



PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF) ¹

PROJECT TYPE: Medium Size Project

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF TF

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Title:	Sustainable farming and critical habitat conservation to achieve biodiversity mainstreaming and protected areas management effectiveness in Western Cameroon - SUFACHAC		
Country(ies):	Cameroon	GEF Project ID: ²	5210
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP	GEF Agency Project ID:	ADDIS NO. 00909
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection (MINEP) in partnership with: Fauna & Flora International, University of Dschang, and the Environment and Rural Development Foundation	Submission Date:	11/2/2013
GEF Focal Area (s):	Biodiversity	Project Duration(Months)	48
Name of parent program (if applicable): • For SFM/REDD+ <input type="checkbox"/>		Agency Fee:	163,105

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK³:

Focal Area Objectives	Expected FA Outcomes	Expected FA Outputs	Indicative Financing from relevant TF (GEF/LDCF/SCCF) (\$)	Indicative Cofinancing (\$)
Objective 1: Improve Sustainability of Protected Area Systems	Outcome 1.1: Improved management effectiveness of existing and new protected areas	Output 1. Bakossi-Banyang Mbo Technical Operation Unit constituting network of two existing PA (Bakossi - 29 320 ha and Banyang Mbo 690,000 ha) and two new creation (Kupe and Tofala Hill) established	500,000	1,500,000
		Output 2. The two new PA (Kupe and Tofala Hill)		500,000

¹ It is very important to consult the PIF preparation guidelines when completing this template.

² Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

³ Refer to the reference attached on the Focal Area Results Framework when filling up the table in item A.

		covering 2,928 ha and 8,600 ha) respectively		
	Outcome 1.2: Increased revenue for protected area systems to meet total expenditures required for management	Output 3. One Sustainable financing plans to support biodiversity conservation South Western Cameroon.	285,455	1,140,000
BD2-Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes, and seascapes and sectors	Outcome 2.1: Increase in sustainably managed landscapes and seascapes that integrate biodiversity conservation	Output 2.1: Policies and regulatory frameworks for production landscape in Bakossi Banyang Mbo landscapes Output 2.2: Land-use plans that incorporate biodiversity and ecosystem services valuation for Bakossi Banyang Mbo landscapes	775,359	3,160,000
	Sub-total		1,560,814	6,300,000
Project management cost ⁴			156,081	700,000
Total project costs			1,716,895	7,000,000

B. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

⁴ GEF will finance management cost that is solely linked to GEF financing of the project.

Project Objective: To promote biodiversity conservation and mainstreaming in production landscape at Bakossi Banyang Mbo area of Cameroon through sustainable farming practices that improved community livelihood options and commercial opportunities.

Project Component	Grant Type (TA/IN V)	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Indicative Financing from relevant TF (GEF/LDCF /SCCF) (\$)	Indicative Cofinancing (\$)
1. Critical wildlife habitat conservation through creation/strengthening of Protected areas	TA	Bakossi Banyang Mbo Technical Operation Unit is effectively established and managed	1.1. Network of the PA system of the Bakossi-Banyang Mbo TOU which includes Bakossi and Banyang Mbo PA (983,200 ha) of the Technical Operation Unit established with biological corridors, HCV and buffers zones. 1.2. Gazettement of the new Kupe and Tofala Hill (around 12,000 ha) PA completed as part of the Network of the PA system of the Bakossi Banyang Mbo TOU 1.3. Integrated, Innovative and transferable community based approaches to critical habitats and species conservation, management and enforcement defined and adapted to local livelihood 1.4.	283,360	885,092
2. Sustainable Farming practices and promotion of communities livelihood and biodiversity conservation through IESMP		Integrated Land Use Plan that includes for Bakossi Banyang Mbo TOU effective management sustainable farming and livelihood, available and implementation started Indicators: - Regulations on	2.1 Policies, regulatory, sustainable Institutional frameworks, advocacy guidelines and products for biodiversity mainstreaming 2.2 Participative IESMP that include sustainable farming, livelihood options and conservation developed and implemented	1,177,454	4,770,180

		<p>PA management, forestry (COMIFAC Directives, Code Forestier, etc.), agriculture, tourism are enforced and monitored</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One IESMP and at least 3 land use plans for 3 PA - Financial mechanism (e.g, PES Scheme) 	<p>2.3 At least three (3) Participative community based protocols/agreements which include livelihood options and conservation of critical habitats and threaten species.</p> <p>2.4 At least 3 spatial land use plans developed for at least 3 out of the 4 PAs that constitute the TOU and implemented</p> <p>2.5 Forums to stimulate Private sector and donors' investment in support of Bakossi Banyang Mbo Land Use Plan are organized</p> <p>2.6 One Financial Mechanisms in support of the implementation of biodiversity conservation and alternative livelihood at the rapidly changing Bakossi Banyang Mbo landscape established and implemented</p>		
3. Knowledge Management, monitoring and evaluation	TA	<p>Increased knowledge products, inter-stakeholders sharing of knowledge and understanding of Bakossi Banyang Mbo terrestrial ecosystem to foster the development and implementation of the Integrated Land Use Plan</p>	<p>3.1. Learning framework established, awareness and training tools developed to capture, analyze and disseminate lessons learned nationally and internationally</p> <p>3.2.</p> <p>3.3. Socioeconomic impacts and environment monitoring indicators of Bakossi</p>	100,000	644,728

			Banyang Mbo IESM plans developed, tested and approved by all stakeholders		
			3.4. Project monitoring and evaluation framework in place		
Sub-Total				1,560,814	6,300,000
Project Management				156,081	700,000
Total project costs				1,716,895	7,000,000

C. INDICATIVE CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY SOURCE AND BY NAME IF AVAILABLE, (\$)

Sources of Cofinancing for baseline project	Name of Co financier	Type of Cofinancing	Amount (\$)
National contribution	Government of Cameroon	In-Kind	500,000
Local Governments Contributions	South Western Region Local Governments	In kind	500,000
UNEP	UNEP/LifeWeb/GRASP projects	Cash	500,000
CSO	FFI	Cash	1,000,000
CSO	FFI	In-kind	500,000
CSO	ERUDEF	In-kind	500,000
University	University of Dschang	In-kind	1,500,000
Private Sector	CHEDE, Others	In-kind	500,000
Bilateral	Bilateral Cooperation Projects and Programmes in Banyang Bo-Bakossi (to be confirmed)	Cash/Kind	1,500,000
Fund	The Moringa Partnership	Cash	tbc
Total Cofinancing			7,000,000

D. GEF/LDCF/SCCF RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREA AND COUNTRY¹

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Focal area	Country name/Global	Project amount (a)	Agency Fee (b) ²	Total c=a+b
UNEP	GEFTF	BD	Cameroon	1,716,895	163,105	1,880,000
Total Grant Resources				1,716,895	163,105	1,880,000

¹ In case of a single focal area, single country, single GEF Agency project, and single trust fund project, no need to provide 4,213,333 information for this table

² Please indicate fees related to this project.

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSISTENCY OF THE PROJECT WITH:

A.1.THE GEF FOCAL AREA STRATEGIES. Key challenges not address in the area by on-going initiatives and on which GEF support will be very instrumental include (i) Integrated approach to natural resources management through adequate policies tools; (ii) effective financing mechanism including certification and Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) except REDD initiatives in support of biodiversity conservation and livelihood; (iii) Consideration of endangered animal species like giant frogs in conservation efforts. The GEF alternative, which is in line with GEF 5 Biodiversity and Land Degradation Strategies, will address these issues through the sustainable management effectiveness of protected areas systems (GEF5 BD1), mainstreaming of the biodiversity conservation in various sectors including agricultures, mining and forestry production (GEF 5 BD2) and an integrated approach through development and implementation of the Integrated Land Use Plan (GEF 5 BD 2 and LD 3). The GEF project will help the strengthening or development of enabling policy environment and knowledge production (GEF 5 BD 1 and LD 3) both for the implementation of the Land Use Plan and managing the ecosystem changes that may result from various causes.

A.1.2. FOR PROJECTS FUNDED FROM LDCF/SCCF: THE LDCF/SCCF ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND PRIORITIES: N/A

A.2. NATIONAL STRATEGIES AND PLANS OR REPORTS AND ASSESSMENTS UNDER RELEVANT CONVENTIONS, IF APPLICABLE, I.E. NAPAS, NAPS, NBSAPS, NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS, TNAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, ETC.:

- In the Growth and Employment Strategy Paper (GESP or DSCE in French) , one of the target to achieve MDG 7 is promotion of biodiversity conservation
- The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) of Cameroon which identified 6 major ecosystems indicated that there is a necessity to reinforce the knowledge of biodiversity resources and their potential for sustainable management by local communities and at national level
- The Cameroon national committee on Bioscience which includes various scientific and research institutions during various national stakeholder consultations and scientific reviews, recognized the need for development of tools and methodologies for the evaluation, assessment and valorisation of biological resources
- The Sectoral Programme Forestry and Environment (PSFE) defined the national policy framework for biodiversity conservation and management. In its component 4, the Banyang Mbo-Bakossi landscape is recognized as a biodiversity hotspot of global significance that supports a high diversity of animal and plant species, large numbers with restricted ranges, and many of which are threatened. It is classified as of “very high” conservation priority.
- The National Protected Areas and Wildlife Strategy and the Biodiversity Vision for Cameroon both put emphasis on the protection of mountain, coastal and marine ecosystems that are insufficiently represented in the protected areas network.
- The National Plan for Environment Management (PNGE) in which project activities will support effective implementation of policies, strategies and environment protection for sustainable resources uses to achieve sustainable development.
- The “Plan de convergence” of COMIFAC promotes sustainable and consultative management of forest resources and the establishment of a network of representative protected area system and ecosystems for livelihood and global environment conservation. The project will particularly contribute to Axe 4: Biodiversity conservation of this plan.
- The Strategy for water and soil conservation in agro-sylvo-pastoral areas of Cameroon..
- The national International Water Resources Management partnership (IWRM) planning process was incorporated as a strategic activity in the Economic, Financial, Social and Cultural Program of Cameroon for the year 2010

B. PROJECT OVERVIEW:

B.1. DESCRIBE THE BASELINE PROJECT AND THE PROBLEM THAT IT SEEKS TO ADDRESS:

1. The South west region of Cameroon in which the project site (Bakossi Banyang MBo) is located is a biodiversity hotspot of global significance that supports a high diversity of animal and plant species, large numbers with restricted ranges, and many of which are threatened⁵. It has a variety of ecosystems ranging from lowland forests, mountain forests and humid savannahs. Its biological resources and ecosystem functions as well its capacity to support human livelihoods are seriously threatened, primarily, by the persistence of poaching, illegal and irrational exploitation of biodiversity, and the development of small and large scale industrial palm oil plantations. The root causes include poverty, population growth, lack of economic alternatives for the benefit of rural communities and lack of participatory land use and ecosystem oriented planning.
2. This Cameroon-Nigeria cross-border region has forests which are extra-ordinarily diverse with a high degree of endemism (Davis et al, 1994). The forest is home to the last populations of Cross River gorilla in Cameroon (*Gorilla gorilla deihli*) (Sunderland-Groves et al, 2003). It has been observed that the cross-border area is floristically diverse when compared to other forests in the Guineo-Congolian region (Terry et al, 2003). The proposed project area ranges from 180m to 2,900m above sea level, thus conferring a high degree of ecosystem, habitat, plant and animal diversity with high levels of endemism (Nkembi, 2004). The area is heavily influenced by drainage patterns and topographical features.. The wider biodiversity of this forest area including vegetation remained largely unstudied except for the Takamanda Forest Reserve (Nkembi, 2004), however, because of the transition from lowland forest to montane savannah, the area is thought to be particularly diverse for all biological taxa (Gartlan, 1989). The site's terrestrial habitats are estimated to be home to more than 250 species of mammals, of which 18 are primates, 849 bird species, 140 reptile species, 190 amphibians and more than 8.460 plant species, of which about 150 are endemic, and a multiplicity of unidentified insects (FFI, 2011).
3. There are a number of Red List species in the wider region including forest elephants (*Loxodonta africana cyclotis*), buffalo (*Syncerus caffer nanus*), gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla*), chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*), leopard (*Panthera pardus*) and the giant pangolin (*Manis gigantean*). On a global scale, up to 849 bird species are found with threatened species being Crested Guinea fowl, Latham's Forest Francolin, Black-dwarf Hornbill, Yellow-casqued Wattled Hornbill, White-spotted Flufftail, Grey-necked Picathartes and Rachel's Malimbe. The number of endemic and threatened plants is quite significant and includes: *Chassalai laikomensis*, *Schefflera mannii*, *Arudinaria alpine*, *Podocarpus latifolius* and *Prunus Africana* (ERuDeF 2003).
4. A rapid situational analysis of past and current conservation efforts across the Bakossi Banyang Mbo landscape recently commissioned by Flora and Fauna International (FFI) indicates that the main challenges across the landscape include wildlife poaching, illegal logging and large scale agricultural expansion. A particularly important development in the agriculture sector is the plan to establish a 70 ha with possible extension to 100,000 ha of oil palm plantation, cutting across several important conservation landscapes of the region. The project will advocate a sustainable approach particularly in learning from certification schemes of Rainforest Alliance in Ghana and Ivory Coast. Additionally, the tarring of the Cameroon-National trans-Africa road network passes through the north of the landscape. Though studies to mitigate the environment and social impact of the road network have been carried out, the updating and follow up of implementation of the environmental management plan remains a major challenge. Finally, climate change is apt to significantly

⁵ Cameroon 4th CBD National Report, Chap1. Section 1.1, , 2009.

affect water resources in the area that is likely to have a direct effect on biodiversity and survival of ecosystems. In view of the above change scenario, it is of foremost importance to obtain a fairly clear picture of the magnitude of expected land use changes, identify key factors and actors driving the change process and build strategic alliances to mitigate negative impact to the environment especially in the face of mounting threats and opportunities from climate change

5. The project site, Bakossi Banyang Mbo is administratively within the South West region of Cameroon administered by a Governor with Regional delegates of the main technical departments (Forestry, Environment, Agriculture, Planning and territorial Administration, Health, Education, Livestock and Fisheries, Mines, Water and Energy among others). It is within the Koupe-Manengouba Division. The primary productive sector of the local economy comprises essentially activities in the field of agriculture (subsistence farming), collection of NTFPs, hunting, fishing, livestock rearing and forestry. Over 90% of the population of the area rely on these activities for livelihood, with farming predominating as the key food security dependence and household income sources, followed by NTFP collection. Hunting is becoming increasingly less important due to dwindling wildlife population, while artisanal timber lumbering using chainsaw is carried out by few specialized dealers, made up of mostly non-natives of the area. Farming for subsistence needs and cash crops is the mainstay of the population. Farming is done primarily in close proximity to the villages. Men engage mostly in the production of crops such as cocoa, oil palm, coffee, tapping of palm wine, hunting, fishing, dredging of sand, while women mostly cultivate cocoyam, potatoes, cabbage, carrots, egusi, plantain, colocasia, maize, beans and the collection of non-timber forest products. The soaring food prices in the distant urban centres are already having a ripple effect on the scale and size of farms cultivated. Many more people, even town dwellers are increasing investing on food crop production and the average farm sizes are increasing. Most of the produced cocoa, coffee and other merchantable produce in the hinterlands is transported by head-load to the bulking and trade centres. Large scale plantation agriculture is rare, with the exception of the Cameroon Development Company (CDC) rubber plantations in the south. The lack of electricity has hindered the development of processing activities thus agriculture is limited to farming, harvesting and sale of farm produce in the primary state. The youth unemployment rate is significantly high as many have rejected farm work and lack the marketable skills needed for gainful employment. .
6. The project area is home to two of the most endangered great apes in the world – the Cross River gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla diehli*) and the Western chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes ellioti*). Experts believe there are approximately 300 Cross River gorillas living along the Cameroon – Nigeria border, while the chimpanzees number about 6,500. Both are threatened with habitat destruction and human encroachment, while a sophisticated and rapidly expanding illegal trade in live great apes and great ape meat that is closely linked to organized crime is accelerating the conservation crisis. Both Cross River gorillas and *ellioti* chimps could face extinction within the next decade in Cameroon at the current rates of decline. The existence of a gorillas sanctuary, the wildlife sanctuary and National park in Bakossi Banyang Mbo, make this ecosystem a biodiversity hot spots for which appropriate management will yield Global Environment Benefits.
7. However, many environment challenges have to be addressed. The region is subject to increasing demand for commercial farmland. In addition to the development of a large scale oil palm plantation by SG Sustainable Oils Cameroon Limited (SGSOC) a subsidiary of the New York based Herakles Farms for which planning is already in a relatively advanced stage, there are also small holder plantations and farms

which are putting additional pressure on the land and the protected areas across the landscape. The concession of the SGSOC is situated between four (4) biodiversity hot spots which is a great risk to these habitats both in terms of habitat disturbance and facilitating access to illegal and illicit actions. Developing and implementing a sustainable farming program targeting both large and small holders' plantations and subsistence farmers will potentially reduce pressure on protected areas and enhanced food security across the region.

8. At present, no partner is addressing participatory land use management but most focusing on sectoral policies and livelihood improvement activities. There are no strategies for forests and biodiversity. No plans, at least cohesive ones that attempt to pull things together, to coordinate activities and to make more effective use of limited budgets and inadequate manpower under the land use master plan. The question of creating and maintaining corridors or buffers between and/or around protected areas or high conservation value areas to ensure biological connectivity is not addressed and can only be tackled through participatory land use planning approach.
9. The prevailing government strategy recognizes the weak institutional capacity of the rural sector, the need to decentralize development planning and action, privatize production and commercial activities and empower communities to contribute to and manage their own development. The policy structure is therefore conducive to community- demand driven development that is based on participatory planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development programmes.
 - The base line activities include Government initiatives and development partners' interventions. The Government interventions are mainly in the context of providing basic social services but also boost the development potential by valorising the rich natural resources of the region. In the environment sector, the Government operations in collaboration of international donors and organizations are highlighted below.. Update on the status of these interventions' and their associated budget and linkage with GEF project will be provided at CEO Endorsement.: Gazettement of protected areas (Kupe National Park and Tofala Hill)
 - The establishment of Protected areas in South West Region (3 have been established: Mt. Cameroon, Korup-Ndongere and Takamanda-Mone, while Banyang Mbo-Bakossi was only foreseen, but not yet established).
 - Establishing the basis for the assessment and monitoring of land use change and community perceptions of land use change at the Lebialem-Mone Banyang Mbo landscape with support from FFI and in partnership with the University of Cambridge, UK, ERUDEF and the University of DschangThe ongoing demarcation and upcoming gazettement of the proposed Tofala Community Wildlife Sanctuary for the protection of the easternmost and most isolated population of the critically endangered Cross River gorilla with support from FFI and in partnership with ERUDEF
 - Support to the implementation of the Cameroon Forest Environment Programme-PSFE in collaboration with GIZ-ProPSFE project
 - Nature conservation to secure the habitat range of the cross river gorilla and other endangered species and enforcing laws on illegal hunting and unsustainable timber exploitation in collaboration with WCS, FFI, ERUDEF and WWF

- Involving local communities to conserve a healthy natural environment and a healthy human society in collaboration with WWF.
 - Construction of infrastructure and roads to facilitate access to markets through a joint initiative of South West Development Authority(SOWEDA) and the Central Government of Cameroon
 - Supporting livelihood activities conducted by CSO (CHEDE Cooperative Union)
 - Supporting propagation of some Non Timber forest products, a joint effort of IRAD Ekona, and South Western Region.
 - Researching on the flora within the Bakossi National park supported by Kew Botanic Garden
 - The Moringa Partnership, which is a €100 M agroforestry fund which invest in large scale, sustainable, and replicable agroforestry projects in Africa and Latin America. Portfolio projects will generate diversified revenue streams, and have a demonstrable positive impact on the environment and the livelihoods of local populations. Projects will also work against economic deforestation drivers by allowing stakeholders to benefit from agricultural, forestry and carbon markets. The fund is sponsored by ONF International (ONFI) in partnership with La Compagnie Benjamin de Rothschild (CBR), which bring together: a) a unique combination of forestry, financial and environmental / social expertise b) a strong field presence and network in Africa and Latin America, yielding a well-defined pipeline of replicable projects. The initiative is actually in discussion with the project NGO partner, CHEDE to develop a multimillion project in the GEF project area.
10. UNEP specific base line activities include Great Apes Survival Partnership (GRASP) programme which aims to enhance cooperation and coordination in support of wildlife protection and law enforcement implementation in the region, to ensure the long-term viability of the gorilla and chimp populations. The Expected outputs of the programme include: **1.** Law enforcement training and techniques are implemented to fortify a network of cooperation protocols and great ape conservation projects developed in the region to share intelligence, scientific information and best management practices; **2.** Innovative and transferable approaches to great ape conservation, management and enforcement identified, encouraged within protected areas or high conservation value areas networks and included in the management plans; **3.** Education and awareness programmes targeting different stakeholders, including local communities, decision-makers, donors, consumers and media; **4.** Innovative financing and Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mechanisms developed to support the conservation efforts for great ape and other flagship species across the landscape.
11. The UNEP LifeWeb initiative supported by the Spanish Government is actually implementing Cross River Gorilla Habitat Protection in the South Western regions of Cameroon. The 12,000 km² Cross River Gorilla landscape straddles the border of Cameroon and Nigeria and encompasses an important array of biological and cultural diversity. The objective of the project is to look into REDD as a tool to provide economic incentives for the conservation of Cross River gorilla habitat. This project will contribute to the development of a landscape-level approach to REDD. In the coming months, LifeWeb will support and analysis of capacity needs of local communities to embark in the Protected Areas Conservation in the project area. The outcome of this process will tremendously help

in designing the future activities of this GEF project but also will provide opportunity for resources mobilization.

12. UNEP's other engagements in supporting Cameroon conservation efforts; involve building capacity of transboundary local communities for their active participation in habitat and Gorilla protection both in Cameroon and Nigeria. The Gorilla Guardians Training project, financially supported by the Norwegian Government and implemented in collaboration with Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and Convention of Migratory Species (CMS), aims at creating and building the capacity of community eco-guards. Trans-boundary eco-guards training program in Cameroon and Nigeria to prepare Gorilla Guardians to protect the highly endangered Cross River gorillas found in the region. The objectives of this project are to 1.) protect gorillas, 2.) engage community support, 3.) create local stakeholder partnerships.
13. Furthermore, UNEP in collaboration with Disney's Animal Kingdom, the Born Free Foundation, and Pan African Sanctuary Alliance will soon embark on one if not of the first and biggest primate reintroduction initiatives. The Chimpanzee Reintroduction Project, where more than 150 orphaned chimpanzees are targeted for return back to the forests of Southwest Province of Cameroon, through an ambitious program. The chimpanzees are pooled from sanctuaries in Limbe (Limbe Wildlife Centre), Mefou (Ape Action Africa) and Yaoundé (Sanaga-Yong Chimpanzee Rescue Centre) under the umbrella organization, the Cameroon Chimpanzee Reintroduction Group (CCRG). The project started in September 2011. The CCRG will look for appropriate forests throughout Southwest Province and which will require a variety of ecological investigations, including 1.) environmental impact assessments, 2.) wild chimpanzee surveys, 3.) forest analyses and restoration, 4.) conservation outreach and sensitization, and 5.) local stakeholder involvement and support. Each of these five tasks will create opportunities for scientific research, capacity building, local ownership, and possible investment in eco-system services through UNEP programs such as REDD.
14. The GEF project will build on these baselines activities to ensure (i) Biodiversity mainstreaming, and (ii) effectiveness in the management of existing and proposed protected areas and / or high conservation value areas. This includes, as a first step, assessments of key areas to take into consideration, including current development sectors, as well as livelihood conflicts over scarce renewable resources, and planned large scale palm oil plantations, all of which can create competing demands and tensions between various stakeholders in the Bakossi Banyang Mbo landscape. The GEF support will particularly help to bring the fragmented initiatives targeting specific communities into an agreed Integrated Land Use Plan and build on the results of these on-going projects to; develop capacity targeting all the stakeholders, ensure investment into on the ground biodiversity conservation and mainstreaming activities, the Gorilla and Chimpanzees protection and livelihood options that integrate all the ecosystem services.
15. Furthermore, the current projects and initiatives are not addressing the (i) other endangered animal species like giant frogs, (ii) effective financing mechanism including certification and Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) except REDD initiatives in support of biodiversity conservation and (iii) an integrated ecosystem-based land use approach. The GEF component of the project addresses these issues through the sustainable management effectiveness of protected areas systems (GEF5 BD1), mainstreaming of the biodiversity conservation in various sectors including agricultures, mining and forestry production (GEF 5 BD2) and an integrated approach through development and implementation of the Integrated Land Use Plan (GEF 5 BD 2 and LD 3). The GEF project will help the strengthening or development of enabling policy environment and knowledge production (GEF 5 BD 1 and LD 3) both for the implementation of the Land Use Plan and managing the ecosystem changes that may result from various causes. As matter of priority the

project will primarily focus to the participative development of the Integrated Land Use Plan as this will address at the same time ensuring the establishment of network of both existing and to be completed PA (Component 1), the promotion of sustainable farming for both small and large scale agricultures, and consideration of livelihood options to be linked with HCV (component 2) and ensuring the sustainability of the project outputs through a comprehensive Knowledge management approach. This holistic approach will enable GEF funding to be catalytic and create enabling condition for the long term investment that support conservation and livelihood promotion in the region. To achieve this objective, the project will implement the following components:

16. **Component 1: Critical wildlife habitat conservation through creation/strengthening of protected areas or high conservation value.** The expected outputs from this activity will include: 1.1. Network of the PA system of the Bakossi-Banyang Mbo TOU which includes Bakossi and Banyang Mbo PA (983,200 ha) of the Technical Operation Unit established with biological corridors, HCV and buffers zones. Through this output, the project is supporting the Government move toward operationalization of the Technical Operation Units (TOU) which is a national approach for PA conservation through a creation of TOU as network with established management structure. The baseline action is that Government has decided the creation of three TOU in South Western Cameroon. Two have already been established and functional. The GEF increment will support completion of this process by supporting the Government to complete the creation of the Bakossi-Banyang Mbo TOU which is the remaining third one to finalize the creation. 1.2. Gazettement of the new Kupe and Tofala Hill (around 12,000 ha) PA completed as part of the Network of the PA system of the Bakossi Banyang Mbo TOU. In the TOU management approach, all the PA constituting the TOU have to be gazette. In the Bakossi-Banyang Mbo TOU , Bakossi and Banyang Mbo PA have already been created, but Kupe and Tofala Hill creation process has been only initiated but not completed due to financial constraint. GEF resources will support the creation of the two new protected area and ensure their inclusion in the network of the Bakossi-Banyang Mbo TOU PA network. 1.3. Integrated, Innovative and transferable community based approaches to critical habitats and species conservation, management and enforcement defined and adapted to local livelihood. As the TOU approach is a landscape approach to PA conservation and taking note that the TOU is adjacent to large scale and small scale farming from industries and local farmers, the project will support mainstreaming of biodiversity and HCV areas in the landscape to reduce pressure of the PA and at the same time support local and economic development needs in the area. Through this output GEF will support biodiversity conservation in agriculture, tourism and forestry sectors with active involvement and consideration of local communities. The local communities livelihoods options will be supporting HCV by negotiating practices that consider biodiversity conservation through incentive schemes. For example, the cocoyam production which is actually in danger due to disease affecting such locally appreciated crop, will be linked to adoption of sustainable agricultural practices and biodiversity conservation.
17. **Component 2: Sustainable Farming practices and promotion of communities' livelihood and biodiversity conservation through IESMP.** 2.1. Policies, regulatory, sustainable Institutional frameworks, advocacy guidelines and products for biodiversity mainstreaming. Cameroon is recognized in the Central Africa, as one

of the advanced countries in terms of environment policies including directives for PA creation and management. However, these policies and regulatory frameworks, lack implementation particularly at local levels. The GEF increment will support at PPG phase analysis of barriers to policies law, etc. implementation and suggest key action to be conducted during project phase in order to lift these barriers and contribute to the enforcement process.

2.2. Participative IESMP that include sustainable farming, livelihood options and conservation developed and implemented. The project areas, despite biodiversity hotspots, is actually facing a lot of pressure ranging from agricultural (large and small scales) extension, road construction and other livelihood options. Both on-going activities are part of the Government priorities to boost the national economy through increased rural production, income and ensure local communities livelihood. The presence of at least 2 key private sectors companies (Herakles and Muringa Partnership) are great potentials of the area for livelihood options. The GEF resources are used to support this national priority by supporting the government, local communities and private sector to come up with an integrated approach that put conservation at the Centre and ensure economic growth and livelihood development at local level. The development of the Integrated Land Use Plan is considered the appropriate option. The project will therefore lead the development of such integrated plan in a participative manner and will put it effective implementation as the key sustainability measure of the project. Both national, local government together with local communities and private sectors have confirmed commitment toward this objective. The Muringa initiative is planning to invest around \$9 million to support agroforestry practice.

2.3. At least three (3) Participative community based protocols/agreements which include livelihood options and conservation of critical habitats and threaten species. The community support to this project will be through mechanisms that guarantee biodiversity mainstreaming and sustainable use. The project will take stock of available experiences and schemes at international level to come up with the adequate livelihood option adapted to the area, community needs and conservation objectives. These schemes may include the PES, community forestry options, mainstreaming biodiversity in agricultural, forestry, etc. sectors. These schemes will be in form of protocols or agreement with the local communities and other stakeholders to guarantee sustainability and protection of local communities' rights and aspirations. These schemes will be identified during PPG phase and implemented during the project implementation period.

2.4. At least 3 spatial land use plans developed for at least 3 out of the 4 PAs that constitute the TOU and implemented. The national directives related to the PA creation and management; make it an obligation to develop the land use plan for each protected area created. Currently the 4 PA constituting the Bakossi Banyang Mbo TOU, do not have such plans. The GEF support will help to develop at least 3 plans and the project will support mobilisation of partners and resources to have the 4 plan completed and implemented.

2.5. Forums to stimulate Private sector and donors' investment in support of Bakossi Banyang Mbo Land Use Plan are organized. As indicated above, there is a lot of pressure from private sectors to develop economic enterprises and the area continues to have great potentials including for developing ecotourism. The project area richness in term of wildlife, the proximity to Douala, the economic capital and hot weather condition in Douala, are great opportunities for private sector investment to develop ecotourism

2.6. One Financial Mechanisms in support of the implementation of biodiversity conservation and alternative

livelihood at the rapidly changing Bakossi Banyang Mbo landscape established and implemented. The project outcomes sustainability will be built around continuous support of biodiversity conservation. The PPG phase will explore the best options for a financial mechanism to be established. On-going experiences in Ivory Coast (Foundation des Parcs et Reserve), Madagascar (Madagascar Parks Foundation), PES examples in the region and the world, will be analysed and the best option identified for the region. The rationale behind development of financial mechanism on the top of the PES scheme is that the financial mechanism is anticipated to address not only address the biodiversity conservation, but also the livelihood options that support conservation efforts. The PES each may be addressing only one specific aspect of the conservation and will be part of the tools among others, that will feed the financial mechanism. The GEF funds will be used at PPG stage to identify adequate PES and financial mechanism and at project start up, the grant will support establishment of all the regulatory, institutional and operational framework of the financial mechanism. The second and third years will be the piloting of the mechanism and the last year will assess effectiveness of the system and ensure corrective measures are addressed to ensure durability.

18. **Component 3: Knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation.** The current situation is characterized by isolated initiatives which do not consider ecosystem approach even though the TOU adopted by the Government suppose integrated approach for ecosystem management and it is planned that each TOU should have a management plan. The GEF alternative in this project will, during the PPG, assess available knowledge related to sustainable management of ecosystem services and combines the assessment result with the capacity need assessment to adopt ecosystem approach and development of integrated land use plan development in the area. The assessments will lead a capacity building package that will be implemented during the project period. The knowledge that will be generated, will serve both the Integrated Land Use Plan development and implementation, but also as opportunity to compile lessons learned for national and international users. Mobilizing both public and private sectors investment in support of Bakossi Banyang Mbo management plan, required development, testing and dissemination of communities indicators that will help to measure progress and socioeconomic and environment impacts of the Integrated Management Plans that address all categories of actors. GEF support will be catalytic in supporting development of these indicators which will be convincing tools to engage stakeholders full participation in the implementation of the Integrated Land Use Plan. Through this component, the project will also design the monitoring and evaluation framework for assessing the project impacts and implementation of the management plans. The expected outputs are therefore; 3.1. Learning framework established, awareness and training tools developed to capture, analyse and disseminate lessons learned nationally and internationally. The project will develop training tools and training conducted based on the capacity gaps that will be conducted during PPG phase, curriculum will be developed for use in the universities particular University of Dchang and Douala which are in the region, various forum to conduct awareness, scientific research to address knowledge gaps that will be identified, CSO involvement, decision makers, media, etc will be key project targets. 3.2. Socioeconomic impacts and environment monitoring indicators of Bakossi Banyang Mbo IESM plans developed tested and approved by all stakeholders. 3.3. Project monitoring and evaluation framework in place.

B. 2. INCREMENTAL /ADDITIONAL COST REASONING: DESCRIBE THE INCREMENTAL (GEF TRUST FUND) OR ADDITIONAL (LDCF/SCCF) ACTIVITIES REQUESTED FOR GEF/LDCF/SCCF FINANCING AND THE ASSOCIATED GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS (GEF TRUST FUND) OR ASSOCIATED ADAPTATION BENEFITS (LDCF/SCCF) TO BE DELIVERED BY THE PROJECT:

19. The baseline situation in the project area is characterised by the Government decision to create three (3) Technical Operation Units in South Western Cameroon. The TOU are approved government management approached approved in order to include ecosystem approach in PA conservation. The TOU is composed of the PA and the entire surrounding environment that influence those protected areas. On the 3 planned TOU, two have been effectively created and are operational, but the last one, Bakossi Banyang Mbo TOU, which the project is support, is yet to be finalized due to lack of adequate resources. However, despite the official creation the TOU is facing various environment challenges which include (i) ecosystems changes due to no observance of land management regulations and Destruction of vegetation cover and poor land-use systems. This situation operate in an environment where the area contain wide range of Red List species in the wider region including forest elephants (*Loxodonta africana cyclotis*), buffalo (*Syncerus caffer nanus*), gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla*), chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*), leopard (*Panthera pardus*), Drills monkeys (*Mandrillus leucophaeus*) and the giant pangolin (*Manis gigantean*). On a global scale, up to 849 bird species are found with threatened species being Crested Guineafowl, Latham's Forest Francolin, Black-dwarf Hornbill, Yellow-casqued Wattled Hornbill, White-spotted Flufftail, Grey-necked Picathartes and Rachel's Malimbe. The number of endemic and threatened plants is quite significant and includes: Chassalal laikomensis, *Schefflera mannii*, *Arudinaria alpine*, *Podocarpus latifolius* and *Prunus Africana* (ERuDeF 2003). This biodiversity rich area is facing illegal hunting and commercial wild animal exploitation.

24. Without GEF, the above degrading situation of Banyang-Mbo area, the biodiversity lost may be accelerated due to habitat destruction and fragmentation particularly if the mitigation measures of the possible impact of the on-going pressing needs for farm lands for large and small scales agriculture. The presence of SGSOC Limited oil palm production project will definitely boost the production needs of small scale farmers who because of the problem of access to market, will now have the opportunity to be provider of a closer bayer. The ecotourism potential linked to the presence of endangered species like the giant frogs, will be hampered due to possible rapid extinction of these rare species and thus reducing alternative for livelihood option and promoting a consequent increased pressure on available resources. The on-going biodiversity situation is operating in environment where policies and regulations are available at national level, but lack adequate application on the ground either due to lack of resources, capacities and/or adequate institutional arrangements at the local levels to ensure enforcement or application. This situation is confirmed by the NCSA process finding which recognized the following as priority issues (Cameroon NCSA Report section II-1.4 October 2007) to be addressed as far as biodiversity conservation is concerned:

- Insufficient financing for the implementation of projects and programs
- Insufficient technical capacities for biodiversity in-situ and ex-situ conservation, planning of priority actions, participative management, integrated landscape management, scientific research and dissemination of findings
- Inadequate application of some legal instruments related to biodiversity on the ground,
- Insufficient synergy among sectors concerned by biodiversity conservation;
- Lack of awareness of national legislation on biodiversity by various stakeholders.

25. The current responses through initiative like Lifeweb, GRASP, which are targeting capacity building of some selected local communities around specific natural resources particularly wildlife, the CHEDE Ltd federation of agricultural sector cooperative, and

the Government and other financial and technical activities, will continue to be isolated, sector specific, without proper coordination, targeting very few communities or groups, with inadequate capacity to ensure sustainability and absence of an integrated framework that can guarantee long term investment and protection of biodiversity and livelihood options of local communities. Furthermore, the current situation will not ensure bringing in the introduction of sustainable approaches that can support the long term biodiversity conservations through supporting gazzement of the planned Technical Operation Unit (TOU),and development of a sustainable funding mechanism.

26. The GEF alternative is to develop and implement an Integrated Land Use Plan which will concern all the sectors and therefore provide opportunities to ensure synergy between sectors and mainstreaming of biodiversity concerns into policy, planning and action. By developing stakeholder capacity in natural resources management, environmentally-friendly policy development and implementation, adequate understanding and application of the environment-related laws and the promotion of synergy and coordination between sectors through integrated processes and tools, GEF support will help to generate environment benefits through biodiversity conservation and management monitored through the GEF 5 Biodiversity tracking tools and at the same time realise socioeconomic benefits by promoting a range of sustainable livelihood options for local communities..
27. The project implementation will enable participatory land use planning and the development of sustainable management plans for important mountain ecosystems in Bakossi Banyang Mbo landscapes (Ouput 2 GEF5 BD 2). This will enable the achievement of environment benefits through the conservation of biodiversity of mountain ecosystems, conservation of habitat and corridors for threatened species (habitat services). The Government of Cameroon is also looking forward to conclude the gazzement process of some protected areas in the South Western Cameroon. The GEF project will support this process along with conservation of some endemic species including the, Great Apes, giant frogs, Drills monkeys (Endangered species found in the countries of Cameroon and Nigeria and on the island of Bioko, Equatorial Guinea), and Chimpanzees, thereby contributing to the objective 1 of GEF Biodiversity Strategy. This will contribute to biodiversity conservation both by expanding the protected areas systems, but also by creating opportunities for habitat conservation outside protected areas for important biodiversity species. Therefore details on extent of biodiversity conservation both in terms of areas and number of species will be provided during the CEO endorsement.
28. The GEF catalytic role in this project will also ensure sustainable environment conservation and use through bringing together in a harmonized and complementary way, on-going initiatives particularly linking the on-going socioeconomic infrastructural development by national government with the conservation objective (GEF 5 BD 2), Without GEF involvement, these initiatives will be developed separately and consequently will yield less impacts, but also may create negative impact on habitat and biodiversity . The environment conservation and sustainability will be most likely achieved with GEF's involvement as local and stakeholders' capacities will be developed/reinforced and enabling policy and technical environments will be available through the planned activities (GEF5 BD 2). Without GEF the capacity development will only target few local communities supported by some projects targeting specific issues and the conservation objective may not be achieved in the entire region. The GEF investment will be catalytic in putting in place an investment framework that will bring partners together and attract investment particularly from private sector. The project will

also address dry forest conservation through local livelihood actions that are sustainable (GEF 5 BD 2).

29. The GEF increment will also build capacity to respond to financial opportunities that protected or high conservation value areas will provide through sustainable use of biodiversity (GEF 5 BD1) and will create institutional, policies, technical environment and incentive mechanism to build capacities for the land use plan implementation (GEF 5 BD 2). The GEF resources will also introduce and build capacity for, innovative mechanisms which include certification and Payment of Ecosystem Services for biodiversity conservation and alternative livelihood development. The involvement of local stakeholders and CSO will enhanced the decision making process in managing the production landscape (GEF 5).

B.3. DESCRIBE THE SOCIOECONOMIC BENEFITS TO BE DELIVERED BY THE PROJECT AT THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS, INCLUDING CONSIDERATION OF GENDER DIMENSIONS, AND HOW THESE WILL SUPPORT THE ACHIEVEMENT OF GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT BENEFITS(GEF TRUST FUND) OR ADAPTATION BENEFITS (LDCF/SCCF). AS A BACKGROUND INFORMATION, READ MAINSTREAMING GENDER AT THE GEF.": 30. In the Banyang Mbo-Bakossi

landscapes, the concession of large scale farmland for palm oil plantation by agro-industrial companies if not well managed pose social and environment risks, as well as creates the potential for conflicts with local land owners. The population of the area is approximately 14,600 persons, comprising 1,435 households and distributed within around 31 villages⁶. However, recent communication with SGSOC Heracles Farms, indicated their willingness to conservation and livelihood promotion. Livelihood options including small scale sustainable farming, frogs rearing, promotion of disease free cocoyam, will enhance co-management of protected areas and high conservation value landscapes and will provide additional benefits to local communities. Appropriate payment for Ecosystem Services mechanism which may include (Exact scheme to be adopted during PPG phase) protocols with communities to include sustainable farming practices, adoption of good agroforestry practices to be supported with incentives and integration of HCV in production landscape, will also contribute to improved community livelihoods. The Moringa Partnership cofinancing which will be promoting agroforestry practices with an estimated investment of 5 to 7 million Euros, will directly contribute to poverty reduction as cash will be available but will also boost production, therefore more income to farmers. Women will be involved in the development of best practices of informed multiple land use management and biodiversity conservation, specially the micro-zoning of community/communal forests, and the exploitation and marketing of non-timber forest products. A social impact with clearly defined indicators of the ongoing and planned activities will be conducted during the project preparatory phase. Mitigation measures for trade-off options if necessary will be negotiated with all stakeholders and included in the planning and implementation. The impact assessment will review the Environment and Social Impacts Assessment already carried out by SGSOC for their activities, will consider impacts related to Moringa Partnership involvement in project area in order to come up with a harmonized approach for conservation of biodiversity hot spots, HCV and local communities livelihoods. The baseline projects have been participatory and this approach will continue and will be strengthened. There are uncertainties about the presence of indigenous people in the area and livestock production seems minimal due to the forest environment, however, the preparatory phase will help to clarify these issues. The communities' protocols to consider biodiversity conservation, the social impacts from Heracles Farms and Moringa partnership activities and the effective management of the TOU with the protected area framework that will be finalized are key sustainable indications that project long term impacts will be ensured. It is anticipated that while the GEF project will ensure development of the Integrated Land Use Plan and implementation of key pilot activities, Moringa Partnership, Heracles Activities and

⁶ SG Sustainable Oils Cameroon Limited, ESIA Report, August 2011.

communities protocols will ensure continuation of the implementation of the plan and that the Regional Technical Departments will ensure monitoring and evaluation of impacts as these have to be recorded in national statistics as tools for Government appreciation of investments impacts on the development of the region. The meeting held on 24th January 2013, with the Governor of the Region surrounded by the Regional Delegates of Environment, Agriculture, Planning and Social Affairs has confirmed the key role the local authorities are given to the project as tool for implementation of Government directives on decentralization.

B.4 INDICATE RISKS, INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE RISKS THAT MIGHT PREVENT THE PROJECT OBJECTIVES FROM BEING ACHIEVED, AND IF POSSIBLE, PROPOSE MEASURES THAT ADDRESS THESE RISKS TO BE FURTHER DEVELOPED DURING THE PROJECT DESIGN:

Risks	Risk Level	Mitigations Measures
Reluctance of local communities as result of their culture and traditions but also the potential social impacts the project may have on them.	Low	<p>Assessment of potential social project impact on local communities will be conducted during the PPG and the consensual mitigation measures suggested will be implemented as part of the project activities and indicators will be defined for monitoring the effective implementation of the measures.</p> <p>The project is envisaging participative approach, awareness raising through a whole communication component, community dialogue initiative and capacity development</p> <p>Development of alternative, trade-off options and income generating activities for local communities</p> <p>Development of various platforms for stakeholders dialogue and collaboration in favour of conservation of ecosystem services</p>
Large scale farming development in the region	Moderate	<p>The South – Western Cameroon has been the most targeted area for large scale commercial agriculture. Cameroon Development Compagny have developed long time ago a lot of area for rubber and palm oil plantations. Just recently Heracles Farms has obtained more than 70,000ha to develop palm oil production in the region.</p> <p>The current base line situation is that land use is regulated by law in Cameroon, but it is clear that the enforcement of the law related to land use, forestry and environment protected are not enforced. The GEF increment will assess berries to enforcement and support activities that will ensure law enforcement and integration in the sustainable land use. Heracles Farms has also conducted EIA and has planned investment to support implementation of mitigation measures. The partnership with the project will give emphasis on biodiversity and HCV areas. The panned investment of Moringa Partnership is also another opportunity as the initiative want to put forward adoption of sustainable agroforestry practices and livelihood development.</p>
Project Execution	Low	The project will be executed by the Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection (MINEP) WITH University of Dchang as

		<p>Executing Partner on the Ground. There is risk of project execution by academia partnering with Government departments.</p> <p>The project will develop a consensual execution arrangement which will include the Central Administration, the Regional delegates, CSO and University of Dchang. All these actors are currently working together on different initiative and the meeting held on 24th January 2013 with Governor has agree to set up a project coordination body accepted by all that will put output delivery at the heart of its mandate.</p>
Institutional instability	Moderate	The project will conduct an institutional assessment and recommend adequate institutional framework and build capacities.
Lack of adequate budget for conservation	Moderate	<p>Capitalisation of value-added initiatives (REDD, FLEGT, MDP, ...)</p> <p>The project envisage establishment of investment framework in favour of environment conservation and livelihood</p> <p>Development of investment opportunities</p>
Persistence of illegal exploitation of natural resources	Moderate	<p>Scaling-up of UNEP eco-guards training project</p> <p>Establishment of regulatory framework</p> <p>Awareness and communication activities</p>
Climate variability and impacts on local communities	Moderate	Development of adaptations measures and implementation of pilot options
Planned Road construction project with consequent increase in access to Banyang Mbo-Bakossi landscapes	Moderate	The request of developing a management plan of the area is a political will from the Government of Cameroon to ensure sustainable management of the South Cameroon Ecosystem. The project will develop an adequate strategy to work with local communities with possible technical backstopping from partner's institutions involve in the execution of the project in the area namely the University of Dschang, FFI, ERUDEF and CHEDE. .
Persistence of unsustainable natural resources exploitation and management.	Moderate	<p>The PPG phase will be used to assess the current level of treats related to those risks. However, the land use plan will be based on the assessment of socioeconomic impacts of the trade – off options and the mitigation measures identified</p> <p>Dialogue and the awareness raising targeting all stakeholders as key elements of project to ensure stakeholders common understanding of, and agreement on the IESMP.</p>

B.5. IDENTIFY KEY STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT INCLUDING THE PRIVATE SECTOR, CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS, LOCAL AND INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES, AND THEIR RESPECTIVE ROLES, AS APPLICABLE:

31. The stakeholders mapping will be conducted and their role and responsibilities negotiated during consultative meetings and forum that will take place during the project preparation (PPG) phase. In the meantime the following stakeholders will play important roles:

- UNEP will be the GEF Implementing Agency of the project, UNEP GRASP Lifeweb initiatives will support the baseline activities through direct investment on critical wildlife species conservation and capacity building of key stakeholders in PA management.
- Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection (MINEP): Is the national Executing Agency of the project and will be in charge of national institutional coordination
- Fauna & Flora International: Has been involved since 2004 in the protection of Cross River gorilla in SW Cameroon and recently commissioned some ecological and socio-economics studies conducted by the University of Dschang and a local NGO (ERUDEF) to inform the development of the proposed landscape level project. FFI will technically backstop execution of component 1 & 2 and will provide financial support in the areas of flagship species conservation and protected area development and management, ecosystem valuation, high conservation value assessment and monitoring, payment for environmental services, REDD and REDD+, local interpretation of principles and criteria of RSPO especially with the imminent development of large scale palm oil plantation in the area.
- University of Dschang will be the local executing partner of the project in Bakossi Banyang Mbo. The University carried-out a baseline ecological and socio-economic study of the Bakossi Banyang Mbo landscape sponsored by FFI. It will be supporting ecological and socio-economic data collection and analysis, protected areas development, zoning and mapping.
- Environment and Rural Development Foundation (ERUDEF): will play an important role in the implementation of conservation activities on the ground. In addition to its growing expertise on ape conservation, ERUDEF is currently involved in small scale oil palm development initiatives as a base for improved community livelihood especially in communal forest areas outside protected or high conservation value areas. .
- The South Western Cameroon regional and districts technical departments: These bodies will be the direct representative of the national technical departments and will be responsible of the on the ground supervision and monitoring. Whenever possible their expertise will be used to implement the project on the ground. They will be members of regional and district project coordinating bodies. During the PPG phase their specific role and responsibilities along with other stakeholders will be assess and decided through a participative process.
- The Indigenous and local communities (ILC) both in South Western Cameroon: These groups will be at the center of the local dialogue both in terms of considering their expectations, responsibilities in the development and implementation of the Integrated Plans but also in terms of handling the issues of potential socioeconomic impacts the project may have on their livelihoods particularly as gazettelement is anticipated in the Southern area. The PPG phase will conduct an environment and social impacts assessment
- Ministry of Planning and Landscape Management (MINEPAT): Will be responsible for the resources mobilization, land use planning and therefore will play an important role in the execution of Component 2 and 3 of the project.
- Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF): Will be the key partner in the identification and conduct the necessary steps for the Inclusion in the protected areas system key ecosystems.
- Ministry of Tourism (MINTOUR): Will be the key player in the identification and promotion of eco-tourism activities.

- Ministry of Research High Level Education and Innovation (MINRESI): As the institutional body in charge of the research and academic institutions will facilitate their involvement and consideration of research thematic activities in the national academic and research agenda.
- CHEDECooperative Union Ltd (a private sector institution which is the federation of local Agricultural cooperatives Societies and affiliated to some international private sectors e.g.: Racines SA Montpellier- French, CHEDE International. It will be one of the local executing partners of the project. It has done research and field work for the past several years. Chede is additionally working with the Cameroon government through MINEPAT to mobilize investments for economic activities designed to protect the peninsula's ecosystem while also boosting the incomes of its inhabitants.
- National Universities: Will support research activities and some targeted capacity building.
- CTFC: In charge of communal forest, will be a key partner in the development of the Integrated Ecosystem Services targeting forests ecosystem.
- WWF, IUCN and ICRAF: Will be the international organizations playing key technical roles as will be identified by national stakeholders during the PPG phase.
- Global Water Partnership: Both regional (Africa) and national representations will be involved and collaboration particularly on water management issues will be developed in close collaboration and support of UNEP Fresh Water Unit.
- All stakeholders indicated above will be consulted either for collaboration and synergies or for lessons learned from the past interventions, a comprehensive stakeholder's involvement plan will be negotiated and will be provided in CEO endorsement.

B.6. OUTLINE THE COORDINATION WITH OTHER RELATED INITIATIVES:

32. UNEP, the IA of the project will ensure that outcomes of its baseline described in section B.1. will provide the necessary support for the present project. In addition, complementarity will be fully developed in the area of communities' capacity development and ecotourism options that the GEF plans to deliver..

33. UNEP is supporting UN Countries Teams in mainstreaming the environment in the UNDAF and Common Countries Assessment. In Cameroon, UNEP will take the opportunity to ensure full consideration of Basin Integrated Land Use Plan and therefore create opportunities for more resources from UN Agencies and their partners in support of the project long term objective.

34. The project will build and compliment the ongoing national and regional projects executed in Cameroon. The project will particularly learn from the GEF/WB Forest and Environment Development Policy Grant (FEDPG) project whose objective is to strengthen public and private efforts to achieve socio-economically and ecologically sustainable use of national forest and wildlife resources. The project seeks to: (1) promote the sustainable management of rainforests and savanna lands; (2) increase local community involvement in and benefits from sustainable management of natural resources; (3) improve the institutional and organizational capacity to implement new policies and regulations for forest management and timber industry development; and (4) enhance conservation of biodiversity and supply environmental services of national and global relevance. The just recently approved UNEP/GEF project on Development and Institution of a National Monitoring and Control System (Framework) for Living Modified Organisms (LMOs) and Invasive Alien Species (IAS) will be of interest for the project particularly the issue of IAS and possible movement of LMO in the region as a transboundary area linking to the vast Nigeria country.

35. During GEF4, 13 projects have been approved by GEF Council in Congo Basin under the Congo Basin Strategic Programme (CBSP) led by World Bank. Among those of particular importance to this project include:

- CBSP Sustainable Community Based Management and Conservation of Mangrove Ecosystem in Cameroon which objective is to have in place planning, managing and monitoring capacities, institutional frameworks and consultative mechanisms for the long-term sustainability of the mangrove forest ecosystems and their biodiversity through participatory and inclusive participation of communities and other key stakeholders.
- GEF/WB CBSP Conservation and Sustainable Use of the Ngoyla Mintom Forest. The project objective is to establish a core Protected Area within the Ngoyla-Mintom forest, through an approach based on land use planning and, fostering public-private partnerships
- GEF/WB CBSP Sustainable Agro-Pastoral and Land Management Promotion under the National Community Development Program Support Program (PNDP). The project development objective is to reduce poverty and promote sustainable rural development in Cameroon by strengthening local governance and empowering communities in rural areas, including marginalized groups. The blended project activities will contribute to ensuring the productivity of the natural resource base and to preserving the country's globally significant biodiversity
- Regional UNEP/GEF CBSP - A Regional Focus on Sustainable Timber Management in the Congo Basin; the UNDP/GEF CBSP Sustainable Financing of Protected Area Systems in the Congo Basin,
- Regional GEF/WB CBSP Enhancing Institutional Capacities on REDD issues for Sustainable Forest Management in the Congo Basin.
- Regional UNEP-GEF Demonstrating and Capturing Best Practices and Technologies for the Reduction of Land-sourced Impacts Resulting from Coastal Tourism, will be important to look at and learn lessons as tourism is an important aspect of the project.

36. During the PPG phase a comprehensive assessment of impacts and lessons learned from GEF activities in Cameroon and the region will be conducted to capture the positive lessons learned and also the bad experiences in designing the project..

37. The project will in addition, build and compliment the on-going regional projects such the preservation of high value ecosystems in the south west region by GIZ, WWF, WCS and GFA/DFS, nature conservation to secure the habitat range of the cross river gorilla and other endangered species by WCS, the conservation of the cross river gorilla and its habitat while ensuring the livelihoods of local population by ERUDEF, FFI and the University of Dschang. University of Dschang as one of the executing partner of the project particularly in Bakossi Banyang Mbo, will facilitate synergy with the above mentioned partners working in that area, but also will provide technical expertise in the assessment and execution of the project activities. The University has a long term partnership with Fauna and Flora International from which it is mobilizing \$1 million cash cofinancing to support the activities on the ground. University of Dschang as part of its cofinancing, following consultation with all stakeholders, may host the project unit.

38. Project Management: Key activities will be the establishment of an operational project team that will include tentatively a Unit in Banyand Bakossi Mbo in location to be agreed upon by key stakeholders. Dchang University or Nguti town may be a potential

project location. The project team will ensure a regular project reporting and synergy with others initiatives. During the PPG phase, a comprehensive and consensual project institutional and implementation arrangement will be developed and validated with all the stakeholders.

D. DESCRIBE THE GEF AGENCY'S COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE TO IMPLEMENT THIS PROJECT:

39. The project main objective is to develop and promote integrated land use planning that integrate biodiversity conservation and mainstreaming in Bakossi Banyang Mbo terrestrial ecosystems in order to facilitate increased cross sectorial investments and improved livelihood for the local communities and ensure restoration and management of ecosystem services in the context of a green economy. UNEP is also implementing in the project area the LifeWeb initiative and the Great Ape Survival Partnership (GRASP). Furthermore, UNEP is currently implementing two major conservation initiatives in the area and more importantly these initiatives are transboundary between Nigeria and Cameroon. These initiatives are The Cross River Gorilla Habitat Protection in the South Western regions of Cameroon and Nigeria and the Cross River Gorilla Local Guard training program.

40. UNEP has history of executing national projects with Cameroon particularly the Enabling Activities and Biosafety projects. UNEP's focus within the GEF covers activities in conducting environmental assessment; ecosystems evaluation and promoting ecosystem service and greening livelihoods.

41. UNEP has collaborated with other institutions and Agencies including FAO and World Bank, on food security issues including a UNEP Synthesis Report on "Avoiding Future Famines: Strengthening the Ecological Foundation of Food Security through Sustainable Food Systems" and a UNEP Discussion Paper on "The Critical Role of Global Food Consumption Patterns in Achieving Sustainable Food Systems and Food for All".

42. UNEP in addition to the above mention sectorial and country involvement will use its close ties with Civil Society to entrust project execution with non-governmental institutions which are regularly working with the project sites local communities. While the Government of Cameroon through its local, regional and national representatives will ensure the global coordination of the project, the project execution on the ground will be the responsibility of (i) University of Dschang (as the leading academic institution in Western Cameroon), (ii) CHEDE Cooperative Union Ltd (a private sector institution which is the federation of local Agricultural cooperatives Societies and affiliated to some international private sectors e.g.: Racines SA Montpellier- French, CHEDE International). By using this approach UNEP will be in compliance with Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness that calls on international communities to strengthen national capacity through national execution. UNEP will give direct support to the national execution partners through (i) regular field/countries mission as testify by the constant presence during the different meetings of the NPFE exercises, (ii) UNEP Regional Office in Africa will have active role in in ensuring the UNEP led initiatives are fully embedded in a global UNEP wide support to Cameroon.

C.1 INDICATE THE CO-FINANCING AMOUNT THE GEF AGENCY IS BRINGING TO THE PROJECT:

43. UNEP IS BRINGING IN THIS PROJECT AS COFINANCING THROUGH THE BASELINE PROJECTS. THIS COFINANCING WHICH AMOUNT \$500,000 CASH WILL COME FROM

THE GRASP AND LIFEWEB INITIATIVES. THE UNEP REGIONAL OFFICE FOR AFRICA WILL ENSURE PROJECT INCLUSION IN UNDAF PROCESS AND WILL GIVE ADEQUATE SUPPORT IN THE IMPLEMENTATION. UNEP IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHER PARTNERS IS MOBILIZING AROUND \$7 MILLION TO SUPPORT ACHIEVEMENT OF PROJECT OBJECTIVES. CURRENTLY, THERE IS ONGOING DISCUSSION WITH MORINGA PARTNERSHIP, WHICH IS PLANNING TO INVEST AROUND \$10 MILLION TO SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE AGROFORESTRY AND LIVELIHOOD OPTIONS. COFINANCING LETTERS CONFIRMING THESE COMMITMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED DURING THE CEO ENDORSEMENT.

C.2 HOW DOES THE PROJECT FIT INTO THE GEF AGENCY'S PROGRAM (REFLECTED IN DOCUMENTS SUCH AS UNDAF, CAS, ETC.) AND STAFF CAPACITY IN THE COUNTRY TO FOLLOW UP PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION:

44. The project is in line with the UNEP project portfolio in Cameroon indicated in B6 above. The project is fully in line with the UNEP Programme of Work (POW) for 2010-2011 and 2012-2013, and the medium Term Strategy. It is linked particularly to UNEP:

(i) **Subprogramme 3: Ecosystem Management and its Expected accomplishments** (a) Enhanced capacity of countries and regions to increasingly integrate an ecosystem management approach into development and planning (b) Countries and regions have capacity to utilize ecosystem management tools (c) Strengthened capacity of countries and regions to realign their environmental programmes and financing to address degradation of selected priority ecosystem services and their related outputs;

(ii) **Subprogramme 1: Climate change in its Expected accomplishments** (d) increased investment towards reduction in greenhouse gas emission by land use, land-use change and forestry and its related *Outputs 1-4*

(iii) **Subprogramme 4: Environmental Governance Expected accomplishments** (a) The United Nations system, respecting the mandate of each entity, progressively realizes synergies and demonstrates increasing coherence in international decision-making processes related to the environment, including those under multilateral environmental agreements (b) Enhanced capacity of States to implement their environmental obligations and achieve their environmental priority goals, targets and objectives through strengthened laws and institutions (c) National development processes and United Nations common country programming processes increasingly mainstream environmental sustainability in their implementation (d) Improved access by national and international stakeholders to sound science and policy advice for decision making and their related outputs; and

(iv) **Subprogramme 6: Resource efficiency and sustainable consumption and production and its related Expected accomplishments** (b) Increased investment in efficient, clean and safe industrial production methods through public policies and private sector action (c) Consumer choice favours more resource efficient and environmentally friendly products and their respective outputs.


PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)

A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT (S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S): (Please attach the Operational Focal Point endorsement letter(s) with this template. For SGP, use this OFPP endorsement letter).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (MM/dd/yyyy)
Justin Nantchou NGOKO	Director, GEF Operational Focal Point	Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection	12-08-2012

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF/LDCF/SCCF policies and procedures and meets the GEF/LDCF/SCCF criteria for project identification and preparation.

Agency Coordinator, Agency name	Signature	DATE (MM/dd/yyyy)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
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