

Management Response from WFP Country Offices in Colombia and Ecuador to the recommendations of the final evaluation of the binational adaptation project in Colombia and Ecuador from 2016 to 2024



1. This document, finalized in February 2025, presents the management response to the recommendations of the final evaluation of the Binational Adaptation Project in Colombia and Ecuador (2016-2024)
2. Commissioned by Colombia and Ecuador Country Offices, the evaluation covers all activities of the binational project funded by the Adaptation Fund, from its design in 2016, with a primary focus on the implementation period from May 2018 to April 2024. The evaluation serves the dual purpose of accountability and learning, and its primary users are the WFP, the Adaptation Fund, national and subnational government institutions in both countries, and the implementing entities.
3. The evaluation made 05 key recommendations with 7 actions. The matrix sets out whether WFP agrees, partially agrees or disagrees with the recommendations and sub-recommendations. It presents the planned (or taken) actions, responsibilities and timelines.

Recommendations and related Sub-recommendations (Deadline) <i>[as per evaluation report – one (sub-) recommendation per row, deadline in brackets.]</i>	Recommendation and Sub-Recommendation Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions) <i>[Name of responsible WFP office/division (/possibly external stakeholder in the case of Joint Evaluation). Names of supporting WFP offices/divisions and/or external stakeholders if any in brackets.]</i>	Management Response <i>[Is (sub-) recommendation Agreed, Partially agreed or Not agreed? If Partially agreed or Not agreed, provide a brief reason for this.]</i>	Actions to be taken <i>[Briefly state what action(s) will be taken to address each sub-recommendation – one action per row.]</i>	Action Lead (Supporting Offices/Divisions) <i>[Name of responsible WFP office/division/unit. Names of supporting WFP offices/divisions and/or external stakeholders if any in brackets.]</i>	Action Deadline <i>[Month and year – not to exceed related (sub-) recommendation deadline.]</i>
<p>Priority: Medium</p> <p>Recommendation 1: High-level exploratory meetings should be conducted with other relevant projects operating in, or adjacent to the project's intervention area to exchange lessons learned and good practices and identify potential synergies.</p>	COs management	Agreed	Foster collaborative spaces for joint action and knowledge sharing (i.e. technical mangrove restoration table).	Colombia and Ecuador COs Programme	December 2025
			Continue sharing results, best practices and lessons learned in high-level meetings and platforms (i.e. COP16)	Colombia and Ecuador COs Management (with Programme support)	December 2025
<p>Priority: High</p> <p>Recommendation 2: All future binational projects funded by the AF should adopt a simpler governance structure involving one binational management committee and one binational advisory committee to build consensus and cooperation on issues of mutual interest.</p>	COs Heads of Programme	Partially agreed The recommendation is partially accepted, as the project report already includes recommendations for a more agile	The Project Closure Report will include technical recommendations for a more agile governance model in future projects, adapting structures to contexts and donors, ensuring inclusivity and social safeguards.	Binational coordinator (with support from National coordinators in Colombia and Ecuador)	December 2024

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		<p>governance system. Additionally, the implementation of these recommendations depends on new projects and agreements with the donor.</p>	<p>However, for projects with this specific donor, it will depend on agreements made during the preparation phases</p> <p>Collaborate with RBP to create a toolbox that includes key learnings and supportive instruments aimed at fostering a more effective and agile governance design for future projects. This approach should align with local institutional structures to ensure effective integration, adequacy, and long-term sustainability.</p>	<p>Colombia and Ecuador COs Programme</p>	<p>July 2025</p>

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<p>Priority: Medium</p> <p>Recommendation 3: It is recommended that when designing binational projects, project actions are grouped together and their outcome focus on the delivery of their holistic benefits as perceived by local communities, rather than development practitioners who tend to focus on the delivery of a sector-specific benefit.</p>	COs Heads of Programme	<p><i>Partially agreed</i></p> <p>The recommendation is partially accepted because the scope of actions and their results are already established by the project's funding mandate and by WFP through safeguards.</p>	The Project Closure Report will include a recommendation for designing future proposals that incorporate lessons learned from the binational project related to the project results framework, within the WFP mandate, while maintaining community priorities	Binational coordinator (with support from National coordinators in Colombia and Ecuador)	December 2024
<p>Priority: High</p> <p>Recommendation 4: It is strongly recommended that in the design and implementation of binational (and national) projects, their M&E and reporting adopt a results-based focus that supports learning,</p>	COs Management	<p><i>Partially agreed</i></p> <p>The recommendation is partially accepted because there are no new binational projects planned;</p>	For national or binational projects, the M&E team will develop a monitoring plan that will establish the functions of collecting quantitative or qualitative information (surveys, focus groups)	Head of M&E Head of Programme	December 2025

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<p>while all operational actions and output targets are tracked through the administration and finance plan.</p>		<p>its implementation will be in national projects.</p>	<p>for the M&E team, while the Program team will monitor the activities and outcome objectives, such as reforestation or events, based on the operational actions of the project.</p>		
<p>Priority: High Recommendation 5: In line with stakeholder proposals in the field, it is recommended to support the development of the HB/PIR in the closure period under a dedicated route map/plan with participating academia, local government and the Ministries of Agriculture in Ecuador and Colombia.</p>	<p>COs Management</p>	<p><i>Partially agreed</i></p> <p>The recommendation is partially accepted because the implementation of the actions depends on other institutions. Additionally, the project already had an exit strategy included</p>	<p>Describe the sustainability and/or exit strategy that has been included in the concept note and proposal for HBs/RIP, as well as the implementation of sustainability-focused activities carried out in different spaces, such as technical and stakeholder committees, where participation and empowerment processes for the implemented</p>	<p>Head of M&E Head of Programme</p>	<p>July 2025</p>

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		in the initial design.	adaptation measures have been proposed.		