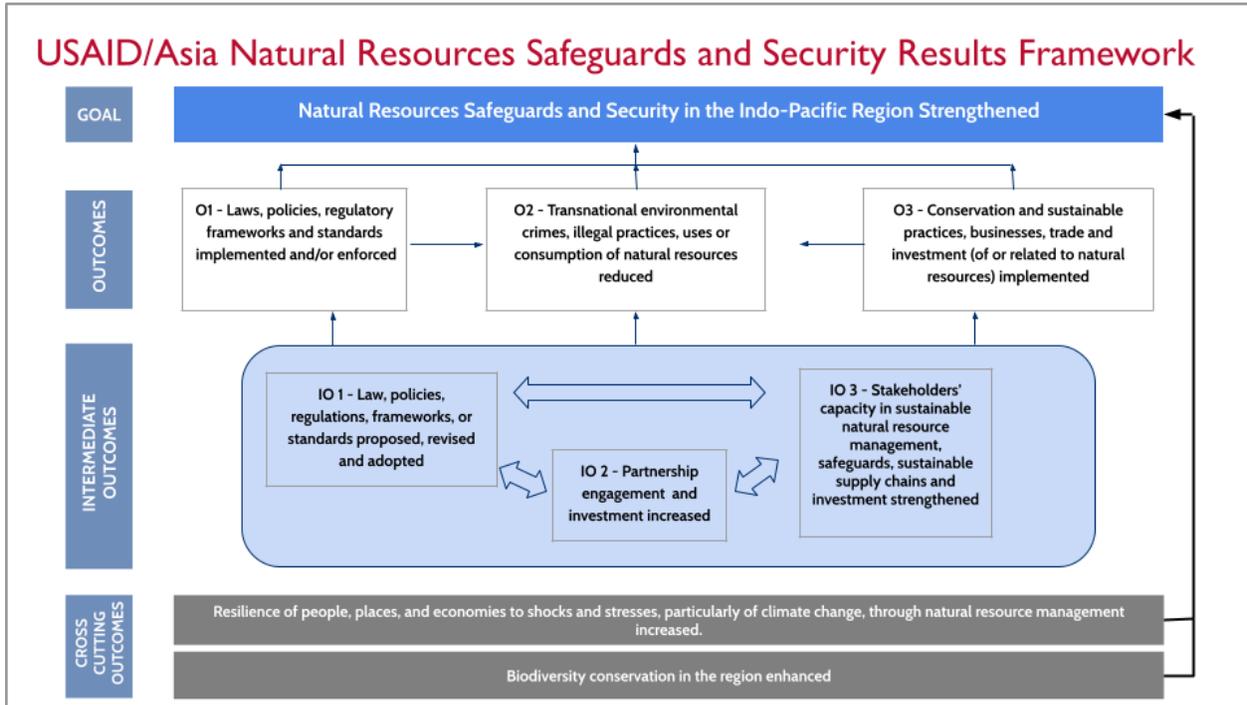
The three NRSS Outcomes are designed to mutually reinforce each other and ultimately lead to the Goal of strengthening natural resources safeguards and security. The three Outcomes also inter-contribute and depend on three linked Intermediate Outcomes, which operate at a lower level and focus on proposing policy reforms and standards, increasing investments and partnerships, and strengthening stakeholder capacity. The three NRSS Outcomes, Intermediate Outcomes, and Cross-cutting Outcomes are illustrated in the Results Framework on the following page:

¹ The three IPS Initiatives are Digital Connectivity and Cybersecurity Partnership (DCCP), Infrastructure Transaction and Assistance Network (ITAN) and Enhancing Development and Growth through Clean Energy (Clean EDGE Asia).

² The five Program Focus Areas are Democracy, Human Rights and Governance (DRG), Trade and Competitiveness (T&C), Workforce Development and Primary Education (WDPE), Natural Resources Safeguards and Security (NRSS), and Health Systems in the Indo-Pacific (HSIP).

³ The three USAID IPS Objectives are: strengthen democratic institutions to support good governance and human rights, foster sustainable, inclusive, and transparent economic growth, and improve resilience to health and climate threats.

FIGURE I. NRSS RESULTS FRAMEWORK



This annual report synthesizes quantitative and qualitative data collected from the IPS performance monitoring and reporting system originally designed in 2019 and updated in subsequent years. Data consist of performance indicator and narrative submissions from relevant IPS Missions and Operating Units (OUs) for the 2022 Fiscal Year (FY) reporting period. Refer to Annexes I-III for more detailed syntheses of all results and quantitative indicator results. More details about the data collection and analysis approach are found in [Annex III, Methodology](#).

KEY RESULTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

In FY 2022, Indo-Pacific Missions reported strong results under Outcomes 2 and 3, Intermediate Outcomes 2 and 3, and the Cross-cutting Outcomes on Biodiversity Conservation, Resilience, and Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI). Additionally, Missions reported contributing to the biophysical improvement of nearly one million hectares (ha), and a reduction in nearly 16 million metric tons of CO₂ equivalent (mtCO₂e) in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions resulting from activities of established programs, some of which were sunsetting in FY 2022.

Table I shows how FY 2022 results correspond to a specific NRSS Goal or Outcome. The most high-level results are described below. Full details are provided in [Annex I](#) and performance indicator data in [Annex II](#).

TABLE I. RESULTS REPORTED BY OU ACCORDING TO GOAL/OUTCOME

OU	Goal	O1	IO1	O2	IO2	O3	IO3	CCI ⁴	CC2 ⁵	PSE	GESI	CSE
Bangladesh	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓
Bureau for Asia ⁶	-	-	-	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	-	-	-	-
Cambodia	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
India	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-
Indonesia	-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
Maldives	-	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	-
Nepal	-	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
Pacific Islands Regional	-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
Philippines	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
RDMA	-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sri Lanka	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	-	✓	✓	-
Timor-Leste	-	-	-	-	✓	✓	-	✓	-	✓	✓	✓
Vietnam	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Goal: Natural Resources Safeguards and Security in the Indo-Pacific Region Strengthened

Together, USAID/Bangladesh and USAID/Cambodia worked to improve 998,430 hectares of biologically significant areas that are showing improved biophysical conditions ([EG.10.2-1](#)). Of this year's total amount of hectares with improved biophysical condition, USAID/Cambodia contributed the majority, of which 919,358 hectares were improved with the support of USAID Greening Prey Lang (GPL) Activity and the USAID Morodok Baitong project (856,881 hectares of which were in terrestrial-forest areas). The rest of the hectares were improved as a result of efforts from the USAID/Bangladesh Enhanced Coastal Fisheries (ECOFISH II) project and Chittagong Hill Tracts Watershed Co-Management Activity (CHTWCA). The ECOFISH II project supported 74,996 hectares in the coastal areas of the zone of resilience (ZOR) along the Bay of Bengal, focusing on Cox's Bazar-Ukhiya-Teknaf coasts in the southeastern part of the country. This achievement has the potential to provide further sources of income for fishers or other locals that rely on coastal natural resources. Fewer OUs reported at the Goal level and fewer hectares were improved this year compared to 2020-2021 as a result of several relevant USAID biodiversity activities ending last year.

Outcome I: Laws, Policies, Regulatory Frameworks, and Standards Implemented and/or Enforced

Sound environmental policies are the basis for ensuring the short- and long-term success of the actions implemented by USAID and its local partners for supporting natural resources in the Indo-Pacific region. More than half of the OUs reporting on NRSS this fiscal year successfully implemented or enforced a total of 130 laws, policies, standards, or regulatory frameworks in the Indo-Pacific ([EG.10.2-5](#) and [EG.13-](#)

⁴ Cross-cutting Outcome 1: Resilience of People, Places, and Economies to Shocks and Stresses, such as Climate Change and Zoonotic Disease Outbreaks, Increased through Natural Resource Management.

⁵ Cross-cutting Outcome 2: Biodiversity conservation in the region enhanced.

⁶ Based in Washington, D.C.

3). Most notable is USAID/Cambodia's success in helping to implement 58 policies that address biodiversity conservation or other environmental issues ([EG.10.2-5](#)) through the support of USAID Morodok Baitong and USAID GPL activities. Policies focused on combating natural resource crimes, such as wildlife poaching and land encroachment, and legal recognition of community protected areas (CPAs). In addition, through the USAID GPL Activity and USAID Green Invest Asia (GIA) Activity, USAID/Cambodia helped implement 35 policies that address and ensure effective and sustainable landscapes management in the region ([EG.13-3](#)).

Although USAID's Regional Development Mission for Asia (RDMA)'s activities were not engaged with the implementation of government laws, policies, and regulatory frameworks, USAID GIA's technical support to private sectors resulted in a standard to assess environmental and social risks in the coconut supply chain adopted and implemented ([EG.13-3](#)). USAID GIA's efforts to enhance ESG standards for sustainable agriculture, forestry, and other land use sectors including their supply chains also contributed to projected 82,350,287 metric tons of CO₂e to be reduced for the next 15 years ([EG.13-7](#)).

USAID/Philippines helped implement nine policies that address biodiversity conservation ([EG.10.2-5](#)). Additionally, USAID/Philippines supported the development of policies at the national and local levels that advanced sustainable land use practices and enhanced the capacity of the forestry sector such as the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' (DENR) [Administrative Order on the Carbon Accounting, Verification, and Certification System for Forest Carbon Projects](#), which was passed and approved in December 2021. This Order helps establish a much-needed system for forest carbon projects that boost and support investments in activities that sequester carbon dioxide and avoid emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. The Order further ensures that the Philippines is able to achieve their commitment of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 75 percent as part of the [United Nations Development Programme Climate Promise](#).

At the national level, USAID/Nepal helped develop a national framework to guide the relocation of disaster-prone and climate-vulnerable communities in partnership with the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration. At the local level, the Tayar Nepal Activity supported the development of Risk Sensitive Land Use Plans that incentivize private construction in low-risk areas and promote resilient public infrastructure, which helped eight municipalities with a total population of over 720,000.

Intermediate Outcome 1: Laws, Policies, Regulations, Frameworks, or Standards Proposed, Revised, and Adopted

A notable accomplishment this year is USAID/Philippines' success in supporting the proposal or adoption of 80 policies and regulations that address biodiversity conservation or other environmental issues ([EG.10.2-5](#)). Some of these include policies supported by USAID's Fish Right Activity that address illegal, unregulated, and unreported (IUU) fishing and increase effective management of marine protected areas (MPAs). In addition, USAID/Philippines strengthened the capacity of the National Water Resources Board to develop and introduce a national water demand management policy to promote conservation and efficient use of water.

Likewise, USAID/Cambodia supported the proposal or adoption of 21 laws, policies, and regulations that address sustainable landscapes ([EG.13-3](#)), with assistance from the USAID GPL Activity and USAID GIA Activity. Noteworthy examples include seven policies backed by the USAID GIA Activity that were proposed to banks, as part of Environment and Social (E&S) training, as well as five financial policies backed by the USAID GPL Activity that were drafted and adopted for Tmat Pouey CPA. USAID/Vietnam was also able to assist in the proposal or adoption of 18 sub-national laws, policies, and regulations that address sustainable landscapes ([EG.13-3](#)).

USAID RDMA's GIA successfully proposed two new policies, which include new jurisdiction eligibility criteria assessments to the Green Fund; one for Vietnam and one for Laos. These policies will enable the fund to expand investment from Indonesia to Vietnam and Laos for agricultural, forestry and other

land use sectors ([EG.13-3](#)). Relatedly, USAID SERVIR-Mekong provided technical assistance to develop a fire management policy that was adopted by the provincial government of Chiang Rai in Thailand. Adopting this policy in tandem with use of the *SmokeWatch* application allows local authorities to detect fire and smoke in a timely fashion and to mitigate the impact of fires.

Outcome 2: Transnational Environmental Crimes, Illegal or Legal but Unsustainable Practices, Uses, or Consumption of Natural Resources Reduced

Building on FY 2021 results, USAID/Asia Bureau, USAID/Bangladesh, and USAID/RDMA expanded their efforts to combat illegal wildlife trade and related transnational crime. Through support to INTERPOL, USAID/Asia Bureau convened a meeting with ten Indo-Pacific countries to discuss challenges, needs, and opportunities to combat the growing cyber-enabled wildlife crime in the region. This meeting generated compelling data on priority species, the aftershocks of COVID-19, and training needed to combat illegal environmental activities. With USAID/Asia support, INTERPOL conducted secure online training and in-person training to provide mentorship and best practices on initiating and conducting investigations into forestry crimes.

In Bangladesh, USAID's Local Works program helped prevent wildlife poaching in Cox's Bazar district because of the actions of 32 community patrol groups (CPGs) and the Bangladesh Forest Department (BFD), which received training and equipment from USAID. The CPGs and BFD rescued and released into protected forest areas a total of 23 snakes, 15 birds, ten monitor lizards, four rhesus monkeys, three jungle cats, three tortoises, two infant elephants, and one pangolin. The ECOFISH II project strengthened environmentally compliant fishing practices and curbed illegal fishing by distributing to community members 9,000 posters and 40,000 leaflets listing the seasonal closures for Hilsa fishing.

Similarly, in marine life protection, USAID/Indonesia awarded three new activities totaling \$38 million in sustainable fisheries management, MPAs, and scientific exchanges that will combat IUU fishing and reduce the trade in endangered, threatened, and protected marine species over the next five years. In addition, USAID/Indonesia provided community-level training and rollout of a pilot for community-based reporting of environmental violations using a software application called "This Is My Backyard." The application is used by 410 households from three Indonesian districts and helps improve responses to environmental crimes.

USAID/RDMA's Reducing Demand for Wildlife (RDW) Activity also worked in countering wildlife trafficking (CWT) and biodiversity protections through various interventions. For example, RDW implemented four social and behavior change communication (SBCC) campaigns that included *Beautiful Without Ivory*, *No Ivory No Tiger*, *Wildlife Free Gifting in China*, and *Digital Deterrence in Thailand*. Two of the SBCC campaigns, *Wildlife Free Gifting in China* and *Digital Deterrence in Thailand*, helped to mobilize \$484,212 in resources from Chinese media companies for public service announcement airtime and billboards to undertake CWT actions. USAID/RDMA's SBCC efforts were featured as best practices in the [Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora \(CITES\) Guidance on Demand Reduction Strategies to Combat Illegal Trades](#), which was adopted in March 2022 during the 74th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee, held in France.

Lastly, a total of 4,394 people are now applying improved conservation law enforcement practices ([EG.10.2-6](#)) as a result of USAID/Cambodia, USAID/Pacific Islands, USAID/Philippines, and USAID/Vietnam efforts. Specifically, USAID/Pacific Islands' Lukautim Gran Project (LGP) awarded a grant to a local non-governmental organization (NGO) that delivered training on environmental rights and natural resource management (NRM), which led to tribes and communities gaining an understanding on laws that govern their rights. This training also helped the communities to reach consensus on land use and to sign conservation deeds that included rules on its use.

Intermediate Outcome 2: Partnership Engagement and Investment Increased

Indo-Pacific Missions and relevant NRSS activities are clearly making great strides each fiscal year as indicated by the increasing investments that are being mobilized towards NRSS objectives. Sufficient investments are needed to match the needs of the region and conduct activities that combat climate change as described in USAID's [Climate Strategy](#). Compared to last year, there was a 52 percent increase, or \$291,490,806, in total investments mobilized in FY 2022 for sustainable landscapes ([EG.13-4](#)). In FY 2021, Indo-Pacific Missions reported a total of \$191,694,270 under EG.13-4, while in FY 2020 the total amount was \$134,655,743. For the past three fiscal years USAID/Vietnam has been leading the sustainable landscapes investment efforts, with a total of \$130,250,000 ([EG.13-4](#)) reported in FY 2022, which includes revenue generated through the implementation of the [Payment for Forest Environmental Services \(PFES\)](#) system previously developed with USAID support. Six OUs contributed the remaining amount, a part of which was USAID/RDMA's contribution of \$127,510,432 ([EG.13-4](#)) with support from USAID GIA and USAID SERVIR-Mekong activities; for example, USAID GIA secured a \$15.69 million [Rimba Collective](#) investment for the private firm, Lestari Capital, that will help the Yayasan People Resources and Conservation Foundation Indonesia (YPRCFI) develop a community forestry project in Indonesia's West Kalimantan province to improve community well-being while preserving the natural ecosystem.

Biodiversity conservation and NRM is another NRSS focus for mobilizing investment. USAID/Cambodia, USAID/Philippines, and USAID/RDMA endeavors garnered \$4,738,055 in mobilized investment for biodiversity conservation and NRM ([EG.13-IPS-4](#)). Out of the total, USAID/Philippines leveraged \$3,550,759 ([EG.13-IPS-4](#)) with support from three USAID activities—Sustainable Interventions for Biodiversity, Oceans and Landscapes (SIBOL), Investing in Sustainability and Partnerships for Inclusive Growth and Regenerative Ecosystems (INSPIRE), and Fish Right. The USAID/Philippines Safe Water Activity helped form seven new partnerships among stakeholders to support biodiversity conservation, NRM, sustainable landscapes, sustainable supply chains, and safeguards ([EG.13-IPS-3](#)). Two of the seven partnerships were driven by the need to leverage more resources to support water resource management and sustainable livelihood activities.

In an effort to decrease financial burden, USAID/Nepal's Cereal Systems Initiative for South Asia (CSISA) promoted agricultural equipment, including irrigation equipment that improved climate adaptation to reduce weather-related loss and damage, which is estimated to have cost rice farmers \$93 million in lost revenue in the 2021 production cycle. In addition, USAID's Nepal Seed and Fertilizer (NSAF) Activity provided over 41,000 individuals with climate information and high-yield, climate-resilient seed varieties. Partnering with private seed companies helped the farmers to better manage climate-induced risks to their crops, increase production of climate-resilient seeds, and work with agro-dealers.

Building upon work begun in FY 2021, USAID/Pacific Islands' LGP continued to identify small family businesses and link them to business advisory services. This fiscal year, LGP linked Helping Hand Honey Producers to larger markets, and through a partnership, the small family business has been able to increase the quality of their honey products. This business is both a Nationwide Microbank (MiBank)⁷ agent that provides banking services to honey farmers and provides 5,000 honey farmers with extensive training and supplies. USAID LGP's successes in FY 2022 also included mobilizing \$417,212 for sustainable landscapes ([EG.13-4](#)) supporting 823 microenterprises, training for 1,619 people in sustainable NRM and biodiversity conservation, and training for 1,548 people and trainers on gender equality and female empowerment.

⁷ MiBank is a partner of USAID LGP.

Outcome 3: Conservation and Sustainable Practices, Business, Trade and Investment (of Natural Resources or Related to Natural Resources) Implemented

Six OUs helped improve the management of 4,948,419 hectares of land, an area that is expected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions ([EG.13-8](#)). This accomplishment is critical to helping USAID achieve one of its ambitious Climate Strategy targets—to support conserving, restoring, or managing 100 million hectares by 2030. USAID/Indonesia and USAID/Cambodia were the two main contributors to this success and their activities helped improve the protection and management of 2,659,992 and 1,488,846 hectares, respectively. What USAID/Indonesia achieved was largely due to the [USAID Sustainable Environmental Governance across Regions](#) (SEGAR) project that worked with 12 districts in Aceh and West, Central, and East Kalimantan to reduce deforestation, preserve peatland, restore mangroves, and improve management of forest areas.

USAID Missions to Indonesia, Cambodia, India, the Philippines, and Vietnam helped reduce a total of 15,972,235 mtCO₂e emissions through sustainable landscapes activities ([EG.13-6](#)). In this case, USAID/Cambodia and USAID/Indonesia were the main contributors, respectively reducing 8,637,657 mtCO₂e and 5,716,186 mtCO₂e ([EG.13-6](#)). USAID/Indonesia's contributions involved development of a crop selection database and other tools that help farmers to model and plan their cocoa agroforestry production plots. The database includes about 160 cocoa agroforestry tree species that can contribute to biodiversity conservation in agricultural landscapes. These systems are estimated to have reduced emissions of 650,000 mtCO₂e, helped 9,000 farmers better manage climate change risks, and increased their incomes by 14 percent. These successes demonstrate that the Indo-Pacific region is the leader in contributing to USAID mitigating climate change as part of its [Climate Strategy](#) targets.

To improve habitat coverage, the USAID/Bangladesh Community Partnerships to Strengthen Sustainable Development (COMPASS) Activity planted 162,500 seedlings and worked with 250 community members to grow 30,410 seedlings. USAID/Bangladesh's Local Works program planted 55,684 saplings within targeted households and 12,561 saplings on land near institutions such as mosques and schools. The program also distributed and installed 828 liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) cylinders and stoves, 1,242 improved cookstoves, and 1,368 retained-heat cookers for the beneficiary households so they would reduce using wood for fuel. These efforts will enhance ecological functions in the landscapes of the Cox's Bazar region.

A total of 1,230,068 people received livelihood co-benefits (monetary or non-monetary) with the implementation of FY 2022 sustainable landscapes activities ([EG.13-5](#)). Although this was a sizable increase of beneficiaries compared to 591,558 people in FY 2021, it was lower than the number reported in FY 2020, of 2,162,506 beneficiaries. USAID/India, through the Forest-PLUS 2.0 Activity, established four forest-based value chains to improve livelihoods by generating revenues for forest-dependent communities and three incentive-based mechanisms 1,035,673 people received livelihood co-benefits ([EG.13-5](#)) while five other OUs contributed to the remaining numbers. Two of the incentive-based mechanisms focus on supporting upstream communities to better manage forest and watersheds. USAID/India developed four tools in FY 2022 that will help the Government of India (GOI) better manage and monitor forests and support decision-making. Of the four tools, is a portal developed under USAID's Remote Sensing for Forest Renewal, Ecosystem Services, and Sustainable Hydrological Management (REFRESH) Activity that contains a suite of scientific and commercial satellite data generated by using novel artificial intelligent (AI)-enabled architectures for timely monitoring of anthropogenic or natural forest land cover changes.

To help conserve the local environment, USAID/Maldives launched the \$5.8 million five-year Ocean Plastics Reduction Activity that will address ocean plastics pollution in the Maldives by improving and expanding solid waste management, empower local communities to drive solid waste management solutions, and reduce virgin plastic inputs and products. In addition, the Reefs Generate Environmental and Economic Resiliency for Atoll Ecosystems (REGENERATE) project published a guide to support a national habitat classification system in the Maldives, applying the International Union for the

Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Global Ecosystem Typology that addresses ecosystem-level conservation and management targets. USAID/Timor-Leste is another Mission that is combatting plastics pollution, with efforts spearheaded by the USAID Plastics Upcycling Alliance (PUA). The USAID Tourism for All (TFA) Activity supported this effort in FY 2022 through its Green School program, which provided reusable water bottles to the schools, reducing single-use plastic bottle waste by 50 percent, which is equivalent to 1,000 bottles/day or 150,000 bottles/school year.

Intermediate Outcome 3: Stakeholders' Capacity in Sustainable Natural Resource Management, Safeguards, Sustainable Supply Chains and Investment Strengthened

At the core of sustainably and effectively conducting NRM and building on existing supply chains is the imperative for USAID to understand local needs and to work with local partners. Civil society and other organizations will be the actors who continue to work in the community long after USAID departs. It is crucial that USAID collaborate with local stakeholders to build their capacity for natural resources work. More than half of the USAID Missions reporting on NRSS this fiscal year helped improve the capacity of a total of 345 institutions to address sustainable landscapes issues ([EG.13-2](#)). Among those Missions, USAID/Bangladesh worked with 143 institutions to improve their capacity ([EG.13-2](#)) and USAID/Cambodia with 145 institutions ([EG.13-2](#)). In addition to improving institutional capacity, USAID/Bangladesh also provided training to 33,688 community members and 322 religious leaders on disaster management and risk reduction initiatives. USAID/Cambodia also held 18 outreach activities in addition to training, research, and other educational events. Over 2,600 participants attended the trainings and outreach events.

USAID/Pacific Islands enhanced the capacity of 12 Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to advocate and execute activities on COVID-19 prevention, management, and response efforts. Strengthening the capacity of CSOs not only helped reduce the harmful health effects caused by COVID-19, but also built the overall capacity of communities to prepare for and recover from future pandemics and natural disasters. USAID LGP, which works in Papua New Guinea (PNG), facilitated the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Conservation and Environment Protection Authority and the Simbu⁸ provincial government that allows the Authority to assist provincial governments to develop and institutionalize their environment and conservation capacity, including adequate budget allocation.

Through the Smart Infrastructure for the Mekong (SIM) program, USAID/RDMA worked with the U.S. Department of the Interior's International Technical Assistance Program (DOI-ITAP) to provide partner countries in the Lower Mekong region with U.S. government (USG) technical knowledge in NRM. By the end of FY 2022, USAID/RDMA and its partners completed the construction of six demonstration fishways in Cambodia, Thailand, and Vietnam that have returned millions of fish representing more than 100 species to native waters. USAID/RDMA also built the capacity of Laos' Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment to monitor environmental and social impact assessments and provided recommendations to strengthen the Blue Dot Network's infrastructure certification framework. Furthermore, USAID/RDMA provided technical support to stakeholders to strengthen environmental and social impact standards, such as technical support to a multinational conglomerate on an environmental, social, and governance (ESG) gap analysis across the firm's local and international ESG best practices.

In Vietnam, the Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) Activity developed a community forestry manual that provides guidance on establishing and implementing community forest management for the country. The manual provides guidance on, for example, community forest protection, development funds, and sustainable forest management plans. The Vietnam Administration of Forestry endorsed the manual for piloting in the provinces where the SFM Activity is working. USAID's SFM Activity also advocated that

⁸ A province in the Highlands Region of PNG.

the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) formally recognize carbon rights of forest owners and their role as key stakeholders who can trade carbon credits under [Decree 156](#). These legal rights are essential to developing a market for forest carbon. As a result, the SFM Activity successfully persuaded MARD to use a market-based approach for payment for forest carbon sequestration services.

Cross-Cutting Outcome I: Resilience of People, Places, and Economies to Shocks and Stresses, Such as Climate Change and Zoonotic Disease Outbreaks Increased through Natural Resource Management

Reporting under this Cross-cutting Outcome has expanded to all 13 Missions/OUs (compared to only six the year before). Three OUs helped mobilize \$277,210,291 in FY 2022 for climate change adaptation ([EG.II-4](#)), which is a dramatic increase from \$19,367,369 mobilized in FY 2021 and \$28,059,175 in FY 2020. USAID/Pacific Islands is the main actor that helped mobilize \$275,502,278 ([EG.II-4](#)), while USAID/Cambodia and USAID/RDMA contributed to mobilizing the remaining amount. Through USAID's Climate Ready Activity, USAID/Pacific Islands submitted a proposal and secured funds for \$19.7 million on climate change adaptation solutions for local authorities. This investment supported the Pacific Community in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM). A second proposal of \$32.7 million for the Community-Based Climate Resilience Project in Vanuatu was also supported and funded. These investments are critical in helping implement adaptation interventions that are consistent with the Pacific Islands countries' (PICs) National Adaptation Plans (NAPs).

USAID/RDMA continued to build on their work to increase resilience against floods and droughts. The Mekong River Commission (MRC) is an intergovernmental organization that promotes and coordinates sustainable management and development of water and related resources to benefit the lower Mekong countries.⁹ In FY 2022, the MRC incorporated SERVIR-Mekong's suite of tools and data into its revised Operational Procedures for Flood and Drought Monitoring and Forecasting and will use these tools for the long term. Utilizing SERVIR-Mekong's satellite-based rainfall data, the MRC will be able to warn communities in the Lower Mekong of potential flooding 15 days in advance, compared to the previous capability of a six-day warning. In addition, the SERVIR-Mekong X-Ray tool provides more information on the locations of critical infrastructure and population density that helps the MRC determine whether any potential flash floods would become a major disaster. Through SERVIR-Mekong, USAID/RDMA worked with the MRC to embed its Mekong Reservoir Assessment Tool (RAT-Mekong), a reservoir monitoring system in the [MRC Data Portal](#), allowing the public open access. The public now has information on the amount of water flowing into and out of each dammed reservoir in the area.

With the support of three IPS Missions, a total of 332,046 people are now using climate information or implementing risk-reducing actions to improve resilience to climate change ([EG.II-6](#)). This includes USAID/Bangladesh's Strengthening Household Ability to Respond to Development Opportunities III (SHOUHARDO III) and the Nobo Jatra Project, which conducted food security, nutrition, and resilience interventions, and led to a reduction in the [coping strategy index](#) score from 81 in 2021 to 51 in 2022. This shows an increase in peoples' resilience and risk management capacities to reduce the impact of shocks. These two USAID/Bangladesh activities also provided climate information to 253,334 people ([EG.II-6](#)) who are implementing risk-reduction actions to improve resilience to climate change at the household and village level. Additionally, after rigorous environmental screening, USAID/Bangladesh's Multi-Purpose Disaster Shelter (MPDS) project finalized 25 new MPDS sites with local government support. In FY 2022, USAID finalized four MPDS designs and construction work has started on two sites.

USAID/Nepal helped a private company start producing climate-resilient vegetable seeds through a decentralized network of 30 farmers. The company trained 203 people on climate-resilient agriculture technologies, such as water management and pest management, and was able to mobilize funds for the

⁹ Lower Mekong countries include Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam.

adoption of climate-resilient agriculture practices and technologies. USAID's Feed the Future (FTF) Knowledge-based Integrated Sustainable Agriculture in Nepal (KISAN II) Activity trained 21,732 people in climate change adaptation and climate-resilient management technologies, which helped improve land management practices and increased the use of drought- and flood-tolerant seed varieties in over 31,900 hectares of land, resulting in an increase of crop production and sales. The KISAN II Activity continued to operate and maintain water-efficient irrigation services across 2,700 ha of land that serves 10,500 households.

Seven OUs improved the capacity of 170 institutions to assess or address climate change risks ([EG.11-2](#)), 116 of which were supported by USAID/Cambodia's GPL Activity and included national, sub-national, and community-based organizations (CBOs). The engagements between these institutions and USAID GPL helped increase the CBOs' in-house technical capacity using technology tools and acquiring new skills to develop and implement climate change adaptation plans. The Activity also helped 10,613 people use climate information or implement risk-reduction actions to climate change ([EG.11-6](#)). The GPL Activity mobilized \$1.65 million from national government and private sector partners for climate change adaptation activities, which includes ecotourism site improvement and community forest management.

Cross-Cutting Outcome 2: Biodiversity Conservation in the Region Enhanced

In FY 2022, there was an increase in the number of hectares of biologically significant areas under improved NRM compared to the past two fiscal years. A total of 34,295,765 hectares of biologically significant areas are under improved NRM ([EG.10.2-2](#)) with the support of seven OUs. USAID/Indonesia contributed to the improved NRM of 31,159,992 hectares ([EG.10.2-2](#)). USAID/Indonesia worked with the subnational governments to identify areas to be managed as key biodiversity landscapes, targeting 320,000 hectares in East Aceh and North Aceh districts, and designating 13,500 hectares of the Mesangat Suwi landscape for improved NRM. USAID/Indonesia also supported the design of harvest strategies for two fisheries management areas (FMAs) and worked with the Ocean Conservancy and the Indonesian Research Agency in a third FMA in eastern Indonesia.

USAID/Philippines' Fish Right Activity improved the management of 1,073,544 hectares of biologically significant marine and terrestrial areas ([EG.10.2-2](#)) in the Philippines. The Activity helped improve marine areas by strengthening local capacity to use science for new regulations and protocols on IUU fishing and integrating gender and resilience. USAID/Pacific Islands improved the management of 71,495 hectares of biologically significant terrestrial areas. USAID LGP implemented biodiversity conservation activities in the PNG provinces of Jiwaka, Chimbu, Madang, Eastern Highlands, and Morobe that focused on combatting two major threats to biodiversity: the overexploitation of natural resources and the shortage of alternative livelihood options. USAID/Vietnam's Biodiversity Conservation Activity (BCA) improved the management of 269,699 hectares of biologically significant terrestrial areas. USAID's BCA also monitored biodiversity in thirteen protected areas using camera traps and invited five local NGOs to submit full proposals for small grant assistance from Species Conservation Fund to advance biodiversity conservation.

USAID/Bangladesh, USAID/Cambodia, and USAID/Philippines helped improve economic benefits gained from sustainable NRM and biodiversity conservation for 137,408 people ([EG.10.2-3](#)). USAID/Cambodia, through the GPL Activity and USAID Morodok Baitong, improved economic benefits for 116,358 people ([EG.10.2-3](#)) by expanding tenure rights and access to resources through establishing working CPAs and community forests. Tenure rights have been disputed for many years and those most affected are typically marginalized groups like indigenous community members. Improving tenure rights can lead to significant short-term and long-term benefits for those communities. USAID/Bangladesh's results stemmed from three activities, ECOFISH II, Ecosystem Conservation through Livelihood Improvement and Forest Enhancement (ECO LIFE), and USAID Nature and Life Activity. The ECOFISH II project trained locals from fishing households on selected microenterprises, such as seaweed farming, and

provided them with start-up capital to help build their economic stability. The two *Local Works* activities, ECO LIFE and USAID Nature and Life Activity, provided locals in Protected Areas (PAs) of Cox's Bazar and Teknak with alternative livelihoods support and training.

In another effort to conserve biodiversity, USAID/RDMA's SERVIR-Mekong's Regional Land Cover Monitoring System (RLCMS) forest data were used across the Lower Mekong region. Data helped countries meet their Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) requirements and support sustainable development. Laos used the data to implement its Forest Strategy 2035 and support results-based payments through REDD+ programs. Cambodia, Vietnam, and the MRC have also used the data to improve biodiversity conservation in the Lower Mekong. USAID/RDMA organized several workshops and events that addressed biodiversity and threats to the Lower Mekong Region. Topics included the impact of climate change and freshwater biodiversity.

CHALLENGES

The Indo-Pacific region shares a mix of common and distinct challenges. The USAID/Asia Bureau has observed that what has become a top threat and region-wide challenge is the illegal online trade of wildlife; it is enormous in scale and developing countries often lack the capability to address it. Also, all Indo-Pacific countries reported that COVID-19 has impacted wildlife crime at some level, evident from the increased online sale of wildlife, changes in smuggling routes/techniques, increased poaching, and stockpiling of animal body parts. As international borders open up and regular air travel resumes, there is a concern that smugglers may start moving stockpiled animal products, exploiting the increased pressure on border and customs processes from the anticipated surge in volume of passengers and cargo. It will be critical to focus on tackling wildlife crimes in the coming years.

Below are select challenges identified by sub-region.

South Asia

Countries continue to face challenges related to climate change adaptation and readiness in the face of natural disasters. Bangladesh is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change and environmental stressors. The [Global Climate Risk Index 2021](#) ranked Bangladesh as the seventh most vulnerable country to climate change impacts, with extremely low capacities to adapt to changes. The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the livestock supply chain and related economic activities in Bangladesh. This led to the loss of productivity and sources of income. Consequently, consumption of animal-sourced protein declined at the household level, particularly among low-income families. Farm productivity also declined because of the high cost of livestock feed. It is essential to strengthen current and future sustainable supply chains so that they are able to continue to operate effectively after a disease outbreak and/or natural disaster.

India has over 40 million hectares prone to flooding, a 7,516 kilometer-long coastline of which 5,700 kilometers are susceptible to cyclones, and 68 percent of the cultivable area is vulnerable to drought. India's economic growth and security is inextricably linked with the challenges of hydro-meteorological hazards and climate change. Hazard vulnerabilities and risk assessments indicate that climate change will impact various sectors across India, including water resources, agriculture, forests, natural ecosystems, coastal zones, and more throughout the country. Building upon the past work of providing support for disaster preparedness and risk reduction, USAID/India is supporting the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), a global coalition led by India, in addressing climate change risk.

In Nepal, there is heavy dependence on its natural resources for sustainable growth and livelihoods. However, Nepal's rich resources, which include globally significant rivers, protected areas, and forests, and the vulnerable communities that directly depend on them, are threatened by natural disasters and

unsustainable resource extraction. In the past two years alone, Nepal has been affected by many natural disasters attributed directly to climate change, as reported by the [World Bank](#).

Limited institutional capacity is another challenge shared by several countries in South Asia. In the Maldives, the USAID REGENERATE project was extended to February 2023, as activities had been postponed because of COVID-19. One of the main objectives of REGENERATE is to increase stakeholder capacity to measure, monitor, and adapt to climate stresses through education, training, and outreach, as the Maldives needs more community members and institutions with skills to tackle climate change. [UNICEF](#) highlighted that the Maldives has started to include young people in discussions about the climate change agenda. The Government of Maldives hosted a session called “Multi-Stakeholder Consultation with Young People on Climate Action” in partnership with UNICEF prior to the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27) in 2022 and invited young people to participate. Dr. Aishath Ali, Minister of Education in the Maldives, stated that “platforms like this are vital in preparing younger generations for what is to come, provides them with pathways to familiarize themselves on issues that will impact their future, engages them in the decision-making process, enhance their knowledge and open their eyes to the world they will soon inherit.” Young people have the potential to increase institutional capacity once they join the workforce. For Bangladesh to build resilience to climate change impacts, the country needs to strengthen institutional mechanisms to enhance the capacities of communities and institutions. This fiscal year, USAID/Bangladesh has started to make strong advances toward helping Bangladesh become more adept and ready for future potential climate and natural disasters.

Public finance is another constraint for large-scale efforts to mitigate climate change and adapt to stressors. Sri Lanka has faced its worst economic crisis since its independence because of trade decisions that are affecting the agriculture sector, in particular. Concurrent challenges with sovereign debt, ineffective and inefficient state-owned enterprises, and the availability and affordability of food, fuels, fertilizers, cooking gas, and medicines, combined with chaotic agricultural policies, have disrupted livelihoods across the country. In 2021, a nationwide ban on the import and use of synthetic fertilizers and pesticides was imposed on the country’s two million farmers. This was repealed in 2022 after multiple negative effects were felt, like the steep drop in production of tea, its primary export crop, as discussed in the journal [Foreign Policy](#). Due to the loss of millions of dollars, the government began to offer compensation and subsidies to farmers. In hindsight, this challenge demonstrates the importance of examining national and local actions through a natural resources perspective to avoid drastic economic and NRM consequences.

Southeast Asia

Environmental crime, waste management, and resilience against climate stressors are ongoing challenges. Similar to its South Asia neighbor, Bangladesh, the [Global Climate Risk Index 2021](#) ranked the Philippines as the fourth most vulnerable country to climate change impacts, with the second-lowest capacity to adapt to changes. Burma ranks first in that category. This is grave news for the Philippines as it shows a clear need to rapidly deploy as many climate-resilient activities as possible to race against the ever-growing environmental stressors. Lack of resilience is especially evident in the Philippine water sector, which is highly fragmented between the 30 government agencies that perform water resource regulatory functions. Investments at both the national and local levels remain low and inadequate to meet the requirements for protecting and conserving forests and watersheds, including reforestation of denuded areas. There is a general lack of coordination between water resource management plans.

In FY 2022, USAID/Indonesia included a greater focus on climate resilience in its efforts to expand access to water and sanitation services. Access to water resources is a major challenge for Indonesia, as the country faces a rapidly growing population along with increasingly frequent periods of droughts and floods. During the rainy season, excess water leads to runoff, landslides, and flooding. In the dry season, prolonged droughts put additional stress on the watershed, preventing vulnerable and low-income

populations from reliable access to water. This water resource imbalance results in water supply shortages for urban communities.

As a small island nation, Timor-Leste is highly susceptible to the adverse effects of climate change. Seventy percent of Timorese are subsistence farmers. As a result, they are vulnerable to frequent fluctuations in weather and natural disasters, including floods, landslides, drought, fire, and strong winds. The country is ill-equipped to withstand the effects of climate-related disasters, and the backsliding caused by these events limits the progress the country has made since independence. USAID's adaptation interventions promoted two key priorities: 1) reducing Timor-Leste's vulnerability to climate-related risks; and 2) ensuring food security and access to water resources. USAID increased the use of adaptive measures, such as climate-resilient crops, and helped households shift to water-efficient, heat-tolerant crops.

Additionally, USAID/Vietnam has taken steps to support the Government of Vietnam to tackle climate vulnerability and a series of interrelated challenges which were identified in the Government of Vietnam's Resolution 120 and the Mekong Delta Regional Master Plan. Resolution 120 promotes systemic change towards a more environmentally sustainable agriculture sector in order to increase the Mekong Delta's climate change resilience. It also provides guidance for a transition towards high-quality agricultural products, ecotourism, increased coordination on infrastructure, conservation of biodiversity and cultural traditions, and sustainable use of natural resources. The Mekong Delta Regional Master Plan outlines a multisectoral approach towards sustainability, climate adaptation, and protection of natural ecosystems.

Waste management is another constraint for several countries in Southeast Asia. In Indonesia, USAID/Indonesia's recent municipal solid waste assessment estimates that only about half of municipal solid waste in Indonesia is collected. Of that amount, most is disposed of in open dumps, where there is significant leakage of plastics waste into the marine environment. Only 60 percent of Indonesia's 142 million urban residents have access to waste collection services, and only 55 percent of urban solid waste is handled at a transfer station or processing facility. World Bank data show that rivers transport over 80 percent of the plastic waste that ends up in the oceans, due to direct dumping by households and other sources. Consequently, ocean plastics are a critical development challenge in Indonesia, with regional and global implications. Two-thirds of the country's waste comes from the principal islands of Java and Sumatra, according to a [2021 World Bank analysis](#). Population growth and the expansion of middle-class lifestyles will continue to drive this trend. As a result, Indonesia is the second-leading contributor to ocean plastics pollution globally, accounting for 14 percent of the total volume ending up in global waters.

In addition, Timor-Leste's economic growth has centered around its natural resources, with oil accounting for over 90 percent of government revenues. The country's growth has resulted in a rise in waste production, including plastic waste. Dili, Timor-Leste's capital city, faces the urgent challenge of addressing excessive plastic waste, with limited recycling solutions. Currently, mismanaged plastic is either burned in rubbish piles throughout the city, clogs critical drainage infrastructure, or is washed up on the country's pristine beaches, creating risks to human health and safety, all jeopardizing the potential growth of a promising tourism industry and marine ecosystem.

In Vietnam, the USAID Reducing Pollution Activity supports Vietnam's efforts to address environmental pollution challenges that have posed a major constraint in the country by fostering locally driven initiatives and facilitating capacity for local actors to address environmental pollution challenges.

Another pressing challenge is combating wildlife crime and trade. It is estimated that the annual global illegal trade of wildlife is worth \$20 billion. This poses a universal threat to economies, biodiversity, human health, vulnerable communities, and the rule of law. Southeast Asian countries are global hotspots for the supply and consumption of wildlife. Criminal networks continue to adapt their methods to evade law enforcement. Growing regional wealth has increased the demand for wildlife products,

driving species to extinction, and risking spillover of zoonotic diseases like COVID-19. Although the illegal wildlife trade is linked to corruption, criminal gangs, and, in some cases, terrorist groups, it is generally less effectively addressed than other types of global crime. Successful prosecution rates are low and mandated penalties are poorly enforced. High demand and huge profits, coupled with weak enforcement capacity and nominal political engagement, all exacerbate the problem. USAID/RDMA is working continuously to address these challenges and end illegal wildlife trafficking in Southeast Asia in line with the [U.S. Eliminate, Neutralize, and Disrupt Wildlife Trafficking Act of 2016](#) (END Act).

The Prey Lang Wildlife Sanctuary in Cambodia is still facing challenges in protecting the forest. At the root of the challenges are unclear boundary designations and enforcement responsibilities, which contribute to uncontrolled land encroachment.

CONCLUSION

The continuous dedication and perseverance of IPS Missions and their diverse NRSS-related activities have matured and cemented impressive achievements this year. USAID activities in the Indo-Pacific have made substantial headway across all NRSS Outcomes and Cross-cutting Outcomes in reducing immense amounts of greenhouse gas emissions, mobilizing investment, increasing hectares with increased biophysical condition, and more. USAID activities have made strides in addressing challenges presented in the previous year. For example, in Bangladesh, poor enforcement of environmental laws and unregulated or unplanned economic activities in marine ecosystems threatened to curtail any of the country's planned environmental improvements and fisheries gains. However, a USAID/Bangladesh Activity helped convert the Naf River estuary into a MPA, leading to a sustainable and accountable framework for protection of marine biodiversity. Another USAID/Bangladesh Activity helped develop two management plans for Sangu and Pabla Khali wildlife sanctuaries to increase wildlife protection and management.

Missions have taken significant steps to ensure a more climate resilient Indo-Pacific region through mobilizing increased investment for climate change adaptation, educating more people on climate change resilience, and increasing the number of institutions which have capacity to assess climate risk. USAID/RDMA is a leader in building on successes from previous years by regularly improving tools and developing mechanisms to help lower Mekong countries increase their resilience to climate change. For example, USAID/RDMA has improved and incorporated SERVIR-Mekong's suite of tools into existing local systems that allows countries to readily adapt to floods, droughts, water management, and more. Although great strides have been made in enhancing resilience and biodiversity conservation compared to previous years, wildlife trafficking has emerged as an urgent and what may become a long-term critical challenge. USAID will need to focus efforts equally on combating illegal wildlife crimes and meeting Climate Strategy goals.

Promisingly, Indo-Pacific Missions have plans underway to increase wildlife crime enforcement, improve urban resilience, and localize environmental efforts in the coming years. USAID/Vietnam, through INL, and in partnership with local CSOs, will support the prosecution of wildlife crimes, strengthen the country's wildlife trafficking law enforcement, and leverage funding to assist interagency partners. Similarly, USAID/Nepal plans to build the capacity of domestic wildlife conservation groups to effectively address wildlife crime and pursue livelihood opportunities that also have a conservation benefit. USAID/Nepal will prioritize localization of its biodiversity investments in Nepal while still ensuring accountability for the funds and progress of development results. As previously outlined, there is now a greater focus on improving water and solid waste management, and many USAID activities are pivoting to urban resilience to address these challenges. A prime example is USAID/Indonesia's strategy to design a new activity that will assist municipal governments to integrate climate risk management (CRM) into urban planning processes and mobilize financing for climate-resilient urban infrastructure. The global

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community will be observing the developments of countries in the Indo-Pacific as key actors in advancing both the goals of the Climate Strategy and NRSS.

ANNEX I. PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS BY GOAL OR OUTCOME

Several important caveats should be noted in interpreting this report's results and the information in Table 2:

- (1) Not all OUs had activities that fit under each Goal or Outcome, nor will future activities all fall under each Goal or Outcome;
- (2) Results were interpreted for best fit according to Goal or Outcome;
- (3) Not all reported data were relevant enough to aggregate at a high level (e.g., outputs like number of people trained); and
- (4) Results shared under NRSS were also reported under other IPS Initiatives or Program Focus Areas.

Annex I is organized according to the NRSS Results Framework, following the relevant Goal, Outcomes, Intermediate Outcomes, NRSS-specific and IPS Cross-cutting Outcomes. Within each Goal or Outcome, results are organized in alphabetical order according to regional or bilateral OUs. Regional OUs, such as RDMA, conduct work in countries that do not have bilateral missions (e.g. Thailand); these are included in regional sections. Notably, the NRSS TOC has changed since FY 2019 reporting, with revised wording of Outcome 3 and addition of indicator EG.13-8.

All OU results are summarized by Goal, Outcome, and Cross-cutting Outcome below in Table 2 and elaborated immediately following.

TABLE 2. OU RESULTS BY GOAL, OUTCOME, OR CROSS-CUTTING OUTCOME

OU	Goal, Outcome, or Cross-Cutting Outcome and Result
Bangladesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal: USAID ECOFISH II and CHTWCA helped improve 79,072 hectares of biologically significant areas. • Outcome 1: CHTWCA worked with hill district councils and VCF management committees to implement a four-year reserved forest management action plan. • Outcome 1: ECOFISH II Activity formulated an SMP (approved by the GoB) and assessed the feasibility of delineating a new MPA around the Naf River estuary. • Outcome 2: WPA trained and mentored 52 individuals from different local agencies. • Outcome 2: WPA's wildlife material analysis recorded 2,393 wildlife trafficking incidents between 2012 and 2020 along with other wildlife trafficking results. • Outcome 2: ECOFISH II addressed IUU fishing and illegal large animal harvesting by promoting community-led conservation efforts and raising awareness in across the country. • Outcome 2: USAID's Local Works program prevented wildlife poaching in Cox's Bazar district through 32 CPGs of 738 community members and 13 ERTs of 120 community members. • Outcome 2: USAID's Local Works program protected terrestrial and marine biodiversity in about 37,507 hectares of designated Protected in Cox's Bazar. • Outcome 2: USAID mobilized 'Community Fish Guards' and 'Blue Guards' to combat IUU fishing and reduce coastal pollution. • Outcome 3: CHTWCA trained 36,889 forest resource dependent people on livelihood skills development. • Outcome 3: USAID's Local Works program provided a total of 4,945 community members with alternative livelihood options to increase household income. • Outcome 3: USAID's Local Works program operated four turtle hatcheries to conserve marine turtles and established a hatchery to collect and incubate eggs.

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OU	Goal, Outcome, or Cross-Cutting Outcome and Result
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 3: USAID’s Local Works program planted 55,684 saplings near targeted households and 12,561 saplings in land near different institutions. • Outcome 3: The Ecosystems Project conducted multiple assessments such as a review of key biodiversity management plans. • Outcome 3: ECOFISH II improved conservation of key fisheries species, including Hilsa, major riverine catfish, and megafauna in the coastal region. • Outcome 3: USAID Ecosystems/Protibesh Activity facilitated the development of a protected forest area annual development plan with 27 CMOs. • Outcome 3: USAID’S COMPASS Activity in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, promoted advanced forest management capacities and transferred cutting-edge forestry tools, knowledge, and technologies. • Outcome 3: The COMPASS Activity planted 162,500 seedlings and worked with 250 community members to grow 30,410 seedlings. • Intermediate Outcome 1: ECOFISH II in collaboration with Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, completed a two-year-long study to evaluate the potential of declaring the Naf River estuary as an MPA. • Intermediate Outcome 1: CHTWCA developed two management plans for Sangu and Pablakhali wildlife sanctuaries. • Intermediate Outcome 1: CHTWCA drafted the REDD+ Sub-National Plan for the CHT and is developing suitable social and environmental safeguards. • Intermediate Outcome 2: USAID partnered with academic institutions to research and provide current information to fisheries to help them in decision-making. • Intermediate Outcome 3: USAID provided capacity-building training on disaster management and risk reduction initiatives to 33,688 community members. • Intermediate Outcome 3: USAID trained 66 nursery owners on production and marketing of quality planting material, 150 beneficiaries on improved bamboo production, and 75 betel leaf collectors on enhancing the service life of wood, bamboo, and sun grass. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: SHOUHARDO III and Nobo Jatra project, reached 402,552 people through food security and resilience interventions. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID’s RFSAs provided climate information to 253,334 people who are implementing risk-reduction actions to improve resilience to climate change at the household and village level. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID’s RFSAs in worked with the GoB’s Flood Forecasting and Warning Center and Bangladesh Meteorological Department to disseminate location-specific weather advisories through cell phones. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID’s MPDS project finalized 25 new MPDS sites, in consultation with local government and regulatory agencies. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: ECOFISH II extended access for marginalized local fisher communities to improved economic opportunities and strengthened their resilience to mitigate and recover from climate-related stresses and shocks. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID’s RFSAs DRR and Climate Change Adaptation study reported that climate-smart and disaster-resilient practices reduced production losses among 72 percent of their respondents. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: CHTWCA disseminated climate change adaptation information to 916 stakeholders. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID’s Ecosystems/Protibesh Activity conducted a desk review on the status of embankments and the potential for nature-based solutions in the coastal region of Bangladesh.

Internal to USAID

OU	Goal, Outcome, or Cross-Cutting Outcome and Result
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID's Local Works program mentored 113 local service providers to render livelihood-related assistance. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 2: CHTWCA improved NRM of 32,815 hectares in CHT. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 2: CHTWCA formed 36 new forest user groups and ten Village Conservation Forums among host communities affected by the influx of Rohingya refugees into the Bandarban Hill District. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 2: CHTWCA assisted in the natural regeneration of over 1,000 hectares of BFD's degraded Reserved Forests. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 2: ECOFISH II's larval sample-based fish diversity assessment using DNA barcoding technology helped discover two new fish species in the Bay of Bengal. • GESI: CHTWCA improved market access for 135 women weavers from remote areas that produced approximately 1,000 units of woven products and earned \$3,921. • GESI: ECOFISH II mobilized 64 women-led CSG and supported 1,885 fisherwomen to access alternative income options. • CSE: USAID, in partnership with the GoB and local CSOs, improved the management and protection of biodiversity while reducing poverty and building resilience among communities.
Bureau for Asia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 2: USAID/Asia Bureau expanded its efforts with INTERPOL to combat illegal wildlife trade and related transnational crime across South and Southeast Asia and Oceania. • Outcome 2: USAID developed and submitted the South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network five-year Strategic Plan to the SAWEN Secretariat. • Outcome 2: USAID's support through INTERPOL led to the creation of a specialized environmental enforcement unit within the Bangladesh Police department. • Outcome 2: USAID/Asia Bureau continued efforts to reduce illegal logging, principally in PNG, Solomon Islands, and other parts of the region experiencing rapid increases in illegal forest conversion. • Outcome 3: USAID/Asia Bureau's Asia Grey Timber Analysis conducted research on supply chains and grey timber economics. • Intermediate Outcome 3: The Asia Bureau's WOM project organized 21 training events regarding environmental topics. • Intermediate Outcome 3: USAID through INTERPOL is helping train to build capacity for various levels of law enforcement. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID's WOM project increased adaptive capacities for communities that both rely on and manage the Mekong River system. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID/Asia Bureau identified leading researchers and technical experts to develop modules that can address the wider cryosphere and precipitation within river basins. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID assembled a team of economists, risk experts, indigenous peoples, and resilience scientists to generate analyses on the economic advantages and impacts of climate.
Cambodia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal: USAID GPL and USAID Morodok Baitong helped improve 919,358 hectares of biologically significant areas. • Outcome 1: USAID GPL supported the advancement of 45 key policies that address biodiversity conservation and NRM. • Outcome 2: USAID GPL Activity continued to combat wildlife crime through management and planning; community patrolling; and the training and equipping of

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OU	Goal, Outcome, or Cross-Cutting Outcome and Result
	<p>community members with technological tools and techniques necessary for documentation and reporting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 2: USAID GPL Activity continued to combat wildlife crime through management and planning and the training and equipping of community members. • Outcome 2: USAID GPL supported a population assessment of Asian elephants in the Prey Lang Extended Landscape. • Outcome 2: USAID GFA launched an SBCC campaign to reduce demand for bushmeat consumption in collaboration with local actors. • Outcome 2: USAID partnered with the U.S. DOI-ITAP to conduct a CWT Assessment. • Outcome 3: USAID Morodok Baitang reduced the deforestation rate in 280,996 hectares of forested area in the KSWs and its buffer zone. • Outcome 3: USAID Morodok Baitang reduced 782,778 metric tons of CO2 equivalents, generated \$15,743,382 from the sale of carbon credits, and improved habitat for endangered species like the black-shanked douc and yellow-cheeked gibbon. • Outcome 3: USAID GPL improved NRM management of 1,207,850 hectares, the biophysical condition of 632,362 hectares in biologically significant areas, and reduced 7,854,879 metric tons of CO2. • Outcome 3: USAID GPL's work provided economic benefits for 110,718 people and mobilized \$1,655,985 to reinvest in the protection and conservation of the Prey Lang Wildlife Sanctuary and its extended landscape. • Intermediate Outcome 1: USAID supported ten total policies that are necessary to ensure effective and sustainable management across the country. • Intermediate Outcome 1: USAID GPL and the USAID GIA activities supported the proposal and adoption of 21 policies that address sustainable landscapes. • Intermediate Outcome 2: USG interventions attracted nearly \$32 million in new investments from a wide range of investors interested in supporting agricultural-led growth, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable NRM. • Intermediate Outcome 2: USAID GFA mobilized \$2,280 of financial support from the private sector to support initiatives developed by the project's Green Groups. • Intermediate Outcome 2: USAID Morodok Baitang Activity facilitated the mobilization of an \$8 million investment from the private sector to procure carbon credits from the KSWs. • Intermediate Outcome 3: USAID GFA continued to implement its SBCC campaign to reduce demand of luxury wood for furniture. • Intermediate Outcome 3: USAID Morodok Baitang provided training to 442 individuals on internal controls for the cultivation of Ibis Rice and created monitoring systems for each of the 21 villages that participate in the cultivation. • Intermediate Outcome 3: USAID Wonders of Mekong held 18 outreach activities including educational events and research events. • Intermediate Outcome 3: CE SAIN, with USAID support, worked with agricultural actors to shift agricultural mechanization from conventional soil degrading methods to profitable soil production systems. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: Harvest II helped 1,869 farmers and small and medium enterprises adopt various climate-smart agricultural practices. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID GPL continued to support the use of Protected Area Monitoring Platform systems, such as SMART Mobile and satellite deforestation alerts.

Internal to USAID

OU	Goal, Outcome, or Cross-Cutting Outcome and Result
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID GPL improved the capacity of 116 institutions, including national, sub-national, and CBOs to assess or address climate change risks. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID GPL mobilized \$1.65 million from national government and private sector partners for climate change adaptation activities. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 2: USAID GPL assisted CPAs and community forests to develop community management plans, demarcate boundaries of protected forests, and more. • PSE: USAID GPL mobilized \$1,655,985 from the private sector that supported the development of a potential REDD+ program activity for the Phnom Thnout-Phnom Pok Wildlife Sanctuary. • PSE: USAID Morodok Baitang supported REDD+ development and mobilized \$15,743,382 from carbon credit sales in Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary. • GESI: USAID GPL engaged 37,076 young people aged 15-35 in activities that include forest patrols, community training, and more. • GESI: GPL supported 134 communities, which included training that equipped them with tools and resources to undertake community patrolling and livelihood development. • GESI: USAID GFA continued to work with youth especially female youths to act as agents for change. • CSE: USAID GPL worked with 47 CBOs from communities with Kuoy and Bunong Indigenous Peoples.
India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 3: USAID Forest PLUS 2.0 Activity Van system helped to develop forest management plans for thirteen forest divisions covering an area of 527,138 hectares. • Outcome 3: USAID developed four additional tools that will help the GOI better manage and monitor forests, support decision-making, and marketing of NTFPs. • Outcome 3: USAID conducted a comprehensive analysis to identify and spatially map the expansion opportunities for trees outside formal forest areas in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. • Outcome 3: The Forest PLUS 2.0 Activity established four forest-based value chains to improve livelihoods by generating revenues for forest-dependent communities. • Outcome 3: USAID interventions to promote forest and landscape management resulted in an estimated emissions reduction of 1,377,224 mtCO₂e. • Outcome 3: The POWER Activity established nine women-owned production units benefitting 1,472 underprivileged women. • Intermediate Outcome 3: USAID's efforts helped strengthen the capacity of four GOI organizations through training on utilizing an ecosystem approach to forest management. • Intermediate Outcome 3: USAID trained 427 people on using the Van system for forest inventory data collection and more. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID supported CDRI in hosting the fourth International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID supported the CDRI Secretariat to review the CDRI 2020-2022 Work Plan and an assessment of the progress made. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID supported the CDRI in preparing a chapter on disaster risk finance for the CDRI's biennial Report on Global Infrastructure Resilience. • PSE: USAID's POWER Activity leveraged funds from the private sector to support establishment of women-owned natural resource-based enterprises that sell products to major international retailers.

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OU	Goal, Outcome, or Cross-Cutting Outcome and Result
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSE: The Forest-PLUS 2.0 Activity mobilized \$2,134,294 to facilitate and enable value chain work, engaging with private sector agencies. • PSE: USAID facilitated a PPP between the CTA and Mahyco Pvt. Ltd. to plant high value apples and cherries in the Tenzingang settlement. • GESI: POWER conducted 74,363 person days of training on technical skills in manufacturing natural fiber-based products, soft skills, gender equality, and empowerment, and also connected the women producers to social security schemes established by state governments. • GESI: Forest-PLUS 2.0 developed an e-learning course on gender in forestry for the state forest departments, training institutions and other stakeholders. • GESI: Forest-PLUS 2.0 identified senior- and mid-level forest officials to mentor young female forest officers. • GESI: USAID organized training for women and youth from marginalized communities to build their leadership skills for forest management.
Indonesia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 2: USAID supported CWT efforts through enhanced detection and reporting as well as community conservation. • Outcome 2: USAID awarded three new activities \$38 million for sustainable fisheries management, MPAs, and scientific exchange. • Outcome 2: Through OPDAT coordinated with the UN and the Justice Department's Environment and Natural Resources Division to engage with Indonesian law enforcement, prosecutors, and NGOs for training and discussions on illegal forestry. • Outcome 2: Through INL, USAID strengthened CWT capacity of Indonesian law enforcement; assisted the Natural Resources and Conservation Agency and the MOEF to develop standardized market monitoring protocols to regulate the wild meat market; and sponsored training to improve law enforcement on domestic and cross-border issues. • Outcome 2: USAID assisted the MMAF to introduce measures to reduce IUU fishing. • Outcome 3: USAID developed a crop selection database and tools that will help farmers to model and plan their cocoa agroforestry production plots. • Outcome 3: The USAID SEGAR Activity worked with 12 districts in Aceh and West, Central, and East Kalimantan to reduce deforestation, preserve peatland, restore mangroves, and improve management of forest areas. • Outcome 3: USAID concluded four years of support to the BAF. • Outcome 3: USAID supported the development and national rollout of management information systems for water safety planning. • Intermediate Outcome 1: The USAID SEGAR Activity helped propose one policy and adopt 11 policies to address biodiversity conservation. • Intermediate Outcome 2: USAID partnered with Dharma Satya Nusantara to conserve 3,500 hectares of HCV and HCS areas currently managed by its smallholder suppliers. • Intermediate Outcome 2: USAID signed an MOU with the MOEF, outlining a partnership to achieve the GOI's long-term low-carbon development goals and targets for reducing GHG emissions. • Intermediate Outcome 2: USAID partnered with communities to better protect 600 hectares of mangrove forests in two villages. • Intermediate Outcome 2: USAID awarded the five-year USAID Ber-IKAN contract to Resonance. • Intermediate Outcome 2: USAID continued working with NOAA and the MMAF to advance Indonesia's efforts to protect marine biodiversity.

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OU	Goal, Outcome, or Cross-Cutting Outcome and Result
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intermediate Outcome 2: USAID funded a \$500,000 pilot program with the local private firm SYSTEMIQ to expand the use of plastic credits among Indonesian firms. • Intermediate Outcome 2: USAID-INVEST provided technical assistance to PlasticPay, to enable the company to attract investment for expanding plastic recycling stations. • Intermediate Outcome 3: USAID awarded a farmer group in Central Kalimantan a grant to them to use their social forestry license for peatland protection, ecotourism, and land restoration. • Intermediate Outcome 3: USAID provided stakeholders with technical assistance to develop land use management plans to protect 12,000 hectares of orangutan corridors in West Kalimantan's Ketapang district. • Intermediate Outcome 3: USAID conducted assessments in target districts and analyzed key commodity value chains, assessed the GOI's smallholder registration scheme, and mapped 56 priority villages in or adjacent to HCV and HCS areas. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID launched the IUWASH Activity, which focuses on climate-resilience water and sanitation services. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID ACTIVE began promoting crop insurance to help farmers better manage climate change risks. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID launched partnerships with two private firms to implement USAID's Resilient Coffee Activity. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 2: USAID worked with subnational governments to identify areas to be managed as key biodiversity landscapes. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 2: USAID had supported seven companies to join the FIP. • PSE: The USAID-CCBO Activity partnered with Borealis and SYSTEMIQ to launch a plastic credit pilot. • PSE: The SNAPPER Activity engaged the private sector to collect data, manage fisheries, and practice sustainable business. • PSE: The SEGAR Activity worked with national and local governments, the private sector, and local communities to strengthen inclusive environmental governance and enhance green supply chains throughout 12 districts in four provinces. • PSE: ACTIVE worked with the private sector to promote evidence-based sustainable cocoa agroforestry practices. • GESI: ACTIVE provided technical training on women's leadership, youth engagement, and skills development to empower young women to participate in climate change initiatives.
Maldives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 3: The CCAA completed a CRA and launched four grants to support preparation for COP 27. • Outcome 3: USAID launched the Ocean Plastics Reduction Activity, a five-year \$5.8 million Activity that will address ocean plastics pollution in the Maldives. • Outcome 3: USAID's CCAA initiated an in-kind grant with the MoECCT to support the Island Councils in the Baa atoll with their decentralization mandate. • Outcome 3: The REGENERATE Activity published a guide to support a national habitat classification system in Maldives, applying IUCN's Global Ecosystem Typology. • Intermediate Outcome 3: USAID's CCAA explored developing an online interactive climate change module for schools in Maldives. • Intermediate Outcome 3: The PFM Activity continued rolling out a performance-based budgeting program across all government entities in the country. • Intermediate Outcome 3: REGENERATE supported a study tour for staff from the MoECCT to Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia.

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OU	Goal, Outcome, or Cross-Cutting Outcome and Result
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: REGENERATE drafted ten-year action plans for newly established UNESCO biosphere reserves in Addu and Fuvahmulah atolls. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID CCAA issued its first APS in the Maldives, calling for concept papers on innovative solutions to reduce the impact of climate risks. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID CCAA awarded a \$200,000 grant to a Maldivian consultancy firm to design and implement a Climate Adaptation Accelerator program. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID CCAA helped launch a two-year program to identify existing gaps that can be addressed through targeted science and policy interventions. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID CCAA launched an in-kind grant with the SDFC to mainstream environmental and climate change considerations with its existing portfolio of loan instruments. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 2: REGENERATE finalized ecological surveys in 4,000 hectares of oceanic and coastal areas in two Maldivian atolls. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 2: REGENERATE supported the publication of the first ever Maldives Red List of Threatened Species.
Nepal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 1: The Tayar Nepal Activity partnered with the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration to develop a national framework guiding the relocation of disaster-prone and climate vulnerable human settlements. • Outcome 2: USAID conducted an assessment that included more than 30 consultations with diverse stakeholders to ensure their priorities are reflected in USAID Biodiversity. • Outcome 3: CSISA disseminated a report on the framework addressing barriers and identifying opportunities for scaling sustainable, inclusive farmer-led irrigation development. • Outcome 3: The Karnali Water Activity conducted a desk study, as well as a large-scale springs and water source assessment, across 29 municipalities in four targeted watersheds. • Intermediate Outcome 2: NSAF partnered with private seed companies to increase the production of climate-resilient seeds and worked with agro-dealers and input suppliers to ensure that they reached smallholder farmers. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID partnered with municipal governments to assist over 12,000 individuals to mitigate risks from landslides and floods. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: NSAF supported climate change adaptation efforts by enhancing the availability of climate smart varieties and fertilizer products in farming communities. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: KISAN II Activity supported 26,570 farmers to use climate information or risk-reducing practices to improve resilience to climate change. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 2: The Karnali Water Activity developed a water source and biodiversity baseline report that details species diversity, available forest resources, land use, and land cover changes. • PSE: KISAN II Activity facilitated business relationships between 177 business partners and 235,789 farming households that resulted in a dramatic increase in yields. • PSE: The NSAF Activity worked with 11 seed companies and cooperatives to introduce 81 improved varieties of rice, maize, and vegetables. • PSE: The CSISA COVID-19 Response and Resilience Activity advanced PSE by strengthening the capacity of local banks to provide loans for small businesses.

Internal to USAID

OU	Goal, Outcome, or Cross-Cutting Outcome and Result
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSE: The Tayar Nepal Activity formed a PSE committee with federal business associations, including chambers of commerce, producer associations, and financial institutions. • GESI: KISAN II advanced inclusion by strengthening the ability of private sector extension agents to serve marginalized communities, reaching over 258,000 farmers in agriculture and food security programs. • GESI: NIPM supported four women scientists' participation in an international training on raising parasitoids. • GESI: NSAF provided direct assistance to 68,812 women from marginalized groups, who were better able to capitalize and benefit from business opportunities. • GESI: USAID leveraged the skills, energy, and leadership of YIL as a sub-partner under Tayar Nepal to support 15 municipalities to localize the BIPAD. • GESI: The Karnali Water Activity incorporated GESI in institutional capacity assessments to evaluate the efficacy of water service planning, budgeting, and monitoring processes at the municipal level.
Pacific Islands Regional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 2: The PaFMaC Activity provided technical assistance through a Professional Certificate Course in fisheries and conservation laws. • Outcome 2: USAID-LGP awarded a grant to a local NGO that delivered training to 353 people on environmental rights and NRM. • Outcome 2: USAID-LGP provided training for YUS Conservation Area rangers on the SMART Conservation Software Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool. • Outcome 2: USAID-LGP supported the PNG National Forest Authority's bi-weekly TLS Working Group meetings. • Outcome 3: USAID-LGP worked with ten communities to establish community conservation areas and supported the restructuring and strengthening of CEPA. • Outcome 3: USAID provided PNG a Sustainable Landscapes award, promoting sustainable management of forest and agriculture in PNG. • Intermediate Outcome 1: USAID supported CEPA in drafting the Protected Areas Bill to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of protected areas management systems. • Intermediate Outcome 1: USAID-LGP spearheaded the Forest Authority Project Management Committee. • Intermediate Outcome 2: USAID's Climate Ready helped PICs secure \$275.5 million of climate funds by supporting the capacity of various regional, subregional, and country level agencies. • Intermediate Outcome 2: USAID-LGP mobilized \$417,282 for sustainable landscape and NRM; supported 823 microenterprises; trained 1,619 people in sustainable NRM and biodiversity conservation; and trained 1,548 people and trainers on gender equality and female empowerment. • Intermediate Outcome 2: USAID-LGP supported CEPA to develop MOAs with five provinces. • Intermediate Outcome 3: The Institutional Strengthening in Pacific Island Countries to Adapt to Climate Change project enhanced the capacity of 12 CSOs to advocate for and execute activities on COVID-19 prevention, management, and response. • Intermediate Outcome 3: USAID-LGP awarded a grant to the organization Mahonia Na Dari to train primary school teachers to teach marine environmental education and climate change adaptation.

Internal to USAID

OU	Goal, Outcome, or Cross-Cutting Outcome and Result
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: Climate Ready supported the financing plan for PNG NAP; Mainstreamed climate change adaptation interventions into policies, strategies, and plans in three PICs; and more. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 2: The OurFish OurFuture Activity held three national inception workshops in Palau, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu, identifying members of National Advisory Committees. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 2: The OurFish OurFuture Activity completed a screening process using the Environmental and Social Safeguard Framework for Madang and Southern Region Seascapes in PNG. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 2: USAID-LGP focused on biodiversity conservation activities in the PNG and addressed threats and drivers of biodiversity loss, • Cross-Cutting Outcome 2: USAID-LGP supported a total of 71,495 hectares of priority forests and biodiversity habitat with improved management. • PSE: Climate Ready collaborated with the UNDP, PNG's Climate Change and Development Authority, and the PNG National Weather Services to develop a project proposal for SMART Climate. • PSE: Climate Ready supported the national Chambers of Commerce in four PICs to strengthen PSE in disaster risk management. • PSE: USAID facilitated a signed agreement between the U.S. International DFC and MiBank Limited. • PSE: Through USAID-LGP, the Ngasuwapum Mama's Association in Morobe signed a partnership agreement with NKW Fresh. • PSE: USAID-LGP, together with private sector partners, provided financial, management, and awareness training to women, men, and youth. • PSE: USAID and Outspan Ltd. helped establish 50 women's cooperatives with more than 500 women farmers to improve cocoa production in Morobe. • PSE: USAID hosted an event for more than 30 of PNG's young business leaders as part of AmCham Coral Sea's official launch, • PSE: USAID and Coca-Cola Europacific Partners signed a comprehensive MOU to support development activities in PNG. • GESI: Climate Ready conducted a GESI Responsive Banking training for the Fiji Development Bank Executive Management staff and Board members. • GESI: USAID supported four PICs in developing and submitting project proposals to the GEF Small Grants Program to benefit women's groups and contribute to women's economic empowerment. • GESI: The USAID PAF awarded grants to local organizations to address critical development challenges across the Pacific Islands, with gender and social inclusion as key considerations. • GESI: USAID-LGP conducted a gender assessment revealing that women have in-depth knowledge and experience of NRM.
Philippines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 1: USAID/Philippines helped implement nine policies that address biodiversity conservation and/or other environmental themes. • Outcome 2: The SIBOL Activity and Fish Right Activity combatted wildlife trafficking by strengthening policy and systems, collaborating with wildlife law enforcement, and raising the public's awareness of wildlife trafficking. • Outcome 2: With USAID assistance, the Philippine BFAR expanded the geographic reach of the use of an I-FIT would help plan IUU fishing reduction.

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OU	Goal, Outcome, or Cross-Cutting Outcome and Result
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 2: The SIBOL Activity placed 22,202 hectares of terrestrial ecosystems and 285,914 hectares of coastal regions within four protected areas under improved management plans. • Outcome 3: USAID placed 92,571 hectares of water-stressed areas under improved management. • Outcome 3: The SIBOL Activity updated the High Conservation Value Areas Framework and supported BFAR’s review of the National Enforcement Plan. • Outcome 3: USAID trained a total of 3,924 people in conservation skills such as protected area management and ecosystem service valuation. • Outcome 3: The Fish Right Activity expanded knowledge-sharing through a virtual training site co-developed with BFAR that will host curated educational materials. • Outcome 3: USAID assistance reduced, avoided, or sequestered a total of 241,168 mtCO₂e. • Outcome 3: The SFM Activity helped finalize the FREL document. • Outcome 3: The Fish Right Activity trained the Department of Agriculture's NFRDI and NSAP researchers on how to transform their scientific outputs into policy briefs. • Outcome 3: The CCBO Activity provided technical assistance and administered a small grants program. • Outcome 3: Safe Water signed agreements with the Philippine Coffee Advancement and Farm Enterprise Project to upgrade coffee farming in supported communities in Sarangani. • Intermediate Outcome 1: USAID supported the formulation of several national and sub-national policies on threats to wildlife and habitats. • Intermediate Outcome 1: USAID's Fish Right Activity aided local governments, which established 27 local policies and regulations. • Intermediate Outcome 2: USAID, in partnership with DENR, held a two-day virtual celebration of World Wildlife Day. • Intermediate Outcome 2: The INSPIRE Activity awarded seven small grants to local organizations to advance ecosystem and community recovery from the impacts of Typhoon Rai. • Intermediate Outcome 2: USAID partnered with the KOICA to combat marine plastic pollution. • Intermediate Outcome 3: The Fish Right Activity began developing Juan Catch. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: The INSPIRE Activity helped develop 54 site-based ecosystem rehabilitation, coastal resource management, IUU, and biodiversity-enhanced disaster management plans. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: CRC completed foundational baseline assessments and nature-based solutions mapping; established City Technical Working Groups; and more. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 2: USAID improved the management of 1,073,544 hectares of biologically significant marine and terrestrial areas in the Philippines. • PSE: The MRP tapped private sector resources and expertise to provide livelihood support to communities affected by the 2017 Marawi siege. • GESI: USAID supported the establishment of 1,301,021-hectare WMAs in mangroves and seagrass beds in Calamianes. • CSE: The INSPIRE Activity supported CSOs in strengthening partnerships and conservation efforts for natural resource governance.
RDMA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 1: 16 partners adopted the USAID GIA-developed Sustainable Coconut Charter.

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OU	Goal, Outcome, or Cross-Cutting Outcome and Result
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 2: The RDW Activity helped reduce the intent to buy wildlife products among target audiences from 33 to 25 percent. • Outcome 2: The RDW Activity mobilized \$484,212 in resources from Chinese media companies for communications highlighting CWT actions. • Outcome 2: The RDW Activity supported the ASEAN Working Group on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species and Wildlife Enforcement to develop a RPOA. • Outcome 2: The RDW Activity continued four SBCC campaigns. • Outcome 2: USAID collaborated with an NGO to prepare the draft IUCN Rhino Report for the 19th meeting of the COP. • Outcome 2: USAID partnered with the International Network of Engaged Buddhists to implement three workshops in Thailand to engage local monks and nuns on reducing demand for illegal wildlife products. • Outcome 2: USAID, through NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement, worked with the SEAFDEC and national governments to implement the PSMA. • Outcome 3: USAID/RDMA, through NWFSC, held a virtual workshop for SEAFDEC and its member countries on adaptive management and decision support tools for un- or under-managed fisheries. • Outcome 3: USAID GIA unlocked \$127.5 million in private finance to reduce 82.4 million metric tons of CO₂ equivalent to 272,000 hectares of land under improved management. • Outcome 3: USAID/RDMA established joint corporate climate actions to improve farmer livelihoods, reduce the carbon footprint of coconuts, and boost supply to meet rising global demand. • Outcome 3: USAID collaborated with the AICHR to help develop a declaration on environmental rights in collaboration with United Nations agencies. • Intermediate Outcome 1: USAID GIA successfully proposed two policies that include new jurisdiction eligibility criteria assessments to the Green Fund. • Intermediate Outcome 2: USAID GIA facilitated a \$14 million transaction from Mirova's Land Degradation Neutrality Fund into Kennemer Foods International. • Intermediate Outcome 2: USAID GIA supported Lestari Capital to secure a \$15.69 million Rimba Collective investment to help the YPRCFI develop a community forestry project. • Intermediate Outcome 2: The SUFIA TS Activity strengthened responsible governance of the region's marine resources. • Intermediate Outcome 3: USAID promoted ethical standards and practices in the fishing industry by expanding the use of communication technology to fishery workers in the Phuket province. • Intermediate Outcome 3: USAID GIA facilitated increased sustainability in the transforming coffee sector. • Intermediate Outcome 3: SUFIA LCD provided capacity development services and technical training for two key regional organizations: SEAFDEC and the CTI-CFF. • Intermediate Outcome 3: USAID conducted two webinars for over 100 ministry officials involved in the Lower Mekong Fish Passage Initiative to institutionalize fish passage restoration across the region. • Intermediate Outcome 3: USAID with other development partners, completed the construction of six demonstration fishways in Cambodia, Thailand, and Vietnam. • Intermediate Outcome 3: The SERVIR-Mekong Activity supported Cambodia in evaluating the impact of the previously developed Protected Area Alert System.

Internal to USAID

OU	Goal, Outcome, or Cross-Cutting Outcome and Result
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: The SERVIR-Mekong Activity tackled regional climate risks through improved flood and drought monitoring and worked with MRC to integrate its RAT-Mekong into the MRC Data Portal. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID provided technical assistance to the Energy Policy and Planning Office, Thailand Ministry of Energy, on updating the Thailand Power Development Plan and the national energy plan. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 2: SERVIR-Mekong's RLCMS forest data was widely used across the Lower Mekong region, enabling countries to meet their REDD+ requirements. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 2: USAID organized several events and workshops that promoted and addressed biodiversity and its threats in the Lower Mekong Region. • PSE: USAID GIA mobilized \$127.5 million through eight investments. • PSE: USAID started co-developing industry-level sustainable biomass guidelines and risk evaluation templates with the three leading global apparel brands, • GESI: The SUFIA LCD Activity strengthened regional organizations' gender integration and equipped them with tangible tools and action plans to improve women's participation in fisheries governance and policy making. • GESI: SERVIR-Mekong launched the Gender Equality Monitoring Platform. • GESI: The Mekong for the Future Activity established a partnership with the ACWC and initiated regional dialogue supporting GESI in climate action planning in five Mekong countries. • GESI: USAID built the capacity of 1,378 Tibetans on environmental conservation and NRM. • CSE: The Mekong for the Future Activity facilitated the Advocacy Learning Series Introductory Workshop, which was attended more than 50 civil society representatives from across the region.
Sri Lanka	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 3: USAID's Safe, Disaster-Resilient Drinking Water to Flood and Drought Prone Areas Activity provided safe and clean drinking water to 12 rural schools and 103 families. • Intermediate Outcome 2: CCAA worked with the CCS, Green Climate Fund, GGGI to implement the NAP Readiness Project. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: CCAA initiated discussions with the International Water Management Institute; and completed its CRA for Sri Lanka. • PSE: CCAA awarded an \$80,000 grant to a Sri Lankan consultancy firm to design and implement a Climate Adaptation Accelerator; and issued its first APS in Sri Lanka. • GESI: USAID's Safe, Disaster-Resilient Drinking Water to Flood and Drought Prone Areas activity trained 40 women masons.
Timor-Leste	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 3: The TFA Activity consulted with the Secretary of State for Environment to identify sector criteria and stakeholders that could contribute towards environmentally sustainable tourism. • Outcome 3: Through the Green School program, the TFA Activity provided reusable water bottles to schools, reducing single-use plastic bottle waste by 50 percent. • Outcome 3: USAID PUA developed distribution channels and installation services for recycled plastic product lines in Dili. • Intermediate Outcome 2: USAID PUA organized two events that brought together the government, private sector, development, civil society stakeholders to share ideas on plastic pollution and recycling.

Internal to USAID

OU	Goal, Outcome, or Cross-Cutting Outcome and Result
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: The Cyclone Seroja Recovery Activity helped 2,650 households recover from the impact of the April 2021 flood and improved food security and long-term resilience. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: The TFA Activity led the development of three SMP for protected areas in its geographic focus areas. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: The TFA Activity conducted the "Climate Change and Tourism in Timor-Leste: The Time to Act is Now" training module for 303 people. • PSE: The Accelerating Aquaculture Development Activity selected several PSPs for an additional PPP model hatchery in Hera, Dili. • PSE: USAID's support enabled a Timorese company to research product lines made from recycled plastic, resulting in the development of eight products. • PSE: The TFA Activity continued support for two tourism-related PPPs. • GESI: The TFA Activity piloted the Green School program in the Canossian School to educate young people about the risks of single-use plastic and its impact on the future. • GESI: The TFA Activity's grant program supported approximately 2,388 beneficiaries, of whom nearly 73 percent were women. • GESI: Through a USAID grant, Compass Boat Charters organized the "Sustainable Marine Tourism: A Field Experience for Timorese Youth" initiative. • CSE: The Ambassador's Small Grant Fund supported two NGOs on gender equality and women's empowerment.
Vietnam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome 1: USAID helped implement 22 policies that address biodiversity conservation and other environmental themes. • Outcome 2: USAID supported the participation of Vietnam Supreme People's Court in a "Regional Chief Justices Conference on Wildlife Crime." • Outcome 2: BCA implemented workshops targeting local food service establishments in three provinces and one National Park to increase awareness about the legal regulations on wild meat consumption. • Outcome 2: The SFM Activity supported seven provinces in developing their provincial law enforcement plans and law enforcement coordination mechanisms. • Outcome 3: USAID supported Danang City's Vietnam Water Conservation Network, Department of Natural Resource and Environment, and local partners to develop and implement collective action initiatives for water protection. • Outcome 3: The LSPP project organized two communication campaigns including a photo contest about plastic waste and the PlastiNOvation contest. • Intermediate Outcome 1: USAID supported a policy proposal to address biodiversity conservation and helped propose 18 sub-national and national policies that address sustainable landscapes. • Intermediate Outcome 2: The SFM signed 18 partnership agreements with seven companies and 11 cooperatives to develop select value chains to increase income for forest dependent communities. • Intermediate Outcome 3: The SFM Activity trained 1,574 people in forest inventory, forest patrolling, financial management, facilitation approaches, and gender equality and social inclusion. • Intermediate Outcome 3: At the national level, SFM developed a community forestry manual, which provides guidance on establishing and implementing community forest management for Vietnam.

Internal to USAID

OU	Goal, Outcome, or Cross-Cutting Outcome and Result
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intermediate Outcome 3: The LSPP Activity established a Plastics and Health Action Partnership through a series of technical seminars on local capacity-building and networking. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID signed a Limited Scope Grant Agreement with MARD focused on climate resilient agriculture development in the Mekong Delta. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 1: USAID completed a vulnerability assessment of climate change impacts in the Mekong delta. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 2: BCA provided biodiversity conservation assistance to Vietnam and monitored biodiversity using camera traps in 13 protected areas. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 2: USAID promoted conservation-friendly enterprise development by assessing and identifying potential agriculture, NTFP, and CBET value chains and established linkages between key actors. • Cross-Cutting Outcome 2: USAID conducted an assessment of 21 national parks, nature reserves, and protection forests using the Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool. • PSE: The SFM Activity signed 29 partnership agreements with private sector partners that then committed \$107 million in sustainable forest management from 2022 to 2025. • PSE: The STW Activity produced a Private Sector Outreach plan to understand Vietnam’s private sector industrial landscape. • GESI: BCA trained more than 800 women on planting trees, tree nursery operations, and community-based tourism development. • GESI: The SFM Activity built the capacity of 151 women through training on business planning for conservation friendly enterprises. • GESI: The Local Works program worked directly with Vietnamese women and girls to improve their leadership capacity and technical skills related to environmental pollution. • CSE: The RP Activity selected two local organizations to support pilot projects that will help established a system for extended producer responsibility for plastic packing and reducing plastic waste.

Goal: Natural Resources Safeguards and Security in the Indo-Pacific Region Strengthened

Bangladesh: USAID/Bangladesh activities ECOFISH II and CHTWCA helped improve 79,072 hectares of biologically significant areas that are showing improved biophysical conditions.

Cambodia: USAID/Cambodia activities USAID GPL and USAID Morodok Baitong helped improve 919,358 hectares of biologically significant areas that are showing improved biophysical conditions.

Outcome 1: Laws, Policies, Regulatory Frameworks, and Standards Implemented and/or Enforced

Bangladesh: The ECOFISH II Activity formulated a sustainable management plan, approved by the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) ([EG.13-3](#)), for the Nijhum Dwip MPA, and assessed biophysical and socio-economic characteristics for the feasibility of delineating a new MPA around the Naf River estuary. The CHTWCA Activity worked with three hill district councils and village common forest (VCF) management committees to implement a four-year reserved forest management action plan.

Cambodia: U.S. assistance, through GPL, continued to support the advancement of 45 key policies that address biodiversity conservation and/or NRM ([EG.10.2-5](#)). Of the 45 policies, two are still in the 'proposed' stage, eight have been 'adopted' and 35 are being 'implemented.' Policies supported by GPL addressed biodiversity conservation; helped establish Community Forest (CF) committees including recreation management committees and Credit Group Committees; and drafted by-laws for CPAs, water user communities, and joint patrol agreements. Policies also focused on the adoption of conservation-compatible agricultural practice guidelines to ensure that farmers will not commit natural resource crimes, such as wildlife hunting and land encroachment. Likewise, policies included legal recognition of CPAs and community forestry, and the adoption of community forestry management plans and zoning in protected areas.

Nepal: USAID, through the Tayar Nepal Activity, partnered with the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration to develop a national framework to guide the relocation of disaster-prone and climate vulnerable human settlements. At the local level, USAID supported eight municipalities, with a cumulative population of over 720,000, in the development of Risk Sensitive Land Use Plans, the formulation of enabling land use policies, planning regulations, and building by-laws that incentivize private construction in low-risk areas of the municipality and promote resilient public infrastructure.

Philippines: In FY 2022, USAID/Philippines helped implement nine policies that address biodiversity conservation and/or other environmental themes ([EG.10.2-5](#)). USAID also supported the development of three policies at the national and local levels that advanced sustainable land use practices and enhanced the capacity of the forestry sector to contribute to climate change mitigation ([EG.13-3](#)). The DENR [administrative order on the Carbon Accounting, Verification and Certification System](#), which USAID helped draft, was passed and approved in December 2021. USAID's SIBOL Activity will continue to support the implementation of this policy by developing the implementing rules and regulations and piloting it in SIBOL sites.

RDMA: USAID GIA developed a standard that was adopted and implemented, and proposed two new policies in FY 2022 ([EG.13-3](#)). The Sustainable Coconut Charter, which is a standard to assess environmental and social risks in the coconut supply chain, was proposed in FY 2021 and was formally adopted and implemented by 16 partners including Barry Callebaut, Nestle, and AAK in FY 2022. A projected 82,350,287 metric tons of CO₂e to be reduced for the next 15 years ([EG.13-7](#)) as a result of USAID GIA's efforts to enhance ESG standards for sustainable agriculture, forestry, and other land use sectors including their supply chains.

Vietnam: In FY 2022, USAID/Vietnam helped implement 22 policies that address biodiversity conservation and/or other environmental themes ([EG.10.2-5](#)). BCA supported the development of eighteen Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool Action Plans for eighteen protected areas, the National Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, Amendment of Decree on Sanctioning Administrative Violations in the Forestry, Plant Protection and Animal Husbandry sectors, and two provincial decisions on the application of Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) technology in collection and management of patrol data.

Intermediate Outcome 1: Laws, Policies, Regulations, Frameworks, or Standards Proposed, Revised, and Adopted

Bangladesh: The ECOFISH II project, in collaboration with Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, completed a two-year-long study to evaluate the potential of declaring the Naf River estuary as an MPA. During this study, data was collected on the environment, biodiversity, ecological habitats, fishing, and socioeconomic conditions of fishers. The area was found to be very suitable for delineating it as an MPA. ECOFISH II accordingly prepared and submitted a stakeholder-driven MPA management plan ([EG.10.2-5](#)) to the Department of Fisheries to obtain approval from the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock to officially declare the area an MPA. Once approved, the management plan will

help to provide a sustainable, practical, and accountable framework for protecting marine biodiversity, sustaining productive fisheries and improving local livelihoods through an ecosystem-based and adaptive co-management approach.

The CHTWCA developed two management plans for Sangu and Pablakhali wildlife sanctuaries ([EG.13-3](#)), in consultation with key stakeholders, including members of the co-management organizations (CMO), local community people, and BFD field staff. In addition, the CHTWCA drafted the REDD+ Sub-National Plan for the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) and is developing suitable social and environmental safeguards.

Cambodia: USAID/Cambodia supported the adoption of "Voluntary guideline on sustainable development and management of community-based ecotourism (CBET) along Upper Mekong." The adoption of by-laws of Borey Ou Svay CBET, Samros Koh Han CBET, and five new financial policies were drafted and adopted for Tmat Pouey CPA, Tabos CBET, Chak Angre CPA, Datavoek CPA, and Taing Yu CPA. Five other financial policies were supported by the USAID Morodok Baitong Activity. In total, USAID supported ten total policies that are necessary to ensure effective and sustainable management of those areas ([EG.10.2-5](#)).

The USAID GPL and the USAID GIA activities supported the proposal and adoption of 21 policies that address sustainable landscapes ([EG.13-3](#)). For example, USAID GIA proposed seven policies to banks as part of E&S training: E&S Policy, Climate Change Policy, Gender Policy, Land Use Policy, Agriculture Sector Checklist, Forestry Sector Checklist, and Livestock Sector Checklist. Prince Bank confirmed formal adoption of three policies proposed by the Activity (E&S Policy, Climate Change Policy, and Gender Policy); three other banks were in the process of formally adopting E&S policies proposed by the Activity: J Trust Royal Bank was adopting the E&S Policy; Foreign Trade Bank of Cambodia, the Climate Change Policy, Gender Policy, and Land Use Policy; and Wing Bank, the E&S Policy.

Indonesia: The USAID SEGAR Activity helped propose one policy and adopt 11 policies to address biodiversity conservation in FY 2022 ([EG.10.2-5](#)). The Activity supported subnational governments to improve their development planning to strengthen land use, environmental management, and conservation. The 11 policies adopted by the district government will improve environmental governance, the conservation of biodiversity, and sustainable land use in formal planning documents, which will ultimately be reflected in district government work plan activities and budgets. USAID SEGAR also supports a diverse group of national and local stakeholders, through the adoption of incentives policies to better access incentives/financial mechanisms to improve environmental governance.

Pacific Islands Regional: With USAID support, the PNG Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA) drafted the Protected Areas Bill to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of protected areas management systems. The bill's five pillars provide guidelines on governance and management, sustainable community livelihoods, effective and adaptive biodiversity management, management of the protected area network, and sustainable and equitable financing for protected areas. To date, the bill has been endorsed by PNG's State Solicitor, vetted by the First Legislative Council, and will be decided by parliament in early 2023.

In addition, a Forest Authority Project Management Committee was established in FY 2022 and now acts as the key technical and advisory body to the project steering committee, an initiative that USAID-LGP has spear-headed through its secretariat role. Importantly, it is now proposed to embed the Timber Legality Standard (TLS) and the accompanying Timber Legality Verification System (TLVS) in amendments to PNG's Forestry Act of 1991; they are currently being finalized for formal submission to parliament for enactment at its next sitting ([EG.10.2-5](#)). This will ensure that the TLS and TLVS become a part of the forestry laws and regulations and thus legally enforced in PNG.

Lastly, an online course on the legal drafting of legislation for Coastal Fisheries was launched in the region with 40 applicants. The fifth cohort of 22 people also received legal training through the Certificate IV Coastal Fisheries and Aquaculture Compliance course.

Philippines: In FY 2022, USAID supported the formulation of several national and sub-national policies ([EG.13-3](#)) on threats to wildlife and habitats, including:

1. The five-year work plan of the National Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee's Subcommittee on Environment and Natural Resources;
2. A Joint Resolution Against Wildlife Crimes that calls on partner agencies to classify wildlife crime as organized crime and include it within the sphere of anti-money laundering operations;
3. Fisheries Office Order No.019, S.2022 that creates a technical working group for the reorganization of the Fisheries Protection and Law Enforcement Group as the professional fisheries law enforcement arm of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR);
4. Protected Area Management Bureau resolutions, which create inter-agency enforcement groups in three protected areas—Siargao Islands Protected Landscape and Seascape, Masinloc-Oyon Bay Protected Landscape and Seascape (MOBPLS), and Mantalingahan Protected Landscape; and
5. A number of local regulations such as the adoption of illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing reduction plans and the establishment of community watch systems to monitor IUU fishing.

These efforts also contribute to NRSS Outcome 2.

In FY 2022, USAID's Fish Right Activity provided assistance to local governments, which established 27 local policies and regulations ([EG.10.2-5](#)) to strengthen institutional arrangements, address IUU fishing, increase the management effectiveness of MPAs, and establish MPA networks critical to building ecological and community resilience. These policies include an ecosystem approach to fisheries management plans and harvest control measures for sardines and blue swimming crabs. Ordinances to implement actions on right-sizing have gained traction in the Calamianes Island Group and the Visayan Sea. Local government units (LGUs) also adopted policies on institutional arrangements in FMAs and inter-LGU Alliances to support implementation. USAID also helped DENR develop a policy to reduce the impacts of mining operations on biodiversity. Finally, USAID strengthened the capacity of the National Water Resources Board to develop and introduce a national water demand management policy to promote conservation and efficient use of water.

RDMA: USAID GIA successfully proposed two policies ([EG.13-3](#)), which include new jurisdiction eligibility criteria assessments to the Green Fund: one for Vietnam and one for Laos. These policies will enable the fund to expand investment from Indonesia to Vietnam and Laos for agricultural, forestry and other land use sectors. With technical assistance from USAID SERVIR-Mekong, a fire management policy was adopted by the provincial government of Chiang Rai in Thailand ([EG.13-3](#)). This policy integrated the SmokeWatch tool supported by USAID SERVIR-Mekong into its operational procedures. This tool has allowed the authority to detect fire and smoke quickly and take prompt actions to manage fires and mitigate the impact on the forest and land in the area.

Vietnam: In FY 2022, USAID/Vietnam supported the proposal of one policy to address biodiversity conservation ([EG.10.2-5](#)). USAID also helped propose 18 sub-national and national policies that address sustainable landscapes ([EG.13-3](#)). These policies include a provincial forest development strategy to 2025 with a vision to 2030 for Thua Thien Hue province, seven forest law enforcement action plan in seven provinces, a provincial master plan for medicinal development plan for Quang Tri province, a provincial guideline for planting and managing scattered trees for Son La province, manual on community forest management, an interprovincial coordination protocol between Quang Tri and Thua Thien Hue provinces, an interprovincial cooperation protocol on forest management between forest protection departments of Son La, Dien Bien and Lai Chau provinces, one sustainable forest management of Thanh Chuong Protection Forest Management Board of Nghe An province, three sustainable forest management plan for three communities in Nghe An province, a gender equality action plan for Vietnam Administration of Forestry, and a decree on investment policies for forest protection and development.

Outcome 2: Transnational Environmental Crimes, Illegal or Legal but Unsustainable Practices, Uses, or Consumption of Natural Resources Reduced

Bureau for Asia: In FY 2022, the Asia Bureau expanded its efforts with INTERPOL to combat illegal wildlife trade and related transnational crime across South and Southeast Asia and Oceania. INTERPOL convened a meeting with ten countries (Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Nepal, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand) to better understand the operational trends, gaps, and national priorities. The meeting also explored challenges, needs and opportunities to combat the growing cyber crime of wildlife in the region. The species (including their parts or products) identified that warrant the most attention are birds, pangolins, turtles and other reptiles (e.g., geckos), tigers, leopards, elephants (for their ivory), red pandas, exotic/pet mammals, lions (for their fangs), orangutans and giant clams. Most countries cited bird trafficking as their top priority. The illegal online trade of wildlife was declared a top threat given its extensive scope and the fact that these Asian countries lack capacity to effectively address it. Participants requested training in using cyber-related tools and technologies. Other topics of discussion included the emerging trends and modus operandi of dehorning rhinos without killing them, emergence of captive elephant ivory, trade in captive live elephants, re-occurrence of smuggling snake venom, and an increased use in mailing packages. All the countries reported that COVID-19 has impacted wildlife crime at some level, especially driving the increase of online wildlife sales, as well as changes in smuggling routes and techniques, an increase in poaching, and stockpiling of animal body parts. As international borders open up and regular air travel resumes, there is concern that smugglers may start moving stockpiled animal products, exploiting the increased pressure on border and customs from the anticipated surge in volume of passengers and cargo.

The Asia Bureau, through support to INTERPOL, developed and submitted the South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN) five-year Strategic Plan (2022-2026) to the SAWEN Secretariat. For this activity, INTERPOL employed a consultant who worked closely with the SAWEN Secretariat and Environmental Security Unit teams and with the point persons of all the member countries. Their feedback was incorporated into the draft plan and shared with USAID/Nepal.

USAID's support through INTERPOL also led to the creation of a specialized wildlife/environmental enforcement unit within the Bangladesh Police department. INTERPOL developed a proposal request to form a specialized unit that would conduct intelligence-driven, focused, coordinated, and efficient operations, working together with internal and external partners. The proposal is based on a country assessment of the wildlife crime response i, which is inconsistent and reactive, and determined that conventional policing and police structure is not sufficient to address ongoing and future environmental crimes that require specialized knowledge, skills, and techniques. INTERPOL member countries have specialized units that have proven to be highly effective in transnational environmental crime analysis and enforcement actions. There is general recognition of the growing responsibility of policing in protecting the environment and natural heritages, which ultimately links to national security and rule of law.

In FY 2022, the Asia Bureau continued efforts to reduce illegal logging, particularly in PNG, Solomon Islands, and other parts of the region experiencing rapid increases in illegal forest conversion. With Asia Bureau support, INTERPOL trained the financial investigations units in the central banks of these countries on forensic analysis of financial transactions to identify individuals or entities who may be engaging in money laundering, tax evasion, or other financial crimes linked to illegal logging and associated trade. INTERPOL also conducted secure online training and in-person training to provide mentorship and best practices on initiating and conducting investigations into forestry crimes. These training sessions included participants from partner government law enforcement agencies, criminal investigation units, and financial crime units, among others.

Bangladesh: In FY 2022, Wildlife Protection Activity (WPA) trained and mentored 52 individuals from the Wildlife Crime Control Unit; BFD; Police, Customs, Department of Livestock Services; and the Judiciary to counter wildlife crimes. The training topics included: the CITES process; open-source investigative techniques; and an overview of trafficking methodologies, digital and forensic evidence handling, witness testimony, and community engagement. The mentoring sessions included guidance on day-to-day activities, crime data analysis, use of community data, open-source data reporting, crime hotspot analysis, and utilizing the Quantum Geographic Information System platform to select areas of intervention.

This reporting period, WPA's wildlife material analysis, based on open-source national reporting and information from the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) officials, recorded 2,393 wildlife trafficking incidents between 2012 and 2020, which included 96,611 live animals, animal body parts, and their derivatives, with the exception of sharks, rays, skates, and their parts. The material analysis also found illegal trade and transit of an average of 5,521 native and exotic birds, 4,840 live reptiles, 20-25 tons of live snakes and snake venom, and 400-500 live mammals and tiger parts. Additionally, it found that every year, 25,000-35,000 tons of shark and ray fins, meat, and gills were illegally trafficked to China, Hong Kong, and Myanmar through Cox's Bazar and Chattogram. The analysis also indicated that between 2015 and 2021, 8-10 elephants were killed due to conflict areas.

Finally, WPA's material analysis indicated anomalies in CITES datasets and reporting of wild cat trafficking of lions, tigers, and cheetahs between exporting countries and Bangladesh. For example, between 2012 and 2019, exporting countries reported 197 exports of individual live cats to Bangladesh. In contrast, Bangladesh reported only 25 live cat imports in the CITES trade datasets, which identified up to 172 unreported live felids. This analysis contributed to understanding the actual trends and wildlife crime reporting gaps and its findings informed wildlife protection interventions and training themes for law enforcement agencies in Bangladesh that work to counter wildlife crimes.

In FY 2022, USAID, through its Enhanced Coastal Fisheries (ECOFISH) II project, addressed IUU fishing and illegal large animal harvesting by promoting community-led conservation efforts and raising awareness in Cox's Bazar, Nijhum Dwip MPA, and six sanctuaries for Hilsa, the national fish of Bangladesh. Key ECOFISH II results this year included:

- Training 2,315 beneficiaries and 319 boat skippers on responsible fishing and strengthened landing center-based monitoring to reduce IUU fishing and benefited fisheries conservation. The training generated more positive behavior by boat skippers, who released 27 megafaunas from their nets, including turtles, skates, dolphins, and porpoises, back into the ocean.
- Involving 528 stakeholders from ports to strengthen community commitment against IUU fishing.
- Mobilizing 400 locals as community fish guards and jointly patrolling with the Department of Fisheries to combat illegal harvesting and maintain active surveillance during fishing bans during Hilsa breeding periods.
- Highlighting the importance of periodic fishing bans by distributing 9,000 posters and 40,000 leaflets to community members. These interventions strengthened environmentally compliant fishing practices and curbed illegal fishing and illegal harvesting of large animals.

In addition, USAID's Local Works program prevented wildlife poaching in Cox's Bazar district through 32 community patrol groups (CPGs), consisting of 738 community members and 13 elephant response teams (ERTs) composed of 120 community members. The program provided patrol support to the BFD, including training, uniforms, equipment, and stipends. With USAID support, the CPGs and the BFD rescued 23 snakes, 15 birds, ten monitor lizards, four rhesus monkeys, three jungle cats, three tortoises, two infant elephants and one pangolin, and released all of them into protected forest areas. The ERTs deterred elephants from entering human settlements and crop fields in about 50 instances, reducing the risks of human-elephant conflict. USAID's engagement with local communities through capacity-building

efforts provided stipends for patrolling, extending alternative livelihood support, and contributed to the reduction in wildlife crimes in threatened ecosystems.

USAID mobilized 'Community Fish Guards' and 'Blue Guards' composed of fishermen and community youths to combat IUU fishing and reduce coastal pollution. By offering community members an opportunity to engage in local economic development and governance activities through these groups, the project strengthened community ownership of natural resources conservation. The project also provided alternative income support to 2,429 fisher households to reduce biodiversity threats.

Lastly, with local community participation, interventions by USAID's Local Works program protected terrestrial and marine biodiversity (including Asian elephants and sea turtles), in about 37,507 hectares of designated Protected Areas and Ecologically Critical Areas in Cox's Bazar.

Cambodia: In FY 2022, the USAID GPL Activity continued to combat wildlife crime through management and planning; community patrolling; and the training and equipping of community members with technological tools and techniques necessary for documentation and reporting. The Activity also conducted forest protection monitoring by community protected area (CPA) and CF patrol teams and provided coaching to CPA/CFs to improve SMART mobile capacity and field reports on illegal land encroachment and wildlife hunting. In total, 3,423 people ([EG.10.2-6](#)) participated in these community-based efforts. Also, USAID GPL supported a population assessment of Asian elephants (*Elephas Maximus*) in the Prey Lang Extended Landscape. Using dung samples, the assessment estimated that approximately 31 Asian elephants are present in the Prey Lang wildlife sanctuary and 20 Asian elephants in the Chhaeb and Prey Rhoka wildlife sanctuaries. These population numbers are higher than previous estimates. Furthermore, the findings indicated that these elephant populations have some of the highest genetic diversity for the species in the world and that the population is genetically viable if habitat can be protected and poaching reduced.

The USAID Cambodia Green Future Activity (GFA) works to empower Cambodian citizens to influence positive actions in support of biodiversity conservation through SBCC. In June 2022, the Activity launched a SBCC campaign to reduce demand for bushmeat consumption in collaboration with local government, the private sector, and celebrity and social media influencers. The launch generated a range of media coverage including local newspapers, local television, and online media posts from news outlets, celebrities, and social media influencers. Compared to the baseline, there was a significant surge in the number of youth in all locations engaging with events, campaigns, materials, audio-visual content or messages about biodiversity conservation, including combating wildlife trafficking. Despite their increased engagement and commitment, respondents admitted to engaging in the behaviors that the GFA is trying to combat. The midline survey showed that 66 percent of youth had bought or eaten bushmeat less than a year ago.

In FY 2022, the GFA's Facebook page had more than 220,581 engagements via 304 posts and published articles. Sixty-seven percent of the campaign's target audience could clearly recall key messages from these posts under the SBCC campaigns to demand reduction of luxury wood furniture and bushmeat consumption. The baseline of reducing this demand showed that 60 percent of the youth surveyed responded that they would "not prefer" to buy luxury wood furniture in the future. During the midline evaluation, 80 percent agreed not to buy and eat bushmeat in the future.

Lastly, USAID/Cambodia partnered with the U.S. DOI-ITAP to conduct a CWT Assessment. This assessment was completed in August 2022 and its findings will inform future programmatic strategies for combating wildlife trafficking.

Indonesia: Through the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), INL provided assistance to address illegal logging. USFS helped the Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MOEF) and the Indonesian National Police (INP) to strengthen fire investigations.

In FY 2022, USAID supported CWT efforts through enhanced detection and reporting as well as community conservation. USAID launched a pilot for community-based reporting of environmental

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violations using a software application called "This Is My Backyard." The application is used by 410 households from 20 villages in three districts of West and Central Kalimantan and one district in North Aceh. USAID provided community-level training, supported the rollout, and helped link the application to *SP4N LAPOR!*. These efforts will help improve responses to environmental transgressions. USAID also led the development of four provincial orangutan conservation strategies in Aceh and West, Central, and East Kalimantan to support community action. USAID issued two grants to local organizations to study orangutan meta-populations in West and Central Kalimantan, identify their habitats and the risks they face, and recommend livelihood measures to protect the habitats. The results will be used by the GOI to update the 2016 orangutan population and habitat viability analysis and help determine conservation actions in the field, which can help to prevent trafficking.

In FY 2022, USAID awarded three new activities \$38 million for sustainable fisheries management, MPAs, and scientific exchange that will combat IUU fishing and reduce the trade in endangered, threatened, and protected marine species over the next five years.

In FY 2022, the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development Assistance and Training (OPDAT) coordinated with the United Nations (UN) and the Justice Department's Environment and Natural Resources Division to engage with Indonesian law enforcement, prosecutors, and NGOs for training and discussions on illegal forestry. OPDAT coordinated discussions between the Environment and Natural Resources Division and Indonesian NGO Independent Forest Monitoring Network that led to the signing of an Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to collaborate on a series of programs in FY 2023. During a UN event on illegal forestry in Papua, OPDAT presented on the links between financial crime and forest crime. There were 16 participants—from the High Prosecutor's Office of Papua Province, prosecutors from seven districts, investigators from the Provincial Police and Forestry Service, and MOEF's Directorate of Law Enforcement—who learned about money laundering and asset forfeiture laws, and best practices in investigating and charging environmental crimes in conjunction with financial crimes.

INL strengthened the CWT capacity of Indonesian law enforcement, helping to develop CWT protocols, providing training on cross-border wildlife crime, and monitoring wildlife trade in order to more effectively prosecute.

Through the Wildlife Conservation Society, INL assisted the Natural Resources and Conservation Agency and the MOEF to develop standardized market monitoring protocols to regulate the wild meat market and monitor illegal wildlife trafficking. Likewise, in West Kalimantan, INL grantee Yayasan Planet Indonesia developed SOPs for Indonesia interagency CWT collaboration.

INL sponsored training to improve law enforcement, targeting both domestic and cross-border issues. This included Counter-Transnational Organized Crime training for government officials from Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines. Through this training, 35 Indonesian law enforcement personnel learned how to collect evidence, conduct investigations, and pursue cases of money laundering and other transnational organized crimes related to wildlife trafficking. INL also sponsored training for 18 park rangers from Bogani Nani Wartabone National Park to learn how to manage data on threats to the national park, including how to identify illicit activities such as illegal hunting, encroachment, and logging.

During FY 2022, two INL grantees investigated the online wildlife trade. Yayasan Orang Utan Sumatera Lestari found 890 wildlife sales made online in West Kalimantan in the first quarter of FY 2022. Yayasan Orang Utan Sumatera Lestari and Yayasan Planet Indonesia worked with researchers to develop species victim impact statements that were used in the prosecution of five wildlife trafficking cases. At the same time, the Wildlife Conservation Society worked with the MOEF to monitor more than 700 online accounts that were offering wildlife or animal body parts for sale. Their actions resulted in removing 523 advertisements and canceling seven Facebook accounts in FY 2022.

USAID assisted the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF) to introduce measures to reduce IUU fishing. This included an at-sea data collection system, three evidence-based harvest strategies, and

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a National Snapper Fisheries Management Plan. Indonesian fishers used the system to document their catch from over 27,000 landing sites and 100 species.

Nepal: As Nepal emerged from COVID-induced restrictions, USAID used FY 2022 resources to reestablish longstanding connections and forge new ones across a wide range of partner institutions. USAID/Nepal's Environment and Energy Team conducted an assessment that included more than 30 consultations with individuals, CSOs, NGOs, implementing partners, multilateral organizations, and private sector entities, as well as multiple meetings with government offices in three ministries. These engagements ensured that the viewpoints and priorities of a wide variety of stakeholders are reflected in USAID's recently awarded new flagship biodiversity conservation Activity, USAID Biodiversity (or Jal Jangal in Nepali), and engendered critical early buy-in and ownership. USAID Biodiversity has a significant focus on combating wildlife trafficking (CWT) and will engage with local partners throughout implementation. USAID is also discussing interagency cooperation with the Department of Justice colleagues aimed at the development of a CWT training program. USAID remains the focal point for engagement with SAWEN. USAID holds monthly calls with INTERPOL, SAWEN's regional liaison to align objectives, support, and coordinate capacity-building activities, and holds regional meetings of law enforcement officials on documentation, cooperation, and collaboration with similar agencies. USAID Biodiversity will continue to coordinate efforts with SAWEN to enhance this regional network.

Pacific Islands Regional: Working through the Pacific Coastal Fisheries Management and Compliance (PaFMaC) Activity, USAID provided technical assistance through a Professional Certificate Course in the areas of fisheries and conservation laws. A total of 56 people trained in monitoring, control, and surveillance of coastal fisheries, and gained increased awareness on rules and regulations that can contribute to better law enforcement and reduction of illegal practices and environmental crimes in the PICs.

In FY 2022, USAID supported the Timber Legality Standard, which will enable third-party verifiers to monitor logging operations, stemming the flow of illegal timber from the country.

USAID's LGP Activity awarded a small grant to a local NGO that delivered training to 353 people ([EG.10.2-6](#)) on environmental rights and NRM. Local tribes and communities gained an understanding of the laws that govern their rights and managing natural resources. This led them to reach consensus on land use, zoning land for conservation, and eventually sign conservation deeds that contained strict rules on land use.

In FY 2022, USAID-LGP provided training for YUS Conservation Area rangers on the use of the SMART Conservation Software Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool to capture and report violations. Through this effort, USAID-LGP strengthened the capacity of the YUS Rangers to conduct ecological monitoring while also building a knowledge platform for monitoring patrols.

With support from USAID-LGP, volunteer teachers are leading grassroots efforts to teach environmental protection, conservation, and monitoring in the YUS landscape. A new initiative was started with CEPA to consolidate lessons learned from various ranger programs across the country and develop minimum competency training standards under a nationally-recognized ranger program.

In FY 2022, USAID-LGP supported the PNG National Forest Authority's bi-weekly TLS Working Group meetings to discuss actions to advance the endorsement and testing of the TLS. The TLS, when enacted, will enable the Forest Authority for the first time to use third-party verifiers to monitor large-scale logging operations on a wide variety of socio-environmental logging compliance practices that promise to stem the flow of illegal timber from the country. USAID-LGP engaged a timber legal expert to design, train, and oversee activities of Forest Industry Partners, auditors, and the Forest Authority, and to monitor progress of the announcement of the TLS and finalize the roadmap for implementation of a legal timber verification survey.

Philippines: In FY 2022, USAID's SIBOL Activity and Fish Right combatted wildlife trafficking. Strategic interventions included strengthening policy and systems, collaboration among wildlife law enforcement,

capacity of GPH officials, and the public's awareness of wildlife trafficking. These interventions advanced the natural resource safeguards and security pillars of the Indo-Pacific Strategy by improving natural resource governance, and combating transnational crime associated with wildlife products.

With USAID assistance, the Philippine BFAR has expanded the geographic reach of the use of an IUU fishing threat assessment and index tool (I-FIT) that would help plan IUU fishing reduction. Fish Right published a national report based on the I-FIT results from 160 LGUs while continuing to roll out I-FIT to more LGUs to ultimately cover the entire country. These assessments will provide periodic data to the national government to identify ways to encourage voluntary compliance, strategically guide law enforcement operations, and clearly communicate the Philippine government's progress in reducing IUU fishing. For LGUs, it will provide a framework in the development of IUU fishing reduction plans. A new focus on the West Philippine Sea—the local name for the part of the South China Sea (SCS) claimed by the Philippines—intends to address the increasing incidence of poaching and illegal fishing of distant water fleets. USAID supported tools and system development to aid enforcement and response processes, such as the SUMBONG (in Filipino, "complaint") app, a public complaint portal attached to the Palawan Biodiversity Resources Access Information Network, which serves as a system for enforcement planning and coordination. Information received through this app enters a database with a unique transaction number, which is then forwarded to the relevant office for appropriate action and response. Additionally, USAID pilot-tested in two protected areas the use of the Protected Resources Environmental Crime Index and Synchronized Intelligence Oriented Networks Enforcement approach, which involves scanning violations, spatial analyses, and participatory response-planning processes. SIBOL also prepared to conduct in-depth research on and an investigation of illegal wildlife trade routes and activities in the whole of Palawan, including the Kalayaan Island Group (known internationally as the Spratly Islands) and adjacent shoals. USAID continued to strengthen the capacities of enforcement units through ten training activities to support wildlife and environmental crime enforcement capacity, which reached a total of 594 individuals. These training sessions included a National Environment and Natural Resources Law Enforcement Strategic Workshop, a series on community forestry law enforcement, paralegal coaching and mentoring, field deputation instruction, and training of trainers on the application of the wildlife law enforcement manual of operations. USAID also conducted an Underwater Crime Scene Investigation Course in partnership with the International Coral Reef Crime Scene Investigation Training Program and Wide Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network. Overall, 27 agencies involved in marine enforcement such as BFAR, DENR Environmental Law Enforcement and Protection Service, Philippine Coast Guard, Philippine National Police - Maritime Special Operations Unit, and LGUs, attended this course.

U.S. government agencies, including USAID, Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of Justice, and the State Department, continue to coordinate activities and undertake joint training initiatives to address wildlife trafficking issues in the Philippines. The U.S. government is the only international donor in the Philippines working to address this issue.

USAID, through the SIBOL Activity, placed 22,202 hectares of terrestrial ecosystems and 285,914 hectares of coastal regions within four protected areas under improved management plans. This USAID Activity also supported the implementation or updating of protected area management plans and capacity-building of governance bodies in enforcement, natural capital accounting, and ecosystem service valuation.

At the national level, USAID worked with the Philippine Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources to expand the use of I-FIT in municipal fishing grounds, resulting in the Philippines' first national IUU fishing assessment report covering 160 LGUs. The BFAR and its partners will use these USAID-developed IUU fishing assessments to effectively plan measures to encourage voluntary compliance, strategically guide law enforcement operations, and clearly communicate the Philippine government's progress in reducing IUU fishing. LGUs will use the data to develop IUU fishing reduction plans in specific fishing grounds. In

the West Philippine Sea, the use of I-FIT will address illegal activities of domestic fisheries as well as the increasing incidence of poaching and illegal fishing of distant water fleets.

RDMA: In FY 2022, USAID/RDMA's RDW Activity was able to protect biodiversity and disrupt transnational organized crime of wildlife trafficking. By leveraging lessons from the USAID Wildlife Asia Activity (2016-2021), the USAID RDW Activity focused on illicit wildlife trafficking in Asia of elephants, rhinos, pangolins, and tigers. The Activity conducted SBCC campaigns that targeted Chinese travelers who were intent on buying illegal wildlife in other countries. The campaigns delivered messages that reduced demand for wild meat and wildlife products, limiting a significant pathway for zoonotic pathogens and reducing the risk of viral spillover. The resulting data analysis can be used to develop future campaigns. The Activity also decreased the supply of illegal wildlife products by convening policy makers, regional institutions, legislators, enforcement officials, prosecutors, and judges to strengthen the wildlife regulatory and enforcement systems. USAID/RDMA partnered with regional working groups of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Secretariat, the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly, ASEAN Chiefs of National Police (ASEANAPOL), and the Asian Judges Network for the Environment.

The USAID RDW Activity's key achievements in FY 2022 include: continuation of four SBCC campaigns, including Wildlife Free Gifting in China, Beautiful Without Ivory, No Ivory No Tiger, and Digital Deterrence in Thailand with the focus on expanding the outreach to key influencers and documentation of campaign learning; a reduction in the intent to buy wildlife products among the target audience in China, from 33 to 25 percent; support to five key organizations, including International Fund for Animal Welfare, WildAid, Institute for Legal Support and Technical Assistance, Panther Justice for Silent Victims, and ASEANAPOL to implement new tools, technologies, methodologies, and practices; mobilization of \$484,212 in resources from Chinese media companies for public service announcements, billboards, and light boxes to highlight CWT actions, including the Wildlife Free Gifting and Digital Deterrence campaigns in China; development of a policy brief on One Health, and organization of the CWT Partnership Forum; support to the ASEAN Working Group on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species and Wildlife Enforcement to develop a Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) to tackle environmental crime; expansion of Thailand's Demand Reduction Steering Group; adoption of Open-Source Intelligence and Counter Transnational Organized Crime curricula in Laos; and creation of two research studies, including a meta-analysis of USAID Wildlife Asia SBCC campaigns and a gender equality and social inclusion analysis.

USAID/RDMA's leadership on SBCC continues to be a model for the larger CWT community. Results from USAID Wildlife Asia's Social and Behavior Change Communication Demand Reduction Guidebook and case illustrations from the Beautiful Without Ivory campaign in Thailand were featured as examples in SBCC best practices for development of the CITES Guidance on Demand Reduction Strategies to Combat Illegal Trade. The Guidance was adopted at the 74th CITES Standing Committee meeting held in France in March 2022.

USAID/RDMA collaborated with the NGO, TRAFFIC, in preparing the draft IUCN Rhino Report for the 19th meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP) held in Panama in November 2022. Data from the earlier SBCC campaign by USAID/RDMA's Wildlife Asia Activity to reduce demand for rhino horn in Vietnam were incorporated in the report that was submitted to the COP 19 Standing Committee and Secretariat. Responding to a request from the ASEAN Secretariat, USAID presented a concept note to the ASEAN Working Group in May 2022 on a campaign to increase awareness of the potential transmission risks of zoonotic diseases from illegal wildlife trade.

Finally, USAID/RDMA RDW supported ASEAN by developing the SBCC approach for ASEAN member states, which was presented at the RPOA meeting in August 2022. USAID/RDMA's RDW Activity finalized a SBCC meta-analysis that provides socio-behavioral insights into why USAID Wildlife Asia SBCC demand reduction campaigns were able to significantly reduce social acceptability and intention to purchase wildlife products, as well as recommendations for future programming.

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In FY 2022, USAID joined with the International Network of Engaged Buddhists to engage with local monks and nuns, all advocates against the buying and selling of illegal wildlife, during three workshops at various locations in Thailand. More than 100 monks and nuns developed action plans to reduce demand for ivory and tiger products and produced messages to counter beliefs that drive demand. These messages were distributed through Facebook, face-to-face conversations, and dharma sermons.

In FY 2022, under the larger SUFIA project, USAID/RDMA worked closely with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) through an inter-agency agreement to strengthen enforcement and prevent, deter, and eliminate IUU fishing. USAID/RDMA, through NOAA's Office of Law Enforcement, worked with the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC) and national governments to implement the Agreement on Port State Measures (PSMA). The PSMA helps to strengthen the enforcement of fisheries requirements at points of landing and eliminate ports of convenience for IUU fish products by establishing minimum standards for port inspections and controls over foreign vessels seeking entry. In FY 2022, USAID/RDMA and NOAA helped combat IUU fishing through the PSMA Inspectors' Training workshops for fisheries and port inspectors, which focused on the operational aspects of implementing the PSMA by conducting thorough fisheries inspections of foreign-flagged fishing and fishing-support vessels that enter a country's ports. USAID/RDMA and NOAA delivered the full PSMA Inspectors' Training workshops in Vietnam and Thailand, consisting of two hybrid modules and in-person vessel boarding exercises.

Vietnam: In FY 2022, the International Narcotics and Law Enforcement (INL) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services conducted more than five trainings with the Ministry of Public Security environmental police and forest rangers. Vietnam also reviewed a Mutual Legal Assistance MOU with Mozambique for handling CWT cases. An INL-funded workshop enabled Vietnam's procurator's office to develop and launch reference guidelines for handling wildlife-related cases. The INL partnership also continued to expand law enforcement engagement on trafficking cases that have a U.S. nexus, as well as efforts to improve, harmonize, and implement Vietnam's CWT laws including the new Penal Code.

USAID continues to combat environmental crime through efforts to stop wildlife trafficking in Vietnam under its Saving Threatened Wildlife (STW) Activity and BCA. The Government of Vietnam (GVN) approved the STW Activity in May 2022 and USAID began implementing activities designed to enhance the commitment of leaders within the GVN at the national and provincial level, engage support from the private sector, increase functionality of law enforcement systems for forest and wildlife crimes, and reduce demand for wildlife and forest products.

To build awareness and foster champions for CWT, USAID's STW Activity and the Vietnam Bank's Association co-hosted a workshop to raise awareness within the financial sector about money laundering associated with the illegal wildlife trade. Ninety-six representatives (31 males and 65 females) from local banks, financial institutions, remittance companies, and NGOs attended the workshop. The session provided in-depth knowledge of wildlife trafficking, related regulations, and the changing context of CWT money laundering in Vietnam, as well as highlighted the risks it poses to the financial sector.

To support GVN efforts to phase out commercial tiger farms, the STW Activity is working with Vietnam's Forest Protection Department (FPD) and the Institute of Ecology and Biological Resources (IEBR) to assess registered tiger farms and identify the capacity gaps that will need to be addressed to effectively implement the country's Tiger Farm Phase Out plan. To strengthen compliance with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, regulations on the management of captive tigers, and potential support for prosecutions through forensic evidence, the Activity worked closely with IEBR and FPD on a pilot approach for the collection and analysis of tiger Deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) samples by biopsy darting. Samples would be stored in a national database of DNA samples from all captive tigers.

The STW Activity also produced a video that was broadcast during the 2022 Lunar New Year celebrations for the "Year of the Tiger" to disseminate messages about the use of illegal wildlife

products. The video highlighted the endangered status of wild tigers worldwide and the critically endangered population in Vietnam, and featured messages from several public champions from the GVN, diplomatic community, private citizens, and the USAID Mission Director. The video was broadcast on mainstream media including national TV channels, 18 newspapers, and various social media platforms, and reached over one million people.

In June 2022, USAID supported the participation of Vietnam Supreme People's Court in a "Regional Chief Justices Conference on Wildlife Crime," hosted by Lao People's Democratic Republic with representatives from the Supreme Courts of Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia. A Joint Statement released after the Conference reaffirmed the Judiciaries' commitments to address wildlife trafficking and to continue multilateral cooperation between the countries.

USAID's BCA Activity provided a series of workshops targeting local food service establishments in three provinces and one National Park. These workshops increased awareness among participants of the legal regulations on wild meat consumption. As a result, local food service establishments signed more than 150 pledges of "No consumption of wild meat." The Activity launched a first-of-its kind training for 240 core members of Community Conservation Groups (CCG) to build their capacity to become wildlife guardians. The Activity also organized 94 events for 2600 local residents in the buffer zones of protected areas to learn about potential health risks from close interaction with and consumption of wildlife.

USAID strengthened law enforcement for forest and wildlife crimes through the development of protocols and procedures for community-based patrols (CPT) to advance effective community participation in biodiversity conservation. The CPT protocols and procedures were introduced to protected areas in five provinces. Surveys of urban outlets for wildlife products in the three urban centers of three provinces were also completed. These surveys documented entities such as restaurants, hotels, pet shops, traditional medicine shops that were selling wildlife products and reported the violators to City People Committees in the provinces. USAID's BCA Activity established a hotline for the public to report on wildlife crimes in Thua Thien Hue province. By September 9, 2022, the FPD of Thua Thien Hue received 20 calls through the hotline reporting wildlife crimes. The FPD successfully addressed ten cases; one case was reported as fake and the other nine cases occurred in other provinces.

USAID's SFM Activity supported seven provinces in developing their provincial law enforcement plans and law enforcement coordination mechanisms within and between provinces. At the national level, USAID supported the revision of Decree 156, which guides the implementation of the 2017 forestry law, and assisted the development of a national forest violations database management system, piloting it in two provinces.

Intermediate Outcome 2: Partnership Engagement and Investment Increased

Bangladesh: USAID partnered with academic institutions to research and provide current information to fisheries to help them in decision-making.

Cambodia: In FY 2022, USG interventions attracted nearly \$32 million in new investments from a wide range of investors interested in supporting agricultural-led growth, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable management of natural resources. These investments economically benefited 116,661 Cambodians, of whom 57,222 were women. These beneficiaries experienced increases in sales of agriculture and environmentally friendly products (resin, honey, other non-timber forest products (NTFPs) and ecotourism), received improved job placements, and/or received access to finance to expand their business operations.

In FY 2022, USAID assistance continued to promote productive partnerships between the private sector, local communities, civil society, and other development partners to use market-based approaches that contribute to increased foreign direct investment, job creation, and emissions

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reductions in and around the Tonle Sap, Prey Lang, Keo Seima, Lomphat, Siem Pang, and Cardamoms landscapes. As a result, in FY 2022, USAID activities mobilized \$18,332,321 (EG.13-4) including \$930,674 from private sector investments through Feed the Future Cambodia Harvest II for agriculture activities that promoted sustainable land use practices. Activities also supported domestic public and private investments that supported ecotourism, and other eco-friendly livelihoods, such as honey processing, ratan and bamboo processing, resin filtering, and other conservation agriculture interventions.

In FY 2022, USAID GFA mobilized \$2,280 of financial support from the private sector to support initiatives developed by the project's Green Groups.

Additionally in FY 2022, the USAID Morodok Baitang Activity facilitated the mobilization of an \$8 million investment from the private sector to procure carbon credits from the Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary (KSWs).

Indonesia: In East Kalimantan, USAID partnered with Dharma Satya Nusantara, a palm oil company, to conserve 3,500 hectares of HCV and HCS areas currently managed by its smallholder suppliers. In Aceh, USAID brokered a partnership between 100 small coffee farmers, a district government, and Indo Cafco, a supplier to global commodity trader ECOM AgroIndustrial Corp. Ltd., to rehabilitate more than 200 hectares by implementing coffee agroforestry practices on the degraded lands. This partnership will strengthen local livelihoods and address the main threats to primary and secondary forests by improving the productivity of agricultural lands in communities adjacent to the Leuser Ecosystem, the only habitat in the world where populations of orangutans, tigers, elephants, and rhinos coexist in the wild.

In 2022, the Meloy Fund made a new \$2 million investment in Indonesian shrimp fisheries that will transform shrimp businesses into more sustainable industries and minimize the potential impact on mangrove ecosystems. By the end of 2022, Meloy Fund had committed \$18.8 million to investments, or 85 percent of its total capital base. These investments benefited approximately 34,744 people and improved the management of more than 450,000 hectares of target fisheries areas in Indonesia through the adoption of sustainable practices and operations. The FIP certification platform targeting Indonesian octopus fisheries, which is required for Marine Stewardship Council certification, became accessible online in 2022. USAID also provided technical assistance to support the businesses to implement FIP.

In FY 2022, USAID's Indonesia Water, Sanitation and Hygiene 'Penyehatan Lingkungan Untuk Semua' (IUWASH PLUS) Activity leveraged \$6.3 million from the private sector and government budgets for water and sanitation improvements. USAID strengthened the operational and managerial capacity of 31 water utilities, including developing plans to promote climate-resilient water security for 14 utilities.

In May 2022, USAID signed an MOU with the MOEF, outlining a partnership to achieve the GOI's long-term low-carbon development goals and targets for reducing GHG emissions. It is guided by the MOEF's Forestry and Land Use Net Sink 2030 Operational Plan and USAID's 2022-2030 Climate Strategy. It sets the stage for a new Grant Implementation Agreement with the Ministry that could provide scientific expertise for peatland and mangrove management, improve conservation through public-private partnerships (PPPs), and support the Forestry and Land Use Operational Plan.

In partnership with the Development Finance Corporation (DFC) and Asia Debt Management Capital, USAID will soon launch the Asia Climate-Smart Landscape Fund (ACLF), a \$200 million blended finance fund to provide medium- to long-term small loans to SMEs in sustainable agriculture, land regeneration, and forest protection. The loan agreement was signed in April 2022, backed by a partial-risk guarantee supported by USAID and the Government of Australia. The ACLF will provide secured loans to SMEs working in commodity supply chains including coconut, coffee, and bamboo, and prioritize land rehabilitation, forest restoration, and improved rural livelihoods.

During FY 2022, USAID also partnered with communities to better protect 600 hectares of mangrove forests in two villages by rezoning the areas and developing conservation and restoration action plans.

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In July 2022, USAID awarded the five-year USAID Collaborative Fisheries Management (Ber-IKAN) contract to U.S. company Resonance. In FY 2022, USAID completed a desktop study of the status of seven key fisheries, including tuna, snapper/grouper, blue swimming crab, flying fish, octopus, and napoleon wrasse. In consultation with the MMAF and relevant stakeholders, USAID will use the findings to select five priority fisheries on which the activity will focus for the next five years.

Awarded in August 2022, USAID-Kolektif will strengthen human resources and institutional arrangements for MPA management, while establishing sustainable financing for them; increase benefits for coastal communities through the sustainable management of MPAs; and strengthen compliance with MPA rules and regulations. This will improve protection for marine endangered, threatened species, and priority habitats. To enhance the impact of USAID's marine portfolio, USAID-Kolektif will target the same FMAs as Ber-IKAN and improve management effectiveness of approximately ten MPAs, covering five million hectares.

In FY 2022, USAID continued working with NOAA and the MMAF to advance Indonesia's efforts to protect marine biodiversity by identifying and prioritizing capacity-building needs. NOAA and the Ministry conducted initial consultations and preparations for the upcoming PSMA curriculum development workshop and a training workshop on Adaptive and Implementable Fisheries Management.

Additionally in FY 2022, USAID funded a \$500,000 pilot program with the local private firm SYSTEMIQ to expand the use of plastic credits among Indonesian firms. Modeled after credits traded in carbon markets, plastic credits are envisioned to provide incentives to businesses to invest resources into the waste sector, including with local authorities, informal workers, and businesses operating in the waste ecosystem.

Through the USAID-INVEST program, USAID has also provided technical assistance to PlasticPay, an Indonesian recycling firm, to enable the company to attract investment for expanding its network of plastic recycling stations. USAID's assistance has allowed PlasticPay to develop an impact assessment report and improve its use of data, enabling the company to seek investment from more than 20 investors, some of which are undergoing due diligence and may yield investment in the near future. By expanding the market for recycled plastics, USAID will reduce the amount of plastics that end up in the ocean.

Nepal: USAID, through NSAF, partnered with private seed companies to increase the production of climate-resilient seeds and worked with agro-dealers and input suppliers to ensure that they reached smallholder farmers, including in remote locations. Overall, NSAF provided over 41,000 individuals with climate information, improved management practices, and high-yielding, climate-resilient seed varieties that helped them better manage climate-induced risks to agriculture. USAID's CSISA COVID-19 Response and Resilience Activity provided agricultural equipment, including irrigation that improved climate adaptation to reduce weather-related loss and damage, which is estimated to have cost rice farmers \$93 million in lost revenue in the 2021 production cycle. USAID also supported, through its Tayar Nepal Activity, the construction of five emergency community grain banks in the Dullu municipality to enhance the capacity of 52 households to protect precious food and seed from a changing climate.

Pacific Islands Regional: USAID's Climate Ready helped Pacific Islands Countries (PICs) secure \$275.5 million of climate funds by supporting and strengthening the capacity of various regional, subregional, and country level agencies. To date, a total of \$476 million of climate funds have been secured. These funds are critical to finance activities that reduce vulnerability and increase the resilience of human and ecological systems in PICs to the impacts of climate change.

USAID, through the Pacific American Fund (PAF), awarded eight grants to local organizations and CSOs to implement activities on climate and disaster resilience, biodiversity protection, sustainable NRM, and promote quality education, health care, and access to water, sanitation, and hygiene services. These

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grants empowered local actors to lead their own resilience building efforts and execute solutions to address their own development challenges. To date, the grants awarded total \$6,624,828.

Through LGP, USAID mobilized \$417,282 ([EG.13-4](#)) for sustainable landscape, biodiversity, or NRM; supported 823 microenterprises; trained 1,619 people in sustainable NRM and biodiversity conservation; and trained 1,548 people and trainers on gender equality and female empowerment. In FY 2022, USAID-LGP also partnered with commercial agro-enterprise Outspan PNG Ltd., a subsidiary of OLAM Coffee and the Lindt Chocolate Company, to provide support to cocoa farmers in Morobe province. Assistance included training, distribution of farming tools, and distribution of resources for alternative livelihood activities.

Additionally, USAID-LGP and Nationwide Microbank Limited (MiBank) partnered with local enterprises to secure financing to strengthen product value chains benefiting communities in the Bismarck Forest Corridor. This partnership also links women borrowers to access loans under the DFC Guarantee with MiBank.

At the provincial level, USAID-LGP supported CEPA to develop MOAs with Eastern Highlands, Jiwaka, Madang, Chimbu, and Morobe provinces, and introduced the idea of a CEPA-Provincial MOA with the provincial government in Milne Bay Province in FY 2022. These MOUs create an understanding between CEPA and the provincial environment offices on provision of technical support, resources, planning, and budgeting. All MOAs have been finalized and transferred to the CEPA-MOA template. The MOA between Chimbu and CEPA has been signed; the remaining MOAs are pending finalization of a signing date with the provincial governments.

Also in FY 2022, USAID-LGP facilitated the signature of three community-based conservation deeds and began discussions with six other communities about establishing their own community conservation areas. Conservation deeds are entered voluntarily but once signed, are legally binding documents protecting forest, water, and habitat for biodiversity. USAID-LGP also worked with the Wamiufa community-based organization (WamU5) to support a multi-clan agreement on a zoning system for the community-based conservation area. This agreement incorporates a core conservation area with strict community-based NRM conservation rules, a transition zone around the highly protected core area, and a village settlement area where activities are less restricted. The core conservation area, called Miruma, covers 1,569 hectares of forested area traditionally owned by the Wamiufa tribe. The larger land area is also called Wamiufa and covers 2,603 hectares that are split between the villages of Miruma and Namta. As the population of the Wamiufa tribe grows and the two villages expand, this multiple clan agreement protects the Wamiufa tribe's valuable forest for biodiversity habitat, fresh water, and forest cover. USAID-LGP worked closely with communities in Miruma to map their land boundaries and land use zones and produce a final draft of their proposed conservation area, leading to seven tribal leaders signing the Mt. Waugareme Conservation Deed.

USAID-LGP is also supporting additional communities through the conservation deed process, which includes developing initial land use plans, establishing laws and penalties, and completing boundary mapping and demarcation of nearly 21,600 hectares of coastal lowland rainforest across three communities in Madang province. Through these types of engagements, USAID-LGP is helping traditional landowners recognize the importance of conserving biodiversity and reaching a consensus on conservation action.

USAID-LGP assisted the PNG Environmental Alliance to organize an umbrella advocacy organization of environmental NGOs and CSOs in PNG. In FY 2022, USAID-LGP assisted the Alliance to register as an association and obtain a Tax Identification Number. As part of its advocacy efforts, the Alliance drafted position papers on lands, loss of traditional land, and forestry that are being finalized and likely available in 2023. The Environmental Alliance continues to discuss and draft a third position paper on the environment and mining, commence media releases/publications on key environmental matters, and discuss issues such as breaches to customary resource owners' rights to benefit fully and equitably from

voluntary carbon REDD+ projects. Furthermore, USAID-LGP partnered with the U.S. Forest Service, Centre for Environmental Law and Community Rights, Inc., Forest for Certain: Forest for Life, and the Wildlife Conservation Society to facilitate a three-day forestry CSO workshop in Port Moresby in August 2022. More than 50 attendees, including landowners from provinces affected by illegal logging, civil society representatives, and like-minded development partners attended. The purpose of the workshop was to catalyze a civil society coalition to take concrete steps to rewrite the outdated Forestry Act of 1991. The workshop resulted in a public position statement presented to PNG's National Forest Authority and a letter presented to the Minister for Environment, Conservation, and Climate Change about the government's position regarding REDD+ and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of legislation to safeguard forest carbon stocks (or the amount of carbon that has been sequestered from the atmosphere and is now stored within the forest ecosystem) that did not include consultation with expert civil society experts.

While marine efforts in Madang and the Coastal Zone of YUS in Morobe remain important, USAID-LGP shifted focus to the Milne Bay province in FY 2022. Milne Bay is a recognized marine biodiversity hotspot that USAID-LGP intends to support through provincial and local government and private sector partnerships and alliances. In FY 2022, USAID-LGP established a field office, hired staff, and began work with provincial leaders on development of an assessment to better understand biodiversity threats and opportunities to address them in Milne Bay.

In FY 2022, USAID-LGP built on work conducted in FY 2021 to promote the family approach model in project locations, identifying small family businesses and linking them to business advisory services, financial literacy training, and wider markets. For example, USAID-LGP linked Helping Hand Honey Producers, a small family business, to larger markets. USAID-LGP also brokered a private sector partnership with the Pacific Horticulture & Agriculture Market Access Plus Program—an aid for trade program supported by the Australian and New Zealand governments—to assist Pacific Island countries improve livelihoods and economic opportunities. Through this partnership, Helping Hand Honey Producers, will be accredited under a comprehensive food safety program, enabling this family business to increase the quality of their honey products. The referenced honey business supports 5,000 honey farmers by providing beekeeping training, supplying beehive boxes, and training farmers to plant native tree species that enable honeybees to produce optimal honey. The family business is also a MiBank agent and provides banking services to the honey farmers.

Philippines: USAID, in partnership with DENR, held a two-day virtual celebration of World Wildlife Day. With the theme "Recovering key species for ecosystem restoration," the event drew attention to the state of the most critically endangered species of wild flora and fauna, their role in the ecosystem, and the importance of conservation efforts to save them. The webinar discussed important topics, such as illegal wildlife trade post pandemic and wildlife conservation programs, that focus on protecting species endemic to the Philippines. This effort also contributes to NRSS Outcome 2.

In the Visayan Sea, USAID's Fish Right Activity accelerated assistance on ecosystem-scale, inter-LGU alliances to align fisheries' right-sizing actions, and harvest control measures at the fisheries management area (FMA) level. Partnerships with women and youth organizations, consumer advocates, and private businesses widened the advocacy work recognizing conservation practices, expanding mangrove conservation, and enabling protocols with the seafood industry on responsible sourcing.

In FY 2022, the INSPIRE Activity awarded seven small grants to local organizations to advance ecosystem and community recovery from the impacts of Typhoon Rai (Odette). INSPIRE interventions include ecosystem rehabilitation, NRM planning, and enhancing tree nurseries. Training courses were also conducted on basic carbon accounting and the use of the Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool for project monitoring. USAID also partnered with a data technology consultancy company to conduct feasibility assessments on the use of earth observation data and computer vision to estimate the damage the typhoon caused to forests and for data-driven technology to establish historical deforestation drivers or land use changes. Outside of typhoon recovery actions, INSPIRE convened a round table

discussion on forest landscape restoration (FLR) to discuss the implementation status of the national FLR action plan, support the national mapping of FLR initiatives being undertaken by the World Agroforestry Center, and plan for the national FLR conference in FY 2023. As part of its strategy to engage the private sector in conservation and climate actions, the INSPIRE Activity partnered with the Ayala Land Incorporated's Sustainability Team to plan how to work with grant recipients to expand the company's initiatives in sequestering carbon emissions through forest restoration activities.

Under a tripartite MOU with Coca-Cola Foundation Philippines and World-Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)-Philippines, Coca-Cola committed to provide funding to USAID's mentorship and blending finance component. This partnership will further enable women to transform their waste business ideas into start-ups, expand enterprises, or franchise operations. USAID, through the Clean Cities Blue Ocean (CCBO) Activity, continued to engage with potential partners and other like-minded organizations to support local government partners and grantees. This includes facilitating a potential business partnership between Circulate Capital, Sentinel Plastic Manufacturing Corporation, and grantee Communities Organized for Resource Allocation for its Circular Center–Enhanced Recovery and Recycling Mechanism for Marine Litter. Circulate Capital and Sentinel agreed to draft an MOU with Sentinel Upcycling for potential investment. The investment supported the development of collection and sorting infrastructure, as well as building the processing capacity to meet market demand for Sentinel Upcycling products.

In FY 2022, USAID also partnered with the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA). At the USAID-KOICA Joint Workshop on Enhanced Management of Marine Litter in Manila Bay Project, USAID proposed to shift the public awareness strategy from information, education, and communication to social and behavior change. In September 2022, USAID highlighted the USAID-KOICA cooperation to combat ocean plastics pollution in Manila Bay Area during the 7th International Marine Debris Conference held in Busan. The conference provided greater visibility of the cooperation between three governments—the United States, Republic of Korea, and the Philippines—in combating marine plastic pollution. USAID and KOICA are also partnering to assist select LGUs in strengthening their respective Solid Waste Management plans, provide grants to local organizations to support efforts in the recovery and recycling of plastics, and integrate behavior change concepts in their marine litter management strategy.

Ongoing partnerships, such as with the Coca-Cola Foundation Philippines and the Multi-Sectoral Alliance for Development, helped beneficiary communities plant 16,700 species of native trees over 27 hectares surrounding natural springs.

RDMA: In FY 2022, USAID/RDMA, through USAID GIA, continued to scale and expand partnerships with climate-sensitive agriculture companies in Asia and connect them to like-minded investors. By providing environmental and social due diligence, as well as financial and carbon accounting advisory support, USAID/RDMA facilitated a \$14 million transaction from Mirova's Land Degradation Neutrality Fund into Kenner Foods International, a Philippine agribusiness specializing in the growth of sustainable cacao. Kenner will leverage Mirova's investment to expand its cultivation of sustainable cacao; bolster a smallholder finance program run through its subsidiary, Agronomika Finance Corporation; develop agroforestry and conservation programs; and achieve greenhouse gas removal certification that is required for carbon credit sales.

USAID/RDMA, through USAID Green Invest Asia, also supported Lestari Capital to secure a \$15.69 million Rimba Collective investment that will help the YPRCFI develop a community forestry project in Indonesia's West Kalimantan province to improve community well-being while preserving the natural ecosystem. USAID/RDMA facilitated the investment with a climate, community, and biodiversity baseline study. The study provided project developers with information to develop comprehensive activities with strong environmental and social benefits that align with the certification requirements of the Climate, Community and Biodiversity (CCB) Standard. The standard identifies projects that simultaneously address climate change, support local communities and smallholders, and conserve biodiversity. YPRCFI

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rehabilitates degraded lands, supports village institutions and sustainable community livelihood programs, surveys endangered species and protects their habitats, and facilitates the establishment of community-based forest management. The investment also facilitated a village forest network to safeguard the high conservation value forests of the Dolok Simalaksa/Hadabuan Hills of North Sumatra. The project will benefit over 12,000 local people.

Additionally, USAID GIA collaborated with the German Agency for International Cooperation to support the transition of a coconut initiative into a formalized platform. This facilitated an industry steering committee to develop a scope of work for the secretariat of the Charter, following an open call for proposals. BSR, a sustainable business network and consultancy, was selected to take the lead as the secretariat of the platform and to raise funds to support the platform's formalization and its social impact activities under the Charter.

USAID GIA, with an \$11 million investment from Mirova's AXA IM Impact Fund (signed in FY 2021), also successfully identified and developed two project sites (77,235 hectares) with Forest Carbon. These projects will secure carbon offset buyers while restoring tropical wetlands, including a globally significant peatland forest that is home to significant biodiversity, such as the endangered Sumatran tiger. In the Philippines, USAID GIA facilitated a \$14 million investment by Mirova's Land Degradation Neutrality Fund in Kennemer Foods International to finance sustainable cocoa production. USAID GIA provided capital matchmaking and financial modeling services; identified priority forest conservation sites through a spatial analysis of deforestation patterns; and conducted an environmental, social, and governance assessment to meet investor requirements. Almost one-third of USAID Green Invest Asia's technical assistance focuses on preparing companies for the global voluntary carbon market.

Finally, USAID/RDMA, through USAID GIA, assisted Fairventures Social Forestry to successfully raise capital from UBS Optimus Foundation to support restoration of degraded areas through agroforestry approaches and the cultivation of NFTP's within existing forest areas. Fairventures has partnered with local communities in Central Kalimantan, Indonesia, holding nearly 3,000 hectares of Social Forestry licenses for degraded lands allocated by the Indonesian Government. The company cooperates with the local permit holders, providing required investment capital, management expertise, and access to markets.

In partnership with Mondelez International, USAID/RDMA also expanded carbon accounting and monitoring methods in the cocoa sector through Mondelez's suppliers, Olam and Cargill. Mondelez International has a \$400 million sustainability program called Cocoa Life that invests in supply chains to improve the sustainability of chocolate production. The project conducted a comprehensive baseline data analysis and scenario modeling for cocoa agroforestry systems in targeted Cocoa Life geographies in Indonesia's southern Sulawesi for potential corporate investments. This baseline, together with data analysis and scenario modeling, was used to assess the company's cocoa farming practices; identify major drivers of variation in cocoa systems and production levels; and recommend spatial planning and technical interventions to optimize farm income, carbon sequestration, and ecosystem services. The technical assistance also included developing business cases using scenario analysis and a monitoring system to track progress.

In FY 2022, USAID/RDMA's Sustainable Fish Asia Technical Support (SUFIA TS) Activity strengthened responsible governance of the region's marine resources. Through SUFIA TS, USAID/RDMA partnered with regional organizations to conserve marine biodiversity and combat unsustainable and IUU fishing. USAID/RDMA successfully engaged and confirmed its partnerships with key regional fisheries organizations to leverage their leadership and commitment in advancing sustainable fisheries management in the Indo-Pacific waters. Through these partnerships, USAID/RDMA provided technical support to strengthen the coordination and execution of regional fisheries management and enforcement actions. The confirmed regional organization partners under SUFIA TS are the Regional Plan of Action to Promote Responsible Fishing Practices including Combating IUU Fishing in the Region; Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security (CTI-CFF); and the ASEAN

Secretariat in support of the ASEAN Sectoral Working Group on Fisheries. Technical support provided by SUFIA TS includes developing or strengthening regional policies, standards, and frameworks that are a priority for Indo-Pacific countries.

Sri Lanka: In FY 2022, the Climate Change Adaptation Activity (CCAA) worked with the Climate Change Secretariat (CCS), coordination with the Green Climate Fund and Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), to implement the NAP Readiness Project to enable implementation of the country's NAP and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC).

As part of the NAP Readiness Project, CCAA also worked closely with GGGI and the Food and Agriculture Organization to establish Provincial Climate Cells (PCC), which are intended to contribute to NDCs, NAPs, and Provincial Adaptation Plans.

Timor-Leste: The USAID PUA is part of the Plastics Upcycling Solutions Alliance, bringing together three development partners including the European Union and the Korea International Cooperation Agency as well as two private sector leads around the shared vision of a plastics-neutral Timor-Leste. The three-year partnership leverages more than \$3.5 million in private and development funding to tackle Timor-Leste's plastics waste challenge. The USAID PUA organized two events that brought together the government and private sector with development and civil society stakeholders to share ideas on plastic pollution and recycling. The discussions were aimed at increasing awareness of plastics, inspiring policy reform, and encouraging demand to support recycling across all sectors of society.

Vietnam: USAID's SFM signed 18 partnership agreements with seven companies and 11 cooperatives to develop value chains in cinnamon, fruit trees, coffee, tung tree oil, betel nut, and medicinal plants to increase income for forest dependent communities. USAID's SFM also improved forest management and production through the application of a market-based approach to support the development of sustainable acacia plantations. The Activity negotiated and signed 11 partnership agreements with timber companies and cooperatives to increase production of high-quality planting material to develop 65,000 hectares of acacia plantation, convert about 800 hectares of short cycle acacia farms to longer cycle production, and to develop and implement sustainable forest management plans for approximately 94,000 hectares. The Activity also helped establish 62 farmer groups, with the participation of 5,560 timber producers, and provided training in sustainable forest management standards, group management, monitoring, and silviculture practices. To date, USAID SFM trained 5,712 people, of whom 2,459 are women.

In addition, USAID supported the Quang Tri province to develop a master plan for the development of medicinal plants. The province has committed \$2.2 million for implementation of the master plan.

Outcome 3: Conservation and Sustainable Practices, Business, Trade and Investment (of Natural Resources or Related to Natural Resources) Implemented

Bureau for Asia: In FY 2022, the Asia Bureau Asia Grey Timber Analysis conducted research on supply chains and grey timber economics to estimate the cost of grey timber within international markets and help understand how grey timber affects legal timber trade and impacts efforts to preserve forests and combat deforestation. These efforts supported forest resources protection and natural resource security by improving the application of safeguards and empowering countries and communities to become more resilient.

Bangladesh: In FY 2022, CHTWCA trained 36,889 (EG.13-5) forest resource dependent people, of whom 43 percent were women, on livelihood skills development. In addition, USAID's Local Works program provided a total of 4,945 community members, including 3,275 women, with alternative livelihood options to increase household income.

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In FY 2022, the Ecosystems Project conducted multiple assessments, including: review of key biodiversity management plans; status of co-management; workforce and skills needs in and around target ecosystems; patrol needs; status of risk management strategy; status of current use of spatial monitoring and reporting tools; and status of data integration and use.

In FY 2022, USAID, through its Enhanced Coastal Fisheries in Bangladesh (ECOFISH) II Activity, improved conservation of key fisheries species, including Hilsa (the national fish and most economically important species in the country), major riverine catfish (Pangas, Ayr, Baghair, and Rita) and megafauna (turtles, dolphins, and sharks) in the coastal region, particularly Cox's Bazar, lower Meghna, and the Nijhum Dwip MPA. ECOFISH II's efforts reduced the indiscriminate catch of juvenile and brood fish of the target species, prevented an alarming number of megafaunas, and helping to counter the deterioration of marine biodiversity and ecosystem health. In this reporting period, USAID trained and motivated 319 boat captains to comply with fishing regulations and responsible fishing practices in order to conserve coastal fisheries and megafauna. Post-training, the boat captains released 27 megafaunas, including turtles, skates, dolphins, and porpoises, back into the ocean. USAID also trained and equipped 40 citizen scientists to monitor catch species composition to track catch-per-unit-effort for sustainable fisheries management.

USAID's Local Works program operated four turtle hatcheries to conserve marine turtles (the olive ridley turtle, or *Lepidochelys olivacea*) and established a new hatchery to collect and incubate eggs. The program protected a total of 8,172 eggs in 50 nests from feral dogs, foxes, and humans. It also released 6,280 hatchlings into the sea with an approximate 77 percent hatching success. In addition, the program conducted fifteen discussions with a total of 512 fishers, including 77 women, on the conservation and safe release of turtles entangled in nets. The program also organized six meetings with 226 villagers to raise awareness on shorebird conservation.

In FY 2022, the USAID Ecosystems/Protibesh Activity facilitated the development of a protected forest area annual development plan with 27 CMOs, contributing to the improved management of 18,078 hectares of forest area.

During this reporting period, USAID, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, promoted advanced forest management capacities and transferred cutting-edge forestry tools, knowledge, and technologies through its COMPASS Activity. The Activity demonstrated and promoted sustainable forest restoration practices in highly degraded mixed-use forests in the CHT by implementing Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodologies, biodiversity assessments, and using climate risks management tools. The Activity pioneered an advanced method of mosaic-scale restoration to devise locally-led forest restoration options and models for different categories of lands depending on their use. The Activity restored 260 hectares of degraded areas involving 250 beneficiaries from nine villages through the enrichment planting and assisted natural regeneration of 79 endangered plant species. In FY 2022, the COMPASS Activity also worked on strengthening forest management-related institutional capacity through collaboration with the Bandarban Hill District Council, district-level representatives of the BFD, Department of Agricultural Extension, Department of Livestock Services, CHT Development Board, and indigenous communities. This resulted in increased community ownership over adaptive forest restoration options. The Activity also reformed four VCF management committees and trained them on restoration approaches to help restore degraded habitats. In addition, COMPASS undertook various awareness-raising campaigns involving local communities and social and religious leaders. It also facilitated a roadside tree planting program by supplying, planting, and maintaining 6,000 saplings for slope stabilization, resulting in improved and restored ecosystems in the area.

To improve habitat coverage and enhance ecological functions in the fragmented landscapes in the Cox's Bazar region, the Local Works program planted 55,684 saplings near targeted households and 12,561 saplings in land near different institutions, such as mosques, graveyards, and schools, along the roadside. The program also distributed and installed 828 LPG cylinders and stoves, 1,242 improved cookstoves, and 1,368 heat cookers to the beneficiary households to reduce the use of wood for fuel. Additionally,

the program provided 20 LPG cylinders and stoves to institutions and restaurants and established three small-scale biogas plants. The program also organized stall-feeding training for community members to reduce cattle grazing and established three bamboo treatment plants, thus reducing stress on the forests.

The COMPASS Activity planted 162,500 seedlings and worked with 250 community members to grow 30,410 seedlings. The project also initiated the Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology, a decision support tool that enables partnerships with local communities through proper site selection and identification of the need for maintaining biodiversity in degraded forest lands.

Cambodia: In FY 2022, USAID Morodok Baitang reduced the deforestation rate in 280,996 hectares of forested area in the KSWs and its buffer zone. In addition, the Activity reduced 782,778 metric tons of CO₂ equivalents, generated \$15,743,382 from the sale of carbon credits, and improved habitat for endangered species like the black-shanked douc and yellow-cheeked gibbon. Financing from the credit sale will support community economic and social development priorities for the 2,500 households in the KSWs and will be used by the Royal Government of Cambodia and conservation partners to support management and operations in KSWs.

In FY 2022, GPL improved NRM management on 1,207,850 hectares and the biophysical condition of 632,362 hectares in biologically significant areas and reduced 7,854,879 metric tons of CO₂ by avoiding deforestation land use conversion. GPL's work provided economic benefits for 110,718 (EG.13-5) people and mobilized \$1,655,985 (EG.11-4) to reinvest in the protection and conservation of the Prey Lang Wildlife Sanctuary and its extended landscape. This result also contributes to Cross-cutting Outcome 1, described below.

Overall, in FY 2022, GPL and USAID Morodok Baitang brought an area of 1,488,846 hectares (EG.13-8) under improved management practices, which included the expansion of community patrolling in protected areas, economic development activities like environmentally friendly agricultural development and eco-tourism, and REDD+ validation and verification. With these efforts, USAID helped to avoid a total of 8,637,657 mtCO₂e (EG.13-6) under the GPL and Morodok Baitang activities.

India: In FY 2022, the Kerala and Telangana State Forest Departments used a geo-spatial tool called the Van System, developed by the USAID Forest PLUS 2.0 Activity, to develop forest management plans for thirteen forest divisions covering an area of 527,138 hectares (EG.13-8). Informed by the Van system, the Forest Management Plans, which are based on an Ecosystem Approach to Forest Management, are a departure from the GOI's traditional practice of managing forests solely for timber. Six of these plans have been approved by the GOI. USAID also developed Detailed Project Reports for landscape management pilot activities in selected areas and began implementation of a pilot in Kerala, with the expectation that the three state governments (Kerala, Telangana and Bihar) would scale up the effort in other areas in collaboration with the private sector. To assist in the scale up, USAID also developed planning manuals that provide step-by-step methodologies to collect, process, and analyze data for developing forest and landscape management plans.

Through the Forest PLUS 2.0 Activity, USAID established four forest-based value chains to improve livelihoods by generating revenues for forest-dependent communities. These value chains are focused on eco-enterprises related to butterfly breeding, producing incense sticks from flower waste, and ecotourism. USAID continued to strengthen and provide business support to the five value chains established in the previous fiscal year. USAID also designed and initiated incentive-based mechanisms, such as payments for ecosystem services, to provide better incentives to forest-dependent communities for their efforts in protecting forests. Two of these focus on supporting upstream communities to better manage forest and watersheds, thereby resulting in improved water availability to downstream communities for agriculture, and the third focuses on involving local forest protection committees in ecotourism. These interventions resulted in improved livelihoods and co-benefits for 1,035,673 people.

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USAID developed four additional tools that will help the GOI better manage and monitor forests, support decision-making, and marketing of NTFPs. One of the tools, the NTFP-information management system, developed under Forest-PLUS 2.0 Activity, provides seamless and updated information for different stakeholders involved in management of NTFPs. It simplifies the process of procuring, managing, and selling NTFPs, and helps build a strong interface between the buyers and sellers (primarily, communities) through an online marketplace. A second tool is a decision support system that allows farmers to identify suitable tree species for growing on their farmlands in conjunction with agricultural crops. The third one is a portal developed under USAID's REFRESH Activity. This online portal contains a suite of scientific and commercial satellite data for monitoring of natural or anthropogenic forest land cover changes. The fourth tool, a chatbot, developed by USAID's Trees Outside Forest in India (TOFI) Activity, in collaboration with Meta, provides information to the general public about the importance of planting trees to combat carbon emissions and how to properly plant a tree to increase its chances of survival.

Under TOFI, USAID also conducted a comprehensive analysis to identify and spatially map the expansion opportunities for trees outside formal forest areas in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. Furthermore, in order to bring relevant stakeholders (such as wood-based industries, research organizations, farmers, tree nursery growers, financial institutions) to a common forum, TOFI established an innovation platform, the Consortium of Industrial Agroforestry. Through initial meetings, the platform identified research gaps and other challenges in promoting expansion of tree cover.

USAID interventions to promote forest and landscape management during FY 2022 resulted in an estimated emissions reduction and sequestration of 1,377,224 mtCO₂e ([EG.13-6](#)).

The Producer-Owned Women Enterprises (POWER) Activity established nine women-owned production units benefitting 1,472 underprivileged women, with a focus on women from India's tribal communities. These efforts advance the Agency's Policy on Promoting the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, with a focus on economic empowerment. Five of these enterprises are based on sustainably sourced NTFPs such as bamboo. Through this project, USAID also mobilized around 1,180 farmers to establish bamboo plantations on their underutilized land. The plantations will provide bamboo resources to these women-owned enterprises, thus establishing an end-to-end model for bamboo production and the creation of value-added products. These efforts contribute to climate mitigation and improved economic opportunities. Overall, these efforts resulted in a 38.2 percent increase in income for 6,800 women-producers, job security, improved status within their families and communities, and a better education for their children.

Indonesia: In FY 2022, USAID developed a crop selection database and tools that will help farmers to model and plan their cocoa agroforestry production plots. Cocoa agroforestry systems can have a wide range of ecological benefits, such as biodiversity conservation, carbon sequestration, improved pest control, and microclimatic control, such as stimulating rainfall. USAID's database includes approximately 160 cocoa agroforestry tree species that can contribute to biodiversity conservation in agricultural landscapes. Through these diversified systems, USAID will help 9,000 farmers better manage climate change risks, reduce 650,000 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e), and raise their cocoa yields by 30 percent, increasing their incomes by 14 percent.

In FY 2022, the USAID SEGAR Activity worked with 12 districts in Aceh and West, Central, and East Kalimantan to reduce deforestation, preserve peatland, restore mangroves, and improve management of forest areas. USAID, the National Ministry of Development Planning, and 12 local governments identified 10.2 million hectares of HCV and HCS areas and mapped key deforestation trends, supply chains, and political issues. USAID integrated the findings to improve land-use zoning plans for the next five years in 12 districts. USAID trained 935 district government staff and smallholder farmers and leveraged \$68,180 of private sector resources for HCV and HCS protection. These efforts brought over 2.7 million hectares of forests and land under improved management in FY 2022, an area the size of Massachusetts. USAID also assisted provincial and district governments to develop regulations and management

arrangements to protect six high biodiversity ecosystems and wildlife corridors, which include habitats for species like orangutans, tigers, elephants, rhinos, proboscis monkeys, siamese crocodiles, and hornbills.

In FY 2022, USAID concluded four years of support to the Blue Abadi Fund (BAF), a conservation trust fund in eastern Indonesia. BAF is one of the world's largest trust funds for marine conservation, with a \$17.4 million endowment. It was established to ensure the ecosystems and species of the iconic Bird's Head Seascape are sustainably managed and benefit local communities. In FY 2022, it enabled 27 local institutions to mobilize over \$4 million for conservation, strengthened 11 MPAs, and covered 4.2 million hectares, including Raja Ampat MPA, which received the prestigious Blue Parks Award at the UN Oceans Conference in June 2022. USAID's support enabled MPA managers and local communities to carry out 5,600 joint patrols, significantly reducing destructive fishing and shark finning. The University of Papua helped 2,600 students in 23 schools to understand marine conservation priorities using locally-produced materials; this followed USAID's success in FY 2019, when the West Papua provincial government integrated marine conservation into the fifth grade curriculum. At the end of 2021, the MMAF used a new tool for monitoring MPAs, with management effectiveness increasing from "minimal" to "optimal" in most of the BAF-supported MPAs.

Acting on insight gained from these activities, USAID has designed a new \$20 million bilateral solid waste management program to be launched in FY 2023 that will deploy Ocean Plastics Pollution directive funding to strengthen waste management systems in 15 coastal cities.

In FY 2022, USAID supported the development and national rollout of management information systems for water safety planning. The management information systems were successfully introduced as pilots in three municipalities in the provinces of Central Java, East Java, and South Sulawesi.

Maldives: During FY 2022, the Climate Change Adaptation Activity (CCAA) completed a climate risk assessment (CRA) and launched four grants to support preparation for COP 27. The purposes of these grants are to develop a management plan for a protected area, launch an enterprise development program, and provide technical assistance to accredit the first Maldivian bank to access the Green Climate Fund. In FY 2022, USAID launched the Ocean Plastics Reduction Activity. This five-year (2022 to 2027), approximately \$5.8 million (conditional on appropriations) Activity will address ocean plastics pollution in the Maldives by: 1) reducing virgin plastic inputs and products; 2) improving and expanding solid waste management; and 3) empowering local communities to drive solid waste management solutions.

The CCAA has also initiated an in-kind grant with the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology (MoECCT) to support the Island Councils in the Baa atoll with their decentralization mandate as they implement their plans to protect valuable natural resources and develop an eco-tourism plan that incorporates strategies to reduce climate risks such as storm surge, drought, and coastal erosion.

Also, the CCAA conducted a series of visits to four islands in different administrative atolls in FY 2022, in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology, Environmental Protection Agency and the Biosphere Reserve Office. Ensuring conservation, restoration, and management of the protected areas will require a combined effort that incorporates local community engagement, clear policy frameworks for equitable outcomes for all, and financing and investments facilitated by the private sector.

In FY 2022, the REGENERATE Activity published a guide to support a national habitat classification system in Maldives, applying IUCN's Global Ecosystem Typology. The IUCN Global Ecosystem Typology was developed to create a comprehensive and consistent framework that supports global, regional, and national efforts for assessing and managing the world's ecosystems and their services. It aims to meet the need for a global standard that identifies Earth's ecosystems and includes both the ecosystems'

functions and compositional features to better address ecosystem-level conservation and management targets.

Nepal: In FY 2022, CSISA disseminated a report on the framework addressing major barriers and identifying opportunities for scaling sustainable and inclusive farmer-led irrigation development. As part of that effort, CSISA worked with the Government of Nepal to install groundwater monitoring sensors and pilot a monitoring system to inform irrigation and water management strategies.

The Karnali Water Activity also conducted a desk study, as well as a large-scale springs and water source assessment, across 29 municipalities in four targeted watersheds. The study establishes watershed source and biodiversity baselines to support the development of evidence-based Water Use Master Plans. The Activity trained and mobilized 515 youth enumerators for the spring source study and sensitized local youth and elected representatives on the importance of preserving water sources. Lack of knowledge on water resources and preservation is likely the reason for reduced yield from water sources, and the inequitable distribution of drinking water in their communities. The enumerators were trained to measure water source flow, temperature, and pH content, and took photos of each location to ensure that samples were collected from designated sources identified by the municipalities. Data collection was completed in FY 2022 and the final spring source assessment report will provide an inventory of water sources using a Geographic Information System, in addition to detailed information on water quality, discharge rates, existing users, and uses of water. The study further maps water supply resources and documents the underlying causes of water source loss and evaporation, while also evaluating the impact of human interventions and infrastructure (e.g., dams, roads) on these water sources.

Pacific Islands Regional: USAID-LGP worked with ten communities to establish community conservation areas based on legally binding deeds and helped manage four fully operational conservation areas. USAID-LGP supported the Conservation Environment Protection Authority to facilitate two workshops for council members and key management teams.

In FY 2022, USAID-LGP joined other donor partners to support the restructuring and strengthening of the CEPA, PNG's primary environmental agency. An organizational diagnostic review conducted through assistance from USAID-LGP and published in December 2020 highlighted that CEPA was not fulfilling its mandate and that an intended reorganization was never completed when the former Department of Environment and Conservation transitioned into the authority it is today. USAID-LGP started negotiations with the Environmental Systems Research Institute to supply CEPA with ArcGIS, the global standard for geographic information system (GIS) software for large organizations.

A series of leadership transitions at CEPA hindered USAID-LGP's progress, but the Activity moved forward with procurement, installation, and training for the cloud-based Integrated Information Management System that will address CEPA's internal management inefficiencies and data collection, analysis, and reporting needs.

Discussion with senior leaders at CEPA revealed that a holistic review and restructuring of the Authority is a prerequisite to providing the information management system. This process is already underway through support from USAID-LGP. CEPA is presently drafting a strategic plan to reorganize the institution, including the addition of information technology and ArcGIS Specialist positions. The proposed changes to CEPA will minimize siloed divisions, provide effective management and oversight, manage revenue streams effectively, minimize the loss of crucial national environment biodiversity and conservation data, and maximize public access opportunities. USAID-LGP will initially purchase the ArcGIS Enterprise software to be used as the platform for the information management system, then support CEPA to ensure its inclusion in their annual budget.

In September 2022, USAID provided PNG a Sustainable Landscapes award, promoting sustainable management of forest and agriculture in PNG. The program's objectives include that: 1) land and natural resources governance is improved; 2) environmental sustainability of forestry industry is increased; and

3) rights of communities regarding natural resources management is protected. USAID will engage public and private sector stakeholders to define shared challenges and jointly plan and implement mutually beneficial interventions to improve stewardship of PNG's forest resources and reduce carbon emissions. USAID will strengthen the capacity and commitment of local and national actors to better manage and sustain PNG's forests.

Philippines: USAID has placed 92,571 hectares of water-stressed areas under improved management. With U.S. assistance, 404,240 more Filipinos gained access to drinking water, and 77,221 people gained improved access to sanitation services.

In FY 2022, the SIBOL Activity updated the High Conservation Value Areas Framework by integrating natural capital accounting's intrinsic link to conservation. To address the impacts of Typhoon Rai (Odette) on the Activity's three sites, USAID developed the Green Assessment Framework to include an assessment of damages in biodiversity and ecosystem services in green reconstruction and resilience planning. In Siargao, USAID's SIBOL work has completed stages one and two of the green assessment, and initial findings confirmed that the island has lost nearly all its forest cover. In Palawan, the assessment formed the basis for a policy proposal to declare that the Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park and Cleopatra's Needle Critical Habitat are in a state of ecological emergency, enabling mobilization of resources towards reconstruction and rehabilitation. USAID's INSPIRE Activity placed 63,466 hectares of protected terrestrial and marine areas under improved management through a suite of interventions, including ecosystem rehabilitation and coastal resource management plans. Through small grants to local organizations, USAID also helped local governments and MPA management boards in integrating biodiversity concerns in disaster management plans and addressing IUU fishing. After Typhoon Rai (Odette), USAID helped communities use local knowledge to determine the scope of damage to ecosystems and households, thereby engaging communities as citizen scientists and involving them in restorative actions.

USAID, through SIBOL, additionally supported BFAR's review of the National Enforcement Plan which covers fishery management areas and other areas within the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) such as the West Philippine Sea and the Philippine Rise

In FY 2022, USAID trained a total of 3,924 people in conservation skills such as protected area management, ecosystem service valuation, ecosystem approach to fisheries management, ecosystem rehabilitation, and enforcement approaches to wildlife and environmental crime. This collective training effort has produced a cadre of conservation professionals and community leaders able to identify threats to biodiversity and their drivers, and design interventions to address them.

In FY 2022, the Fish Right Activity expanded knowledge-sharing through a virtual training site co-developed with BFAR that will host curated educational materials from reference documents, videos, photos, training materials, and communication products. Using virtual and hybrid platforms, USAID trained 1,654 people on an ecosystems approach to fisheries management. At the community level, USAID trained local partners to establish and sustain conservation enterprises through enhanced financial literacy and post-harvest skills. At the national level, USAID also trained BFAR officers on various stock assessment methodologies, and practical skills on how to translate scientific outputs into policy briefs.

In FY 2022, USAID assistance reduced, avoided, or sequestered a total of 241,168 mtCO₂e ([EG.13-6](#)). This was lower than anticipated because of Typhoon Rai (Odette)'s destructive impact in December 2021 on tree cover in many Activity areas.

Through the SIBOL Activity, USAID introduced the EarthRanger platform to the Forest Management Bureau and Biodiversity Management Bureau as a tool to use for forest and biodiversity monitoring. USAID's SIBOL Activity facilitated a series of workshops with the two bureaus to standardize data points collected at the field level where they overlap across several monitoring systems. USAID also continued to train technical staff from DENR, local governments, and the Palawan Council for

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Sustainable Development and Protected Area Management Office to process and analyze drone images into geospatial products that could be used for forest monitoring, protected area management, and enforcement purposes.

The Partnership for Sustainable Forest Management Activity—an interagency agreement between USAID and the U.S. Forest Service—continued developing the country's Forest Reference Emission Level report (FREL) as part of the national forest monitoring system, a system used for the measurement, reporting, and verification of changes in forest biomass. In FY 2022, this USAID Activity helped finalize the FREL document, which is now being reviewed by independent evaluators. The Philippine government notified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) about its intention to submit the FREL in FY 2023. Through the Safe Water Activity, USAID works to improve management of watersheds and forests, to improve water security, and to contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the forestry sector. As a result, 156,099 people benefitted from the adoption and implementation of water resource management measures. In FY 2022, USAID finalized an additional 60 hydrologic studies covering all watersheds of Palawan, Negros Occidental, and Sarangani. These studies provided critical information on watershed, forest cover, and water resource conditions. Interventions included institutionalizing a payment-for-ecosystem services (PES) financing scheme, harmonization of land use plans, regulation of access to forest lands, increased community engagement, protection of groundwater recharge and conservation areas, and strengthening forest patrolling bodies. USAID also facilitated the creation and/or reactivation of watershed bodies that are key to sustaining the management of forest and watershed areas in four municipalities in Palawan, Negros Occidental (to cover all watersheds in Negros), as well as in Siguel and Buayan Malungon River Basin in Sarangani. USAID assisted local governments and water service providers to develop 12 local water conservation and restoration plans as well as to integrate watershed management plans. Development of these plans involved a participatory and inclusive process that engaged indigenous peoples, women, and youth. Improved enforcement of conservation laws was also supported through USAID's expanded training on Lawin Forest and Biodiversity Protection System that benefitted 474 forest patrollers in Palawan and Negros Occidental, as well as training on Sloping Agricultural Land Technology, a farming technique that promotes soil stabilization, and benefitted 484 upland farmers. USAID's partnerships continue to bolster support to upland communities on adopting and growing sustainable livelihoods. Of the total \$7,612,467 sustainable investments leveraged, 96 percent (\$7.3 million) are from private sources, demonstrating strong private sector support for sustainable livelihoods and forest protection initiatives. USAID continues to promote PES as an innovative financing mechanism for protection and conservation of watersheds, helping local government partners to separate and protect PES funds and institutionalize the financing mechanism. The PES has been identified as a key strategy in Negros Occidental and Sarangani's provincial water security plans to address the financing gap in watershed and water resource management. In FY 2022, USAID's assistance for the protection and restoration of mangroves through the Fish Right Activity resulted in an estimated 2,747 metric tons of CO₂e avoided, reduced, or sequestered. About 868 hectares of mangroves were placed under improved management, specifically to ensure protection against illegal cutting, while another 15 hectares were also reforested or rehabilitated. Around 360 people were trained in mangrove management through the Fish Right Activity, and mangrove nurseries in Calamianes Island Group in Palawan, Southern Negros, and the Visayan Sea were established with special attention to women's associations. In CIG, around 12 Community-Managed Savings and Credit Associations groups were established to support women's organizations in their financial management associated with mangrove management.

USAID worked with resource users to develop an integrated fisheries compliance strategy that fosters regulatory policies and non-regulatory interventions such as training, public outreach and education, social learning, and partnerships with key seafood businesses.

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At the national level, Fish Right trained the Department of Agriculture's National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI) and National Stock Assessment Program (NSAP) researchers on how to transform their scientific outputs into policy briefs. Fish Right also trained and collaborated with the NFRDI in consolidating fish stock data at an ecological scale that is relevant to the fishery management areas (FMAs). Fish Right has been assisting NSAP teams to improve their data collection by creating and piloting an Android tablet-based data management system. This system substantially reduced the time for encoding and validating fisheries data, improved accuracy, and accelerated data analysis. This data will contribute to NFRDI's new web-based interactive atlas which publishes real-time catch and effort data based on the NSAP. This atlas is publicly accessible for use by the fisheries industry, policy makers, and other stakeholders to guide the formulation of sound management and conservation policies.

Fish Right and BFAR also work with LGUs and other stakeholders to develop models for right sizing in Fish Right sites and eventually in all fishery management areas. A blue swimming crab conservation campaign reached over one million radio listeners across the Visayan Sea provinces.

In Siargao Island, USAID carried out marine habitat assessments and facilitated discussions about the impacts of Typhoon Rai (Odette) on marine habitats, especially on fisheries. In Masinloc Oyon-Bay, USAID completed the boat and gear inventory surveys in 30 barangays (villages) in Palauig and Masinloc, established a technical working group on natural capital accounting, and conducted a workshop to review and determine fees and charges for access to and sustainable use of MOBPLS resources.

In FY 2022, the CCBO Activity, a USAID Philippines buy-in to a USAID/Washington central mechanism, provided technical assistance and administered a small grants program, in coordination with national and local government partners. In areas of implementation, particularly in Iloilo, Paranaque, and Pasig cities, the CCBO Activity continued to work with local government partners to improve their 10-year Solid Waste Management (SWM) Plans, validating Solid Waste Index for Local Government assessment results, and enhancing their waste recovery facilities and sanitary landfill. In Iloilo City, the CCBO Activity conducted a SWM Plan Formulation Workshop for 22 participants from the local government. The Iloilo City Environment and Natural Resource Officer supported the CCBO Activity's proposal to conduct formative research and adopt a social and behavior change perspective in the city's ten-year SWM plan, particularly in the areas of education and communication.

In FY 2022, USAID, through Safe Water, signed agreements with the Philippine Coffee Advancement and Farm Enterprise Project to upgrade coffee farming in supported communities in Sarangani, the Association of Negros Producers, and Seaoil Foundation to help these upland communities on sustainable livelihoods. Safe Water also signed an agreement with the Ecumenical Church Loan Fund (ECLOF) to provide financing for small and medium enterprises working on forest and watershed conservation.

Working at the national level, USAID continued to support the National Economic and Development Authority's initiatives to implement the Philippine Water Supply and Sanitation Master Plan and advance the bills creating the Department of Water Resources, which will serve as the lead agency for regulating water resources for municipal, agricultural, industrial, and other purposes.

RDMA: To promote fishers' livelihoods and conserve marine biodiversity, USAID/RDMA worked with NOAA's Northwest Fisheries Science Center (NWFSC) and SEAFDEC to strengthen SEAFDEC's capacity to deliver fisheries management tools and training to fisheries managers across the region. In FY 2022, USAID/RDMA, through NWFSC, held a virtual workshop for SEAFDEC and its member countries on adaptive management and decision support tools for un- or under-managed fisheries. The workshop allowed SEAFDEC and fisheries managers to promote both sustainable, local livelihoods and marine conservation by equipping them with adaptive management techniques to implement formal fisheries regulations in previously un- or under-managed fisheries, even when data and other management resources are limited. By helping to reinforce SEAFDEC's capacity to provide training on practical ways

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to manage fisheries, these efforts promoted the sustainable management of fisheries resources across the region.

In FY 2022, USAID Green Invest Asia (GIA) unlocked \$127.5 million in private finance to reduce 82.4 million metric tons of CO₂ equivalent with 272,000 hectares of land under improved management. USAID GIA has 58 active projects and is pitching sustainable land use projects to a network of international and regional investors with \$5.27 billion of sustainable investment assets under management. USAID GIA demonstrated successful PPPs that contributed to the Agency's Climate Strategy in transforming key systems and shifting market signals to supply chain sustainability as well as supporting U.S. leadership in mobilizing private capital to tackle the climate crisis.

Through the USAID-supported Sustainable Coconut Charter, in FY 2022, USAID/RDMA established joint corporate climate actions to improve farmer livelihoods, reduce the carbon footprint of coconuts, and boost supply to meet rising global demand. Seven companies recently signed the Charter, which now has 17 signatories that control nearly half the annual trade volume in coconuts worldwide.

USAID/RDMA, through the SERVIR-Mekong Activity, successfully supported Thailand on air quality monitoring through the SERVIR-Mekong's Air Quality Explorer tool. This tool was scaled up and adopted by the Chiang Rai provincial government in northern Thailand to manage fires that ravage forests and threaten livelihoods. These fires, if not managed properly and quickly, damage landscapes and create air pollution, which spreads across borders into neighboring countries, turning a local issue into a transboundary one. Regional cooperation to manage fires is critical. In FY 2022, the provincial government of Chiang Rai officially adopted the SmokeWatch mobile application, which was built on data from SERVIR-Mekong's Air Quality Explorer, into its fire management policy. The provincial government uses data from the app to prevent and control forest fires, biomass burning, and resultant greenhouse gas emissions by identifying fire locations as they happen. It has enabled first responders and forest rangers to pinpoint the exact location of fires and undertake targeted interventions. Integration into the provincial policy will ensure sustainable use of fire hotspot data in the future. This approach also provides a useful model for scaling to other provinces and neighboring countries.

USAID/RDMA collaborated with the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR) to help develop a declaration on environmental rights in collaboration with United Nations agencies. To further inform USAID/RDMA's work with AICHR, USAID/RDMA conducted a cross-sectoral study on civil society's access to information, robust decision making, and data literacy with various organizations and key regional stakeholders from several sectors related to natural resources governance.

Sri Lanka: USAID's Safe, Disaster-Resilient Drinking Water to Flood and Drought Prone Areas Activity provided safe and clean drinking water to 12 rural schools accommodating 6,362 students. The Activity also provided drinking water to 103 families, directly benefiting 558 people. The Activity included providing rainwater harvesting systems to these schools and communities, which can collect rainwater during rainy periods and retain them for dry seasons. With the help of this Activity, households and schools that installed rainwater harvesting systems were better able to ensure access to safe drinking water during recent droughts, floods, and lockdowns due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Households with rainwater harvesting tanks were better able to cope with climate related shocks due to larger water storage tanks. During prolonged drought, households were able to purchase and store water trucked in by local authorities after rainwater reserves were depleted. During recent floods, when other potable water sources were contaminated and turbid, households and schools with rainwater harvesting systems maintained access to safe, clean drinking water.

Timor-Leste: During FY 2022, the TFA Activity conducted consultative meetings with the Secretary of State for Environment to identify sector criteria and stakeholders that could contribute towards environmentally sustainable tourism. Following active consultations with the National Director of the Center for Environmental Education and Information and the Chief of Legal Affairs for Environmental Procedure, sustainable criteria based on best practices from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations

were crafted to cover three areas, including community-based tourism enterprises, homestays, and tour operators.

Through the Green School program, the TFA Activity provided reusable water bottles to schools. Consequently, single-use plastic bottle waste was reportedly reduced by 50 percent (i.e. 1,000 bottles a day, or 150,000 bottles per school year). The Activity had a significant impact on reducing single-use plastic bottle usage, particularly among kindergarten and primary school students, who were more diligent in following the rules and programs than secondary students.

Additionally, the USAID PUA developed distribution channels and installation services for recycled plastic product lines in Dili. PUA also conducted two activities at the border with Indonesia, which were complemented by the development and publication of Timor-Leste's first upcycling catalog, expo-like promotional events, networking events, demonstration projects and activities, etc.

Vietnam: In FY 2022, USAID supported Danang City's Vietnam Water Conservation Network, Department of Natural Resource and Environment, and local partners to develop and implement collective action initiatives for water protection in Danang. As a result, a Da Nang District-level Environmental Management and Protection Assessment Index Tool was developed and piloted. The Department of Water Resources Management received technical assistance to amend the Law on Water Resources. Finally, the Blue Water Fund Program was established to foster local research initiatives in water protection.

In FY 2022, USAID's Local Solutions for Plastic Pollution (LSPP) project organized two communication campaigns including a photo contest about plastic waste and the *PlastiNOvation* contest. This contest collected 364 entries from 28 provinces/cities, reaching 94,693 people. The second campaign reached 200 businesses nationwide and received 31 applications. Finally, USAID's LSPP officially launched the Plastic and Health Digital Platform, which provides scientific knowledge about plastic and health to the public. Through the LSPP project, USAID selected 11 local plastic waste reduction models that will receive technical and financial support for implementation and scaling up. These models have spread messages about plastic and health and created a change in local awareness and behavior.

Intermediate Outcome 3: Stakeholders' Capacity in Sustainable Natural Resource Management, Safeguards, Sustainable Supply Chains, and Investment Strengthened

Bureau for Asia: INTERPOL's training to build capacity for various levels of law enforcement is focused on five areas under the current agreement with the Asia Bureau: capacity-building, operational planning and coordination, intelligence gathering and analysis, international meetings and seminars, and catalyzing interest and actions among national law enforcement officials to organize global operations. For example, INTERPOL is developing an analytical report focusing on cyber-enabled wildlife crime, including crime trends, geo-location and hotpots, modus operandi, and major websites exploited in Asia that sell protected wildlife species online. With input from the Environmental Security Unit's Criminal Intelligence Officers, it will also provide recommendations for law enforcement agencies to initiate cyber investigations with financial flow analysis. The analysis will focus on big cat species (Asian and African), reptiles, birds (Asia- Asia), rhinos, ivory, and pangolins.

In FY 2022, the Asia Bureau's Wonders of the Mekong (WOM) project organized 21 training events, including seven virtual trainings, 11 in-person trainings, and two site-based trainings. A total of 813 people participated. Training topics included water quality and plastic pollution, biodiversity conservation, advanced fisheries and environmental monitoring techniques, science communication, video and photo storytelling, report writing, and writing for scientific publications. Together, training and outreach events reached over 3000 people from over 200 different institutions, including NGOs, educational institutions, community groups, and local, provincial and national governments.

Bangladesh: USAID provided capacity-building training on disaster management and risk reduction initiatives to 33,688 community members. In addition, local service providers and community level facilitators continued to provide training on how to recover from shocks.

USAID also trained 322 religious leaders, who play a critical role in facilitating community-level DRR. In addition, USAID trained 66 nursery owners on production and marketing of quality planting material, 150 beneficiaries on improved bamboo production, and 75 betel leaf collectors on enhancing the service life of wood, bamboo, and sun grass.

Cambodia: The USAID GFA, implemented by ECODIT, empowers Cambodian citizens and civil society to use evidence-based communication tools to influence positive actions to support biodiversity conservation, forest protection, and sustainable NRM. In FY 2022, the Activity continued to implement its SBCC campaign to reduce demand of luxury wood for furniture, which will indirectly protect forests and the species of flora and fauna that inhabit them. This Activity distributed messages advocating forest and wildlife protection through social media platforms. The Activity's "Green Groups," who adopted the SBCC toolkit, worked to convince peers, families, and communities to change behavior and practices of bushmeat and luxury wood consumption. The Activity's midline evaluation showed that 60 percent of youth declared that they would not buy luxury wood furniture in the future, and 80 percent agreed not to buy and eat bushmeat in the future.

The USAID Morodok Baitang also provided training to 442 individuals on internal controls for cultivation of an environmentally and wildlife friendly brand of rice called Ibis Rice, and created monitoring systems for each of the 21 villages that participate in environmentally and wildlife friendly cultivation. As a result, 5,640 people (2,792 female; 625 indigenous; 330 minority) received improved economic benefits derived from sustainable NRM and eco-tourism development in their communities.

In addition to training courses, the Wonders of Mekong held 18 outreach activities including educational events, research events, a meeting with stingray fishermen, and a national workshop on the current status of the giant freshwater whipray (*Urogymnus polylepis*) and Mekong stingray (*Hemirhamphys laosensis*). More than 2,600 participants attended the training and outreach events (682 female). In addition, one of the major accomplishments in FY 2022 was the quick and efficient catch, tag, and release of 661-pound giant freshwater stingray in the Stung Treng province. The fish was certified by Guinness World Records as the world's largest freshwater fish. This successful endeavor demonstrates how this project has helped facilitate effective cooperation between fisher people, local communities, government authorities and other relevant stakeholders.

During FY 2022, *CE SAIN*, with USAID support, worked with agricultural machinery manufacturers and importers, agribusiness retailers and service providers, smallholder farmers, and public institutions, to shift agricultural mechanization from conventional soil degrading methods to profitable soil production systems by integrating technologies such as cover cropping and no-till farming. As a result, 328 smallholder farmers have applied soil-related fertility and conservation technologies and practices to increase farm production on 871 hectares of land.

India: Despite the challenges posed by COVID-19 earlier in the fiscal year, USAID continued to strengthen capacities of forest managers and communities in the three Forest-PLUS 2.0 states through both virtual and in-person training. USAID trained 427 people (70 percent women) on using the Van system for forest inventory data collection; employing an ecosystem approach to forest management; strengthening value chains; and integrating gender considerations into forestry management. This activity also included leadership training for women and youth from marginalized communities.

USAID's efforts also helped strengthen the capacity of four GOI organizations—Central Academy for State Forest Services; Indira Gandhi National Forestry Academy; Goa Forest Department; and Institute of Wood Science and Technology—through training on utilizing an ecosystem approach to forest management.

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Indonesia: In FY 2022, USAID helped build the capacity of a forest farmer group in Central Kalimantan by awarding the group a grant which allows them to use their social forestry license for peatland protection, ecotourism, and land restoration. USAID grants to strengthen village-level livelihoods and sustainable commodity production will be implemented in FY 2023.

In West Kalimantan's Ketapang district, USAID provided stakeholders with technical assistance to develop land use management plans to protect 12,000 hectares of orangutan corridors, linking oil palm concessions, community forests, and parks together with the Gunung Palung National Park, which will protect over 3,000 orangutans. Through community-based management administered by communities and the private sector, the Masoraian social forestry plantation of Central Kalimantan's West Kotawaringin district will protect 3,006 hectares of habitat in the Lamandau Wildlife Reserve buffer zone.

In FY 2022, USAID conducted assessments in target districts and analyzed key commodity value chains, assessed the GOI's smallholder registration scheme, and mapped 56 priority villages in or adjacent to HCV and HCS areas. After validating the findings with local stakeholders, USAID designed measures to improve community livelihoods and reduce incentives for forest encroachment. USAID also helped 26 smallholders to secure their land management rights. After assisting them to register in the GOI's smallholder land registration system, USAID will work with these communities to transform their traditional agricultural methods into more productive and sustainable practices.

Maldives: In FY 2022, to engage and increase awareness among young people in the educational system in Maldives, the CCAA explored developing an online interactive climate change module for schools in Maldives. The module would likely be integrated into an already existing platform that has an outreach to both local and international schools.

In FY 2022, the Maldives Public Financial Management (PFM) Activity continued rolling out a performance-based budgeting program across all government entities in the country, a key priority of the Maldivian government. This system will allow for government entities to monitor performance indicators that can track climate adaptation and mitigation results set by the Maldivian government, and hold the government accountable to climate target performance.

In FY 2022, to support improved protected area management capacity, REGENERATE supported a study tour for staff from the MoECCT to Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia. At the end of the study tour, the group participated in the 2nd Asia Parks Conference.

Pacific Islands Regional: USAID, through the Institutional Strengthening in Pacific Island Countries to Adapt to Climate Change project, enhanced the capacity of 12 CSOs to advocate for and execute activities on COVID-19 prevention, management, and response efforts. These CSOs were better able to help reduce the serious and harmful effects of COVID-19 on people's physical and mental well-being, and help communities prepare for and recover from such pandemics and other natural disasters.

USAID-LGP facilitated the signing of a MOA between the Conservation Environment Protection Authority and the Simbu provincial government that allows the authority to assist provincial governments to develop and institutionalize their environmental and conservation capacities, which include guarantees for sufficient budget allocations.

USAID-LGP also supported a workshop on cocoa export procedures in Kokopo, East New Britain province for 190 farmers and aggregators.

In November 2021, USAID-LGP launched the MiBank Agency for KGWan Eco Habitat Women's Group in Simbu province to provide village banking services. USAID-LGP also delivered financial literacy training in Madang and Morobe provinces and trained 106 financial literacy trainers.

In FY 2022, USAID-LGP awarded a grant to the organization Mahonia Na Dari to train primary school teachers to effectively teach marine environmental education and climate change adaptation to students from five primary schools in Madang province. The marine education program will help primary school

students learn about the basics of marine biology and ecology, marine management, marine conservation, ecosystem connectivity, human and land use impacts on the marine environment, and climate change and its environmental impacts.

With grant assistance from USAID-LGP, Mahonia Na Dari will work in partnership with the Madang Provincial Government and Madang Teachers College to implement its marine education program in five selected schools from Madang province. The program will train fifty students from Madang Teachers College and teachers from five selected primary schools in Madang Province and will ensure that an MOA is in place to facilitate this process. Initial work has already begun, and full implementation of this program is set to begin in FY 2023.

USAID-LGP brought together Provincial Fisheries Department officials and community leaders from Madang province to evaluate coastal marine fishery and inland freshwater programs and priorities. Discussions centered around the economic benefits derived from the fish aggregating devices that the department provided to the community to locate and catch fish to be sold to a local mining operation in Kumbukari, providing steady market and income security.

Philippines: USAID's Fish Right Activity began development of Juan Catch, a new online marketplace that connects fishers directly with large seafood buyers. Developed to support local fishing associations, the Juan Catch marketplace will feature buyer and seller profiles and facilitate seafood catch offers and transactions. Fish Right also helped develop the Better Seafood Philippines program that aims to influence and engage seafood buyers to adopt and implement policies on responsible sourcing, processing, and trading of seafood to prevent the entry of products from IUU fishing into the supply chain. Through post-harvest, fish processing, and financial management training with fishing communities, USAID ensures that people in the fishing community have the capacity to properly handle, consolidate, and process fish, thus enabling them to meet market requirements for responsibly sourced seafood.

RDMA: In FY 2022, through coordination with the private sector, CSOs, and the regional Asia Counter Trafficking in Persons program, USAID/RDMA made progress in promoting ethical standards and practices in the fishing industry by expanding the use of communication technology to fishery workers in Phuket province who can now communicate with their family members and report abuses or accidents while at sea. USAID/RDMA is assessing the impact of the technology pilot and exploring expansion of this technology to other coastal provinces in Thailand that would reach more fishery workers.

USAID/RDMA also initiated natural climate solutions to address the President's Plan to Conserve Global Forests, the U.S. Indo-Pacific Vision, and the Agency's Climate Strategy. For example, through USAID GIA, USAID/RDMA advanced the U.S. government's leadership in addressing the global climate crisis by mobilizing investment in transnational supply chains that promote sustainable production practices at the local level. Implemented with a regional lens and a focus on PSE, the Activity helps agriculture and forestry businesses in Southeast Asia lower their greenhouse gas emissions and raise capital to scale up climate-smart production through voluntary carbon markets and projects in the coffee, cocoa, coconut, rubber, and timber sectors.

USAID/RDMA's GIA Activity also connects investors with land use businesses in Southeast Asia to improve sustainable supply chain and greenhouse gas emissions reduction. Within the coconut and coffee industries, USAID/RDMA successfully facilitated competitors to become collaborators, convening pre-competitive engagement on joint climate action. This collaboration improves supplier livelihoods, including smallholders, and enhances supply chain transparency and traceability while mitigating climate change impacts and preventing deforestation. The Activity targets commodity buyers and traders who influence their suppliers in a supply-chain ripple effect that, coupled with technical assistance, contributes to the U.S. climate goal of shifting markets to net-zero economies. It also furthers the U.S. government's commitment to PSE and nature-based solutions to reduce emissions. The \$65 billion global coconut industry is hampered by aging trees, producer poverty, and unsustainable sourcing. Through GIA, USAID/RDMA continued to engage companies after the launch of the coconut industry's first Sustainable

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Coconut Charter, a framework for industry alignment on sustainability challenges. There are currently 17 Coconut Charter signatories, accounting for almost half the annual global trade volume of coconuts. This charter is the industry's first attempt to harmonize buyers' requirements and collaborate to honor global sustainability commitments, while boosting farmers' livelihoods and coconut supply to meet global demand. One initiative advanced through the Charter is the Strategic Coconut Alliance for Coconut Oil Production in the Philippines. The Alliance agreed to co-invest \$7.3 million to train nearly 10,000 coconut farmers in southern Philippines on sustainable land use and agriculture practices that align with the Sustainable Coconut Charter's principles and goals. Another initiative is Barry Callebaut and Nestle's collaboration with the NGO, ProForest, to create a framework for an industry supplier scorecard that is based on environmental and social risks in the coconut supply chain. Once the scoring matrix is final, it will be made available for all companies in the coconut value chain to conduct assessments. These results also contribute to Intermediate Outcome 2.

The global coffee sector, valued at more than \$460 billion annually, provides full or partial livelihoods for as many as 800 million people. USAID/RDMA, through GIA, facilitated increased sustainability in the transforming coffee sector. For a company to measure its carbon footprint, the first critical step is a carbon baseline study, which is more technical and cost-effective if done with pre-competitive collaboration among key players. USAID/RDMA convened the coffee sector by partnering with the world's largest coffee roasters and buyers, Nestle, JDE Peet's, and Lavazza (together accounting for 51 percent of the annual coffee sale revenue in 2020), as well as 11 of their suppliers. USAID/RDMA advised them on sustainable sourcing strategies to cut greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Vietnam and Indonesia, where production accounted for nearly one quarter of the global total in 2020, and integrated regional influence within each company's global sustainability strategy. USAID/RDMA, through GIA, led a series of Sustainable Coffee Dialogues in collaboration with the Global Coffee Platform to further industry climate collaboration and enhance understanding of best practices in environmental sustainability. Additional consultations were held with the Sustainable Coffee Challenge platform and the European Coffee Federation, due to their interest in replication of the methodology for other regions and in the arabica coffee industry. Convening and influencing the global coffee industry on GHG emissions reductions and environmental sustainability catalyzed a ripple effect that improves the livelihoods of some of the world's poorest people while activating urgent climate change mitigation from the land use sector and advancing the transition to climate resilient net-zero economies. These results also contribute to Intermediate Outcome 2.

In addition, Southeast Asia is home to some of the planet's most productive and biodiverse marine ecosystems, which are under severe threat, particularly by IUU fishing. Through the USAID/RDMA Sustainable Fish Asia (SUFIA) project, and with USAID biodiversity funds, USAID/RDMA addressed these threats by supporting the leadership of regional organizations to promote sustainable fisheries in the Indo-Pacific. USAID's Sustainable Fish Asia Local Capacity Development (SUFIA LCD) Activity seeks to conserve marine biodiversity and fisheries resources in the Indo-Pacific region by reducing IUU fishing. In FY 2022, through SUFIA LCD, USAID/RDMA provided capacity development services and technical training for two key regional organizations, SEAFDEC and the CTI-CFF. The two-year SUFIA LCD Activity, which concluded in FY 2022, strengthened SEAFDEC and CTI-CFF capacity to serve as regional leaders promoting biodiversity conservation and sustainable fisheries. Both organizations are better positioned to provide their member states with the leadership and services needed to conserve biodiversity and support sustainable marine and fisheries ecosystems, while also strengthening regional cooperation.

Through the SIM program, USAID/RDMA worked closely with the U.S. DOI-ITAP to provide partner countries in the Lower Mekong region with U.S. government expertise in NRM. The SIM program's signature Lower Mekong Fish Passage Initiative is a five-year regional effort by the five Lower Mekong countries to improve coordination between irrigation and fisheries departments to address the transboundary challenge of declining fish stocks. USAID/RDMA conducted two webinars for over 100

ministry officials involved in the initiative to review the successes in all five Mekong nations, identify lessons learned, and institutionalize fish passage restoration across the region. Country presentations documented Ministry engagement with sister Ministries in the region to include consideration of fishway construction in planned water resource development projects and environmental reviews; engagement with the World Bank and Asian Development Bank to support additional fishway construction; and movement toward national legislation mandating fishway construction. These initiatives significantly increased the extent of habitat connectivity of hundreds of fish species that, collectively, are a critical component of food security and biodiversity in the Mekong River Basin. FY 2022 marked the completion of the Lower Mekong Fish Passage Initiative as well as the official closeout of the SIM program, an eight-year U.S. government interagency effort that helped Lower Mekong governments reduce the negative impacts of hydropower dams, irrigation systems, roads, and other infrastructure development.

At the end of FY 2022, USAID/RDMA, together with DOI-ITAP and other development partners, completed the construction of six demonstration fishways in Cambodia, Thailand, and Vietnam that have returned millions of fish, representing more than 100 species, to native waters. In addition, the initiative raised awareness about the biodiversity and food security impacts of fish habitat fragmentation by small irrigation dams; connected irrigation and fisheries officials to foster a coordinated response; trained those officials on the inventory and prioritization of barriers to fish passage; and provided technical assistance on the design, construction, and monitoring of fish passes.

In FY 2022, USAID/RDMA, through the SERVIR-Mekong Activity, supported Cambodia to evaluate the impact of the previously developed Protected Area Alert System. The tool and data helped forest rangers and provincial authorities of the Ministry of Environment to remotely monitor forest changes and external threats, such as forest fires, within the Prey Lang Extended Landscape before mobilizing a team to patrol specific locations guided by the data. The Prey Lang Extended Landscape is home to numerous protected areas. Empowering the rangers and authorities with real-time information will allow them to prevent forest losses, thus maintaining carbon dioxide sequestration and mitigating the impact of climate change.

USAID/RDMA provided technical support to stakeholders to strengthen environmental and social impact standards. For example, USAID/RDMA assisted B.Grimm Power, a multinational conglomerate with energy projects throughout Southeast Asia, with an ESG gap analysis across the firm's local and international ESG best practices. The recommendations proposed for adoption and implementation of ESG standards include improvements to B.Grimm's climate strategy, water management, and stakeholder engagement. The efforts will directly enhance the application of environment and social standards across the company's portfolio. USAID/RDMA also built the capacity of Laos' Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment to review and monitor environmental and social impact assessments. Additionally, USAID/RDMA provided recommendations to strengthen the Blue Dot Network's (BDN) infrastructure certification framework with a focus on ESG standards and lessons learned in the Mekong region regarding infrastructure deployment, which will be used to inform BDN's planning particularly in applying the certification in the Mekong region.

Vietnam: In FY 2022, USAID's SFM Activity trained 1,574 people (375 women and 1,364 ethnic minority group members) in forest inventory, forest patrolling, financial management, facilitation approaches, and gender equality and social inclusion to enhance forest management through community forestry models. In addition, USAID's SFM trained 3,072 people (1,583 females and 1,489 males) in new product design, sustainable value chain development, and the circular economy to help strengthen livelihoods and raise incomes for local communities.

In FY 2022, USAID's SFM Activity also began advocacy efforts directed at MARD to formally recognize carbon rights of forest owners and their role as key stakeholders who can trade carbon credits under Decree 156. The Activity also successfully persuaded MARD to change its plan from developing Carbon Payments for Environmental Services following the principles of PFES for watershed management, to a market-based approach for carbon credits trading.

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At the national level, SFM developed a community forestry manual, which provides guidance on establishing and implementing community forest management for Vietnam. The manual includes specific guidance on: 1) forest allocation to communities; 2) sustainable forest management plans; 3) community conventions on forest protection and development; 4) definition of communities' rights and responsibilities; 5) organization of forest community management; and 6) community forest protection and development funds. The Vietnam Administration of Forestry also endorsed the manual for piloting by USAID's SFM in seven provinces.

In FY 2022, USAID's SFM project provided training, based on assessments of barriers to forestry law enforcement, to stakeholders in seven targeted provinces. Training was designed to ensure that these stakeholders have adequate capacity to address challenges in law enforcement. A total of 2,083 beneficiaries (334 women and 1,385 ethnic minority group members) were trained.

In FY 2022, USAID's LSPP Activity established a Plastics and Health Action Partnership through a series of technical seminars on local capacity-building and networking. USAID's LSPP designed and launched the Plastics and Health Digital Platform that includes accurate and up-to-date information related to Plastics and Health issues. USAID's LSPP organized 16 training sessions for local governments and nine training sessions for project staff, which improved communication capacity and knowledge about reducing plastics pollution of 1697 officials, teachers, and members of large service organizations.

In FY 2022, 1200 people were trained on sustainable, conservation-friendly cultivation and harvesting techniques for crops and plant species, as well as how to upgrade production facilities to meet the market standard requirements, and build products and company brands.

Cross-Cutting Outcome I: Resilience of People, Places, and Economies to Shocks and Stresses, Such as Climate Change and Zoonotic Disease Outbreaks, Increased through Natural Resource Management

Bureau for Asia: In FY 2022, USAID's WOM project increased adaptive capacities for communities that both rely on and manage the Mekong River system. Multiple trainings were conducted on addressing challenges, threats, and risks that reduce the resilience of communities and groups to the impacts of climate change. Specific environmental topics included water quality and plastic pollution, biodiversity conservation, and advanced fisheries and environmental monitoring techniques. Trainings were also offered on building capacity in sectors that would improve overall resilience and strengthen communication skills, such as science communication, video and photo storytelling, report writing, and writing for scientific publication. Moreover, many of these skills-based trainings included a capacity-building component focused on conserving natural resources, the basis for nature-based adaptation strategies. To help address blue carbon in small island development states and their EEZ, a team of economists, risk experts, indigenous peoples, and resilience scientists was assembled to generate analyses on the economic advantages and impacts of climate. The Asia Bureau identified leading researchers and technical experts to develop modules that can address the wider cryosphere and precipitation within river basins. Better water management will increase energy resilience, food security, and water resources availability that support the sustainability of local communities.

Bangladesh: USAID's Resilience and Food Security Activities (RFSAs), SHOUHARDO III and Nobo Jatra project, reached 402,552 people through food security, nutrition, and resilience interventions. Through these RFSAs, USAID helped reduce the coping strategy index score from 81 in 2021 to 51 in 2022, which indicates increased resilience and risk management capacities that decrease the impact of shocks and stressors.

The Nobo Jatra RFA engaged 3,497 disaster risk reduction (DRR) leaders, including youth, who led collective community actions, disseminated early warnings and advisories, and updated risk reduction, adaptation, and contingency plans at the community level. Additionally, in FY 2022, USAID, through its

RFSAs, provided climate information to 253,334 people (EG.II-6) who are implementing risk-reduction actions to improve resilience to climate change at the household and village level.

The RFSAs in northern and southern Bangladesh worked with the GoB's Flood Forecasting and Warning Center and Bangladesh Meteorological Department to disseminate location-specific weather advisories through cell phones. The activities raised community awareness by using early warning information for heavy rain, severe cold, and floods, to prepare for and reduce the impacts of shocks and stressors. The FY 2022 RFSAs annual report indicated that 100 percent of households received risk and early warning information from the interactive voice response calls. During the flood season from May to July 2022 in the northeast region, DRR leaders and Union Disaster Management Committee were critical in implementing evacuations and relief distribution. The DRR leaders helped highly vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities, elderly people, women, and children move to safe havens, taking with them important family assets. During cyclone Ashani in the southwest coastal region in May 2022, youth volunteers worked closely with Union Parishads and Government Disaster Management Committees and went door-to-door to urge people living in vulnerable low-lying areas to move to cyclone shelters.

The FY 2022 RFSAs DRR and Climate Change Adaptation study reported that climate-smart and disaster-resilient practices reduced production losses among 72 percent of their respondents (out of a sample size of 2,028 participants) and households saved an average of \$466.74 annually.

In FY 2022, USAID supported disaster risk reduction activities that targeted the most vulnerable populations and areas that are prone to frequent disasters such as floods, cyclones, and landslides. USAID's MPDS project finalized 25 new MPDS sites, in consultation with local government and regulatory agencies. USAID followed rigorous environmental screening while selecting the MPDS sites. Additionally, USAID finalized four different MPDS designs and construction work started on two sites.

The MPDS project provided safe havens in elementary schools and/or community centers for vulnerable people during disaster emergencies.

In FY 2022, USAID's ECOFISH II project extended access for marginalized local fisher communities to improved economic opportunities and strengthened their resilience to mitigate and recover from climate-related stresses and shocks. The project developed the climate risk profile of the coastal region's fisher communities to select effective adaptation strategies. The project also strengthened the technical skills of 2,450 fisher community members and transferred productive assets such as goats, chickens, sewing machines, and more, to 2,429 fishing households. These interventions increased community members' capacity to adapt to shocks and stresses such as cyclones, storm surges, reduced agricultural and livestock productivity, and water scarcity.

In FY 2022, the CHTWCA disseminated climate change adaptation information to 916 stakeholders, including 837 forest dependent people and 79 staff from the BFD. USAID provided information on climate change impacts and about climate resilient small-scale farming suited to the hill areas. The CHTWCA Activity also organized training sessions on homestead gardening, NTFPs, beekeeping, weaving, tailoring, tree nursery and enterprises, pig farming, and value chain development. As a result of these interventions, the local communities strengthened their climate-resilient livelihood options.

In FY 2022, USAID's Ecosystems/Protibesh Activity conducted a desk review on the status of embankments and the potential for nature-based solutions in the coastal region of Bangladesh. The desk review confirmed that nature-based solutions can protect the coastal areas from erosion and other forms of natural calamities, reducing vulnerability of the existing embankments. The review informed USAID and the GoB on current and future ecosystem resilience activities, as well as integrating nature-based solutions to replace or complement cost intensive physical embankments. In addition, the Ecosystems project conducted a rapid assessment of the impact of flooding in and around key biological areas of northeast Bangladesh. The assessment found that flash floods worsen the socio-economic condition of communities and households, which may in turn increase the likelihood of their exploiting forest resources to rebuild homes and hunting for food and livelihoods. Accordingly, the project plans

to enhance livelihood support for the impacted communities and help reduce the risk of ecosystem degradation.

USAID's Local Works program mentored 113 local service providers to render livelihood-related assistance, including supplying raw materials, vaccinating poultry and goats, and marketing their produce to the communities. The Local Works program also provided support to 280 community-level participatory savings and loan groups. Individually, these forest community members do not have the capacity to build up significant savings or the ability to find accessible loans for their income generating activities. Thanks to USAID support, these groups collectively mobilized funding and disbursed \$292,953 in loans for their members to use.

Cambodia: In FY 2022, Harvest II helped 1,869 farmers and small and medium enterprises adopt various climate-smart agricultural practices. Almost half (882) of the farmers elected to adopt some of these practices, which include production and integration of compost or biochar, establishment of smart irrigation for mango production, and using new biodigester machinery with earthworms to convert organic waste into fertilizer.

To assist communities in monitoring threats, GPL continued to support the use of Protected Area Monitoring Platform systems, such as SMART Mobile and satellite deforestation alerts, by community members to help meet private sector monitoring, reporting, and verification requirements in FY 2022. This encompasses ongoing support to (1) verify satellite deforestation alerts and deforestation hot spots; (2) provide community patrols with maps showing patrol targets such as land clearance, observed illegal timber harvesting locations, and verified deforestation hotspots; and (3) generate patrol reports for communities that show patrol effort, patrol results, and locations of wildlife observations. GPL collaborated with the SERVIR-Mekong Activity to harness geospatial technology and open data to help address development challenges related to forestry conservation and climate change.

In FY 2022, GPL improved the capacity of 116 institutions ([EG.11-2](#)), including national, sub-national, and community-based organizations to assess or address climate change risks. A total of 10,613 people used climate information or implemented risk-reduction actions to climate change as a result of GPL capacity-building efforts ([EG.11-6](#)).

Furthermore, GPL supported agricultural cooperatives (AC) by training rural farmers on the importance of saving and budgeting; coaching the ACs to improve producer group/farmer producer management practices; increasing understanding of markets; and improving capacity to identify suppliers. GPL worked with the ACs to select a model farm to act as a learning center with demonstration plots, and facilitated an exposure visit to study climate-smart agriculture and learn more about market requirements for commodity agriculture products. GPL was able to mobilize \$1.65 million from national government and private sector partners for climate change adaptation activities, including irrigation system improvement, ecotourism sites improvement, and community forests management.

India: In March 2022, USAID Administrator Samantha Power assumed the role of co-chair of the CDRI Governing Council for a period of two years. Strong U.S. leadership in the CDRI will ensure USAID's expertise, innovations, and best practices are shared worldwide, while also bringing back valuable lessons that USAID can use at home to help mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Additionally, USAID supported CDRI in hosting the fourth International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, which took place in a hybrid format. The conference brought together more than 2,000 participants from over 30 member countries, multilateral organizations, the private sector, and other knowledge institutions who pledged to innovate and work collaboratively to create climate- and disaster-resilient infrastructure for safer societies. The conference covered a range of topics that delved into technological innovations, standards and benchmarking for infrastructure resilience, managing cascading risks for enhancing disaster resilience, creating a supportive and cutting-edge policy environment, knowledge and capacity-building initiatives, and the diversity of partnerships and collaboration to build disaster resilient infrastructure.

USAID also supported the CDRI Secretariat to review the CDRI 2020-2022 Work Plan and an assessment of the progress made in order to develop its vision, mission, and strategic priorities for 2023-2026.

In FY 2022, USFS prepared a chapter on nature-based solutions for the CDRI's biennial Report on Global Infrastructure Resilience to be launched in 2023. USAID also supported the CDRI in preparing a chapter on disaster risk finance for the report, highlighting financial tools for disaster and climate resilient infrastructure.

Indonesia: In FY 2022, USAID launched the USAID Indonesia Urban Resilient Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (IUWASH Tangguh) Activity, which focuses on climate-resilient water and sanitation services on a large scale. USAID plans to enable at least 1.5 million people to access climate-resilient, safely-managed drinking water, and at least one million citizens to access climate-resilient safe sanitation services. To this end, USAID identified priority interventions to mitigate the risks to urban water supply and sanitation from climate change. One key measure is the use of climate change vulnerability assessments, which will identify ways of using climate data to improve water resource management.

In 2022, through USAID Advancing Cocoa Agroforestry Towards Income, Value and Environmental Sustainability ([ACTIVE](#)), USAID began to promote crop insurance to help farmers better manage climate change risks. Through a partnership with Mars Inc., USAID launched a pilot activity to promote Cocoa SMI Insurance to reduce risks faced by farmers from the impacts of climate change such as drought or high precipitation. As a start, USAID provided subsidies to 1,066 cocoa farmers in South and Southeast Sulawesi provinces to purchase this insurance. As they become more aware of its benefits, farmers will be more inclined to purchase insurance without subsidies. In turn, banks will become more comfortable issuing loans to farmers, thus helping to ensure sustainability.

In FY 2022, USAID launched partnerships with two private firms, Root Capital and Keurig Dr.Pepper, to implement USAID's Resilient Coffee Activity. These partnerships will promote climate resilience by supporting SMEs and smallholder coffee farmers across Aceh, East Java, and North Sumatra provinces with agronomic and climate resilience advisory services to assess or address climate change risks along the coffee supply chain. USAID will also provide climate resilience training on adaptation practices for up to three SMEs. Participating farmers are expected to benefit from improved livelihoods as the sector adapts to balance economic needs with environmental sustainability.

Maldives: In FY 2022, REGENERATE drafted ten-year action plans for newly established United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) biosphere reserves in Addu and Fuvahmulah atolls. Each action plan was informed through stakeholder consultations and includes conservation objectives for biodiversity and cultural heritage, financing, and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms. REGENERATE, in partnership with the Maldives Marine Research Institute (MMRI), conducted a training program on National Coral Reef Monitoring Framework Protocols for 18 participants from the undergraduate environmental and marine environmental programs of the Maldives National University and from the MoECCT, and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

USAID's CCAA issued its first Annual Program Statement (APS) in the Maldives, calling for concept papers on innovative solutions to reduce the impact of climate risks on three key economic sectors: agriculture, tourism, and fisheries. The APS will support grants ranging from \$30,000-\$200,000 and identify an illustrative portfolio of innovations that will mobilize private sector, civil society, and community-based organizations to act on climate change-related issues. This APS program encouraged grant awardees to think creatively and exploit new opportunities to address climate risks in selected geographical regions vulnerable to climate impact that benefit both their communities and economies. Grants under this APS will be awarded in FY 2023.

In FY 2022, CCAA also awarded a \$200,000 grant to a Maldivian consultancy firm to design and implement a Climate Adaptation Accelerator program. This program will advance business concepts and early-stage businesses into scalable and sustainable enterprises that provide goods or services to reduce

risk for tourism and fisheries sector livelihoods from climate-related shocks and impacts. The firm will engage up to 80 SMEs in FY 2023 that include women-led businesses, and rollout an awareness campaign to solicit applications for the accelerator program.

In FY 2022, the Government of the Maldives, with support from CCAA, launched a two-year program to identify existing gaps that can be addressed through targeted science and policy interventions. The Activity provided in-kind support to the government and engaged in technical discussions during the session on Global Goal on Adaptation and its relevance to small island development states and developing countries. The Activity highlighted the importance of the private sector's participation in adaptation efforts. This global launch event included participation of high-level representatives from the UNFCCC, the Presidencies of COP 26 and COP 27, international policy experts, and government officials. The collective views and discussions from the event, including the Activity's support, will contribute to the work program, which is expected to be finalized at COP 27. In FY 2022, CCAA launched an in-kind grant with the SME Development Finance Corporation (SDFC) to mainstream environmental and climate change considerations with its existing portfolio of loan instruments related to the fisheries, agriculture, and tourism sectors. Through this grant, the Activity will also support SDFC to become accredited as a national implementing entity to the Green Climate Fund. The SDFC's successful accreditation as a NIE will create greater local ownership and buy-in through access to global climate finance mechanisms. In FY 2022, the CCA Activity launched an in-kind grant in partnership with MoECCT to support a multi-stakeholder approach to conservation and management of nature-based ecosystems that will improve climate resilience. The grant will support the participatory development of a government conservation and management plan and a governance framework for the Goidhoo Atoll. The grant will also build the capacity of island councils and other relevant actors to engage diverse stakeholders to advance conservation and development goals. Given the significance of the tourism sector in the Atoll, this grant will complement other Activity initiatives by combining the conservation programs with CBET that creates additional revenues and local livelihoods.

Nepal: In FY 2022, USAID continued to support federal and local stakeholders to enhance climate resilience through interventions ranging from formulating climate-sensitive municipal policies and regulations to the planning and construction of small-scale adaptive infrastructure to protect vulnerable populations from climate change-related physical hazards. With a significant portion of Nepali households dependent on agriculture for their livelihood, USAID invested in climate-adaptive technologies and practices along the value chain, while continuing to strengthen the flood early warning system that the Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance has been instrumental in introducing.

Emphasizing the importance of raising awareness, over one million people were reached in FY 2022 through communication and outreach materials focused on climate-related hazards. Also in FY 2022, USAID partnered with municipal governments to assist over 12,000 individuals to mitigate risks from landslides and floods through engineered interventions that attempt to prioritize natural solutions over concrete constructions. Considering the significant potential effects of changing climatic patterns on agriculture, USAID, through Tayar Nepal, delivered six training courses to a total of 206 flood-affected farmers on climate adaptive livelihood approaches, and enabled 44 farmers to produce climate-resilient seed. To incentivize private sector leadership, USAID facilitated the Panchashakti Seed Company to start producing climate-resilient vegetable seeds through a decentralized network of 30 farmers. The company trained a total of 203 people on climate-resilient agriculture technologies and pest management. The major climate smart technologies included water management, harvesting, post-harvest tools and technologies, promotion of seed varieties that are flood- and drought-tolerant, as well as pest-resistant. The company mobilized \$5,390 for the adoption of climate-resilient agriculture practices and technologies. In FY 2022, USAID's FTF KISAN II Activity trained 21,732 people in climate change adaptation, and climate-resilient management practices and technologies. These efforts led farmers to implement climate risk-reducing technologies, helped improve land management practices,

and increased the use of drought- and flood-tolerant seed varieties in over 31,900 hectares of land, increasing total crop production and sales.

In FY 2022, FTF NSAF supported climate change adaptation efforts by enhancing the availability of climate smart varieties and fertilizer products in farming communities. To prevent loss and increase yields, NSAF and its private sector partners trained 888 smallholder farmers to utilize climate-smart farming techniques; improved seeds tolerant to heat, floods, and drought; and slow-release nitrogen fertilizer, such as Urea Deep Placement. NSAF also addressed climate risks in agricultural operations through management of planting time and methods, strengthening crop insurance schemes through analysis and strategy development, and promoting integrated soil fertility management approaches.

USAID's FTF KISAN II Activity supported 26,570 farmers to use climate information or risk-reducing practices to improve resilience to climate change, including use of drip irrigation and rainwater conservation. In FY 2022, KISAN II continued to operate and maintain water-efficient irrigation services across 2,700 ha of land that serves 10,500 households. Access to irrigation allows farmers to expand seasonal and off-season vegetable production areas, thereby significantly increasing their incomes and enhancing their resilience to climate and economic shocks.

Pacific Islands Regional: In FY 2022, USAID, through Climate Ready continued to work with regional and national entities to advance climate change adaptation goals by assisting them in developing and implementing climate action policies and projects that are country-driven, coordinated, inclusive, and equitable. These projects are critical in helping countries in the region implement their adaptation interventions that are consistent with their NAPs. Some of the key results achieved in FY 2022 include:

- a) Supported development of the financing plan of the PNG NAP, to help the government track progress and assist in decision-making, formulation, implementation, and monitoring.
- b) Mainstreamed climate change adaptation interventions into policies, strategies, and plans in Fiji, Samoa, and Tonga. In Fiji, support was provided to the Suva City Council in the development of an Asset Management Strategy that incorporated resilience to climate change and disasters. This strategy has been approved and is awaiting final government endorsement. Support was also provided to the Samoa Ministry of Works, Transport, and Infrastructure to incorporate resilience-building in their Infrastructure Asset Management Strategy. The strategy is now approved and is awaiting government endorsement. Lastly, support was extended to the Tonga Department of Environment to review the draft National Biodiversity Strategic Framework and mainstream climate change and GESI into framework.
- c) Acquired funding for Climate Change Adaptation projects in FSM, Kiribati, Tonga and Vanuatu. In FSM, USAID supported the Pacific Community through its Climate Ready Activity by submitting a proposal and securing funds amounting to \$19.7 million on climate change adaptation solutions for local authorities. In Kiribati, support was provided to the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program to draft a proposal on enhancing the resilience of the outer islands of Kiribati. The proposal was submitted to the Adaptation Fund. In Tonga, USAID collaborated with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) to prepare a follow-up proposal to the Tonga Pacific Islands Ridge-to-Reef National Priorities (Integrated Water, Land, Forest, and Coastal Management to Preserve Biodiversity, Ecosystem Services, Store Carbon, Improve Climate Resilience and Sustain Livelihoods [R2R II]). Lastly, in Vanuatu, a \$32.7 million proposal for the Community-Based Climate Resilience Project was supported and funding was secured in this fiscal year.
- d) Collaborated with the University of the South Pacific to provide an accredited project management practice course (Certificate IV) to all of its 11 Pacific Island countries. Forty-nine people, including 39 women, completed the five-month course in FY 2022.

USAID in PNG, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu works on climate change mitigation and adaptation to support the countries' climate goals. The second annual National Climate Change Summit was held in Port Moresby in September 2022. The summit informed decision-makers about the challenges and

opportunities to address climate change in PNG, strengthen coordination among stakeholders, reaffirm climate action priorities, and provide guidance for the government's consideration. The summit also included discussions on the enabling policies, tools, and frameworks that PNG is developing to effectively engage the private sector to address climate change. The event attracted over 100 participants; sessions were facilitated by experts from key development partners and showcased the work of the USAID-LGP, Climate Ready, and USAID-PNG Electrification Partnership activities.

The GoPNG is committed to addressing this climate and natural resource challenge, as evidenced by its development of the REDD+ mechanism and the central role of the forest and land sector in its 2020 NDCs and Sustainable Development Goal 13 Country Road Map.

Philippines: Through the INSPIRE Activity, USAID helped develop 54 site-based ecosystem rehabilitation plans, coastal resource management plans, IUU plans, and biodiversity-enhanced disaster management plans. This support underscores the increasing ability of local governments to recognize the importance of building ecosystem and community resilience to natural disasters and carry out actions to build and sustain that resilience.

In FY 2022, USAID completed foundational baseline assessments and nature-based solutions mapping during the first year of the Climate Resilient Cities (CRC) Activity. These assessments and mapping were accomplished through the development and implementation of the Climate Change Capacity Assessment Framework Tool, which assessed local capacity in the cities of Batangas, Legazpi, Iloilo, Borongan, and Cotabato in the areas of governance; information, data, and analysis; situational analysis and planning; resources; implementation, monitoring, and evaluation; and communication and knowledge management. Capacity-building interventions related to climate change, disaster preparedness, and risk management were also conducted. General findings include:

- 1) Executive leadership sets the tone for climate action in the city;
- 2) The five cities have access to climate data but some do not know how to mainstream the climate and disaster risk assessment according to the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development Guidelines (note: the assessment process was institutionalized by the Philippine government thanks to USAID);
- 3) The cities' Local Climate Change and Action Plans do not have a defined monitoring and evaluation framework;
- 4) The city governments have limited experience in accessing external climate finance; and
- 5) City governments do not communicate climate change and slow onset impacts on lives and livelihoods, focusing more on shocks or disaster risk reduction.

USAID also established City Technical Working Groups as part of the CRC Activity. Established through agreements and buy-in support—in the form of memoranda of understanding and/or letters of interest—with local governments, these City Technical Working Groups will seek to ensure smooth Activity implementation. In addition to the successful Climate Finance Technical Conference, which brought together major stakeholders that will contribute to policy briefs on Philippine climate finance architecture, USAID mapped out initial climate financing opportunities for the target cities and identified private sector actors working in climate actions. USAID's CRC Activity mentored a local NGO to develop and package a proposal on watershed management to reduce climate risks. USAID also mapped and assessed the local hydro-meteorological infrastructure and systems of the five project cities through the CRC Activity. The completed assessment will serve to guide USAID assistance in upgrading and improving local level meteorological systems and to install new instruments such as gateways, automated weather stations, and seismic sensors. These instruments will increase the capacity of LGUs to use the internet-of-things, an emerging framework comprising a network of sensors and devices that communicate and exchange data via the internet. The framework will be composed of the gateway, a device connecting network sensors to one another and to a cloud, installed in a highly elevated outdoor setting to maximize signal reception; an automated weather system that will collect data on rainfall, temperature, humidity, wind speed, and wind direction; and a seismic sensor that will be used to

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monitor rainfall-induced landslides and debris flows, and to monitor approaching typhoons. USAID also completed climate change simulation of flood hazards and hazard maps for Iloilo and Legazpi Cities through the CRC Activity. Additionally, through the CRC Activity, USAID completed initial mapping of existing climate action strategies and initial risk assessment and resource profiling of nature-based solutions in all CRC cities.

Finally, the CRC Activity conducted ecological risk profiling and risk assessment for the development of a Nature-Based Solutions menu for all project city sites. These grants include climate-smart agriculture, urban greening, habitat restoration (reforestation), watershed protection and rehabilitation, and forest protection.

RDMA: In FY 2022, USAID/RDMA's SERVIR-Mekong Activity, in cooperation with the MRC, tackled regional climate risks through improved flood and drought monitoring. The MRC has incorporated SERVIR-Mekong's suite of tools and data into its revised Operational Procedures for Flood and Drought Monitoring and Forecasting and, as a result, will sustain the use of these tools for the long term. Improved flood and drought monitoring and forecasting information from the MRC will be used by countries in the Lower Mekong region and the public to better understand and prepare for climate threats, reducing climate vulnerability. Utilizing SERVIR-Mekong's satellite-based rainfall data, the MRC will warn communities in the Lower Mekong of potential flooding 15 days in advance, having advanced from the previous six-day warning capability. This will provide much-needed time to prepare for flooding, whether by shoring up flood defenses or evacuating vulnerable populations. The new Operational Procedures of the MRC also integrate the SERVIR-Mekong Rainstorm Tracker tool into standard procedures for informing the MRC's Flash Flood Guidance System. Along with this, the SERVIR-Mekong X-Ray tool provides additional information on the locations of critical infrastructure and population density, which helps the MRC determine whether any potential flash floods would become a major disaster when it coincides with populated communities or critical infrastructure. This information helps decision-makers to take preparedness measures and quickly allocate resources for resilient recovery.

Additionally, to increase the region's climate resilience, USAID/RDMA, through SERVIR-Mekong, worked closely with the MRC to integrate its RAT-Mekong, a reservoir monitoring system, into the MRC Data Portal, allowing the public open access. The tool was co-developed by SERVIR-Mekong and the MRC. The RAT-Mekong provides information on the amount of water flowing into and out of each dammed reservoir in the region. This information will also be used to support drought management by the MRC and its member countries under the MRC's Regional Drought Management Strategy 2021-2025. These interventions by USAID/RDMA's SERVIR-Mekong provided better information to target adaptation measures and build resilience, while influencing the MRC's policies and operational procedures for climate adaptation planning.

In FY 2022, USAID/RDMA provided technical assistance to the Energy Policy and Planning Office, Thailand Ministry of Energy, on updating the Thailand Power Development Plan and the national energy plan by enhancing ESG standards and practices that will strengthen climate change adaptation and build resilience. USAID/RDMA also co-organized the Asia Clean Energy Forum 2022 and led a workshop to take a deep dive into the "U.S. and Australian Climate Action and Sustainable Infrastructure in Southeast Asia."

Through Mekong for the Future, USAID/RDMA engaged multiple USAID and U.S. government partners to serve on a panel at the UNFCCC COP 26 Asia Pacific Resilience Hub, supported by the Asian Development Bank. The session was the most attended event among the Hub series of events. The panel, "Growing Energy Security and Sustainable Energy Solutions in the Lower Mekong Region," highlighted civil society, gender, and human rights perspectives on renewable energy and energy security. Following the positive feedback and success of this event, the COP 27 organizers requested further inputs on CSO engagement in the energy sector from USAID/RDMA Mekong for the Future, reinforcing the important role that civil society plays in promoting climate resilience in the energy sector.

USAID/RDMA is also overseeing a country-level pilot of the Gender-Based Violence and Climate Change Framework study, developed in partnership with WWF-Laos, CARE International, the Stockholm Environment Institute, and the Gender Development Association. The study will complete phase one of the national level pilot in FY 2022 and begin scaling up in the region in FY 2023 to include partners in Burma, Cambodia, and Thailand.

Sri Lanka: CCAA initiated discussions with the International Water Management Institute to explore ways to reduce risk to farmers through its bundled service system, which includes providing seeds resistant to climate shocks, such as floods and droughts, and improving its index insurance initiative, which strengthens links to buyers.

In FY 2022, the CCAA completed its CRA for Sri Lanka, which is based on an extensive desk review of current literature. The CRA analyzed how extreme weather events and sea-level rise will impact the agriculture, fisheries, and tourism sectors. This assessment affirmed how institutions, ecological systems, and human potential can be leveraged to respond and adjust to climate impacts in these sectors. The CRA then identified geographical regions vulnerable to climate risk where the project can focus its interventions on enhanced adaptive capacity and specific adaptation pathways in each sector that can be tested and scaled in selected climate vulnerable geographic areas in future years. CCAA held a series of sector-specific national-level consultations and brought together over 100 participants from government ministries and departments, the private sector, and related associations to validate CRA findings. The consultations also identified gaps in intervention and streamlined regional- and national-level adaptation activities to ensure timely, relevant, and targeted interventions that will enhance Sri Lanka's adaptive capacity and improve climate resilience. Topics discussed included adaptation pathways, geographic areas of focus, the need for awareness-raising activities, and both sector-specific and multi-sectoral interventions. These consultations facilitated a dialogue on local perspectives and priorities from key public and private sector stakeholders and were critical to foster local buy-in, engagement, and ownership.

In FY 2022, CCAA also awarded an \$80,000 grant to a Sri Lankan consultancy firm to design and implement a Climate Adaptation Accelerator. The Accelerator will advance business concepts and early-stage businesses into scalable and sustainable enterprises which provide climate risk-reducing goods or services to tourism and fisheries associated livelihoods.

CCAA issued its first APS in Sri Lanka, calling for concept papers on innovative solutions that will reduce the impact of climate risks on fisheries, agriculture, and tourism sectors.

Timor-Leste: For activities focused on disaster relief, additional funding of \$900,000 was awarded to a consortium of implementers—World Vision, Catholic Relief Services, and Mercy Corps—to implement the Cyclone Seroja Recovery Activity. In FY 2022, the Activity supported farmers to improve climate smart agriculture through training households. For example, farmers were trained to promote proper soil preparation, adequate planting density, and climate smart agriculture techniques to reduce the impact of flooding and drought. Through this Activity, USAID helped 2,650 households (15,105 people) recover from the impact of the April 2021 flood and improved food security and long-term resilience.

Under the TFA Activity, USAID led the development of three Sustainable Management Plans (SMP) for protected areas in its geographic focus areas of Atauro Island, Cristo Rei, and the Mount Ramelau Area. In particular, the Atauro SMP is vital to protecting the natural and cultural assets of the island, which has been recognized as a global eco-tourism destination and is the gem of the Timor-Leste tourism.

To increase awareness of climate change among Timorese youth, the TFA Activity conducted the "Climate Change and Tourism in Timor-Leste: The Time to Act is Now" training module for 303 people, including 115 university-level students (54 percent women) at five institutions as well as 188 people representing youth, businesses, and government. The Activity team regularly participated in meetings of the Climate Change Working Group, presenting the project's work at both the working group meetings and at the Fourth National Climate Change Conference. Having youth engaged proved invaluable, as

several groups of university students organized beach cleanups at Cristo Rei, Metiaut, Motael and Largo Lcidere to help address climate change issues. Students also established an inter-university working group to address climate change issues in close collaboration with the Climate Change Working Group.

In FY 2022, the TFA Activity also invited ten institutions to participate in climate change training and delivered Basic Climate Change training to 18 institutions. The pre- and post-assessments of the training demonstrated that participants, including tourism businesses and other institutions, improved their knowledge of climate change.

Vietnam: In FY 2022, USAID/Vietnam signed a Limited Scope Grant Agreement with MARD focused on climate resilient agriculture development in the Mekong Delta. The four objectives of this agreement include: 1) expanding low methane emission agricultural development; 2) building climate resilience for vulnerable communities; 3) promoting nature-based solutions; and 4) developing climate resilient and low emission development policies. Although specific communities and interventions will be determined after the award, poor and minimally-adaptive communities such as people of the Khmer ethnic minority will be supported.

Although USAID's Mekong Delta Coastal Habitat Conservation Activity has not achieved project approval, USAID was able to complete a vulnerability assessment of climate change impacts in the Mekong delta, a field survey in Kien Giang and Soc Trang to understand local social-economic conditions, identify suitable locations and households, identify mangrove conditions, and assess existing management models.

Cross-Cutting Outcome 2: Biodiversity Conservation in the Region Enhanced

Bangladesh: CHT, located in southeast Bangladesh, is home to 11 ethnic minority groups, headwater forest reserves, and 43 percent of the country's forested land. USAID's CHTWCA improved NRM of 32,815 hectares in CHT, which faces forest degradation due to settlement, over extraction of natural resources, and illegal logging. CHTWCA surveyed 4,651 hectares of degraded forest land and concluded that 4,072 hectares show improved biophysical conditions. In addition, CHTWCA completed the demarcation of 47 Village Common Forests, and created community-based committees, networks, and management plans for these sites.

Additionally, CHTWCA formed 36 new forest user groups and ten Village Conservation Forums among host communities affected by the influx of Rohingya refugees into the Bandarban Hill District. These activities contributed to reducing forest land tenure conflict and threats to biodiversity.

The CHTWCA assisted in the natural regeneration of over 1,000 hectares of BFD's degraded Reserved Forests. CHTWCA also distributed 400,000 seedlings, ranging from native timber to medicinal and fruit-bearing plant species, and effected afforestation of about 800 hectares of lands outside designated forest parks.

ECOFISH II's larval sample-based fish diversity assessment using DNA barcoding technology helped discover two new fish species, *Omobranchus ferox* and *Pseudogobius fulvicaudus*, in the Bay of Bengal.

ECOFISH II also continued to raise awareness on the importance of protecting brood Hilsa and other major riverine fishes through community events, publications, media engagement, and distribution of 20,000 outreach materials.

Cambodia: USAID GPL focused on one biologically-significant area in the Prey Lang Forest wildlife sanctuary and extended landscape. With sustainable landscapes resources, GPL assisted CPAs and community forests to develop community management plans, demarcate boundaries of protected forests, create economic opportunities for rural people living in and around protected areas, support a SMART Mobile platform for monthly data collection during community patrols, and mobilize investments

in natural capital to reduce pressures on forest resources. All of these interventions strengthened biodiversity conservation.

Indonesia: In FY 2022, USAID worked with subnational governments to identify areas to be managed as key biodiversity landscapes. This new designation expands protections outside of formal conservation areas. Together with a coalition of local and national actors, USAID identified landscapes in East Aceh and North Aceh districts. These areas will form a wildlife corridor of over 320,000 hectares between a production forest and a nature reserve for orangutans, elephants, tigers, and rhinos. In East Kalimantan, USAID supported the East Kutai district government to designate the Mesangat Suwi landscape covering 13,500 hectares of habitat of Indonesia's only remaining viable population of Siamese crocodiles. USAID assisted partners to establish a multi-stakeholder forum to manage these areas to ensure that conservation practices are applied, including in previously unprotected sites.

USAID supported the design of harvest strategies for two FMAs and worked with the Ocean Conservancy and the Indonesian Research Agency in a third FMA in eastern Indonesia. In FY 2022, a total of 36 fishers, processing plant staff, and ministry staff were trained on data collection and fish identification.

By the end of FY 2022, USAID had supported seven companies to join the FIP, a standard-based certification initiative from the Marine Stewardship Council. The FIP works to limit juvenile fish catch to under five percent, improve product traceability, reduce plastic waste, and minimize bycatch of protected species. Indonesia's snapper fishery was ranked "A" by an independent platform for tracking demonstrated improvements of FIPs in policy, management, and practices. In FY 2022, USAID's Supporting Nature and People Partnerships for Enduring Resources (SNAPPER) Activity, for example, was mentioned in 15 online articles, garnering support improving the sustainability of target fisheries.

Maldives: In FY 2022, REGENERATE finalized ecological surveys in 4,000 hectares of oceanic and coastal areas ([EG.10.2-2](#)) in two Maldivian atolls, contributing to the Activity's objective to improve access to science and technology for decision-making and establishing policy frameworks for increasing coastal resilience to climate change. These reports include findings of habitat assessments conducted in these areas and present elements that should be considered when developing management plans.

In FY 2022, REGENERATE supported the publication of the first ever Maldives Red List of Threatened Species. This Red List is based on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, which is the world's most comprehensive information source on the global extinction of animal, fungus and plant species and is an indicator of the health of the world's biodiversity. The National Red List was prepared in partnership with the Maldivian government using a roadmap and establishing a technical committee to develop the list.

Nepal: In FY 2022, USAID's Karnali Water Activity completed a desk review and developed a water source and biodiversity baseline report that details species diversity, available forest resources, land use and land cover changes. This analysis will support the development of a strategy to improve social norms and behaviors on water safety and water conservation at the household level, and agriculture practices in targeted geographies.

Pacific Islands Regional: Through USAID's OurFish OurFuture Activity, three national inception workshops in Palau, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu identified members of National Advisory Committees as well as possible sites and implementation activities. Partnerships with regional and national actors, academia, and communities were also formed to identify issues and actions that take an ecosystems approach to fisheries management. Strong partnerships with local actors and their commitment to the implementation of activities are crucial elements in a successful rollout of an ecosystems approach to principles and resilience-building writ large.

In PNG, USAID, through OurFish OurFuture Activity, completed a screening process using the Environmental and Social Safeguard Framework for Madang and Southern Region Seascape. Activities in these sites will include setting up Community Agreements in 15 sites in Madang, as well as the drafting

of Ward Development Plans. USAID prepared a similar assessment tool to screen the Provincial Land/Seascape in Solomon Islands and aid in identifying potential sites in the country. Communities were also trained to promote the rollout of integrated community-based fisheries management by initiating community-led data collection and village banking/microfinance schemes.

In Palau, consultations with five communities produced comments to identify specific intervention objectives and activities. Representatives from these communities were also mobilized to review the Enforcement Training modules that have been developed in FY 2022. Similar community consultations occurred in Micronesia and Marshall Islands.

In FY 2022 PaFMaC provided several types of assistance, including: a) Legal Adviser and Legal Research Assistant support to develop Coastal Fisheries regulations on penalty notices in Kiribati; b) leveraged the resources of the New Zealand's sustainable fisheries project with the Pacific community to assist the Solomon Islands Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources in developing fisheries ordinances at the sub-national legislation level; and c) legal analysis in Tonga to adopt community-based management in Special Management Areas. The support to the Solomon Islands ministry will increase the capabilities of fishery officers on legal requirements related to enforcement, inspection, and interview procedures and how to collaborate with fisheries associations and manage stakeholder consultations. The legal support provided in Kiribati and Tonga helped identify gaps in coastal fisheries protection and conservation efforts.

In FY 2022, the USAID-LGP Activity focused on biodiversity conservation activities in the PNG provinces of Jiwaka, Chimbu, Madang, Eastern Highlands, and Morobe, with specific focus on the Bismarck Forest Corridor (BFC) and YUS Conservation Area. USAID-LGP addressed major threats and drivers of biodiversity loss like overexploitation of natural resources by large subsistence populations and a dearth of alternative livelihood options. USAID-LGP activities concentrated on habitat protection, marine and terrestrial resource conservation, sustainable land use planning, and reducing the population pressure on biodiversity.

USAID-LGP's advocacy for establishment of Provincial Resource Centers in the BFC resulted in some success during FY 2022. Provincial Resource Centers will provide information on biodiversity conservation, support the development of environmental curricula for primary and secondary school teachers in schools, and support communities to access key conservation information. Through a partnership with the Research Conservation Foundation (RCF), USAID-LGP facilitated the signature of two MOAs between RCF and the Eastern Highlands and Jiwaka provincial governments. The agreements commit RCF to house the centers and the provincial government to provide funding for the centers through annual development funds.

USAID-LGP's efforts to advance development of Provincial Biodiversity Technical Steering Committees have also progressed. In all BFC provinces, suitable committee members have been identified, although members have only been confirmed in Jiwaka and Eastern Highlands. In Simbu and Madang, invitation letters have been sent but not yet confirmed. For Morobe, potential members have been identified but not yet invited. In Milne Bay, steering committee progress is pending formal discussions with the provincial government. Both the resource centers and the committees will ensure that all citizens—notably, women and girls—have access to learning and decision-making opportunities regarding the management of their natural resources.

In FY 2022, USAID-LGP supported a total of 71,495 hectares of priority forests and biodiversity habitat with improved management ([EG.10.2-2](#)), which increases the resilience of communities living in these areas.

Philippines: In FY 2022, USAID improved the management of 1,073,544 hectares of biologically significant marine and terrestrial areas in the Philippines ([EG.10.2-2](#)). USAID's Fish Right Activity helped improve 701,961 hectares of marine areas by strengthening local capacity to use science for new regulations and protocols on IUU fishing, conserving marine and coastal habitat, and integrating gender

and resilience as part of USAID's strategic approach to building a sustainable and climate-ready fisheries sector and fishing communities. LGUs adopted the management plans of the MPA network in Iloilo and Negros, and a Calamianes-wide policy on fishing gear restrictions based on ecosystem modelling is underway.

RDMA: Complementing national-level efforts, regional forest and land cover data products developed through USAID/RDMA's SERVIR-Mekong Activity, and implemented by the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center, play a crucial role in enabling countries to conserve biodiversity. In FY 2022, forest data from SERVIR-Mekong's RLCMS was widely used across the Lower Mekong region, enabling countries to meet their REDD+ requirements and support sustainable development. This regional data makes high-quality land cover data available across national boundaries, enabling downstream analyses for conservation efforts in the region. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the Forest Inventory and Planning Division, and the Project for Enhancing Sustainable Management in Laos, in collaboration with REDD+ programs and REDD+ funds, used SERVIR-Mekong's data to implement the Forest Strategy 2035, strengthen local capacity for sustainable forest management, and support results-based payments through REDD+ programs. The Vietnam Forest Inventory and Planning Institute used SERVIR-Mekong's RLCMS forest data to improve the national system of monitoring, reporting, and verification of greenhouse gas emission reductions under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Additionally, in Cambodia, the Wildlife Conservation Society and Conservation International integrated SERVIR-Mekong's forest data into multiple REDD+ projects to monitor approximately one million hectares of forest. These projects protect Southeast Asia's largest surviving rainforest, which is home to dozens of threatened animal and tree species and, as an important source of drinking water, contributes significantly to local livelihoods. Beyond REDD+ and forest data, the MRC used SERVIR-Mekong's RLCMS wetland and land cover data to support wetland conservation and water resource planning, respectively. These achievements represent individual examples of how the use of SERVIR-Mekong's products have scaled to affect transboundary impacts for biodiversity conservation in the Lower Mekong.

During FY 2022, USAID/RDMA organized several events and workshops that promoted and addressed biodiversity and its threats in the Lower Mekong Region. Issues that were addressed included dams, hydropower, linear infrastructure, sand mining, climate change impact, freshwater biodiversity, and river connectivity. Through these interventions, USAID/RDMA has increased the awareness and knowledge of biodiversity conservation among 260 individuals from governments, CSOs, academia, and media. CSOs that participated in these regional and international forums were able to raise their profile and share their perspectives on biodiversity conservation and sound NRM.

A key lesson learned from the Mekong for the Future Activity's engagement with civil society and stakeholders in the region is that the information and narrative on biodiversity and its threats must be multi-dimensional, incorporating human rights, development, and non-traditional security issues. These dimensions make a stronger case for biodiversity conservation and enable the development of larger coalitions to form from the ground up while maintaining a shared vision of sustainable development.

Vietnam: In FY 2022, USAID's biodiversity conservation assistance to Vietnam was provided through USAID's BCA. Through the BCA project, USAID promotes conservation-friendly enterprise development, as communities that benefit from biodiversity are more likely to conserve it. USAID also strengthens management of special use and protection forests to preserve critical habitat for Vietnam's rich biodiversity.

USAID's BCA project also monitored biodiversity using camera traps in thirteen protected areas. In FY 2022, the first call for small grant opportunities was released under a species conservation fund to support local NGOs to advance biodiversity conservation. Five local NGOs were invited to submit full proposals. In addition, the BCA project carried out conservation awareness campaigns in honor of World Wildlife Day, with participation of about 2000 people around Cat Tien National Park, Phong Nha Ke Bang National Parks, and other nature reserves in Quang Nam and Lam provinces.

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In FY 2022, USAID promoted conservation-friendly enterprise development by assessing and identifying potential agriculture, NTFP, and CBET value chains and established linkages between key actors. As a result of stakeholder consultations, 14 agriculture and NTFP value chains that offer potential benefits to the 40 targeted communities have been prioritized. The highest potential VCs include cinnamon in Quang Nam, medicinal plants in all the four target provinces, and peanuts, bamboo shoots, and honey VCs in Quang Binh.

In FY 2022, USAID also strengthened management of special use and protection forests by conducting an assessment of 21 national parks, nature reserves, and protection forests using the Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool. Informed by the assessment, 1,155 people were trained in sustainable NRM and biodiversity conservation skills, including communication skills, remote sensing techniques, wildlife rescue, and SMART, so that they better perform their duties. Twenty-one protected areas' management boards received equipment for establishing or improving the SMART reporting system, for use both in the field and in the office, and for conducting biodiversity surveys and monitoring.

In FY 2022, field activities of Mekong Delta Coastal Habitat Conservation Activity were delayed as the implementing partner, International Union for Conservation of Nature, is currently working with the Government of Vietnam to gain the Activity's approval.

Cross-Cutting Outcome: Private Sector Engagement

Cambodia: USAID GPL focuses on private sector partnerships to create economic opportunities for rural communities and mobilize investment in natural capital to reduce pressures on forests. GPL mobilized \$1,655,985 from the private sector that supported the development of a potential REDD+ program activity for the Phnom Thnot-Phnom Pok Wildlife Sanctuary.

The USAID Morodok Baitang Activity promotes a market-based approach and wildlife-friendly commodities. Given the proximity of target communities to protected areas, this support could actually enhance threats to areas of high biodiversity if not implemented properly. Therefore, the Activity must develop wildlife-friendly compliance systems that mitigate these threats. Ibis Rice is the only wildlife friendly compliance system currently active in Cambodia. Using Ibis Rice as a model, the Activity is investigating sustainable options for other commodities. The Activity also supports REDD+ development and mobilized \$15,743,382 from carbon credit sales in Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary.

India: USAID/India's Forest-PLUS 2.0 Activity mobilized \$2,134,294 to facilitate and enable value chain work, engaging with private sector agencies including the ICICI Foundation for Inclusive Growth, Kabani Community Tourism and Services, and Morpheus Tours. USAID's POWER Activity leveraged additional funds from the private sector to support establishment of women-owned natural resource-based enterprises that sell products to major international retailers. In FY 2022, the Activity raised \$2,920,343 as grant funding from Target Foundation, HSBC, HDFC Bank, and others, as well as \$677,871 as debt from Nabkisan Finance Ltd, Avanti Capital and Grameen Impact Investments Pvt. Ltd, and Montcalm LLC to help with working capital expenditure of the nascent enterprises.

USAID also facilitated another PPP between the CTA and Mahyco Pvt. Ltd. to plant high value apples and cherries in the Tenzingang settlement. Following approval of Mahyco's investment plan, 799 Cosmic Crisp apple saplings and 399 cherry trees were transplanted on ten acres of settlement land.

Supporting a PPP in Bylakuppe, high value citrus saplings are being raised at a USAID-funded nursery managed jointly by the CTA in cooperation with the private company KBJ Agro. A total of 10,001 saplings were raised in nurseries and 5,797 were transplanted to 24 acres of farmer fields in Bylakuppe and Kollegal settlements, benefiting a total of 21 farmers.

Indonesia: Under the USAID-CCBO Activity, USAID partnered with Borealis and SYSTEMIQ to launch a plastic credit pilot to expand the use of plastic credits in Banyuwangi district in East Java, leveraging \$4.5 million from the private sector.

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USAID is supporting DFC in implementing three loan guarantees, one of which was launched this year with ADM Capital (2022-2033) to mobilize \$200 million to assist SMEs in Indonesia with sustainable agriculture, land regeneration, and forest protection. The second loan guarantee is with the Meloy Fund, which aims to accelerate adoption of sustainable fishery practices in Indonesia and the Philippines. The Meloy Fund raised \$22.1 million, of which \$18.8 million is invested in nine companies in Indonesia and the Philippines.

The USAID SNAPPER Activity engaged the private sector to collect data, manage fisheries, and practice sustainable business. USAID successfully developed new sustainable fishery policies that led to an "A" rating among Indonesian snapper fisheries by FisheryProgress.org, a designation that indicates the fisheries have demonstrated improvements in policy, management, and fishing practices.

The USAID SEGAR Activity worked with national and local governments, the private sector, and local communities to strengthen inclusive environmental governance and enhance green supply chains in targeted high biodiversity areas located throughout 12 districts in Aceh, West Kalimantan, Central Kalimantan, and East Kalimantan provinces. The Activity entered strategic partnerships with five private sector organizations. These partnerships with Sawit Sumbermas Sarana, Dharma Satya Nusantara, IndoCafco, the Sustainable Trade Initiative, and the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil will strengthen environmental performance and improve conservation activities both in and around concessions. In FY 2022, USAID SEGAR also mobilized \$169,098 in financing from the public and private sector in the palm oil, coffee, and cacao commodity supply chains to sustainably manage lands and forests within and outside of concessions.

The USAID-ACTIVE Activity worked with the private sector to promote evidence-based sustainable cocoa agroforestry practices to address climate change mitigation and adaptation and improve smallholder farmer incomes, while ensuring high-quality cocoa supply in three districts in South Southeast and Sulawesi provinces. USAID partnered with Mars Inc, the General Insurance Association of Indonesia, and Asuransi Bintang, leveraging \$3.5 million to pilot cocoa Soil Moisture Index insurance with 1,066 cocoa farmers in South Sulawesi to reduce the risks faced by farmers due to adverse weather events.

Nepal: The KISAN II Activity facilitated business relationships between 177 business partners and 235,789 farming households that resulted in a dramatic increase in yields.

USAID leveraged \$2.3 million in provincial government funding for rice production in 59 municipalities, where rice mills provide extension services to farmers. USAID's NSAF Activity worked with 11 seed companies and cooperatives to introduce 81 improved varieties of rice, maize, and vegetables. The seed companies identified high-performing varieties for commercial cultivation, produced high-quality seed, and connected to markets through contracts with agro-dealers that improved agro-dealers' competitiveness. USAID helped seed companies bolster production of 1,874 metric tons of seeds, and linked seed companies, poultry feed mills, and maize seed growers, resulting in 3,200 metric tons of seed produced. USAID supported three seed companies to gain licenses for commercialization that protects hybrid maize product ownership—a major and potentially transformative breakthrough for the seed industry. To catalyze investment for agriculture, USAID partnered with Laxmi Bank to increase lending to micro-, small-, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), farmer groups, and cooperatives through a Development Credit Authority (DCA). The DCA prompted Laxmi Bank to disburse \$402,207 in FY 2022. This catalyzed direct investment of \$121,000 from 63 borrowers, of which 55 are MSMEs, to expand their businesses.

USAID's CSISA COVID-19 Response and Resilience Activity advanced PSE by strengthening the capacity of local banks to provide loans for small businesses. USAID worked with 15 financial institutions and farmer cooperatives on finance programs and mobilized 106 lenders, who provided loans for 361 agribusinesses. Working through intermediaries from agricultural equipment centers to provide discounted pricing and tailored product recommendations, USAID increased access and uptake of

mechanical harvesters among 690 marginalized farmers. USAID further facilitated the transfer of appropriate technology by registering 299 new users for a digital banking tool that provides farmers with credit to buy agricultural inputs that improves their agricultural efficiency and productivity. USAID trained 128 people to become community-based facilitators, extending agriculture input retail services, and 207 pump mechanics to maintain equipment, expanding their employment and income generation opportunities.

USAID's Tayar Nepal Activity, a disaster risk management activity, formed a PSE committee with federal business associations, including chambers of commerce, producer associations, and financial institutions. USAID and partners conducted business continuity training for 33 people who then provided provincial and municipal workshops for tourism, manufacturing, and retail sector managers. With USAID's support, the Federation of Women Entrepreneurs obtained a \$40,000 grant from the Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen. USAID also protected private sector assets and businesses through disaster risk financing and tapped an insurance company to develop index-based property insurance through which 100 farmers insured over \$25,000 of assets.

Pacific Islands Regional: In FY 2022, USAID, through Climate Ready, collaborated with the UNDP, PNG's Climate Change and Development Authority, and the PNG National Weather Services to develop a project proposal called the PNG Strengthening Multi-Sectoral Adaptation Responses Through Climate-related information (SMART Climate) project. SMART Climate aims to protect lives and enhance livelihoods of communities in PNG vulnerable to the effects of climate change by improving forecasting and dissemination of climate information and early warning messages, while also strengthening the communities' adaptive capacity. A PSE component is included in the proposal with the intention of increasing engagement with and contributions from non-traditional development partners. The proposal is being revised and will be submitted to the Green Climate Fund for approval in the next fiscal year.

USAID's Climate Ready Activity also supported the national Chambers of Commerce in Fiji, Vanuatu, Palau, and Samoa to strengthen PSE in disaster risk management. The Fiji Commerce and Employers Federation and the Fiji Business Disaster Resilience Council received support for the development of their Business Continuity Plan and Green Recovery Plan that were rolled out in four municipal markets across Fiji. The Vanuatu Chamber of Commerce and Industry provided funding to strengthen network operations of the Vanuatu Business Resilience Council and partially cover the cost of hiring a Council Network Coordinator. The Coordinator's role is critical to strengthening the PSE in disaster risk management through relationship-building and coordination with Government counterparts.

Through this support, four knowledge products based on the Council's best practices were developed: the Block Chain Guide; Quick Planning Guides in Preparedness, Response and Recovery; Best Practices in Risk Reduction, Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Recovery; and Quick Guides in Network Engagement and Coordination with Humanitarian Actors. These guides were designed to emphasize the benefits of building the resilience of business organizations. Personnel from the Palau Chamber of Commerce were trained on Business Continuity Planning for small and medium enterprises. A similar training was offered to the Samoa Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Ministry of Environment. The training targeted small and medium enterprises from all sectors, especially those run by youth and women entrepreneurs, who are normally excluded from these workshop opportunities. The goal was to give these small businesses a better understanding of the concepts of disaster readiness and business continuity planning.

In March FY 2022, USAID facilitated a signed agreement between the U.S. International DFC and Nationwide Microbank (MiBank) Limited. DFC is providing an investment guarantee to share the risk of up to \$5,000,000 in lending on a portfolio of loans provided by MiBank to its customers, with a focus on women borrowers. DFC's investment guarantee is intended to strengthen MiBank's ability to provide loans to micro, small, and medium enterprises across PNG for working capital and investment purposes, with the ultimate goal of promoting economic stabilization.

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Through USAID-LGP, the Ngasuwapum Mama's Association in Morobe signed a partnership agreement with NKW Fresh, a company that sources fresh produce from local smallholder vegetable farmers and facilitates access to markets throughout PNG. As part of the agreement, NKW Fresh will provide farmers with free vegetable seedlings, fertilizers, and other farm materials, and will provide technical farming assistance. In mid-2022, NKW Fresh conducted its inaugural site visit to Ngasuwapum Village to determine the best location for construction of a nursery facility. During the visit, NKW Fresh took soil samples for testing at the Analytic Services Laboratory, University of Technology, Lae, to inform site planning and an optimal planting calendar for the nursery. It is anticipated that the Association will focus on growing local strains of sunset hibiscus, cooking banana, cassava, taro, and papaya, and introduce radish, button squash, and beetroot. USAID-LGP has also helped transport 209 bags (10,450 kilograms) of YUS coffee to market. This support has been essential in helping farmers move their produce to market, as air and land transportation is typically too expensive. Most of the coffee was delivered to Sucafina Specialty in Kainantu for milling before export and sale, which will improve livelihoods for coffee farmers in the YUS Conservation Area.

According to the Bank of PNG, 85 percent of Papua New Guineans in rural areas do not have access to banks, and therefore no access to financial services and information (i.e., loans, training, and advisory services). USAID-LGP, together with private sector partners, provides a suite of financial, management, and awareness training—including financial literacy, family-owned business management, and organizational strengthening—to women, men, and youth. For example, USAID-LGP conducted financial literacy training that enabled communities to open bank accounts and access loans with MiBank. These bank accounts are particularly impactful for women, as MiBank allows women to open their own bank accounts without oversight from or access by a male family member; this financial independence is vital given significant gender inequality and gender-based violence in PNG. The program also works with village savings and loan associations (VSLAs) as critical linkages between communities and markets. Complementing these efforts, USAID-LGP works with the National Identification Program to help USAID-LGP-assisted communities obtain National Identification cards, which are required to open bank accounts and register community-based enterprises. USAID-LGP also works with Outspan (a registered MiBank agent) to help farmers open individual bank accounts.

Furthermore, USAID and Outspan Ltd. helped establish 50 women's cooperatives with more than 500 women farmers to improve cocoa production in Morobe. Cooperative members were trained on mobile banking and financial services, gender mainstreaming, and women's economic empowerment. USAID-LGP worked with Outspan and Femili PNG (an NGO that addresses family and sexual violence) to conduct a training about gender equality, gender-based violence, and family sexual violence for 21 farmers (20 women, one man) to equip them with relevant information and necessary skills to lead sensitization awareness meetings with their farming groups (20 groups, 418 women farmers). The training included detailed presentations on and discussions about the Lukautim Pikinini Act of 2015, which protects and promotes the rights and well-being of all children regardless of race, nationality, religion, sex, ability, or disability, as well as the Family Protection Act of 2013, which set penalties for family violence and created mechanisms, including specialized police units, to protect and assist victims of family violence.

USAID-LGP sites are located in remote areas, where communities have limited access to basic government services, are living a subsistence lifestyle, and working in an informal economy. In FY 2022, USAID-LGP worked with community-based organizations to reach these communities to deliver capacity-building programs to support their conservation enterprises. Follow-on training and SME business advisory will be provided to these communities on a regular basis. During FY 2022, USAID representatives also connected with over 50 companies, generating interest, demand, and opportunities that previously didn't exist for USAID programs and beneficiaries.

As part of AmCham Coral Sea's official launch, USAID hosted an event for more than 30 of PNG's young business leaders. The purpose of the event was to encourage young people to connect with the

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Chamber through a proposed youth membership event and to introduce AmCham to up-and-coming Papua New Guinean business leaders. The event was also an opportunity for the U.S. Embassy and USAID to introduce young people to American values and the American business community in a positive setting. Event invitees are part of an existing youth networking opportunity called the Young Professionals Network of PNG, which includes approximately 200 young members. AmCham leaders chose this event as the first to spotlight that empowering young people and promoting inclusion is a cornerstone to the AmCham's mission.

Finally, on June 30, USAID and Coca-Cola Europacific Partners signed a comprehensive MOU to support development activities in PNG. Leveraging the power of the private sector, USAID and Coca-Cola will jointly support women's empowerment and work to combat gender-based violence, support the establishment of the American Chamber of Commerce Coral Sea to promote sustainable economic growth, and continue to collaborate to bring safe water and sanitation services to communities. USAID also developed an MOU with ExxonMobil during FY 2022, which will be signed in FY 2023.

Philippines: USAID's Marine Resources Program (MRP) successfully tapped private sector resources and expertise to provide livelihood support to communities affected by the 2017 Marawi siege. USAID support included: partnering with East West Seed Corporation to train livelihood cooperatives of farmers and agri-entrepreneurs from displaced and host communities; collaboration with agricultural traders to link private wholesalers and buyers with MRP-assisted producers and cooperatives, thereby expanding access of producers and cooperatives to local private buyers and wholesalers in the local markets; bridging partnerships among larger weaving cooperatives, retailers, handicraft consolidators, and exporters with displaced weaver communities for market access expansion; partnering with the Asian Venture Philanthropy Network to open Islamic financing opportunities for assisted cooperatives; and linking displaced entrepreneurs with business chambers for technical support and business networking. One challenge that arose was that some of the displaced entrepreneurs and livelihood cooperatives were unable to pay the required business registration fees. To address this, MRP engaged the Marawi City government to ease the cost of doing business, thus creating an enabling environment for businesses to thrive in a post-conflict and pandemic environment.

In FY 2022, USAID also actively engaged the DFC to explore opportunities for funding partnerships with the private sector in the Philippines.

Overall, the biggest challenge for USAID regarding PSE in the Philippines is the lack of discretionary funding to accommodate new or additional activities.

RDMA: In FY 2022, GIA mobilized \$127.5 million through eight investments, bringing the total investment to \$169.5 million through the life of the Activity. For example, Green Fund, which invests in agricultural value chains to conserve forests and peatlands, committed a \$63 million investment in sustainable agricultural production in Laos and Vietnam, of which 42 percent will be used to produce carbon credits. USAID/RDMA's SERVIR-Mekong partnered with DLCorp in Vietnam to leverage its air quality monitoring channel, PAM Air, by using satellite-based air quality data, a major improvement from using low-cost ground sensors. The support expanded PAM Air's ability to provide air pollution data throughout Vietnam. SERVIR-Mekong also trained DLCorp on Earth Observation data use, access, and monitoring, allowing it to take ownership and maintain the use of the data in Vietnam.

In FY 2022, USAID/RDMA started to co-develop industry-level sustainable biomass guidelines and risk evaluation templates with the three leading global apparel brands, Adidas, VF Corporation, and H&M, and their strategic suppliers. These guidelines and templates aim to broaden the understanding of key stakeholders and address common challenges on the need for an industry-level standard definition of sustainable biomass, supply stability, and sustainability. Other priority ESG topics identified by the factories include waste mitigation and management; air and water pollution mitigation and management; circular uses of resources and materials; and resource conservation.

Also in FY 2022, USAID/RDMA leveraged approximately \$4.35 million from private foundations and philanthropies, private companies, and other partners under the USAID Mekong Sustainable Manufacturing Alliance Activity to further mainstream ESG standards in the lower Mekong.

Sri Lanka: As previously mentioned in the Cross-cutting Outcome I section, USAID's CAAA issued its first APS in Sri Lanka, calling for concept papers on innovative solutions that will reduce the impact of climate risks on three key economic sectors—agriculture, tourism, and fisheries. The APS will support grants ranging from \$30,000-\$200,000 and identify an illustrative portfolio of innovations that will mobilize the private sector to think creatively and exploit new opportunities to address climate risks that benefit their communities and economies.

SMEs make up a significant portion of South Asia's economy. The USAID CAAA awarded an \$80,000 grant to a Sri Lankan consultancy firm to design and implement a Climate Adaptation Accelerator, as mentioned above in the Cross-cutting Outcome I section. The firm will identify up to 20 SMEs in FY 2023, including women-led businesses, as direct beneficiaries, and roll out its awareness campaign to solicit applications for the accelerator program.

Timor-Leste: USAID's Accelerating Aquaculture Development Activity in Timor-Leste strengthened aquaculture production of small and medium enterprises through improved access to high quality seed and feed, technology, research, and services (extension and access to finance). In FY 2022, based on the success with hatcheries, the Activity facilitated an additional PPP hatchery and nursery after the completion of a feasibility assessment. As a result, several private sector partners (PSPs) were selected for this PPP. The PSPs involved are the PPP model hatchery in Hera, Dili; two feed importers (one in Dili and another in Bobonaro); and four live and fresh fish market operators in Dili and six local service providers (LSPs). The selected PSPs were provided with necessary training in 2022 and encouraged to start their businesses.

In FY 2022, USAID's support enabled a Timorese company to research product lines made from recycled plastic, resulting in the development of eight products: pencil cases; belts; flip-flops; door mats; headbands and flower crowns; key chains; bracelets; and stationery holders. These have the potential to offer alternatives for a more competitive price point, durability, and customer appeal. These innovations and products can help Timor-Leste build a sustainable value chain using plastic waste. In addition, USAID's assistance was central in helping PUA's partner Caltech Construction to establish the nation's first commercial-scale plastics recycling facility.

During FY 2022, USAID's TFA Activity continued support for two tourism-related PPPs: the Cristo Rei PPP valued at \$2-4 million and the Dili Port PPP valued at nearly \$100 million. USAID will continue to support the GOTL to refine these projects for ultimate tendering before the Activity ends in May 2023.

The Mission is currently working on designing a new agriculture activity called Avansa SAN that will include robust PSE across the food system.

Vietnam: USAID's Sustainable Forest Management Activity signed 29 partnership agreements with private sector partners who then committed \$107 million in sustainable forest management from 2022 to 2025. USAID connects the private sector with local communities, provides capacity-building, and organizes individual households into a group or cooperative model to more efficiently engage the private sector.

To combat environmental crime, USAID's Saving Threatened Wildlife Activity produced a comprehensive Private Sector Outreach plan to understand the private sector industrial landscape of Vietnam. The plan will identify gaps in knowledge, target companies for engagement, and determine key activities to help companies address illegal wildlife trade.

USAID Local Works reported that five local companies collectively mobilized \$16,000 and 30 private enterprises improved air quality and green models for communities by mobilizing \$480,000 through cost sharing, in-kind contributions, transfer of technologies, and product discounts.

Cross-Cutting Outcome: Gender and Social Inclusion

Bangladesh: In FY 2022, USAID's CHTWCA improved market access for 135 women weavers from remote areas in the Bandarban and Khagrachari districts, who produced approximately 1,000 units of woven products and earned \$3,921. Expanded access to buyers is critical for women entrepreneurs living in hard-to-reach areas. In this reporting period, USAID's ECOFISH II project mobilized 64 women-led CSG and supported 1,885 fisherwomen to access alternative income options. The groups saved \$31,304, a substantial amount for these vulnerable communities. From these savings, 59 CSG members received a loan of \$3,800 and started small businesses.

Cambodia: The USAID GPL Activity engaged 37,076 young people aged 15-35 in activities that include forest patrols, community training, workshops, research, outreach, internships, and study tours to Activity implementation sites. GPL also engaged 56,345 women in sustainable NRM and biodiversity conservation efforts, for which they also received economic benefits. Women gained and improved tenure rights and access to resources from established and well-functioning communities where various livelihood activities were implemented to incentivize conservation and improve economic benefits for target beneficiaries.

Additionally in FY 2022, GPL supported 134 communities, including 47 with direct grant assistance, which included training that equipped them with necessary tools and resources to undertake community patrolling and livelihood development. This effort provided economic benefits to approximately 110,000 people, including 10,390 indigenous people who participated in community-based enterprises, including community groups involved in talipot palm, honey, cyclical vegetable planting, raising chickens, farm production, cashew nut production, turmeric production, and more.

USAID GFA focuses on youth, especially female youth, as agents for change. Out of 90 Green Groups members, 80 percent of them were female, far exceeding the 30 percent target set at the beginning of the Activity. During the Activity's mid-point survey, 48.4 percent of the people surveyed were female and representing women's views. In various crowd-sourced competitions, 73 percent of the participants were female. In FY 2022, 44.9 percent of GFA's Facebook page followers were youth aged 18-24 (26.2 percent female). Green Group membership included 90 youth (72 females) aged 15-24.

India: To create formal employment opportunities for women from marginalized communities and enhance sustainable and inclusive development in rural areas, the USAID's POWER Activity established nine production units benefitting 1,472 underprivileged women, with a focus on women from tribal communities. Despite lockdowns and other restrictions due to COVID-19, the enterprises sold \$725,470 worth of products to companies including IKEA and Caravane in FY 2022. The success of establishing these nine enterprises has been vital for the female producers' economic and social empowerment, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Taking a holistic approach to empowerment, POWER conducted 74,363 person days of training on technical skills in manufacturing natural fiber-based products, soft skills, gender equality, and empowerment, and also connected the women producers to social security schemes established by state governments.

Women are also underrepresented in forestry-related decision-making, conservation, and livelihoods. In FY 2022, USAID continued gender integration into Forest-PLUS 2.0 activities. USAID organized training for women and youth from marginalized communities to build their leadership skills for forest management. Forest-PLUS 2.0 also developed an e-learning course on gender in forestry for the state forest departments, training institutions and other stakeholders. Forest-PLUS 2.0 also identified senior- and mid-level forest officials to mentor young female forest officers.

Indonesia: The USAID-ACTIVE Activity, provided technical training on women's leadership, youth engagement, and skills development to empower young women to use their full potential to participate in climate change initiatives. To start, USAID assessed gender roles in cocoa farming using a series of

women focus group discussions in six villages across the Activity locations. The results of the assessment were used as the basis to design programs to promote the participation of women and youth in sustainable cocoa agroforestry. USAID aims to engage 9,000 individuals, of at least 30 percent women, in a variety of programs.

Maldives: There are no significant GESI results to report from FY 2022. CCAA's Climate Adaptation Accelerator intervention will provide goods or services to de-risk tourism and fisheries associated livelihoods from climate-related shocks and impacts. This intervention will engage small and medium enterprises in FY 2023, including women-led businesses, and roll out its awareness campaign to solicit applications for the accelerator program.

Nepal: USAID's FTF KISAN II advanced inclusion by strengthening the ability of private sector extension agents to serve marginalized communities, reaching over 258,000 farmers (73 percent women and 64 percent from marginalized groups) in agriculture and food security programs. Of these farmers, 180,000 women applied improved agricultural management practices and technologies, resulting in a total production of \$36 million of rice, maize, lentil, and vegetables. In FY 2022, KISAN II's successful adaptive training approach enabled 7,533 women to graduate from business literacy courses. During the reporting period, KISAN II also supported 121,139 participants with group-based savings, micro-financing, or lending programs. These participants included 102,153 women, who now have access to financial productive resources, resulting in increased ability of marginalized communities to act on business opportunities.

FTF Nepal Integrated Pest Management (IPM) supported four women scientists' participation in an international training on raising parasitoids to strengthen their specialized technical skills in pest management. FTFNIPM analyzed gender impacts of IPM practices and developed ways to reduce women's labor constraints. USAID's CSISA COVID-19 Response and Resilience Activity improved access to agricultural mechanization services for 5,114 women farmers from marginalized communities. This contributed to gender equity by contributing to an increase in discretionary income, time, and autonomy for women farmers. Among those who accessed services, 304 women were able to utilize mechanization on their farms for the first time, due to discounted services in agricultural mechanization. CSISA advanced gender equity by assisting 89 women in starting new businesses as machinery service providers, thus providing a sustainable livelihood, and reduced pressure to migrate for overseas work opportunities.

USAID's NSAF provided direct assistance to 68,812 women from marginalized groups, who were better able to capitalize and benefit from business opportunities. Assistance included training and skills-building initiatives; support to women's cooperative in procuring better quality seed, maize processing supplies, and equipment; and improving access to market networks. Fifty-two percent of the agricultural credit recipients were women, 46 percent of all trainees were women, and women farmers were responsible for 30 percent of total sales of the targeted crops.

In FY 2022, USAID helped reduce vulnerabilities of women and girls in order to improve disaster risk management (DRM) in Nepal. USAID's Tayar Nepal activities led to development, approval, and/or implementation of 64 local and federal DRM policies and plans that included provisions protecting women against discrimination. To mitigate ongoing COVID-19 impacts on women entrepreneurs, Tayar Nepal supported the launch of an online retail platform that linked 48 women producers, suppliers, and retailers across 15 municipalities, enabling them to conduct direct marketing, which resulted in the sale of more than 3,000 DRM-relevant products. The additional revenue and networking opportunities improved the resilience of women-run businesses.

Two out of three winning teams of the FY 2022 DRM Private Sector Innovation Challenge are women-led: Tekka Pvt. Ltd is a producer of biodegradable feminine hygiene pads, and the Shital Krishi Tatha Pashupalan Samuha produces organic fertilizers and pesticides. Additionally, Tayar Nepal partnered with the social enterprise Utopia to co-build an urban venture called "Urban Eats" with a team of young

women to address issues and inefficiencies such as food waste, market insecurity for farmers, lack of food safety for customers, and a supply chain that extracts much of the revenue that should go to farmers.

In FY 2022, USAID leveraged the skills, energy, and leadership of Youth Innovations Lab (YIL) as a sub-partner under Tayar Nepal to support 15 municipalities to localize the Building Information Platform Against Disaster (BIPAD), an integrated and comprehensive Disaster Information Management System managed by the Government of Nepal (GON). Building on USAID's initiative, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority has begun partnering with YIL to roll out localization campaigns in dozens of other municipalities across the country. Through implementing the BIPAD portal, these young people have strengthened their confidence and leadership skills, as well as their connections to local elected officials, helping them to identify disaster risks for better decision-making.

A baseline assessment conducted by USAID's Karnali Water Activity in FY 2022 showed that the time involved in water collection in Karnali exceeded the global standard of 30 minutes per day. This places an additional burden of time and stress on women, who are typically the ones who collect water. The Karnali Water Activity incorporated GESI in institutional capacity assessments to evaluate the efficacy of water service planning, budgeting, and monitoring processes at the municipal level. The Activity also assisted the Ministry of Water and Sanitation to update guidance on the national Water Use Master Plan to incorporate gender-responsive budgeting.

USAID's FTF (IPM) Activity prioritized youth in all training, farmer engagement, and entrepreneurship development initiatives. Compost entrepreneurship was identified as a particularly youth-friendly business opportunity because minimal initial investment is required for relatively high returns in producing a quality product that can be used to address fertilizer shortages. IPM trained 27 youth, of whom 50 percent started their own compost production. Not only have these young entrepreneurs begun to use compost for their own farms to increase productivity, but they grow healthy seedlings to sell to farmers in their communities.

Pacific Islands Regional: In FY 2022, USAID, through the Climate Ready Activity, continued to support regional and national agencies to integrate gender equity and social inclusion in the design, planning, and implementation of project proposals submitted to climate financing institutions. The project supported the Fiji Ministry of Economy to develop its GESI Policy 2021-2024 and Action Plan 2021-2022 to assist with Green Climate Fund accreditation and provide an inclusive approach to address climate change adaptation. The Policy and Plan, endorsed by the Government in FY 2021, led to GESI compliance for accreditation and Climate Ready was able to assist the MoE in the rollout of the Policy and Action Plan for its operations. Further, Climate Ready conducted a GESI Responsive Banking training for the Fiji Development Bank Executive Management staff and Board members to increase their knowledge of key concepts and approaches in GESI Responsive Banking. Subsequently, the bank launched a new loan product aimed at helping women entrepreneurs.

In FY 2022, several streams of technical assistance advanced gender and gender empowerment in key government policies and programs. For example, the Samoa Tourism Authority reviewed and integrated the principles of climate change adaptation and GESI into Samoa's Climate Change Plan and National Tourism Climate Change Adaptation Strategy. In FSM, a GESI policy and action plan for PetroCorp was developed to assist in its accreditation process with the Global Environmental Facility (GEF). This assistance also produced several project proposals, including the Adaptation to Climate Change in the Coastal Zone in Vanuatu-Phase II, which was approved by GEF for \$63.4 million, including co-financing. This proposal included GESI action plans to help vulnerable coastal communities, including women, cope with the impacts of climate change and increase resilience to the health risks of climate change in the FSM, with a Gender Analysis and Action Plan component.

Additionally, USAID supported FSM, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Palau, and PNG to develop and submit project proposals to the GEF Small Grants Program to benefit women's groups and contribute to

women's economic empowerment. Finally, USAID, through Climate Ready, conducted a range of training courses benefiting a total of 369 people, including 200 women representing 54 percent of the participants.

The USAID PAF awarded grants to local organizations to address critical development challenges across the Pacific Islands, with gender and social inclusion as key considerations. Some of the awards included collaboration with the University of Fiji and FSM's Marine and Environmental Research Institute of Pohnpei to increase the participation of women in aquaculture as way of economic empowerment. In FY 2022, USAID organized 55 training courses that benefited a total of 2,354 participants. Thirteen of these courses focused on business development and improvement and benefited 574 people, 83 percent of whom were women.

In FY 2022, USAID-LGP conducted a gender assessment which revealed that women have in-depth knowledge and experience of NRM and are actively involved in economic activities despite the challenges they face. USAID-LGP also integrated gender equality into biodiversity conservation through: (1) PSE for the development of micro, small and medium enterprises for women; (2) official letters of agreement and direct engagement in biodiversity planning meetings and trainings, focused on establishing protected areas under women's leadership; and (3) a whole-of-family approach, engaging members of the family to increase appreciation of the contributions that women and girls make in society.

In addition, USAID-LGP supports PSE by developing new micro enterprises as vehicles for gender equality, conservation and sustainable NRM goals, and improved health outcomes. These micro enterprises are a platform through which women learn and apply financial literacy skills, gain financial value and standing in their families and communities, and master leadership skills. As an example, in Madang province, USAID-LGP supported the registration of five community-based organizations, enabling them to open bank accounts and access available financial services. With this support, combined with financial literacy training, gender and women's economic empowerment training, and leadership training modules, these community-based organizations can now use these accounts to safely hold funds earned through community cooperatives, fundraising events, and other alternate livelihoods.

USAID-LGP worked with communities to help them understand how VSLAs are organized and subsequently identified willing community members and smaller cooperatives to manage a VSLA. VSLAs represent the creation of informal banking (savings and loans services) through organizations managed cooperatively by women. The VSLAs increase women's participation in decision-making and ownership of their economic resources.

USAID-LGP also awarded a \$320,733 grant to the company Outspan PNG Ltd. to work with women coffee and cacao farmers in the Morobe province, using the health, ecosystems, and agriculture for resilient, thriving societies model. This model promotes private sector partnerships, advances sustainable food systems, and promotes the USAID-LGP's investments in conservation, agriculture, health, and governance.

In FY 2022, USAID-LGP increased the active participation of women in land use planning workshops and was successful in its recommendation that each ward land use plan be approved and signed by at least one female community representative in the YUS Conservation Area. In FY 2022, USAID-LGP continued to leverage the YUS Peer Educator Network, composed largely of women, and Outspan PNG Ltd.'s women-run cooperatives and small holder training to increase women's participation.

During the reporting period, USAID-LGP signed 13 letters of agreement with community-based organizations and non-traditional partners to implement livelihood and gender activities within five USAID-LGP target provinces. The 13 agreements will later be incorporated into memoranda of understanding between CEPA and provincial governments and serve as a nexus between private sector partners and USAID-LGP to work together on livelihood and gender activities, women's empowerment, and financial inclusion.

Finally, USAID-LGP takes a whole-of-family approach to gender equality and women's empowerment. Family-based approaches explicitly focus on changing household gender norms, teach family business management and communication skills, and encourage shared decision-making, aiming to gradually put women on a more equal footing with men.

Philippines: In Calamianes, northern Palawan, USAID supported the establishment of 1,301,021-hectare women-managed areas (WMAs) in mangroves and seagrass beds, where preferential use is accorded to women in the community, especially to indigenous women, to fish and harvest oysters for food and livelihood.

USAID also promoted gender equality and women's economic empowerment through its Women in Waste's Economic Empowerment Activity, which has now trained five cohorts of women in its Basic Business and Empowerment Skills Training.

RDMA: In FY 2022, the SUFIA LCD Activity strengthened regional organizations' gender integration and equipped them with tangible tools and action plans to improve women's participation in fisheries governance and policy making. To address gender gaps in the land use sector, USAID/RDMA's Green Invest Asia (GIA) Activity successfully capitalized on community forestry and sustainable cocoa production projects, which fulfill the funding criteria of the 2X Challenge on women's empowerment. GIA unlocked \$31 million of investment in community forestry projects by supporting feasibility studies for Agra Resources, a carbon project developer. Projects funded will support partners' transitions from logging activities into forest conservation using revenue from carbon credits. Forest loss disproportionately affects women's access to life-essential products. Meeting the Challenge's criterion for women leadership, women constitute 30 percent of those in management positions at both Agra Resources and its portfolio companies.

In FY 2022, SERVIR-Mekong launched the Gender Equality Monitoring Platform to visualize areas of gender inequality in the region using provincial Gender Inequality Indices. This information helps decision makers and other stakeholders identify priority areas to address gender gaps in program design and investments.

USAID/RDMA through Mekong For the Future Activity established a partnership with the ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Women and Children (ACWC) and initiated regional dialogue supporting gender and social inclusion in climate action planning in five Mekong countries. USAID/RDMA Mekong For the Future program also collaborated extensively with the ACWC, including co-organizing several events. An International Women's Day event and the Regional Gender Equality and Social Inclusion in Natural Resource Governance workshop brought together CSOs and key regional stakeholders to exchange tools and knowledge on the gendered dimensions of natural resource governance in the Mekong. This partnership links institutional policy to community-driven action through CSO engagements, enabling a more inclusive and effective environment for sustainable systemic change throughout the region.

USAID/RDMA also conducted environmental conservation and management activities to bring benefits to ethnic Tibetan communities in China. Through participatory approaches, USAID/RDMA encouraged local ownership of USAID-supported initiatives that build on indigenous wisdom to sustainably maintain their traditional livelihoods. In FY 2022, USAID/RDMA built the capacity of 1,378 Tibetans on environmental conservation and NRM. USAID/RDMA also trained three local community-based organizations to design and implement environmental initiatives at the community level. Initiatives focused on wetland management, grassland rehabilitation, and reforestation programs in Gannan Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, improving conditions on 425 hectares of ethnic Tibetan lands. Based on last year's success in Sichuan Province, USAID/RDMA expanded classroom-based biodiversity and conservation education to Yunnan Province in which 765 people learned about the black-and-white snub-nosed monkey (an endangered primate species critical to the health of Three Parallel Rivers of Yunnan Protected Area, a UNESCO World Heritage site), its habitat, and its ecological role in the

forest. The environmental education program consisted of in-class sessions and field trips aimed to intentionally engage Tibetan children and youth who are key to carrying on conservation efforts initiated with USAID support. USAID/RDMA also strengthened women's roles in environmental conservation through locally-led natural resource management activities in which more than 46 percent of program beneficiaries are women.

Sri Lanka: USAID's Safe, Disaster-Resilient Drinking Water to Flood and Drought Prone Areas activity provided safe and clean drinking water to rural households. Both men and women had previously traveled up to one kilometer for six hours a day to collect water. Now since they have rainwater tanks available at their households, women are able to make different choices, and many devote time to income generation and productive activities. Gender equality and women empowerment are key pillars of this activity. Through this activity, USAID has also trained women masons (40) which is a male dominated profession.

Timor-Leste: In an effort to reduce plastic waste, USAID TFA Activity piloted the Green School program in the Canossian School to educate young people about the risks of single-use plastic and its impact on the future. As part of this project, USAID TFA procured 5,000 reusable bags and water bottles to support Timor-Leste's zero-plastic policy. Three Green School Consultative Workshops focused on climate change and recycling activities for 103 youth (47 female and 56 male).

TFA also encourages women to engage in Timor-Leste's burgeoning tourism sector as entrepreneurs, artisans, and skilled workers. In FY 2022, the Activity's grant program supported approximately 2,388 beneficiaries, of whom nearly 73 percent were women. Through the Tourism Enterprise Development Grant Program, women gained increased access to finance through microfinance institutions and received training in a variety of tourism and business-related skills.

Inspired by the Ha'u-nia Timor-Leste (My Timor-Leste) domestic tourism campaign initiated by USAID's TFA project, the "Sustainable Marine Tourism: A Field Experience for Timorese Youth" initiative was organized in partnership with Compass Boat Charters through a USAID grant. A total of 90 Timorese youth from different backgrounds learned about Timor-Leste's rich marine resources through a one-week experiential field trip to Atauro Island where participants visited local communities and connected with the underwater world. As a result, youth who were previously fearful of the ocean broadened their knowledge, appreciation, and awareness of the potential of their country's marine assets. TFA also supported Dreamers Dive Academy Timor to train and certify two Timorese youth to become the country's first professional Scuba Diving International dive instructors, both of whom are now gainfully employed and active advocates of marine tourism development and conservation.

Vietnam: In FY 2022, the BCA Activity trained more than 800 women on planting trees, tree nursery operations, and community-based tourism development. USAID's BCA Activity also promoted the participation of both women and men in conservation activities through community-based biodiversity conservation groups, and women's leadership in biodiversity conservation through both Community Based Organization and CCG models. To date, 56 CCGs have been established in project areas with more 927 members of whom 119 are women.

The SFM Activity built the capacity of 151 women through training on business planning for conservation friendly enterprises. The women received post-training mentoring to improve the business performance of their respective enterprises. Twenty-two business plans that included market analysis, competitiveness analysis, marketing approaches, logistics, operations, and financial projects, were developed.

Additionally in FY 2022, the Local Works program worked directly with Vietnamese women and girls (including women-led groups, women-led organizations, female scientists, Women Union members) to improve their leadership capacity and technical skills related to environmental pollution. The program provided direct grants to three women-led organizations as well as their networks, which created opportunities for women to directly participate in, and benefit from capacity-building activities, youth

forums and training, small grant opportunities, and advocacy workshops. With its "collective action" strategic approach, the Local Works program creates opportunities that empower women and youth in the community to raise their voices for social issues and propose locally-led innovative solutions.

Cross-Cutting Outcome: Civil Society Engagement

Bangladesh: In FY 2022, USAID, in partnership with the GoB and local CSOs, improved the management and protection of biodiversity while reducing poverty and building resilience among communities.

Cambodia: In FY 2022, GPL worked with 47 CBOs from communities with Kuoy and Bunong Indigenous Peoples. Within those CBOs, GPL supported USAID's Policy on Promoting the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Objective 1 on a number of activities to support the traditional livelihoods of Indigenous Peoples while also working with them to protect and conserve the natural resources on which they rely. GPL conducted rigorous Free, Prior and Informed Consent consultations, including with Indigenous Peoples, as part of its REDD+ project development.

Philippines: To address IUU fishing, USAID strengthened interagency collaboration and improved the capacity of CSOs to use science and evidence for policy decision-making and public outreach.

USAID, through its INSPIRE Activity, supported CSOs to strengthen partnerships and conservation efforts for natural resource governance. USAID trained CSO partners on good governance, science-based conservation, climate change mitigation, and project management. USAID provided grants to CSOs to advance ecosystem and community recovery. USAID's grants for CSOs to implement conservation and climate actions will result in the adoption of environment friendly practices, engagement of the public and private sectors, the establishment of local enterprises that support conservation, and restoration of areas that need urgent protection. USAID, through its Fish Right Activity, also strengthened the capacity of CSO partners on fisheries management and development of illegal, unreported, unregulated (IUU) municipal fishing reduction plans in the SCS. USAID obtained the support of 20 fisher leaders from Palawan and Tawi-Tawi Provinces to work with CSOs, educate other fishers, and advocate for and support Philippine government fishery agencies.

RDMA: Through the Mekong for the Future Activity, USAID/RDMA works to strengthen the capacity and network of CSOs in the Lower Mekong region. The Activity enhances CSO participation in NRM to increase the transparency of policy development and management processes, helps them gain greater access to data and international expertise, and increases their understanding and use of tools, so the CSOs are better equipped to engage in the decision-making process, monitor environmental challenges, and coordinate efforts. For example, in FY 2022 the Activity facilitated the *Advocacy Learning Series* Introductory Workshop, led by Civil Society and Internews. More than 50 civil society representatives from Burma, Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Thailand convened to exchange lessons learned, best practices, and the challenges they face in mobilizing on Natural Resource Governance Issues from grassroots to regional perspective.

Timor-Leste: For the second consecutive year, PUA partnered with the local civil society organization Alola Foundation to offer training and marketing opportunities to upcycling entrepreneurs. In December 2021, the PUA teamed up with Alola to support another of its annual Christmas fairs to promote recycling products from local entrepreneurs.

In FY 2022, the Ambassador's Small Grant Fund supported two NGOs on gender equality and women's empowerment. The NGO, Fundasaun Misaun Lepira Timor-Leste, trained women with disabilities and women affected by leprosy on business plan development, project management, and financial management. Designed to build agricultural skills and generate income for the groups within their own villages, the project targeted about 200 vulnerable people, of whom 80 percent were women. The grant supported income generation through mushroom planting, harvesting, packaging, and marketing. The

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NGO Asia Pacific Support Collective Timor-Leste worked with vulnerable groups of women and men in the Liquica Municipality, conducting training on the Women, Peace, and Security National Action Plan and on business management, financial management, and processing herbal tea and peanut butter. The project targeted approximately 200 beneficiaries in the Liquica Municipality, most of whom were women.

Vietnam: In FY 2022, USAID's Reducing Pollution Activity was delayed as the implementing partner, Winrock International, worked with the Government of Vietnam to obtain Official Development Assistance project approval. During this process, USAID's RP solicited concept notes and applications from potential support organizations to foster networks of local government, community, and private sector partners to address plastic pollution and solid waste management issues. Two local organizations were selected and, once project approval is obtained, they will support pilot projects to establish a system for extended producer responsibility for plastic packaging and reduce the amount of plastic waste that healthcare facilities release into the environment.

ANNEX II. QUANTITATIVE RESULTS

TABLE 3: FY 2022 INDICATOR RESULTS SUMMARY

Goal/Outcome	Indicator	Total
Goal: Natural resources safeguards and security in the Indo-Pacific region strengthened	G1: Number of hectares of biologically significant areas showing improved biophysical conditions as a result of USG assistance (EG.10.2-1)	998,430 hectares
Outcome 1: Laws, policies, regulatory frameworks and standards implemented and/or enforced <i>Intermediate Outcome 1: Law, policies, regulations, frameworks, or standards proposed, revised and adopted</i>	O1.1a and IO1.1a: Number of laws, policies, or regulations that address biodiversity conservation and/or other environmental themes officially proposed, adopted, or implemented as a result of USG assistance (EG.10.2-5)	199 laws, policies, regulations, or standards
	O1.1b and IO1.1b: Number of laws, policies, regulations, or standards addressing sustainable landscapes formally proposed, adopted, or implemented as supported by USG assistance (EG.13-3)	88 laws, policies, regulations, or standards
	O1.2: Projected greenhouse gas emissions reduced or avoided through 2030 from adopted laws, policies, regulations, or technologies related to sustainable landscapes as supported by USG assistance (EG.13-7)	83,727,511 Metric tons of CO ₂
Outcome 2: Transnational environmental crimes, illegal or legal but unsustainable practices, uses or consumption of natural resources reduced	O2.1: Number of agreements/cooperative actions to tackle transnational environmental crime implemented as supported by USG assistance (EG.13-IPS-1)	No reporting
	O2.2: Number of people that apply improved conservation law enforcement practices as a result of USG assistance (EG.10.2-6)	4,394 people
<i>Intermediate Outcome 2: Partnership engagement and investment increased</i>	IO2.1: Number of new partnerships among stakeholders formed to support biodiversity conservation, natural resource management, sustainable landscapes, sustainable supply chains and safeguards formed with USG assistance (EG.13-IPS-3)	12 partnerships
	IO2.2a: Amount of investment mobilized (in USD) for sustainable landscapes as supported by USG assistance (EG.13-4)	\$291,490,806
	IO2.2b: Amount of investment mobilized (in USD) for biodiversity conservation and/or other natural resources management as supported by USG assistance (EG.13-IPS-4)	\$4,738,055
Outcome 3: Conservation and sustainable practices, businesses, trade and investment (of natural resources or related to natural resources) implemented	O3.1: Amount of legal trade (in USD) in sustainably managed natural resources as supported by USG (EG.13-IPS-6)	No reporting
	O3.2: Number of enterprises implementing sustainable practices or safeguards as supported by USG assistance (EG.13-IPS-2)	132 enterprises
	O3.3: Number of hectares under improved natural resource management, safeguards or sustainable practices as a result of USG assistance (EG.10-IPS-1)	142,376 hectares
	O3.4: Number of people receiving livelihood co-benefits (monetary or non-monetary) associated with the implementation of USG sustainable landscapes activities (EG.13-5)	1,230,068 people
	O3.5: Number of people benefiting from adoption and implementation of measures to improve water resource management as a result of USG assistance (HL.8.5-1)	161,229 people

Internal to USAID

Goal/Outcome	Indicator	Total
	O3.6: Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, estimated in metric tons of CO2 equivalent, reduced, sequestered, or avoided through sustainable landscapes activities supported by USG assistance (EG.13-6)	15,972,235 Metric tons of CO ₂
	O3.7: Number of hectares under improved management expected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as a result of USG assistance (EG.13-8)	4,948,419 hectares
<i>Intermediate Outcome 3: Stakeholders' capacity in sustainable natural resource management, safeguards, sustainable supply chains and investment strengthened</i>	IO3.1: Number of people that apply improved natural resources management [besides conservation law enforcement], safeguards, or sustainable practices as a result of USG assistance (EG.10-IPS-2)	No reporting
	IO3.2a: Number of institutions with improved capacity to address sustainable landscapes issues as supported by USG assistance (EG.13-2)	345 institutions
	IO3.2b: Number of institutions with improved capacity to implement sustainable natural resource management, safeguards, sustainable supply chains and investment as supported by USG assistance (custom, EG.13-IPS-5)	No reporting
Cross-cutting Outcome 1: Resilience of people, places, and economies to shocks and stresses on natural resources increased	CCI.1: Number of institutions with improved capacity to assess or address climate change risks supported by USG assistance (EG.11-2)	170 institutions
	CCI.2: Amount of investment mobilized (in USD) for climate change adaptation as supported by USG assistance (EG.11-4)	\$277,210,291
	CCI.3: Number of people using climate information or implementing risk-reducing actions to improve resilience to climate change as supported by USG assistance (EG.11-6)	332,046 people
Cross-cutting Outcome 2: Biodiversity conservation in the region enhanced	CC2.1: Number of hectares of biologically significant areas under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance (EG.10.2-2)	34,295,765 hectares
	CC2.2: Number of people with improved economic benefits derived from sustainable natural resource management and/or biodiversity conservation as a result of USG assistance (EG.10.2-3)	137,408 people

TABLE 4: FY 2022 GOAL-LEVEL INDICATOR RESULTS

Goal/Outcome: Goal: Natural Resources Safeguards and Security in the Indo-Pacific Region Strengthened							
Indicator: GI: Number of hectares of biologically significant areas showing improved biophysical conditions as a result of USG assistance (EG.10.2-1)							
OU	Ecosystem			Conservation law compliance			Value
	Coastal Marine	Terrestrial-forest	Terrestrial-non-forest	Illegal Logging	IUU Fishing	Wildlife Trafficking	
Bangladesh	74,996	4,076	0	4,076	74,996	0	79,072
South Asia Sub-total							79,072
Cambodia	-	856,881	62,477	-	-	-	919,358
Southeast Asia Sub-total							919,358
Indo-Pacific Total							998,430

TABLE 5: FY 2022 OUTCOME 1A/INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME 1A INDICATOR RESULTS

Goal/Outcome: Outcome 1: Laws, policies, regulatory frameworks and standards implemented and/or enforced Intermediate Outcome 1 - Law, policies, regulations, frameworks, or standards proposed, revised and adopted							
Indicator: OI.1a & IOI.1a: Number of laws, policies, or regulations that address biodiversity conservation and/or other environmental themes officially proposed, adopted, or implemented as a result of USG assistance (EG.10.2-5)							
OU	Stage of development			Conservation law compliance			Value
	Proposed (IOI)	Adopted (IOI)	Implemented (OI)	Illegal Logging	IUU Fishing	Wildlife Trafficking	
Bangladesh	1	0	0	0	1	0	1
South Asia Sub-total							1
Cambodia	2	8	58	62	1	47	68
Indonesia	1	11	-	-	-	-	12
Pacific Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Philippines	41	39	9	9	84	8	89
Vietnam	1	-	22	-	-	-	23
Southeast Asia Sub-total							198
Indo-Pacific Total							199

TABLE 6: FY 2022 OUTCOME 1B/INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME 1B INDICATOR RESULTS

Goal/Outcome: Outcome 1: Laws, policies, regulatory frameworks and standards implemented and/or enforced Intermediate Outcome 1 - Law, policies, regulations, frameworks, or standards proposed, revised and adopted										
Indicator: OI.1b & IOI.1b: Number of laws, policies, regulations, or standards addressing sustainable landscapes formally proposed, adopted, or implemented as supported by USG assistance (EG.13-3)										
OU	National, Proposed	National, Adopted	National, Implemented	Sub-national, Proposed	Sub-national, Adopted	Sub-national, Implemented	International/regional Proposed	International/regional adopted	International/regional implemented	Value
Bangladesh	0	0	0	-	0	2	-	2	-	4
South Asia Sub-total										4
Cambodia	7	4	4	2	8	31	-	-	-	56
Philippines	-	0	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	5
RDMA	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	5
Vietnam	-	-	-	18	-	-	-	-	-	18
Southeast Asia Sub-total										84
Indo-Pacific Total										88

TABLE 7: FY 2022 OUTCOME 1.2 INDICATOR RESULTS

Goal/Outcome: Outcome 1: Laws, policies, regulatory frameworks and standards implemented and/or enforced				
Indicator: OI.2: Projected greenhouse gas emissions reduced or avoided through 2030 from adopted laws, policies, regulations, or technologies related to sustainable landscapes as supported by USG assistance (EG.13-7)				
OU	Yrs. 1-5	Yrs. 6-10	Yrs. 11-15	Value
India	21,947,884	53,868,696	159,273,322	1,377,224
South Asia Sub-total				1,377,224
RDMA	27,579,098	31,565,188	23,206,001	82,350,287
Southeast Asia Sub-total				82,350,287
Indo-Pacific Total				83,727,511

TABLE 8: FY 2022 OUTCOME 2.2 INDICATOR RESULTS

Goal/Outcome: Outcome 2: Transnational environmental crimes, illegal, or legal but unsustainable practices, uses or consumption of natural resources reduced						
Indicator: O2.2: Number of people that apply improved conservation law enforcement practices, as a result of USG assistance (EG.10.2-6)						
OU	Sex		Conservation compliance law			Value
	Males	Females	Illegal Logging	IUU Fishing	Wildlife Trafficking	
Cambodia	2,640	842	3,423	-	3,423	3,482
Pacific Islands	290	63	0	0	0	353
Philippines	98	29	49	127	127	127
Vietnam	402	30	-	-	-	432
Southeast Asia Sub-total						4,394
Indo-Pacific Total						4,394

TABLE 9: FY 2022 OUTCOME 3.2 INDICATOR RESULTS

Goal/Outcome: Outcome 3: Conservation and sustainable practices, businesses, trade and investment (of natural resources or related to natural resources) implemented			
Indicator: O3.2: Number of enterprises implementing sustainable practices or safeguards as supported by USG assistance (EG.13-IPS-2)			
OU	Sustainable practices	Safeguards	Value
Cambodia	56	76	132
Southeast Asia Sub-total			132
Indo-Pacific Total			132

TABLE 10: FY 2022 OUTCOME 3.3 INDICATOR RESULTS

Goal/Outcome: Outcome 3: Conservation and sustainable practices, businesses, trade and investment (of natural resources or related to natural resources) implemented				
Indicator: O3.3: Number of hectares under improved NRM, safeguards, or sustainable business practices as a result of USG assistance (EG.10-IPS-1)				
OU	NRM	Sustainable practices	Safeguards	Value
Cambodia	8,611	12,360	2,294	23,265
Philippines	119,111	-	-	119,111
Southeast Asia Sub-total				142,376
Indo-Pacific Total				142,376

TABLE 11: FY 2022 OUTCOME 3.4 INDICATOR RESULTS

Goal/Outcome: Outcome 3: Conservation and sustainable practices, businesses, trade and investment (of natural resources or related to natural resources) implemented			
Indicator: O3.4: Number of people receiving livelihood co-benefits (monetary or non-monetary) associated with the implementation of USG sustainable landscapes activities (EG.13-5)			
OU	Males	Females	Value
Bangladesh	20,706	16,183	36,889
India	515,786	519,887	1,035,673
South Asia Sub-total			1,072,562
Cambodia	54,373	56,345	110,718
Philippines	21,342	20,550	41,892
Vietnam	2,473	2,423	4,896
Southeast Asia Sub-total			157,506
Indo-Pacific Total			1,230,068

TABLE 12: FY 2022 OUTCOME 3.5 INDICATOR RESULTS

Goal/Outcome: Outcome 3: Conservation and sustainable practices, businesses, trade and investment (of natural resources or related to natural resources) implemented						
Indicator: O3.5: Number of people benefiting from adoption and implementation of measures to improve water resource management as a result of USG assistance (HL.8.5-1)						
OU	Males	Females	Water Allocation	Watershed Protection	Risk Reduction	Value
Philippines	82,428	78,801	0	160,739	490	161,229
Southeast Asia Sub-total						161,229
Indo-Pacific Total						161,229

TABLE 13: FY 2022 OUTCOME 3.6 INDICATOR RESULTS

Goal/Outcome: Outcome 3: Conservation and sustainable practices, businesses, trade and investment (of natural resources or related to natural resources) implemented	
Indicator: O3.6: Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, estimated in metric tons of CO2 equivalent, reduced, sequestered, or avoided through sustainable landscapes activities supported by USG assistance (EG.13-6)	
OU	Value
India	1,377,224
South Asia Sub-total	1,377,224
Cambodia	8,637,657
Indonesia	5,716,186
Philippines	241,168
Southeast Asia Sub-total	14,595,011
Indo-Pacific Total	15,972,235

TABLE 14: FY 2022 OUTCOME 3.7 INDICATOR RESULTS

Goal/Outcome: Outcome 3: Conservation and sustainable practices, businesses, trade and investment (of natural resources or related to natural resources) implemented							
Indicator: O3.7: Number of hectares under improved management expected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as a result of USG assistance (EG.13-8)							
OU	Protection, Forests	Restoration, Forests	Management, Forests	Protection, Non-forests	Restoration, Non-forests	Management, Non-forests	Value
India	527,138	-	-	-	-	-	527,138
South Asia Sub-total							527,138
Cambodia	1,426,369	-	-	62,477	-	-	1,488,846
Indonesia	0	0	2,659,992	0	0	0	2,659,992
Philippines	9	-	8	-	-	-	17
RDMA	267,205	1,684	3,537	0	0	0	272,426
Southeast Asia Sub-total							4,421,281
Indo-Pacific Total							4,948,419

TABLE 15: FY 2022 INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME 2.1 INDICATOR RESULTS

Goal/Outcome: Intermediate Outcome 2 - Partnership engagement and investment increased			
Indicator: IO2.1: Number of new partnerships among stakeholders formed to support biodiversity conservation, natural resource management, sustainable landscapes, sustainable supply chains and safeguards formed with USG assistance (custom, EG.13-IPS-3)			
OU	Sustainable supply chains	Sustainable landscapes	Value
Philippines	1	6	7
RDMA	3	2	5
Indo-Pacific Total			12

TABLE 16: FY 2022 INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME 2.2A INDICATOR RESULTS

Goal/Outcome: Intermediate Outcome 2: Partnership engagement and investment increased					
Indicator: IO2.2a: Amount of investment mobilized (in USD) for sustainable landscapes as supported by USG assistance (EG.13-4)					
OU	Public, domestic	Private, domestic	Public, international	Private, international	Value
India	\$4,563,775	\$2,134,294	-	-	\$6,698,069
South Asia Sub-total					\$6,698,069
Cambodia	\$2,280	\$950,467	-	\$17,379,574	\$18,332,321
Indonesia	\$100,918	\$63,420	-	\$9,745	\$174,083
Pacific Islands	-	-	-	-	\$417,282
Philippines	\$248,565	\$7,860,054	-	-	\$8,108,619
RDMA	\$500	\$33,666,195	\$9,000	\$93,834,737	\$127,510,432
Vietnam	-	\$130,250,000	-	-	\$130,250,000
Southeast Asia Sub-total					\$284,792,737
Indo-Pacific Total					\$291,490,806

TABLE 17: FY 2022 INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME 2.2B INDICATOR RESULTS

Goal/Outcome: Intermediate Outcome 2: Partnership engagement and investment increased					
Indicator: IO2.2b: Amount of investment mobilized (in USD) for biodiversity conservation and/or other NRM as supported by USG assistance (EG.13-IPS-4)					
OU	Public, domestic	Private, domestic	Public, International	Private, international	Value
Cambodia	-	\$613,208	-	\$63,901	\$677,109
Philippines	\$317,462	\$3,206,297	\$0	\$27,000	\$3,550,759
RDMA	-	\$484,212	\$25,975	-	\$510,187
Southeast Asia Sub-total					\$4,738,055
Indo-Pacific Total					\$4,738,055

TABLE 18: FY 2022 INTERMEDIATE OUTCOME 3.2A INDICATOR RESULTS

Goal/Outcome: Intermediate Outcome 3: Stakeholders' capacity in sustainable natural resource management, safeguards, sustainable supply chains and investment strengthened				
Indicator: IO3.2a: Number of institutions with improved capacity to address sustainable landscapes issues as supported by USG assistance (EG.13-2)				
OU	National governmental	Sub-national governmental	Other	Value
Bangladesh	0	0	143	143
India	4	-	-	4
South Asia Sub-total				147
Cambodia	2	26	117	145
Indonesia	1	5	0	6
Philippines	0	1	0	1
RDMA	1	0	1	2
Vietnam	-	44	-	44
Southeast Asia Sub-total				198
Indo-Pacific Total				345

TABLE 19: FY 2022 CROSS-CUTTING OUTCOME 1.1 INDICATOR RESULTS

Goal/Outcome: Cross-cutting Outcome 1: Resilience of People, Places, and Economies to Shocks and Stresses, such as Climate Change and Zoonotic Disease Outbreaks, Increased through natural resource management				
Indicator: CCI.1: Number of institutions with improved capacity to assess or address climate change risks supported by USG assistance (EG.11-2)				
OU	National governmental	Sub-national governmental	Other	Value
Maldives	8	0	0	8
South Asia Sub-total				8
Cambodia	1	26	89	116
Pacific Islands	9	1	1	11
Philippines	0	3	13	16
Timor-Leste	6	5	7	18
RDMA	1	0	0	1
Southeast Asia Sub-total				162
Indo-Pacific Total				170

TABLE 20: FY 2022 CROSS-CUTTING OUTCOME 1.2 INDICATOR RESULTS

Goal/Outcome: Cross-cutting Outcome 1: Resilience of People, Places, and Economies to Shocks and Stresses, such as Climate Change and Zoonotic Disease Outbreaks, Increased through natural resource management					
Indicator: CCI.2: Amount of investment mobilized (in USD) for climate change adaptation as supported by USG assistance (EG.II-4)					
OU	Public, domestic	Private, domestic	Public, international	Private, international	Value
Cambodia	-	\$83,694	-	\$1,572,291	\$1,655,985
Pacific Islands	-	-	\$275,502,278	-	\$275,502,278
RDMA	\$0	\$0	\$52,028	\$0	\$52,028
Indo-Pacific Total					\$277,210,291

TABLE 21: FY 2022 CROSS-CUTTING OUTCOME 1.3 INDICATOR RESULTS

Goal/Outcome: Cross-cutting Outcome 1: Resilience of People, Places, and Economies to Shocks and Stresses, such as Climate Change and Zoonotic Disease Outbreaks, Increased through natural resource management			
Indicator: CCI.3: Number of people using climate information or implementing risk-reducing actions to improve resilience to climate change as supported by USG assistance (EG.II-6)			
OU	Males	Females	Value
Bangladesh	108,441	144,893	253,334
Nepal	32,421	35,678	68,099
South Asia Sub-total			321,433
Cambodia	5,145	5,468	10,613
Southeast Asia Sub-total			10,613
Indo-Pacific Total			332,046

TABLE 22: FY 2022 CROSS-CUTTING OUTCOME 2.1 INDICATOR RESULTS

Goal/Outcome: CC2: Biodiversity conservation in the region enhanced							
Indicator: CC2.1: Number of hectares of biologically significant areas under improved natural resource management as a result of USG assistance (EG.10.2-2)							
OU	Ecosystem			Conservation compliance law			Value
	Coastal Marine	Terrestrial-forest	Terrestrial-non-forest	Illegal Logging	IUU Fishing	Wildlife Trafficking	
Bangladesh	177,715	-	50,474	50,217	177,715	15,381	228,189
Maldives	4,000	-	0	0	0	0	4,000
South Asia Sub-total							232,189
Cambodia	-	1,488,846	0	1,488,846	-	-	1,488,846
Indonesia	28,500,000	2,659,992 ¹⁰	-	-	-	-	31,159,992
Pacific Islands	-	71,495	-	-	-	-	71,495
Philippines	1,018,674	54,870	-	54,870	1,018,674	308,116	1,073,544
Vietnam	-	269,699	-	-	-	-	269,699
Southeast Asia Sub-total							34,063,576
Indo-Pacific Total							34,295,765

TABLE 23: FY 2022 CROSS-CUTTING OUTCOME 2.2 INDICATOR RESULTS

Goal/Outcome: CC2: Biodiversity conservation in the region enhanced						
Indicator: CC2.2: Number of people with improved economic benefits derived from sustainable natural resource management and/or biodiversity conservation as a result of USG assistance (EG.10.2-3)						
OU	Sex		Conservation compliance law			Value
	Males	Females	Illegal Logging	IUU Fishing	Wildlife Trafficking	
Bangladesh	7,850	8,697	2,016	14,531	0	16,547
South Asia Sub-total						16,547
Cambodia	57,221	59,137	-	-	-	116,358
Philippines	2,720	1,783	1,224	3,279	1,208	4,503
Southeast Asia Sub-total						120,861
Indo-Pacific Total						137,408

¹⁰ This result also contributes to EG.13-8.

ANNEX III. METHODOLOGY

The Asia Bureau’s IPS Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) approach includes a performance monitoring and reporting system that culminates in annual reporting from all IPS OUs. IPS reporting is grounded in Theories of Change for each IPS Initiative or Program Focus Area. For FY 2022, in an effort to limit the reporting burden on Missions, Asia Bureau decided to use data reported from both the Development Information Solution and the annual PPR process. The breakdown of the data sources used for this report is summarized in Table 24.

TABLE 24. LIST OF PPR DATA SOURCES FOR NRSS

System of Record	NRSS Data Sources
PPR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mission Objective Narratives ● Benefits to Biodiversity Conservation Key Issue Narrative ● Combating Wildlife Trafficking Key Issue Narrative ● Forests and Forestry Key Issue Narrative ● Marine, Coastal, and Freshwater Ecosystems and Fisheries (Formerly Ocean Coastal Activities) ● Water (non-WASH) Key Issue ● Sustainable, Inclusive, Resilient Cities Key Issue Narrative ● Climate Strategy: Systems Change and Critical Populations Key Issue Narrative ● Ocean Plastic Pollution (OPP) Key Issue Narrative ● EG.10.2 Biodiversity SPSP Narrative ● EG.11 Adaptation SPSP Narrative ● EG.13 Sustainable Landscapes Narrative ● Private Sector Engagement Key Issue Narrative ● Gender Equality/Women’s Empowerment-Primary Key Issue Narrative ● Gender Equality/Women’s Empowerment-Secondary Key Issue Narrative ● Child, Forced, and Early Marriage Key Issue Narrative ● Women, Peace, and Security Key Issue Narrative ● Gender-Based Violence ● Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Intersex (LGBTQI+) Inclusion Key Issue Narrative ● Promoting the Rights for Indigenous Peoples Key Issue Narrative ● Support for Religious and Ethnic Minorities Key Issue Narrative ● Youth Development and Emerging Leader Key Issue Narrative ● Children in Adversity Key Issue Narrative ● Advancing Racial Equity and Supporting Underserved Communities Key Issue Narrative ● Performance Indicators (Standard)
DIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Performance Indicators (Custom)

For reports utilizing the PPR (such as this one), data submissions include quantitative data in the form of Performance Indicators, and qualitative narrative data in the form of Mission Objective (MO), Standardized Program Structure and Definitions (SPSD), and Key Issue Narratives.

Data Analysis

The overall purpose of analysis is to synthesize and organize the most high-level results according to each Initiative or Program Focus Area. The extent to which a particular result is considered “high-level” involves aligning data submissions with the relevant IPS Theory of Change, at the Goal or Outcome levels (i.e., de-emphasizing output level results).

The IP-MEL analysis team included performance monitoring specialists and a group of data analysts who were trained in data synthesis and organization using a right-fit approach for each IPS Initiative or Program Focus Area. The team used a different unit of analysis as appropriate, whether results made sense at the OU level, at the Goal or Outcome level, or otherwise. Data were first reviewed for completeness and accuracy, after which data clarifications were drafted for OUs and Asia Bureau points of contact to address. Narrative data were then analyzed, using pattern analysis to elevate common themes from the Indo-Pacific region, as well as to identify and explain outliers as needed. Indicator data were checked for accuracy and added to the full data submission. Concurrently, the team made comparisons to FY 2019, 2020, and 2021 data and cross-checked results to ensure they were not repeated for multiple Initiatives or Program Focus Areas. The team incorporated contextual data using OU submissions and by consulting outside sources (cited as relevant).

Limitations

A list of main data limitations and their potential mitigation are highlighted in Table 25 below:

TABLE 25. DATA LIMITATIONS

Limitation	Mitigation Approach
Attribution: USAID interventions do not operate in a vacuum so the extent to which USAID can take credit for results can be limited.	Reporting guidance asks OUs to isolate USAID’s contribution to a result and provide adequate contextual data to explain the result’s significance. Data synthesis and additional research while drafting summary reports provides an added layer of assurance that results are traceable back to USAID support. Contextualizing results within a country’s operating environment helps to further isolate USAID’s contribution, but absolute attribution is difficult to attain.
Timeliness: by the time annual data submissions and analysis are complete, policymakers may be well on their way to making programmatic decisions.	Immediate programmatic decisions take place at the Mission or OU level. IPS reporting, like all Washington-based reporting, is done at minimum on an annual basis. Reporting purposes include learning and decision-making, as well as providing justifications for budgeting and reporting to a variety of stakeholders. IPS data can also be used to develop and analyze longer-term trends.
Reporting bias and incomplete data: indicators and narrative data can only present so much information about a Mission’s entire portfolio.	Both indicator and narrative data are combined in the analysis approach and viewed holistically. Where possible, data are expanded upon using outside sources and contextualized to the operating environment (e.g., a policy result in Timor-Leste may have an outsized effect in that country, compared to the same policy in Indonesia).

Reporting OUs

See Table 26 for the list of OUs reporting FY 2022 results.

TABLE 26. OPERATING UNITS REPORTING FY 2022 RESULTS

OU	Mission Objective/SPSD/Key Issue Narratives	Performance Indicators
Bangladesh	✓	✓
Bureau for Asia (Washington D.C.)	✓	--
Cambodia	✓	✓
India	✓	✓
Indonesia	✓	✓
Maldives	✓	✓
Nepal	✓	✓
Pacific Islands Regional	✓	✓
Philippines	✓	✓
RDMA	✓	✓
Sri Lanka	✓	--
Timor-Leste	✓	✓
Vietnam	✓	✓

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