

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 24, 2007

TO:

FROM: Mr. Christophe Crepin, AFTS4

EXTENSION: 39727

SUBJECT: Bénin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Sénégal, Togo: West Africa Regional Biosafety Project (TF#056101)

PDF Block B Final Completion Report

1. Please find the completion report for the above mentioned PDF Block B, which was approved on February 8, 2006 with a funding of US\$700,000.

2. The recipient has successfully completed all the activities funded under the PDF Block B, and all the stated outputs are satisfactory. The specific activities funded under the PDF Block B are listed in the following table. A brief summary of the outputs has been attached to this memorandum. All output reports are available upon request.

Approved			Actuals			
Proposed activities at Approval	GEF financing	Co-financing	Completed Activities	GEF financing committed	Cofinancing committed (in kind)	Uncommitted GEF Funds
1. Technical consensus building & workshops	150,000	75,000	1. Technical consensus building & workshops	144,172.84	60,000	5,827.16
2. Stakeholder Workshops	50,000	25,000	2. Stakeholder Workshops	9,924.98	0	40,075.02
3. Baseline studies	150,000	75,000	3. Baseline studies	190,557.39	0	-40,557.39
4. Capacity building	40,000	20,000	4. Capacity building	103,671.96	40,000	-63,671.96
5. Study on IPR	30,000	15,000	6. Study on IPR	17,500	0	12,500.00
6. Consultancies for Project preparation	200,000	100,000	7. Consultancies for Project preparation	210,807.02	0	-10,807.02
7. Office support	15,000	7,500	8. Office support	23,365.81	0	-8365.81
8. Contingencies	65,000	32,500	9. Contingencies	0	0	65,000.00
Total uncommitted: 0						

Project Preparation Grant Management Budget

Approved: at the time of request, it was not necessary to obtain approval for project management budget				Committed		
	Staff weeks	GEF financing	Co-financing	Staff weeks	GEF financing	Co-financing (in kind)
Personnel				5	0	10,000
Local Consultants				10	11,500	0
International Consultants				2	4,740	0
Training					0	0
Office Equipment					2,034	700
Travel					0	0
Miscellaneous					318	100
Total					18,592	10,800

Distribution:

Stated Objectives of PDF Block B Grant

The PDF-B grant was requested to finance the costs of designing various project preparation activities. These include stakeholder and donor workshops, workshops for project preparation, GEF project document preparation, and a set of preparatory studies.

Summary of Outputs for PDF Block B Grant (TF# 056101)

The PDF-B grant financed the costs of the following activities:

1. Workshops for project preparation

The task team held workshops and/or meetings for project preparation on the following dates:

- January 8-26, 2006, Togo, Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Senegal: the task presented the project and consulted with the Ministries of the Environment, the Ministries of Agriculture, national biosafety agencies, NARIs, and major NGOs.
- April 1-8, 2006, Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso). The task team met with WAEMU representatives, the Minister of the Environment, and other government and agency representatives, in order to further develop the project's objectives and to begin to discuss institutional and fiduciary arrangements.
- May 22 – June 2, 2006, Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso) and Dakar (Senegal): prepared institutional and fiduciary arrangements, organized the stocktaking assessments, the communications study, and the economic and financial study.
- September 21-22, 2006, Cotonou (Benin): the task team met with UNEP, *CILSS-INSAH*, ECOWAS, FAO and CORAF to assess possibilities for collaboration and co- financing. Two civil society representatives were also present during this meeting.
- September 25-28, 2006, Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso): the task team met with the Minister of the Environment, the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, CNRST, INERA, the University of Ouagadougou, CRSBAN, IRSAT, CPF, and the *French Development Agency*, as well as members of the WAEMU and CILSS.
- September 28-30, Bobo Dioulasso (Burkina Faso): the task team visited transgenic cotton field trials and met with representatives from UNPCB, INERA, IRSS, and the cotton firm SOFITEX.
- November 15, 2006, Bamako (Mali): the task team met with the eight Ministers of the Environment of the WAEMU and the National Correspondents. The meeting resulted in the Declaration of Bamako.
- November 17, 2006, Bobo Dioulasso and Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso): the task team presented the WARBP to farmer associations and obtained their feedback,

which was used in revising the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF).

- November 24, 2006, Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso): the task team met with the Minister of the Environment of Burkina Faso and other government representatives.

2. Stakeholder Consultations

The task team held series of meetings and workshops in the five recipient countries, with all major stakeholders: farmers, civil society, government and administration, potential donors, WAEMU representatives. This was used to gather comments and understand stakeholder perceptions about the WARBP, communicate details of the project and the ESMF to all stakeholders, and later incorporate their input into the revised ESMF.

3. The following studies were commissioned:

a. Stocktaking assessment: *Nicholas A. Linacre, Gregory Jaffe, Regina Birner, Papa Meissa Dieng, Hector Quemada, and Danielle Resnick from the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).*

The stocktaking assessment evaluated the existing regulatory framework on biosafety on regional and national levels, current capacities within the countries and regionally to enforce the Regional Biosafety Framework (RBF), and financial sustainability of the RBF.

b. Economic impact study: *Melinda Smale, Guillaume Gruère, José Falck-Zepeda, Antoine Bouet, Daniela Horna, Mélodie Cartel, Patricia Zambrano, Aimée Niane from the IFPRI.*

This study analyzed (1) the current evidence regarding the benefits of Bt cotton for farmers, (2) the likely consequences on seed supply and product channels in West Africa, and (3) the range and distribution of potential economic benefits. It was used to identify factors that could influence the success or failure of Bt cotton introduction and to serve as a basis for future regional policymaking.

c. Biosafety Training Needs Assessment: *Koffi Edinam dDantsey*

The training needs assessment (a desk study) identified stakeholders, assessed their level of capacity, and outlined a training program.

d. Communication Study: *Market Strategies.*

This study was commissioned after the initial budget proposal was submitted, as the stakeholder workshops revealed a need for a communication strategy to obtain and evaluate stakeholder perceptions. The study resulted in a detailed stakeholder participation action plan, which was used in conducting all further stakeholder consultations.

e. Environmental Impact of Bt Cotton and Sustainability of the Technology Through Resistance Management: Implications for West Africa: *Hector Quemada, MSU.*

This study provides information on environmental impacts of genetically engineered cotton and the implementation of insect resistance management strategies in cotton in a selected range of countries. It discusses the relevance to West Africa of the data obtained in other parts of the world.

f. Intellectual Property Rights Needs Assessment: *Derek Eaton, LEI/WUR.*

The study assessed the training needs for plant variety protection and intellectual property rights as related to biosafety. The study identified the most urgent areas of intervention, which are taken into account in Component C3 of the project. Though this assessment was approved for GEF preparatory financing, subsequent project activities related to intellectual property rights did not receive any funds from GEF.

4. Results monitoring and evaluation

A results framework was drawn up together with WAEMU, describing specific outcome indicators for each component of the project. It has been discussed with QK during QER.