

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

Project ID:	9366
Project Name:	Sustainability and Scaling Up Approaches for Transformational Management, Restoration and Conservation of Forests Landscapes and Biodiversity in Cote d'Ivoire (SSATMARC –FOLAB)
Countr(ies):	Cote d'Ivoire
Implementing Agency:	UNEP

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I. Overview

A. Description

Project name

Sustainability and Scaling Up Approaches for Transformational Management, Restoration and Conservation of Forests Landscapes and Biodiversity in Cote d'Ivoire (SSATMARC –FOLAB)

Country

Cote d'Ivoire

GEF ID

9366

Implementing Agency

UNEP

Executing Entity

Ministry of Environment, Urban Sanitation and Sustainable Development,

Trust Fund

GET

Project Type

FSP

PIR Submission

9/12/2025

Fiscal Year , PIR Number

FY 2025 , 5th PIR

Objective

To ensure scaling up and the sustainability of REDD+ financing mechanisms at the national level in order to address deforestation and forest degradation and support effective protected areas management.

B. Ratings and Disbursements

Implementation Progress

Moderately Unsatisfactory

Development Objective

Moderately Unsatisfactory

Overall risk

Moderate Risk

Project Financing

3,100,000.00

Cumulative Disbursement

862,341.00

C. Key Dates

CEO Endorsement/Approval

10/1/2019

Agency Approval

4/21/2020

Implementation Start 3/9/2020	First Disbursement 3/9/2020
Expected MTR 2/11/2025	Actual MTR 5/23/2025
Expected Completion 12/31/2027	Actual Completion

II. PROGRESS STATUS AND ISSUES

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

During this reporting period, the project made progress in implementing field activities in collaboration with technical support partners and NGOs. Notably, three technical studies were completed, contributing to key knowledge outputs aligned with project objectives: Analysis of the Legal and Institutional Framework for Carbon and Non-Carbon Benefits The study reviewed existing legal texts related to rural land and REDD+, identifying key gaps and proposing legal and institutional reforms to better align with carbon and non-carbon benefit-sharing mechanisms. Strengthening the Contribution of Voluntary Nature Reserves (VNRs) to the REDD+ Process This study provided a comprehensive overview of the VNR creation process in Côte d'Ivoire, documented existing VNRs, and analyzed their contribution to REDD+ objectives, including emission reduction. It also identified challenges faced by communities in establishing VNRs and recommended mechanisms to support VNR creation in pilot mangrove sites. Analysis of the Role of Local Authorities in Environmental and Forest Resource Management The study clarified the division of responsibilities between central government and local authorities and outlined key skills and mandates to be transferred to local governments for effective decentralized forest and biodiversity management. The three studies were jointly pre-validated during a multistakeholder workshop held on October 17–18, 2024. The project is not progressing as initially planned. Significant delays were encountered due to: The implementation progress remains below expectations relative to the time elapsed. Corrective measures are being considered during the MTR to accelerate delivery in the next reporting period.

B. Challenges: Information on challenges of project implementation activities

The project is not progressing as initially planned, with significant delays resulting from several factors: i) Limited performance and slow mobilization of technical partners. ii) Lengthy national administrative and financial procedures, which have constrained the timely recruitment and contracting of implementing partners. In addition, resource constraints have contributed to delays—particularly the insufficient availability of funds and the limited pre-financing capacity of technical partners, which has hindered their ability to initiate and implement activities on schedule.

C. Stakeholder Engagement

The various stakeholders involved participate in different ways, including attending meetings, consultations and workshops, as well as carrying out activities in the field. Thus, all the socio-economic components of the five localities concerned (Niani, Dabéda, Niéga, Brodjé, Coco Plage) were consulted

during the process of developing the micro-zoning plan for village lands. Similarly, during the ceremony celebrating International Biodiversity Day 2025 in Sassandra, all the key players in the locality (Prefect, Sub-Prefect, Mayor, District Governor, President of the Regional Council, Regional Director of the Environment, Association of Traditional Chiefs, Religious Leaders, Women's Associations, Youth Association, Senior Citizens' Association, Association for People with Disabilities, Fishmongers' Association, Fishermen's Association, NGOs) to raise awareness among the local population. The local organizing committee and technical subcommittees chaired by the sons of the villages worked to organize the activities under the joint supervision of the Regional Director of the Environment of Sassandra and the Project Monitoring and Evaluation Officer.

D. Gender Equality

The gender action plan will be developed in 2025. However, the income-generating activities planned as part of the support for mangrove conservation through the participatory micro-zoning plan for the village lands of Niani in the Sassandra department include a set of activities specifically targeting women and young people.

E. Knowledge Management

NA

III: Minor Amendments

CONTEXT	
Result Framework	
Components and Cost	
Institutional And Implementation Arrangements	
Financial Management	
Implementation Schedule	Extension of validity to 31.12.2031
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
Marahoué national Park	7.0969	-6.0256	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Abokouamekro Faunal Reserve	8.0193	-7.1682	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Haut Bandama Fauna and Floral Reserve	8.43000	-5.40275	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
Mont Péko national Parc	7.01557	-7.24366	

Location Description:

Activity Description:

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
NIANI SITE 1	-6.07795	4.99745	

Location Description:

Mangrove restoration site

Activity Description:

Planting of 25 hectares of mangrove (*Rhizophora racemosa*. *Avicennia germinans*) by nursery through local populations.

Location Name	Latitude	Longitude	GeoName ID
NIANI SITE 2	-6.06397	4.97995	

Location Description:

Mangrove restoration site

Activity Description:

Planting of 19.67 hectares of mangrove (*Rhizophora racemosa*. *Avicennia germinans*) by nursery through local populations

V. ANNEX

Uploaded Document

Document Category	Title
M and E Document	9366-PIR-UNEP-2025-SSATMARC-FOLAB (1)