



# United Nations Environment Programme

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PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT • PROGRAMA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS PARA EL MEDIO AMBIENTE  
ПРОГРАММА ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ НАЦИЙ ПО ОКРУЖАЮЩЕЙ СРЕДЕ

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## TELEFAX TRANSMISSION

<b>To:</b>	<b>Mr. K. King</b> Assistant CEO	<b>Date:</b>	9 January 2001
	FAX: 1 202 522 3240		
	<b>Attn: GEF Programme Coordination</b> Ramon C. Mesa Program Coordinator		
	<b>Rafael Asenjo</b> Executive Coordinator, UNDP/GEF		
	<b>Lars Vidaeus</b> Executive Coordinator, World Bank/GEF		
	<b>Madhav Gadgil</b> Chairperson, STAP		
	<b>Hamdallah Zedan</b> Executive Secretary, CBD Secretariat		
<b>From:</b>	<b>Ahmed Djoghla</b> Executive Coordinator UNEP/GEF Coordination Office		
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Dryland Biosphere Reserves in West Africa</b>		Page 1 of 1

Please find attached a PDF block B request for the above mentioned project, we would appreciate receiving your comments by 24 January 2001.

We are also requesting the GEF Secretariat to issue the CEO's no-objection to the PDF-B at the end of this review period.

Regards.

## GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF) PROPOSAL FOR A PDF BLOCK B GRANT

**Project Title:** Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Dryland Biosphere Reserves in West Africa

**Implementing Agency:** United Nations Environment Programme

### **National Executing Agencies:**

Benin: MAB national committee; Cenagref (Centre National de Gestion des réserves de Faune); ABE (Agence Beninoise de l'Environnement);

Burkina Faso: MAB national committee; IRBET (Institut de recherche en Biologie et écologie tropicale); CNRST (Centre de Recherche scientifique et technologique);

Côte d'Ivoire: MAB National committee; Direction de la Protection de la Nature; Centre de Recherche en Ecologie; Université d'Abobo Adjamé (Lamto);

Mali: MAB National committee; OPNBB (Opération Parc National Boucle du Baoulé); IER (Institut d'économie rurale);

Niger: MAB national committee; Faculté d'Agronomie de l'Université D'Abdou Moumouni; Direction de la Faune Pêche et Pisciculture (DFPP);

Sénégal: MAB national committee; Direction des Parcs Nationaux; Université Cheikh Anta Diop.

**International Executing Agency:** UNESCO

**Requesting Countries:** Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Niger, and Senegal

**GEF Focal Area:** Biodiversity

**GEF OP:** Arid and Semi Arid Ecosystems

**Total Cost of PDF B:** \$481,000

**PDF-B Funding Requested from GEF:** \$350,000

**PDF-B Co-funding:** Benin: MAB national committee, in kind (10,000 US\$)  
Burkina Faso: MAB national committee in kind (10,000 US\$)  
Côte d'Ivoire: MAB national committee in kind (10,000 US\$)  
Mali: MAB national committee in kind (10,000 US\$)  
Niger: MAB national committee in kind (10,000 US\$)  
Senegal: MAB national committee in kind (10,000 US\$)  
UNESCO: 35,000 US\$ (cash) and in kind (36,000 US\$)

**Block A grant awarded:** No

**Estimated Starting Date of PDF B:** February 2001

**Estimated Duration of PDF B:** 12-15 months

**Estimated Starting Date of Full Project:** May 2002

**Estimated Total Costs of Full Project:** \$ 3,800,000

**Estimated Cofinancing for Full Project:** \$ 1,900,000

**Full Project Duration:** 4 years

## **I. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT (BASELINE COURSE OF ACTION)**

### **Resource Utilisation in Dryland Savannahs of West Africa**

1. Savannahs are found on four of the five continents and in more than twenty countries. The savannah biome covers approximately 20% of the earth's land surface, i.e. between 18 and 23 million square kilometres and is home to 500 million people. In Africa, savannahs cover 40% of the continent, i.e. approximately 560 millions hectares. Human presence in the savannah ecosystem dates back to at least a million years, and today some 100 million people live in African savannahs.
2. In most of Africa, agriculture remains the most important economic activity. The vast majority of the rural population in Africa lives in savannah areas, which provide the bulk of food production. Consequently, for the foreseeable future, the inhabitants of Africa's grass savannahs and savannah woodlands are likely to remain agriculturists and pastoralists and thus will continue to depend on the biological resources of the savannah to provide essential food, medicines, energy, building materials, and other products.
3. Contrary to what is usually believed, savannahs that are in ecological equilibrium have very high production efficiency. In the case of West Africa, the residence time of soil nutrients before they are lost from these ecosystems is extremely high. This property is intrinsically linked to the soil structure and soil organic matter content. In traditional agricultural practices, soil fertility is mainly managed through fallowing but the shortening of the fallow period causes an irreversible and rapid decrease of soil organic matter and mineral nutrients. Once the soils have become exhausted, farmers abandon the land and clear new areas, which accelerates the loss of biodiversity and jeopardises the possibility of sustainable development for rural societies.
4. The raising of livestock is another traditional use of savannahs that must take into account the vagaries in annual rainfall and the resulting available forage. Too often a combination of drought and overstocking has lead to overgrazing and soil erosion.
5. Hunting for bushmeat in savannah ecosystems is often associated with setting fire to the vegetation to allow hunters to find their prey more easily. Excessive hunting has in many areas severely reduced populations of native fauna, even to the point of local extinctions. Poaching for non-local consumption has exacerbated this situation. The role of fire in the recycling of nutrients in savannahs is relatively little studied and is also important in defining alternative land use practices.

### **Global Significance of Biodiversity in West African Biosphere Reserves Dominated by Savannah Ecosystems**

6. Many important food crops originate from West African Savannahs. Indigenous crops and fruits from these ecosystems are known for their resistance to disease, stress, and adaptability and are valuable sources for plant breeding. These ecosystems are notable for their within-species genetic diversity, rather than between-species variation or species richness. Yet they contain a significant endowment of plants and animal species as well as micro-organisms. Arid land species exhibit notably a restrictive geographical distribution (endemism) and a wide range of morphological, physical, and chemical adaptation to their

harsh environment. These ecosystems also provide critical habitats for wildlife including wetlands for migratory species.

7. Six Biosphere Reserves were nominated to be part of this project by the respective countries. They were selected to represent a physical and demographic gradients that cover a wide range of ecological, socio-economic and cultural conditions that are representative of savannahs covering a larger area in Africa and to which the lessons learned from this project can be extended via the MAB African network. All of the Biosphere Reserves involved contain globally significant biodiversity and are under immediate, or emerging, threats stemming primarily from unsustainable land use practices exacerbated by increasing human densities and conflicts between local farmers and migrant pastoralists (see Table 1). The project will focus on the following Biosphere Reserves: Pendjari (Benin)<sup>1</sup>; Mare aux Hippopotames (Burkina Faso); Comoé (Côte d'Ivoire)<sup>2</sup>; Boucle du Baoulé (Mali); Park du "W" (Niger); and Niokolo Koba (Senegal). These sites have been selected along a gradient of physical and cultural conditions: increasing aridity; increasing human pressure on grass savannahs and savannah woodlands; and continuous land cover change from South to North. The six Biosphere Reserves have been chosen also with a view to enhance savannah conservation in a gradient from arid climate conditions (e.g. the Boucle du Baoulé BR in Mali) to humid conditions (e.g. Comoé in Côte d'Ivoire) which will provide important insights into savannah conservation problems under varied climate regimes.

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<sup>1</sup> Given the comprehensive WB/GEF project within the Pendjari National Park no field activities will be undertaken in Pendjari National Park as part of the project proposed in this PDF B, however, given the fact that the Pendjari Biosphere Reserve is part of the AfriMAB network, every opportunity to share lessons learned, exchange information, develop joint research programs etc between the two initiatives will be exploited. The details of this linkage will be fully elucidated during the PDF B phase.

<sup>2</sup> During the implementation of the PDF B, discussions will be undertaken with the staff of the WB/GEF project on National Protected Area Management submitted for Council Approval on 3/9/99 to ensure complementarity between the two initiatives.



## The Biosphere Reserve Concept

8. Conserving biological diversity requires reconciling conservation with the sustainable use of natural resources. Achieving a sustainable balance between the often-conflicting goals of conserving biodiversity, promoting development and maintaining associated cultural values of local people presents resource managers with an enormous challenge.
9. While the establishment of national parks and other protected areas has resulted in numerous conservation successes, these areas often remain threatened by mounting pressures from the surrounding populace who do not feel that they benefit from these areas and who want to utilise rather than conserve the biological resources legally protected therein. This is particularly true in Africa where the socio-economic conditions and lack of access to natural resources compel the rural populace to compromise long-term environmental sustainability for the satisfaction of immediate needs, often resulting in illegal exploitation of natural resources in protected areas. This threat to biodiversity within protected areas is compounded by the depletion of resources outside of protected areas resulting in ever more pressure being placed on protected areas as communities seek available resources for their survival.
10. Any effort to improve the conservation of biodiversity in protected areas will fail unless it is associated with measures to improve the living conditions of the local communities in the larger area. Cognisant of this reality, many development and donor agencies have turned to supporting "Integrated Conservation and Development Projects" (ICDPs) where efforts are made to relieve pressures on protected areas by linking conservation measures with efforts to promote development in the surrounding rural communities. While these approaches have met with some success they have generally not been institutionalized. Barriers to institutionalising these approaches include the limited mandates and jurisdictions of protected area agencies beyond the confines of the designated protected areas, and, associated with this limited mandate, *the absence of a systematic approach to building knowledge, expertise, and the institutional and managerial skills and capacities required to pursue these approaches.*
11. The Biosphere Reserve concept, conceived in 1974 and implemented through UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme (MAB), provides a mechanism both for linking conservation and development on the ground, and for building the institutional capacities to develop and manage such integrated approaches. In Biosphere Reserves, local communities become the key actors and beneficiaries. The definition, criteria, designation procedure and periodic review of Biosphere Reserves, as well as the functioning of the World Network that they constitute, have been defined by the Statutory Framework which was adopted by the Member States of UNESCO in November 1995. The main goals and objectives of Biosphere Reserves at the local, national and international levels are set out in the Seville strategy that was also endorsed by the UNESCO General Conference. By nominating sites for designation as Biosphere Reserves, countries seek international recognition of their efforts to promote this integrated approach to conservation and development in accordance with the criteria of the Statutory Framework. They also wish to participate in an institutionalised world network and thereby benefit from exchanges of information, experience and personnel with sites with similar ecological and/or socio-economic conditions.

12. Biosphere Reserves are designed to contain protected areas of regionally representative ecosystems that have been recognised for both their intrinsic value and for providing scientists and managers with the opportunity to understand the structure, functioning and dynamics of these ecosystems and the possibilities of manipulating components of these systems in ways to improve biological performance and provide useful products and services. The ecosystems that are found in the core areas are in general mature, resilient systems in complex equilibrium with the physical driving forces, including episodic events such as extreme drought and extensive fires. These legally protected core areas are mainly devoted to biodiversity conservation, ecosystem monitoring and research.
13. Socio economic activities take place in buffer zones and transition areas. These sites are ideal for studying and understanding how some human practices can lead to depletion of biological resources. They provide a concrete opportunity for preventing misuses and for testing sustainable livelihoods strategies that conserve biological diversity. (See Appendix 2 for a complete explanation on how Biosphere Reserves are designed to couple conservation with development and science.)

### **Barriers to Effective Biosphere Reserve Management in West Africa**

14. In addition to addressing the unsustainable land use practices summarised in Table One, biosphere reserve managers must overcome substantive barriers to effective biosphere reserve management including:
  - Lack of economic incentives to support conservation and sustainable use of resources in the buffer and transition zones.
  - Shortage of local personnel adequately trained in the conservation and management of natural resources.
  - Limited expertise and capacity at the individual and institutional level to conserve and manage the biosphere reserve *in collaboration* with local communities. The lack of communication and consultation between the various stakeholders living and working in the biosphere reserve makes it very difficult to establish management plans that receive the support of local communities. This leads to conflicts between resource-user groups and between national and local authorities which undermines conservation efforts.
  - The absence of a systematic approach to building knowledge, expertise and institutional and managerial skills and capacities.
  - Limited transfer of knowledge about viable sustainable technologies between local, national and regional levels also hampers access to and application of successful conservation strategies.
  - Inadequate co-operation and co-ordination between research, conservation and natural resource management due to the lack of standard methods and research protocols to identify, measure and monitor the biodiversity and the goods and services provided by the biosphere reserve. Socioeconomic data and research is insufficient compared to biological surveys undertaken. Research information that does exist is scattered, often undertaken by international experts and the national researchers don't have access to decision support systems (such as GIS and computer modelling).

- Lack of knowledge and environmental awareness amongst the public about the conservation and sustainable development objectives inherent to a biosphere reserve and how the public can benefit from its successful management.

## II. SUMMARY: PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION

15. The purpose of the project is to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity in six Biosphere Reserves in West Africa that are predominantly composed of savannah ecosystems. In order to achieve this goal project implementation will emphasise the integration of local stakeholders into Biosphere Reserve Management. Furthermore, the project will make extensive use of the AfriMAB network and the sub-regional AfriMAB network for West Africa for technical and scientific information exchange and capacity building. The principles of the ecosystem approach, the recommendations of the Seville Strategy, and the results of Afrimab's thematic working groups will guide project implementation. In particular, goals II, III and IV of the Seville Strategy will inform and guide project design and implementation<sup>3</sup>.
16. All of the participating Biosphere Reserves are active in the Afrimab network, a continent-wide network that was formerly created in 1996 in Dakar. The staff of the Biosphere Reserves already participate in thematic working groups on the following issues: 1) Regulatory, legislative and institutional frameworks of Biosphere Reserves; 2) Stakeholder/social-actor participation, and income sharing; 3) Scientific research and capacity building; 4) Management of transboundary Biosphere Reserves. This existing shared workplan allows for the harmonisation of data at and across each site and provides an institutional and structural cohesion through the Afrimab network. This institutional infrastructure facilitates the exchange of experience and practices between the sites and will be central to removing the existing barriers to building knowledge, expertise, and the institutional and managerial skills and capacities required to pursue integrated conservation and development approaches. The Afrimab network creates the institutional framework whereby successful programs and policies in one country can help set an example and precedents for other countries to emulate and the proposed project will help catalyze this process. The project pilot sites and the responses designed to mitigate the threats to biodiversity will reflect both the commonality and diversity of threats that the biosphere reserves face. The lessons learned from these experiences will be shared amongst resource managers and communities throughout the region via objective three (capacity building) and the Afrimab network.
17. The Full Project will have three components and three primary objectives as detailed below.

### 18. Component One: Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity

The primary objective of this component will be to: *Demonstrate economically viable livelihood strategies that conserve and sustainably use biodiversity.* This objective will be achieved by:

- a) identification, implementation and evaluation of land use practices, including local know-how, which use natural resources sustainably;

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<sup>3</sup>Utilise Biosphere Reserves as models of land management and of approaches to sustainable development (goal II). Secure the support and involvement of local people (objective II.1). Use Biosphere Reserves for research, monitoring, education and training (goal III). Improve knowledge on the interactions between humans and the biosphere (objective III.1) Improve monitoring activities (objective III.2). Improve education, public awareness and involvement (objective III.3). Improve training for specialists and managers (objective III.4). Implement the Biosphere Reserve concept (goal IV). Integrate the functions of Biosphere Reserves (objective IV.1).

- b) establishment of long-term experimental sites coupled with practical demonstrations of sustainable natural resource use in grass savannas and savanna woodlands (i.e. soil fertility management, wood exploitation, extensive grazing, etc.);
- c) establishment of biodiversity monitoring systems both in core and transition areas for studying the impact of resource use on biodiversity. These monitoring systems will support research activities to be undertaken in component two. Monitoring will include surveys of dryland vegetation cover and composition; measures of the plant vigour, age, diversity, species density, and age class; other measures of the population of native species; surveys of fauna performance -- population change, wildlife calving, and weight gains; etc.
- d) using Biosphere Reserves as practical demonstration sites for land use planning aiming at biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of natural resources, which can be introduced into the wider area outside these sites.

### **19. Component Two: Savannah Ecosystem Applied Research**

The primary objective of this component will be to: *Enhance the understanding of the biophysical, socio-cultural and economic processes in savannah ecosystems and the communities that rely upon them in order to ensure the conservation and sustainable use of savannah biodiversity.* Researchers will identify the priority issues to be studied after consultation with local communities and the biosphere reserve managers. The research undertaken will provide the scientific basis for the monitoring and evaluation of alternative land uses (component one) and to provide appropriate information to the various stakeholders (e.g., impact of land-use practices on biodiversity, sustainability of harvesting strategies of vegetation, etc.) Common research protocols will be designed to allow for comparison between the six sites.

### **20. Component Three: Building Capacity to Conserve and Sustainably Use Biodiversity of Savannah Ecosystems**

The primary objective of this component is to: *Strengthen the managerial skills and capacities of individuals and institutions involved in the management of grass and savannah woodlands Biosphere Reserves in West Africa and, more generally, of decision makers, scientists, administrative managers and other resource persons involved in environmental management at the national and local levels through the establishment of appropriate learning and training mechanisms.*

This objective will be achieved by:

- a) designing and applying computer-based information (data, bibliography, GIS) and management (fire and game management) tools for studying the dynamic interactions between socio-economic and ecological processes and the protection of biological diversity.<sup>4</sup> This research information will be used for support to decision making and for comparative purposes across sites.
- b) providing basic equipment (small buildings, laboratories, and access to internet and email) to facilitate training and research, exchanges of information, and improved communication between the six biosphere reserves and the AfriMAB network.

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<sup>4</sup> For studying these interactions, the multi-agent system approach as developed by CIRAD (Centre International de Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement) will be used for testing and simulating different scenarios. These scenarios will be discussed between the various stakeholders and the best resource use options will be integrated in a revised biosphere reserve management plan.

- c) disseminating research results, best practices and lessons learnt in component one and two through the Afrimab network.
- d) implementing education and awareness raising programmes in the biosphere reserve in collaboration with ministries concerned utilising a variety of media;
- e) establishment of a Regional training program primarily focused on farmers and field practitioners (government and biosphere reserve management staff) to improve technical capacities (including participatory development and conflict resolution methodologies) in biodiversity conservation.

21. The project will produce the following outputs:

#### **Component One**

- Enhanced biodiversity conservation in West African grass savannahs and savannah woodlands Biosphere Reserves.
- Sustainable livelihood strategies adopted in selected sites.
- Practical long-term demonstration projects of sustainable and biodiversity-friendly livelihood strategies established including new types of agriculture based on low inputs.

#### **Component Two**

- Common research protocols adopted within the biosphere reserves and the Afrimab network and long-term research projects on the impacts of land-use on biodiversity established.
- Interactive database for scientific and management purposes established.
- Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms in operation to allow for adaptation of research objectives to socio-economic needs on a regular basis.

#### **Component Three**

- Managerial skills and capacities of individuals and institutions involved in Biosphere Reserve management enhanced.
- Working mediation mechanisms functioning in all six Biosphere Reserves for conflict-management and resolution amongst key stakeholders (Biosphere Reserve managers, local communities, scientists, national and local government agencies and institutions, universities and other research institutions, NGOs, etc.)
- Increased scientific and technical information flow on Biosphere Reserve management and conservation within the region through workshops and electronic conferences.

### **III. ELIGIBILITY**

- 22. All countries have ratified the CBD. Benin 30 June 1994, Burkina Faso 2 September 1993, Côte d'Ivoire 29 November 1994, Mali 29 March 1995, Niger 25 July 1995, Senegal 17 October 1994.
- 23. The proposal meets the criteria of the GEF Operational Programme #1 on Arid and Semi-Arid Zone Ecosystems in that it aims to integrate biodiversity conservation and sustainable use objectives in land use planning and biosphere reserve management plans. It intends to set up pilot projects providing alternative livelihoods for local and indigenous communities residing in buffer and transition zones of globally important biological areas. It responds to country-driven national priorities by identifying components of biological

diversity important for its sustainable use, as well as understanding and analysing the processes and categories of activities that have or are likely to have significant adverse impacts on the sustainable use of biodiversity. This project intends to develop and refine methods and tools such as rapid biological/ecological/social assessment, geographic information systems, and data analysis systems of importance for the sustainable use of biodiversity. By consulting and involving all stakeholders concerned in the management of biosphere reserves, it will support capacity building efforts that promote the preservation and maintenance of local communities' knowledge, innovation, and practices relevant to the sustainable use of biological diversity. Conservation of the biological resources will be done through enhanced protection of the core areas of the biosphere reserves and through identifying sustainable use management schemes which will combine production, socio-economic, and biodiversity conservation goals. The zonation system of Biosphere Reserves allows for a wide range of uses from strict protection in the core areas through various forms of multiple use in buffer and transition zones. The successful practices identified in the selected sites could be replicated in other Biosphere Reserves in the continent.

#### **IV. INCREMENTAL COSTS**

24. In the absence of this project, threats to globally significant biodiversity in the core, buffer and transition zones of the biosphere reserves will continue unabated, as will conflicts over resource use within the reserves. The capacity of reserve managers and other stakeholders would remain weak and the total area under effective conservation management across all six biosphere reserves would remain low. The alternative scenario--to be fully designed with the PDF resources requested herein--aims to avert the continued degradation of biodiversity by strengthening management at each biosphere reserve. The full project is expected to result in: a) Enhanced biodiversity conservation in savannahs and savannah woodland Biosphere Reserves through the adoption of sustainable livelihood strategies and improved biosphere reserve management planning and execution in collaboration with key stakeholders; b) Common research protocols adopted within the biosphere reserves and long-term research projects on the impacts of land-use on biodiversity; c) Improved managerial skills and capacities of individuals and institutions involved in Biosphere Reserve management; and d) Increased scientific and technical information flow on Biosphere Reserve management and conservation amongst the biosphere reserves and within the region.
25. It is expected that GEF resources will be used to strengthen biosphere reserve management at all sites through technical training, applied research, biodiversity monitoring, and the development of regional cooperation mechanisms for technical information exchange. The design and extension of sustainable use activities within each biosphere reserve and research designed to support the evaluation of the sustainable use of biodiversity will generate some domestic benefits and cofinancing will be sought to support these project activities.

#### **V. LINKAGES WITH OTHER GEF INITIATIVES**

26. The proposed project will collaborate with the following GEF projects to both ensure complementarity and to learn from project experiences in similar ecosystems:
  - In Benin, the project will be collaborating with the UNDP Regional Project "Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity by Rural Communities Adjacent to "W" Fauna Reserve, Arly and Pendjari" (Benin, Burkina Faso and Niger) as well as with the E7

project on access to renewable energy for local communities. Since the national agencies involved in the above mentioned projects are also executing agencies in the PDF B, co-ordination will be easily facilitated via regular consultation and information exchange.

- In Burkina Faso, the PDF B project will elaborate on the strategies developed within the "Transboundary Arid Rangeland Biodiversity" project, implemented by The World Bank, especially regarding methodology used in restoring degraded lands and establishing a network of conservation areas. The livelihood strategies identified within the "Sahel Integrated Lowland Ecosystem Management (SILEM)" project (World Bank) in order to combat land degradation and increase agricultural production will also be analysed in order to study the possibility to replicate them.
- In Mali, a national consultation and information exchange meeting will be held with the project co-ordinator of "Transboundary Arid Rangeland Biodiversity Project: Sustainable and Participatory Conservation of Biodiversity in the Sahel Partial Reserve", implemented by the World Bank. Other scientific exchange and consultations will be held with the coordinators of both projects on "Removal of Barriers to Widespread Adoption of Renewable Energy Technologies" (UNDP) and "Community-based Natural Resources and Biodiversity Conservation in the Interior Delta du Niger, Mopti Region" (World Bank) in order to study methodologies used to improve the living conditions of rural inhabitants.
- Similar initiatives will be taken in Niger with the "Natural Resource Management in Air Tenere Reserve" project implemented by the World Bank and in Senegal, with the "Community-based Conservation Management" programme in buffer and transition zones (UNDP) as well as with the regional project (Benin, Mali Niger) on "Reversing land and water degradation trends in the Niger Basin (protection of dryland and aquatic resources), implemented by World Bank and UNDP as well as "Desert margin programme" in arid and semi arid regions (UNEP).

## **VI. NATIONAL AND REGIONAL LEVEL SUPPORT**

27. The sites in question have already undergone a rigorous screening process through UNESCO and its International Advisory Board for Biosphere Reserves. In addition, as these Biosphere Reserves have been nominated by the countries concerned, they have *de facto* a vocation for international co-operation within the World Network and can serve as priority sites for comparative studies. The existence of this institutional backing and national willingness for co-operation within the World Network serves as a guarantee for implementing international projects.
28. National level support for the development of the PDF B will be provided through in-kind resources in terms of staff time and logistics to support the development and implementation of the full proposal. Additional national level support, together with various other bilateral support at some of the sites for the Full Project, will be defined during the PDF B Phase.
29. All countries concerned have already established MAB National Committees and corresponding MAB secretariats at the national level for which funding is provided from national sources. Furthermore, the ministries concerned have expressed their strong support to the project.

30. The proposal has emerged from consultations between the national Man and Biosphere committees, national agencies responsible for Biosphere Reserves and UNESCO. The specific objectives of the planned project were formally endorsed at the Regional Conference for Forging Co-operation on Africa's Biosphere Reserves for Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Development held from 7-9 October 1996 in Dakar (Senegal). Support for the implementation of the project was reiterated during the first technical Afrimab meeting for Francophone African countries which was held from 28 September to 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1999, in Dakar (Senegal).
31. A first draft of a PDF B was originally developed by UNDP and the project was formally transferred to UNEP to develop by the GEFSEC per email communication of June 7, 2000. In response to this request from the GEFSEC and the concerned countries, UNEP has worked intensively with UNESCO since to develop the current version of the proposal.

## **VII. SUSTAINABILITY AND REPLICATION**

32. This regional project takes place within an active and promising continent-wide network, Afrimab. Created in 1996, this network facilitates exchange and co-operation between African countries sharing similar ecosystems and socio-economic problems. The Afrimab network is structured into four thematic groups working on key questions for conservation of biodiversity and sustainable development in the region: 1) Regulatory, legislative and institutional frameworks of Biosphere Reserves; 2) Stakeholder/social-actor participation, and income sharing; 3) Scientific research and capacity building; 4) Management of transboundary Biosphere Reserves.
33. The AfriMAB network aims to build an action plan for conserving biodiversity at a regional level (in this project, West Africa). Each country has indicated their interest in using the work and studies already available as a basis for comparison with similar endeavours in other countries to design and test new strategies aimed at reversing current negative trends associated with the status of biodiversity in the Biosphere Reserves. The AfriMAB network promotes the use of harmonised methodology within the sub region, fosters and facilitates collaboration among the participating countries and the teams of each site, and develops Cupertino with other countries facing similar challenges for improving the protection of these threatened ecosystems.
34. The participating countries in the proposed project do not have the financial wherewithal to learn from approaches undertaken in other countries and to share their own experiences in resolving conservation problems of common concern. The conservation and sustainable use of drylands biodiversity to be promoted by the project therefore will have a very wide application. The project design is unique in that it will be nested within a functioning cooperative network of dryland sites representative of a wide range of dryland ecosystems of the world. It is also unique by its focus on established biosphere reserves as models for sustainable resource management building on scientific cooperation, traditional knowledge and local participation. This project will demonstrate how biological diversity in arid lands can be managed for the benefit of local populations without compromising cultural, economic or environmental concerns. Since the sites included under the project are selected to include representative areas of arid lands, the result obtained should be applicable in a wide range of drylands around the world. Replication of the results will be facilitated through the Afrimab network and the World Network of Biosphere Reserves.

Simultaneously protecting a number of dryland ecosystems that are national priorities will, overall, result in a sufficiently representative coverage of habitat types to fulfil the objectives of the CBD and the Afrimab Action plan.

35. As a result of the Full Project, the AfriMAB network will be reinforced and will facilitate the elaboration of a West African regional strategic conservation and sustainable development plan for arid lands. The consolidation and strengthening of the W. Africa Sub regional AfriMAB network will help ensure that the project will continue activities initiated during the 4 year project. The project design will reflect lessons learned from previous GEF projects regarding sustainability. Allocation of GEF resources in the early years of the project will be higher on a percentage basis with Government and biosphere reserve resources increasing proportionally per component each year during project implementation such that by the time of project termination, the activities that will continue are being predominantly funded by non-GEF resources.
36. The PDF B grant will also initiate a regional strategic approach that will allow each site to develop the required technical and institutional tools to work together and to install a permanent platform for exchange of information and experience after project termination.

## **VII. DESCRIPTION OF PDF-B ACTIVITIES**

### **Activity 1. Project Coordination**

37. Activities under coordination will include: establishing a Steering Committee, appointing a PDF B coordinator, approval of the PDF B work plan, developing and approving TOR for all consultants, coordinators, focal points, and National MAB Committees, designing common terms of reference for each site analysis, and development of an initial framework strategy for resource mobilization.
38. A Steering Committee will be established to oversee the execution of the PDF B and will include national MAB representatives, Biosphere Reserve managers, and representatives of other stakeholders - including local communities, as well as the UNESCO-MAB Secretariat and UNEP/GEF. The Steering Committee will have the responsibility for overseeing execution of the PDF-B grant. The Steering Committee will establish its final terms of reference in collaboration with the PDF B coordinator, approve a management framework, approve the detailed work program developed by the PDF B Coordinator for the execution of the PDF-B and delivery of outputs, and approve the TOR for the regional focal point, National Co-ordinators, Technical Co-ordinators, and Consultants developed by the PDF B Co-ordinator. The Steering committee members will generally work through electronic communications, but will meet once at the start of the project, once to review mid-term progress and once toward the end to review the draft GEF project brief and associated draft reports. The Steering Committee will also assist the PDF B Coordinator to secure cofinancing for the Full Project.
39. A PDF B coordinator will be designated to oversee and lead the coordination effort. He or she will oversee resource allocation, assure quality control and make sure different project components stay on schedule. The TOR for the Project Co-ordinator will include, among others, the following tasks: a) preparing for approval by the Steering Committee the terms of reference for the regional focal point national and technical co-ordinators and

consultants and the MAB National Committees; b) preparing for approval by the Steering Committee common terms of reference for each site analysis; c) consulting with other projects in the countries to ensure that project activities are fully complementary to ongoing and planned initiatives; d) convening the national and regional consultations; e) facilitating communication and information exchange between the various sites; f) co-ordinating the work of the MAB National Committees, national and technical co-ordinators, consultants etc.

40. Terms of Reference will be developed for the regional focal point, National Co-ordinators, Technical Co-ordinators, and Consultants by the PDF B Co-ordinator. The national and technical co-ordinators will be charged with consolidating and re-interpreting the available ecological and socio-economic data; undertake a series of consultations and meetings to ensure two-way dialogue between local specialists, local land managers and users, and representatives of the local implementing institutions, and appropriate local NGOs. These groups will designate representatives to participate in the regional meetings between sites to compare experience, exchange results and ideas and identify the techniques which could be tested in the full project; identify the training, information and equipment needs in each site.
41. The government designated MAB National Committees will act as the focal points for the implementation of project design activities at the national level. They have direct links to the appropriate ministries responsible for protected area management, other line ministries, environment agencies, and scientific and technical institutions. At a cross-site level the UNESCO-MAB secretariat will provide the necessary human and logistical infrastructure for planning and co-ordination.

#### **Activity Two. Site Analysis**

42. Each site will be analysed using a participatory analysis technique and a common framework for data collection. The analysis will identify problems; threats, constraints, issues and opportunities associated with biodiversity conservation, stakeholder concerns, and local livelihood strategies. The analysis will proceed in three stages:
  - (i) *Stakeholder Identification and Consultations*

The key stakeholder groups at each site will be identified and the consultation design formulated. Stakeholders will include local community leaders, leaders of important social groups, managers and staff responsible for the management protected core areas and buffer zones, national and local government agencies and institutions, universities and other research and scientific institutions, non governmental organisations and local private sector. Interviews will be conducted to gather baseline information and identify key issues.
  - (ii) *Formulation of Issues and Options*

Summary analyses of the interview results will be developed including a preliminary analysis of issues and options. On the basis of these analyses programmes for the workshop discussions at each site will be formulated. Issues to be identified and discussed will focus on: a) selection of demonstration sites and land use practices to be monitored and evaluated; b) identification of training needs and development of

training strategy; c) identification of research strategies, needs, and development of common research protocols.

(iii) *Stakeholder Workshop*

Stakeholder representatives will discuss issues and options and formulate approaches for addressing and implementing identified options, including the setting up of local Biosphere Reserve management committee and outlining a strategy for implementation of site plans.

**Activity Three. Cross-Site Analysis**

43. Following the participatory analysis at each site a comparative cross-site analysis will be undertaken to identify problems, constraints, issues and opportunities associated with the network of grass savannas and savannah woodland Biosphere Reserves as a whole. The analysis will proceed in three stages:

(i) *Comparative Analysis of Sites*

A comparative analysis of the issues raised at each site will be undertaken and an outline of alternatives and options for addressing and exploiting these will be developed.

(ii) *Cross-Site Planning Workshop*

A regional workshop will draw a limited number of representative stakeholders from each site who will discuss the issues, options and alternatives drawn from the comparative study and formulate an outline programme of action.

(iii) *Verification*

Stakeholders will return to their sites and verify with the other local stakeholders the overall plan of action.

**Activity Four. Resource mobilisation**

44. The Steering Committee will be charged with assisting the PDFB co-ordinator in designing a resource mobilization strategy to raise cofinancing for the full project.

**Activity Five. Project Brief**

45. Preparation of Project Brief and support documentation.

**X. PDF Block B Outputs**

46. The outputs of this PDF will be:

- Participatory analyses which identify the key problems, threats, constraints, issues and opportunities associated with biodiversity conservation, stakeholder concerns, local

livelihood strategies and reserve management at each of the six Biosphere Reserves. The analyses will include:

- a) Identification of the demonstration sites and agreed sustainable livelihood strategies that will be implemented during the full project at each Biosphere Reserve.
  - b) Development of common research protocols and research plans (including monitoring land-use impacts on biodiversity) for each biosphere reserve.
  - c) Capacity building training programme design and plan. Technical conservation skills and methods, environmental awareness, and conflict resolution related to component three and computer skills and research methods as related to component two.
  - d) A comparative analysis of the six Biosphere Reserves identifying common issues to be addressed and opportunities for collaborative learning and exchange to improve Biosphere Reserve and peripheral zones management.
- Regional plan for technical information exchange and environmental awareness at the sub regional level that will be implemented during the Full Project.
  - A full GEF proposal for a programme to enhance biodiversity conservation in the selected western African grass savannahs and savannah woodland Biosphere Reserves.

## XI. ITEMS TO BE FINANCED

	GEF US\$	Government contributions (cash and in- kind)	Other cofundors (cash and in-kind)	TOTAL
Activity 1 Project Coordination <sup>5</sup>	100.000	15.000	10.000	125.000
Activity 2 Site analysis <sup>6</sup>	100.000	20.000	20.000	140.000
Activity 3 Cross site analysis <sup>7</sup>	120.000	20.000	20.000	160.000
Activity 4 Resource mobilisation	10.000	5.000	15.000	30.000
Activity 5 Preparation of Project Brief and support documentation	20.000		6.000	26.000
<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>	<b>350.000</b>	<b>60.000</b>	<b>71.000</b>	<b>481.000</b>

<sup>5</sup> Activity 1 Please note that this activity include the establishment of the Steering Committee, the preparation of the terms of reference for the regional focal point, national co-ordinators, technical co-ordinators and consultants. It includes the assistant coordinator's salary, secretarial assistance, travel and meetings (three meetings of the Steering committee).

<sup>6</sup> This item include the development of research strategies and surveys for each biosphere reserve (component two), the identification of pilot demonstration sites within each biosphere reserve, the identification of the resource use practices, design of monitoring system for each biosphere reserve and six national stakeholder workshops.

<sup>7</sup> The funds will be used for travel, meeting costs (one cross-site planning workshop) and writing up of the programme of action.

## XII. PRELIMINARY DRAFT WORKPLAN AND TIMETABLE

The PDF activities will start in February 2001 and be completed in April 2002. The timetable for PDF activities is shown below:

Activity	2001											2002			
	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A
1. Project Coordination, meetings (1)	X									X			X		
2. Site Analysis		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
3. Cross -Site Analyses				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
4. Resource Mobilization					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
5. Preparation of full project												X	X	X	X

- (1) The Steering Committee will provide close oversight throughout the 15 months. Three meetings are planned to ensure that each country and the regional themes develop in unison.

**Appendix 1. Summary Site Descriptions and Map of Biosphere Reserve Locations**

**Appendix 2. Biosphere Reserves - Coupling Conservation with Development and Science**

**Appendix 3. List of National MAB contacts involved**

## **Appendix 1: Summary Site Descriptions and Map**

### **Pendjari (Benin)**

Located in Atakora province, north-west Benin, on the international border with Burkina Faso and within the loop formed by the River Pendjari, 45km north of Natitingon (approximately 11°N, 1°30'E). Rising from 150-450m altitude, the Biosphere Reserve covers an area of 880,000ha. The reserve, which lies within the Volta depression, contains a wide variety of the habitats typical of the West Africa savanna region. FAO consultants prepared a management plan for this area in 1979. The containment of bushfires, poaching and occasional chemical pollution (in some areas of water affecting the fish in the reserve) are among the main challenges in the management plan.

### **Mare aux Hippopotames (Burkina Faso)**

Located in Bobo-Dioulasso District in the west of the country, 80km north of the town of Bobo-Dioulasso, the reserve is roughly oblong about a north-south axis, and lies between the Black Volta River and the Bossora/Bala highway. The Wolo River forms the southwest limit. 11°30'-11°45'N, 04°05'-04°12'W. Generally comprised of open forests, rich in species with Guinean affinities, and gallery forests along the watercourses. A management plan has been prepared by a UNESCO consultant in 1987 that recommends the extension of the reserve, management of the flora and fauna, development of tourism, environmental monitoring and development in surrounding zones.

### **Comoé (Côte d'Ivoire)**

Extending from 35km south-west of Bouna, in the north-east prefectures of Bouna and Ferkessedougou, westwards across the Comoé River to the vicinity of Kong (8°05'-9°06'N, 3°01'-4°4'W), the Biosphere Reserve covers an area of 1,150,000ha and extends from 119m to 658m altitude. The park contains a remarkable variety of habitats and plant associations found, more often, further south, including savanna, forests and riparian grasslands. A management plan has been produced: 17 patrol posts at 20-30 km intervals are being established. Two tourist zones exist within the park for short and long-term visits.

### **Boucle du Baoulé (Mali)**

The protected area complex lies mostly on the left bank of Baoulé River (only Kongossambougou is on the right bank in western Mali) (13°45'-14°23'N, 8°23'-9°25'W). The protected area complex encompasses two biogeographical zones: the Sudano-Guinean zone to the south and the Sahelian zone to the north, which are often considered as the most important faunal assemblage within the country. Large fauna is under heavy pressure from hunting and competition from livestock. Restoration of the national park is identified as a priority project for foreign aid programmes.

### **Parc du « W » (Niger)**

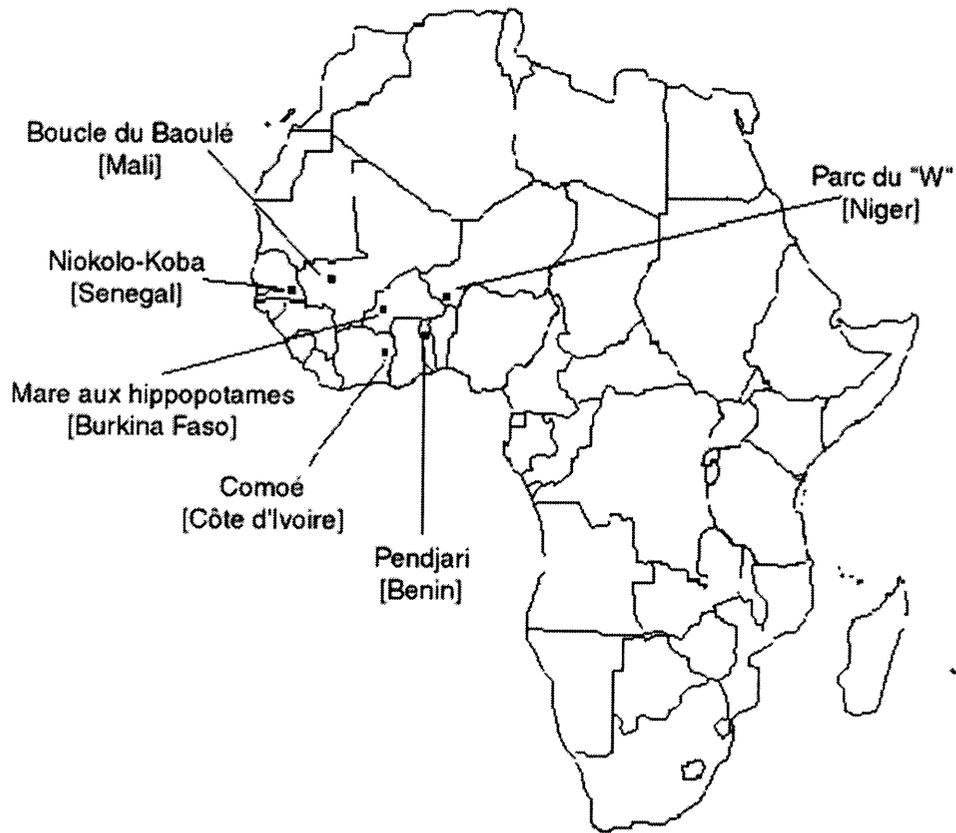
This Ramsar site was approved as a Biosphere Reserve in 1996. Situated in the south-western region of Niger, the "W" region, (11°55'-13°20'N, 2°40'-03°20'E) lies in an ancient peneplain with little altitudinal variation (200-310m a.s.l.). Its diversity is primarily a result of the hydrographic regime in three different watershed bassins. It is estimated that some 80% of the country's biological diversity occurs in this region. The Advisory Committee for Biosphere Reserves recommended that collaboration between the authorities of Niger, Benin and

Burkina Faso be commenced with a view to establishing a large transborder Biosphere Reserve in this area.

**Niokolo-Koba (Senegal)**

Lying across the border between the administrative regions of Senegal-Oriental and La Casamance, on the River Gambia, close to the Guinea border in south-eastern Senegal (12°30'-13°20'N, 12°20'-13°5'W). The regional development plan recognizes strict protection of the park; however, the numbers of leopard and elephant have decreased because of poaching. Tourist infrastructure includes hotels and bungalows and animals can be watched from hides or safaris.

## Biosphere Reserves in dryland Africa

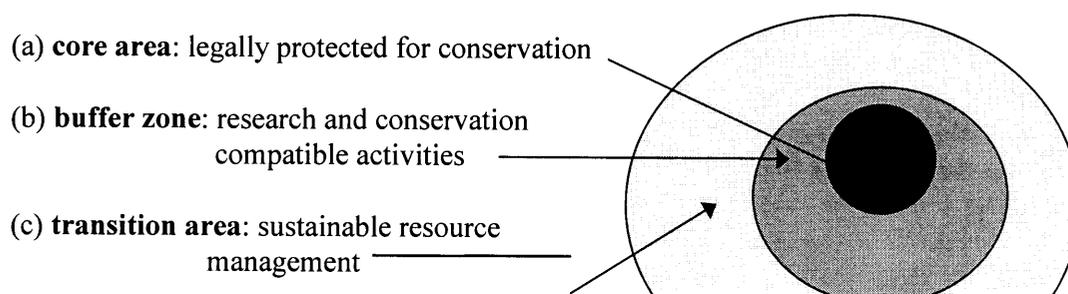


## Appendix 2: Biosphere Reserves - Coupling Conservation with Development and Science

Conservation is often at stake when local populations surrounding protected areas feel that they do not benefit from conservation; if they want to exploit rather than conserve biological and mineral resources. This is particularly true for developing countries where due to mounting pressures and lack of resources people are often forced to compromise long-term sustainability for the satisfaction of immediate needs.

Biosphere Reserves endeavour to combine conservation with sustainable use of natural resources. Assisted by research on human-environment interactions and ecosystem functioning, they wish to demonstrate that conservation is best practised if people are involved in area management and decision-making processes so that they protect "their own" environment. In this, Biosphere Reserves go beyond the classical protection concept and promote a wider spatial and conceptual approach.

This approach includes a special zoning system: a legally protected central *core area* aims at conserving the world's major ecosystems where only minimal human disturbances is allowed (e.g. for species inventorying and monitoring). The core area is surrounded by a *buffer zone* (or *management zone*) which helps to protect the core area and which can accommodate a greater degree of human use and experimental manipulation for scientific and development research. A *transition zone* (or *development zone*) surrounds the other two areas: here co-operation with local people and sustainable resource management practices are developed. It is the combined presence of conservation, research and development that characterise Biosphere Reserves.



Biosphere Reserves, initiated under UNESCO's intergovernmental "Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB)" in the early 1970s, form a network for international collaboration. As of July 1996, the total number of Biosphere Reserves is at 337 in 85 countries. All Biosphere Reserves are nominated for international recognition in the international network by the government authorities of the country concerned. In doing so, countries commit themselves to cooperation with other countries in promoting the Biosphere Reserve objectives for learning and sharing of knowledge and experience. Hence, collectively all Biosphere Reserves are linked with this common understanding of purpose within the Global Network of Biosphere Reserves. It is this co-operative dimension, at the intergovernmental level, co-ordinated by UNESCO, which makes the Biosphere Reserve network unique.

### Appendix 3: List of National MAB Contacts Involved

**BENIN:**

**National MAB contact:** Dr B. Guedegbe

Comité national du MAB de Bénin  
Centre béninois de la Recherche scientifique et technique  
Ministère de l'Education Nationale  
B.P. 03-1665  
Cotonou  
Bénin  
Telephone: 321263  
Telex: 5329 ITABEN

**Pendjari Biosphere Reserve:**

Arouna Moussa Touré  
Direction des Parcs Nationaux et Réserves de Faune  
Bénin

**BURKINA FASO:**

**National MAB contact:** Mr. Jean Noel PODA

Comité national du MAB burkinabé  
IRBET/DGRST  
B.P. 7047  
Ougadougou  
Burkina Faso  
Tel: 307215; 315614  
Fax: 314141  
e.mail :

**Mare aux Hippopotames Biosphere Reserve:**

IRBET/DGRST  
B.P. 7047  
Ougadougou  
Burkina Faso

**COTE D'IVOIRE:**

**National MAB contact:** Mme Martine Tahoux Touao

Comité national du MAB  
08 BP 109  
Abidjan 08  
Côte d'Ivoire  
Tel: 25 73 36

**Comoé Biosphere Reserve:**

Chef d'Inspection  
Conservateur du Parc National de la Comoé  
Bouna  
Côte d'Ivoire

**MALI:**

**National MAB contact:** Secrétariat du Comité MAB Malien  
Direction Nationale des Eaux et Forêts  
B.P. 275  
Bamako, Mali  
Tel: 229053  
Fax: 213025

**Boucle du Baoulé Biosphere Reserve:**

M. Baikoro Fofana  
Directeur du projet  
Opération Parc National de la Boucle du Baoulé  
Testard  
B.P. 275  
Bamako, Mali

**NIGER:**

**National MAB contact:** Prof. Issoufou Kouada  
Président du Comité national du MAB Niger  
Directeur de la Recherche et de la Technologie  
Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur, de la Recherche et  
de la Technologie  
B.P. 628  
Niamey, Niger

**"W" Biosphere Reserve:**

M. Seyni Seydou  
Parc National du W du Niger  
D.F.P.P. (Direction Faune, Pêche et Pisciculture)  
B.P. 721  
Niamey, Niger

**SENEGAL:**

**National MAB contact:** M. Boubacar TRAORE  
Coordonnateur national du Comité MAB du Sénégal  
Délégation aux Affaires scientifiques et techniques  
Ministère de la Modernisation de l'Etat et de la Technologie  
23, rue Calmette  
B.P. 218  
Dakar, Senegal  
Tel: (221) 825.83.49

**Niokolo-Koba Biosphere Reserve:**

Parc Conservateur  
Parc National Niokolo-Koba  
B.P. 37  
Tambacounda, Senegal

Fax/Télécopie  
REPUBLIQUE DU BENIN

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MINISTERE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT, DE L'HABITAT ET DE L'URBANISME

DIRECTION DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT

01 BP 3621 TEL 31 20 65 FAX 31 50 81  
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Cotonou, le 12 décembre 2000

N° 611/DE/MEHU/SEL/DLE/SA

**Objet :** Projet régional « Conservation et utilisation durable de la biodiversité dans les réserves de biosphère des zones arides d'Afrique de l'Ouest »

**DE :**

Monsieur Ludolphe GBAGUIDI,  
Directeur de l'Environnement  
Cotonou- BENIN

**A**

Monsieur Ahmed Djoghla  
Coordonnateur Exécutif  
UNEP/GEF  
P.O.Box 30552  
Block P-205  
Fax : (254) 2 62 40 41  
Nairobi KENYA

Monsieur,

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 13 2000	
WHAT	
WHO	DZ
WHERE COMPLETED	
CONCULATE	NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/>
FILE IN	PDF Biosphere

En ma qualité de point focal opérationnel GEF, j'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre en annexe pour financement par le PNUE/GEF, le document de projet ci-dessus mentionné.

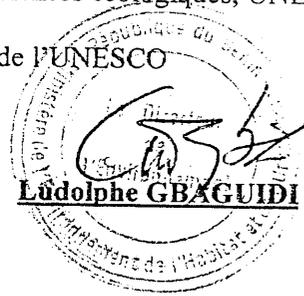
Mon pays attache une très grande importance à l'exécution de ce projet régional dans le cadre du réseau africain des réserves de biosphère et du Programme MAB en Afrique ( AfriMAB) qui vise à aider les populations locales à tirer des bénéfices de la conservation et de l'utilisation durable de la biodiversité pour un développement durable.

Le Bénin souhaite vivement que ce projet de « conservation et utilisation durable de la biodiversité dans les réserves de biosphère des zones arides en Afrique de l'Ouest » soit coordonné par l'UNESCO/MAB en concertation avec mon pays.

J e vous prie d'agr er, Monsieur, l'assurance de mes salutations distingu es.

Cc : - M.P Bridgewater, Directeur Division des sciences  cologiques, UNESCO.

- D l gation Permanente du B nin aupr s de l'UNESCO  
PJ - Document de projet



**MINISTRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT  
ET DE L'EAU**  
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**CABINET DU MINISTRE**  
-----

**BURKINA FASO**  
-----  
Unité - Progrès - Justice  
-----

Ouagadougou, le 21 DEC 2000

N° 00.031 /MEE/CAB/CTK

Monsieur Jean Baptiste KAMBOU  
Conseiller Tehnique du Ministre de  
L'Environnement et de L'Eau, Point  
Focal Opérationnel du GEF

**Objet :** Projet régional "Conservation  
et Utilisation Durable de la Biodiversité  
dans les réserves de biosphère des zones  
arides d'Afrique de l'Ouest.

A

Monsieur Ahmed Djoghla  
Exécutive Coordinator UNEP/GEF  
**NAIROBI** (KENYA)

Monsieur le Coordinateur Exécutif,

En ma qualité de Point Focal Opérationnel GEF, j'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre la lettre endossement au titre du projet ci-dessus mentionné. Mon pays attache une très grande importance à l'exécution de ce projet régional dans le cadre du réseau africain des réserves de biosphère et du programme MAB en Afrique (AFRIMAB) qui vise à aider les populations locales à tirer des bénéfices de la Conservation et de l'Utilisation Durable de la Biodiversité pour un développement durable.

Le Burkina Faso souhaite vivement que ce projet de "Conservation et Utilisation Durable de la Biodiversité dans les réserves de biosphère des zones arides en Afrique de l'Ouest" soit coordonné par l'UNESCO/MAB en concertation étroite avec Mon pays.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Coordinateur Exécutif, l'assurance de mes salutations distinguées.

**Ampliations :**

- Mr le Directeur de la division des sciences écologiques, UNESCO
- Délégation Permanente du Burkina Faso auprès de l'UNESCO.

**Jean Baptiste KAMBOU**  
Officier de l'Ordre National

REPUBLIQUE DE COTE D'IVOIRE

FAX 3


 CAISSE AUTONOME  
D'AMORTISSEMENT

14 DEC. 2000

Réf. : 004878/FEM/KA/YA

**Objet : Projet régional "Conservation et utilisation durable de la biodiversité dans les réserves de biosphère des zones arides d'Afrique de l'Ouest" (Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in dryland biosphere reserves in West Africa).**

Monsieur,

En ma qualité de Point Focal Opérationnel GEF, j'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre en annexe pour financement par le PNUE/GEF, le document de projet ci-dessus mentionné.

Mon pays attache une très grande importance à l'exécution de ce projet régional dans le cadre du réseau africain des réserves de biosphère et du Programme MAB en Afrique (AfrimAB) qui vise à aider les populations locales à tirer des bénéfices de la conservation et de l'utilisation durable de la biodiversité pour un développement durable.

La Côte d'Ivoire souhaite vivement que ce projet de "Conservation et utilisation durable de la biodiversité dans les réserves de biosphère des zones arides en Afrique de l'Ouest" soit coordonné par l'UNESCO/MAB en concertation étroite avec mon pays.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de mes salutations distinguées.

P.J : document de projet.

Ampliations :

- M.P. Bridgewater, Directeur Division des sciences écosystémiques
- Délégation Permanente de la Côte d'Ivoire auprès de l'UNESCO
- M. Bamba Sékou Directeur Général CAA, Point Focal Politique FEM
- M. Diomandé Kanvaly Conseiller Technique du Ministre Chargé de l'Environnement



UNEP GEF COORD. OFFICE	
RECEIVED	
Monsieur Ahmed Diomandé Coordinateur Exécutif UNEP/GEF NO <input type="checkbox"/>	REQUIRED YES <input type="checkbox"/>
NAIROBI (KENYA) 15 DEC 2000	
WHAT.....	
WHO <i>Mr. M.Z.</i> .....	
WHEN COMPLETED.....	
CIRCULATE	NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/>
FILE IN	<i>Kanvaly</i>

15 DEC 2000

**REPUBLIQUE DU NIGER**  
**MINISTRE DU PLAN**  
**DIRECTION DES PROGRAMMES ET DU PLAN**

Niamey, le

15 DEC. 20

N° 1277 - MP/DPP/SDR**LE MINISTRE** p.i.

à  
Monsieur Ahmed Djoghiaf  
Exécutive Coordinator UNEP/GEF  
Coordination Office  
P.O. Box 30552  
Block P-205  
Nairobi Kenya  
Fax : (254) 2 624041

**Objet :** Projet régional « Conservation et  
Utilisation durable de la Biodiversité  
dans les réserves de biosphère des  
zones arides d'Afrique de l'Ouest ».  
(Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity  
in dryland African biosphere reserves in West Africa).

Monsieur le Coordonnateur,

En ma qualité de point focal opérationnel GEF, j'ai l'honneur de vous transmettre en annexe pour financement par le PNUF/GEF, le document de projet ci-dessus mentionné.

Mon pays attache une très grande importance à l'exécution de ce projet régional dans le cadre du réseau africain des réserves de biosphère et du Programme MAB en Afrique ( Afri/MAB) qui vise à aider les populations locales à tirer des bénéfices de la conservation et de l'utilisation durable de la biodiversité pour un développement durable.

Le Niger souhaite vivement que ce projet de « Conservation et utilisation durable de la biodiversité dans les réserves de biosphère des zones arides en

3/4

00227724020

FROM : DIR. PROG. ET DU PLAN

PHONE NO. : 00227724020

Dec. 15 2000 02:49PM P02

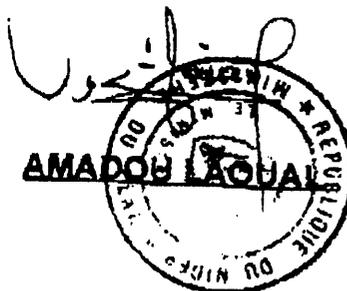
Afrique de l'Ouest » soit coordonné par l'UNESCO/MAB en concertation étroite avec mon pays.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de mes salutations distinguées.

PJ : Document de projet

**AMPLIATIONS :**

- M. P. Bridgewater, Directeur  
Division des Sciences Ecologiques,  
UNESCO, Fax (331) 45 68 58 04
- Délégation Permanente du Niger auprès de l'UNESCO
- ME/LCD



4/4

00/3094

République du Sénégal  
(Un Peuple - Un But - Une Foi)

**UNEP**  
**MINISTRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT**

**DIRECTION DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT  
ET DES ÉTABLISSEMENTS CLASSÉS**

ACTION  
NO  YES

18 DEC 2000

WHAT.....  
WHO: *AV, AB, MZ*  
WHEN COMPLETED.....  
CIRCULATE NO  YES   
FILE IN *New DBF/ West Africa*

N° 000044 /MÉ/DEEC

DAKAR, le 11 DEC. 2000

**LE DIRECTEUR**

//-)Monsieur Mohamed T.El ASHRY  
Président du FEM 1818 H Street  
Washington DC 20 433  
Fax : (1)202 522 3240/3245

**OBJET** : Projet régional "Conservation et utilisation durable de la biodiversité dans les réserves de biosphère des zones arides d'Afrique de l'Ouest

Monsieur le Président,

En ma qualité de point focal opérationnel GEF, j'ai l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance que j'endosse le projet sus visé en objet.

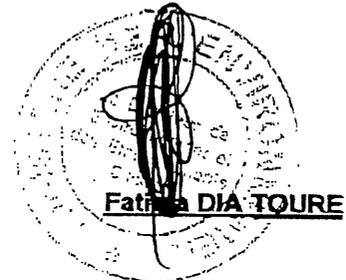
En effet, mon pays attache une très grande importance à l'exécution de ce projet régional dans le cadre du réseau africain des réserves de biosphère et du Programme MAB en Afrique (AfrimAB, qui vise à aider les populations locales à tirer des bénéfices de la conservation et de l'utilisation durable de la biodiversité pour un développement durable.

Le Sénégal souhaite vivement que ce projet de "Conservation et utilisation durable de la biodiversité dans les réserves de biosphère des zones arides en Afrique de l'Ouest" soit coordonné par l'UNESCO/MAB en concertation étroite avec mon pays.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur le Président, l'assurance de ma considération distinguée.

- ◆ Cc : M. Ahmed Djofhraf  
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