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FACSIMILE COVER SHEET AND MESSAGE**DATE:** January 19, 1996**NO. OF PAGES:** 6
(including this sheet)**MESSAGE NO.:****TO:** See Distribution**FROM:** Ken Newcombe
Title: Chief
Division: ENVGC
Room No.:**DIVISION'S FAX TEL NO.:** (202) 522-3256**Telephone:** (202) 473-6010**SUBJECT/****REFERENCE:** CAMEROON Regional Environmental Information Project - PDF Block A request**MESSAGE:** Attached for your review and comments is the PDF Block A request listed below:**CAMEROON:** Regional Environmental Information Project (REIMP)

We would appreciate your review and comments by Friday, January 26, 1996.

Distribution:

Messrs./Mmes.

R. Asenjo, UNDP (Fax: 212-906-6998)
A. Djoghla, UNEP (Nairobi) (Fax: 9-011-2-520-825)
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cc: Messrs.

I. Johnson, GEF Secretariat (Fax: 23240)
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Messrs./Mmes: Rantrua (AFTES); L. Vidaeus, R. Broadfield, K. Mackinnon, J. Suter (ENVGC)
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Proposal for PDF Block A Grant of 25,000 US\$**Cameroon**

- l.
- a. **Project title:** Regional Environmental Information Project (REIMP)
- b. **ID No:** AF/BD/CAM/1
- c. **Implementing Agency:** World Bank
- d. **Executing Agency:** Ministère de l'Environnement et des Forêts (MINEF)
- e. **IA Focal Point:** François RANTRUA (ext 81-389)
- f. **Principal focal area:** Biodiversity
- g. **Cross-cutting area:** Climate Change
- h. **Scope:** Regional
- i. **Country:** ~~Cameroon~~-RCA-Guinee-Gabon-Zaire-Congo
- j. **Country Endorsement:** Yes (letter dated January 3, 1996)
- k. **National focal Point:** Secrétariat Général du MINEF

2. Country eligibility: The Cameroon ratified the Biodiversity Convention on October 19, 1994.

3. Program eligibility: The proposed activity consists in organizing a regional meeting to facilitate the proposed project.

4. Region and Country priority: The Congo Basin includes the second most important rain forest in the World after the Amazon forest. Its current shrinkage (about 0.6 % per year) under increasing human pressure is of major national and global concern. However, monitoring and planning actions in the Basin is very difficult because basic geo-referenced information on the forest area, composition and current status is lacking at the local, national and regional levels. This is a major concern to governments in the region and has been highlighted in several NEAPs. Within the Region, Cameroon is probably one of the most motivated and well equipped countries to lead the Regional Project, and has requested the PDF to assist that process.

5. Nature and scope of expected project: The main objectives of the project are to establish a demand-driven and action-oriented information system and to build up national capacity for monitoring, land use planning, priority setting and decision making on forest and biodiversity management in the Basin at the local, national and regional levels. The project scope is more fully described in the PID dated 6-20-95.

6. Linkage of the REIMP to IA program: The REIMP will provide an information framework for the GEF and other donor biodiversity operations in the Congo Basin. The REIMP will also be related to the World Bank EIS (Environmental Information System) program in Sub-Saharan Africa. Several members of the EIS committee will attend the proposed seminar. François Falloux, advisor of the EIS committee will participate to the preparatory team.

7. IA Contact person: François RANTRUA

Proposal for PDF Block A Grant of 25,000 US\$**Cameroon****Part II Information on Grant Activities**

1. Summary of project objectives and description. The main objective of the project is to establish a demand-driven and action-oriented environmental information system and also to build capacity at local, national and regional levels to improve monitoring, land use planning, priority setting and decision making for forest and biodiversity management in the Basin. The specific objectives are to (i) establish an inventory of the Basin's natural resources; (ii) provide biodiversity, deforestation and sustainable development indicators and models of evolution for the various biotops, (iii) localize and measure the deforestation activities and impact; (iv) provide this information to the decision makers, field operators and World community in a reasonable time period and appropriate format; and (v) provide guidelines for pertinent actions.

In order to fulfill the above mentioned objectives, the project would include the following capacity building and investment components:

(a) Capacity building.

The component includes the (i) creation and/or strengthening of a regional and national environmental information primary network; (ii) enhancement of national capacities to manage and use information technologies for environmental monitoring; (iii) specific products to fulfill the information demand of the decision makers and facilitate planning and monitoring activities; and (iv) development of the private sector's capacities for the provision of environmental information.

(b) Investments

This component includes (i) acquisition and distribution of an updated comprehensive coverage of satellite images; (ii) production and distribution of space maps; and (iii) transfer of sustainable technology to the national agencies, NGOs and private sector.

2. GEF Thematic Area: Biodiversity

3. Expected Global Benefits: The REIMP would have the following regional and global benefits: (i) Facilitate more effective global Congo Basin biome conservation and monitoring; (ii) ensure compatibility and integration of the various national information systems and outputs; (iii) provide better information on important cross-border conservation issues such as migration, transhumance, and poaching; and (iv) achieve economies of scale on the investments, production costs and technical preparation expenses of providing this information through a coordinate regional approach.

4. Description of PDF Activities by component for GEF-funded projects. The grant would be used to organize a meeting in Yaounde with all the regional stakeholders to help prepare the project. The tentative program and participants of the meeting are attached to this document. The 3 day meeting will include one day of presentations to describe the regional context in the biodiversity, forestry and information sectors, and two days of sub-group working sessions to design the project and address several technical and institutional issues.

5. Expected outputs and Completion date. The meeting is supposed to be a key phase for addressing institutional and technical issues. It will be held in Yaounde on February 5-7, 1996. The following results are expected:

agreement among the stakeholders: (i) for the arrangements and time schedule for preparation; (ii) the objective of regional coordination units (see PID); and (iii) definition of the products. These will be summarized in a report of the meeting's conclusion and agreements.

6. Other contributors and national level support: The meeting will be co-financed by bilateral donors such as French FAC, USAID, GTZ and Belgium AGCD. The project itself is in the preparatory phase and several donors such as France FEM, Canada, US, Belgium, GTZ and others have expressed an interest for the REIMP. However, the general meeting will be an occasion to establish more specifically the willingness of the other donors to participate. The main counterpart in Cameroon is the Ministère de l'Environnement et des Forêts. The Government counterpart is contributing towards the REIMP.

Contact

Samuel MAKON-WEHIONG, Secrétaire Général du MINEF, fax: (237) 22 94 84, tel (237) 22 94 86
François RANTRUA, World bank, tel: 458 13 89, fax 473 79 16

7. Items to be financed

7.1. To be financed by the Grant

		US\$
Personnel:		5860
1. <u>Meeting Organizer</u>	1 ms	3000
2. <u>Rapporteur</u> (international consultant)	8 ds	1600
3. <u>Staff support</u> (3x4 days)..	12 ds	760
4. <u>Hôresses</u>	3 ds	500
Hilton services: To be paid by the MINEF to the Hilton		15000
1. <u>Rooms</u> : conférence room , 5 meeting rooms for sub-groups, 1 room for computers, 1 secrétariat	3 days	4000
2. <u>Rétroprojectors</u> (2) flipcharts (5)	3 days	0
3. <u>Lunches and coffee breaks: cocktail.</u>	3 days	11000
Other services:		2400
1. Computers 486 33 ou 66 avec Windows and software packages (6) rent	3 days	
2. Xerox machine (1 or 2) rent	3 days	
3. Kits for the meeting (for 100 persons: paper, bag, pens...)	3 days	
4. Mini-bus	3 days	
Total to be financed by PDFA grant		25.000

7.2 Government contribution

Technical preparation estimated to be 3 staff months.

It is the government's contribution.

7.3. Other donors contribution

Flight tickets and per diems

Grand Total (7.1, 7.2 et 7.3)

14.400

80.000

119.400

8. Project preparation time table

IEPS Meeting	November 17, 1995
Pre-Appraisal	January 29 - February 16, 1996
Meeting in Yaoundé	February 5-7, 1996 (during pre-appraisal mission)
FEPS Meeting	June 1996
Technical review	June 1996 (draft available for EIPS)
Appraisal	June 24 - July 12, 1996
GEF Council	October 1996
Negociations	November 1996
Board	January 1997
Effectiveness	March 1997

MINISTÈRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT ET DES FORÊTS

SECRETARIAT GÉNÉRAL

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
Paix - Travail - Progrès

N° 18 / MINEF/SG

Yaoundé, le 03 JAN. 1996

**Le Ministre de l'Environnement et
des Forêts**

à Monsieur François RANTILLA
Responsable du PRGIT
Environnement et Développement Durable
Département Technique de la Région Afrique
Banque Mondiale
Washington DC
Fax (202) 473-7916

Objet : Séminaire du Projet Régional
de Gestion de l'Information
Environnementale (PRGIE)
de Yaoundé du 05, 06, et 07
février 1996.

Monsieur le Responsable du Projet,

Me référant à l'aide-mémoire de la mission d'identification de la Banque Mondiale, qui a séjourné au Cameroun du 30 juin au 6 juillet 1995 dans le cadre du Projet Régional de Gestion de l'Information Environnementale (PRGIE) en Afrique Centrale, j'ai l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance que le Cameroun considère comme une nécessité la réalisation d'un tel projet, garant d'une meilleure gestion de nos ressources forestières et d'une meilleure protection de l'Environnement. D'autre part, et afin d'harmoniser nos efforts avec ceux de nos collègues d'Afrique Centrale, nous nous proposons d'abriter les assises d'une réunion régionale à Yaoundé.

En conséquence, je voudrais vous prier de faire débloquent sur le fonds mondial pour l'environnement (GEF), et pour le compte du Ministère des Eaux et Forêts (MINEF), la somme de vingt-cinq mille (25 000) dollars US, représentant une avance sur le budget du PRGIT. Cette somme sera allouée sous forme de subvention au MINEF pour permettre le financement de cette première réunion générale PRGIT qui se déroulera les 5, 6 et 7 février 1996 à Yaoundé.

Comptant sur votre disponibilité et votre engagement habituels pour mener à bien ce projet, je vous prie de recevoir, Monsieur le Responsable du Projet, mes sincères salutations.

P.9. - Budget prévisionnel.

Pour le Ministre
de l'Environnement et des Forêts
et par délégation
Le Secrétaire Général



Sarduel Makon Wehiong

BANQUE MONDIALE YAOUNDE	
Date	09 JAN 1996 N° 075
Dossier	