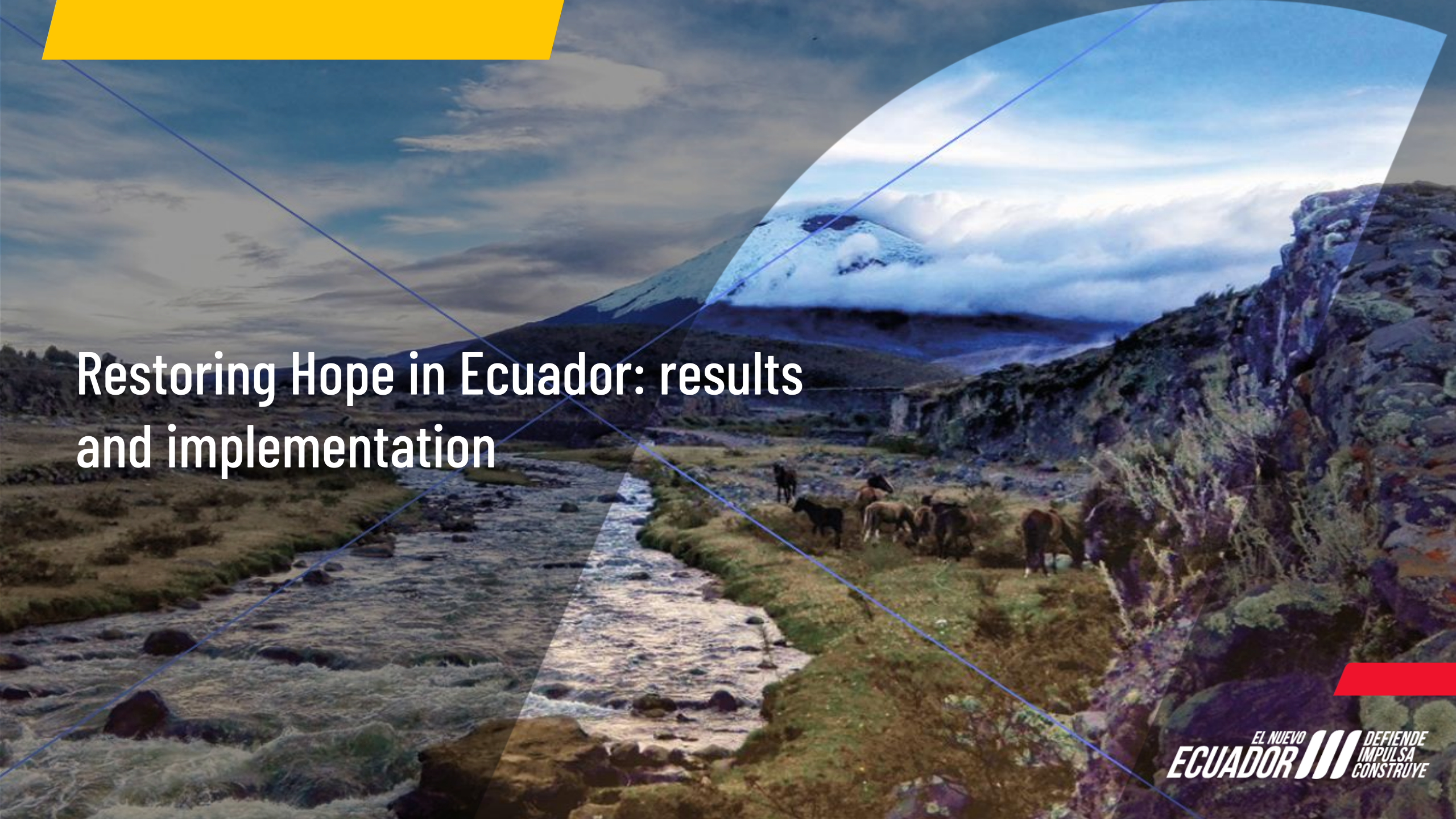




Restoring Hope in Ecuador: results and implementation

Overview

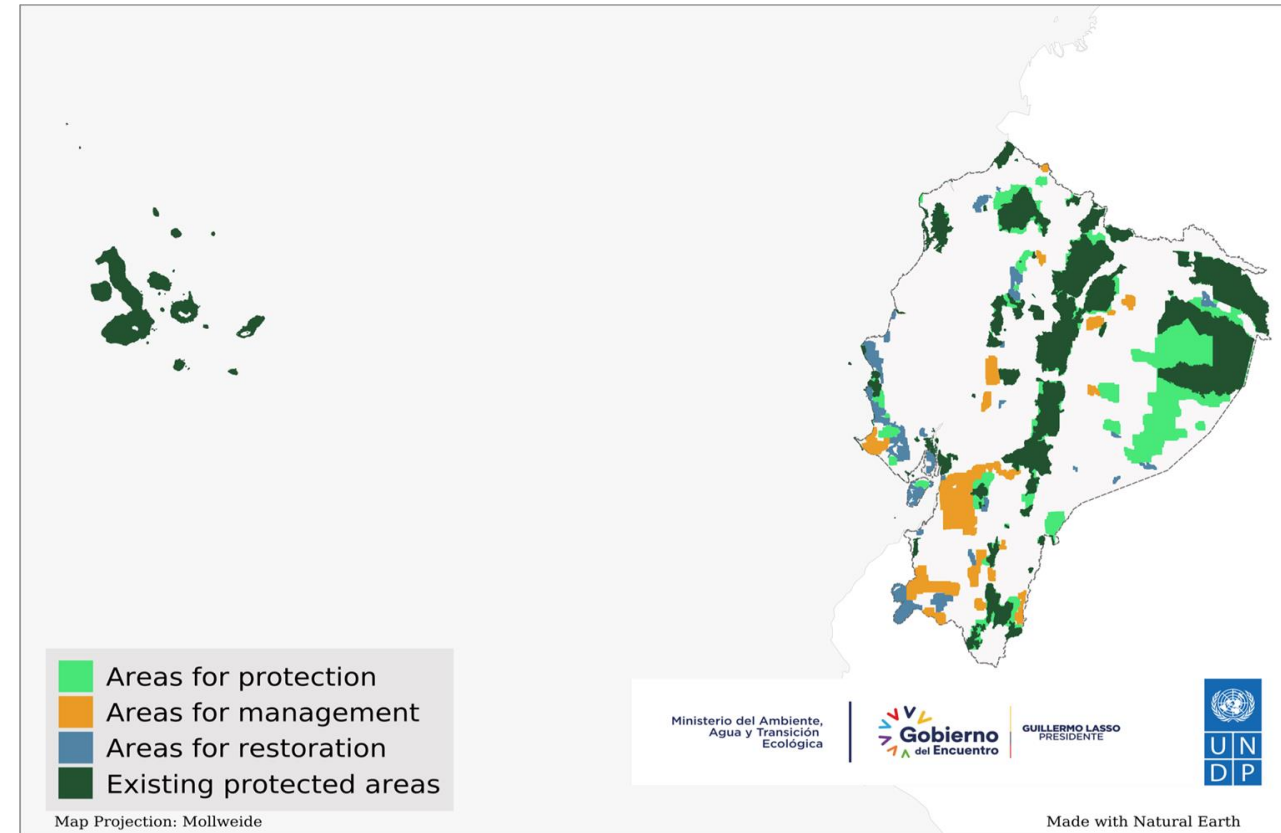
Donor: CBD and FERI

Implementing Partners: UNDP in coordination with MAATE.

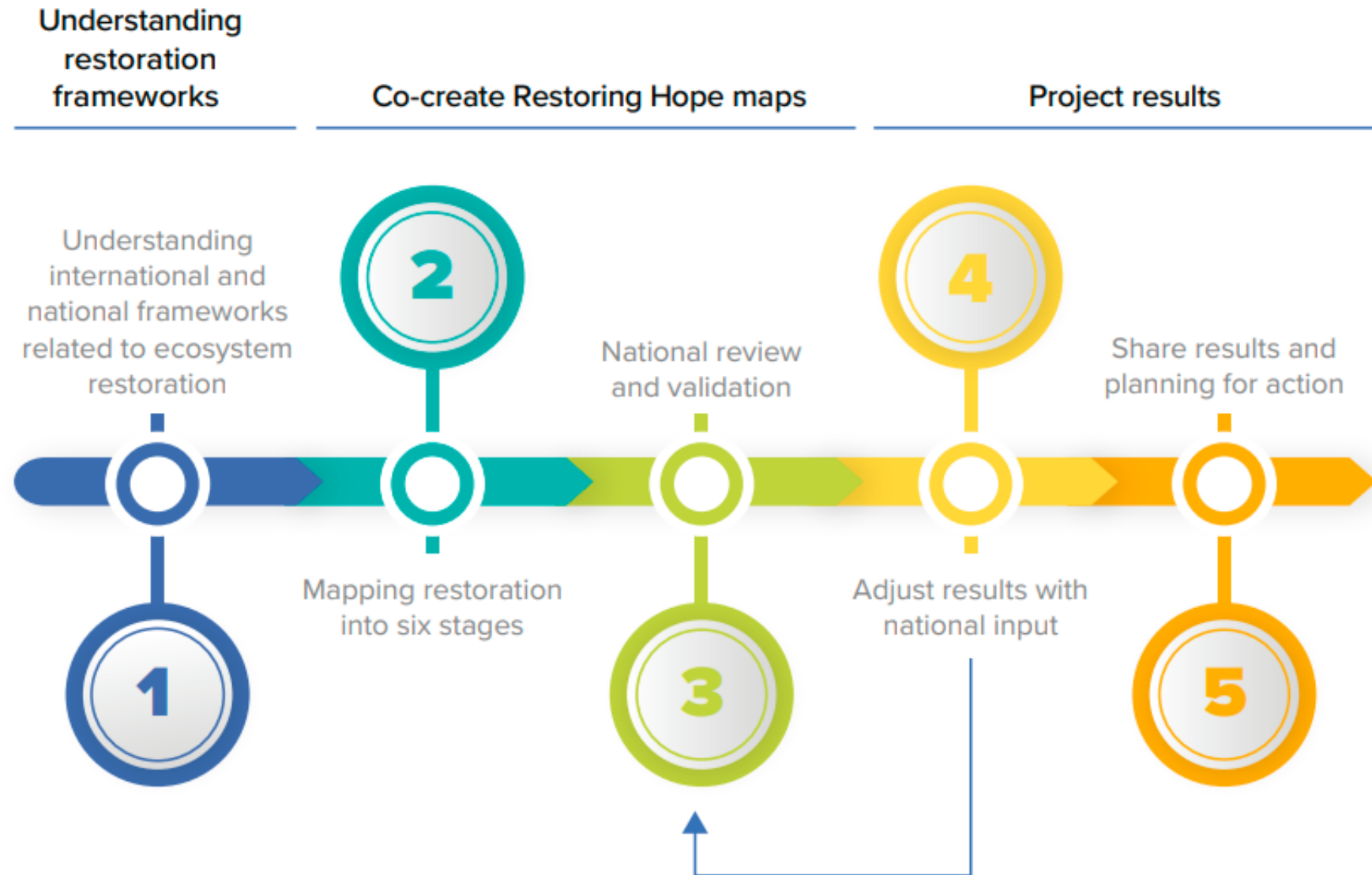
Countries: Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, **Ecuador**, Ghana, South Africa, Sri Lanka

Timeline: Q1 2023 – Q4 2023

The project Restoring Hope used the data and insights from the ELSA (2020-2022) map project, iterated it with previous and new data available, and validated these iterations with national counterparts to create maps for restoration purposes.

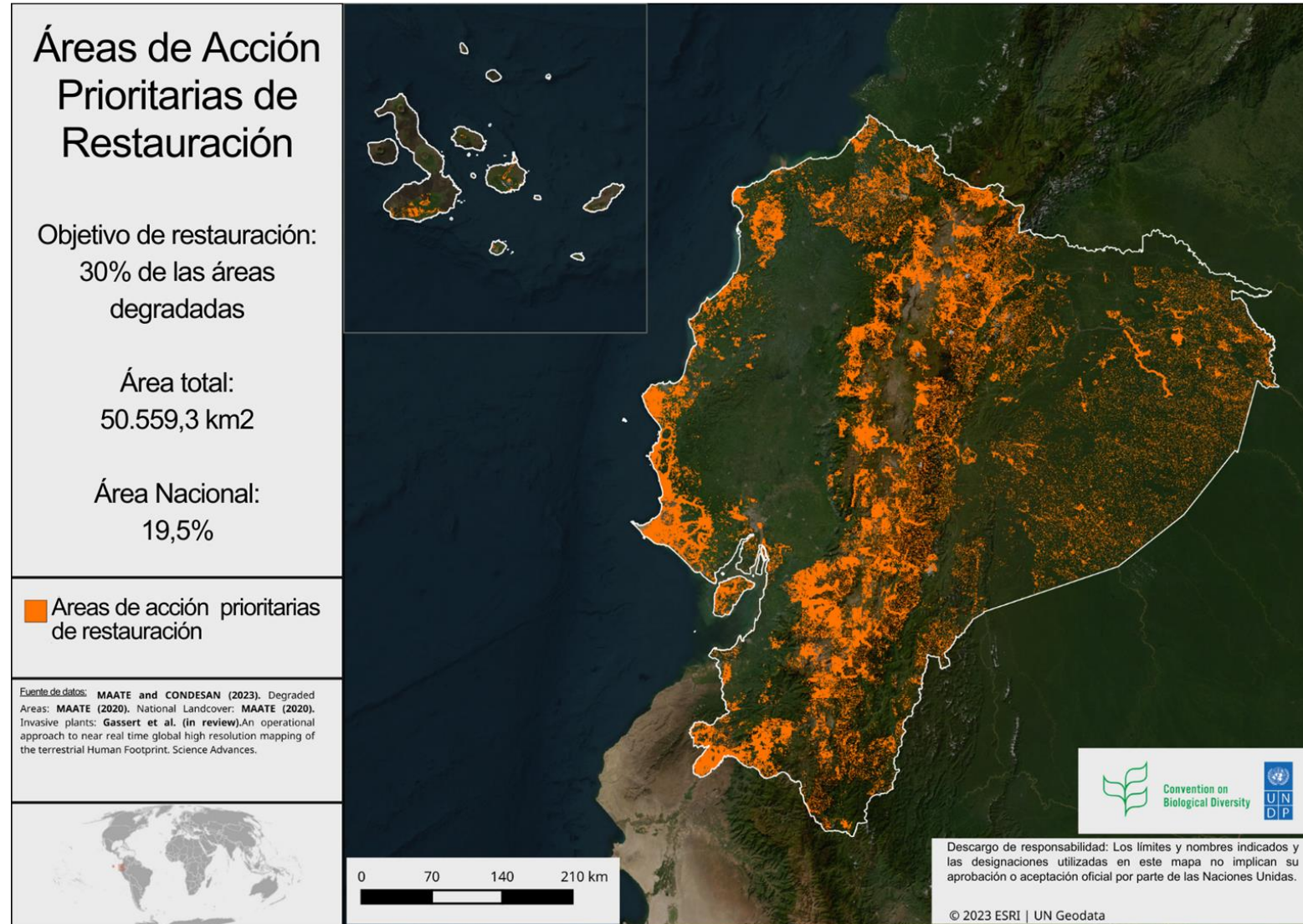


Steps of the Project Restoring Hope in Ecuador



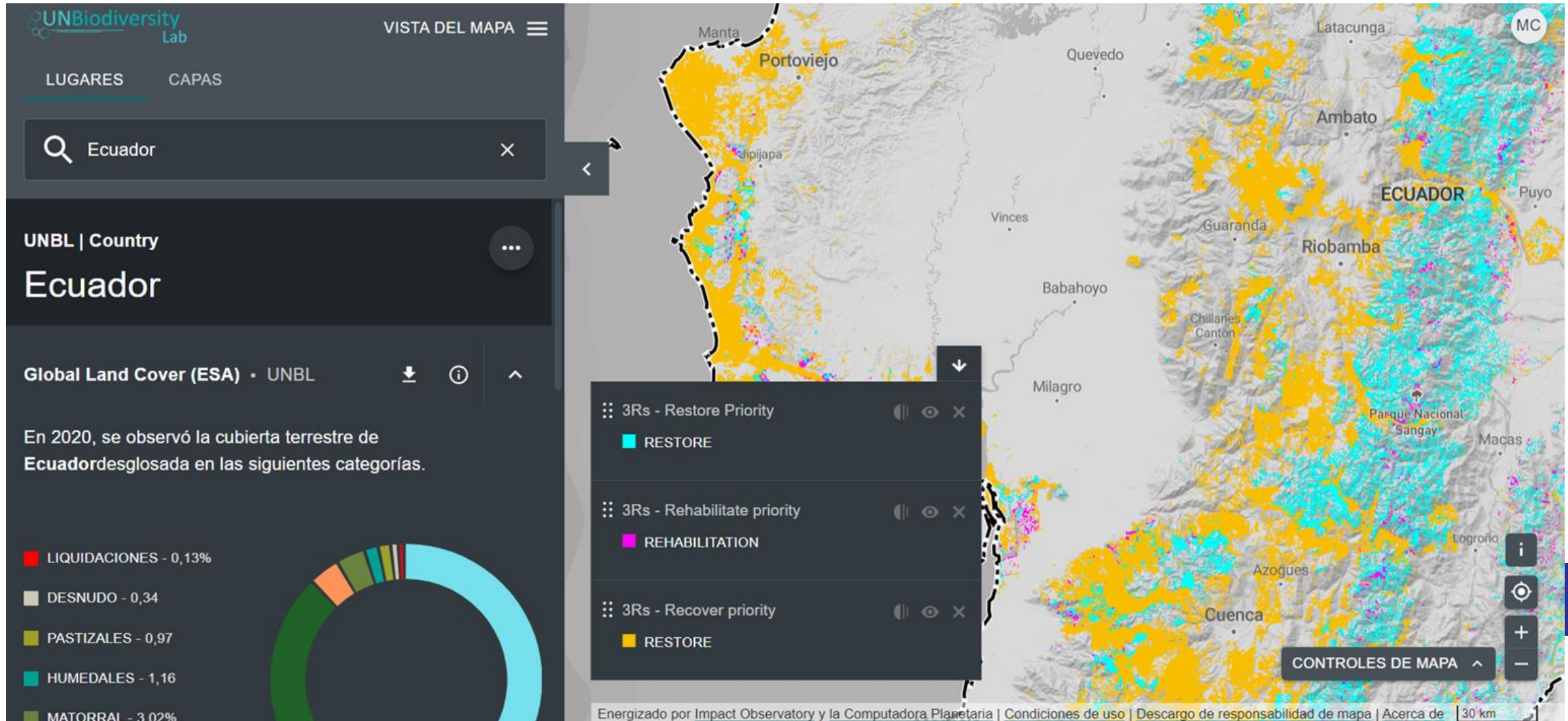
Some results

Map of prioritized areas for restoration (terrestrial)



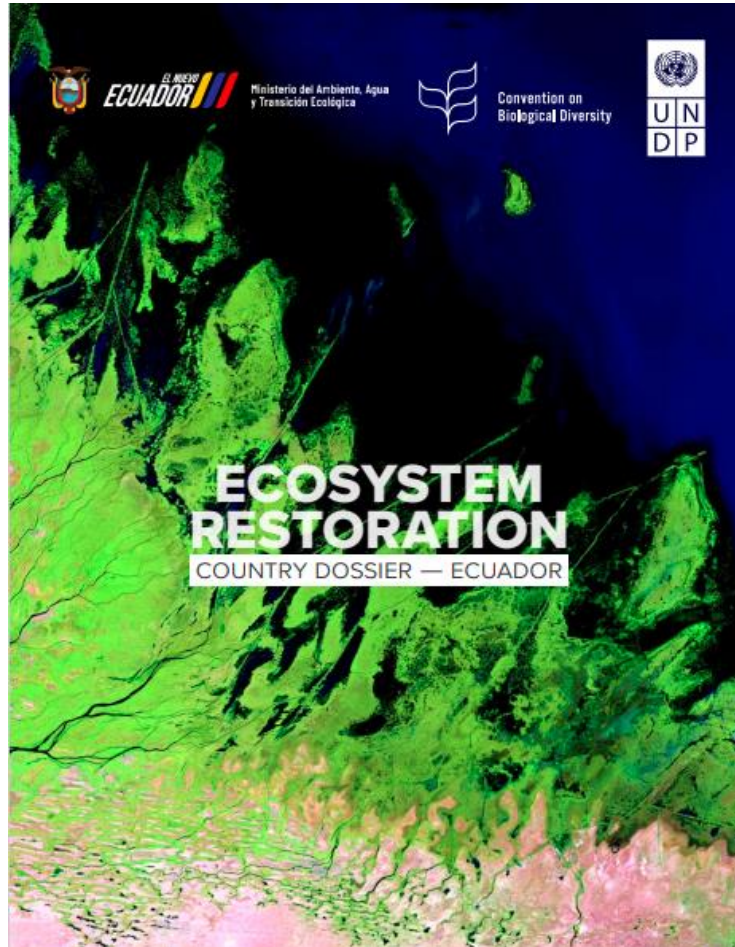
Some results

UNBL national workspace



Some results

National Ecosystem Restoration Dossier



https://www.learningfornature.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/ENGLISH_EcosystemRestorationDossierEcuador.pdf

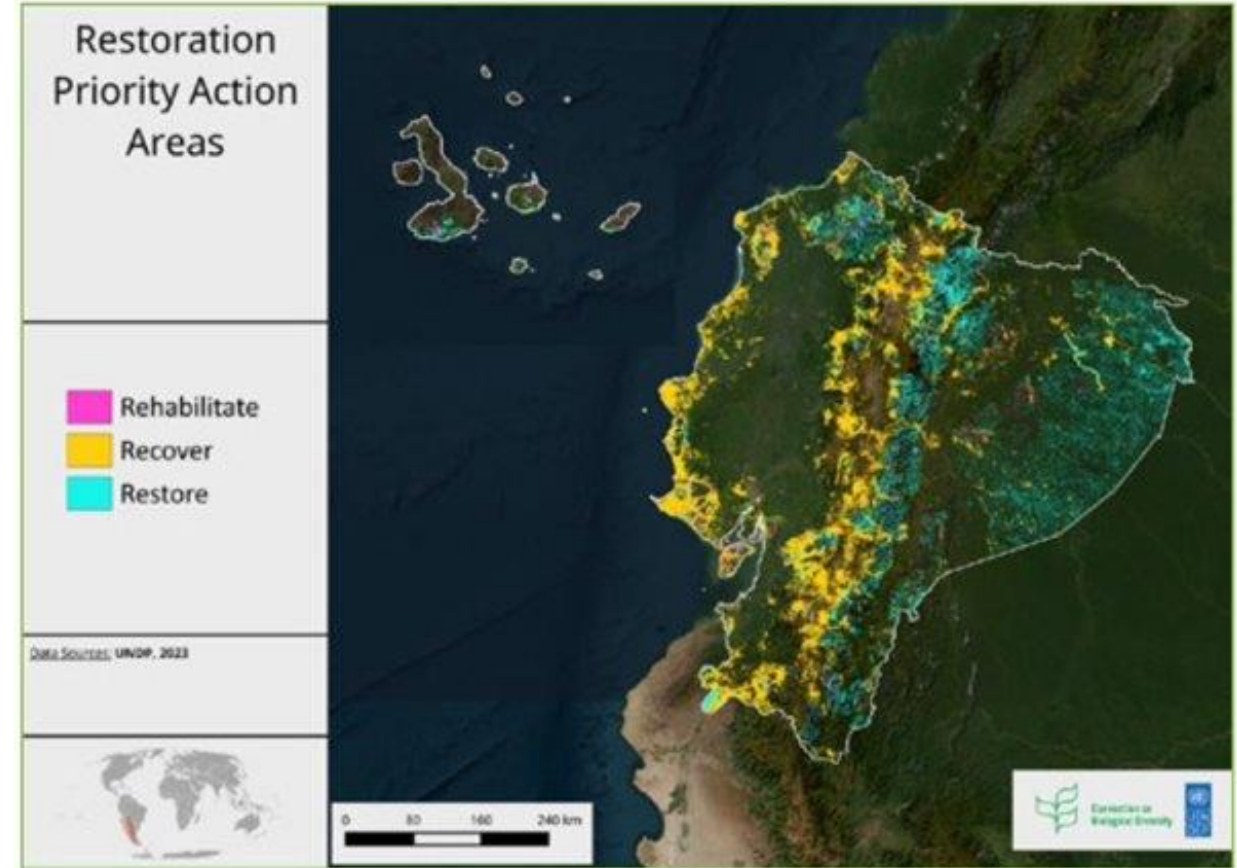
Final Report



Implementation

Nature Transitions Support Program:

In the NTSP project, the modelling of ecosystem services was performed to compare the change in the benefits between a baseline and a restoration scenario. The restoration scenario developed is based on the two policy-relevant scenarios with the country's aims to expand the areas under restoration, recovery and rehabilitation (3R) of degraded ecosystems. To develop the scenario, the ELSA restoration priorities map (3R) developed by UNDP was used.



Key outcomes of soil erosion impact

GDP Loss from Erosion: Soil erosion causes an estimated \$ 31 million annually, or nearly 0.4% of sector GDP - with a projected **Net Present Value (NPV) loss of \$540 million by 2050.**

Soil erosion severely undermines Ecuador's economic resilience, causing a drop in household consumption by over 85% and in export earnings (nearly 20%). International trade margins collapse by over 111% under erosion.

Restoration as an Economic Strategy: While restoration only slightly reduces erosion, it still **saves \$540 million in NPV terms**, underscoring the long-term fiscal and productivity benefits of ecosystem investments.

Restoration efforts offer limited recovery, with measurable improvements - especially in household welfare, government spending, and investment - these are insufficient to restore baseline economic performance.

Pollination Effect on Macro-economy: key outcomes

Household welfare rebounds to USD 55.6 billion, reducing income losses by nearly half.

Government spending recovers to a positive USD 1.5 billion, restoring fiscal functionality.

International trade margins improve by 57%, indicating regained partial capacity in export logistics and services.

Despite these gains, exports remain negative, and import dependency remains elevated, reflecting persistent weaknesses in supply chains and domestic production capacity.

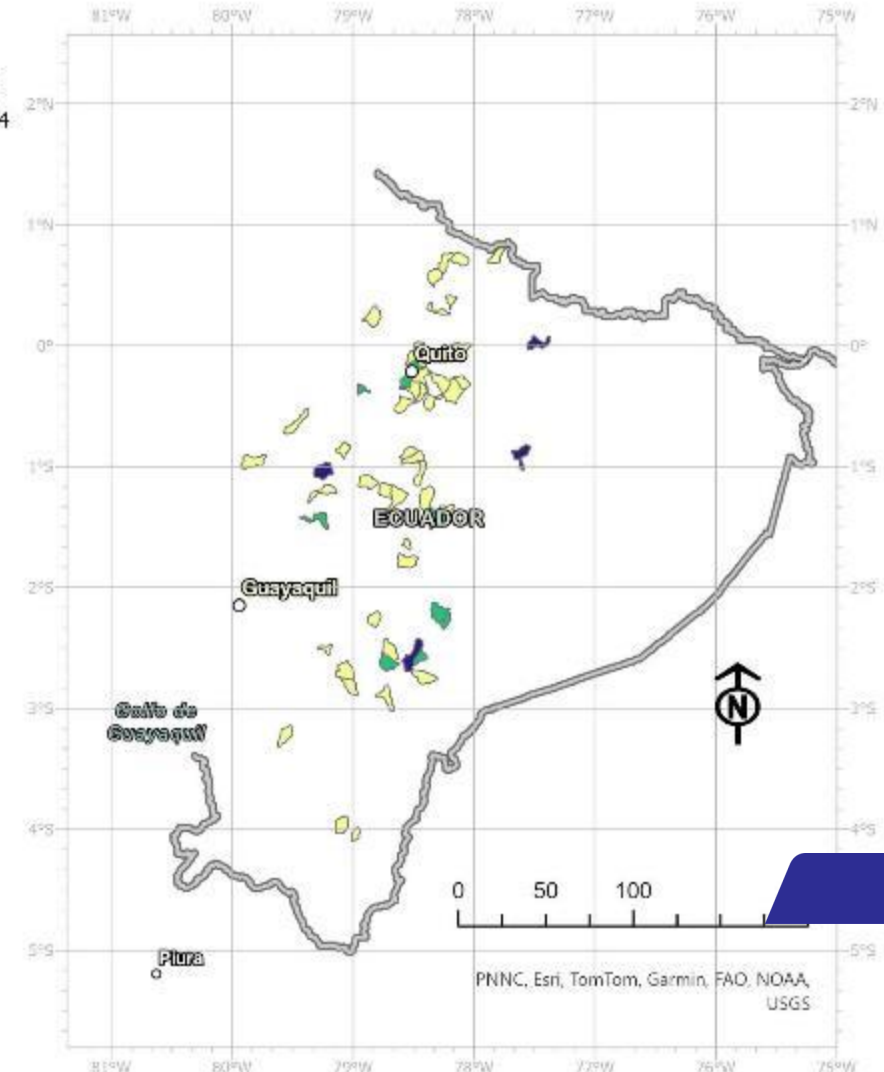
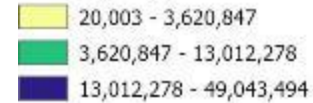
The restoration scenario thus offers important—but not fully sufficient—economic recovery, underscoring the need for integrated interventions.

Hydropower production: Implications

- The results highlight a trade-off between ecosystem restoration and hydropower production. The restoration scenario results in lower annual water yield due to increased vegetation cover affecting hydropower production by decreasing the inflow volume to reservoirs.
- Reduced surface water availability leads to lower hydropower energy generation, with an estimated annual loss of 9.99 GWh. The corresponding economic loss of \$20.08 million underscores the sensitivity of hydropower revenues to changes in water availability.
- Restoration, however, enhances long-term ecosystem services such as groundwater recharge, sediment retention, and biodiversity conservation
- Restoration benefits contribute to watershed resilience and climate adaptation, potentially reducing maintenance costs for hydropower infrastructure over time.

Water Yield for Hydropower Valuation (Annual)

Value (US\$)



Implementation



NBSAP 2025 - 2030:

MOORE Foundation is supporting a new integral project to taking into account the management of spaces undergoing restoration and areas that may require restoration in the close future.

New stakeholders subnational governments and other relevant sectors.

New needs and opportunities

Coordination with other initiatives and Conventions

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CONSTRUYE