

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

Project ID:	10166
Project Name:	Strengthening human and natural systems resilience to climate change through mangrove ecosystems conservation and sustainable use in southern Benin
Countr(ies):	Benin
Implementing Agency:	FAO

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I. Overview

A. Description

Project name

Strengthening human and natural systems resilience to climate change through mangrove ecosystems conservation and sustainable use in southern Benin

Country

Benin

GEF ID

10166

Implementing Agency

FAO

Executing Entity

Ministry of Living Environment and Sustainable Development (MCVDD)

Trust Fund

MTF

Project Type

FSP

PIR Submission

9/12/2025

Fiscal Year , PIR Number

FY 2025 , 1st PIR

Objective

To increase the resilience of mangrove ecosystems and their dependent agricultural, forestry and fishery communities to climate change and support the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services within the mangrove landscapes of Ramsar sites 1017 and 1018.

B. Ratings and Disbursements

Implementation Progress

Satisfactory

Development Objective

Satisfactory

Overall risk

Moderate Risk

Project Financing

7,835,750.00

Cumulative Disbursement

2,014,482.50

C. Key Dates

CEO Endorsement/Approval

10/22/2022

Agency Approval

3/18/2022

Implementation Start 12/1/2023	First Disbursement 12/31/2023
Expected MTR	Actual MTR
Expected Completion 2/29/2028	Actual Completion

II. PROGRESS STATUS AND ISSUES

A. Progress: Information on progress and outcomes of project implementation activities

The implementation of the project activities from its inception until June 30, 2025 has resulted in: - Nine (9) communal mangrove landscape conservation plans covering a total area of 245,627 ha, including 1,303 ha of mangroves. It is estimated that mangrove landscapes cover approximately 20%, or 49,125.40 ha, of the total area to be covered by the integrated management plans. - Signing of six (6) agreements with the CPCA/PCAA for forest management; - Signing of three (03) contracts with NGOs to support co-management structures; - Restoration of 43.3 ha of mangrove in the three intervention centers; - Reforestation of 25.25 ha with acacia auriculiformis in the intervention areas; - Opening of 10.9 km of watercourses invaded by vegetation; - Validation and finalization of several study reports including: the monitoring and evaluation plan, the communication plan; the gender action plan, the identification of value chains, the business plan, the fine and detailed mapping, land security; the strategy and communal plans for the conservation of mangroves, the inventory of fauna and flora. - Signature of three (03) agreements with NGOs for the equipment of environmental clubs and the implementation of school plantations; - Organization of twenty-seven training sessions on administrative management, female leadership and negotiation techniques in the nine (09) communes with 2138 people including 61.31% women. 1598 people from CPCA/PCAA. - Organization of an exchange visit and training of 20 groups of women salt workers on improved extraction techniques for salt production; - Organization of three training courses on agroecology practices in mangrove ecosystems. - A partnership is underway with the Non-Governmental Organization “Benin Ecotourism Concern (Eco-Benin)” for the development and certification of a Carbon Project linked to the reduction of wood energy consumption in the mangrove areas of Mono and the Atlantic.

B. Challenges: Information on challenges of project implementation activities

'- Update the development and management plan for Grand Nokoué and Sitatunga - Implement restoration, reforestation and road opening activities in accordance with the forest management agreement - Implement activities related to component 2 of the project; - Develop the Project's administrative and accounting procedures manual - Develop the procedures and risk management manual - Set up the IT platform for backing up and securing Project data

C. Stakeholder Engagement

Profile	Name of the stakeholder	Type of partnership	Progress, results and challenges in stakeholder engagement
Government institutions	DGEFC	Key	She provides national leadership for the project and is a member of the steering committee. She is at the strategic level and facilitates exchanges with FAO and the Project Management Unit. She contributes to the implementation of reforestation restoration activities and the opening of waterways to facilitate navigation, commercial traffic, and fishing. In terms of challenges, she will have to continue the actions listed above.
Government institutions	DGEC; ABE; CENAGREF; DPH; DDEAP; CIF	Key	They are members of the project steering committee and participate in monitoring and controlling the project. They continue to support the project in its activities related to climate change adaptation and the regulation of fishing activities.
NGO	ECO-BENIN; ACTION PLUS; NGO BEES; etc.	Key	They are operational partners of the project and carry out mobilization and social inclusion activities, including IEC and capacity building. They must contribute to the successful implementation of restoration, reforestation, opening of waterways, sanctification, etc. activities.
Private sector entities	Microfinance structures (AVEC, DAME, CAVECA, Alidé, PADME); private sector companies involved in value chains, etc.	Secondary	The activities for which its structures are needed have not yet started. Faced with the challenges, the UGP must establish links with these structures to ensure their effective involvement.
Others	Universities and research laboratories (LABEF; LEA) etc.	Key	The project has signed partnership agreements with research laboratories to conduct research aimed at filling knowledge gaps. Two reports were produced as part of this partnership in 2024. Further reports are expected as part of this partnership.
Others	Co-management associations of community biodiversity conservation areas (CCBA), community environmental protection areas (ACPE) and other relevant CBOs	Primary	- Co-management associations (ACCB/ACPE) and other community organizations benefit from capacity building and carry out forestry activities and duplicate the concepts received among their peers. "In terms of challenges, we must respect the project's guidelines and continue eco-citizen monitoring for the preservation of mangrove ecosystems.

D. Gender Equality

Category	Yes/No	Briefly describe the progress and results achieved during this reporting period.
a. Closing gender gaps in access to and control of global natural resources	Yes	Development of the gender and social inclusion action plan. Development of the document identifying land security activities guaranteeing women's access to land.
b. Improve women's participation and decision-making	Yes	- Nine (09) environmental clubs were created in the project intervention municipalities with 540 young junior ambassadors, 50% of whom were women; - Organization of twenty-seven training sessions on administrative management, female leadership and negotiation techniques in the nine (09) municipalities with 2138 people, 61.31% of whom were women. 1598 people from CPCA/PCAA. Participation of women and young people in reforestation and restoration activities; - Organization of exchange visits and training of 20 groups of women salt workers on improved salt extraction and production techniques.
c. generate socio-economic benefits or services for women	Yes	- Improving income through their participation in mangrove restoration, reforestation and fair activities. - Creating partnerships through meetings and exchange visits. Identification of identified sectors: Coastal Pole: Smoked Fish and Fresh Tomatoes; Ahémé Pole: Smoked Fish, Fresh Cassava, Fresh Fish and White Gari, Ouémé Pole: Smoked Fish, Organic Compost, Fresh Fish, Fresh Corn and Fresh Tomatoes.
Other good practices in gender	Yes	Taking gender into account in all project activities (meeting; validation; consultation, etc.).

E. Knowledge Management

Knowledge Management and Learning (KML): Does the project have a KML strategy?	No
If yes, what is the status of implementation? Please describe in your response how the project promotes knowledge sharing and learning among stakeholders at the national and subnational levels.	
If NO, how does the project identify, collect and document good practices?	- The project identifies good practices through IEC activities; exchange visits and meetings. - Holders of these good practices are invited to share their good practices with their peers. - However, the study on the project's knowledge management strategy is underway to refine the identification, collection and archiving.
Please list good practices, including key technical and/or institutional innovations, of the project so far.	- The use of solar panels and seawater for salt production. - The production of compost to replace chemical fertilizers. - The use of legumes to restore soil fertility: the case of mucuna. - The creation and management of "young junior ambassador" environmental clubs.
Communication strategy: Does the project have a communication strategy?	Yes
Please provide a brief overview of the communication successes and challenges during this exercise.	- The creation of young junior ambassadors for environmental clubs as communication relays at the level of the intervention municipalities. - Organization of activities on the ecosystem services of mangroves and the impacts of climate change on five community radio stations (Ahémé FM, Mono FM, Tado FM; Gerdès FM and radio Kpassè in French and local language). - Production of capsules for environmental clubs, environmentally friendly techniques, training on female leadership. In terms of challenges: - Continue raising awareness among stakeholders and strengthening the achievements; - Animate the environmental clubs created; - Establish partnerships with regional television stations.
Humanitarian Story: Please share a humanitarian story from your project, focusing on how it has helped improve people's lives while contributing to the expected global environmental benefits. Please indicate any socioeconomic benefits generated by the project. Please include at least one quote and a beneficiary's perspective, along with associated photos and photo credits.	
Please provide links to related websites and social media accounts	https://youtu.be/zBhftgBJk4?si=puqQxLmjWSckSYC https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1Esu8Hhj2j/ https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1DfJvqSotx/?mibextid=wwXlfr
Please provide a list of publications, leaflets, videos, newsletters or other communication materials	• Production of three (03) capsules on: 1- The creation and installation of members of the Environmental Clubs of the AMBASSADEURS Juniors Mangrove students of Benin in the nine municipalities of intervention of the project in the schools. 2- Environmentally friendly practices (exchange visit of

III: Minor Amendments

CONTEXT	
Result Framework	
Components and Cost	
Institutional And Implementation Arrangements	
Financial Management	
Implementation Schedule	
Executing Entity	
Executing Entity Category	
Minor Project Objective Change	
Safeguards	
Risk Analysis	
Increase of GEF Financing up to 5%	
Co-Financing	
Location of Project Activity	
others	

IV: Geographic Coordinates of Project Activities

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Abomey-Calavi	6.4538637	2.3542450	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Aguégués	6.4533468	2.5436440	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Kpomasse	6.4450306	2.0137014	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Sémè Kpodji	6.3814684	2.6044573	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Sô-Ava	6.4969731	2.4005373	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Bopa	6.5893347	1.9668937	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Come on	6.4041973	1.8840863	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Ouidah	6.3666147	2.0853599	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

V. ANNEX

Uploaded Document

Document Category	Title
M and E Document	GEFID10166_2025PIR_FAO_Benin