


FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**United Nations Development Programme**
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF)

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Subject: Submission of Benin enabling activity proposal

Please find attached for your consideration and comments the Climate Change enabling activity proposal for **Benin**.

Thank you.

**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY****PROJECT PROPOSAL**

Country: Benin

Project Title: Preparation of the First National Communication to
The UNFCCC

GEF Focal Area: Climate Change

Country's Eligibility: Benin ratified the UNFCCC on 30 June, 1994

GEF Contribution: US\$ 100,425

GEF Implementing Agency: UNDP

Executing Agency: Government of Benin

Implementing Agency: Direction de l'Environnement

Project Duration: 12 months

Starting Date: October 1998

Project Background

Country Profile

1. Benin is located in West Africa and covers a land area of 112,622 sq km and constitutes a long stretch of land perpendicular to the Coast of the Gulf of Guinea. It is bordered on the North by Burkina Faso and the Republic of Niger, on the East by the Federal Republic of Nigeria and on the West by the Republic of Togo. With a 124 kilometers long coastline, it stretches North to South some 672 kilometers while its breath extends 324 kilometers at the evident point. It is above two third the size of Portugal.
2. Benin can be divided into five natural regions: a coastal area, low, sandy and about 2 to 5 kilometers wide, bounded by lagoons; a plateau zone called "La terre de barre" made of iron clay cut with marshy dips; a silica clayey plateau with wooded savannah extending North of Abomey to the foothills of the Atakora hills; - a hilly region in the Northwest, the Atakora, with elevation ranging from 500 to 800 metres and constituting the water reservoir for Benin and Niger Republics. Niger plains which are vast fertile silica-clayey areas.
3. The forest thins out considerably in the center and gives way to grassland. Elsewhere, cultivated crops predominate, including the immense palm groves of lower Benin and the coconut plantations on the 124 kilometers long coastline and along the lagoons.
4. Benin is characterized by unusually dry conditions. This is due primarily to two very important factors. First, the situation of the coast which is rather well protected from the western winds; second, the Atakora Barrier in the West and North West which decreases the amount of rainfall.
5. The great part of the country is under the influence of transitional tropical conditions. Rainfall is not as abundant as found in areas with the same latitude thereby giving rise to tropical conditions known as the Benin variant. These conditions are marked by a dry season from November to the beginning of April and a rainy season from the latter part of April to October.
6. The Southern portion of the Republic of Benin, i.e., the Coastal zone, is under the influence of a Northern transitional equatorial climate characterized by a long dry season from November to the end of March, a first rainy season from April to July, a small dry period in August and a second rainy season in September and October.
7. The population of Benin is estimated at 4,500,000 inhabitants largely concentrated in Southern coastal region near the major port city of Cotonou (450,000 inhabitants) the chief town of the Atlantic Department, the capital city of Porto Novo (200,000 inhabitants) in the Oueme Department as well as the "Royal City" of Abomey (80,000 inhabitants) in the Central Department of Zou. The annual growth rate is 3.1%. Other important towns are Ouidah, Allada, Abomey, Grand Popo, Lokossa, Save, Savalou, Parakou, Djougou, Natitingou, Malanville and Kandi.
8. The economy of Benin remains underdeveloped and dependent on subsistence agriculture, cotton production and regional trade. Growth in real output, which had averaged a sound 4% in 1990-94, rose to 6% in 1995. Rapid population growth, now 3.3% per year, offset much of

this growth in output. Inflation jumped to 55% in 1994 (compared to 3% in 1993) following the 50% currency devaluation in January 1994, but subsided gradually in 1995.

9. Industry accounts for only a small percentage of the gross domestic product. Fishing industry meets only local consumption, so does textile industry. Palm processing facility needs improving; a sugar complex and a cement factory are jointly owned with Nigeria. Breweries, soap unit meet only local demand. Possotome village is, however, known for its internationally recognized mineral water.
10. Apart from limestone found in open quarry at Onigbolo, deposits of gold, phosphates, iron ore, marble, and clay are yet to be explored. The development of off-shore fields at Seme and elsewhere are underway. A Benin/Togo hydroelectric power has just been completed on the Mono river (the Nangbeto dam). There are attractive industrial projects and feasibility studies are available for some of them. The Beninese code of investment has been reviewed to insert, among other things, more incentives for investors. Benin is the natural gateway to Togo and Nigeria and to such landlocked countries as Burkina Faso, Niger and Mali.
11. Recent droughts have severely affected marginal agriculture in the North; inadequate supplies of potable water; poaching threatens wildlife populations; deforestation; and desertification. Hot, dry, and dusty harmattan wind may affect North in winter. Benin is a party to the Conventions on Bio-diversity, and Climate Change as well as many other international conventions and treaties such as those on Endangered Species, Environmental Modification, Nuclear Test Ban, and Ozone Layer Protection.
12. With regards to energy, the major resources used in Benin in 1995 to meet energy requirements were distributed as follows:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Wood and other forms of biomass | 73% |
| Petroleum | 25% |
| Electricity | 2% |
13. Benin has been producing a very small amount of petroleum offshore since 1982. Up to date only 22 millions barrels has been produced and completely exported. It is expected this activity will stop definitely in 1998 if no new source is found in the potential oil area. Petroleum products are totally imported, mostly by illegal trade networks between Benin and Nigeria (70%). The formal petroleum import trade account only for 30% and it is decreasing continuously.
14. Electricity is mainly imported (90%) from the Akossombo dam (Ghana) and a shared mini-hydro system with Togo. The remaining is locally produced (10%) by thermal plants.
15. These energy imports account for some 12 per cent of the country's total imports, which places a significant burden on public funds.
16. In Benin, the rural population represents over 70 per cent of the total population and contribute to a large extend to the country's GDP. Unfortunately, rural areas still do not have adequate access to electric power as they were always left out of energy development programmes, most frequently in view of the fact that the necessary investments were deemed excessive and not cost-effective.

17. National Energy put emphasis on renewable energy technologies dissemination: hydro, solar, wind, biomass. In practice; experiences are still very few within the country. Traditional biomass end-use dominates the energy consumption of households.

Host country's strategy

18. Benin ratified the Framework Convention on Climate Change on 30 June 1994. The country has a good record of participation in several international meetings and workshops. Benin hosted a GEF pilot phase project on greenhouse sequestration through participatory management of natural forests. It is also part of the CC:Train programme on Climate change activities which mainly involve many ministerial bodies such as Environment, Energy; Mining, University, ...etc. An agency for Environment has been created to strengthen the national capacity in this area. As a party to the UNFCCC, Benin has accepted the commitment to produce a National Communication to the Conference of Parties (CoP). According to Article 12 (5) of the Convention, non Annex 1 countries "shall make its initial Communication within 3 years of the entry into force of the Convention for that party or of the availability of financial resources in accordance with Article 4 (3). Parties that are least-developed countries may make their initial Communication at their discretion". The preparation of the National Communication is seen as a first step in the implementation of the UNFCCC in Benin. It will allow the development of expertise in each sector involved the preparation of the National Communication, enhancing the institutional capacity in these fields, and increase awareness of people and institutions concerning the UNFCCC and global warming issues.

Past and present activities in connection with climate change

19. Among the past and on-going activities in Benin are (1) the UNDP/GEF project (GEF/93/G-31) "Participatory management of natural forests and village reforestation for carbon reduction" (2) the "CC -TRAIN phase 2" being executed by UNITAR whose major objective is the enhancement of indigenous capacity and awareness in climate change issues. Under the CC- TRAIN project, an inventory of greenhouse gases, analyses of vulnerability and adaptation options had been undertaken or in the process of being undertaken.

Project Objective

20. Benin ratified the Framework Convention (UNFCCC) on 30 June 1994. In view of the past and ongoing activities related to climate change in Benin, this project proposal intends to use the results of these activities and to build on them, rather than duplicate work already completed. Therefore the main objective as envisioned in the present proposal is to help the country to prepare its first National Communication based on reliable data, as requested under articles 12.1(a), (b) and (c) of the Convention, as rapidly as can possibly be achieved.

Project Description

21. The technical data and analyses of the inventory of the greenhouses, vulnerability assessment, and the options for adaptation had been undertaken or being undertaken within the CC:TRAIN and thus the present project will be concerned only with the activities listed in the activity matrix in Annex 2.

Activity 1 : Formulation of policy framework for implementing the identified response measures

22. Based on the results and analyses produced within the CC:TRAIN project on GHG inventory, the vulnerability assessment, and adaptation options; the national plans for mitigation and adaptation will be prepared within the present project. A workshop to review the national plans will be held for policymakers and other relevant stakeholders.

23. It is understood that all input data expected within the CC:TRAIN project will need to be provided to the present project and where necessary these will be updated in order to facilitate the preparation of the national plans for mitigation and adaptation .

Main output

24. The main output expected from the proposed activity will be as follows :

- (a) policy framework for implementing adaptation measures and response strategies; and
- (b) workshop report.

Activity 2 : Provision of other information

25. Other relevant information required for the achievement of the UNFCCC broad objective such as the technical and financial resource requirements for the proposed projects under article 4 will be identified. These include the provision of relevant materials and data for the calculation of global GHG trends ; the financial and technological resource needs and constraints associated with the communication information, general public awareness, and public education which will make them be able to respond to the demands of sustainable development.

26. The description may further cover needs and constraints associated with the improvement in national communications, including reduction of the margin of uncertainty in the emission and removal variables through appropriate institutional strengthening and capacity building.

27. As a mean of identifying and disseminating information, this project will provide for the creation and maintenance of a Benin CC:INFO/WEB site in collaboration with UNFCCC Secretariat .

Main output

28. The main output expected from this activity are:

- (a) Relevant materials for calculating global GHG trends;
- (b) Financial and technological resource needs;
- (c) Needs and constraints for reducing uncertainties in the future national communication;
- (d) Creation and maintenance of a Benin CC:INFO/WEB site.

Activity 3 : Preparation of first national communication

29. Based on the technical and analytical outputs of the CC:TRAIN project, as well as on the national plans for mitigation and adaptation prepared within the context of the present project, the first national communication will be drafted. This national communication will integrate climate change issues within the development planning process, taking the specific situation of Benin into consideration.

30. The draft national communication will need to be reviewed by a respected technical consultant. A revised version will be produced, based on this review. A conference will then be convened for the experts and policy makers who will be presented with the revised draft national communication.

31. The main output of the proposed activity will be the national communication to be submitted to the UNFCCC Secretariat in accordance with the COP2 Guidelines.

Consultation mechanisms : workshops

32. The national plans for mitigation and adaptation, and the national communication are going to require the involvement and identification of various economic sectors and experts so that the measures adopted can be carried out successfully both at the planning and implementation stages. For this purpose, two national workshops are proposed so as to establish a dialogue leading to the preparation of the national communication.

33. One of the workshops will aim at raising awareness of the experts on issues concerning the national plans and the national communication. This will ensure transparency and elicit the contribution of all parties in order to manage the problems in connection with the national communication and the plans.

34. The final workshop will be devoted to a presentation and discussion of the draft plans and communication in order to allow the participants to comment on the key issues which may affect or require the operational involvement of various experts. In fact, this workshop will convert the outputs of the exercises into an accepted threshold for climate change activities aimed at fulfilling the country's obligations under the UNFCCC.

Programming of projects activities

35. In view of the prior activities undertaken in the area of climate change, Benin is convinced that the mitigation activities within the context of climate change should cover and influence ongoing and planned national activities. It is critical that they must be consistent with current national views and thus the present project needs to be carefully planned. If the project is implemented now, it will find its place and be recognized within the context of the current policy discussions in the country. Benin is actually making significant policy choices at a major cross-road, being currently involved in a decentralization process.
36. Mention should also be made of the ongoing elaboration of a national Agenda 21. Thus, the present formulation of the national plans within the context of the preparation of the national communication will benefit from the discussions and reflections on the above-mentioned events.

INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK AND PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

37. The Ministry of Environment, Habitat and Urbanism is the main institution responsible for environmental matters in Benin. The Directorate of Environment is the focal point for the execution of the national commitments under the environmental conventions and protocols ratified by the country such as the Convention on Climate Change, Convention on Biodiversity, and the Montreal Protocol. Benin has an operational Climate Change Committee which is hosted by the Ministry. This Committee is composed of representatives of relevant ministries and non-governmental organization sector.
38. The Environment Directorate comprises a number of task forces which, within the framework of the CC:TRAIN phase 2, are already working on the mitigation and adaptation strategies. These task forces will also work within the present project.
39. The project will be coordinated by the Environment Directorate of the Ministry of Environment, Habitat and Urbanism. This Directorate will work in collaboration with the National Climate Change Committee, governmental departments, public institutions, university, research organizations, development agencies and NGOs. The project manager, assistant and data processing agent will be recruited according to UNDP procedures.

Proposed work-plan

40. The proposed work-plan for the initiation and completion of all activities described above is shown in table 1. Detailed work-plans for each activity will be developed by the Project manager with the assistance of UNDP which will be consulted throughout the implementation of the project.

TABLE 1. PROPOSED WORKPLAN

| ACTIVITY MONTH | A | B | C | D | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| October 1998 | | X | X | | | | |
| November 1998 | | X | X | X | | | |
| December 1998 | | X | X | X | | | |
| January 1999 | | X | X | X | | | |
| February 1999 | | | | X | | | |
| March 1998 | | | | X | X | | |
| April 1999 | | | | X | X | | |
| May 1999 | | | | | X | X | |
| June 1999 | | | | | | X | |
| July 1999 | | | | | | X | |
| August 1999 | | | | | | X | X |
| September 1999 | | | | | | | X |

Note: The outputs and analyses of Activities A (GHG Inventories), B (Mitigation options), C (Vulnerability assessment) and D (Adaptation options) are to be provided by the CC:TRAIN project.

Activities 1, 2 and 3 (Analysis of national policies regarding climate change, Preparation of national plans for mitigation and adaptation, and Preparation of the first national communication) are to be carried out under the present project.

Activity matrix

41. The activity matrix indicating the areas to be covered by the proposed project is shown in Annex 2. The components which must be, or already are, covered by CC:Train and any other relevant projects are also included in Table 2.

National inputs

42. This project is enthusiastically accepted and receives strong support at the national level. It will be executed by the Ministry of Environment, Habitat and Urbanism which is responsible for the management of all environmental issues in Benin, comprising climate change studies. To ensure the successful implementation of the project, the Government of Benin has agreed to the following:

- establishment of a project Steering Committee consisting of senior officials from the relevant ministries, institutes and universities qualified to provide assistance to the project manager, national expert and counterparts;
- the provision of office facilities at the national directorate of Environment for the project manager and his/her assistant, and access to support staff, information, and logistic support for the implementation of project activities.

Project budget and funding

43. The proposed budget (US\$ 100,425) reflects the country's special needs for the proposed activities (Annex 1). In addition, substantial portion of the budget will go towards training and institutional building which is very important for Benin.

Project institutional framework and execution

44. The project will be executed by the Ministry of Environment, Habitat and Urbanism (Environment Directorate) through the project management structure described above.

Justification for GEF support

45. This project will help Benin to submit its initial national communication to the UNFCCC. As the GEF is an international entity vested with the mission of operating the financing mechanism of the UNFCCC on an interim basis, the proposed activities are eligible for GEF funding.

Sustainability

46. The Government of Benin is fully committed to the implementation of the UNFCCC and therefore to the goals and objectives of the present project. Past and ongoing activities in the area of climate change have shown that Benin will have scientific, technical and institutional capacities in the implementation of the UNFCCC on a sustainable basis.

Outputs

47. In order to implement the project appropriately, close co-ordination by the Environment Directorate of the The Ministry of Environment, Habitat and Urbanism and its task forces is essential to ensure the success of the project. Therefore, there is a need to consult with all resource-experts both in the public and private sectors, including the NGOs and research institutions.

Risks

48. The potential risks which might impinge upon the goals and objectives of the projects are :
- (a) inadequate co-ordination between the CC:TRAIN and the present project ; and
 - (b) Lack of involvement of the politicians and policy-makers in the formulation of the final strategy. A firm commitment for each participation must be secured (by each expert).

Monitoring and evaluation

49. The Coordinator will provide a monthly progress report on project activities to be submitted to the GEF Climate Change Committee, which will follow and review these reports. These reports will be such as to enable UNDP and its related departments to evaluate the implementation of the project on an actual basis and to allow early detection of difficulties and flaws. The reports will be reviewed for quality control, standardization, clarity and conformity with the terms of reference.
50. Environment Directorate will organize meetings on a regular basis in order to review the implementation of the project and to provide guidance in the scientific, technical, political and strategic areas. All institutions participating in the project will be associated with these meetings and will provide UNDP with a progress report six months after project implementation begins, a final report after project completion, and quarterly financial reports according to standard UNDP format.

ANNEX I**BUDGET FOR EXPEDITED PROCESSING OF THE ENABLING ACTIVITY PROPOSAL FOR
PREPARING THE INITIAL NATIONAL COMMUNICATION OF BENIN**

| Information to be included into The national communication | Enabling activity to produce the information needed | Type of Activity | | | Total Costs In US\$ |
|---|--|------------------------|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| | | Planning/ Execution | Capacity Building | | |
| | | | Inst. | Training | |
| 1. National circumstances | Compilation of the info from existing sources (updating) | - | - | - | - |
| 2. Greenhouse gas inventory | Data gathering and an inventory of GHG emissions | | | | |
| 3. General description of steps (a) programs related to sustainable development, research, public awareness, etc.; (b) policy options for monitoring systems and response strategies for impacts; (c) policy frameworks for implementing adaptation measures & response strategies; (d) building capacity to integrate climate change concerns into planning; (e) programs to address climate change and its adverse impacts, including the abatement of increase in GHG emissions and enhancement of sinks | An assessment of potential impacts of climate change in the country | | | | |
| | An analysis of potential options to adapt to the impacts of climate change | | | | |
| | An analysis of potential options to abate the increase in GHG emissions and enhance sinks. | | | | |
| | Formulation of programs and policy frameworks for implementing the identified response measures. | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 30,000 |
| 4. Other information: a) Financial and technological needs & constraints associated with the implementation of the Convention under art. 4 and 12 b) projects for financing c) material for calculation of global emission trends | Based on the results of the studies, compilation and preparation of the additional information that the country wants to present in its national communication | 10,000 | | | 10,000 |
| 5. Compilation and production of national communication | Preparation, translation, and publication of national communication. | 10,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 20,000 |
| Project management | | 15,000 | 5,000 | 10,000 | 30,000 |
| Monitoring/Evaluation | | 7,500 | | | 7,500 |
| Subtotal | | 52,500 | 20,000 | 25,000 | 97,500 |
| Project support services (3%) | | 2,925 | | | 2,925 |
| GRAND TOTAL | | 55,425 | 20,000 | 25,000 | 100,425 |
| Percentage of total budget | | 55.1% | 20.0% | 24.9% | 100% |

ANNEX II
PROJECT ACTIVITY MATRIX FOR CLIMATE
BENIN

| Enabling Activity Commitment | Planning and Execution | Data Gathering and Research | Institutional Strengthening | Training & Education |
|--|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. <u>National Circumstances</u> | X | NA | NA | NA |
| 2. <u>Greenhouse Gas Inventories</u> | CC: Train | CC: Train | CC: Train | CC: Train |
| 1. All Energy Sources | " | " | " | " |
| 2. Industrial Processes | " | " | " | " |
| 3. Agricultural Processes | " | " | " | " |
| 4. Land Use Change & Forestry | " | " | " | " |
| 5. Other Sources | " | " | " | " |
| 3. <u>General Description of Steps</u> (taken or envisaged to Implement the Convention) | CC: Train | CC: Train | CC: Train | CC: Train |
| " | " | " | " | " |
| " | " | " | " | " |
| * (a) Public Awareness, etc. | X | X | X | X |
| * (b) Assessment of Impacts | CC: Train | CC: Train | CC: Train | CC: Train |
| - Coastal Zones | " | " | " | " |
| - Agriculture | " | " | " | " |
| - Fisheries | " | " | " | " |
| - Forestry | " | " | " | " |
| - Natural ecosystems | " | " | " | " |
| - Other Impacts | " | " | " | " |
| * © Adaptation Options (Stage I) | CC:Train | CC:Train | CC:Train | CC:Train |
| * (d) Integrating Climate concerns into Planning Processes | X | X | X | X |
| * (e) Identification of Abatement Programs | CC: Train | CC: Train | CC: Train | CC: Train |
| energy related | " | " | " | " |
| industry | " | " | " | " |
| agriculture | " | " | " | " |
| Land use change and forestry | " | " | " | " |
| Other | " | " | " | " |
| 4. <u>Other Information</u> | X | X | X | X |
| Calculation of Emission Trends | X | X | X | X |
| Financial and Technological | X | X | X | X |
| Needs and Constraints for | X | X | X | X |
| Projects for Financing | X | X | X | X |
| National Communications | X | X | X | X |
| Vulnerability Assessment | X | X | X | X |
| Adaptation | X | X | X | X |

In the context of communication-related enabling activities.

x - Activity yet to be undertaken

ANNEX III**COP GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION OF INITIAL COMMUNICATIONS BY PARTIES NOT INCLUDED IN ANNEX I TO THE CONVENTION**

[Source: FCCC/CP/1996, decision 10/CP.2, Annex.]

1. The guidelines for the preparation of initial communications by Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-annex I Parties) have five principle objectives, taking into account Article 4.7:
 - (a) To assist non-Annex I Parties in meeting their commitments under Article 12.1;
 - (b) To encourage the presentation of information in ways that are, to the extent possible, consistent, transparent and comparable as well as flexible, and to take into account specific national situation and requirements for support to improve the completeness and reliability of activity data, emission factors and estimations;
 - (c) To serve as policy guidance to the interim operating entity of the financial mechanism for the timely provision of financial support needed by the developing country Parties to meet the agreed full costs in complying with their obligations under Article 12.1, as referred to in decision 11/CP.2;
 - (d) To facilitate the process of preparation, compilation and consideration of communications, including the preparation of compilation and synthesis documentation;
 - (e) To ensure that the Conference of the Parties has sufficient information to carry out its responsibilities to assess the overall aggregated effects of the steps taken by the Parties in the light of the latest scientific assessments concerning climate change, and to assess the implementation of the Convention.

Scope

2. In accordance with Article 12.1, the communication should include:
 - (a) a national Inventory of anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of all greenhouse gases not controlled by the Montreal Protocol, to the extent its capacities permit, using comparable methodologies to be promoted and agreed upon by the Conference of the Parties;
 - (b) A general description of steps taken or envisaged by the Party to implement the convention; and
 - (c) Any other information that the Party considers relevant to the achievement of the objective of the Convention and suitable for inclusion in its communication, including, if feasible, material relevant for calculations of global emission trends.

National Circumstances

3. In presenting the information, non-Annex I Parties should specify their national and regional development priorities, objectives and circumstances on the basis of which they will address climate change and its adverse impacts. The description of these circumstances can cover a wide range of information. In addition to information which can be conveniently presented in a table (see table I below), Parties may present basic economic, geographic and climatic information, as well as other factors relevant to climate change of any nature, such as, for example, features of their economy which may affect their ability to deal with climate change.
4. Parties may provide a brief description of existing institutional arrangements which are relevant to the preparation of the inventory on a continuing basis, or a list of perceived deficiencies in this area.
5. Parties may also present information on their specific needs and concerns arising from the adverse effects of climate change and/or the impact of the implementation of response measures, especially on:
 - (a) Small island countries;
 - (b) Countries with low-lying coastal areas;
 - (c) Countries with arid and semiarid areas, forested areas and areas liable to forest decay;
 - (d) Countries with areas prone to natural disasters;
 - (e) Countries with areas liable to drought and desertification;
 - (f) Countries with areas of high urban atmospheric pollution;
 - (g) Countries with areas with fragile ecosystems, including mountainous ecosystems;
 - (h) Countries whose economies are highly dependent on income generated from the production, processing and export, and /or on consumption of fossil fuels and associated energy-intensive products;
 - (i) Landlocked and transit countries; and
 - (j) Other special considerations foreseen in Article 4.9 (least developed countries) and Article 4.10 (fossil-fuel dependency), as appropriate.
6. In presenting the information, wherever applicable, Parties should present numerical indicators. For example, they might present data expressed in terms of affected percentage of land area, population, gross domestic product (GDP), etc.

Inventory

7. There is a clear need for adequate and additional financial resources, technical support and technology transfer to supplement the efforts towards capacity building for preparation of the national inventories.
8. The Guidelines for the National Greenhouse Gas Inventories and Technical Guidelines for Assessing climate Change Impacts and Adaptation or the simplified default methodologies adopted by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) should be used by non-Annex I Parties, as appropriate and to the extent possible, in the fulfillment of their commitments under the Convention.

9. Information should be provided on the following greenhouse gases: carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O), to the extent the Party's capacities permit. In addition, Parties are encouraged to include in their national inventories the full-fluorinated compounds, as appropriate. Other greenhouse gases included in the IPCC methodology may be included at the discretion of the Parties. Emissions from bunker fuels should be reported separately from national emissions.
10. Parties should strive to present the best available data in table (see table II below), to the extent their capacities permit, and try to identify the areas where the data may be further improved in future communications through national capacity building. Additional information, such as, for example, expression of the results in terms of socio-economic, geographical indicators deemed relevant by each country, may also be provided.
11. As recognized by the IPCC in its Second Assessment Report there is still great uncertainty associated with net anthropogenic emissions resulting from activities other than combustion of fossil fuels. Such activities include, inter alia, methane emissions from agriculture and waste sectors, coal mining, biomass burning; carbon dioxide emissions from land use change and forestry; and nitrous oxide emissions from all sectors. Since the emissions resulting from these activities depend on local circumstances, and make up a large proportion of the national emissions of non-annex I Parties, such Parties should make efforts to obtain field observation data to decrease the uncertainties associated with the inventory of these emissions, taking into account the further development of the IPCC methodology.
12. It is further recognized that such improvement of the quality of emission data, in addition to improving the transparency and comparability of national emissions inventories, also improves knowledge of the relationship between global emissions and resulting atmospheric concentration of greenhouse gases, and therefore aids significantly the task of estimating the emission limitations or reductions required to achieve a given concentration level of greenhouse gases, the ultimate objective of the Convention.
13. Non-Annex I Parties are thus encouraged to formulate cost-effective national, and where appropriate regional, progress aiming at the improvement of the quality of local emission factors and appropriate data gathering, and to submit requests for financial and technical assistance to the interim operation entity of the financial mechanism of the convention in addition to their request for the preparation of their initial communications.
14. Non-Annex I Parties should provide the best available data in their inventory. To this end such data should be provided for the year 1994. Alternatively, non-Annex I Parties may provide such data for the year 1990.

General description of steps

15. In accordance with Article 12.1, each non-Annex I party should communicate a general description of steps taken or envisaged by the Party to implement the

Convention. Taking into account the chapeau of Article 4.1, the initial communication should seek to include, as appropriate:

- (a) Programs related to sustainable development, research and systematic observation, education and public awareness, training, etc;
- (b) Policy options for adequate monitoring systems and response strategies for climate change impacts on terrestrial and marine ecosystems;
- (c) Policy frameworks for implementing adaptation measures and response strategies in the context of coastal zone management, disaster preparedness, agriculture, fisheries, and forestry, with a view to integrating climate change impact information, as appropriate, into national planning processes;
- (d) In the context of undertaking national communication, building of national, regional and/or sub-regional capacity, as appropriate, to integrate climate change concerns in medium and long-term planning;
- (e) Programs containing measures the Party believes contribute to addressing climate change and its adverse impacts, including the abatement of increase in greenhouse gas emissions and enhancement of removals by sinks.

Other Information

16. In accordance with Article 12.7 the Conference of the Parties should use the information in initial communication in arranging for the provision to developing country Parties of technical and financial support, on request, in compiling and communicating information under Article 12, as well as in identifying the technical and financial needs associated with proposed projects and response measures under Article 4.
17. Developing country Parties may, in accordance with Article 12.4, on a voluntary basis, propose projects for financing, including specific technologies, materials, equipment, techniques or practices that would be needed to implement such projects, along with, if possible, an estimate of all incremental costs, of the reductions of emissions and increments of removals of greenhouse gases, as well as an estimate of the consequent benefits.
18. Non-Annex I Parties may provide any other information relevant to the achievement of the objective of the Convention, including, if feasible, materials relevant for calculation of global emission trends, constraints and obstacles, etc.

Financial and technological needs and constraints

19. Non-Annex I Parties may describe the financial and technological needs and constraints associated with the communication of information. In particular, and following the evolving recommendations of the conference of the Parties through its subsidiary bodies, the description may cover needs and constraints associated with the further improvement of national communications, including reduction of the margin of

uncertainty in emission and removal variables through appropriate institutional and capacity-building.

20. According to national priorities, non-Annex I Parties may include a description of financial and technological needs associated with activities and measures envisaged under the Convention.
21. Information on national technological needs related to measure to facilitate adequate adaptation to climate change may be included in the communication.
22. Information on relevant financial and technological needs relating to the assessment of national, regional and/or sub-regional vulnerability to climate change may be added in the communication. This may include, where appropriate, information related to data-gathering systems to measure climate change effects in particularly vulnerable countries or regions or to strengthen such systems; and identification of a near-term research and development agenda to understand sensitivity to climate change.

Timing of submission of the initial communication

23. There is a need to take into full consideration the circumstances and vulnerabilities of developing country Parties, keeping in mind that the extent to which developing countries will effectively implement their commitments under Convention will depend on the effective implementation by developed countries of their commitments under the Convention related to financial resources and transfer of technology.
24. In accordance with Article 12.5, the timing of submission of the initial communication is within three years of entry into force of the Convention for that Party or of the availability of financial resources in accordance with Article 4.3

Structure and executive summary

25. The information provided in accordance with these guidelines should be communicated by a Party to the Conference of the Parties in a single document. Any additional or supporting information may be supplied through other documents such as a technical annex.
26. The initial communication should include an executive summary that would present the key information and data from the full document. The executive summary will be translated and distributed widely. It would be useful to envisage an executive summary of no more than 10 pages.

Language

27. The communications may be submitted in one of the official languages of the United Nations. Non-Annex I Parties are also encouraged to submit, to the extent possible and where relevant, a translation of their communication into English.

Table I - National Circumstances

| Criteria | 1994 |
|---|------|
| Population | |
| Relevant areas (square kilometres) | |
| GDP (1994 US\$) | |
| GDP per capita (1994 US\$) | |
| Estimated share of the informal sector in the economy in GDP (percentage) | |
| Share of industry in GDP | |
| Share of services in GDP (percentage) | |
| Share of agriculture in GDP (percentage) | |
| Land areas (used for agricultural purposes (square kilometres) | |
| Urban population as percent of total population | |
| Livestock population (desegregate as appropriate) | |
| Forest area (square kilometres, define as appropriate) | |
| Population in absolute poverty | |
| Life expectancy at birth (years) | |
| Literacy rate | |

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REPUBLIQUE DU BENIN

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

R. P. 01 - 3631 COTONOU (REP. DU BENIN) TEL. 31 53 86 - FAX. 31 50 81

N° 140/MEHU/DC/PROG CC : TRAIN/SA

COTONOU, LE 26 SEP. 1997.

Le Ministre de l'Environnement de
l'Habitat et de l'Urbanisme

A
Monsieur Salau ADENDA
PNUD/FEM
Fax N° 212 - 906 - 6362
NEW-YORK, N.Y. 10017 (USA)

OBJET: Requête de fonds supplémentaires pour la mise en œuvre
de la communication nationale du BENIN sur les Changements
Climatiques.

Monsieur,

Faisant suite à l'entretien qu'a eu à Dakar, au cours de la Conférence Régionale Africaine sur les
Changements Climatiques, tenue du 28 au 30 Août 1997, le Coordonnateur National du PROGRAMME
CC:TRAIN du BENIN avec votre collègue M. Richard HONIRI, Conseiller Technique Principal du PNUM sur les
Changements Climatiques, j'ai l'honneur de vous confirmer cette requête dont la première phase consistera en une
assistance technique du PNUD pour aider à la préparation du document de projet y afférent.

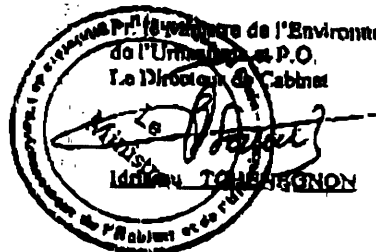
Cette requête d'assistance technique consistera en des activités charnières du PROGRAMME CC:
TRAIN pour lesquelles les fonds alloués par l'UNITAR/ PNUD sont très insuffisants ou ne sont pas prévus. Il
s'agit de:

- la restitution, au niveau des Départements et des Sous- Préfectures, des résultats du Séminaire National
de lancement du processus d'élaboration de la Communication du BENIN sur les Changements Climatiques;
- l'instauration de débats nationaux sur les politiques et options d'adaptation aux changements climatiques;
- la tenue de la Conférence Nationale sur la mise en œuvre de la Convention-Cadre des Nations- Unies
sur les Changements Climatiques;
- la mise en place d'un fonds de préparation du Programme d'Action National sur les Changements
Climatiques en République du Bénin.

Pour tous autres renseignements, contacter: Dr. TCHANI Vincent Ieldore, Directeur Adjoint de Cabinet
Coordonnateur National du PROGRAMME CC:TRAIN. Tél. et Fax: N°(229) 314137 COTONOU (BENIN).

Dans l'attente d'une prompt réponse de votre part veuillez agréer, Monsieur ADENDA, l'assurance de
ma haute considération distinguée.

CC: PNUD, BP 526 COTONOU



26 AOUT 1997

REPUBLIQUE DU BENIN
MINISTÈRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT, DE L'HABITAT ET DE L'URBANISME
B.P. 41-362 COTONOU (RUP. DU BENIN) TEL. 21 55 96 - FAX 21 30 81

LETTRE D'INTENTION RELATIVE A L'ENGAGEMENT
DE LA REPUBLIQUE DU BENIN EN VUE DE L'ELABO-
RATION DE LA COMMUNICATION NATIONALE SUR
LES CHANGEMENTS CLIMATIQUES

- VI le Protocole d'Accord entre le Gouvernement de la République du Bénin et l'Institut des Nations-Unies pour la Formation et la Recherche (UNTTAR);
- VI le Document Préparatoire du Séminaire National de l'enseignement du Processus d'Elaboration de la Communication sur les Changements Climatiques;
- VU le Séminaire National relatif à la Formation sur l'Inventaire des Gaz à Effet de Serre, tenu à Cotonou du 07 au 12 avril 1997;
- VU les Termes de Référence de quatre Groupes de Travail, relatif à la mise en oeuvre des Inventaires sur les Gaz à Effet de Serre en République du Bénin;

Tous, Ministre de l'Environnement, de l'Habitat et de l'Urbanisme, attestons par la présente que la République du Bénin a effectivement démarré l'élaboration de sa communication nationale sur les Changements Climatiques et s'engage à mener à terme conformément au Protocole d'Accord sus-vicé.

La présente lettre d'intention a été délivrée pour servir et valoir ce que de droit.

Fait à Cotonou le 25 Août 1997

Pour le Ministre de l'Environnement, de l'Habitat et de l'Urbanisme et P.O.
Le Directeur

