

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION FORM (PIF)

PROJECT TYPE: Medium-sized Project

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: NPIF



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PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title:	Gabon - Implementation of national strategy and action plan on access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits accruing from their utilization		
Country(ies):	Gabon ¹	GEF Project ID: ²	
GEF Agency(ies):	UNEP	GEF Agency Project ID:	01311
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Forest, Environment & Protection of Natural Resources in collaboration with UNEP-DELIC	Submission Date:	10 June 2014
GEF Focal Area (s):	Biodiversity	Project Duration (Months)	36 months
Name of parent program (if applicable):	n/a	Project Agency Fee (\$):	82,008

A. INDICATIVE FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK³:

Focal Area Objectives	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount (\$)	Indicative Co-financing (\$)
BD-4	NPIF	863,242	1,790,000
Total Project Cost		863,242	1,790,000

B. INDICATIVE PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective:						
Project Component	Grant Type ⁴	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Trust Fund	Indicative Grant Amount (\$)	Indicative Cofinancing (\$)
1. Strengthening capacity of stakeholders	TA	Strengthened capacity for implementation of Nagoya Protocol and provisions	(i) Principal actors and their place and role in ABS defined (ii) Communication, Education, Participation and Awareness (CEPA) sessions on Nagoya Protocol organized (ii) Principal actors in local communities and management personnel in Customs Administration	NPIF	292,256	640,000

¹ Gabon will participate using financial resources allocated in the GEF-WB project ID 5264 "Sustainable Management of Critical Wetlands Ecosystem";

² Project ID number will be assigned by GEFSEC.

³ Refer to the reference attached on the [Focal Area Results Framework and LDCE/SCCF Framework](#) when completing Table A.

⁴ TA includes capacity building, and research and development.

			and Ministry of Water and Forests trained on ABS procedures			
2. Develop and Validate Legislative and Administrative measures	TA		(i) ABS procedural tools (PIC, MAT, manual) for ABS process for benefit sharing developed (ii) legislation and regulations to ring NP into law with provisions for dispute resolution mechanism, protection of Traditional Knowledge, Innovation and Practices and agreements for transfer of genetic/biological materials developed	NPIF	280,000	500,000
3. Implement the institutional framework for Nagoya Protocol	TA	Enhanced and strengthened implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and its provision	(i) National Advisory Committee set up (ii) Center of biodiversity Information exchange established (iii) Potential biological and genetic resources check points identified	NPIF	245,986	500,000
				Subtotal	818,242	1,640,000
Project Management Cost (PMC)				NPIF	45,000	150,000
Total Project Cost					863,242	1,790,000

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

Sources of Cofinancing	Name of Cofinancier	Type of Cofinancing	Amount (\$)
National Governmenty	Gabon	In-kind	800,000
National Government	Gabon	Cash	300,000
Bilateral Aid Agency	GIZ	Cash	150,000
Others	WWF-Gabon	In-kind	150,000
Other Multilateral Agency	IUCN-PACO	Cash	150,000
Other Multilateral Agency	COMIFAC Secretariat	In-kind	50,000
others	tbc	In-kind	150,000
GEF Agency	UNEP-DELC	In-kind	40,000
Total Co financing			1,790,000

D. INDICATIVE TRUST FUND RESOURCES (\$) REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREA AND COUNTRY¹

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Focal Area	Country Name/Global	Grant Amount (\$) (a)	Agency Fee (\$) (b) ²	Total (\$) c=a+b
UNEP	NPIF	Biodiversity	National	863,242	82,008	945,250
Total Grant Resources				863,242	82,008	945,250

¹ In case of a single focal area, single country, single GEF Agency project, and single trust fund project, no need to provide information for this table. PMC amount from Table B should be included proportionately to the focal area amount in this table.

² Indicate fees related to this project.

E. PROJECT PREPARATION GRANT (PPG)⁵

PPG Category	Amount Requested (\$)	Agency Fee for PPG (\$)
(up to) \$100k for projects up to and including \$3 million	50,000	4,750

PPG AMOUNT REQUESTED BY AGENCY(IES), FOCAL AREA(S) AND COUNTRY(IES) FOR MFA AND/OR MTF ROJECT ONLY

Trust Fund	GEF Agency	Focal Area	Country Name/ Global	(in \$)		
				PPG (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total c = a + b
NPIF	UNEP	Biodiversity	National	50,000	4,750	54,750
Total PPG Amount				50,000	4,750	54,750

MFA: Multi-focal area projects; MTF: Multi-Trust Fund projects.

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION⁶

PROJECT OVERVIEW

A.1. Project Description. Briefly describe the project, including ; 1) the global environmental problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed; 2) the baseline scenario and any associated baseline projects, 3) the proposed alternative scenario, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project, 4) incremental cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline , the GEFTF, LDCF/SCCF and co-financing; 5) global environmental benefits (GEFTF, NPIF) and adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF); 6) innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up:

1. Global environmental problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed

Gabon has paved the way by being the first country in the world to ratify the Nagoya Protocol the November 11, 2011 (Gabon was the 22nd signatory to the Protocol in May 2011). Even before the ratification of the Nagoya Protocol, Gabon, drawing on the work carried out within the Working Group Biodiversity Central Africa (WGBCA/GTBAC) has developed national biodiversity strategy and action plan on access to genetic resources and sharing fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their use . This tool for planning and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol was adopted in June 2012.

By becoming a Party to the Protocol and having a strategy document, Gabon must prepare to implement its national regime on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing (ABS). It is in view, on the instructions of His Excellency, President of the Republic, Head of State, a British Cabinet called OMNIA accompanies the administration of the environment in the operationalization of the APA process. It is basically the realization of institutional and legal review and proposal scenarios of institutional arrangements. Currently, its supports are insufficient to challenges.

⁵ On an exceptional basis, PPG amount may differ upon detailed discussion and justification with the GEFSEC.

⁶ Part II should not be longer than 5 pages.

It is in this context that the Gabon requested when submitting the GEF 5 project “Management of wetlands whose executing agency is the World Bank, the allocation of Nagoya Protocol Implementation Funds (NPIF). This allowance was granted and recorded for the implementation of Component 3 of the project. However, the new procedures of the World Bank did not allow him to manage the funds less of US\$1,000,000. With this constraint and term of trade between Gabon and the World Bank, the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) has been approached to support Gabon in the implementation of this component 3.

In collaboration with the GEF Secretariat, UNEP has agreed to support Gabon in the development of oriented implementation of the Nagoya Protocol project.

2. Baseline scenario: Currently, Gabon has ratified the Nagoya Protocol but lacks the necessary capacity. Legal measures and institutional framework for its effective implementation. More important, it has developed a national action plan to implement the protocol. Without GEF support the plan will not be implemented fully or at best the implementation will be much significantly delayed. Hence the earlier request to World Bank which secured GEF funds to assist the implementation that is now been redirected to UNEP.

3. Alternative scenario (Components and outcomes): The alternative scenario is that with GEF support, Gabon will start preparing the ground for domestication and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol that it has ratified. Given its vast biological and genetic resources, it is imperative that Gabon is assisted to sustainably manage and use these resources under the provisions of the Nagoya Protocol.

The project's structure for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in Gabon is as follows:

Component 1: Strengthen the capacity of the stakeholders.

This involves: i) mapping out the principal actors to define their place and role in the ABS process; ii) organizing Communication, Education, Participation, and Awareness (CEPA) sessions on the Nagoya Protocol and the ABS process; and iii) training principal actors in local communities and management personnel in Customs Administration, and the Ministry of Water and Forests, on ABS procedures

Component 2: Develop and validate legislative and administrative measures.

The implementation of the Nagoya Protocol requires that each country have an appropriate legal and institutional framework. To that end, this component will: i) develop ABS procedural tools, particularly specimen agreements, the mechanism for access to genetic resources, the process to obtain Prior Informed Consent [PIC] and Mutually Agreed Terms [MAT], the procedural manual for the ABS process for benefit sharing; and ii) the adoption of legislation and regulations to bring the Nagoya Protocol into law with provisions for a dispute resolution mechanism, protection of Traditional Knowledge, Innovation and Practices, and agreements on the transfer of genetic/biological material.

Component 3: Implement the institutional framework

The institutional framework for the Nagoya Protocol will: i) create the National Advisory Committee on ABS; ii) establish a Center of Biodiversity Information Exchange, which is a mechanism for sharing ABS information globally; and iii) identify potential biological and genetic resource check points in the operational framework for ABS agreements.

4. Incremental Reasoning and co-financing: This project is building on the interest of Gabon to implement its national strategy and action plan on access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits accruing from their utilization. Gabon being one of the first countries in the region to ratify the Nagoya Protocol. This interest has also been expressed in the form of letter of endorsement submitted to the GEF Secretariat (August 2011) and UNEP since the adoption of the Protocol in 2010. During the development of the PPG, this project will ensure coordination with other investments in the region such as the ABS Capacity Development Initiative in the COMIFAC Secretariat.

5. Global Environmental Benefits: The implementation of the Nagoya Protocol can potentially unleash significant benefits for users and providers of genetic resources under the mandate of the CBD, and ultimately, to the conservation of biodiversity. This can only be achieved if the Nagoya Protocol enters into force and is effectively implemented. Since the Nagoya Protocol is intended to create legal and administrative systems to stimulate the engagements of users and producers of genetic resources, these systems need to provide legal certainty and clarity to the parties to engage in a new way of doing business. Since the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol has the potential to reach all the genetic makeup of the biological resources, it is not possible to pinpoint specific global environmental benefits. In spite of this, monetary and non-monetary benefits would be accrued in various sectors that depend on biological resources, including pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, food & drinks and seeds, among others.

6. Innovation, sustainability and potential for scaling up:

Gabon will need to fully engage in building the human and institutional capacity to carry on the work beyond the life of this project. That should be achieved by developing and putting in practice the legal framework, and determining the institutional arrangements and administrative measures required to process requests to access genetic resources under the principles of the Nagoya Protocol. During the project preparation, detailed information will be provided on the Government's plans to sustain the efforts initiated with this project. At the national level, the sustainability of this investment will heavily rely on the capacity of the ABS Focal Points to mobilize financial resources, including from GEF-6, to implement the Nagoya Protocol provisions and developing further projects on ABS.

A.2. Stakeholders. Identify key stakeholders (including civil society organizations, indigenous people, gender groups, and others as relevant) and describe how they will be engaged in project preparation:

Stakeholders during project preparation: The Nagoya Protocol Focal Points, the Ministry of Forest, Environment & Protection of Natural Resources, Ministries of Foreign Affairs (or the equivalent), and other institutions working closely with the ABS agenda. The detailed list of institutions and roles by the different stakeholders will be provided at CEO Endorsement. Ministry of Forest, Environment & Protection of Natural Resources in collaboration with UNEP-DELIC will be the executing agency. It is expected that local communities and business community will benefit from the project results.

A.3. Risk. Indicate risks, including climate change, potential social and environmental 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 (table format acceptable):

Risk	Degree of risk	Mitigation measures
1. Nagoya Protocol is low priority for country and stakeholders failing to engage in the project.	H	1. Public education and awareness activities in the country during the project. Capacity building and training should reinforce the importance of the project.
2. High staff turnover in government agencies and loss of important staff with their “corporate knowledge”.	H	2. Hedge risk by designing the implementation of the project so it will not overly rely on individual staff. Using standard modern staff management methodology so that individuals are well managed with clear roles and responsibilities, reporting lines, management processes etc.
3. Communities may oppose regulations that restrict their activities relevant to ABS	H	3. Thorough community consultation and awareness programmes and wherever possible encourage use the partnership approach with communities
4. lack of communication and coordination between participating agencies in-country	M	4. Set up communication procedures that are relevant to existing networks and processes (e.g. NBSAPs)
5. Political buy in to NP changes for the worse during the project	M	6. Public awareness, especially of parliamentarians and other legislators, to reinforce the country’s obligations to the NP.

A.4. Coordination. Outline the coordination with other relevant GEF financed and other initiatives:

This project will coordinate activities with the following GEF projects: (1) The GEF-UNEP Regional Project ID 2820 "Supporting the Development and Implementation of ABS Policies in Africa"; (2) the GEF-UNEP project ID 5172 "Global Support for the Entry into Force of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing"; (3) the GEF-UNEP project ID 4415 "Capacity building for the early entry into force of the Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing"; and (4) GIZ project in support of ABS activities for the COMIFAC countries of which Gabon is a member.

B.1 Description of the consistency of the project with National strategies and plans or reports and assessments under relevant conventions, if applicable, i.e. NAPAS, NAPs, NBSAPs, national communications, TNAs, NCSAs, NIPs, PRSPs, NPFE, Biennial Update Reports, etc.:

Gabon is a party to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and thus, committed to the implementation of Convention, particularly with the third objective – “the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, including by

appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies, taking into account all rights over those resources and to technologies, and by appropriate funding". Gabon has already ratified the Nagoya Protocol and has developed a national action plan for its implementation. This project with GEF funding will support that objective.

B.2. GEF focal area and/or fund(s) strategies, eligibility criteria and priorities:

This project fits with the strategic priorities of the Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund (NPIF) as described in the document "OUTSTANDING ISSUES RELATED TO THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL IMPLEMENTATION FUND" (GEF/C.40/11/Rev.1). Specifically, this project will carry out the following two activates stated in the document: (a) Support Parties in reviewing their own capacities and needs on ABS with a focus on the provisions of existing national policies, laws, and regulations; (b) Strengthen the enabling environment at national level through the development of appropriate policy and institutional measures to promote the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources, including by appropriate access to genetic resources; and (c) Support parties to undertake activities to increase public awareness regarding the implications of the Nagoya Protocol.

B.3 The GEF Agency's comparative advantage for implementing this project:

UNEP has the competitive advantage to implement this project. First, it is the Agency implementing all GEF-4 ABS regional projects in LAC, Africa and Asia. Second, UNEP's Division of Environmental Law and Conventions (DELIC) have the expertise on ABS and will provide legal backstopping. Furthermore, UNEP has a Regional Biodiversity MEAs Focal Point in the Regional Office for Africa (ROA), who work on ABS related topics and projects.

PART III: INSTITUTIONAL COORDINATION AND SUPPORT

A. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT:

As the CBD is a UNEP-administered Convention, it largely draws support for ABS legal and policy issues at global and regional levels through UNEP's Division of Environmental Law and Conventions (DELIC). While UNEP-DEPI will maintain its role as implementing agency with oversight functions, UNEP-DELIC will assume the coordinating and overall executing functions in the proposed project, and will thus provide expertise needed to ensure speedier and effective implementation through its links to various regional and international expert networks.

B. PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENT:

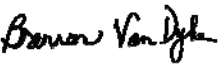
As executing agency, Ministry of Forest, Environment & Protection of Natural Resources and UNEP-DELIC will sub-contract the respective national executing partner organizations for the implementation of the respective national activities, particularly with regard to the establishment and furthering of public-private partnerships. Whereas the improvement of scientific and technical knowledge as well as the enactment and amendment of ABS-relevant policies and legislation predominantly remain activities at the national level, UNEP DELIC will assume a coordinating and catalyzing responsibility through providing legal expertise, involving relevant projects and external contributors and in convening substantive workshops and fora for exchange of experiences and lessons learned, as required.

PART IV: 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 [OFP endorsement letter](#)).

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (MM/dd/yyyy)
Louis Leandre Ebobola Tsibah	GEF OFP	MINISTERE DE LA FORET, DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT ET DE LA PROTECTION DES RESSOURCES NATUELLES	2 MAY 2014

B. GEF AGENCY(IES) CERTIFICATION

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF policies and procedures and meets the GEF/LDCF/SCCF/NPIF 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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