

# GEF - PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT (PIR)

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**UNEP GEF PIR Fiscal Year 2024**  
Reporting from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024

## 1 PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

### 1.1 Project Details

<b>GEF ID:</b> 5882	<b>Umoja WBS:</b> GFL-11207-14AC0003-SB-005823
<b>SMA IPMR ID:</b> 29118	<b>Grant ID:</b> S1-32NPL-000006
<b>Project Short Title:</b> Gabon ABS	
<b>Project Title:</b> Gabon - Implementation of National Strategy and Action Plan on Access to Genetic Resources and The Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Accruing From Their Utilization	
<b>Duration months planned:</b>	36
<b>Duration months age:</b>	110,6
<b>Project Type:</b>	Medium Sized Project (MSP)
<b>Parent Programme if child project:</b>	
<b>Project Scope:</b>	National
<b>Region:</b>	Africa
<b>Countries:</b>	Gabon
<b>GEF Focal Area(s):</b>	Biodiversity
<b>GEF financing amount:</b>	\$ 863,200.00
<b>Co-financing amount:</b>	\$ 1,940,000.00
<b>Date of CEO Endorsement/Approval:</b>	2016-01-13
<b>UNEP Project Approval Date:</b>	2016-09-12
<b>Start of Implementation (PCA entering into force):</b>	2016-09-12
<b>Date of Inception Workshop, if available:</b>	2017-06-16
<b>Date of First Disbursement:</b>	2017-08-24
<b>Total disbursement as of 30 June 2024:</b>	\$ 372,480.00
<b>Total expenditure as of 30 June:</b>	\$ 164,476.00

<b>Midterm undertaken?:</b>	No
<b>Actual Mid-Term Date, if taken:</b>	
<b>Expected Mid-Term Date, if not taken:</b>	2025-04-30
<b>Completion Date Planned - Original PCA:</b>	2020-03-31
<b>Completion Date Revised - Current PCA:</b>	2026-12-31
<b>Expected Terminal Evaluation Date:</b>	2026-04-30
<b>Expected Financial Closure Date:</b>	2026-04-30

## 1.2 Project Description

To implement the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit sharing through a coordinated and coherent strategy that incorporates awareness raising and capacity development. The specific problem that this project will address is the lack of a functioning national legal, political and institutional framework in Gabon to allow it to implement and meet its obligations as a Party to the Nagoya Protocol. The current regulatory and institutional landscape is not adequate to foster the effective implementation of the Nagoya Protocol, and Gabon is therefore missing out on socio-economic benefits from research on and the use of products derived from bio-genetic resources. Such socio-economic benefits would accrue in an ABS system compliant with the Nagoya Protocol and could be used to bolster biodiversity conservation and management, so as to contribute to a better functioning ABS system. Component 1: Strengthening capacity of stakeholders Component 2: Regulatory framework on ABS Component 3: Institutional Framework for the Nagoya Protocol. Executing agency and main government/other partners: Ministry of Forest, Environment & Protection of Natural Resources, of Gabon

## 1.3 Project Contacts

<b>Division(s) Implementing the project</b>	Ecosystems Division
<b>Name of co-implementing Agency</b>	
<b>Executing Agency (ies)</b>	Ministry of Forest, Environment & Protection of Natural Resources, of Gabon
<b>names of Other Project Partners</b>	Law Division
<b>UNEP Portfolio Manager(s)</b>	Johan Robinson
<b>UNEP Task Manager(s)</b>	Andre Toham
<b>UNEP Budget/Finance Officer</b>	Paul Vrontamitis
<b>UNEP Support Assistants</b>	Eric Mugo
<b>Manager/Representative</b>	Stanislas Stephen Mouba

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<b>Project Manager</b>	Emmanuel BAYANI NGOYI
<b>Finance Manager</b>	Romuald KASSA
<b>Communications Lead, if relevant</b>	

## 2 Overview of Project Status

### 2.1 UNEP PoW & UN

<b>UNEP Current Subprogramme(s):</b>	Thematic: Nature action subprogramme, Foundational: Environmental governance
<b>UNEP previous Subprogramme(s):</b>	Environmental governance foundational sub-programme
<b>PoW Indicator(s):</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nature: (i) Number of national or subnational entities that, with UNEP support, adopt integrated approaches to address environmental and social issues and/or tools for valuing, monitoring and sustainably managing biodiversity.</li> <li>Nature: (ii) Number of financial, public- and private-sector entities whose financial decisions and risk management frameworks take biodiversity and ecosystem services into consideration, and the increase in financial flows towards ecosystem management as a result of UNEP support.</li> </ul>
<b>UNSDCF/UNDAF linkages</b>	The project responds to the Republic of Gabon's UNDAF 2018-2022. The Strategic priority 4: Environmental sustainability and resilience: and its outcome by 2022, Gabon will improve the preservation of biodiversity and the management of its natural resources, particularly forestry, mining, energy and land, in a manner compatible with environmental sustainability.
<b>Link to relevant SDG Goals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss</li> <li>Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development</li> </ul>
<b>Link to relevant SDG Targets:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15.6 Promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed</li> <li>17.14 Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development</li> </ul>

### 2.2. GEF Core and Sub Indicators

GEF core or sub indicators targeted by the project as defined at CEO Endorsement/Approval, as well as results

Indicators	Targets - Expected Value			Materialized to date
	Mid-term	End-of-project	Total Target	

Implementation Status 2023: 7th PIR

### 2.3. Implementation Status and Risks

	PIR#	Rating towards outcomes (section 3.1)	Rating towards outputs (section 3.2)	Risk rating (section 4.2)
FY 2024	7th PIR	U	U	M
FY 2023	6th PIR	U	U	M
FY 2022	5th PIR	U	U	M
FY 2021	4th PIR	U	U	M
FY 2020	3rd PIR	MS	U	M
FY 2019	2nd PIR	MS	MS	L
FY 2018	1st PIR	S	S	L
FY 2017				
FY 2016				
FY 2015				

#### Summary of status

Rating towards outcomes: The rating is U because the project is not making progress as planned. The rating is U because the project is not making progress as planned. The EA did not have in place sufficient project execution arrangement. UNEP has worked with the EA to revise the workplan and ensure comprehensive execution arrangement has been made, following which UNEP disbursed the funds in early 2024 to resume the project activities.

#### 2.4 Co Finance

<b>Planned Co-finance:</b>	\$ 1,940,000
<b>Actual to date:</b>	
<b>Progress</b>	<b>Justify progress in terms of materialization of expected co-finance. State any relevant challenges:</b>

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	Not reported, due to slow progress implementation.
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## 2.5. Stakeholder

<b>Date of project steering committee meeting</b>	2018-01-09
<b>Stakeholder engagement (will be uploaded to GEF Portal)</b>	The project has put in place stakeholder consultation and participation of relevant stakeholders' groups including, representative of government agencies, universities, and indigenous people in the project steering committee to provide guidance to the project implementation.



## 2.6. Gender

<b>Does the project have a gender action plan?</b>	No
<b>Gender mainstreaming (will be uploaded to GEF Portal):</b>	<p>During the stakeholder sensitization workshops gender inclusivity was considered, and thus far the country has complied and submitted their participant lists provided for their awareness raising and capacity building workshops.</p> <p>With regard to gender mainstreaming, particular attention was paid to gender equality issues in the conduct of project activities. During the stakeholder sensitization and capacity building workshops gender inclusivity was considered and 35% of the participants were women and their involvement in the decision-making process has been promoted.</p>

## 2.7. ESSM

<b>Moderate/High risk projects (in terms of Environmental and social safeguards)</b>	<p><b>Was the project classified as moderate/high risk CEO Endorsement/Approval Stage?</b></p> <p>No</p> <p><b>If yes, what specific safeguard risks were identified in the SRIF/ESERN?</b></p> <p>N/A</p>
<b>New social and/or environmental risks</b>	<p><b>Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during the reporting period?</b></p> <p>No</p> <p><b>If yes, describe the new risks or changes?</b></p> <p>N/A</p>
<b>Complaints and grievances related to social and/or environmental impacts</b>	<p><b>Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential) during the reporting period?</b></p> <p>No</p> <p><b>If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail, including the status, significance, who was involved and what actions were taken?</b></p> <p>N/A</p>
<b>Environmental and social safeguards management</b>	Awareness raising and trainings have been organized for indigenous people on the opportunities of the Nagoya Protocol and the

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	valuation of associated traditional knowledge associated to genetic resources.
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## 2.8. KM/Learning

<b>Knowledge activities and products</b>	The project has developed a strategy for communications, education and awareness raising of the public and development of education materials. This includes the development of national ABS Clearing House to inform users and providers of genetic resources.
<b>Main learning during the period</b>	Working with the Government Ministry is a mid and long term undertaking, requiring time for improvement of the Ministry capability to deploy and implement the approved project

## 2.9. Stories

<b>Stories to be shared</b>	No stories to be shared during this reporting period
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### 3 Performance

#### 3.1 Rating of progress towards achieving the project outcomes

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
Objective: To implement the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit sharing through a coordinated and coherent strategy that incorporates awareness raising and capacity development	The implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in Gabon is facilitated through relevant legal frameworks and texts, institutionalization of a Competent National Authority and through ABS awareness raising and capacity development	No policy, legislative and administrative framework on ABS or institutional arrangements are in place	Training and capacity development on ABS procedures for stakeholders has begun	Legal frameworks and legislative texts are drafted	0%	No progress due to lack of comprehensive project execution arrangement in place, to lack of EA responsiveness and institutional instability (High staff turn-over).	U
		Limited capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol	A Competent National Authority is established	Identified enabling conditions for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol are met	0%	No progress due to lack of comprehensive project execution arrangement in place, to lack of EA responsiveness and institutional instability (High staff turn-over).	U
Outcome 1: Strengthened capacity for the implementation of Nagoya Protocol and its provisions	Relevant public servants capable of developing cross-sectoral legal and administrative ABS measures.	No capacity development activities for ABS. Two awareness raising sessions were	At least four training or awareness raising sessions for different stakeholder groups (both	At least 250 persons trained, of which at least 100 officials (accounted for by gender)	0%	No progress due to lack of comprehensive project execution arrangement in place, to lack of EA responsiveness and institutional instability (High staff turn-over).	U

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
		held in February and March 2013.	men and women)				
	ILC engaged and knowledgeable about PIC and MAT procedures	No capacity development activities for ABS. Two awareness raising sessions were held in February and March 2013.	At least four training or awareness raising sessions for different stakeholder groups (both men and women)	At least 250 persons trained, of which at least 100 officials (accounted for by gender)	0%	No progress due to lack of comprehensive project execution arrangement in place, to lack of EA responsiveness and institutional instability (High staff turn-over).	U
Outcome 2: Regulatory and administrative procedures for ABS are developed, submitted validated and applied	1. A bill incorporating ABS provisions is submitted for adoption	No specific ABS bill or regulation is in place	The bill and the regulations are drafted	The bill and the regulations are ready for adoption and integration into sectoral processes	0%	No progress due to lack of comprehensive project execution arrangement in place, to lack of EA responsiveness and institutional instability (High staff turn-over).	U
	2. At least three sectoral regulations incorporating ABS provisions are submitted for adoption	No specific ABS bill or regulation is in place	The bill and the regulations are drafted	The bill and the regulations are ready for adoption and integration into sectoral processes	0%	No progress due to lack of comprehensive project execution arrangement in place, to lack of EA responsiveness and institutional instability (High staff turn-over).	U
Outcome 3: The institutional ABS	1. One regulation for the	No	A CNA is	Website	0%	No progress due to lack of comprehensive	U

Project Objective and Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline level	Mid-Term Target or Milestones	End of Project Target	Progress as of current period (numeric, percentage, or binary entry only)	Summary by the EA of attainment of the indicator & target as of 30 June	Progress rating
framework is established and operational	establishment and procedures of a Competent National Authority (CNA) is prepared	Competent National Authority (CAN) in place. 3 Institutional scenarios for a CNA are elaborated	established	established and functional Check points are nominated		project execution arrangement in place, to lack of EA responsiveness and institutional instability (High staff turn-over).	
	2. One regulation designating control points for ABS is drafted	No regulation on ABS control points available	Check points are identified	"Website established and functional Check points are nominated"	0%	No progress due to lack of country responsiveness and institutional instability (High staff turn-over).	U
	3. Website on ABS in Gabon is endorsed by the CBD ABS clearing house	No regulation on ABS control points available	Check points are identified	"Website established and functional Check points are nominated"	0%	No progress due to lack of comprehensive project execution arrangement in place, to lack of EA responsiveness and institutional instability (High staff turn-over).	U

### 3.2 Rating of progress implementation towards delivery of outputs (Implementation Progress)

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
1	Output 1.1.1: Definition of roles and responsibilities of stakeholders in	2024-12-31	N/A	0%	No progress due to lack of country	U

Component	Output/Activity	Expected completion date	Implementation status as of previous reporting period (%)	Implementation status as of current reporting period (%)	Progress rating justification, description of challenges faced and explanations for any delay	Progress Rating
Strengthening capacity of stakeholders	the ABS processes				responsiveness and institutional instability (High staff turn-over).	
	Output 1.1.2: Organization of seminars for communication, education and awareness raising of the public (CEPA) on ABS matters	2024-12-31	N/A	0%	No progress due to lack of country responsiveness and institutional instability (High staff turn-over).	U
	Output 1.1.3: Training on ABS procedures for the main stakeholders of indigenous and local communities (ILC) and staff of the administrations involved (customs, ministries of forests, environment, trade, research)	2019-06-30	100%	100%	Completed	S
2 Regulatory framework on ABS	Output 2.1.1: Elaboration of an ABS law and regulations	2024-12-31	N/A	0%	No progress due to lack of country responsiveness and institutional instability (High staff turn-over).	U
	Output 2.1.2: Development of procedures for granting access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits (PIC, MAT, manuals)	2024-12-31	N/A	0%	No progress due to lack of country responsiveness and institutional instability (High staff turn-over).	U
3 Institutional Framework for the Nagoya Protocol	Output 3.1.1: Establishment of a Competent National Authority (ABS-CNA)	2024-12-31	N/A	0%	No progress due to lack of country responsiveness and institutional instability (High staff turn-over)	U
	Output 3.1.2 Establishment and enhancement of a clearing house and information exchange center for ABS (ABS CH)	2024-12-31	N/A	0%	No progress due to lack of country responsiveness and institutional instability (High staff turn-over)	U
	Output 3.1.3: Identification and designation of surveillance and check points for monitoring the utilization of genetic resources	2024-12-31	N/A	0%	No progress due to lack of country responsiveness and institutional instability (High staff turn-over)	U

The Task Manager will decide on the relevant level of disaggregation (i.e. either at the output or activity level).

## 4 Risks

### 4.1 Table A. Project management Risk

Please refer to the Risk Help Sheet for more details on rating

Risk Factor	EA Rating	TM Rating
1 Management structure - Roles and responsibilities	High	High
2 Governance structure - Oversight	Low	Low
3 Implementation schedule	High	High
4 Budget	Low	Low
5 Financial Management	Low	Low
6 Reporting	High	Low
7 Capacity to deliver	High	High

If any of the risk factors is rated a Moderate or higher, please include it in Table B below

### 4.2 Table B. Risk-log

#### Implementation Status (Current PIR)

Insert ALL the risks identified either at CEO endorsement (inc. safeguards screening), previous/current PIRs, and MTRs. Use the last line to propose a suggested consolidated rating.

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
Risk 1 In country capacity is low	All outcomes & outputs	N/A	L	L	M		M	M	=	"Project activities have been impacted by high national project Staff turn-over. in-country low capacity. and lengthy administrative

Risks	Risk affecting: Outcome / outputs	CEO ED	PIR 1	PIR 2	PIR 3	PIR 4	PIR 5	Current PIR	Δ	Justification
										procedures. which in term may affect the overall project duration. There is a need to accelerate the overall project execution. UNEP has taken some actions to build capacity of the project team and will work closely with the Ministry/National Project Unit to speed up the project activities execution. "
Risk 2 Nagoya Protocol receives low priority and stakeholders fail to engage in the project	Risk 2 Nagoya Protocol receives low priority and stakeholders fail to engage in the project	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	=	
Risk 3 High staff turnover in government agencies and loss of important staff with their "corporate knowledge".	All outcomes & outputs	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	=	see above
Risk 4 Communities may oppose regulations that restrict their activities relevant to ABS	All outcomes & outputs	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	=	
Risk 5 Lack of communication and coordination between participating agencies in-country	All outcomes & outputs	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	=	See above
Risk 6 Political buy in to NP changes for the worse during the project	All outcomes & outputs	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	=	See above
Management structure - Roles and responsibilities	All outcomes & outputs	N/A	M	M	M	M	M	M	=	See above
Implementation schedule	All outcomes & outputs	N/A	M	M	M	M	M	M	=	See above
Capacity to deliver	All outcomes & outputs	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	=	See above
		M	M	M	M	M	M	M	=	



### 4.3 Table C. Outstanding Moderate, Significant, and High risks

Additional mitigation measures for the next periods

Risk	Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)	Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period	What	When	By Whom
Risk 1 In country capacity is low	Due to delays in the project execution. no progress has been made to mitigate all these risks	UNEP is working with the National Project Unit and the project activities have just resumed under the new agreement	Additional capacity building of the national project team is required	Immediately	Recipient country
Risk 2 Nagoya Protocol receives low priority and stakeholders fail to engage in the project	Due to delays in the project execution. no progress has been made to mitigate all these risks	UNEP is working with the National Project Unit and the project activities have just resumed under the new agreement	Additional capacity building of the national project team is required	Immediately	Recipient country
Risk 3 High staff turnover in government agencies and loss of important staff with their “corporate knowledge”.	Due to delays in the project execution. no progress has been made to mitigate all these risks	UNEP is working with the National Project Unit and the project activities have just resumed under the new agreement	Additional capacity building of the national project team is required	Immediately	Recipient country
Risk 4 Communities may oppose regulations that restrict their activities relevant to ABS	Due to delays in the project execution. no progress has been made to mitigate all these risks	UNEP is working with the National Project Unit and the project activities have just resumed under the new agreement	Additional capacity building of the national project team is required	Immediately	Recipient country
Risk 5 Lack of communication and coordination between participating agencies in-country	Due to delays in the project execution. no progress has been made to mitigate all these risks	UNEP is working with the National Project Unit and the project activities have just resumed under the new agreement	Additional capacity building of the national project team is required	Immediately	Recipient country

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Actions decided during the previous reporting instance (PIRt-1, MTR, etc.)</b>	<b>Actions effectively undertaken this reporting period</b>	<b>What</b>	<b>When</b>	<b>By Whom</b>
Risk 6 Political buy in to NP changes for the worse during the project	Due to delays in the project execution. no progress has been made to mitigate all these risks	UNEP is working with the National Project Unit and the project activities have just resumed under the new agreement	Additional capacity building of the national project team is required	Immediately	Recipient country
Management structure - Roles and responsibilities	Due to delays in the project execution. no progress has been made to mitigate all these risks	UNEP is working with the National Project Unit and the project activities have just resumed under the new agreement	Additional capacity building of the national project team is required	Immediately	Recipient country
"Implementation schedule"	Due to delays in the project execution. no progress has been made to mitigate all these risks	UNEP is working with the National Project Unit and the project activities have just resumed under the new agreement	Additional capacity building of the national project team is required	Immediately	Recipient country
"Capacity to deliver"	Due to delays in the project execution. no progress has been made to mitigate all these risks	UNEP is working with the National Project Unit and the project activities have just resumed under the new agreement	Additional capacity building of the national project team is required	Immediately	Recipient country

High Risk (H): There is a probability of greater than 75% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face high risks. Significant Risk (S): There is a probability of between 51% and 75% that assumptions may fail to hold and/or the project may face substantial risks. Moderate Risk (M): There is a probability of between 26% and 50% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks. Low Risk (L): There is a probability of up to 25% that assumptions may fail to hold or materialize, and/or the project may face only modest risks.

## 5 Amendment - GeoSpatial

### Project Minor Amendments

Minor amendments are changes to the project design or implementation that do not have significant impact on the project objectives or scope, or an increase of the GEF project financing up to 5% as described in Annex 9 of the Project and Program Cycle Policy Guidelines. Please tick each category for which a change occurred in the fiscal year of reporting and provide a description of the change that occurred in the textbox. You may attach supporting document as appropriate

#### 5.1 Table A: Listing of all Minor Amendment (TM)

Minor Amendments	Changes
Results Framework:	No
Components and Cost:	No
Institutional and implementation arrangements:	No
Financial Management:	No
Implementation Schedule:	
Executing Entity:	No
Executing Entity Category:	No
Minor project objective change:	No
Safeguards:	No
Risk analysis:	No
Increase of GEF financing up to 5%:	No
Location of project activity:	No
Other:	No

Minor amendments

#### 5.2 Table B: History of project revisions and/or extensions (TM)

Version	Type	Signed/Approved by UNEP	Entry Into Force (last signature Date)	Agreement Expiry Date	Main changes introduced in this revision

Version	Type	Signed/Approved by UNEP	Entry Into Force (last signature Date)	Agreement Expiry Date	Main changes introduced in this revision
	Amendment & Extension	2021-06-10	2021-09-23	2024-06-30	Implementation schedule
	Extension	2024-06-30	2024-06-30	2025-12-31	Implementation schedule update

GEO Location Information:

The Location Name, Latitude and Longitude are required fields insofar as an Agency chooses to enter a project location under the set format. The Geo Name ID is required in instances where the location is not exact, such as in the case of a city, as opposed to the exact site of a physical infrastructure. The Location & Activity Description fields are optional. Project longitude and latitude must follow the Decimal Degrees WGS84 format and Agencies are encouraged to use at least four decimal points for greater accuracy. Users may add as many locations as appropriate. Web mapping applications such as OpenStreetMap or GeoNames use this format. Consider using a conversion tool as needed, such as: <https://coordinates-converter.com> Please see the Geocoding User Guide by clicking here

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GEO Name ID	Location Description	Activity Description
Libreville	0.390100	9.454400		Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques	

Please provide any further geo-referenced information and map where the project interventions is taking place as appropriate. \*

[Annex any linked geospatial file]