



GABON - SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF CRITICAL WETLANDS ECOSYSTEMS (P143914)

AFRICA | Gabon | Environment & Natural Resources Global Practice |
Global Environment Project | Investment Project Financing | FY 2014 | Seq No: 9 | ARCHIVED on 01-May-2018 | ISR32029 |

Implementing Agencies: REPUBLIC OF GABON, DGEPN

Key Dates

Key Project Dates

Bank Approval Date:27-Mar-2014

Effectiveness Date:29-Jul-2014

Planned Mid Term Review Date:15-Feb-2018

Actual Mid-Term Review Date:02-Feb-2018

Original Closing Date:30-Apr-2020

Revised Closing Date:30-Apr-2020

Global Development Objectives

Global Environmental Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The Development Objective of the proposed operation is to enhance protection of biodiversity in selected forested wetlands on the Ramsar list through knowledge creation and development of conservation measures for sustainable wetlands management.

Has the Global Environmental Objective been changed since Board Approval of the Project Objective?

No

Components

Name

Component 1: Generating Knowledge and Monitoring of Selected Critical Wetlands Ecosystems:(Cost \$0.60 M)

Support for Sustainable Management of Selected Critical Wetlands Ecosystems:(Cost \$3.11 M)

Strengthening Institutional Framework to support Wetlands Management:(Cost \$3.33 M)

Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation:(Cost \$0.48 M)

Overall Ratings

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

Implementation Status and Key Decisions



Implementation Progress is on track as evidenced by the fulfillment of the majority of the performance indicators (see results framework). However, the Wetlands of International Importance (WII) remains under threat as the practice of unsustainable fishing methods by local communities through the use of non-regulatory fishing nets (mono-filament nets) is still in effect in many areas. To tackle this issue, the project will fund a vast awareness campaign program on the negative impacts of these nets on fishing resources and, as part of income generating activities sub-component, the project will fund regulatory nets (large mesh) which are not affordable for the communities due to their high costs (10 times higher than the mono-filament nets), in exchange of the illegal mono-filament nets. In parallel to this campaign, the Government will also continue reinforcing the Law prohibiting the sale of mono-filament nets.

Risks

Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool

Risk Category	Rating at Approval	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Political and Governance	--	● Low	● Low
Macroeconomic	--	● Low	● Low
Sector Strategies and Policies	--	● Low	● Low
Technical Design of Project or Program	--	● Low	● Low
Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability	--	● Low	● Low
Fiduciary	--	● Low	● Moderate
Environment and Social	--	● Moderate	● Moderate
Stakeholders	--	● Low	● Low
Other	--	--	--
Overall	--	● Low	● Low

Results

Global Environmental Objective Indicators



► Indicator 1: Ecosystem services valuations are undertaken for each selected site(Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	12-Nov-2017	30-Mar-2018	30-Apr-2020

Comments

This result is partially achieved at the mid-term review and the activities undertaken should enable it to be achieved by the end of the project: (i) the traditional use of natural resources was analyzed in 2016 as part of the social diagnostic -economic project sites; (ii) the results of evaluation of environmental services provided by the targeted Ramsar site has been launched in November 2017 and the results are expected by May 2018.

► Indicator 2: Management plans are prepared for each selected site and under implementation(Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	2.00	0.00	3.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	12-Nov-2017	30-Mar-2018	30-Apr-2020

Comments

Achieving this indicator on the targeted Ramsar sites takes into account the achievement of several intermediate activities under implementations:

- The finalization of the Ramsar sites management manual in Gabon which will be finalized by May 2018 at the latest is a prerequisites (i) to the development of the Bas-Ogooué MP and (ii) to the potential update of the Loango and Birougou MP;
- The reinforcement and extension to all sites of wetlands management activities already implemented including (i) law enforcement missions, (ii) environmental and social audits and assessment process.

► Indicator 3: A national wetlands management strategy is developed(Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	12-Nov-2017	30-Mar-2018	30-Apr-2020

Comments

The development of the national strategy on wetlands in Gabon is planned for 2019, it will capitalize on activities being implemented and on



documents and studies being prepared: (i) the studies undertaken on strengthening biological, socio-economic and ecosystem value knowledge;(ii) the ecological monitoring systems;(iii) the Ramsar site management manual in Gabon under development;(iv) feedback on the different methods of natural resource management of the Ramsar sites according to their national status and the frameworks for the participation of stakeholders in their management.

Overall Comments

Intermediate Results Indicators

► Indicator 1.1: A research scheme for the three selected Ramsar sites is developed and being implemented (Yes/No, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	N	Y	Y	Y
Date	28-Feb-2014	12-Nov-2017	30-Mar-2018	30-Apr-2020

Comments

The axes of this program have been defined and its implementation has actually begun with a review and a bibliographical summary of the state of knowledge on the three Ramsar sites, as well as several studies, four of which have already been carried out: (i) vegetation, (ii) aquatic fauna and (iii) bird populations in Lower Ogooué and (iv) socio-economic diagnosis of Ramsar sites, and four are ongoing: (v) assessment of the ecological role of lagoons as spawning sites for the rebuilding of fish stocks in the Ndougou lagoon, (vi) evaluation of the main environmental services provided by the three project ZHIs, (vii) taxonomic inventory for the completion of a complete checklist on the fauna and flora of the site of Birougou and (viii) analysis on the monitoring of waterbirds.

► Indicator 1.2: An ecological monitoring system of wetlands is implemented (Yes/No, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	N	N	N	Y
Date	28-Feb-2014	12-Nov-2017	30-Mar-2018	30-Apr-2020

Comments

The scientific studies undertaken created a baseline dataset to implement an ecological monitoring program for targeted Ramsar sites on several biological parameters but some protocols have yet to be finalized especially for monitoring waterbirds and lagoon fish dynamics to



have a robust ecological monitoring system.

► Indicator 2.1: Land area where sustainable land management (SLM) practices have been adopted as a result of the project (Hectare(Ha), Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	9.00	10.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	12-Nov-2017	30-Mar-2018	30-Apr-2020

Comments

This indicator specifically targets the areas of sustainable artisanal agricultural activities developed as part of the Income Generating Activities sub-component. Currently two cooperatives have been supported: (i) the Haute Boumi cooperative, which develops 5 ha of banana and cassava plantations; (ii) Itsana cooperative, which develops 4 hectares of plantations in the buffer zone of the Birougou National Park.

► Indicator 2.2: Forest area under sustainable forestry management (SFM) (according to forest type) (Hectare(Ha), Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	500,000.00	54,424.00	30,000.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	12-Nov-2017	30-Mar-2018	30-Apr-2020

Comments

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► Indicator 2.3: Scores from the Protected Areas Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (METT)* for selected wetlands sites (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	12-Nov-2017	30-Mar-2018	30-Apr-2020

Comments

A PAMETT evaluation was carried out in 2015 and another in December 2017 before the mid-term review. The results show that the end-of-project target values have been exceeded for all Project sites. However, since the margin of improvement of the management efficiency of the selected Ramsar sites is still significant, the project sets itself the objective of maintaining a growth of the PAMETT scores until the end of the Project in 2020.

▲ Scores METT for Monts Birougou site (Number, Custom Breakdown)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	36.00	42.00	52.00	45.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	12-Nov-2017	30-Mar-2018	30-Apr-2020

► Scores METT for Bas Ogooué site (Number, Custom Breakdown)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	13.00	13.00	38.00	20.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	12-Nov-2017	30-Mar-2018	30-Apr-2020

► Indicator 2.4: Direct project beneficiaries (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	50.00	58.00	100.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	12-Nov-2017	30-Mar-2018	30-Apr-2020

Comments



This indicator relates to the direct beneficiaries of the Income Generating Activities sub-component in the selected Ramsar sites and buffer zone. The first IGAs sub-projects financed benefited 58 people including 33 women, or 56.9% of the beneficiaries. The target value of this indicator should be reached with the financing of the nine sub-projects yet pre-identified.

In addition, 79 people, including 17 women, benefited from the training organized as part of the project.

Female beneficiaries (Percentage, Custom Supplement)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	10.00	56.90	30.00

Indicator 3.1: The National Ramsar Committee is in place and functional (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	12-Nov-2017	30-Mar-2018	30-Apr-2020

Comments

The Gabonese National Ramsar Committee was officially created by Ministerial Order 220 / MFEPRN / SG / DGEPN of 16 February 2015. Two meetings held since June 2015 and June 2016 brought together the main stakeholders for the Ramsar sites management in Gabon (ministries departments and civil society). During these meetings, a roadmap for the implementation of the recommendations of the Ramsar Convention in Gabon for 2016-2020 was developed.

Indicator 3.2: Ramsar subcommittees at the selected sites are in place and functional (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	12-Nov-2017	30-Mar-2018	30-Apr-2020

Comments

A subcommittee for the Bas-Ogooué site was created in 2017. It was decided to entrust the Ramsar subcommittees of the Monts Birougou,



Sette-Cama and Petit Loango missions to Local Management Advisory Committees (CCGL) created for Loango and Birougou national parks in accordance with the regulations.

All the sites therefore benefit from local management committees and capacity-building programs for the committee stakeholders are being implemented for their operationalization.

► Indicator 3.3: Ramsar Information Sheets (RIS) are updated (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	12-Nov-2017	30-Mar-2018	30-Apr-2020

Comments

The partnership with the Ramsar Convention Secretariat facilitated hands-on training for various national stakeholders in 2017 and updated fact sheets for all nine ZHIs in Gabon.

► Indicator 3.4: Environmental audits for extractive industries operating in the selected Ramsar sites are conducted (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	6.00	1.00	4.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	12-Nov-2017	30-Mar-2018	30-Apr-2020

Comments

The DGEPN teams conducted 10 audits on the Bas-Ogooué site: six in 2016 and four in 2017, with industrial companies (forest, mining, oil) operating in Bas-Ogooué. The method used during these interventions has been refined and systematized, and will be used for other sites. An error was made in the November 2017 interim ISR, the number of audits was counted and not the number of Ramsar sites covered by audits.



► Indicator 3.5: Maps including human settlements, industrial activities, and hydrological systems for the selected Ramsar sites are elaborated (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	1.00	3.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	12-Nov-2017	30-Mar-2018	30-Apr-2020

Comments

Basic maps of Ramsar sites are currently available in the fact sheets of the Ramsar database. Scientific studies have produced maps for Bas-Ogooué (vegetation, human settlements, industrial activities and hydrological systems) (these maps are presented in the book "The Delta of Ogooué"). The ANPN's GIS department has been strengthened and the DGEPN GIS department has been created in 2017 but the various existing data still need to be combined to produce advanced maps for other Ramsar sites.

► Indicator 4.1: Minimum implementation of annual work plan is completed (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	58.00	41.00	100.00
Date	28-Feb-2014	12-Nov-2017	30-Mar-2018	30-Apr-2020

Comments

The implementation of annual work plans is measured as a percentage of the number of activities performed in the year compared to the number of planned activities.

► Indicator 4.2: Project safeguard instruments are diligently implemented (Yes/No, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	N	Y	Y	Y
Date	28-Feb-2014	12-Nov-2017	30-Mar-2018	30-Apr-2020

Comments

The mid-term review allowed: (i) to appoint a new environmental officer within the DGEPN who will benefit from further training; (ii) to highlight the obligations to implement the safeguards instruments and to report this implementation; and (iii) to provide training on environmental and social safeguards to DGEPN and ANPN technicians.



Overall Comments

Data on Financial Performance

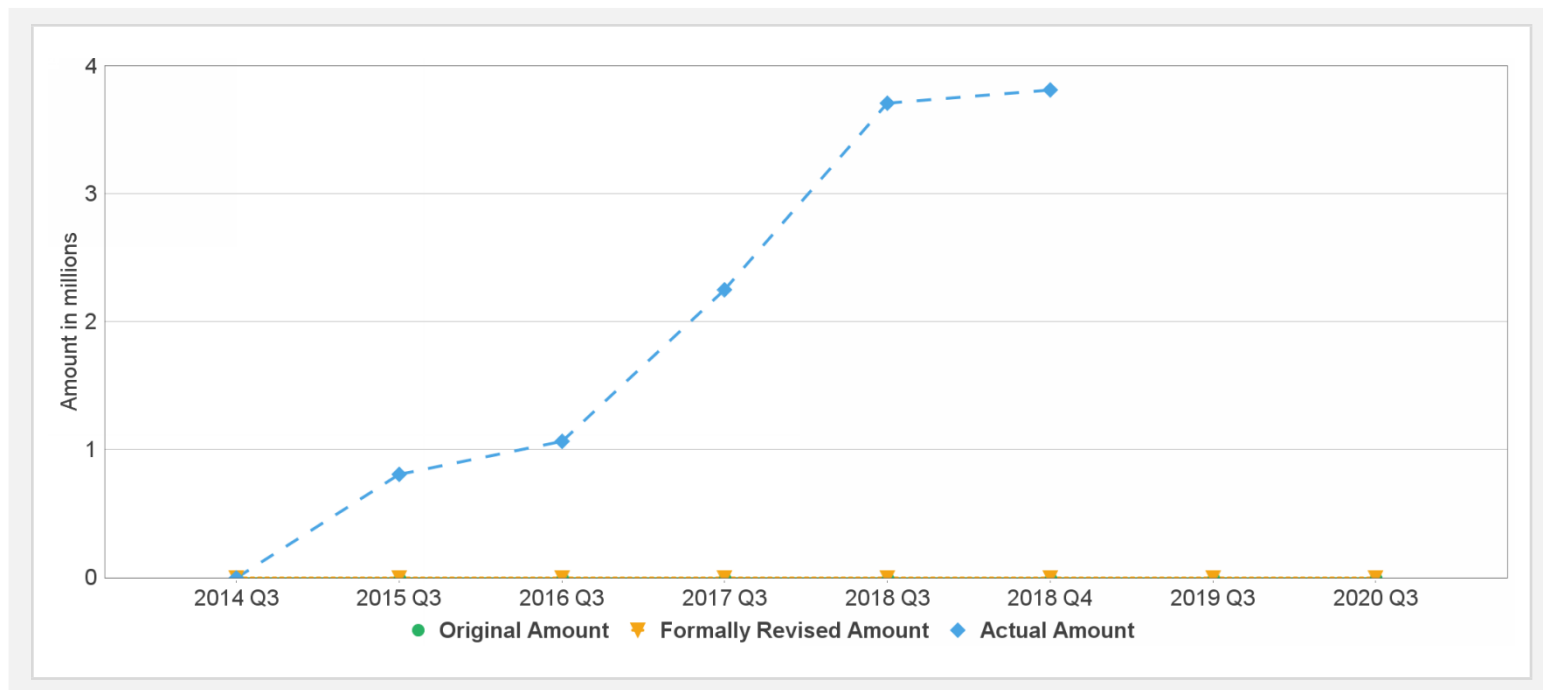
Disbursements (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Disbursed
P143914	TF-16689	Effective	USD	7.52	7.52	0.00	3.81	3.71	51%

Key Dates (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P143914	TF-16689	Effective	09-Apr-2014	09-Apr-2014	29-Jul-2014	30-Apr-2020	30-Apr-2020

Cumulative Disbursements



Restructuring History

There has been no restructuring to date.



Related Project(s)

There are no related projects.