

FAO/GEF PROJECT DOCUMENT

Project Title:	Forest and Landscape Restoration supporting Landscape and Livelihoods Resilience in the Central African Republic (CAR)
FAO Project symbol:	GCP/CAF/002/GFF
GEF Project ID:	9514
Recipient Country:	The Central African Republic (CAR)
Executing partners:	Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development, Water, Forestry, Hunting, and Fisheries (<i>Ministère de l'environnement, du développement durable, des eaux, forêts, chasse et pêche - MEDDEFCP</i>)
Expected EOD (Starting Date):	January 2018
Expected NTE (End Date):	December 2022
Contribution to FAO's Strategic Framework: (Indicate as appropriate)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With regard to the Reviewed Strategic Framework soon to be adopted (FAO Roma, 2017a)¹, the TRI CAR Project would contribute to five Strategic Objectives, out of six, as follows: (1) Contribute to the eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition, (2) Make agriculture, forestry and fisheries more productive and sustainable, (3) Reduce rural poverty, (4) Enable more inclusive and efficient agricultural and food systems, and (5) Increase the resilience of livelihoods to threats and crises. • With regard to the Country Programming Framework 2016-2017 (FAO Bangui, 2015c)²: the TRI CAR Project is fully aligned with the three priority areas: (1) Institutional support and capacity building for agricultural and rural sectors, (2) Supporting the resilience of livelihoods, and (3) Support for revamping the agricultural sector.
Contribution to GEF TF Focal Area Strategic Objectives and Programs:	Biodiversity: BD-4 Program 9 Land Degradation: LD-2 Program 3 ; LD-3 Program 4 Sustainable Forest Management: SFM-3 Programs 7 & 8; SFM-4 Programs 9 & 10
Environmental & Social Risk Classification	low risk <input type="checkbox"/> moderate risk <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> high risk <input type="checkbox"/>
Gender Marker	G0 <input type="checkbox"/> G1 <input type="checkbox"/> G2a <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> G2b <input type="checkbox"/>
Financing Plan:	
GEF/LDCF/SCCF:	USD 5,961,638
MEDD (AFD/FFEM):	USD 4,000,000
World Bank:	USD 4,800,000
MEDD (CAFI):	USD 1,000,000
FAO:	USD 600,000
Total co-financing:	USD 10,400,000
Total budget:	USD 16,361,638

¹ FAO Roma, 2017a. *Reviewed Strategic Framework to be validated at the 14th Session, Roma, 3-8 July 2017*. Roma – FAO, March 2017. 34p

² FAO Bangui, 2015c. *Cadre de programmation pays FAO - RCA 2016 – 2017*. Bangui – FAO, novembre 2015. 17p

Executive Summary

The Restoration Initiative (TRI), joint FAO-UNEP-IUCN initiative, aims at supporting Forest and Land Restoration (FLR) efforts in 10 countries worldwide, including the Central African Republic (CAR).

The CAR has a great natural potential in terms of arable land suitable for agriculture, pasture and rangelands suitable for livestock activities, diverse forests types - ranging from dense humid forest in the South to savannah in the North – providing timber, firewood, non-timber forest products, etc.

These natural resources, and the associated environmental and economic services they deliver to the local populations, are threatened by unsustainable practices (e.g. slash-and-burn agriculture, firewood extraction, bushfires mostly linked to bushmeat hunting, etc.). The extent of the forest and landscape degradation is not yet known precisely, but the rate of deforestation (0.17% between 2000 and 2010 for the 13 Southern Prefectures of the CAR, twice the rate at global level between 2010 and 2015) indicates there is a significant pressure on forests in particular, and landscapes in general.

FLR activities are of particular relevance in the CAR, which has been suffering of decades of politico-military instability and sluggish growth, the last 2013 crisis being the most critical. The vast majority of local populations suffer from extreme poverty and food insecurity, and their livelihood is highly dependent on natural resources.

As for now, there are very few past experiences in terms of FLR in the CAR. In terms of on-going Projects (baseline scenario), none of them directly target FLR issues, but they could improve the institutional framework favorable to FLR and complement FLR activities (e.g. Project for the Regional Development of the South-West funded by the French Agency for Development, Forest and Mining Governance Project funded by the World Bank, etc.).

The TRI CAR Project will be implemented through four components:

1. Policy Development and Integration: It will allow filling knowledge gaps, in terms of ecosystem service valuation and restoration opportunities. It will also allow upgrading national policies and measures, in terms of land planning (elaboration of a pilot land planning scheme for the South-West), energy (upgrading of the wood energy supply plan for Bangui), forestry (fine-tuning of the draft forest policy), biodiversity (upgrading of the national action plan on biodiversity);
2. Implementation of Restoration Programs and Complementary Initiatives: It will be carried out in five pilot sites in the South-West, targeting abandoned lands considered unproductive. Local populations will be encouraged to “retrace their steps” and restore these abandoned lands, instead of rushing forward and expanding the pioneer front away from the villages. More than 3,200 ha could then be restored, using agroforestry and agro-ecology practices. Out of that, nearly 1,250 ha could be restored through an innovative public private partnership between the State, a logging company (SEFCA) and local populations. Local populations would also receive support to implement complementary Income Generating Activities (IGAs);
3. Institutions, Finance and Upscaling: A thorough capacity need assessment will be carried out at the inception of the Project and capacity building activities will be provided in terms of FLR, agro-ecology, IGAs, for the civil servants of the Ministries in charge of environment, forests, and agriculture on the one hand, and the targeted local populations in the five pilot sites on the other hand. A specific support will be provided to the Central African research centers in charge of agriculture and forestry, so that they can efficiently produce improved seeds/plants for FLR, and also develop agro-ecology practices adapted to the Central African context. Last but not the least, the Project will support studies aiming at increasing private/public funding for FLR in the CAR. It will also support the activities of the recently created National Coordination on FLR.
4. Knowledge, Partnerships, Monitoring and Assessment: The Project will support the elaboration of a technical guide of good practices in terms of FLR, the organization of regular “FLR technical days” gathering policy-makers and practitioners, the elaboration and diffusion of training material on FLR. It will also facilitate the participation of local stakeholders to international events on FLR.

The Project would be piloted by a Steering Committee chaired by the Ministry in charge of environment and forest, and implemented by a dedicated management unit. The total budget is USD 16.4 million (GEF = 6, co-financing = 10.4). It would start in January 2018 and end in December 2022.

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ACRONYMS

AAAGRDF	<i>Agence autonome d'appui à la gestion durable des ressources forestières</i> / Independent Agency for Sustainable Forest Resource Management
ACDA	<i>Agence centrafricaine de développement agricole</i> / Central African Agricultural Development Agency
ACEDD	<i>Agence centrafricaine de l'environnement et du développement durable</i> / National Agency for the Environment and Sustainable Development
AFD	<i>Agence française de développement</i> / French Agency for Development
AFOLU	Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use
AGPMC	Pesticide Risk Reduction Group of the Plant Production and Protection Division at FAO
AIDA	<i>Agroécologie et intensification durable des cultures annuelles</i> / Agroecology and Sustainable Intensification of Annual Crops
ANGMV	<i>Agence nationale de la grande muraille verte</i> / Great Green Wall Agency
ANR	Assisted Natural Regeneration
APDS	<i>Aire protégée de Dzanga-Sangha</i> / Protected Area of Dzanga-Sangha
ARF	<i>Appui à la recherche forestière</i> / Forestry Research Support Project
AVEC	<i>Association villageoise d'épargne et de crédit</i> / Village Saving & Lending Association
AWP/B	Annual Work Plan and Budget
BADC	Biotropical Agriculture Development Company
BH	Budget Holder
BTS	<i>Brevet de technicien supérieur</i> / Upper Technician Certificate
CAFI	Central African Forest Initiative
CAR	Central African Republic
CAS-DF	<i>Compte d'affectation spéciale pour le développement forestier</i> / Special Earmarked Account for Forest
CBD	United-Nations Convention on Biological Diversity
CDF	<i>Centre de données forestières</i> / Forest Data Centre
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
CDR	<i>Caisse de résilience</i> / Resilience Fund
CEFDHAC	<i>Conférence sur les écosystèmes de forêts denses et humides d'Afrique centrale</i> / National Forum of the Conference on Central and Central African Dense Forest Ecosystems
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CEOF	Collect Earth Open Foris
CIONGA	<i>Centre inter-ONG de RCA</i> / Inter-NGOs Centre of the CAR
CIRAD	<i>Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement</i> / Center for International Cooperation in Agronomic Research for Development
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CNC	<i>Comité national climat</i> / National Committee on Climate
CNEDD	<i>Commission nationale de l'environnement et du développement durable</i> / National Committee for the Environment and Sustainable Development
COMIFAC	<i>Commission des forêts d'Afrique Centrale</i> / Central African Forest Commission
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
CTA	Chief Technical Officer
CTDR	<i>College technique pour le développement rural</i> / Technical College for Rural Development
CTE	<i>Collège technique de l'élevage</i> / Technical College of Breeding
DDR	Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration
DfID	Department for International Development
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
EBA	Ecosystem-Based Adaptation
EFI	European Forest Institute
EITI	Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative
ESS	Environmental and Social Screening
EU	European Union
FAO	<i>Organisation des Nations-Unies pour l'agriculture et l'alimentation</i> / Food and Agriculture Organization of the United-Nations
FCFA	<i>Franc de la communauté financière d'Afrique</i> / Franc of the Financial Community of Africa
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FDFT	<i>Fonds de développement forestier et touristique</i> / Forestry and Tourism Development Fund
FED	<i>Fonds de développement européen</i> / European Development Fund
FFEM	<i>Fonds français pour l'environnement mondial</i> / French Global Environmental Facility

FFS	Farmer Field School
FIP	Forest Investment Program
FLEGT	Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade
FLR	Forest and Landscape Restoration
FNE	<i>Fonds national de l'environnement</i> / National Environment Fund
FPIC	Free, Prior, and Informed Consent
FPMIS	Field Programme Management Information System
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environment Fund
GHG	Greenhouse gas
GIS	Geographic Information System
GNI	Gross National Income
GOFC-GOLD	Global Observation for Forest Cover and Land Dynamics
ha	Hectare
HDI	Human Development Index
ICASEES	<i>Institut centrafricain des statistiques, des études économiques et sociales</i> / Central African Institute for Statistics, Economic and Social Studies
ICRA	<i>Institut centrafricain de recherche agronomique</i> / Central African Institute for Agricultural Research
ICRAF	World Agroforestry Centre
IGA	Income Generating Activity
IIED	International Institute for Environment and Development
IITA	International Institute for Tropical Agronomy
ILO	International Labour Office
INDC	Intended Nationally Determined Contributions
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel of experts on Climate Change
IPPC	International Plant Protection Convention
IRAD	<i>Institut de recherche agricole pour le développement</i> / Agricultural Research Institute for Development
ISDR	<i>Institut supérieur du développement rural</i> / Higher Institute of Rural Development
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
KPCS	Kimberley Process Certification Scheme
LACCEG	<i>Laboratoire de climatologie, de cartographie et d'études géographiques</i> / Laboratory of Climatology, Cartography and Geographical Studies
LDCF	Least Developed Countries Fund
LDN	Land Degradation Neutrality
LDNF	Land Degradation Neutrality Fund
LFA	Logical Framework Approach
LoA	Letter of Agreement
LP	<i>Licence professionnelle</i> / Professional License
LRA	Lord Resistance Army
LTO	Lead Technical Officer
LULUCF	Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry
M	Million
MDA	Market and Development Analysis
MDRA	<i>Ministère du développement rural et de l'agriculture</i> / Ministry of Rural Development and Agriculture
MEDDEFCP	<i>Ministère de l'environnement, du développement durable, des eaux, forêts, chasse et pêche</i> / Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development, Water, Forestry, Hunting, and Fisheries
MEE	Ministry of Environment and Ecology
MINUSCA	<i>Mission multidimensionnelle intégrée de stabilisation des Nations-Unies en Centrafrique</i> / Integrated Multidimensional United-Nations Stabilization Mission in the CAR
mm	Millimeters
MMU	Minimum Mapping Unit
MTA	Material Transfer Agreement
NAPA	National Adaptation Plan of Action
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization

NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Product
OSFT	<i>Observation satellitaire des forêts tropicales / Satellite Observation of Tropical Forests</i>
OSFAC	<i>Observatoire Satellital des Forêts d'Afrique Centrale / Central African Forest Observatory</i>
PAN-LCD	<i>Plan d'action nationale de lutte contre la désertification / National Action Plan to fight against Land Degradation</i>
PANTHER	Participation, Accountability, Non-discrimination, Transparency, Human dignity, Empowerment, Rule of law
PARN	<i>Programme d'aménagement des ressources naturelles / Project for Natural Resources Management</i>
PARPAF	<i>Projet d'appui à la rédaction des plans d'aménagement forestier / Project to Support the Drafting of Forest Management Plans</i>
PDRSO	<i>Projet de développement régional du Sud-Ouest / Project for the Regional Development of the South-West</i>
PEA	<i>Permis d'exploitation et d'aménagement / Operation and Management Permit</i>
PGPRF	<i>Programme de gestion participative des ressources forestières / Participatory Forest Resource Management Program</i>
PGRFA	Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
PIN	<i>Programme indicatif national / National Indicative Program</i>
PIR	Project Implementation Review
PM	Project Manager
PMU	Project Management Unit
PNIASAN	<i>Programme National des Investissements Agricoles de la Sécurité Alimentaire et Nutritionnelle / National Program for Agricultural Investments in Food and Nutrition Security</i>
PNIMT	<i>Plan national d'investissement à moyen-terme en matière de gestion durable des terres en RCA / Mid-Term National Investment Plan in terms of Sustainable Land Management</i>
PPG	Project Preparation Grant
PPP	Public-Private-Partnership
PPR	Project Progress Report
PRADD2	<i>Droits de propriété et développement du diamant artisanal II / Property Rights and Artisanal Diamond Development II</i>
PRASAC	<i>Pôle régional de recherche appliquée au développement des savanes d'Afrique Centrale / Regional Centre for Applied Research for Developing Agricultural Systems in Central Africa</i>
PSC	Project Steering Committee
PURCARA	<i>Projet d'urgence en réponse à la crise alimentaire et la relance de l'agriculture / Emergency Food Crisis and Recovery Project</i>
RCPCA	<i>Relèvement et consolidation de la paix en Centrafrique / National Recovery and Peacebuilding Plan</i>
REDD+	Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in Developing Countries
REDDAF	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation in Africa
ROAM	Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology
ROI	Region of Interest
RONGEDD	<i>Réseau des ONG pour l'environnement et le développement durable / Network of Non-Governmental Organizations for the Environment and Sustainable Development</i>
RPBA	Recovery and Peacebuilding Assessment
R-PP	Readiness Preparation Proposal
SCCF	Special Climate Change Fund
SDRASA	<i>Stratégie de développement rural, de l'agriculture et de la sécurité alimentaire / Strategy for Rural Development, Agriculture, and Food Security</i>
SNPA-DB	<i>Stratégie nationale et plan d'action en matière de diversité biologique / National Strategy and Action Plan regarding Biodiversity</i>
TCI GEF FLO	Investment Centre Division GEF Funding Liaison Officer
TEV	Total Economic Value
TRI	The Restoration Initiative
UNCCD	United-Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNFCCC	United-Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNDP	United-Nations Development Program
UNESCO	United-Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization
UNEP	United-Nations Environment Program
UNOCHA	United-Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UNV	United-Nations Volunteer
USD	United States Dollar
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VAT	Value-Added Tax
VPA	Voluntary Partnership Agreement
WB	World Bank
WCPA	World Commission on Protected Areas

WISDOM	Wood fuel Integrated Supply/Demand Overview Mapping
WFP	World Food Program
WRI	World Resource Institute
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Overview: socio-economic context and natural resources

1.1.1. Key socio-economic indicators and trends

1. The Central African Republic (CAR) is landlocked and sparsely populated: about 4.9 million inhabitants, half under the age of 18 and 60% living in rural areas, with a low density of 7.9 inhabitants/km² (based on projections for 2015 prepared by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs – UNOCHA - in 2016, taking into account the last General Population Census of 2003)³. It is divided into seven Regions (including the Region of Bangui), 16 Prefectures, 71 sub-Prefectures, 175 Communes, and about 10 000 villages (World Bank, 2017a)⁴.

2. The CAR is located in the middle of an unstable region in terms of security, and has been suffering from the persistence of numerous conflicts for the last decades (Darfur crisis, the Lord Resistance Army rebellion, the Séléka / Anti-Balaka conflict, etc. See **Part 1.1.2 infra**). There is also a cyclical instability of national institutions which have resulted in nine changes in political regimes since the independence in 1960, i.e. an average change every six years, an instability that can hardly guarantee the country's sustainable development.

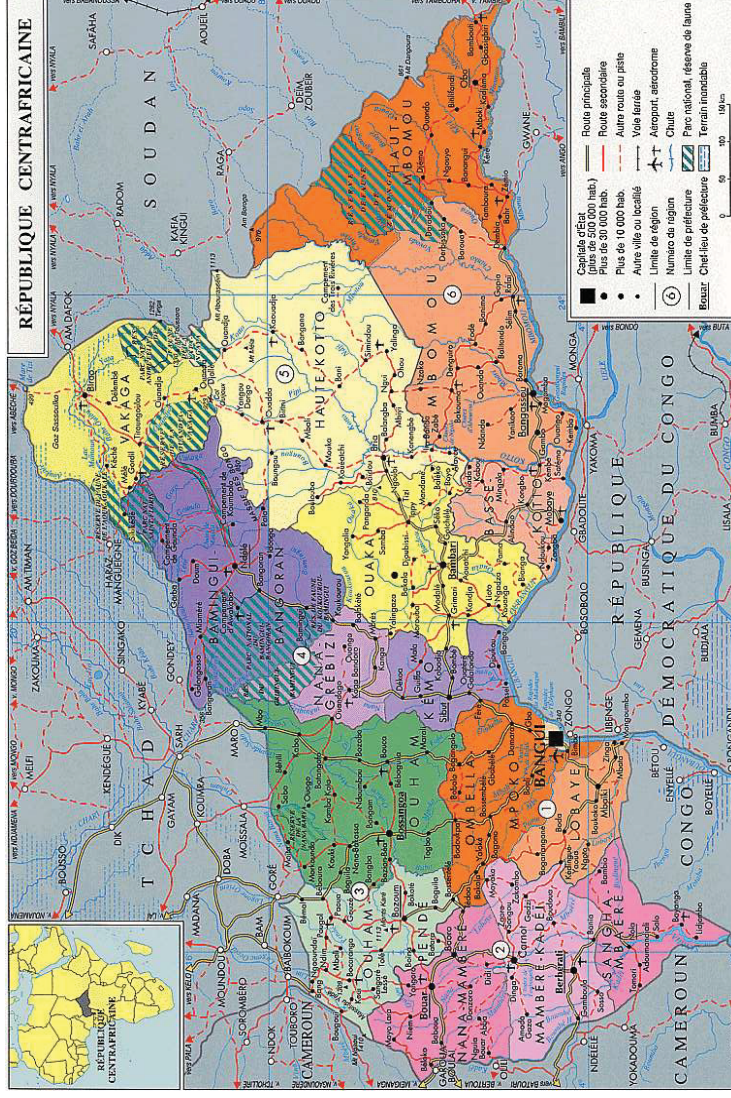


Figure 1 - Administrative map of the CAR (French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2001)

³ See <https://data.humdata.org/dataset/car-data-20160215-population-by-admin>

⁴ Extracted from the World Development Indicators DataBank. See <http://databank.worldbank.org>

3. The CAR has a great natural potential represented by 15 million hectares (Mha) of arable land suitable for agriculture and nearly 16 Mha of pasture and rangeland suitable for livestock activities. It has also significant water resources, through a dense hydrographic network, favorable to crop irrigation and inland fisheries (see **Part 1.2.2. infra**). It is also a forest-rich country with diverse forest types, from dense humid forest in the South to savannah forest in the North-East (see **Parts 1.1.3 and 1.2.1 infra**). It has also abundant mineral resources distributed throughout the country (see **Part 1.2.4 infra**).
4. Despite this natural potential, socio-economic indicators are alarming at every point. The poverty rate was estimated at 62% in 2008, year of the last household survey, with 50% of the urban population and 69% of the rural population living in poverty. In 2008, the extreme income inequality, measured by the GINI coefficient, was the fourth lowest among sub-Saharan Africa countries (Central African Institute for Statistics, Economic and Social Studies / *Institut centrafricain des statistiques, des études économiques et sociales* – ICASEES, 2008)⁵. NB: **Annex 7 infra** provides key-figures in terms of economics and natural resources management.
5. The situation has aggravated due to the recent crisis (see **Part 1.1.2 infra**). The Gross National Income (GNI) per capita fell by 37% between 2012 and 2013. In 2014, the GNI per capita of the CAR (USD 569.3) was the lowest in the world. The latest estimates based on these trends show that the poverty rate of the CAR (at the international poverty line of USD 1.90 per day in 2011 in terms of purchasing power parity) rose from 66% in 2008 to more than 76% in 2013 (World Bank, 2016a)⁶. In 2014, the CAR was ranked 187th of 188 countries on the United Nations' 2014 Human Development Index (HDI)⁷.
6. The CAR has the 2nd maternal mortality rate and the 4th infant mortality rate in the World (World Bank, 2016a). Food insecurity is widespread over the country, with a rate of households suffering from food insecurity ranging from 26% to 77% in late 2015, depending on the Prefectures (World Food Programme – WFP, 2015)⁸.

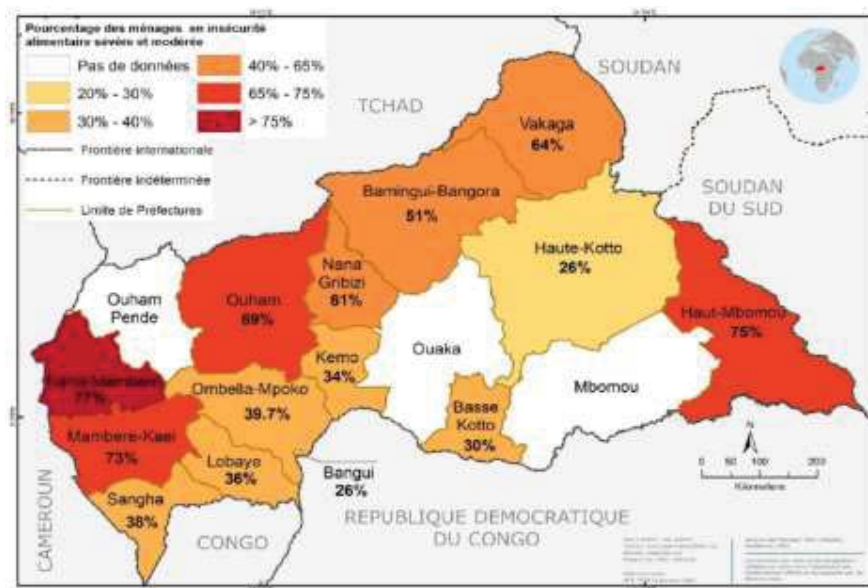


Figure 2 - % of households under food insecurity, by Prefectures (WFP, 2015)

7. Years of insecurity and sluggish growth have resulted in a generation of young people with very little formal education. Up to 68% of young people aged 15-24 have not completed primary school and 25% have no formal education. Between 2000 and 2010, the gender gap in enrollment rate has widened by about 20% at all levels

⁵ ICASEES, 2008. *Enquête centrafricaine pour le suivi-évaluation du bien-être (ECASEB)*. Bangui – ICASEES, 2008.

⁶ World Bank, 2016a. *Notes sur les politiques de la République centrafricaine (P157806) : Renforcer la base d'analyse de la politique de lutte contre la pauvreté en République centrafricaine*. Bangui – Banque mondiale, avril 2016. 19p

⁷ See https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_Human_Development_Index

⁸ WFP, 2015. *Évaluation de la sécurité alimentaire en situation d'urgence – RCA*. Bangui – PAM, décembre 2015. 48p

of primary school, and the urban vs rural gap in enrollment has widened by about 30%. In 2010, respectively 8% and 34% of women and men in rural areas were literate (ICASEES, 2010)⁹.

8. It is worth zooming on the socio-economic of the South-Western part of the country. It has indeed been targeted as a pilot area of the TRI CAR Project during the initial consultations: regional workshop held in Douala at the beginning of November 2016 (FAO Roma, 2016a)¹⁰ and national workshop held in Bangui at mid-December 2016 (FAO Bangui, 2016a)¹¹. Even though a number of the Project components (components 1 and 3 in particular) aim at achieving results at the national level, concrete restoration activities will be carry out in a selection of demonstration sites. The biophysical context of the South-West is further described in **Part 1.1.3 infra**, and the selected sites of the TRI CAR Project are further described in **Part 2.3.2 infra**.
9. As shown in the figure below, the South-West area concentrates 44% of the population in 16% of the territory, and thus presents a higher than national average density of population: 13 inhabitants/km² (excl. Bangui) to 22 inhabitants/km² (incl. Bangui) compared to 8 inhabitants/km² at national level (UNOCHA, 2016). The Chief towns of Prefectures are Bangui (Bangui, 839,000 inhab.), Bimbo (Ombella-M'Poko, 276,000 inhab.) Berbérati (Mambéré Kadéi, 96,000 inhab.), Nola (Sangha Mbaéré, 76,000 inhab.), and Mbaïki (Lobaye, 29,000 inhab.). *NB: numbers of inhabitants projected in 2015 for the Chief towns, not considering neighboring Communes that are sometimes close and therefore confounded with the Chief towns.*

	Surf (km ²)	Inhabitants	Density (inh/km ²)
Bangui	67	839 081	12 524
Lobaye	19 235	310 365	16
Mambéré Kadéi	30 203	458 611	15
Ombella-M'Poko	31 835	448 465	14
Sangha Mbaéré	19 412	127 068	7
Total South-West incl. Bangui	100 752	2 183 590	22
Total South-West excl. Bangui	100 685	1 344 509	13
GRAND TOTAL CAR	623 000	4 953 017	8

Figure 3 - Surfaces, populations and densities in the South-West vs the CAR (UNOCHA, 2016)

10. The main ethnic groups in the area are the following: Gbaya (Bianda, Bokoto, Bogongo, Bokaré, Bouli, Bofi), Banda Yanguéré, Mbimou, Ngbaka, Mbati, and Bay'Aka (pygmies, considered as Indigenous Peoples). Pygmies / Bay'Aka are concentrated in the South-West of the CAR, especially in the Prefectures of Lobaye and Sangha-Mbaéré, and their number is not well known, estimates varying from 5,000¹² to 12,000¹³. Last but not the least, the Peulh / Mbororo peoples, nomadic herders, were rare in the South-West already before the 2013 crisis, as pasture lands were limited, and have since nearly disappeared from the area. Many of them have become refugee in Northern Cameroon. As a consequence, the issue of "overgrazing", mentioned in certain policy documents, has been limited before the 2013 crisis and can be considered marginal since then.
11. As the major part of the rural population in the CAR, the livelihood of the South-Western population of the CAR highly depends on the use of natural resources: food crops produced after slash-and-burn, NTFPs, firewood, bushmeat, etc. In 2008, according to the last national census on poverty, more than 60% of the South-Western population was living in poverty (ICASEES, 2008). In 2015, the percentage of households under food insecurity was ranging from 36% in the Lobaye to 73% in the Mambéré-Kadéi (WFP, 2015).

1.1.2. The Séléka crisis and the "recovery" process

12. The CAR had yet to recover from the effects of the 2008 global recession when the domestic political and security crisis erupted in December 2012, with the Séléka armed group descending on Bangui from the

⁹ ICASEES, 2010. *Fourth Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS4)*. Bangui – ICASEES, 2010.

¹⁰ FAO Roma, 2016a. *Summary of events and outcomes from The Restoration Initiative - Global Launch Workshop in Douala, Cameroon, October 31 - November 2, 2016*. IUCN-UNEP-FAO-GEF, December 2016. 6p

¹¹ FAO Bangui, 2016a. *Atelier de lancement de l'Initiative de Restauration "The Restoration Initiative" en République Centrafricaine, Bangui, 14-15 décembre 2016 – Rapport de l'atelier*. Bangui – FAO Bangui, décembre 2016. 24p

¹² See <http://centrafriquenligne.over-blog.com/article-les-pygmees-un-peuple-oublie-du-developpement-67658336.html>

¹³ See http://www.lemonde.fr/voyage/article/2006/03/24/les-pygmees-petit-peuple-des-forets_754265_3546.html

Northern border with Chad. The BOZIZE's Government was overthrown in March 2013. From then on, a transition was established with DJOTODJIA, till January 2014. Fifteen days later, PANZA was appointed to run an interim Government, until the restoration of democratic institutions and the installation of the new President elected TOUADERA, from the beginning of April 2016. The second round of legislative elections took place the following day of the presidential elections (World Bank, 2016b)¹⁴.

13. The uprising led to violent clashes between the mostly Muslim Séléka, and the largely Christian Anti-Balaka armed factions, adding a sectarian dimension to the conflict. Civilians were not only recruited, but also targeted, leading to inter-communal clashes. The crisis that the country is emerging from has been unprecedented in the history of the CAR, mainly because of the communitisation of the conflict, which left the State almost destroyed. This episode highlighted the cyclical nature of the crisis, with each successive conflict since the 1990s creating new frustrations that amplified the violence and complexity of the subsequent crisis (*ibid*).
14. At its peak, 1,200,000 people were displaced (25% of the population) and it is estimated that more than 6,000 people were killed since the beginning of the crisis (UNOCHA, 2017)¹⁵. Formal school system ceased to function for two academic years, close to 30% of health facilities were destroyed and the economic activity near collapsed with a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita crashing to -37% in 2013. At present (see figure infra), 50% of the territory is broadly estimated to be under Séléka control, and other armed groups have splintered into a multitude of uncontrolled rebel factions: diverse factions of Séléka and Anti-Balaka, as well as the Lord Resistance Army (LRA), armed group from South Sudan and DRC, engaging in criminal activities (World Bank, 2016b).

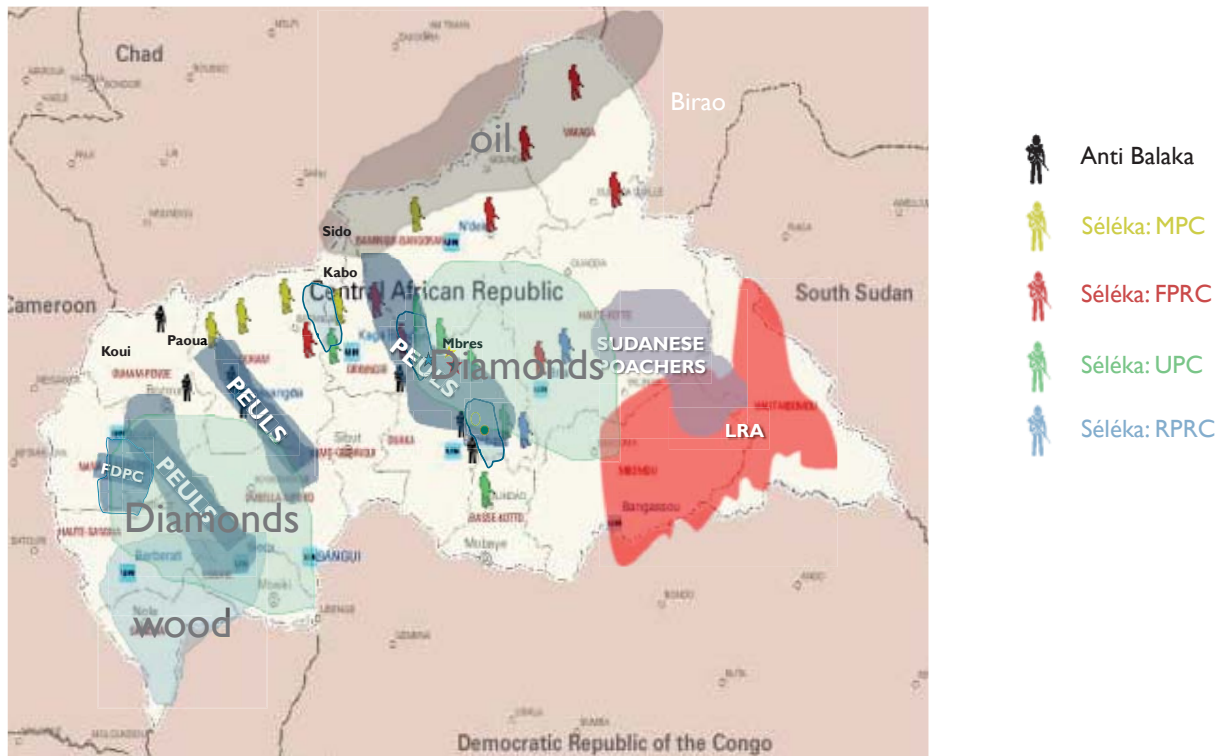


Figure 4 - Armed groups operating in the CAR (MINUSCA, 2016)

¹⁴ World Bank, 2016b. *CAR Donor Conference in Brussels, November 17, 2016 - Briefing book*. Washington DC – World Bank, November 2016. 82p

¹⁵ See <http://www.unocha.org/car/>

15. Before the crisis, the implementation of the Poverty Reduction Strategy (CAR Gvt, 2011)¹⁶, as well as the implementation of policies and measures aiming at reaching the Millennium Development Goals (Ministry of Planning and Economy, and United Nations System, 2012)¹⁷, were already facing difficulties. Indeed, the collapse of international commodity prices in 2009 dealt a serious blow to CAR's nascent forestry and mining sectors, and during 2010-12 the average real GDP growth rate fell to a modest 3.5%, below the Sub-Saharan Africa average of 4.5%. In 2013, the crisis severely disrupted activity in all economic sectors. Agricultural, timber, and diamond production have been severely affected by insecurity and looting, impacting livelihoods, food security and exports (World Bank, 2016c)¹⁸. The figure below illustrates the situation: -46.3% of agriculture GDP growth in 2013.

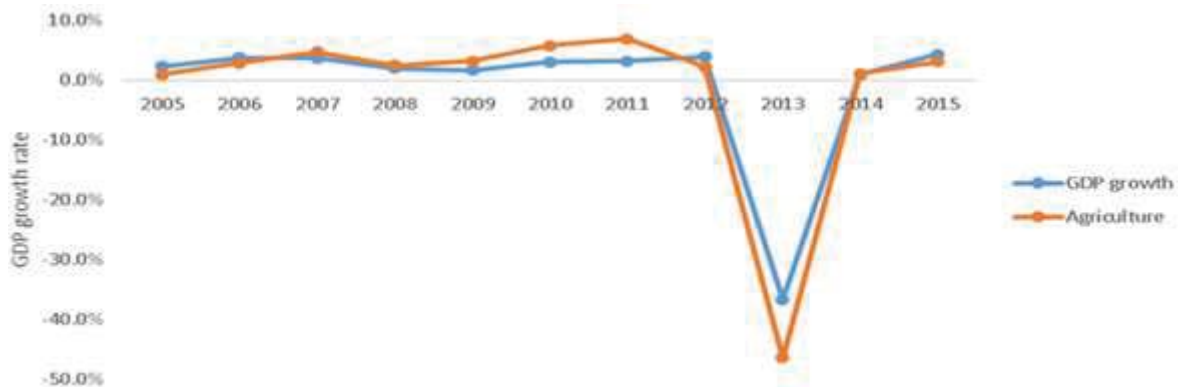


Figure 5 - Drop of the GDP growth: all sectors and agriculture (ICASEES, 2016)

16. How to prioritize when everything is a priority? To address this issue, the CAR Government prepared a 2014-2016 Emergency and Sustainable Rehabilitation Program (CAR Gvt, 2014)¹⁹. Several emergency projects in support of this program have been implemented, including the World Bank-financed Emergency Food Crisis and Recovery Project (*Projet d'urgence en réponse à la crise alimentaire et la relance de l'agriculture - PURCARA*)²⁰, implemented by the WFP and the FAO, in 2014 and 2015 respectively.
17. In May 2016, thanks to the support from the European Union, United-Nations, and World Bank, the CAR Government launched a Recovery and Peacebuilding Assessment (RPBA), leading to the elaboration of a 2017-2021 National Recovery and Peacebuilding Plan (*Relèvement et consolidation de la paix en Centrafrique - RCPCA*), which consists of three pillars: (i) Critical reforms to promote peace, security, and reconciliation; (ii) Reforms to provide basic social services such as education, health, water, and sanitation; and (iii) Measures to facilitate rapid improvement of the business environment and to improve natural resources management, including of minerals and timber (RCA Gvt, 2016)²¹.
18. These pillars are in line with the top five priorities identified by 1,790 households interviewed in 159 Communes by the RPBA, as shown in the figure infra (NB: living conditions were analyzed and these households were questioned about their understanding of root causes of the crisis, as well as the top priorities to be addressed in the short to medium term).

¹⁶ CAR Gvt, 2011. *Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSPII) 2011-2015 - Reducing extreme poverty*. Bangui – CAR Gvt, April 2011. 130p

¹⁷ Ministère du plan et de l'économie et Système des Nations-Unies, 2012. *Cadre d'accélération des Objectifs du millénaire pour le développement (OMD) - Un engagement en faveur de la sécurité alimentaire et de la nutrition*. Bangui - MEP & SNU, octobre 2012. 109p

¹⁸ World Bank, 2016c. *CAR Policy Notes (P157806) - Matrix of comments and Team's responses to comments received*. Washington DC – World Bank, April 2016. 19p

¹⁹ CAR Gvt, 2014. *Programme d'urgence et de relèvement durable 2014 – 2016*. Bangui – Gvt de RCA, septembre 2014. 132p

²⁰ See <http://www.fao.org/emergencies/la-fao-en-action/histoires/histoire-detail/fr/c/243503/>

²¹ CAR Gvt, 2016c. *Plan national de relèvement et de consolidation de la paix en RCA*. Bangui – Gvt de RCA, 2016. 108p

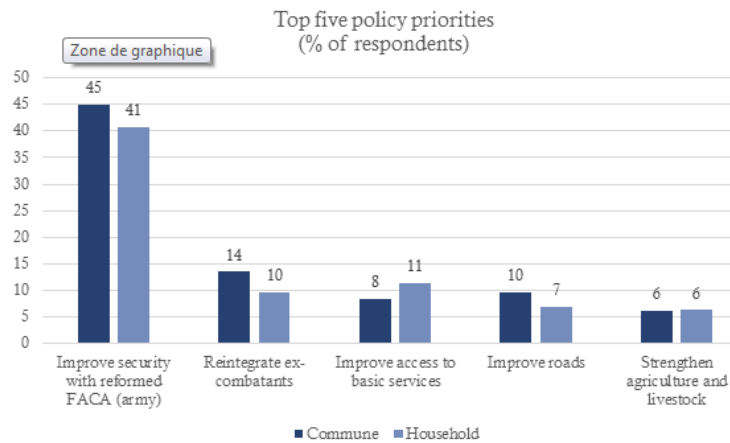


Figure 6 - Top five policy priorities for CAR's households (CAR Gvt, 2016c)

19. The costs of the RCPCA have been evaluated at USD 1.6 billion for 2017-2019 - of which USD 1.1 billion has already been pledged at the CAR Donor Conference in Brussels, November 17, 2016 (World Bank, 2016b) - and an additional USD 1.4 billion for 2020-2021. Thus, the RCPCA proposes investing USD 120 per capita per year over five years. It is much more than the level of Official Development Assistance in the CAR prior to the crisis (about USD 40-50 per capita per year), and much less than costs of deployment of 12,000 peacekeepers since 2014 (about USD 200 per capita per year) (World Bank, 2016b).
20. But, most challenges remain ahead, notably (World Bank, 2016b):
 - Implementing the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) process. A pre-DDR was launched in October 2015 by the Integrated multidimensional United Nations stabilization mission in the CAR (*Mission multidimensionnelle intégrée de stabilisation des Nations-Unies en Centrafrique – MINUSCA*), and reached encouraging results by July 2016, with 3,000 persons subject to DDR²² (NB: total number of persons to be included in the DDR not precisely known, as armed groups are constantly evolving). But, much remains to be done: the financing need was estimated at FCFA 20 billion (USD 32.2 million), out of which FCFA 10 billion (USD 16.1 million) were committed as at September 2016²³. Furthermore, some remember there have been three DDR processes since 2000 which have not met expectations;
 - Clearing arrears, to re-establish core public financing management functions and stimulating growth. As at July 2016, total domestic payment arrears was estimated at 16.7% of the GDP;
 - Ramping up economic activity: macroeconomic stabilization depends strongly on a rapid recovery of revenues to pre-2013 levels, in order to recover rapidly lost output and jobs, focusing on sectors that have the best potential, notably forestry and agriculture.
21. To accompany the CAR with a crisis exit plan, the World Bank developed 14 sectoral policy notes. Looking at the situation in 2016 described in these policy notes, it comes out clearly that the CAR has barely emerged from a “ground zero” situation after the 2013 crisis: most institutions still remain at practically dismantled, basic human needs go unaddressed, the few previously existing sources of growth are at minimum production levels, all of this against a backdrop of severe vulnerabilities towards reemergence of conflict (World Bank, 2016c).
22. It is worth to note that, according to the NGO Coordinating Committee (*Comité de coordination des ONG – CCO*), the South-West of the CAR is in a slightly better situation than the rest of the country. Indeed, it is an area where there are few clashes between armed groups because the localities are often under the influence of one single ethnic group. However, there are reports of incidents between communities, linked to the dynamics of the return of displaced persons and refugees, which is due to the relative stability of the area and the presence of enclaves for Muslims. The transition to recovery and a balanced coexistence between

²² See <http://www.rfi.fr/afrique/20160725-rca-le-ddr-peine-mettre-place-alors-le-pre-ddr-connait-petit-succes>

²³ See <http://www.lanouvellecentrafrique.info/2016/09/14/opinioncentrafrique-le-ddr-au-firmament-le-droit-des-victimes-en-berne>

humanitarian aid and recovery programs is seen as possible, accompaniment or facilitation of returns, relocations and reintegration of people remaining the priority (World Bank, 2016b).

1.1.3. Natural resources situation

23. In what follows, we will present the natural resources situation, starting with an overview of the Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) situation, which encompasses the following land use changes: deforestation, forest degradation, and land degradation. We will then focus on specific issues: biodiversity, landform and soils, climate and climate change. Under each section below, we will present the situation at national level, and then focus on the specific situation for the South-West area. Similarly, below, we will present the socio-economic context, sector by sector, at national level, and then focus on the specificities for the South-West area.

→ LULUCF at national level and in the South-West

24. The LULUCF situation is closely linked to the rainfall patterns. As shown in the figure below, three types of climates can then be distinguished:

- **Guinean climate:** rainfall ranging from 1,500 to 1,800 mm spread over nine months, in the South and the extreme West;
- **Sudanian climate** (split in the figure infra into Sudano-Oubangian and Sudano-Sahelian climates): rainfall ranging from 1,300 to 1,500 mm spread over six to seven months, in the Centre and the extreme West;
- **Sahelo-Sudanian climate:** rainfall ranging from 700 to 1,300 mm spread over four months, in the North. At the upper North, in the Vakaga Prefecture (Chief town: Birao), the climate is becoming Sahelian during the past decades (see **section on climate change infra**).

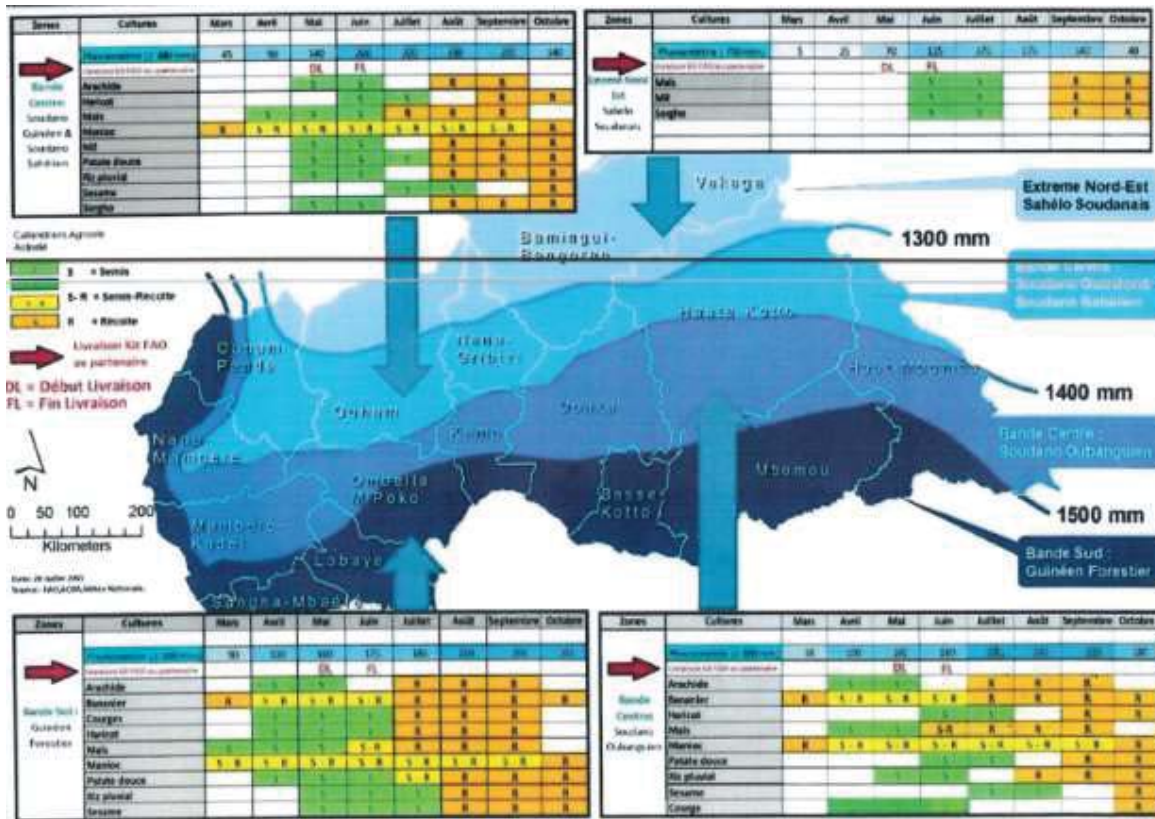


Figure 7 - Isohyets, climatic zones, and cropping systems in the CAR (FAO Bangui, 2017a)²⁴

²⁴ FAO Bangui, 2017a. Carte des isohyètes, zones climatiques et système de culture en RCA. Bangui – FAO Bangui, 2017. 1p

25. For the last ten years, diverse LULUCF assessments have been carried out in the CAR: (FAO Roma, 2010a)²⁵, (FAO Roma, 2014a)²⁶, (WRI, 2013)²⁷, (JAFFRAIN & PINET, 2014), (DE WASSEIGE et al., 2014)²⁸, (SIRS & GAF-AG, 2016)²⁹, (FRM et al., 2016)³⁰. These assessments use different sets of definitions in terms of land use classes, which makes comparisons of data difficult (SalvaTerra, 2015)³¹. In particular, the definition for forest is not consistent between studies. For these reasons, there is currently no clear consensus about the level of forest degradation and deforestation at national level (see **Annex 8 infra** for further details).
26. This being said, it is worth to note the importance of the forest cover in the CAR: around 28.3 Mha of forests (45.5% of the country), with 5.5 Mha (8.9%) of dense humid forests encountered in one-third of the country (South-West, where they are commercially logged, and South-East – near Bangassou - where they are not) and 22.8 Mha (36.6%) of forest-savanna mosaics encountered in the other two-thirds (WRI, 2013).
27. The South-Western part of the CAR has four main characteristics:
- It is a forest-rich area, as demonstrated by the LULUCF analysis carried out in 2016 for the South-West (FRM, et al., 2016): 82% of forest cover over the 4.03 Mha considered in this analysis;
 - 14 forest concessions cover 92% of this 4.03 Mha, as illustrated in the figure infra. The local populations are authorized to practice slash-and-burn agriculture and to harvest NTFPs and firewood in the “*séries agricoles*” of these forest concessions (see **Part 1.2.1 infra** for details about forest concessions). Land use rights over these “*séries agricoles*” are based on customary land tenure (see **Part 1.2.5 infra** for details about land tenure).
 - The protected areas cover 8% of the 4.03 Mha: 0,3 Mha, including, from the East to the West: Classified forest of Botampi, Reserve Man and Biosphere of Lower Lobaye, Park Bodingué-Mbaéré, National Park of Dzanga-Sangha, Community hunting zone of Dzanga Ndoki,, National Park of Dzanga Ndoki. NB: It is worth to note the current classification of protected areas in the CAR is not in line with the most recent IUCN guidelines (IUCN, 2013)³² (see **Part 1.2.3 infra**);
 - The annual rates of net forest loss for the South-Western part of the CAR (FRM et al. 2016) are 25% less than the annual rates of net forest loss for the dense humid forest of the CAR (DE WASSEIGE et al., 2014): respectively 0.18% and 0.24% between 1990 and 2000; 0.13% and 0.18% between 2000 and 2010. It is worth noting that, contrarily to the increasing trend of deforestation in the Congo Basin, the rate of deforestation has reduced both for the dense humid forests of the CAR and its South-Western part. Even though the annual rates of net forest loss for the South-West are a bit less than the national average, impacts of deforestation are important, in terms of biodiversity (emblematic forest biodiversity), climate change (high carbon stock forests), and people’s livelihoods (population with higher density than the national average, suffering from poverty and food insecurity) (see **Part 1.2.3 infra** for details about biodiversity and climate change; **Part 1.1.1 supra** for details about socio-economic conditions).

²⁵ FAO Roma, 2010a. *Evaluation des ressources forestières mondiales 2010 – Rapport RCA*. Rome – FAO. 2010. 54p.

²⁶ FAO Roma, 2014a. *Evaluation des ressources forestières mondiales 2015 – Rapport RCA*. Rome – FAO, 2014. 84p

²⁷ See <http://caf-data.forest-atlas.org/>

²⁸ DE WASSEIGE, C., FLYNN, J., LOUPPE, D., HIOL HIOL, D., MAYAUX, P., 2014. *Les forêts du bassin du Congo – Etat des forêts 2013*. Weyrich – Observatoire des forêts d’Afrique centrale (OFAC), 2014. 328p

²⁹ SIRS & GAF-AG, 2016. *Harmonisation des cartographies forestières produites par les projets REDDAP et OSFT sur le Cameroun et la RCA*. Villeneuve d’Ascq - SIRS & GAF-AG, février 2016. 23p

³⁰ FRM et al., 2016. *Etude des facteurs de déboisement et de la dégradation des forêts en RCA -Rôle de l’exploitation forestière industrielle*. Montpellier – FRM, COSSOCCIM et Etc Terra, décembre 2016. 88p

³¹ SalvaTerra, 2015. *Etude de faisabilité du projet AFD d’Observation spatiale des forêts d’Afrique Centrale et de l’Ouest (OSFACO)*. Paris – SalvaTerra, juin 2015. 140p

³² IUCN, 2013. *Guidelines for applying PA management categories including IUCN WCPA best practice guidance on recognizing PA and assigning management categories and governance types*. Gland- UICN, 2013. 86p + 31p annex

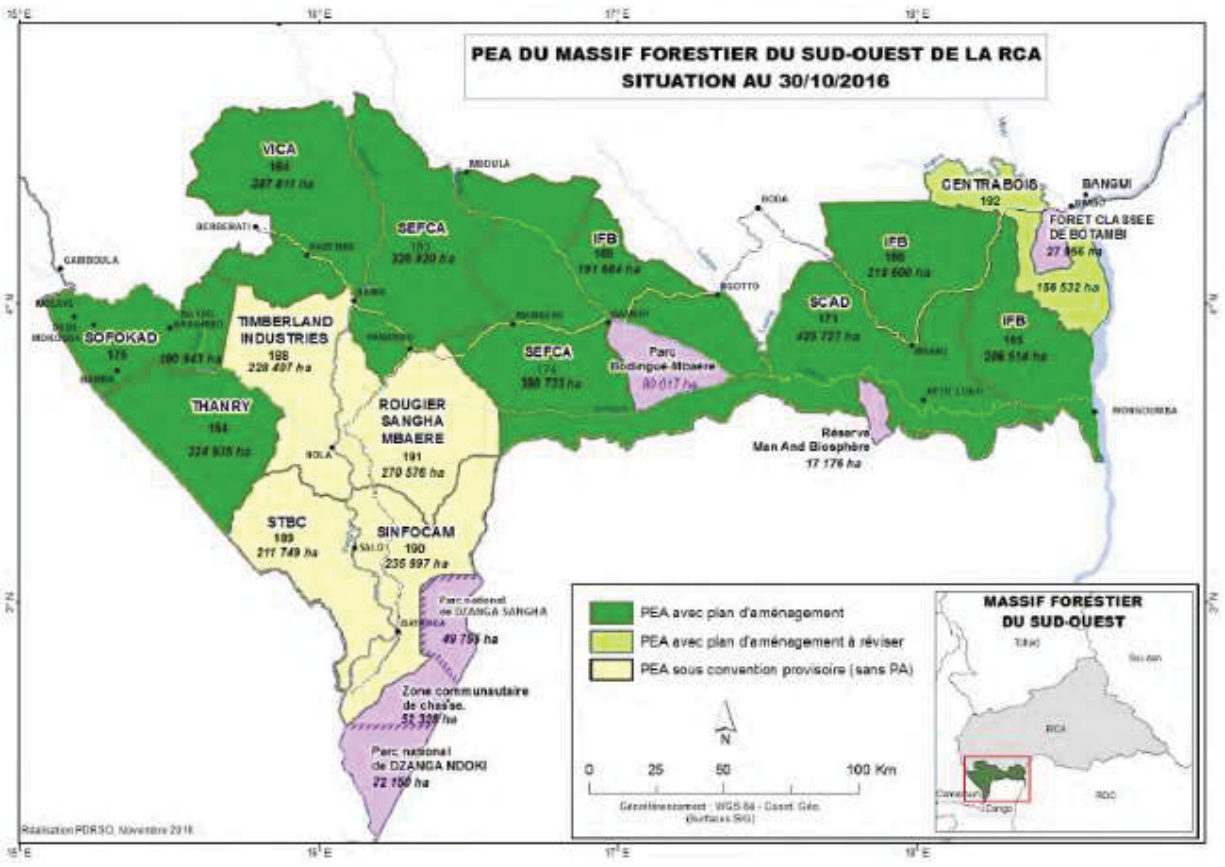


Figure 8 - Operation and management permits (PEA) and protected areas in the South-West (PDRSO, 2016)

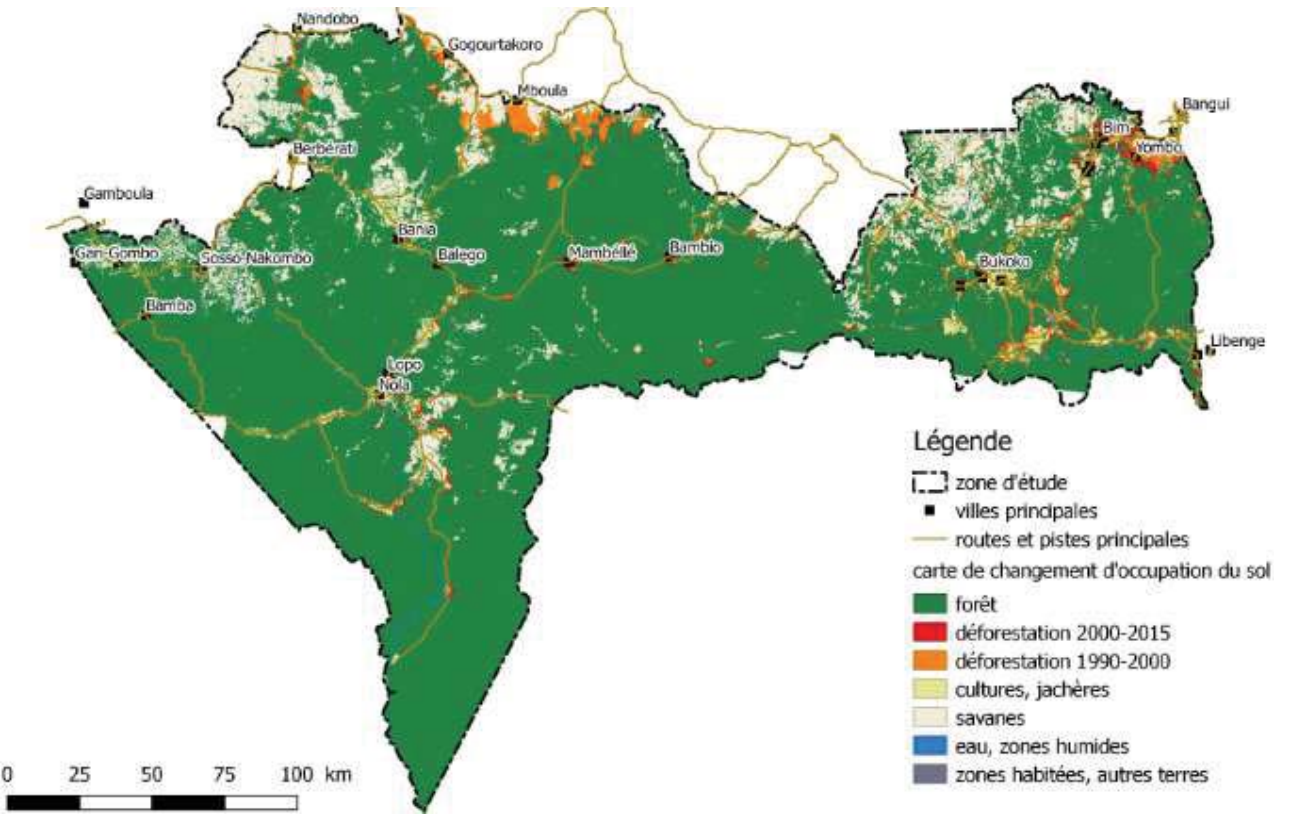


Figure 9 - Net deforestation 1990-2000 and 2000-2015 in the South-West (FRM et al., 2016)

28. In terms of ecology, the South-West dense forest massif can be classified as follows, from the North to the South (TECSULT, 1994)³³:
- Semi-humid deciduous: Less than 1% of the massif, shreds of dense forests on the edge of the savannah, at the extreme North of the town of Carnot. Annual precipitation ranges from 1,400 to 1,500 mm and the dry season lasts two to three months. There are vestiges of ancient semi-humid forests with species such as *Anogeissus leiocarpus* (African birch) or *Albizia zygia* (Mobara), as well as characteristic savannah species such as *Burkea africana*, *Lophira lanceolata*, *Daniellia oliveri*, etc.
 - Humid semi-deciduous: About 90% of the massif, from the Cameroon border at the East to the Oubangui River to the West, from Carnot at the North to the South of the country, except the point of Bayanga. Annual precipitation ranges from 1,500 to 1,600 mm, and the dry season does not exceed two months. This forest stratum is rich in tree species indicators of secondary forests, such as *Triplochiton scleroxylon* (Ayous) or *Terminalia superba* (Fraké). Secondary forest is particularly prevalent in the eastern part of the massif;
 - Humid evergreen: About 10% of the massif, at the South of Bayanga. Its importance grows in a southward direction beyond the CAR border. The transition between the semi-deciduous and the evergreen strata remains imprecise. Annual rainfall exceeds 1,600 mm while the dry season is less than one month. The most common species of this stratum are *Pycnanthus angolensis* (Ilomba), *Lophira alata* (Azobé), *Manilkara maboakensis* (Monghinza), *Ricinodendron heudelotii* (Essessang), etc. Monospecific stands of *Gilbertiodendron dewevrei* (Limbali), although rare, are most often used as indicators of this stratum.

➔ Biodiversity

29. According to the 2000-2015 National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (*Stratégie nationale et plan d'action en matière de diversité biologique – SNPA-DB*) (MEEFCP, 2000)³⁴, the CAR has a high biodiversity spread over the different ecological zones of the country. These natural reservoirs constitute sources of vegetal and animal proteins, as well as plant products for pharmacopoeia and traditional medicine. In addition, natural ecosystems are used for traditional slash-and-burn agriculture and are therefore of major importance for the livelihood of the population. Unfortunately, as outlined in the SNPA-DB, there is no exhaustive study at national level regarding biodiversity and agro-biodiversity, which makes it difficult to specify their importance and their quantitative and geographic evolutions.
30. Still, the SNPA-DB presents some rough estimates, at national level, without disaggregation at regional level (notably for the South-Western part of the CAR):
- Flora: Woody and herbaceous species are presents in the forests, savannas, and steppes. In 2000, there were 3,602 plant species identified, of an estimated 5,000 existing on the territory. Some of these plant species were considered “*highly endangered*” (quoting the words used in the SNPA-DB: (i) It is not clear whether the terminology refers to the CITES classification or another classification, (ii) The plant species in question are not identified), especially under the combined action of bush fires, slash-and-burn agriculture and overgrazing (see **Part 2.1.1. infra**);
 - Fauna: There is no nation-wide inventory of animal species and limited data available for wildlife in the national parks and game reserves. However, it is outlined in the SNPA-DB that fauna decreased significantly between the 1970's and the 1990's. For instance, it is estimated that about 75% of elephants disappeared in the North of the country between 1982 and 1985 at the height of the intensive poaching period. Some species of mammals have completely disappeared, such as the white rhinoceros (in 1950) and the black rhinoceros (in 1985).

³³ TECSULT, 1994. *Projet d'aménagement des ressources naturelles (PARN) - Méthode de confection du plan d'utilisation des terres*. Bangui – MEEFCP, 1994. 72p

³⁴ MEEFCP, 2000. *Projet CAF/96/G-31 SNPA-DB - Stratégie nationale et plan d'action en matière de diversité biologique*. Bangui – MEEFCP, janvier 2000. 62p

31. In terms of fauna, the 2009-2019 National Action Plan to fight against Land Degradation and Desertification (*Plan d'action nationale de lutte contre la désertification – PAN-LCD*) (MEE, 2009a)³⁵ gives a bit more details than the SNPA-DB, by listing the main species in the CAR:
- **Mammals:** 20 primates species (out of which 16 living in the dense forests of the South), from the tiny *Galago demidoff* (Galago), around 60g, to the massive *Gorilla gorilla gorilla* (Western plains Gorilla), up to 180 kg; *Loxodonta africana cyclotis* (Forest elephants) in great number in the South-Western forests, especially the Dzanga-Sangha Wildlife Reserve and the Dzanga Ndoki National Park ; Forest antelopes: *Tragelaphus eryceros* (Bongo), *Tragelaphus spekei* (Sitatunga), *Hyemochus aquaticus* (Water chevrotain), and six species of *Cephalophus sp* (Forest duikers); *Syncerus cafer nanus* (Red buffalo); *Hylochoerus meinertzhageni* (Giant forest hog) and *Potamochoerus porcus* (Bush pig);
 - **Birds:** 700 species have been identified, out of which 400 living in the dense forests of the South;
 - **Fishes:** 455 species have been identified, 260 in the Ubangi basin and 195 in the Chari Basin.
32. In general, scientific data are poorly presented in the national documents. That is the case with biodiversity, as explained above, but even more with agro-biodiversity, for which the SNPA-DB only quote the use of certain plant species for crop protection, e.g. *Azadirachta indica* (Neem tree), *Crotalaria juncea* (Crotalaire), *Nicotiana tabacum* (Tobacco). The SNPA-DB suggests that agro-biodiversity is in a supposed decline, but also notes that there is no national inventory of local and introduced varieties, neither *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation capacities, which makes monitoring impossible. And yet, scientific research has been carried out for the last decades in the CAR, to assess biodiversity, e.g. 13 pages of bibliography focusing on biodiversity assessment for the sole Dzanga Sangha Protected Areas (MEDDEFPC, 2016b)³⁶.

→ **Landform and soils**

33. The landform is structured by the Ubangian ridge, a sort of peneplain at an altitude ranging from 500 to 700 m. It distinctly delineates two basins: that of the Chadian/Chari basin to the North and that of the Congolese/Ubangi basin to the South. The massifs of Fertit to the East and of the Yadé to the West limit this peneplain. The main geological formations come from the Precambrian and consist mainly of granite, gneiss, quartzite, and sandstone.
34. A national soil map has been produced 30 years ago and never revised since (BOULVERT, 1983)³⁷. It is worth to note the classification used is not fully consistent with the FAO soil classification³⁸. Soils are mainly ferralitic on sandstone for most of the territory and become tropical ferruginous towards the North (BONANNEE, 2001)³⁹. The ferralitic soils are more fertile than tropical ferruginous soils. The latter appear at about 7°N, but only develop over the 8°N in the Sudanian climate (MEE, 2009a).
35. Ferralitic soils cover three quarters of the territory, particularly where high rainfall favors the hydrolysis of rock minerals to a great depth. These soils are poor in nutrients, acid, fragile, highly desaturated, often poorly drained with some inclusions of soils with gravelly or indurated horizons. Some are depleted in clay and appear on sandy materials from quartzite (Mbrés) or sandstones (Mouka-Ouadda, Kembe-Nakando and Carnot) (MEEDD, 2013a)⁴⁰. Once they get degraded, ferralitic soils do not recover easily, and sometimes turn into bare crusts hardly recoverable.

³⁵ MEE, 2009a. *Programme d'action nationale de lutte contre la désertification - La désertification en RCA : un défi à relever*. Bangui – MEE, décembre 2009. 50p

³⁶ MEDDEFPC, 2016b. *Plan d'aménagement et de gestion des Aires Protégées de Dzanga Sangha 2016 – 2020*. Bangui – MEDDEFPC, août 2016. 292p.

³⁷ BOULVERT, Y., 1983. *La carte pédologique 1/1 000 000^{ème} de la RCA*. Paris - Office de la recherche scientifique et technique outre-mer (ORSTOM), 1983. 133p

³⁸ See <http://www.fao.org/soils-portal/soil-survey/soil-classification/en/>

³⁹ BONANNEE, M., 2001. *L'étude prospective du secteur forestier en Afrique (FOSA) – RCA*. Roma – FAO, juillet 2001. 37p

⁴⁰ MEEDD, 2013a. *Seconde communication nationale sous la CCNUCC – SNC-RCA*. Bangui – MEEDD, novembre 2013. 122p

→ **Climate and climate change**

36. To our best knowledge, there is no reliable country-specific projection in terms of climate change. This is corroborated by the World Bank (2010)⁴¹: there is little data available in the CAR to provide a clear picture of present climate in the country or as a basis for future climate projections. Indeed, of the 43 main cities in the country, only 15 are equipped with weather stations, and few of these stations are operational (MEEDD, 2013a).
37. Overall, the climate is equatorial hot and humid, with two seasons, dry and rainy. The rainfall varies between 800 mm in the North and 1,600 mm in the South and the average annual temperature oscillates between 15°C in the South and 38°C in the North (CAR Gvt, 2015a)⁴². In the South-West, the “dry season” is very short or even inexistent, as can be seen on the figure below:

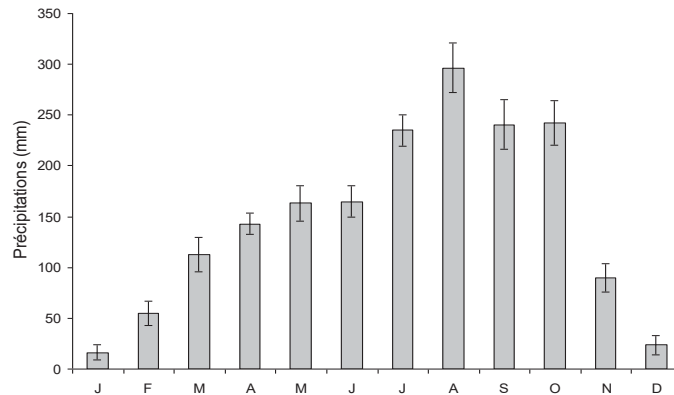


Figure 10 - Monthly rainfall over 1998-2010 - Boukoko weather station (BOBOSSI-BIZON, 2013)⁴³

38. Climate changes are already felt in the country, as recalled in many documents:
- The CAR has experienced an average temperature increase of about 0.3°C per decade and an average decrease in rainfall of about 19 mm/year over 1978-2009 (World Bank, 2010a);
 - Already in the 1970's, the CAR had very severe declines in rainfall, and during the period from 1982 to 1984, it experienced a severe drought (GAPIA & BELE, 2012)⁴⁴;
 - Over the past two decades, disturbances of climate conditions (poor rainfall distribution, decline in rainfall, etc.) have been observed with negative impacts on crop production. As a result, the agricultural timetable formerly proposed by the technical services to producers is no longer appropriate (MDRA, 2013)⁴⁵;
 - Meteorological observations reveal that during the last decades, CAR has recorded climatic variability characterized by an increase in mean annual temperature since 1978 and a considerable decrease in annual flow in the Chari and Congo basins (MEEDD, 2013a).
39. Unfortunately, the lack of available data at national level does not allow for a precise reconstitution of past climatic trends or, even less, for a precise projection of future climate trend (MEEDD, 2013a). Thus, the

⁴¹ World Bank, 2010a. *RCA : Analyse environnementale pays - Gestion environnementale pour une croissance durable*. Washington DC – Banque mondiale, novembre 2010.

⁴² CAR Gvt, 2015a. *Contribution prévue déterminée au niveau national*. Bangui – Gvt de RCA, septembre 2015. 15p

⁴³ BOBOSSI-BIZON, 2013. *Essai de plantation et enrichissement sous forêt des essences locale et exotiques en RCA : cas de la forêt de la Lolé. Mémoire de fin de cycle*. M'Baïki – Institut supérieur du développement rural (ISDR), février 2013. 36p

⁴⁴ GAPIA, M. & BELE, Y., 2012. *Adaptation et atténuation en RCA. Acteurs et processus politiques. Document de travail 100*. Bogor – CIFOR, 2012. 44p

⁴⁵ MDRA, 2013. *Programme national des investissements agricoles de la sécurité alimentaire et nutritionnelle 2014-2018*. Bangui – MDRA, octobre 2013. 157p

National Adaptation Plan of Action – NAPA (MEEFCP, 2008)⁴⁶ did not provide climate projections, and later documents give diverse climate projections for the CAR, which are not always consistent:

- Increase of temperature of 0.1 to 0.3°C per decade, and increase in rainfall of between 3% and 15% per decade (MEEDD, 2013a);
 - Increase of temperature from 1.5°C to 2.75°C by 2080, and increase in rainfall of about 5% by 2080. It may be accompanied by the likelihood that rainfall will become more irregular in terms of frequency, duration, and intensity (World Bank, 2010a);
 - Increase of temperature of 1.4 to 2.2°C by 2050, assuming low global greenhouse gases emissions, and 1.8 to 2.7°C, assuming high global greenhouse gases emissions. Forecast of changes in rainfall are less clear, some suggest a slight increase, while others suggest irregular rainfall variations (CAR Gvt, 2015a).
40. Still, these projections show a consensus on the fact that temperature and rainfall will increase in the CAR. These results are consistent with the results of the GIZ-funded project “Climate Change Scenarios for the Congo Basin” carried out from 2010 to 2012: in the Congo Basin, the average temperature would increase from +1°C to +6°C by 2100 depending on the level of global GHG emissions, the rainfall would slightly increase by 2100 whatever the level of global GHG emissions (SONWA et al., 2014)⁴⁷.

1.2. Sectoral analysis: legal, policy and institutional context

1.2.1. Forestry

→ Overview

41. There is no Forest Policy in the CAR. The main legal texts ruling the sector are the Law n°08-022 to enact the Forest Code (CAR Gov, 2008)⁴⁸, and its implementing Decrees n°09-117 (CAR Gov, 2009a)⁴⁹ and n°09-118 (CAR gov, 2009b)⁵⁰. The Forest Code sets specific measures for Permanent and Non-permanent Forest Estate, the first being subdivided into Private State Domain and Public State Domain, as can be seen in the figure below:

⁴⁶ MEEFCP, 2008. *Programme d'action national d'adaptation aux changements climatiques (PANA)*. Bangui – MEEFCP, mai 2008. 67p

⁴⁷ SONWA, D et al. *Changement climatique et adaptation en Afrique centrale : passé, scénarios et options pour le futur*. In DE WASSEIGE, C., FLYNN, J., LOUPPE, D., HIOL HIOL, D., MAYAUX, P., 2014. *Les forêts du bassin du Congo – Etat des forêts 2013*. Weyrich – Observatoire des forêts d'Afrique centrale (OFAC), 2014. 328p

⁴⁸ CAR Gvt, 2008. *Loi n°08-022 portant Code forestier de la RCA*. Bangui – Gvt de RCA, octobre 2008. 39p

⁴⁹ CAR Gvt, 2009a. *Décret n°09-117 fixant les modalités d'application de la Loi n°08-022 portant Code forestier de la RCA*. Bangui – Gvt de RCA, avril 2009. 8p

⁵⁰ CAR Gvt, 2009b. *Décret n°09-118 fixant les modalités d'attribution des permis d'exploitation et d'aménagement*. Bangui – Gvt de RCA, avril 2009. 12p

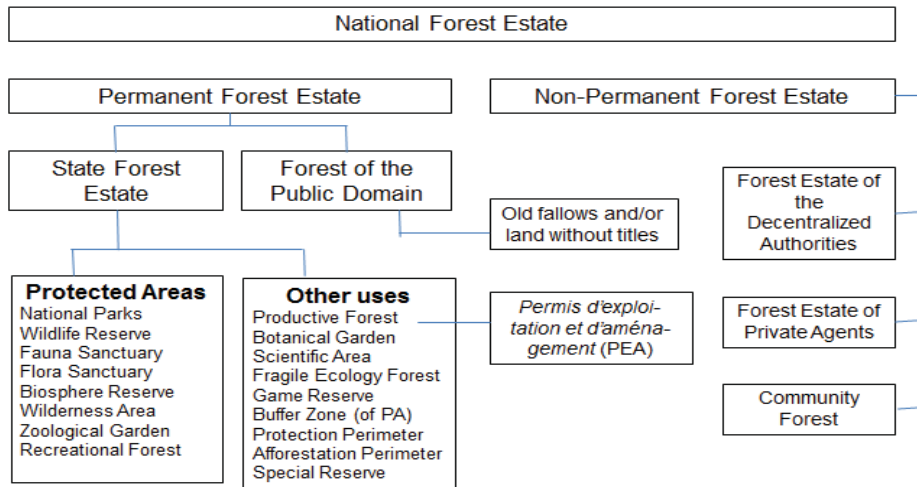


Figure 11 - Legal classification of forests in the CAR (CAR Gvt, 2008)

42. In practice, the legal texts mainly focus on the dense moist forests part of the Private State Domain of the South-West, under logging concessions. These forests only represent 20% of the national forest cover, but greatly contribute to the economy (figures given for 2010): 10% of the GDP, 50% of exports revenue, second largest formal employer after the State (4,000 direct jobs and 6,000 indirect jobs) and 10% of Government revenues (World Bank, 2016c).
43. It is also worth noting that the surface of Protected Areas is large: 9.1 Mha *sensu stricto*, i.e. 15% of the territory [Six National Parks – 3.4 Mha, nine Integral Reserves – 2.9 Mha, one Special Reserve near Bangui - 0.3 Mha, five Wildlife Reserves – 2.4 Mha, two Biosphere Reserves - 0.01 Mha (NB: one already counted for as National Park)], even 25.5 Mha when considering hunting areas, i.e. 41% of the territory [47 farm-out game areas - 15.6 Mha, and 10 community hunting areas – 0.8 Mha] (MEEDD, 2013b)⁵¹. Some were created long ago, like the Zimongo Reserve (1925) or the Baminigui-Bangoran and Manovo-Gonda-Saint Floris National Parks (1933) (BONANNEE, 2001). However, the management of these protected areas suffers from certain weaknesses (see **Part 1.2.3 infra**).
44. As part of the Central African Forest Commission (*Commission des forêts d’Afrique Centrale* – COMIFAC), the CAR forest sector is also guided and in line with the 2015-2025 COMIFAC Convergence Plan (COMIFAC, 2014)⁵², which aims at promoting sustainable forest management and contributing to poverty alleviation. Last but not the least, the CAR is one of the six countries worldwide having signed a Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) with the EU under the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) initiative, to guarantee the sustainability and legality of timber production and export. The negotiations started in October 2009, the VPA was agreed in December 2010, signed in November 2011, and entered into force in July 2012 (European Commission, 2011)⁵³ (European Forest Institute – EFI, 2017)⁵⁴. Overall, the forest sector’s legal framework is considered strong, both by the standards of comparable countries and relative to other sectors in the CAR (World Bank, 2017b)⁵⁵.
45. However, if the forest sector’s legal framework is considered strong, the effective implementation of policies and measures by the MEDDEFPC remains challenging: lack of human resources (e.g.: in 2010, 57 agents for the whole MEE, according to GAPIA & BELE, 2012; in 2011, 522 agents for the MEEFCP, but only 26 field agents, according to the R-PP – MEEDD, 2013b), concentration of human resources in Bangui and understaffing of decentralized services (Regional Directions, Prefectural Inspections, Forest Cantonment at local level), skills drain to projects (not always in line with the public policies and measures), lack of logistical means for the field agents to perform their tasks, absence of continuous training and recycling, etc.
46. These problems are in some cases aggravated by skills’ mismatching or corruption. These implementation problems had been highlighted already in 2001 (BONANNEE, 2001), and it can be assumed that the recent crises have worsened the situation. A soon-coming analysis of the forest sector would hopefully help identifying problems, progress made for the last decades or yet to be made (FAO Bangui, 2016b)⁵⁶.
47. It is also worth noting that the MEDDEFPC recently launched a process to upgrade the forest policies and measures. Following a consultative workshop held in November 2015, a draft V0 Forest policy statement has been prepared (DINGA, 2016)⁵⁷. As it stands now, the document presents a vision for the forest sector by 2035, guided by the key principles of the 2008 Forest Code and the 2015-2025 COMIFAC Convergence Plan, notably the aim to promote the sustainable management of forests and to contribute to poverty reduction. Next steps

⁵¹ MEEDD, 2013b. *Proposition de préparation à la REDD+*. Bangui – MEEDD. Mai 2013. 216p

⁵² COMIFAC, 2014. *Plan de convergence 2015-2025 pour la gestion durable des écosystèmes forestiers d’Afrique Centrale*. Yaoundé – COMIFAC, juillet 2014. 32p

⁵³ Commission européenne, 2011. *Proposition de Décision du Conseil européen relatif à la conclusion d’un APV entre l’UE et la RCA sur l’application des réglementations forestières, la gouvernance et les échanges commerciaux de bois et produits dérivés vers l’Union européenne (FLEGT)*. Bruxelles – CE, mai 2011. 214p

⁵⁴ See <http://www.euflegt.efi.int/car>

⁵⁵ World Bank, 2017b. *Forest concept note on a proposed grant in the amount of USD 10 million to the CAR for mining and forest governance in CAR (p161973)*. Washington DC – World Bank, January 2017. 20p

⁵⁶ FAO Bangui, 2016b. *Protocole d’accord entre la FAO RCA et CIFOR – Réalisation et publication d’un état des lieux du secteur forêt-bois en RCA – PO324652*. Bangui – FAO Bangui, novembre 2016. 14p

⁵⁷ DINGA, P., 2016. *Enoncé de la politique forestière Draft v0*. Bangui – MEDDEFPC, octobre 2016. 16p

remain unclear, but the fact that the process is led by a former Minister in charge of forests gives insurance that there is a political momentum to fine-tune the document. This being said, it presents 12 strategic axes, with which the present project is fully in line, in particular:

- Improving land-use planning and clarifying the borders of Permanent and Non-Permanent Forest Estates, taking into account the development of rural infrastructures, mines, agriculture, livestock, etc.;
- Improving the forest governance, in particular the transparency, participation, equity, and accountability of key stakeholders;
- Better incorporating recent multilateral treaties and initiatives (e.g. REDD+, VPA FLEGT, etc.) in domestic policies and measures;
- Strengthening the protection of biodiversity and fighting against unsustainable bushmeat hunting, especially in protected areas;
- Better promoting Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs);
- Encouraging forest restoration and multifunctional reforestation (wood energy, lumber, NTFPs, etc.), especially in urban and peri-urban areas;
- Operationalizing the concept of community forest.

➔ **Industrial and artisanal logging**

48. The promotion of industrial logging is at the heart of the Forest Code and the related articles form its major part: art. 29 to 55; art. 93 to 99; art. 101 to 122; art. 169 to 176. In addition to that, the Decree n°09-117 describes in its art. 1 to 14 the forest zones potentially subject to industrial forest concessions and the Decree n°09-118 is fully dedicated to describing the procedures for allocating forest concessions, also referred to as Operation and Management Permits (*Permis d'exploitation et d'aménagement* - PEA). Indeed, even if the productive forests are more limited (3.6 Mha in the South-West, the 1.6 Mha of the Bangassou Massif in the South-East remains unexploited because its remoteness makes the forestry activities unprofitable) than those in other Congo Basin countries, and despite the high cost of transport (all the timber is exported by trucks to Douala), the South-West forests are among the richest in Africa in terms of commercial species.
49. These are from the Meliaceae family (*Entandrophragma cylindricum* - Sapelli, *Entandro-phragma utile* - Sipo, *Entandrophragma Candollei* - Kosipo, etc.) as well as other species such as *Triplochiton scleroxylon* (Ayous), *Aningueria superba* (Aniégré), *Milicia excelsa* (Iroko), etc. Sapelli represented 50% of the total harvest from 2004 to 2008, followed by Ayous with 20%. During that period, the total harvested volume was about 540 000 m³/year, of which 68% was locally processed and yielded about 80 000 m³ of sawn timber (World Bank, 2016d)⁵⁸.
50. Thanks to the WB-funded Project for Natural Resources Management (*Programme d'aménagement des ressources naturelles* – PARN) from 1991 to 1997, followed by various phases of the AFD-funded Project to Support the Drafting of Forest Management Plans (*Projet d'appui à la rédaction des plans d'aménagement forestier* – PARPAF) from 2000 to 2011, operational guidelines and tools were developed to promote the sustainable management of forests: annual increment and minimum cutting diameter for each commercial species, annual allowable cut, rotation time, forest management inventories and operational inventories, socio-economic and environmental safeguards, etc., thus allowing the State to allocate PEAs to private companies. The national standards for the PEAs were adopted in 2001, and then updated in 2005 and validated in 2006 (by Ministerial Decree N°012/MEFCPE/DIRCAB). They were upgraded in 2008 (FAO Roma, 2014a).
51. Due to the 2008-2010 global recession, some companies suspended essential activities foreseen in their PEAs, including the realization of forest management inventories, investment in local development activities, maintenance of roads, etc. The 2013-2016 domestic crisis aggravated the situation: the harvest dropped by 40% in 2013 after the looting and destruction of equipment for most of the industrial logging companies. Production continued to fall in 2014, with several concessions ceasing activity altogether. The newly launched

⁵⁸ World Bank, 2016d. *Notes sur les politiques de la République centrafricaine (P157806) : Le secteur forestier en République centrafricaine*. Bangui – Banque mondiale, avril 2016. 20p

AFD-funded Project for the Regional Development of the South-West (*Projet de développement régional du Sud-Ouest – PDRSO*) (AFD, 2012)⁵⁹ aims at supporting the MEDDEFPC, the Independent Agency for Sustainable Forest Resource Management (*Agence autonome d'appui à la gestion durable des ressources forestières – AAAGRDF*), as well as the private companies to revitalize the timber production (see **Part 2.1.2 infra**).

52. In addition to that, the EU and the CAR recently agreed to revamp the VPA FLEGT process, which will benefit from a grant of EURO 6.7 million over four years, including EURO 4.6 million for the implementation of the legality verification system. The first FLEGT licenses are expected to be issued in 2018, which would allow exports of timber to Europe (Pers. Comm. J.-C. BARRIO DE PEDRO – Delegation of the EU in Bangui, February 2017).
53. In terms of artisanal logging, the legal framework is quite succinct: art. 23 to 28 of the Forest Code, art. 20 to 22 of the Decree n°09-117, and the Decree n°09-004 published on February 4, 2009 lay out the conditions for granting artisanal logging permits. In substance, it allows the granting of annual permits for a maximum of 10 ha in the agriculture areas or conversion areas of PEA, subject to the elaboration of the following documents: forest inventory, environmental impact assessment, technical specifications for logging including social and environmental safeguards. In practice, artisanal loggers do not request such permits and work informally (LESCUYER et al., 2014)⁶⁰.
54. According to a field survey carried out in 2010 and 2011 by LESCUYER et al. (2014), artisanal logging is quite developed: at that time, 33,000 m³/year were sold in the CAR (50% of the wood supply, the other 50% being made of second choice industrial logs) and, in addition, 6,000 m³/year were exported to Chad. At that time, the volume of industrial logs exported was in the same order of magnitude: 41,000 m³/year. Artisanal logging is an important economic activity: it would employ 2,000 people, which is not negligible compared to the 4,000 people employed in the industrial logging sector (*Ibid*).
55. There is limited competition between industrial and artisanal logging: Sapelli (red wood) is preferred for export, Ayous (white wood) represents 92% of logs sold domestically. In addition, some species currently poorly valued as logs, such as Fraké (*Terminalia superba*) or Essessang (*Ricinodendron heudelotii*), could be promoted for artisanal loggers. Due to its economic importance, artisanal logging should be further developed, and benefit from, (i) simplified procedures (forest inventory, environmental impact assessment, technical specifications), (ii) regulation of informal taxation system, and thus encouraging artisanal loggers to work “formally”, and (iii) possibility for artisanal logging in ancient fallows part of the Permanent Forest Estate or community/local authority/individual forests part of the Non-Permanent Forest Estate (*Ibid*).

→ **Forest taxation**

56. The forest taxation system is described in the art. 177 to 198 of the Forest Code, as well as the legal texts related to the Special Earmarked Account for Forest and Tourism Development (*Compte d'affectation spéciale pour le développement forestier et touristique – CAS-DFT*) (CAR Gvt, 1999)⁶¹, which replaced the Forestry and Tourism Development Fund (*Fonds de développement forestier et touristique - FDFT*) created in 1993 (CAR Gvt, 1993a)⁶² (CAR Gvt, 1993b)⁶³. The CAS-DFT was latter split into two CAS, for forest development (CAS-DF) on the one hand, and tourism development (CAS-DT) on the other hand.
57. For the CAS-DF, there are three main forest taxes, which bases are regularly updated through the annual budget bills. Revenues are distributed amongst the National Treasury, the CAS-DF and the concerned forest Communes (see figure below). Theoretically, the CAS-DF should transfer 20% of its revenues to the Independent Agency for Sustainable Forest Resource Management (*Agence autonome d'appui à la gestion*

⁵⁹ AFD, 2012. *Présentation du Projet de développement régional dans le Sud-Ouest de la RCA (PDRSO) - Comité des Etats étrangers du 7 novembre 2012*. Paris – AFD, Novembre 2012. 31p

⁶⁰ LESCUYER, G., HUBERT, D., MAIDOU, H., ESIANE MENDOULA, E, et AWAL, M., 2014. *Le marché domestique du sciage artisanal en RCA: État des lieux, opportunités et défis*. Document de Travail 131. Bogor – CIFOR, 2014. 41p

⁶¹ CAR Gvt, 1999. *Arrêté n°99-027 portant création du CAS-DFTT*. Bangui – Gvt de RCA, mars 1999. 2p

⁶² CAR Gvt, 1993a. *Ordonnance n°93-011 portant création du FDFT*. Bangui – Gvt de RCA, juillet 1993. 2p

⁶³ CAR Gvt, 1993b. *Décret n°93-463 portant approbation des statuts du FDFT*. Bangui – Gvt de RCA, décembre 1993. 13p

durable des ressources forestières – AAAGRDF), according to the Inter-ministerial order n°031 of 20 May 2014, and use the remaining to finance reforestation perimeters, while the forest Communes should pour these revenues in their annual budgets and finance socio-economic activities.

Taxes	Amount	National treasury	CASDF	Communes
Licence fee	600 FCFA/ha	70%	30%	-
Tax on forestry operations	7% of the official price per m3 of wood harvested	40%	30%	30%
Reforestation tax	11% of the official price per m3 of wood exported (if wood price > 20 000 FCFA/m	25%	50%	25%

Figure 12 - Sharing of forest taxes (World Bank, 2016d)

58. Back taxes from forestry companies have accumulated in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis, and increased further following the 2013 crisis. Meanwhile, back Value-Added Tax (VAT) credits owed to these companies also increased. Government data indicate that, by late 2013, forestry firms owed a total of FCFA 1.83 billion (USD 2.95 million) to Communes (World Bank, 2017b). The situation was even worse at the end of 2016: from 2012 to 2016, forestry firms paid FCFA 1.01 billion (USD 1.63 million) (CAS-DF, 2016a)⁶⁴, but owed FCFA 2.04 billion (USD 3.29 million) for the same period (CAS-DF, 2016b)⁶⁵.

(amounts in FCFA)	2008	2009	2010	2011
Officially due	962,315,446	489,121,006	507,582,022	276,072,812
Really paid	829,268,078	156,359,075	82,162,104	24,794,461
%	86%	32%	16%	9%

Figure 13 - Gap between forest taxes officially due and really paid (World Bank, 2016d)

59. The Government is requesting firms to pay their back taxes, but some companies have argued that looting and other damage during the crisis weakened their financial position. While the Government has a strong interest in collecting back taxes, it also has an interest in ensuring that forestry companies have the financial capacity to restart their operations. A smooth dialogue between the Government and the private sector will be essential to identify the right trade-off satisfactory to both parties (World Bank, 2017b).
60. In that spirit, the Government has committed in 2016 to conducting an audit of the forestry sector's fiscal state in order to deal with cross-debt between operators and the State, to encourage investments in the sector. (World Bank, 2016c). To the latest news, it seems the MEDDEFCEP is willing to progress the debate: without waiting for the results of this audit, the entire arrears due by the forestry firms could be erased (Pers. comm. Y. YALIBANDA – Director of Cabinet at the MEDDEFCEP, March 2017).
61. In any case, the 21 forest Communes of the South-West are in trouble, as forest taxes represent more than 85% of their annual budgets. As shown in the figure above, the gap between the amount of taxes officially due to the forest Communes and the amount really paid has increased from 2008 to 2011. Theoretically, according to the feasibility study of the PDRSO (IRAM & FRM, 2012)⁶⁶, under an ideal situation, these forest Communes should receive FCFA 1.5 billion per year, i.e. USD 2.4 million per year.
62. Overall, the existing legal framework is not working satisfactorily: both direct payments to Communes (stopped in 2007) and transfers through central Government (current approach) have been tried and found lacking. There is a need for technical assistance to guarantee the use of these funds by Communes (World Bank, 2016c). In particular, such technical assistance should assess the draft statutes of a Forest Development Fund (FDF), prepared by the current Director of the CAS-DF: apart from giving autonomy to the FDF (art. 1)

⁶⁴ CAS-DF, 2016a. *Situation des taxes forestières recouvrées de 2012 à 2016 par année et par société forestière*. Bangui – CAS-DF, janvier 2017. 1p

⁶⁵ CAS-DFT, 2016b. *Tableau des arriérés de taxes forestières dus par les sociétés forestières, de 2012 à 2016*. Bangui – CAS-DF, janvier 2017. 1p

⁶⁶ IRAM & FRM, 2012. *Rapport de faisabilité du PDRSO*. Bangui – MEFCP, février 2012. 176p

and enlarging the scope of activities to fauna and fisheries (art. 4), there is not much change compared to the CAS-DF, which nevertheless presents serious operational difficulties (CAS-DF, 2017)⁶⁷.

→ **Customary rights (incl. for Indigenous Peoples) and Community forestry**

63. In its art. 14 to 22, the Forest Code recognizes the customary land use rights of local communities, including Indigenous Peoples, as well as their rights to collect NTFPs for their own needs. It is worth noting they have no right to collect timber and lumber, apart for making pirogues/canoes. In its art. 78 to 82, it also explicitly recognizes the right of local communities and Indigenous Peoples to practice slash-and-burn cropping. Finally, the art. 33 states that they need to be consulted before a PEA can be signed between a private company and the State, and the art. 51 also states that private companies have to finance social infrastructures for the Communes covered by their PEA.
64. The Forest Code sets the principle of participatory forest management for all kinds of forests (art. 152 to 168). It further provides the possibility for the following actors to manage forests that are part of the Non-Permanent Forest Estate: local public authorities (art. 125 to 130), private actors (art. 131 and 132), and local communities (art. 133 to 139). For this last category, the art. 23 to 25 of the Decree n°09-117 and the Ministerial ruling n°15-463 (CAR Gvt, 2015b)⁶⁸ further precise that these local community forests can be 50 to 5,000 ha large, and should be managed based on a simple management plan and a management convention with the State.
65. No community forest has been created yet. Implementing some pilots would help the CAR experiment the existing legal framework with the view to entering in a continuous improvement process. These pilots could be set up in the few patches of Non-Permanent Forest Estate in the dense moist forests of the South-West, but also in the savanna forests that constitute nearly 80% of the forest cover of the CAR, as these forests provide firewood, charcoal, lumber, and NTFPs. Hopefully, there is a renewed emphasis on the development of these community forests, with new draft Decrees under preparation. As the Government's limited administrative capacity is the main obstacle to guaranteeing the legality of all forestry operations, including in these potential community forests, capacity building at both the central level and the decentralized services of the MEDDEFCP will be of critical importance (World Bank, 2017b).

→ **Plantations (including for bioenergy) and Forest and Landscape Restoration (FLR)**

66. The art. 62 to 64 of the Forest Code provide the possibility for the State to establish reforestation perimeters. It is worth noting that:
 - According to the legal zoning of forests in the CAR, these perimeters are part of the Private State Domain, itself included into the Permanent Forest Estate, which means that the State is the only actor explicitly authorized to carry out reforestation;
 - Assisted Natural Regeneration (ANR) and Forest and Landscape Restoration (FLR), through ANR possibly mixed with reforestation and/or revegetation, are not explicitly covered (and therefore encouraged) by legal texts.
67. The reforestation activities have really started in 1972, with acceleration in 1984 and the creation of the National Tree Day. Over the 34 reforestation perimeters totaling 1,848 ha in 2001, most of them were using fast-growing species (40-year revolution maximum). Already in 2001, serious limitations were outlined: unclear objectives for these plantations (supply of firewood and/or timber and/or NTFPs? Soil and/or biodiversity and/or watershed conservation?), poor or even absence of participation of local communities, lack of maintenance after planting (BONANNEE, 2001).
68. The same comments can be made in 2017: during the field mission carried out to prepare the present document, most of the reforestation perimeters were in bad shape and, often, subject to bushfires (hunting by local populations and/or revenge from unpaid seasonal employees of the CAS-DF), as illustrated in the pictures below:

⁶⁷ CAS-DF, 2017. *Projet de statuts du Fonds de développement forestier (FDF)*. Bangui – CAS-DF, février 2017. 18p

⁶⁸ CAR Gvt, 2015b. *Arrêté n°15-463 portant modalités d'attribution et de gestion des forêts communautaires en RCA*. Bangui – Gvt de RCA, décembre 2015.62p



Figure 14 - Missed (l.) and burnt (r.) CAS-DF teck plantations in Lobaye (authors, 2017)

69. Operational results are poor, despite the publication of a ministerial ruling in 2010 to develop a national reforestation strategy (CAR Gvt, 2010)⁶⁹: in addition to the fact that nobody at the MEDDEFCP has the final signed version of this ruling, there is no identifiable output from this Committee. As a consequence, the surface of reforestation perimeters remains low. According to the CAS-DF (2015)⁷⁰, there were 3 725 ha of plantations in 2015, scattered in 60 locations all over the country, “most of them done with teak in the last two to five years”. For the South-West, there were 1 024 ha of plantations (759 ha for Ombella-M’Poko, 174 ha for Lobaye, 7 ha for Sangha M’Baéré, 84 ha for Mambéré Kadéï):

N°	Inspections	Chantiers	Superf./ha	Essence ou
01	Ombella M’poko	Sakpa/Bimbo	201 ha	Gmelina
		Kabo/Boall	326 ha	Teck, Sapin, Eucaliptus
		Gbango/Damara	135 ha	Teck, Gmelina, Eucaliptus
		Boall/Centre	32 ha	Teck
		Imohoro	27 ha	Teck, Gmelina, Acacia, ma
		Yaloké	14 ha	Teck
		Sioni/Damara	24 ha	Teck, acacia, manglier
02	Lobaye	M’baïki	67 ha	Teck, Eucaliptus
		Ndala	48 ha	Gmelina, Teck
		Boda	59 ha	Teck
03	Sangha M’baéré	Nola	7 ha	Teck
04	Mambéré Kadéï	Berbérati	8 ha	Teck
		M’bissa	76 ha	Teck, Gmelina

Figure 15 - Locations and surfaces of reforestation perimeters as at 2015 (CAS-DF, 2015)

70. Apart from fast-growing species plantations put in place by the CAS-DF, field experiences in terms of ANR and FLR are rare, set up on tiny surfaces, and have rarely been monitored in the long term:
- 2 ha of plantation of *Ricinodendron heudelotii* (Essessang, multi-purpose: caterpillar, lumber, etc.) in the 1990’s by the Forestry Research Support Project (*Appui à la recherche forestière*, ARF) at the Carrefour Leroy, near M’Baïki;
 - A few ha of commercial reforestation after clear cut of dense moist forest, either with autochthonous species (Sipo, Kosipo, Sapelli, etc.) or exotic species coming from Costa-Rica, Ivory Coast, etc. (*Cedrela odorata*, *Terminalia ivorensis* - Framiré, etc.), as well as regeneration of degraded forest with *Cordia spp.* These trials have been put in place by the Tropical Forestry Technical Center (*Centre technique forestier tropical* – CTFT) in the 1970’s at the Carrefour Leroy, near M’Baïki;
 - A few ha of seed orchard plantations (*Tectona grandis*, *Gmelina arborea*, *Acacia mangium*, *Acacia auriculiformis*, etc.) put in place near the M’Baïki arboretum, at the ISDR Campus, by the Center for International Cooperation in Agronomic Research for Development (*Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour développement* – CIRAD) in the 1990’s.

⁶⁹ CAR Gvt, 2010. Arrêté n°022/MEFCP/DIRCAB/DGEFPC/DEIFP portant création d’un Comité chargé de définir la politique de reboisement à grande échelle. Bangui – Gvt de RCA, juillet 2010. 3p

⁷⁰ CAS-DF, 2015. *Tableau récapitulatif des boisements*. Bangui – CAS-DF, 2015. 2p

➔ **Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFPs)**

71. According to the 2012-2017 National Strategy and Action Plan for the promotion of NTFPs (KONZI-SARAMBO et al., 2012)⁷¹, prepared with support from the 2009-2012 NTFPs regional project supported by the German Cooperation and the FAO (German Trust Fund, 2009)⁷², the livelihood of 72% of rural people in the CAR would depend partly or entirely on NTFPs. It would even be greater for the marginalized groups, such as Pygmies / Bay'Aka.
72. However, despite this socio-economic importance, offer, demand, economic returns from these NTFPs remain largely unknown, with few studies concentrating either on a specific NTFP - such as honey (MBETID-BESSANE, 2004)⁷³, shea butter (MBETID-BESSANE, 2005a)⁷⁴, caterpillars (MBETID-BESSANE, 2005b)⁷⁵, snails (MBETID-BESSANE, 2006)⁷⁶ – or a specific area (NGUIMALET et al., 2007)⁷⁷ (WANEYOMBO-BRACHKA, 2010)⁷⁸.
73. In its art. 14 to 22, the Forest Code recognizes the rights of local communities to harvest NTFPs for their own use, while it describes in its art. 65 to 76 the rules and procedures for the commercial use of NTFPs. The above-mentioned National Strategy and Action Plan also aims at promoting the commercial use of NTFPs. In practice, most of the NTFPs are either harvested for self-consumption or for informal trading, without any control from the State and a poor organization of the value-chains, leading to important loss and/or price fluctuation in space and time.
74. As outlined in the 2014-2018 National Program for Agricultural Investments in Food and Nutrition Security (*Programme National des Investissements Agricoles de la Sécurité Alimentaire et Nutritionnelle* - PNIASAN) (MDRA, 2013)⁷⁹, the most well-knowns NTFPs are the following: *kökö* (*Gnetum spp*) (harvest estimated at 500 t/year), caterpillars (notably *Imbrasia spp.* Total harvest estimated at 540 t/year), pepper (*Piper nigrum*), diverse mushrooms, etc. but there are many others of socio-economic interest (NB: bushmeat is included into the NTFPs. As it also relates to biodiversity concerns, the specific issue of bushmeat is presented in **Part 1.2.3 infra**):

⁷¹ KONZI-SARAMBO, B., F., DIMANCHE, L., et LAMBA, B., 2012. *Stratégie nationale et plan d'actions des PFNL en RCA – GCP/RAF/441/GER – Renforcement de la sécurité alimentaire en Afrique centrale à travers la gestion durable des PFNL*. Bangui – MEFCP, juillet 2012. 43p

⁷² German Trust Fund, 2009. *Project document: Enhancing the contribution of NWFP to Poverty Alleviation and Food Security in Central African countries*. Berlin - German Trust Fund, January 2009. 73p

⁷³ MBETID-BESSANE, E., 2004. *Apiculture, source de diversification de revenus des petits agriculteurs : cas du bassin cotonnier en Centrafrique*. Tropicultura, notes techniques, pp156-158

⁷⁴ MBETID-BESSANE, E., 2005a. *Caractérisation du marché des huiles de karité en Centrafrique*. Tropicultura, pp141-145

⁷⁵ MBETID-BESSANE, E., 2005b. *Commercialisation des chenilles comestibles en Centrafrique*. Tropicultura, pp3-5

⁷⁶ MBETID-BESSANE, E., 2006. *Analyse de la filière des escargots comestibles dans la région de l'Equateur en en Centrafrique*. Tropicultura, pp115-119

⁷⁷ NGUIMALET, C. R., KOKO, M. NGANA, F., et KONDAYEN, A.-I., 2007. *NWFP and food safety: Sustainable management in the Lobaye Region – CAR*. Bangui – MEFCP, 2007. 12p

⁷⁸ WANEYOMBO-BRACHKA, D. B., 2010. *Etude de base du site pilote de la Lobaye en RCA – Rapport de consultation pour le projet GCP/RAF/441/GER*. Bangui – FAO, 2010. 60p

⁷⁹ MDRA, 2013. *Programme national des investissements agricoles de la sécurité alimentaire et nutritionnelle 2014-2018*. Bangui – MDRA, octobre 2013. 157p

N°	Famille	Noms scientifiques	Nom pilote ou vernaculaire	Produit
1	Gnetaceae	<i>Gnetum africanum</i>	Koko	Feuilles
2	Euphorbiaceae	<i>Dorstenia</i> spp.	Ngbéin	Feuilles
3	Palmaceae	<i>Raphia vinifera</i>	Vin de raphia, molengué, péké	Sèves, Feuilles (pour la toiture)
4	Marantaceae	<i>Mégaphrynium</i> spp.	Kougbé ti mangbélé	Feuilles pour emballage
5	Huaceae	<i>Afrostryax lépiophyllus</i>	Diémbé, ail sauvage	Ecorce comme condiment et fruits
6	Discoreaceae	<i>Discoria</i> spp.	Igname sauvage, goui, dazou	Tubercule, racine tubérisée
7	Palmaceae ; Arecaceae,	<i>Elaeis guineensis</i>	Palmier à huile, mbourou	Huile, Noix de palme, pulpe, Vin de palme
8	Apoideae	<i>Apis mellifica</i>	Abeille, otori, lavou	Miel, cire
9	Apoidea	<i>Calamus</i> spp.	Rotin, vovoro	Tige
10	Poaceae	<i>Oxythenanthera abyssinica</i>	Bambou	Tige
11	Nd	<i>Mycelium</i> spp.	Champignon, Gougou	Partie entière
12	Lépidoptère	<i>Papilio</i> spp.	Chenille, Makongo	Larve
13	Gastropode	<i>Helix</i> spp.	Escargot, Ngolo-bécha	Partie entière
14	Kalotermitidae	<i>Termes lucifugus</i> <i>Prerhinotermes simplex</i>	Termites ailées et soldats Bobo	Partie entière
15	Annonaceae	<i>Xylopia aethiopica</i>	Poivre sauvage, Mazindi	Fruits
16	Apocynaceae	<i>Landolphia overdrives</i>	Banga, don	Fruits
17	Lauraceae	<i>Beilschmedia congoliana</i>	Nguriki	Fruits
18	Crustaceae	<i>Astacus</i> spp.	Crevette	Insectes, Kpassa
19	Meliaceae	<i>Khaya</i> spp.	Acajou	Ecorce (pour la fermentation de vin de palme) ou Dèkè
20	Sapotaceae	<i>Vitellaria parkii</i>	Balawa	Amande, huile de karité
21	Cesalpiniaceae	<i>Tamarindus indica</i>	Ouassa	Fruit de tamarinier
22	Mimosaceae	<i>Tetraptera andogensis</i>	Dadaouan, kakélé	Graines
23	Mimosaceae	<i>Parkia biglobosa</i>	Kombé, néré	Graines

Figure 16 - Major NTFPs found in the CAR (KONZI-SARAMBO et al., 2012)

75. A particular focus has to be put on caterpillars, which are greatly appreciated in the CAR, and especially in the South-West, as they provide a valuable source of proteins and are deeply anchored in the traditional culture (MOINECOURT, 2009)⁸⁰. According to N'GASSE (2003)⁸¹, caterpillars come in second place in the diet of Bangui inhabitants, after the bushmeat and before livestock products, as shown in the figure infra. A recent study corroborates these figures: 82% of respondents in a field survey carried out in the South-West declare harvesting NTFPs, caterpillars coming first (45% of frequency), followed by *kökö* (35%) and mushrooms (10%) (FRM et al., 2016). Unfortunately, the increasing pressure on NTFPs tends to favor unsustainable practices, such as uprooting of *kökö* lianas, felling of caterpillars' trees, etc.

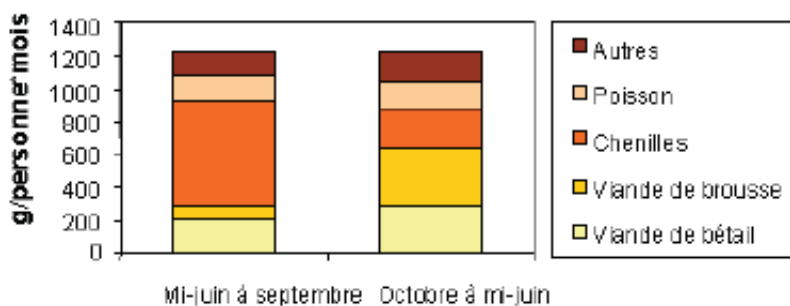


Figure 17 - Sources of proteins in Bangui (N'GASSE, 2003)

76. The ARF project tried to set up a pilot reforestation project in M'Baïki, aiming at producing edible caterpillars in the medium to long-term. Therefore, an identification of host trees was carried out, prioritizing (i) species

⁸⁰ MOINECOURT, H., 2009. *Projet de plantations d'arbres hôtes de chenilles comestibles dans les villages limitrophes au dispositif de recherche sylvicole de M'Baïki*. Bangui – MEFCP, septembre 2009. 17p

⁸¹ N'GASSE, G., 2003. *Rapport d'étude de la filière chenilles*. Bangui – MEFCP, 2003.

able to host several types of caterpillars, (ii) species for which plants or grains are abundant, (iii) species easy to grow in nursery and quite resistant in the field. Nine types of edible caterpillars and 11 host trees were identified, including commercial wood species such as Sapelli, Ayous, Aniégré, Kossipo (MOINECOURT, 2009).

77. Essessang (*Ricinodendron heudelotii*) was considered as one of the most valuable and the most requested by local populations, as it can host three different types of caterpillars. Unfortunately, only a few ha of Essessang were planted near the Carrefour Leroy and not monitored, due to the 2013 crisis and the stand-by of ARF (*Ibid*).



Figure 18 - Pictures of some edible caterpillars found in the South-West (BEINA et BAYA, 2010)⁸²

→ Wood energy

78. According to a recent study of the energy sector in the CAR commissioned by the EU (MWH, 2017)⁸³, “The country’s energy resources are not exhaustively listed and the potential remains poorly appreciated”. The last official estimate, the 2012 national energy balance, produced by the Ministry of Mines, Energy and the Hydraulics in 2014, states that (i) 93% of the energy supply comes from wood, followed by petroleum products (6%), and electricity (1%), (ii) 90% of the wood energy is consumed by households, mainly for cooking. Despite these facts, “There is no Strategy and Policy in terms of biomass energy [...] demand management in the wood energy sector was conducted in a random manner, without taking into account the available resource [...] several legal texts regulate access, conservation and use of natural resources, but without any explicit reference to wood energy (firewood and charcoal)” (MWH, 2017).
79. Furthermore, most of the 29 projects under preparation or implementation in the energy sector focus on the electricity sub-sector. It includes one project setting up a 5 MW biomass plant near Bangui, sustained through 3,600 ha of plantations. The feasibility study of this project has not yet started, but it is noted that the cost estimate for this plant is more than seven times higher than a photovoltaic plant of the same capacity (*Ibid*). However, the Government has prioritized nine energy projects, for a total cost of EURO 60 million, in advance to the Brussels donor meeting of November 2016. Out of these nine projects, one aims at developing a policy framework to promote renewable energies (including biomass). A cost estimate of EURO 0.5 million is mentioned, but seems purely indicative, as there is no detail on planned activities (*Ibid*).
80. In the context of the FAO project TCP/CAF/3103, a 2008-2012 Strategy and Action Plan to promote urban and peri-urban forestry in Bangui (50 km radius) was prepared (SALBITANO, 2009)⁸⁴, as well as a database concerning firewood and charcoal fluxes, called WISDOM (Woodfuel Integrated Supply/Demand Overview Mapping) (DRIGO, 2009)⁸⁵. These documents highlight the fact that the “Greater Bangui” (Bangui and its surroundings) is now 10 times larger than in the 1960’s, and that it expands at an annual rate of 300 m,

⁸² BEINA, D., et BAYA, F., 2010. *Fiche d’identification des relations arbre-chenille dans la forêt de Mbaïki en RCA*. Mbaïki – RCA, juin 2010.

⁸³ MWH, 2017. *Facilité d’assistance technique énergie durable pour tous (SE4ALL) Afrique Occidentale et Centrale - EuropeAid/134038/C/SER/Multi. N° d’identification 2013/335152 - République Centrafricaine - Rapport de mission*. Bruxelles – MWH, janvier 2017. 94p

⁸⁴ SALBITANO, F., 2009. *Stratégie de développement et plan d’action pour la promotion de la foresterie urbaine et périurbaine de la ville de Bangui*. Bangui – FAO Bangui, 2009. 102p

⁸⁵ DRIGO, R., 2009. *Plateforme WISDOM pour Bangui – Diagnostic et cartographie du territoire et de la société pour le bois énergie*. Bangui – FAO Bangui, 2009. 54p

especially in the South and South-West. In Bangui, as in the CAR in general, firewood is commonly used for cooking (92% in volume), while charcoal remains marginal (2.5%). For wealthier households, these figures are different (firewood 84.5%, charcoal 10.5%, gas 2.5%). The annual consumption of firewood and charcoal was estimated at that time between 280,000 and 500,000 t of wood equivalent, which explains why the “Greater Bangui” is the place where the gap between demand and supply is the largest:

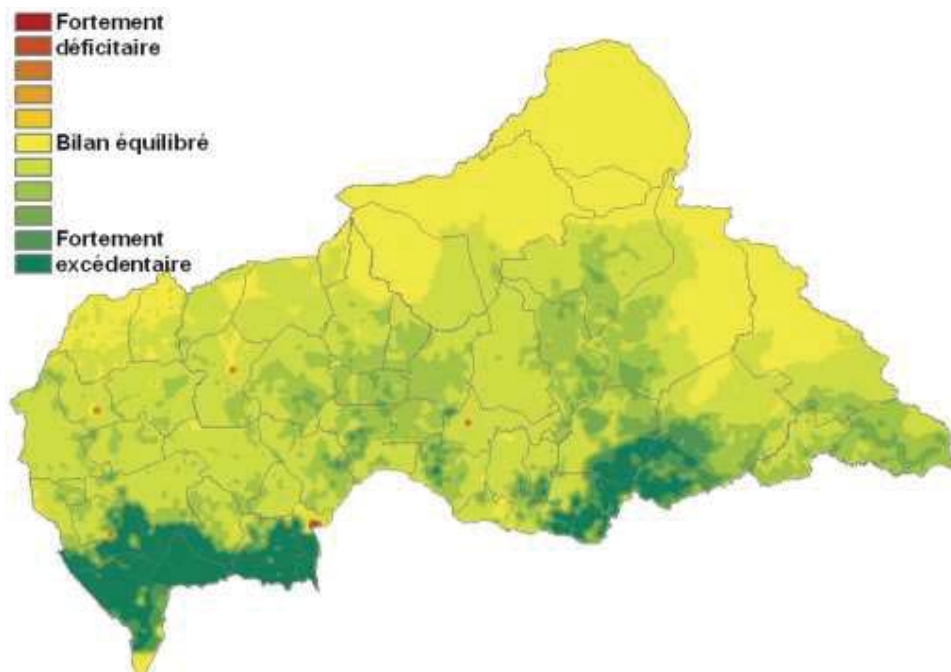


Figure 19 - Gap between offer and demand of wood energy in the CAR (DRIGO, 2009)

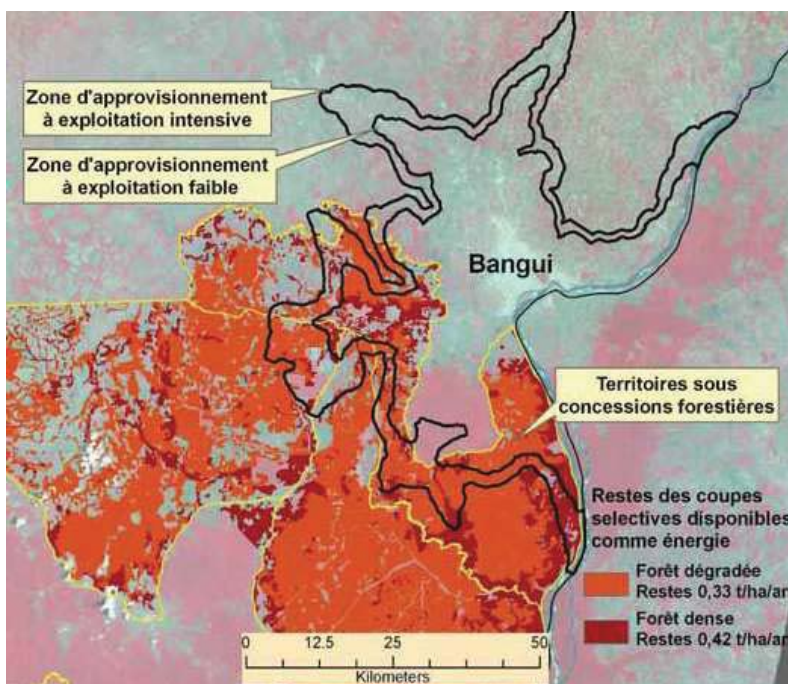


Figure 20 - Zoning of wood supply for Bangui, 100% vs 50% of net annual increment (DRIGO, 2009)

81. These documents, (SALBITANO, 2009) and (DRIGO, 2009), provided useful elements: (i) Amendments to the 2008 Forest Code in order to better promote Community forests for multiple use (wood energy, lumber, NTFPs, soil restauration). Most of these proposed amendments are still relevant in 2017, as the legal texts have not been upgraded yet (SALBITANO, 2009); (ii) A detailed plan “Note n°2 - Definition and implementation of an operational program for the reforestation of urban and peri-urban areas of Bangui” which is still of

relevance in 2017 (*Ibid*). These analyses are corroborated by recent analyses (World Bank, 2017b): fuel wood production is significant, particularly in the vicinity of urban centers (e.g. Bangui and Berbérati). It is most often associated to agricultural practices (slash-and-burn) leading to large emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. For that reason, management planning at the community level should be promoted, as well as the development of alternatives to slash-and-burn, and the creation of community forests.

1.2.2. Agriculture

→ Current situation

82. Surprisingly, there is no general Law for agriculture in the CAR (NB: the only one in the agriculture sector, Law n°62-350 of January 4, 1962, focuses on plant protection). The 2011-2015 Strategy for Rural Development, Agriculture, and Food Security (*Stratégie de développement rural, de l'agriculture et de la sécurité alimentaire - SDRASA*) (Ministry of Rural Development and Agriculture / *Ministère du développement rural et de l'agriculture - MDRA*, 2011)⁸⁶ gives the key orientations for the sector. The implementation of these orientations is detailed in the PNIASAN (MDRA, 2013).
83. In 2009, the agriculture sector accounted for 50.2% of GDP and 42% of export values, employed 70% of the country's labor force, and produced more than 75% of the country's food crops. Nearly 70% of household heads are farmers. Central African agriculture is characterized by the following (MDRA, 2013) (World Bank, 2016e)⁸⁷:
- Availability of suitable land, poorly valorized: 0.8 Mha of cropland (1% of the territory) over 15 Mha of suitable land for cropping (5% valued), 9 Mha of pastureland (14% of the territory) over 16 Mha of suitable land for grazing (56% valued);

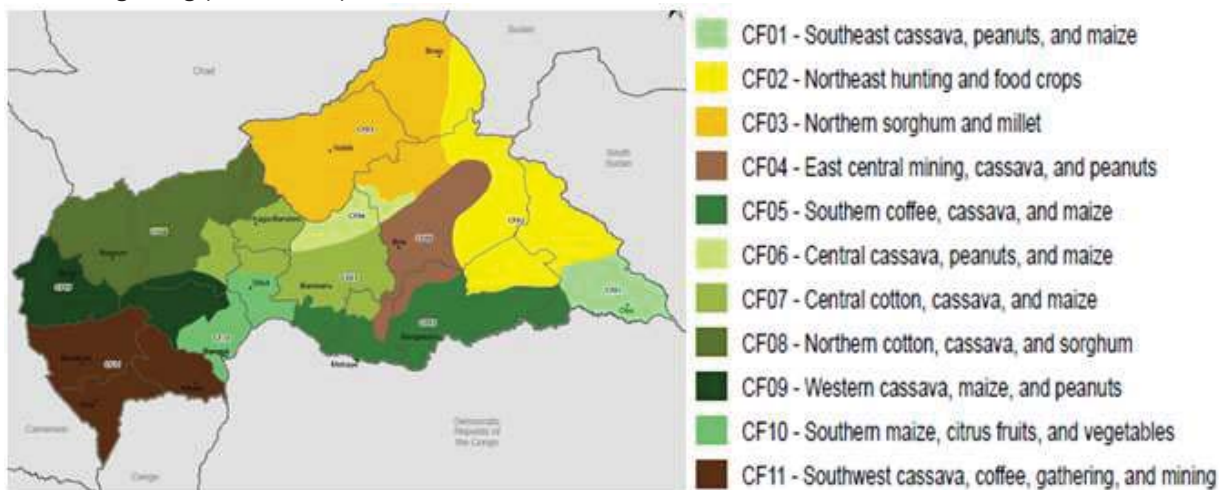


Figure 21 - Main cropping systems in the CAR (FEWSNET, 2012)⁸⁸

- Mostly oriented towards food crops (28.3% of GDP), cassava in the first place (40% of the cropping surface and 70% of the crop production, according to MEEDD, 2013a), followed by groundnut, maize, rice, sesame and plantain. Livestock is also important, especially in the savanna areas (12.7% of GDP). Cash crops are marginal (0.8% of GDP): cotton in the savanna area, tobacco and coffee in the dense forest area. The coffee sector has been declining for the last decade, because of unstable global markets. Palm oil is very marginal for now (CENTRAPALM in the Prefecture of Lobaye: 2,500 ha and 400 t/year of palm oil), but a few private companies might create new plantations in the coming years (Pers. comm. T. MIANZE – World Bank - Bangui, February 2017);

⁸⁶ MDRA, 2013. *Stratégie de développement rural, de l'agriculture et de la sécurité alimentaire 2011 – 2015*. Bangui – MDRA, avril 2011. 117p

⁸⁷ World Bank, 2016e. *Note sur les sept bassins de productions agropastorales et halieutiques en République Centrafricaine*. Bangui – Banque mondiale, novembre 2016. 21p

⁸⁸ See <http://www.fews.net/west-africa/central-african-republic> Livelihood Zoning “Plus” Activity in the CAR

- Based on family workforce, relying on slash-and-burn, with very little mechanization and very few inputs (e.g. 1% of farmers using improved seeds), and a low productivity of the land and labor. For instance, in 2010, the average yields were the following for the main food crops: 3 t/ha for cassava, 0.9 t/ha for groundnut, and 0.8 t/ha for maize, respectively 3.7, 1.8, and 7 times less than the average yields for these food crops in Africa in 2014 (FAOSTAT, 2017)⁸⁹. The shy and fairly recent practice of bovine traction in the North-West (Ouham and Ouham Pendé) and donkey traction in the North-East (Vakaga) will eventually lead to punctual improvements of performances;
- Practiced on very small holdings: 70% of the poorest households (first consumption quintile) cropped 1 ha or less. They are often left to purchase food during certain times of the year. Without a reliable and sufficient income stream, poor households often resort to a combination of activities to make ends meet. They can supplement their incomes by working for wealthier households, hunting and gathering natural resources, or mining in the country's large informal mining sector (FEWSNET, 2012) (WFP, 2015);

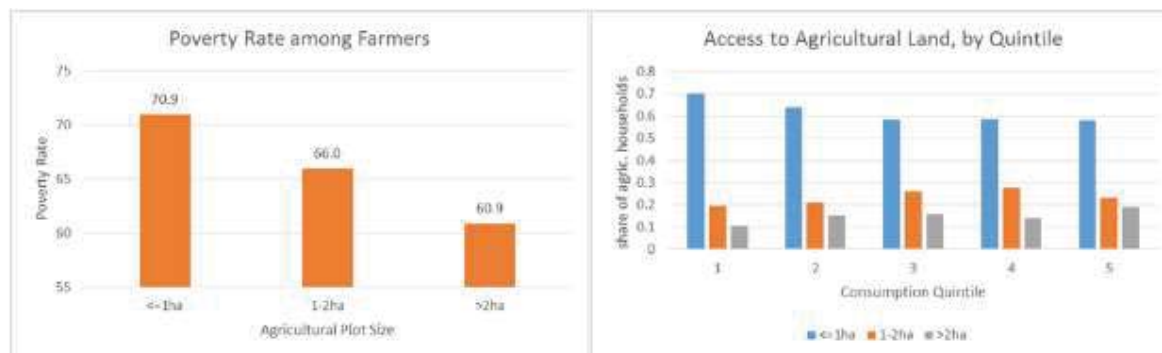


Figure 22 - Link between poverty rate and agricultural plot size (WFP, 2015)

- Prices for agricultural products vary widely from one Prefecture to another in the CAR, up to 10 times in some cases, evidence of poor market integration and limited domestic trade. Persistent insecurity, poorly developed transport services and serious failures in road infrastructure all contribute to these price disparities, reducing farm household incomes, and limiting access to consumers (World Bank, 2016e);
- Both the Central African Institute for Agricultural Research (*Institut centrafricain de recherche agronomique* - ICRA) and the Central African Agricultural Development Agency (*Agence centrafricaine de développement agricole* - ACDA) have not been performing well for the last decade, and they were seriously impacted by the 2013 crisis (Pers. Comm. H. MOKOSSESE – DG ICRA, January 2017). Nowadays, a German-funded program implemented by the NGO Deutsche Welthungerhilfe supports the ICRA in renovating its research centers and in producing improved seeds and plants (for the main food crop: cassava, maize, groundnut). As for the extension services, they are in a difficult situation and barely reach the farmers, as most of the recent support in the agriculture sector has been targeted towards distributing food aid (World Bank, 2016e).
- Technical agents in the rural sector are trained in the following institutes (under the auspice of the Ministries in charge of Higher Education, Agriculture and Livestock, Water, Forests, Hunting and fishing): Engineers and senior technicians (agriculture, livestock, water, and forestry) at the Higher Institute for Rural Development (*Institut supérieur du développement rural* - ISDR) of Mbaïki (Lobaye); technicians (agriculture, livestock, water, forestry, and rural engineering) at the Technical College for Rural Development (*Collège technique pour le développement rural* - CTRD) in Grimari (Ouaka); Livestock technicians at the Technical College of Breeding (*Collège technique de l'élevage* – CTE) in Bouar (Nana-Mambéré). These institutes suffer from a chronic lack of human and financial resources (MEE, 2009b)⁹⁰.

⁸⁹ See <http://www.fao.org/faostat>

⁹⁰ MEE, 2009b. *Plan national d'investissement à moyen-terme en matière de gestion durable des terres en RCA - Projet de renforcement des capacités juridico-institutionnelles pour la lutte contre la dégradation des sols*. Bangui – MEE, juin 2009. 53p

84. It is worth mentioning that most of the issues at stake in 2017 were already highlighted 50 years ago (DUMONT, 1966⁹¹, quoted in DUFUMIER et LALLAU, 2016⁹²): increased food imports, increased nutritional deficiencies, contempt for the work of the land and peasants, labor competition with diamond mining, under-equipment of rural households, lack of integration livestock/agriculture, etc.
85. According to DUFUMIER et LALLAU (2016), the stagnation of the agriculture sector in the CAR is not only due to the recent crisis, but can mostly be explained by the lack of coherent and effective agriculture policies for the last 50 years. Thus, they suggest seven key guidelines to revamp the agriculture sector: There is no specification to which agro-ecological context each of the guidelines apply; at least, it has the merit to highlight key issues to be addressed at national level:
- Increase food security and diversify the daily diet (in particular, reduce the importance of cassava, which tend to dominate the cropping systems);
 - Create jobs and revenue, by improving the technical itineraries and promoting agro-ecology;
 - Bring back the plots closer to the villages (to save time and to reduce farmers/herders conflicts);
 - Increase the resilience of rural households;
 - Redeploy extension services in the field;
 - Reduce dependency to food imports by substituting them with local products;
 - Reconcile settled farmers and nomadic pastoralists.

➔ **Prospects**

86. The PNIASAN was designed before the 2013 crisis, with ambitious objectives by 2018 (6% of growth in the agriculture sector, -50% of food insecurity, 10% of national budget for the agriculture sector), and a significant budget (USD 715 million, out of which 29% were secured). For now, its implementation has been very limited. This being said, it is worth questioning its rationale: if the main objective is to increase food crop production by 48% by 2018, are “conventional practices” well-suited, as planned in the PNIASAN?
87. Indeed, 41% of the budget (USD 293 million) is dedicated to the purchase of chemical fertilizers, pesticides, and ploughing equipment. For the last years, “conventional systems” have been questioned and many support the idea that “agro-ecological systems” may be more suitable and effective, in a context of impoverishment and natural resources degradation, as it is the case in the CAR:
- In “conventional cropping systems”, (i) Plowing is used to structure the soil (mechanically crushed) and to control weeds (by destroying weeds and burying seeds at depth), (ii) Pesticides (herbicides, fungicides, pesticides, etc.) are used to control weeds, diseases, and pests, (iii) Chemical fertilizers are used to close mineral balances, with all the more input than exports (grain, straw, etc.) are important.

⁹¹ DUMONT, R., 1966. *Le difficile développement agricole de la République centrafricaine*. Annales de l'Institut national agronomique (INA) tome VI. Paris – INA, 1966. 85p

⁹² DUFUMIER, M. et LALLAU, B., 2016. *Vers quel développement agricole en RCA ? Réflexions et propositions - Projet de recherche - Construire la paix en RCA grâce au développement agricole – Document de travail n°1*. Paris-AgroParisTech, avril 2016. 24p

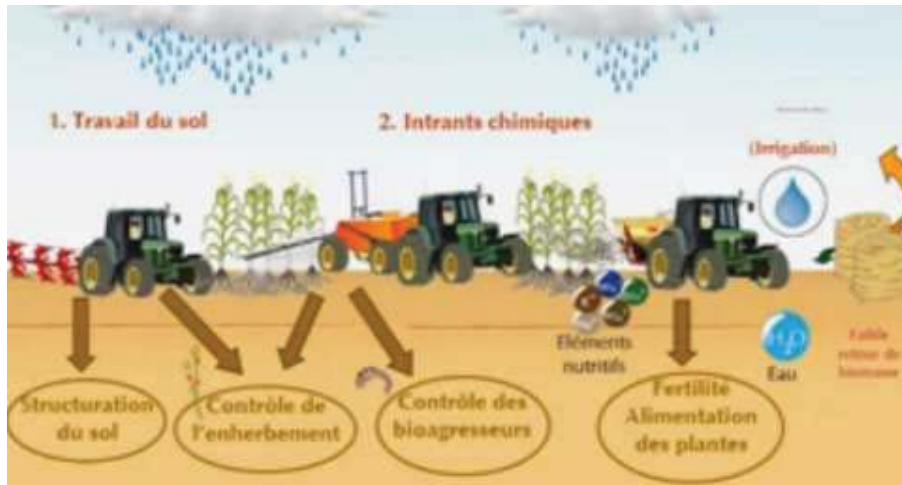


Figure 23 - Scheme presenting conventional cropping systems (HUSSON et al. 2013)⁹³

- In “agro-ecological cropping systems”, (i) Attempts are made to simplify tillage as much as possible, with direct seeding being the extreme; Tillage may also be localized (by band or pole) and/or simplified (no deep tillage, but reduced soil opening with a plow or light harrow), (ii) Inputs of phytosanitary products and chemical fertilizers are reduced as much as possible, using N-fixing crop cover or trees, maintaining a permanent coverage with adequate rotations and/or associations of trees, perennial and annual crops.

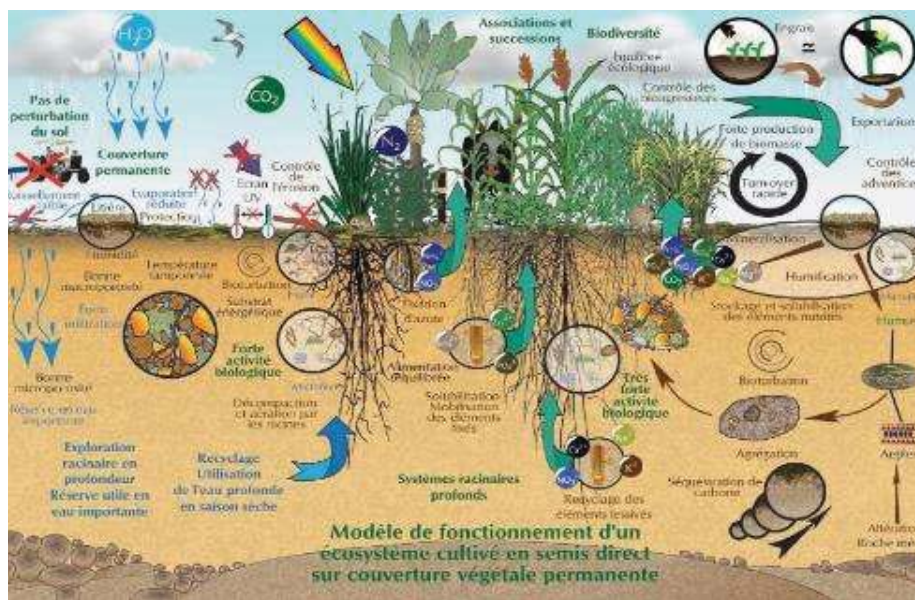


Figure 24 - Scheme presenting agro-ecological cropping systems (HUSSON et al. 2013)

88. These agro-ecological cropping systems thus make it possible to adapt to three strong constraints faced by peasants in sub-Saharan zone (CHARPENTIER et al., 1999)⁹⁴:
- Increasing land pressure: Long-term fallow, which represented the traditional stable system, can no longer be practiced in many areas, especially at the vicinity of large towns (as it is the case for Bangui, Berbérati, etc.);
 - Inaccessibility and high cost of chemical fertilizers: Continuous cropping based on the use of chemical fertilizers is neither accessible to most farmers nor cost-effective over the long term;

⁹³ HUSSON, O., SEGUY, L., CHARPENTIER, H., RAKOTONDRAMANANA, N., MICHELLON, R., RAHARISON, T., 2013. *Manuel pratique du semis direct sur couverture végétale permanente (SCV). Application à Madagascar*. Antananarivo - GSDM/CIRAD, 2013. Cf. version interactive sur <http://uved-scv.cirad.fr/co/AccueilGuideSCV.html>

⁹⁴ CHARPENTIER, H., DOUMBIA, S., COULIBALY, Z., ZANA, O., 1999 *Fixation de l'agriculture au Nord et au Centre de la Côte d'Ivoire : quels nouveaux systèmes de culture*. Montpellier – CIRAD / Agriculture et développement n°21, 1999. 70p

- Insufficient livestock production: The production of manure and other organic materials produced is often much less than the required quantities, especially in forested areas where pasturelands and livestock are limited.

89. Agro-ecological cropping systems would be promising for the South-West area. Indeed, in this area, households are used to practice slash-and-burn around the villages and along the roads (within the cropping zones, or “*séries agricoles*”, of PEA), sometimes outside of these cropping zones. They usually gather in blocks that can include 40 to 50 farmers over 10 to 20 ha, with individual plots juxtaposed. They usually plant cassava, sometimes associated with maize, groundnut, squash, and plantain. After a couple of years, without any organic or chemical fertilizer and reduced weeding (sometimes not done at all), the soil fertility is down and the plots are invaded by weeds, such as *Chromolonea odorata* (Laos herb). Households then leave the place and look for another piece of forest to create a new plot by slash-and-burn. One can hardly speak of “fallow” for the former plots, as households would never come back to it if they have access to intact forest, which is the case most of the time.

1.2.3. Environment

90. The second report on sustainable development in the CAR, prepared for Rio+20 (Ministry of Environment and Ecology - MEE, 2012)⁹⁵, tracks the history of the national environmental policy. As most African countries, the environmental awareness really emerged after the Rio Earth Summit in 1992. It was further strengthened at the Johannesburg Earth Summit in 2002 and led to the creation, in 2003, of the first Ministry in charge of Environment in the CAR, the Ministry of Environment, Sustainable Development, and Social Economy (MEDDES). Finally, an Environmental Code was published in 2007 (CAR Gvt, 2007)⁹⁶.
91. This Environmental Code, although being quite detailed, missed certain issues. For instance, (i) adaptation to and mitigation of climate change are not explicitly described, (ii) measures regarding soil protection are not detailed and the Code refers to subsequent Ministerial ruling, (iii) objectives and mandates of operational entities, created respectively by the art 7 (National Committee for the Environment and Sustainable Development / *Commission nationale de l'environnement et du développement durable* - CNEDD), art. 8 (National Agency for the Environment and Sustainable Development / *Agence centrafricaine de l'environnement et du développement durable* - ACEDD) and art. 9 (National Environment Fund / *Fonds national de l'environnement* - FNE) are not well defined.
92. This being said, even if the legal texts could be upgraded to better reflect present issues, objectives, and initiatives (e.g. in disorder: climate change in general and REDD+ in particular, VPA FLEGT, Aichi Target, Bonn Challenge, Land Degradation Neutrality, FLR, etc.), the effective mainstreaming of environmental issues into national policies would first require a stronger political attention. Indeed, as outlined in the report for Rio+20, “[the CAR is in] a critical situation characterized by a focus on profit accumulation, industrial and urban development and a narrow perspective relating only to socio-economic development, without consideration to the environment”. To illustrate this, it is recalled that, in 2010, the budget for the Ministry in charge of the Environment was ten times lower than the budget for the Ministry in charge of the Mines or the Ministry in charge of the Forests (MEE, 2012).

→ Biodiversity and the issue of bushmeat

93. In 1980, the CAR joined the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)⁹⁷. In 1995, the CAR ratified the United-Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)⁹⁸. Five years later, thanks to a financing support from the GEF, the CAR published a 2000-2015 National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (MEEFCP, 2000). It aims at (i) promoting a sustainable management of biodiversity and agro-biodiversity, (ii) ensuring a fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the biodiversity, and (iii) minimizing the risks associated with the use of biotechnology.

⁹⁵ MEE, 2012. *Rapport national sur le développement durable pour Rio+20*. Bangui – MEE, mai 2012. 40p

⁹⁶ CAR Gvt, 2007. *Loi n°07-018 portant Code de l'environnement*. Bangui – Gvt RCA, décembre 2007. 32p

⁹⁷ See <https://cites.org/fra/cms/index.php/component/cp/country/CF>

⁹⁸ See <https://www.cbd.int/countries/default.shtml?country=cf>

94. As presented in **Part 1.1.3 supra**, the 2000-2015 SNPA-DB outlined the fact that the biodiversity and the agro-biodiversity are poorly known and recommended to exhaustively assess and inventory the fauna and flora, for both the biodiversity and the agro-biodiversity. Unfortunately, this exhaustive inventory was not done between 2000 and 2015 and, more generally, limited results were achieved under this SNPA-DB. Thus, following the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity adopted at the CBD COP10 in Nagoya/Aichi⁹⁹, the CAR Government decided in 2013 to update this SNPA-DB, in order to better reflect international commitments taken by the CAR (i.e. Aichi targets, REDD+, VPA FLEGT, etc.).
95. A roadmap was prepared for this updating (BEINA et al., 2013)¹⁰⁰, presenting a vision by 2020, five strategic priorities, and 20 specific objectives, as well as transversal recommendations (e.g. to revamp a National Committee on Biodiversity, to create a biodiversity windows within the FNE, to set up a national environmental accounting system). Once again, the need for an exhaustive inventory of biodiversity and agro-biodiversity was outlined. Till now, the updating of the SNPA-DB, including an exhaustive inventory, has not progressed and there is no evidence that it should start in the short term.
96. Amongst the issues to be addressed to protect biodiversity in the CAR, wildlife is of particular importance, considering the significance of bushmeat in the daily diet of Central Africans and the huge impact it has on biodiversity. The main texts related to this issue are the Wildlife Protection Code (MEEFCP, 1984)¹⁰¹ and the Draft 2017-2019 National Plan for the Sustainable Management of Wildlife (MEDDEFPCP, 2016a)¹⁰², prepared in the frame of the 2025 COMIFAC Strategy for the Sustainable Management of Wildlife (COMIFAC, 2015)¹⁰³. The Code is quite comprehensive. In particular, it describes (i) the different categories of Protected Areas (National Parks, Wildlife Reserve, Presidential Park, Game Areas / *Zone d'intérêt cynégétique* – ZIC) and list them in Annex, (ii) the levels of protection of animal species (from A to C) and list them in Annex, (iii) the regulations for traditional hunting and sport hunting.
97. However, it is obsolete on many aspects. For instance, guidelines for the classification of Protected Areas have progressed a lot since 1984, thanks to the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA)¹⁰⁴. The current classification in the CAR is not in line with the most recent IUCN guidelines (IUCN, 2013). Furthermore, the implementation of the Code is difficult, due to a lack of human and logistic resources. For instance, in 2000, there was on average one eco-guard for 4,257 km² of Protected Areas. Various projects (such as ECOFAC, ECOFAUNE+, APDS, etc.) have occasionally improved the situation, with limited impact in time and space.
98. Hopefully, the National Plan for the Sustainable Management of Wildlife, once adopted (the date of the validation workshop was not known at the time of preparing the present project) and implemented, should lead to an improvement of the situation, notably by (i) Improving the scientific knowledge about wildlife in the CAR (axis n°1.1), (ii) Updating the legal texts related to this issue, especially the Code on Wildlife Protection (axis n°1.2), (iii) Strengthening the participation of local communities and indigenous peoples in the management of wildlife (axis n°2.2).

➔ **Land Degradation**

99. The CAR has ratified the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in 1996¹⁰⁵. In this frame, the main strategies in the CAR are the 2009-2019 National Action Plan to fight against Land Degradation – PAN-LCD (MEE, 2009a) and the Mid-Term National Investment Plan in terms of Sustainable Land Management (*Plan national d'investissement à moyen-terme en matière de gestion durable des terres en RCA* – PNIMT) (MEE,

⁹⁹ See <https://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/2011-2020/Aichi-Targets-FR.pdf>

¹⁰⁰ BEINA, D., DOUGOUNBE, G., BOKOTO DE SIMBOLI, B., 2013. *Définition des objectifs nationaux pour la révision de la Stratégie et plan d'actions pour la conservation de la biodiversité en RCA*. Bangui – MEE, juillet 2013. 16p

¹⁰¹ MEEFCP, 1984. *Ordonnance n° 84.045 portant protection de la faune sauvage et réglementant l'exercice de la chasse en RCA*. Bangui – MEEFCP, juillet 1984. 31p

¹⁰² MEDDEFPCP, 2016a. *Plan d'actions national sur l'utilisation durable de la faune sauvage par les populations autochtones et locales en RCA - Draft V1*. Bangui – MEDDEFPCP, octobre 2006. 28p

¹⁰³ COMIFAC, 2015. *Stratégie sous-régionale pour l'utilisation durable de la faune sauvage par les populations autochtones et locales des pays de l'espace COMIFAC*. Yaoundé – COMIFAC, février 2015. 30p

¹⁰⁴ See <https://www.iucn.org/protected-areas/publications/wcpa-official-documents>

¹⁰⁵ See <http://www.unccd.int/en/regional-access/Pages/countries.aspx?place=37>

2009b). These documents were prepared with a support from the UNDP and the GEF (project “Legal and Institutional Capacity Building for Land Degradation”).

100. The PAN-LCD describes the drivers of land degradation (slash-and burn agriculture, bush fires, unsustainable forest management, unsustainable mining, overgrazing, climate change, etc.) and their impacts (in terms of water and wind erosion, chemical, physical and biological degradation), but the description is qualitative, in the absence of a comprehensive field assessments. There is no specific description of drivers of land degradation for the South-West, nor of their direct and indirect impacts. As a consequence, the planned actions seem general and logical links between drivers/impacts/measures do not appear clearly. In addition, the actions are presented in different tables (land, fauna and flora resources, hydrological and fisheries resources, mineral resources) included under a general plan of work, which makes it difficult to follow.
101. The PNIMT does not add much in terms of identification of drivers of land degradation and estimation of costs of land degradation, Yet, the estimation of these costs are relevant, if not necessary, to plan investments to limit land degradation (as the PNIMT intends to do). In this regards, the only estimate quoted in the PNIMT is very rough: it multiplies the average annual nutrient deficits in potassium, nitrogen, and phosphorus, expressed in kg/ha/year (based on a meta-analysis carried out in 1983 by STOORVOGEL and SMALING, 1990)¹⁰⁶, an average cost of opportunity for nutrient deficits (FCFA 960 per kg), and an estimate of the degraded area in the CAR (in ha). The calculation leads to a total cost of USD 28 million per year, which appears very low, compared to similar assessments in other parts of the world.
102. This highlights the fact that cost/benefit estimates of land degradation are sorely lacking in the CAR. This being said, the budget of the PNIMT was estimated at USD 18 million, to carry out three projects: (i) Capacity-building of communities and State services, (ii) Upgrading of the legal framework to combat land degradation, (iii) Information & communication. Unfortunately, none of these projects were implemented.
103. More recently, thanks to the support of the Global Mechanism, the CAR launched a process to define its national targets in terms of land degradation neutrality. The national targets were expected to be validated by December 2016 (CAR Gvt, 2016a)¹⁰⁷, but at the time of writing the present document, these targets were not known. The “leveraging plan” (CAR Gvt, 2016b)¹⁰⁸ recalls the importance of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 15.3 aiming at halting land degradation by 2030, as well as the related international objectives, such as the Bonn Objective (to restore 150 Mha by 2020), Aichi target 15 (to restore 15% of degraded ecosystems by 2020), the UN Declaration on Forests (to restore 350 Mha of forests by 2030). However, as for the PAN-LCD and the PNIMT, drivers of land degradation are succinctly described in this “leveraging plan” and there is no specific data for land degradation costs.
104. At the time of writing the present document, an assessment of land degradation in the CAR (with a special focus on the South-East) is on-going, carried out by the WRI and the Central African Forest Observatory (*Observatoire Satellital des Forêts d’Afrique Centrale* - OSFAC) through the analysis of satellite images (WRI, 2017)¹⁰⁹. This study is supervised by a National Coordination on FLR that was created in March 2016 (MEDDEFPC, 2016c)¹¹⁰. For now, the study allowed identifying priority areas for restoration, crossing diverse shapefiles (e.g. Vegetation type, soil type, slopes, density of population, etc.) using Model Builder under

¹⁰⁶ STOORVOGEL, J., J. & SMALING, E., M., A., 1990. *Assessment of soil nutrient depletion in Sub-Saharan Africa 1983-2000. Report n°28*. Wageningen - The Winand Staring Centre for Integrated Land, Soil and Water Research (SC-DLO), 1990.

¹⁰⁷ CAR Gvt, 2016a. *Programme de définition des cibles de neutralité en matière de dégradation des terres – Programme de travail annuel*. Bangui – Gvt de RCA, mai 2016. 5p

¹⁰⁸ CAR Gvt, 2016b. *Programme de définition des cibles de neutralité en matière de dégradation des terres - Plan national d’effet de levier dans le cadre de la définition des cibles NDT*. Bangui – Gvt de RCA, octobre 2016. 22p

¹⁰⁹ WRI, 2017. *La restauration des paysages forestiers en RCA : Contexte et opportunités – Draft*. Bangui – WRI, mai 2017. 54p

¹¹⁰ MEDDEFPC, 2016c. *Arrêté n°5/MEDD/DIRC.CAB/PF-CNULDD portant création de la Coordination nationale de restauration des paysages forestiers*. Bangui – MEDDEFPC, mars 2016 3p.

ArcGIS. Still, even in the absence of land neutrality targets, the CAR has yet taken the commitment to restore 3.5 Mha of land by 2030 under the Bonn Challenge¹¹¹ and the AFR100¹¹².

→ *Climate change*

105. The CAR has ratified the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 1995 and the Kyoto Protocol in 2008¹¹³. To date, the CAR has published two national communications, in 2003 and 2015 (MEEDD, 2013a), a NAPA (MEEFCP, 2008), a REDD+ Readiness Preparation Proposal - R-PP (MEEDD, 2013b), an Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC; *Contribution prévue déterminée au niveau national – CPDN*) (CAR Gvt, 2015a), and an implementation guide for the INDC (Expertise France, 2015)¹¹⁴. In addition to that, a Decree was recently published to set up a National Climate Coordination (MEDDEFPC, 2017)¹¹⁵. In terms of adaptation, the focus is mostly on agriculture and food security. In terms of mitigation, the focus is mostly on REDD+ (GAPIA & BELE, 2012) (CAR Gvt, 2015a).
106. Adaptation: in the NAPA, 10 projects were foreseen, for a total of USD 3 million: integrated management of forest and agriculture (four projects, USD 1.25 million), integrated management of water resources (two projects, USD 0.5 million); management of natural disasters (three projects, USD 1.25 million). In the INDC, eight options for adaptation, detailed into 27 objectives, are foreseen, for a total budget of USD 1.55 billion. Some options and objectives are of particular relevance for the present project:
- Option 3 - Sustainable management of agro-sylvo-pastoral systems. It includes eight objectives, in particular: O7. Diversification of agricultural systems; O9. Setting up a seed bank (animals and plants); O10. Promoting agroforestry systems for sustainable soil management; O11. Promoting urban, peri-urban and community forestry; O12. Restoring degraded forest landscapes;
 - Option 4 - National land use planning.
107. Mitigation: Like Cameroon, DRC and Congo, the CAR has long been involved in the REDD+ process, with the submission of its REDD+ Plan Idea Note (R-PIN) to the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) in 2008. The startup was slow: the R-PP was approved by the FCPF Participant's Committee in May 2013 and the CAR then received an allocation of USD 3.8 million from the FCPF. In the R-PP, four strategic options were planned: National land use planning; Improvement of agro-sylvo-pastoral technologies and yields (including agroecology practices); Promoting sustainable forest management (including reforestation, community forests and sustainable wood energy production); Strengthening institutions and governance.
108. Unfortunately, the political crisis postponed the implementation of the R-PP and progress was limited to the creation of a REDD+ Technical Coordination in 2012 (MEEDD, 2015)¹¹⁶. The FCPF grant preparation process was finally launched in August 2015 (Central African Forest Initiative - CAFI, 2016a)¹¹⁷. As this funding was too limited, the CAFI Executive Board approved a grant of USD 1 million to support the development of the National Investment Framework of the CAR (CAFI, 2016b)¹¹⁸. Terms of reference for the elaboration of this Framework were under preparation at the time of preparing the present project (Pers. comm. I. T. KOGADOU – REDD+ Coordinator at the MEDDEFPC, February 2017).

¹¹¹ See <http://www.bonnchallenge.org/content/central-african-republic>

¹¹² See <http://www.wri.org/our-work/project/AFR100/restoration-commitments#project-tabs>

¹¹³ See http://unfccc.int/tools_xml/country_CF.html

¹¹⁴ Expertise France, 2015. *Assistance technique à l'élaboration de la CPDN / RCA - Livrable 12 - Guide de mise en œuvre*. Bangui – Gvt de RCA, septembre 2015. 17p

¹¹⁵ MEDDEFPC, 2017. *Décret n°17-042 portant organisation et fonctionnement de la Coordination nationale climat*. Bangui – MEDDEFPC, janvier 2017.

¹¹⁶ MEEDD, 2015. *Arrêté portant modification de l'Arrêté du 6 février 2012 portant désignation des membres de la Coordination technique REDD+*. Bangui – MEEDD, janvier 2015. 3p

¹¹⁷ CAFI, 2016a. *Preparatory funding request for CAR National Investment Framework*. Geneva - CAFI, February 2016. 10p

¹¹⁸ CAFI, 2016b. *CAFI Executive Board decision adopted by email on 22 February 2016*. Geneva - CAFI, February 2016. 1p

109. In the INDC, the importance of the LULUCF sector is outlined (89% of total GHG emissions, but also a sink effect three times higher than the total GHG emissions) and targets are set (-5% by 2030 and -25% by 2050, compared to a business-as-usual scenario). As with the R-PP, most of the mitigation efforts are planned in the LULUCF sector: promotion of sustainable forest management, reforestation, and promotion of agroecology as an alternative to slash-and-burn agriculture. Regarding this last issue, it is further said that the aim is to integrate climate-smart agriculture / agroecology during the implementation of the PNIASAN, with a view to increasing productivity and retaining farmers on the same plots for five years.
110. Until now, apart from a few projects contributing to adaptation measures and the USD 4.8 million earmarked for the REDD+ readiness preparation, much remains to be done regarding financing of mitigation and adaptation measures, reason why the implementation guide for the INDC details the potential sources of climate financing (Expertise France, 2015). In that regard, it is worth noting that institutional arrangements need to be clarified regarding the financing of REDD+ activities:
- The Environmental Code created the National Environmental Fund (*Fonds national pour l'environnement – FNE*), which was foreseen in the R-PP as the main financial instrument to channel REDD+ financing;
 - The Forest Code created the CAS-DF, which has the mandate to finance reforestation and forest restoration activities, which can be included into the REDD+ mechanism;
 - The INDC foresees the creation of a National Climate Fund (*Fonds national climat – FNC*), which could channel REDD+ financing.

1.2.4. Mines

111. The CAR has many and varied mineral reserves, susceptible to industrial exploitation. However, to date, mining activities in the country have concentrated on gold and diamonds, mainly exploited by craft methods (World Bank, 2016f)¹¹⁹. Including collectors and procurement staff, the diamond mining sector employed about 450,000 people (incl. 80,000 artisanal miners) before the 2013-crisis and directly or indirectly provided revenue to close to 2.8 million people. This made the CAR one of the largest employers of diamond mining craftsmen in the world (HINTON & LEVIN, 2010)¹²⁰ (World Bank, 2010b)¹²¹. Although the dynamics of the sector have changed since 2013, about 20% of the population is still involved in diamond mining in one way or another (World Bank, 2016f). The mining sector is therefore important in economic terms, reason why it is briefly described here. Yet, compared to other activities, the impacts of mining activities on land degradation are considered limited (see **Part 2.1.1 infra**).
112. To the West, the diamond deposits are located along the two largest river basins of the country, the Lobaye and the Mambéré. This western region, with the main mining centers of Carnot, Berbérati and Nola, accounts for about 60-70% of total diamond production. Alluvial gold is present in many parts of the country, but more particularly in the West and North-West of the country, near the border with Cameroon and the DRC (World Bank, 2016f).

¹¹⁹ World Bank, 2016f. *Notes sur les politiques de la République centrafricaine (P157806) : Le secteur minier en République centrafricaine*. Bangui – Banque mondiale, avril 2016. 26p

¹²⁰ HINTON, J. & LEVIN, E., 2010. *Comparative Study: Legal and fiscal regimes for artisanal diamond mining*. Washington, DC – USAID, 2010.

¹²¹ World Bank, 2010b. *A Comprehensive Approach to Reducing Fraud and Improving the Contribution of the Diamond Industry to Local Communities in the CAR*. Washington DC - Banque mondiale, 2010.

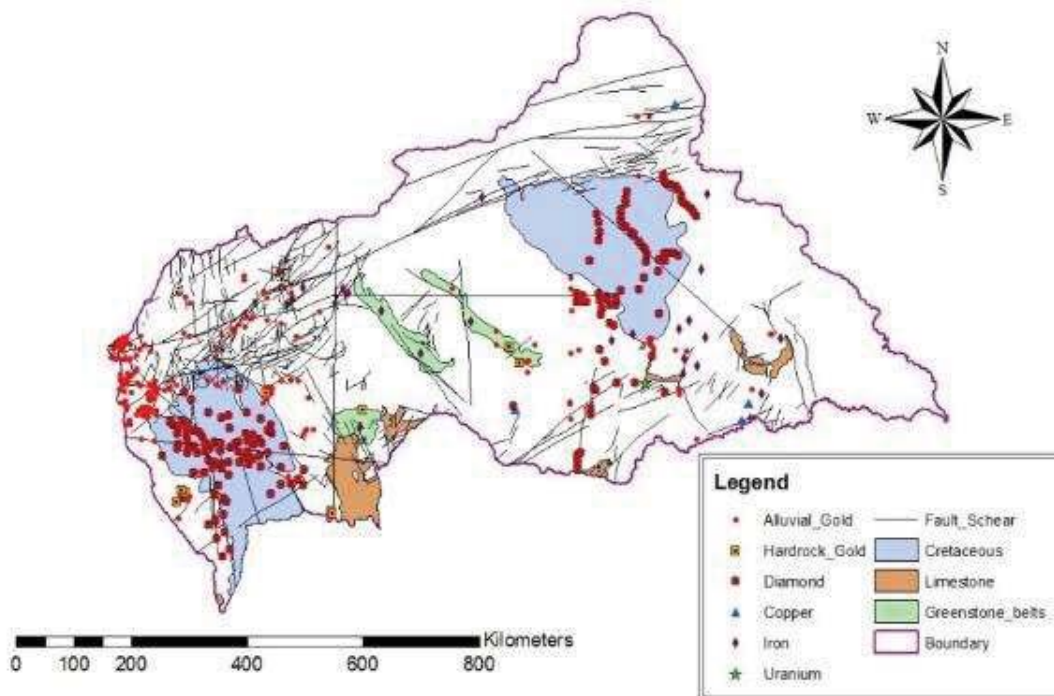


Figure 25 - Map of main mining areas (World Bank, 2016f)

113. The CAR does not have a mining policy and the 2009 Mining Code (CAR Gov, 2009c)¹²² forms the basis of all mining legislation, supported by Ordinances and Decrees on specific topics. The 2009 Mining Code largely conforms to international best practices for regulating exploration but is inadequate with regard to the artisanal and small-scale mining subsectors and in terms of social and environmental regulations (World Bank, 2017b), even if its art. 104 states that activities should be “*carried out in such a way as to ensure the protection, preservation and management of the environment and the rehabilitation of exploited sites*”. This being said, environmental damages are limited by nature, as diamond and gold are exploited by craft methods, on very tiny surfaces (few m²), mostly located on river banks or lowlands.
114. In addition to that, decades of fiscal and institutional mismanagement have led to a steady decline in mineral production and exports. For instance, the frequent changes in the taxation regime have discouraged the formalization of artisanal mining and encouraged cross-border smuggling: before the 2013 crisis, almost 50% of gold and diamonds production was exempt from taxation (HINTON & LEVIN, 2010) (MATTHYSEN & CLARKSON, 2013)¹²³. This decline was compounded by the devastating effects of the 2013 crisis: worsening security situation in some mining areas, temporary withdrawal of the CAR from the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS)¹²⁴, withdrawal of the CAR from the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI)¹²⁵. These facts explain why several companies reduced investment, and even left the country, thus reducing the flow of legal exports of diamonds and the tax revenues. Nowadays, no major investment is expected in the mining sector for the next ten years (World Bank, 2016f).
115. The authorities intend to revise the 2009 Mining Code once the new administration takes over. A National Committee has been appointed and is expected to begin the preliminary reformulation phase (World Bank, 2016f). One of the key issues to address is the lack of a comprehensive mining cadastre and supporting databases. Mining titles are generally allocated on a first-come, first-served basis: a regularly updated mining cadaster and register would allow the Government to maintain equitable and transparent access to mineral

¹²² CAR Gvt, 2009c. *Loi n°09-005 portant Code minier de la RCA*. Bangui – Gvt de RCA, avril 2009. 66p

¹²³ MATTHYSEN, K. & CLARKSON, I., 2013. *Gold and diamonds in the CAR: the country's mining sector, and related social, economic and environmental issues*. Anvers - International Peace Information Service, 2013.

¹²⁴ See www.kimberleyprocess.com.

¹²⁵ See www.eiti.org

resources (GIRONES et al., 2009)¹²⁶. It should also avoid situations such as the one observed during the field mission in January 2017: the Ministry of Mines has granted three foreign companies with a gold mining concession of 100 ha each in the Lobaye, considering these concessions are out of the Basse-Lobaye Biosphere Reserve and its buffer zone. The MEDDEFCP contests this interpretation, but in the absence of a mining cadaster and an inter-sectoral land use plan, the discussion is blocked.

1.2.5. Land tenure, land planning and decentralization

→ Land tenure

116. The legal texts framing the official land tenure regime are old: Law n°63-441 related to the national estate (CAR Gvt, 1964)¹²⁷ and its implementing Decrees n°67-28 (CAR Gvt, 1967)¹²⁸, n°68-042 (CAR Gvt, 1968)¹²⁹, and n°71-022 (CAR Gvt, 1971)¹³⁰. As highlighted in the PNIASAN (MDRA, 2013), the Law n°63-441 is still in use and lays down the key principle of sovereignty of the State over all the lands of the CAR. Private land and traditional collective land ownership can theoretically be recognized, after proving the land is managed, providing and validating diverse documents, and paying various duties and taxes.
117. These multi-step procedures are complex, tedious, costly and, in any case, daunting. With the exception of very few private industrial plantations of coffee and oil palm registered with the cadastral services, the majority of farms are subject to customary land tenure, the basic principle of which is that of the "right of the ax" according to which the land belongs to whom cleanses it and cultivates it (*Ibid*). Thus, a first issue about land tenure in the CAR is the ambivalence between the "formal" legal (and theoretical) land tenure based on the principle of sovereignty, and the "informal" customary (and real) land tenure, based on local rules.
118. The second issue is the lack of harmonization and coordination between Ministers controlling different types of land use: rural and urban infrastructures, mines, forestry, agriculture, livestock, etc. For instance, the Forest Code defines the Forest Estate and explicitly recognizes the customary rights of indigenous peoples. The Mining Code and the Urban Code do not explicitly refer to the Forest Estate and it happens that mines or human settlements overlap with forests, even in Protected Area (i.e. gold mining concessions attributed within the Basse-Lobaye Biosphere Reserve) or PEA (i.e. extension of settlements in the South-West of Bangui). Nor do they explicitly recognize the rights of indigenous peoples, as does the Forest Code.
119. Thanks to a support from the FAO CAR, a complete and detailed analysis of the land tenure of the CAR was carried out in 2015 (NTAMPAKA, 2015)¹³¹. It highlights issues already mentioned here above (insufficient or virtually absent land policy, multiplicity of competent institutions on land and lack of coordination, legal inconsistencies, insufficient consultation, complex and costly land acquisition procedure), and also highlights additional issues: centralization of skills and services in Bangui, lack of protection of rural populations and indigenous peoples against land grabbing, no applicable rules to resolve disputes in the event of conflicting sectoral legal measures, a lag between existing legislation and international instruments signed or ratified.
120. Based on this analysis, a draft Framework Law on Land Tenure was prepared (FAO Bangui, 2015a)¹³², taking into account the Voluntary Guidelines for Responsible Governance of Tenure for Land, Fisheries and Forests

¹²⁶ GIRONES, E. O, PUGACHEVSKY, A. & WALSER, G., 2009. *Mineral Rights Cadastre - Promoting Transparent Access to Mineral Resources*. Washington – World Bank, June 2009. 100p

¹²⁷ CAR Gvt, 1964. *Loi n°63-441 relative au domaine national*. Bangui – Gvt RCA, janvier 1964. 22p

¹²⁸ CAR Gvt, 1967. *Ordonnance n°67-028 modifiant l'article 72 de la Loi n°63-441 relative au domaine national*. Bangui – Gvt RCA, avril 1967. 2p

¹²⁹ CAR Gvt, 1968. *Ordonnance n°68-042 modifiant l'article 47 de la Loi n°63-441 relative au domaine national*. Bangui – Gvt RCA, août 1968. 2p

¹³⁰ CAR Gvt, 1971. *Ordonnance n°71-022 relative à la procédure d'attribution des terrains domaniaux et fixant la composition du Comité consultatif domanial*. Bangui – Gvt RCA, mars 1971. 1p

¹³¹ NTAMPAKA, C., 2015. *Projet TCP/CAF/3403 comp.2 relatif à l'harmonisation des instruments juridiques en vue d'une meilleure gouvernance des régimes fonciers centrafricains – Rapport de synthèse*. Bangui – FAO RCA, juin 2015. 87p

¹³² FAO Bangui, 2015a. *Avant-projet de Loi-cadre portant sur les droits fonciers en RCA*. Bangui – FAO, juin 2015. 21p

in the context of National Food Security produced by the FAO¹³³, as well as the Convention 169 of the International Labour Office (ILO) on the rights of indigenous peoples and, more broadly, incorporating human rights principles (i.e. PANTHER: Participation, Accountability, Non-discrimination, Transparency, Human dignity, Empowerment, Rule of law).

121. This draft presents relevant proposals, notably: a framework-law to better regulate and coordinate sectoral policies related to land tenure; deconcentrating and decentralizing land tenure management; explicitly recognizing customary land rights; securing land access to Indigenous Peoples and women; protecting local communities against expropriation and land grabbing; simplifying procedures and reducing the costs to get land titles; increasing transparency in the land tenure; modernizing and computerizing land tenure management.
122. These elements (analysis of current land tenure and draft of Framework Law) were presented and discussed during a national workshop in June 2015 (FAO CAR, 2015b)¹³⁴ and a roadmap was prepared to follow-up the work. At this stage, analysis of the current situation and recommendations to improve it are done; the only thing missing is a political impulse to progress the roadmap.

→ **Land planning and decentralization**

123. There is no Land planning scheme at national level, neither at regional or prefectural or communal levels. This explains why there are frequent land use overlaps, sometimes leading to conflicts. It is even difficult to gather spatially explicit data related to a certain area, as these data are most of the time scattered among Ministries, Donors, Projects, NGOs, etc. Some initiatives, notably the WRI Interactive Atlas (see **Part 1.1.3 supra**), aims at filling the information gaps, but much remains to be done in terms of land planning.
124. To our knowledge, the most significant land planning exercise was carried out in 1994 for the South-West area (TECSULT, 1994). Even if the final objective was quite specific, i.e. preparing the granting of PEAs, the followed approach was holistic and ended in the identification of specific territories (included into broader “ecological districts”, showing similar biophysical patterns), for which specific socio-economic activities were forecasted by 2015. To do so, various spatially explicit data were crossed, both biophysical data (reliefs/slopes, geology, vegetation, water system, roads, natural exposure to flooding-erosion-windfall, agricultural suitability, etc.) and socio-economic data (population, basic social services, current land uses and land tenure, etc.).
125. As effective land planning is often dependent on an effective decentralization process, it is worth mentioning the state of play in the CAR. After the promulgation of a revised Constitution in 1995, the Law n°96-016 gave birth to the seven Regions and the decentralization process. It was soon after followed by the Order n°88-006 creating the Communes. 20 years later, progress of decentralization is poor, due mainly to the chronic instability of the CAR (OBOUONOMBELE, 2013)¹³⁵. In 2017, the Communes, first administrative levels, are still ruled by “Special Delegations” (nominated by the Government and not elected) and one can hardly predict when communal elections will take place.

2. PROJECT RATIONALE

2.1. The current situation

2.1.1. Main environmental threats

126. The project will address the following environmental threats: deforestation and forest degradation, land degradation, loss of biodiversity, and climate change. These threats are closely linked together and share most

¹³³ See <http://www.fao.org/nr/tenure/voluntary-guidelines/fr/>

¹³⁴ FAO Bangui, 2015b. *Atelier national de présentation des résultats du projet sur l'harmonisation des instruments juridiques relatifs au foncier adaptés aux différentes lignes et cadres volontaires pour une gouvernance responsable des régimes fonciers en RCA – Rapport final*. Bangui – FAO, juillet 2015. 50p

¹³⁵ OBOUONOMBELE, J., S., 2013. *Décentralisation et gouvernance territoriale dans les pays de l'espace CEMAC : Etat d'avancement du processus Etat d'avancement de la décentralisation dans les pays de l'espace CEMAC*. Dakar – Université Cheikh Anta DIOP, 2013. 88p

of their “*indirect and direct drivers*”, concepts notably developed by GEIST and LAMBIN (2001)¹³⁶ for assessing drivers of tropical deforestation, but useful to assess other environmental threats.

127. The state of natural resources has been presented (see [Part 1.1.3 supra](#)), as well as the current situation in the following sectors: forestry (see [Part 1.2.1 supra](#)), agriculture (see [Part 1.2.2 supra](#)), environment (see [Part 1.2.3 supra](#)), mines (see [Part 1.2.4 supra](#)), land tenure, land planning and decentralization (see [Part 1.2.5 supra](#)). In what follows, we will briefly summarize the relevant information already presented in the above-mentioned Parts, and link them with the main environmental threats, with a specific focus on the South-West, where pilot restoration activities will be implemented (see [Part 2.3.2 infra](#)).

→ **Deforestation and forest degradation**

128. Overall, there is currently no national estimate of deforestation and forest degradation. For the dense moist forest, the annual average rate of net deforestation was estimated at 0.24% between 1990 and 2000 and 0.17% between 2000 and 2010 (DE WASSEIGE et al., 2014). These rates are above the annual rates of net forest loss (i) at global level: 0.18% between 1990 and 2000, and 0.08% between 2010 and 2015¹³⁷, and (ii) for the Congo Basin: 0.09% between 1990 and 2000, and 0.17% between 2000 and 2005 (TCHATCHOU et al., 2015). For the South-Western part, the annual rates of net forest loss are 25% lower than for the dense moist forest as a whole: 0.18% between 1990 and 2000, and 0.13% between 2010 and 2015 (FRM et al. 2016).
129. The R-PP (MEEDD, 2013b) and the CAFI grant preparation request (CAFI, 2016a) identify the same types of drivers for deforestation and forest degradation. It is useful to recall them, keeping in mind there is (i) no detailed assessment of such drivers at national scale, (ii) a quantitative assessment of the impact of industrial logging and a qualitative assessment of other direct drivers, for the dense moist forests of the South-West (FRM et al. 2016):
- **Indirect drivers:** (i) Lack of policy coordination and weak institutions, (ii) Lack of knowledge sharing and dissemination of technical information (such as reports on threats and trends, good practices, etc.), (iii) Weak economy and focus on the exploitation of natural resources, (iv) Lack of understanding of the notion of environmental common goods, (v) High population growth, and (vi) Insecurity and political and military crises. Considering their nature, drivers (v) and (vi) will not be addressed by the project, but drivers (i) to (iv) will be addressed as far as possible;
 - **Direct drivers:** (i) Unsustainable slash-and-burn agricultural practices, (ii) Unsustainable forest management (for wood energy, NTFP, lumber), (iii) Uncontrolled bush fires linked to renewal of grazing land and/or agriculture and/or hunting, and (iv) Infrastructure development (roads, mining, and housing). Drivers (i) to (iii) will be directly targeted, as the underlying issues are identified (see [Part 1.2.2 supra](#) about slash-and-burn activities and [Part 1.2.1 supra](#) about wood energy, NTFPs and lumber and [Part 1.2.3 supra](#) about bushmeat) and alternative options exist (such as promoting agro-ecology practices, developing multi-purpose peri-urban forest plantations mixing fast-growing N-fixing tree species and fruit trees, developing alternative IGAs to reduce bushfire for bushmeat hunting, etc.). Driver (iv) does not appear significant, based on observations made during the field mission for preparing the present document.
130. Regarding the South-West, (FRM et al., 2016) brings more specific elements and fine-tune the rough preliminary assessments exposed in the R-PP and the CAFI grant preparation request (NB: see [Annex 8 infra](#) for detailed data and maps about deforestation in the South-West):
- **Slash-and-burn agriculture:** It is considered to be a significant direct driver of deforestation, especially for cassava production (cropped by 54% of respondents) and, to a lesser extent, maize (cropped by 15% of the respondents). This is corroborated by (TECSULT, 1994): cassava is the main crop of rural households in the South-West. Each households has, in average, 0.9 ha of cropland (little variation over households) and 1.5 ha of fallow land (variations from 0.7 to 3.9 ha). It is worth noting that, in the South-West, all the land is either classified as protected area (8% of the total surface) or PEA (92%): plots are normally forbidden in

¹³⁶ GEIST, H. & LAMBIN, E., 2001. *What drives tropical deforestation? A meta-analysis of proximate and underlying causes of deforestation based on subnational case study evidence.* – LUCS Report Series; 4. Louvain – Université de Louvain-la-neuve, 2001. 136p

¹³⁷ See <http://www.fao.org/news/story/fr/item/327181/icode/>

protected areas and limited to the “*séries agricoles*” of the PEAs (i.e. 500 m on both sides of the main forest tracks), but tend to go beyond, as land pressure increases;

- Wood energy: The study does not bring any new elements and just recall previous studies. In particular, the impact of a combined demand in Bangui for food crops and wood energy is highlighted;

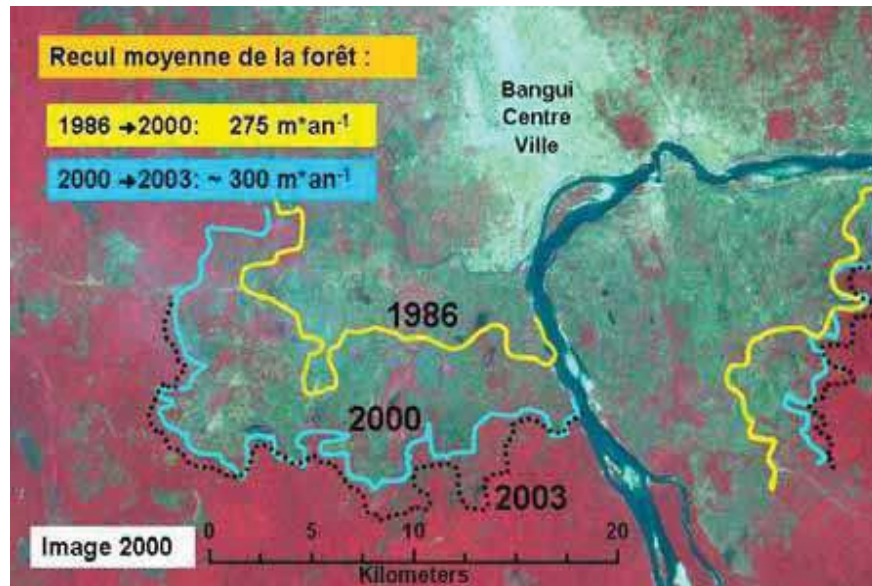


Figure 26 - Deforestation around Bangui: combined demand for food crops and wood energy (DRIGO, 2009)

- Bush fires: Mainly set for rat hunting, it can be a significant driver of deforestation, depending on natural conditions. Between 1986 and 2000, a severe drought occurred, which explains the loss of 39,000 ha of forests (1.1% of the average annual net forest loss for the period) due only to bush fires. However, impacts are considered to be limited in time and space;
- Mining: Gold mining is considered marginal, but diamond mining is quite frequent, and can locally be very important (e.g. near Nola, in 2006, 88% of the respondents of a socio-economic assessment for the PEA 185/191 declared being engaged in diamond mining). However, mining is carried out on tiny areas, rarely on intact forests, as miners often prospect randomly and prefer to dig where it is the easiest (gravel layers of river banks);
- Industrial logging: Field operations of industrial companies are not considered as a significant direct driver of deforestation, but the settlement of forest concessions can locally be an indirect driver of deforestation (e.g. settlement of SEFCA in Mambélé in 1993, which dropped the number of villagers from 100 to 3,600);
- Artisanal logging: It is practiced near Bangui and focus on Ayous. As an artisanal logger harvests a few stems, it can hardly be considered as a driver of deforestation, rather degradation;
- Infrastructures: Roads are limited to the forest tracks, and urbanization is limited in space. Infrastructures development is not considered as a significant driver of deforestation.

→ **Land degradation**

131. The PAN-LCD (MEE, 2009a) and the PNIMT (MEE, 2009b) do not provide spatially explicit data regarding land degradation, nor any cost estimate of land degradation. However, an on-going study on land degradation in the CAR, carried out by the WRI and OSFAC, may give more elements. This being said, the drivers of land degradation quoted in the PAN-LCD and the PNIMT are more or less the same than the drivers of deforestation and land degradation quoted in the R-PP and the CAFI grant preparation request. Therefore, the project will aim at addressing these drivers yet presented, in order to limit land degradation.
132. For areas where land is yet degraded, landscape restoration activities will be more or less difficult, depending on the soil types. In all case, land degradation is characterized by a reduction in organic matter through oxidation, leading to a physical depletion. Then, the infiltration water leaches the elements not used by the plants and the soil is chemically depleted. In soils rich in iron and/or aluminum oxides, e.g. tropical ferruginous soils in the savanna, a cuirassing may occur, rendering such soils unsuitable for any use. These types of soils are rare in the South-West and may not be encountered when implementing the field activities of the project.
133. In sandy soils, e.g. in the city of Berbérati, large quantity of soils can be carried away by water erosion, even in places with very small slopes. On steeper slopes, erosion can be more dramatic and create large gullies. Berbérati is part of the focus area of the project, but it is unlikely pilot actions will be launched to restore urban gullies, as it would require to concentrate a lot of resources for very limited areas. Indeed, given the importance of these gullies in the inner city, it would require consequent civil engineering works to restore them, which appears to get away from the scope of the project, more focused on restoring forest and landscape in rural or peri-urban areas.

→ **Loss of biodiversity**

134. The SNPA-DB (MEEFCP, 2000) does not give detailed data regarding the composition and localization of biodiversity and agro-biodiversity. Furthermore, it quotes most of the drivers also quoted in the R-PP, the CAFI grant preparation request, the PAN-LCD, and the PNIMT (i.e. bushfires, agricultural clearing, illegal logging, extraction of diamonds and gold, etc.), but also quotes specific drivers: invasion of weeds linked to soil degradation (*Chromolaena odorata*, *Sida spp*, *Striga hermontica*, etc.), poaching mainly linked to cultural habits regarding bushmeat consumption, and use of poisons for fishing. Unfortunately, the qualitative and quantitative impacts of these drivers, as well as their evolution over time, are generally not described.
135. The only driver for which certain quantitative data appear in official document is illegal hunting. According to BONANNEE (2001), in 1988, the consumption of bushmeat was slightly under the consumption of livestock: 11 kg/inhab/year vs 16 kg/inhab/year. According to N'GASSE (2003), in 2002, the consumption of bushmeat in Bangui was higher than the consumption of livestock (see **Part 1.2.1 supra**). These studies indicate that the bushmeat consumption has increased from the 1980's to the 2000's. Data extracted from the 1992 National Report to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTD) and quoted in BONANNEE (2001) corroborates these trends for big games, as shown in the figure below. Last but not the least, from the recent field survey carried out in the South-West, it appears that 53% of the respondents practice bushmeat hunting, targeting antelopes in first place (90% of frequency), but also primates (11%) (FRM et al., 2016).

Espèces	1977	1985	1995	2000
Rhinocéros noir	190	0	0	0
Eléphant	2 550	569	356	200
Buffle	7 380	1 559	2 959	3 753
Bubale	6 090	6 332	4 231	2 084
Damalisque	480	643	331	125
Cob defassa	330	594	694	752
Cob de buffon	2 520	3 513	2 413	1 254
Hippotrague	640	470	350	156
Elan de derby	950	149	94	45

Figure 27 - Populations of emblematic large mammals, from 1977 to 2000, in the CAR (BONANNEE, 2001)

136. By restoring degraded forests and landscapes, the project will have a twofold effect:
- On the one hand, environmental services (soil fertility, biodiversity and agro-biodiversity, water catchment, carbon sequestration, etc.) will be improved on yet degraded areas. It will be possible by (i) Restoring land fertility and, thus, limiting weed invasion (i.e. the above-mentioned weeds are more competitive than other local plant species when soil fertility is degraded), (ii) Reintroducing fauna and flora diversity, through ANR of forests, planting of multi-use tree species, seeding of N-fixing plant cover, etc., and aiming at restoring ecological connectivity with surrounding patches of intact ecosystems;
 - On the other hand, the same environmental services will be preserved on the “pioneering fronts” (e.g. where local populations would have carried out unsustainable cropping and/or logging and/or mining and/or hunting practices), by providing alternative livelihoods, able to generate employment, revenue, and food products, while preserving the ecosystems.

→ **Climate change (adaptation and mitigation)**

137. The R-PP (MEEDD, 2013b) and the INDC (CAR Gvt, 2015a) recall the importance of preserving natural resources to reduce the vulnerability to climate change and increase the climate resilience of ecosystems and populations. These analyses are fully in line with the concept of “Ecosystem-Based Adaptation”¹³⁸. In terms of mitigation, the importance of the LULUCF sector in the national GHG balance is outlined: 89% of total GHG emissions (104 MtCO_{2eq}/year, out of 116 MtCO_{2eq}/year), but also a sink effect three times higher than the total GHG emissions (330 MtCO_{2eq}/year). Logically, most of the mitigation efforts are planned in the LULUCF sector, in order to reach the national commitments: -5% by 2030 (-5.5 MtCO_{2eq}/year) and -25% by 2050 (-33 MtCO_{2eq}/year).
138. According to (FRM et al., 2016), (i) the conversion of dense moist forest to agriculture generates 856 tCO_{2eq}/ha, (ii) the 2000-2015 average annual rate of net forest loss in the South-West dense moist forest is 5,240 ha/year. Knowing that the 2030 commitment is equivalent to the avoided GHG emissions of 6,425 ha/year (i.e. 5,500,000 tCO_{2eq}/year / 856 tCO_{2eq}/ha), half of this 2030 commitment could hypothetically be achieved by reducing net deforestation by 61% (i.e. 3,212 ha/year out of 5,240 ha/year) for the sole South-Western dense moist forests. This REDD+ objective for the South-West appear ambitious, but it is reasonable to expect a significant contribution from the present project (see **Part 2.3.2 infra**), and consequently, significant impacts in terms of mitigation and ecosystem-based adaptation. In any case, the field activities planned in the project are fully in line with the ones foreseen in the R-PP and the INDC (e.g. promotion of sustainable forest management, reforestation, agroecology as alternative to slash-and-burn, etc.).

2.1.2. Baseline initiatives

139. From the overview of the socio-economic context (See **Parts 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 supra**), it appears clearly that:
- The CAR has suffered from many politico-military crisis for the last decades, the last 2013 crisis being the most dramatic;
 - The overall economy was down for the last years and the country has just recently started to plan the recovery from the last crisis, thanks notably to the CAR Donor Conference organized in Brussels in November 2016 (World Bank, 2016b);
 - But the political stability and economic recovery remain fragile, which explains why the Government and its key technical and financial partners have been till very recently focusing their efforts on emergency and post-emergency operations (e.g. peace-keeping with the MINUSCA, DDR, food aid, support to resettlement of refugees and displaced peoples, etc.), rather than rural development and natural resources management.
140. After the implementation of the 2014-2016 Emergency and Sustainable Rehabilitation Program (CAR Gvt, 2014), notably supported by the FAO and WFP through the PURCARA, the CAR Government prepared the 2017-2021 RCPA (RCA Gvt, 2016), based on the following key-messages: (i) Stabilizing the CAR is a long term process, setbacks are to be expected in the coming years, (ii) Development is key to overcoming the state of

¹³⁸ See <https://www.iucn.org/theme/ecosystem-management/our-work/ecosystem-based-adaptation-and-climate-change>

fragility and the cycle of crises in the CAR, (iii) Donors should not wait for a complete normalization of the security situation before supporting development programs (World Bank, 2016b).

141. The foreseen budget of the RCPCA is USD 3,161 million, divided into three main axes (see **Annex 9 infra** for the detailed plan of operations and budget): (i) Restoring peace and security, by progressing the DDR process and resettling refugees and displaced peoples (USD 461 million, 15% of total budget), (ii) Renewing the social contract between the State and the population, by providing basic public services (education, health, food aid) and improving public governance (USD 1,476 million, 46%), and (iii) Revamping productive sectors (transport, agriculture, water, energy, and telecommunication) (USD 1,224 million, 39%).
142. At the time of writing the present document, the RCPCA was thus the main roadmap from the Government. But, a few months after the CAR Donor Conferences, most of the pledges were still under discussion between the Government and donors, including the main ones, EU and World Bank. The EU is still preparing the National Indicative Program (*Programme indicatif national* - PIN) for the 11th European Development Fund (*Fonds de développement européen* - FED) (Pers. comm. J.-C. BARRIO DE PEDRO, EU Delegation in Bangui, March 2017) and information is that regard are not yet public. The World Bank prepared Policy notes on various sectors (already presented in **Part 1.1.2 supra**: World Bank, 2016a / 2016b / 2016c / 2016d / 2016e / 2016f), but few project proposals are ready, apart for the mine and forestry sectors.
143. This explains why on-going or upcoming projects, relevant for the present project and that can be included as co-financing investments, are few. In what follows, for the sake of clarity, we will list these projects, together with on-going or planned Government initiatives, for the following sectors (as in **Part 1.2 supra**): forestry, agriculture, environment, mines, land tenure, land planning, and decentralization. As pilot restoration activities planned under Component 2 of the present project will be carried out in the South-West, a specific focus will be put on this area.

→ Forestry

144. From the Government side, a process led by the MEDDEFPCP has recently been launched to upgrade the forest policies and measures, and a draft V0 Forest policy statement has been prepared (DINGA, 2016) (see **Part 1.2.1 supra**). As it stands now, the document presents a vision for the forest sector by 2035, guided by the key principles of the 2008 Forest Code and the 2015-2025 COMIFAC Convergence Plan, notably the aim to promote the sustainable management of forests and to contribute to poverty reduction. Next steps remain unclear, but the fact that the process is technically led by a former Minister in charge of forests gives insurance that there is a political momentum to fine-tune the document. From the donors' side, there are two key projects: the PDRSO (AFD, 2012) and the Mining and Forest Governance Project (World Bank, 2017b).
145. The PDRSO is a logical continuation of the three phases of the PARPAF (2000-2011). It started at the end of 2016 and is scheduled to conclude at the end of 2020. The total budget is EURO 6.5 million, EURO 5 million coming from AFD (AFD, 2015)¹³⁹ and EURO 1.5 million from the French Global Environment Fund (*Fonds français pour l'environnement mondial* – FFEM (FFEM, 2015)¹⁴⁰. The detailed budget was revised at the inception of the project, after the withdrawal of the EU co-financing (EURO 4 million initially pledged), but cannot be shared yet (Pers. comm. M. LACHARME – Coordinator of the PDRSO, February 2017). The PDRSO has three components:
 - **Support to 10 forest Communes**: 10 out of the 21 recognized forest Communes in the CAR (five in the Lobaye and five in the Sangha-Mbaéré. See figure infra) will receive technical assistance and financing to prepare and implement Local Development Plans to enhance Communes' access to sustainable revenues from forestry resources, in order to finance basic collective services (health, water access, education). This component will therefore conduct a strategic reflection on the future of the forest taxation system, as well as the roles and procedures of the CAS-DF.
 - **Support to the AAAGRDF and the MEDDEFPCP**: Provision of equipment and technical assistance, including support for the development of three new PEAs and upgrading of existing ones;

¹³⁹ AFD, 2015. *Convention de financement n° CCF1130.01. V entre l'AFD et la RCA*. Paris – AFD, juin 2015. 12p

¹⁴⁰ FFEM, 2015. *Convention de financement n° CCF1151.01. Y entre le FFEM et la RCA*. Paris – FFEM, juin 2015. 40p

- Support to the REDD+ process: Definition and implementation of pilot REDD+ activities near Bangui. These activities are still in preparation, but they may include the following: improving cropping practices, restoring degraded forests, improving knowledge on the wood energy and artisanal logging value chains near Bangui, assessing cost-benefit of REDD+ actions (PDRSO, 2017)¹⁴¹. In addition, a small budget (EURO 120,000) is planned to support the ARF/CIRAD Project in the Lolé and Boukoko forests, near M'Baïki (project started in 1982): forest biomass inventories (esp. on lianas), phenological monitoring, etc.

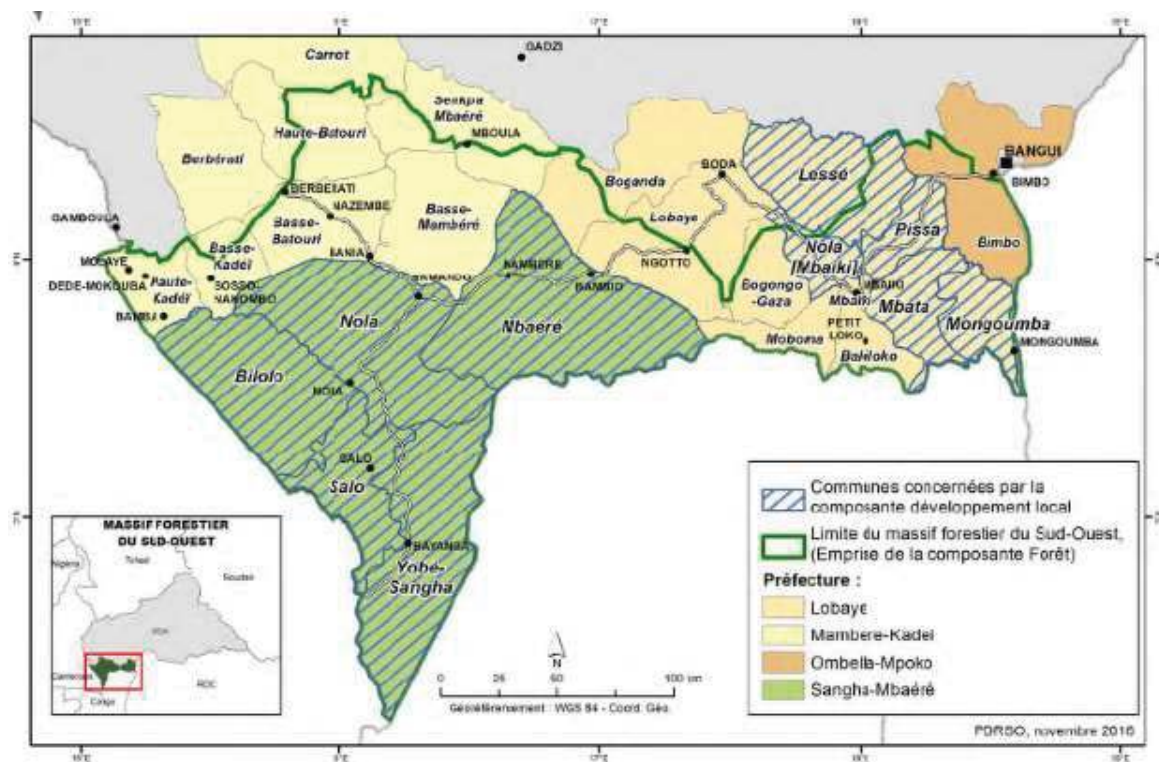


Figure 28 - Forest Communes targeted by the PDRSO (PDRSO, 2016)

146. The Mining and Forest Governance Project has not yet started: a Concept note has been prepared (World Bank, 2017b), as well as a Project Information Document/Integrated Safeguards Data Sheet (PID/ISDS) (World Bank, 2017c)¹⁴², but the appraisal is expected to start in November 2017 and the project to be approved in March 2018. This project proposes to expand the effort of the PDRSO, to cover the 11 remaining forest Communes. The total proposed budget is USD 10 million: USD 4.3 million for the mine sector and USD 5.7 million for the forest sector (USD 4.3 million after deduction of management costs. See **Annex 9 infra** for the detailed plan of operations and budget). The forest components are as follows:

- Support 11 forest Communes: Preparation of Local Development Plans, financing of priority investments, capacity-building in terms of local projects management;
- Strengthening the private sector: Capacity building of workers in the logging industry, investments to increase mill efficiency, analysis of the fiscal regimes in the Congo basin, wood market analysis;

¹⁴¹ PDRSO, 2017. *Tableau 4 : Cadre logique portant sur les résultats du PDRSO en lien avec la composante REDD+. Bangui – PDRSO, March 2017. 2p*

¹⁴² World Bank, 2017c. *Mining and Forest Governance in CAR (P161973). Project Information Document/Integrated Safeguards Data Sheet. Washington DC – World Bank, January 2017. 13p*

- Strengthening institutional capacity: Upgrading the forest taxation regime in the CAR, supporting eco-guards;
 - Test the concept of community forests: Set-up of two community forests in the vicinity of Berbérati, supporting of participatory planning and community management plans (including promotion of legal artisanal logging).
147. Apart from these two projects of direct relevance to the TRI CAR project, potential additional investments are mentioned infra, for information. Indeed, all of them should be partly or fully funded by the EU: as mentioned supra, the EU is still preparing the PIN for the 11th FED and EU investments are not yet confirmed (Pers. comm. J.-C. BARRIO DE PEDRO, EU Delegation in Bangui, March 2017):
- CIFOR study on the wood-forest sector of the CAR (FAO RCA, 2016b): This study should start soon and would hopefully help identifying problems, progress made for the last decades or yet to be made (see Part 1.2.1 supra);
 - Wood energy study: Following the assessment of the energy sector recently commissioned by the EU (MWH, 2017), the EU Delegation is reflecting on a specific study on the wood energy sector in Bangui. At this stage, there is no document available. It is likely not going to be an update of the WISDOM platform put in place in 2009 (DRIGO, 2009) (see Part 1.2.1 supra), but rather a qualitative assessment (Pers. comm. J.-C. BARRIO DE PEDRO – EU Delegation in Bangui, March 2017);
 - VPA FLEGT process: The CAR will benefit from a grant of EURO 6.7 million over four years, including EURO 4.6 million for the implementation of the legality verification system of the VPA FLEGT (Pers. comm. J.-C. BARRIO DE PEDRO – EU Delegation in Bangui, February 2017);
 - ECOFAC6: Following the previous phases of the ECOFAC (implemented since 1994 in the CAR), the EU launched a 6th phase, targeting seven countries in the Congo Basin, incl. the CAR. The budget is EURO 61.5 million over five years (2017-2021). For the CAR, the budget is EURO 12 million, divided as follows: EURO 5 million for the Chinko Protected Area (17,600 km²) in the South-West and EURO 7 million for the Manovo-Gounda-St Floris and Bamingui-Bangoran National Parks, and surrounding Game areas (54,700 km²) in the North (EU, 2016)¹⁴³. Thematic focus is on biodiversity conservation and geographical focus is on the South-West and the North: links between ECOFAC6 and the TRI CAR project appear limited in terms of field activities;
 - CoNGOs' Project (NGO Collaboration for Equitable and Sustainable Livelihoods for Communities in the Congo Basin Forests): This three-year project (2016-2018) funded by the Department for International Development (DfID) is implemented in Cameroon, Congo, the DRC, and the CAR (NB: share of budget for the CAR not known yet). It is led by the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) and implemented by the IIED and several NGOs, in particular Rainforest Foundation United-Kingdom for the CAR. It aims at promoting community forests. For now, the CoNGOs' project has not yet started on the ground and a baseline analysis is underway to set the logical framework (IIED, 2016)¹⁴⁴. This project deals with awareness-raising and advocacy in the forest sector, but the implementation of pilot actions on the ground is also foreseen (without locating such pilot actions at this stage). Once the CoNGOs Project will be fully deployed, it could collaborate closely with the TRI CAR Project, in order to coordinate actions on the ground and mutually benefits from project results.

➔ Agriculture

148. From the Government side, the current roadmap is the 2014-2018 PNIASAN (MDRA, 2013), and there is no evidence of any change in the agriculture strategy for the short-term, despite the fact the main focus is on “conventional agriculture” (41% of the budget for the purchase of chemical fertilizers, pesticides, and ploughing equipment), a strategic choice which is not really in line with current international thinking:

¹⁴³ UE, 2016. *Document relatif à l'action pour Programme d'appui pour la préservation de la biodiversité et les écosystèmes fragiles – phase 6 (ECOFAC 6)*. Bruxelles – UE, novembre 2016. 42p

¹⁴⁴ IIED, 2016. *Réunion de démarrage du projet CoNGOs – Rapport de réunion*. Yaoundé – IIED, juin 2016.43p

agroecology, climate-smart agriculture, ecosystem-based adaptation, etc. (see [Part 1.2.2 supra](#)). From the donors' side, there are two key players: the FAO and the World Bank.

149. The FAO has been fully involved in the implementation of the PURCARA, put in place in the frame of the 2014-2016 Emergency and Sustainable Rehabilitation Program (CAR Gvt, 2014). Most of these recent projects have been focused on food aid / emergency response (i.e. the five OSRO/CAF/60X projects) and are not directly linked to the objectives of the TRI CAR Project (FAO Bangui, 2017b)¹⁴⁵. However, the FAO Bangui office intends to use part of the budget of the following projects to co-finance the TRI CAR Project. In total, adding an in-kind contribution of USD 50,000, the FAO could co-finance USD 600,000 of the TRI CAR Project

Title of the project	Budget of the project (USD)	Co-financing to the TRI CAR Project (USD)
TCP/CAF/3602: Support to the coffee and food crops sectors in the CAR, in a post-conflict context	467,760	180,000 (38%) → Component 2
GCP/CAF/014/ITA-Carmel: Support to the creation of a pilot vocational center for displaced peoples in the CAR	2,093,001	90,000 (4%) → Component 2
OSRO/CAF/XXX/BEL: Emergency support in the agriculture sector to support the resilience of vulnerable communities in the CAR	1,047,000	180,000 (17%) → Component 3
OSRO/CAF/605/UK: Support to agricultural recovery of the most vulnerable households for an enhanced resilience in the CAR	4,473,304	100,000 (22%) → Component 3
In-kind contribution		50,000

Figure 29 - Details of FAO co-financing to the TRI CAR Project (FAO Bangui, 2017b)

150. The World Bank prepared a policy note on the agriculture sector in the CAR (World Bank, 2016e), where the key strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats were broadly identified. Following this exercise, the World Bank is now thinking about setting a national agriculture support program with a total budget of FCFA 24.7 billion (USD 45 million). It would be implemented through 45 projects, divided into four strategic axes and spread over the seven Regions, as shown infra:

Strategic axes	Number of Projects per Region							Budget	
	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	USD M	%
1. Resilience; sustainable revamping of agro-pastoral activities and economic development	1	2	3	2	5	3	4	3.2	45
2. Agriculture, a factor of national reconciliation	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1.6	7
3. Occupational integration, youth entrepreneurship and modernization of agriculture	3	1	1	3	0	2	1	33.8	24
4. Governance of the agriculture sector and competitiveness of Central African agriculture	1	2	1	2	3	0	2	1.2	24
Totals	6	5	5	8	8	5	8	39.8	100

Figure 30 - Overview of the WB National Agriculture Support Program (World Bank, 2017a)¹⁴⁶

151. The components of the Program are roughly described in World Bank (2016e), as summarized infra:
- Rural infrastructure: Rural roads and vicinity roads; Post-harvest infrastructure (drying areas, storage warehouses, corn cribs, etc.); Village and pastoral hydraulic (boreholes, hill reservoirs, small irrigation units, etc.); Small multifunctional units including small food processing equipment; Setting up of development poles;
 - Plant Production: Seed supply; Support to the ten major crops; Research and development in terms of production and post-harvest technologies; Extension and technology transfer;
 - Animal and Fish Production: Structured similarly than the "Plant production" component;

¹⁴⁵ FAO Bangui, 2017b. *Portefeuille des projets FAO RCA*. Bangui – FAO RCA, janvier 2017. 1p

¹⁴⁶ World Bank, 2017a. *Matrice des plans régionaux agricoles*. Bangui – Banque mondiale, février 2017. 1p

- Value chains: Organization of rural markets, price information, marketing, capacity building;
- Project coordination and strengthening of the sectoral governance.

152. It appears that (i) the scope is very large at this stage, (ii) the details of activities under the Program and strategic axes need to be elaborated. Considering that the Forest and Mine Governance project would be approved in March 2018, whereas a detailed concept note is already available, it is likely this agriculture support Program get validated by late 2018, early 2019. At this moment in time, without further details on the content of the Program, it has not been included as co-financing, though partnerships will be established and potentially formalized in the future, during TRI CAR Project implementation.

→ **Environment**

153. From the Government side, there are various on-going initiatives, which are relevant for the TRI CAR Project and could be included in its baseline or at least provide useful lessons (see **Part 1.2.3 supra**):

- **Biodiversity:** A roadmap for the updating of the SNPA-DB (BEINA et al., 2013) has been prepared; a Draft 2017-2019 National Plan for the Sustainable Management of Wildlife (MEDDEFPC, 2016a) should be soon validated. As these are GEF-funded processes, they cannot be included in the baseline, but they can provide useful lessons;
- **Land degradation:** A national process to set the national targets in terms of land degradation neutrality (CAR Gvt, 2016a) is on-going; in particular, an assessment of land degradation is currently carried out by WRI and OSFAC (see Output 1.1.2 in **Part 2.3.1 infra**);
- **Climate change:** The INDC has been recently submitted (CAR Gvt, 2015a) and stresses the importance of REDD+ in terms of mitigation of and adaptation to climate change. To progress the REDD+, the Government successfully requested a grant of USD 1.5 million to support the development of its REDD+ National Investment Framework (CAFI, 2016a).

154. From the donors' side, in addition to the UNCCD and the Global Mechanism supporting the land degradation neutrality process, and the CAFI supporting the REDD+ process, donors/projects already mentioned supra are relevant for the environment sector: EU (VPA FLEGT, ECOFAC6), WB (Mining and Forest Governance Project), AFD-FFEM (PDRSO). Also investments into the Protected Area of Dzanga-Sangha (*Aire protégée de Dzanga-Sangha*, APDS) are sizeable, as it is part of a larger body, the Sangha Trinational Park (see figure opposite), supported by a dedicated Foundation¹⁴⁷. Overall, conservation activities are supported since the 1980's and focus on the following: fight against poaching; promotion of ecotourism; ecological monitoring of flora and fauna; local development. To our knowledge, FLR activities have not been carried out yet in the APDS.

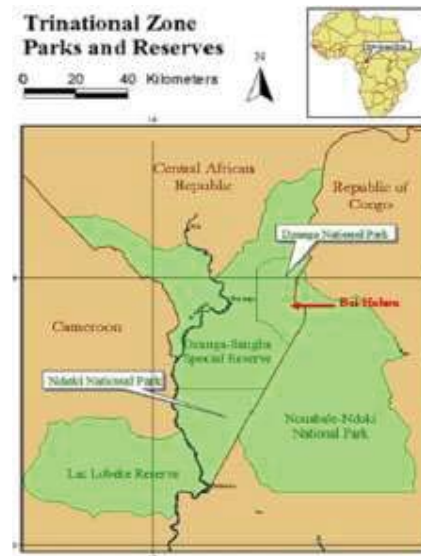


Figure 31 - Sangha tri-national Park (Sangha Foundation, not dated)

155. Finally, in relation to the conservation of the APDS and its surroundings, the WWF received the support (EURO 400,000) of multi-donor trust fund called *Békou* ("Hope" in Sangho. Post-emergency fund to encourage the stabilization and reconstruction of the CAR¹⁴⁸), to support IGAs with the local populations in the Sangha-

¹⁴⁷ See <http://www.fondationtns.org/dev/index.php/fr/2016/05/03/le-tri-national-de-la-sangha-tns-3/>

¹⁴⁸ See http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/fonds-fiduciaire-bekou-introduction_fr

Mbaéré and Lobaye, incl. Pygmies / Bay'Aka (WWF, 2015)¹⁴⁹. In a short period, the project was able to facilitate local consultations and concertation regarding natural resources management, and to implement diverse IGAs, such as planting of *kökö* cutting, promotion of improved bee-keeping or small animal husbandry, diversification of food crops (cocoyam, yam, banana, etc.). Unfortunately, the project has recently stopped and cannot be included in the baseline of the TRI CAR Project.

→ **Mines**

156. As presented supra, the Mining and Forest Governance Project (World Bank, 2017b) should start in 2018 and provide USD 4.2 million for the following actions: (i) upgrade the regulatory framework (18% of budget), (ii) Strengthen institutional capacities (44%), (iii) Improve mining taxation for the Communes (35%), (iv) Accelerate private investment (3%). In addition to that, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is currently supporting a capacity-building project called Property Rights and Artisanal Diamond Development II (*Droits de propriété et développement du diamant artisanal II – PRADD2*). The budget is USD 0.7 million. It will run until 2018 and focus on data collection and reporting to the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) and training both the national authorities and local officials in Berbérati on KPCS compliance criteria.
157. As explained (see **Parts 1.2.4 and 2.1.1 supra**), artisanal mining is often considered as a driver of natural resources degradation; however, even if impacts can sometimes be locally impressive, it is unlikely artisanal mining generate as much damage as bushfire, slash-and-burn cropping, wood energy harvesting, which are widespread. This being said, as these projects specifically address artisanal mining and may thus reduce its impact, they can provide useful lessons to the TRI CAR Project, in case mining activities are present in some of the pilot sites.

→ **Land tenure, land planning, and decentralization**

158. From the Government side, a detailed analysis of the land tenure in the CAR was carried out recently, thanks to a support from the FAO (NTAMPAKA, 2015) and a Draft Framework Law on Land Tenure was prepared based on this (FAO Bangui, 2015a). At this stage, analysis of the current situation and recommendations to improve it are done; the only thing missing is a political impulse to progress the roadmap. It is hoped that this impulse comes soon, as the politico-military situation is progressively coming back to normal.
159. From the Government side again, there is no evidence that progress can be made in the short-term regarding land planning and decentralization. For the first, since the proposal made by TECSULT (1984), the issue has never been raised again, to our knowledge. For the second, since the promulgation of the Order n°88-006 creating the Communes, in the 1990's, the decentralization process has been in stand-by. Even now, Communes are ruled by "Special delegations" and one can hardly predict when communal elections will take place. A draft Code of the local authorities (CAR Gvt, 2017)¹⁵⁰ has been prepared, but its status remains unclear and it is unlikely it will be submitted to the National Assembly until the communal elections take place.
160. In terms of land planning and decentralization, nearly everything needs to be done. Still, as presented above, the PDRSO and the Mining and Forest Governance Project will significantly contribute to the TRI CAR Project's objectives:
 - On the one hand, they will support all the 21 forest Communes in the South-West to prepare their Local Development Plan and to implement local projects, and also build capacities in terms of financial management, it will allow the field activities of the TRI CAR Project to be mainstreamed into the Local Development Plan;
 - On the other hand, based on the 21 Local Development Plans to be elaborated (or upgraded), it will be possible to elaborate a Regional Land Planning Scheme, using a bottom-up approach. This will allow going

¹⁴⁹ WWF, 2015. *Contrat de subvention T03.34 entre l'UE et WWF pour la protection des forêts du Sud-Ouest*. Bangui – WWF, août 2015. 115p

¹⁵⁰ CAR Gvt, 2017. *Projet de Code des collectivités territoriales et des circonscriptions administratives*. Bangui – Gvt de RCA, 2017. 99p

further than the sole Local Development Plans, and address broader land use conflicts (industrial logging / conservation / cropping / mining / etc.) at the needed scale.

2.1.3. Remaining barriers to address the environmental threats

161. Based on the sectoral assessments presented in **Part 2.1.2 supra**, we will hereafter describe the gaps/barriers of the baseline initiatives to overcome, in order to successfully implement forest and landscape restoration activities and to address the environmental threats presented in **Part 2.1.1 supra**. Drivers of environmental threats are listed randomly, without prejudging their importance:

Drivers	Baseline initiatives	Gap/barriers to overcome
Unsustainable industrial logging	<p><u>Policy context:</u> Forest Code (2008) and specific regulations in that regard, effectively implemented (thanks notably to the AAAGRDF).</p> <p><u>Financing support:</u> (i) VPA/FLEGT process (EU, EURO 6.7 million) to support wood legality/traceability, (ii) Comp. 2 of the 2017-2021 PDRSO (AFD-FFEM, EURO 6.5 million) and Forest Comp. B of the 2018-2022 Mining & Forest Governance project (USD 5.7 million for the forest part, WB) to support PEAs and forest industry in general.</p>	None
Unsustainable artisanal logging	<p><u>Policy context:</u> Forest Code (2008) and specific regulations in this regard, but not yet implemented (no private/decentralized collectivity/community forest, no formal artisanal logging). Draft V0 of Forest policy aiming at addressing these issues.</p> <p><u>Financing support:</u> (i) 2016-2018 CoNGOs' project (IIED, budget for CAR not yet defined) to facilitate multi-stakeholder concertation, (ii) Forest Comp. D of the 2018-2022 Mining & Forest Governance project (USD 5.7 million for the forest part, WB) to set up pilot Community forests and formal artisanal logging near Berbéрати.</p>	To fine-tune the Draft V0 Forest policy re: private/local authorities/community forests and artisanal logging (see Output 1.2.3 infra)
Unsustainable wood energy harvest	<p><u>Policy context:</u> Forest Code (2008) and specific regulations not dealing explicitly with this issue. Marginal consideration for wood energy in the energy policy. WISDOM study carried out in 2009 in Bangui, but no follow-up. Draft V0 of Forest policy aiming at addressing these issues.</p> <p><u>Financing support:</u> (i) 2016-2018 CoNGOs' project (IIED, budget for CAR not yet defined) to facilitate multi-stakeholder concertation, (ii) Forest Comp. D of the 2018-2022 Mining & Forest Governance project (USD 5.7 million for the forest part, WB) to set up pilot Community forests and formal artisanal logging near Berbéрати.</p>	<p>(i) To fine-tune the Draft V0 Forest policy re: private/local authorities/community forests and artisanal logging (see Output 1.2.3 infra)</p> <p>(ii) To upgrade the WISDOM study for Bangui (major D/O gap) (see Output 1.2.2 infra)</p>
Little reforestation, nearly no ANR or FLR	<p><u>Policy context:</u> Forest Code (2008) focusing on public reforestation (unclearly for private/decentralized collectivity/community forest) and not explicitly mentioning ANR or FLR. No outcome from the National Reforestation Committee set up in 2010, esp. no national reforestation/ANR/FLR strategy. No national capacity to produce forest seeds/plants at scale. Poor success of reforestation perimeters from the CAS-DF (lack of means, as the forest taxation regime is challenged by forest companies / poor follow-up). Few</p>	<p>(i) To fine-tune the Draft V0 Forest policy re: private/local authorities/community, reforestation, ANR/FLR (see Output 1.2.3 infra)</p>

	<p>experience of local communities and civil servants in terms of reforestation/ANR/FLR. Draft V0 of Forest policy aiming at addressing these issues.</p> <p><u>Financing support:</u> (i) 2016-2018 CoNGOs' project (IIED, budget for CAR not yet defined) to facilitate multi-stakeholder concertation, (ii) Forest Comp. D of the 2018-2022 Mining & Forest Governance project (USD 5.7 million for the forest part, WB) to set up pilot 2 Community forests and formal artisanal logging near Berbérati, (iii) Comp. 3 of the 2017-2021 PDRSO (AFD-FFEM; EURO 6.5 million) to set up small-scale / pilot reforestation and ANR/FLR actions (few ha near Bangui).</p>	<p>(ii) To assess reforestation/restoration opportunities and set up a nat. strategy (see Outputs 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 infra)</p> <p>(iii) To build capacities of local communities and civil servants in terms of reforestation, ANR, FLR and implement field actions (see Outputs 2.1 to 2.4, and 3.1 to 3.4 infra)</p> <p>(iv) To make recommendations for an efficient channeling of domestic / external funding for ANR / FLR (see Output 3.5 infra)</p>
<p>Bushfire, closely linked with bushmeat hunting</p>	<p><u>Policy context:</u> Forest Code (2008) authorizing bushfire for cropping, under certain conditions, but little control. Protected Areas better preserved, thanks to external funding (eco-guards, IGAs, etc.). Wildlife Protection Code (1984) outdated, but to be replaced soon by a Wildlife Plan (expected 2017). Bushmeat consumption still common and bushfire for hunting very common. Draft V0 of Forest policy to address these issues.</p> <p><u>Financing support:</u> (i) APDS project (Tri-National Sangha + many other donors, funding level unknown), (ii) ECOFAC6 (EU, EURO 12 million) to support protection of 3 PAs (North and South-East), (iii) Comp. 3 of the 2017-2021 PDRSO (AFD-FFEM; EURO 6.5 million) to set up IGAs in 10 South-Western Communes.</p>	<p>(i) To fine-tune the Draft V0 Forest policy re: bushfire and bushmeat, reflecting the findings of the Wildlife Plan (see Output 1.2.3 infra)</p> <p>(ii) To promote alternatives IGAs (incl. NTFPs), to increase revenues and diversify diets, thus reducing bushfire / hunting (see Output 2.3 infra)</p>
<p>Unsustainable slash-and-burn cropping</p>	<p><u>Policy context:</u> No agriculture policy, but the PNIASAN, focusing on "conventional agriculture" to develop food crops. Agriculture sector deeply impacted by the recent crisis. Rural development projects replaced by emergency and post-emergency projects, notably for food aid. Poor performance of the CAR agriculture as a whole. Weak public services in the agriculture sector (MDRA, ICRA, ACDA, etc.) with marginal support from the State and the donors (apart from the NGO Welthungerhilfe which recently supported the renovation of ICRA research stations). Little or no experience of local communities and civil servants in terms of agroecology, despite the concept is included in the INDC (2015).</p> <p><u>Financing support:</u> (i) National Agriculture Support Program (WB, USD 45 million?) to be launched in 2018 or even 2019...But no details on actions and locations, (ii) Comp. 3 of the 2017-2021 PDRSO (AFD-FFEM; EURO 6.5 million) to set up small-scale / pilot agroecology field trials (few ha near Bangui).</p>	<p>(i) To support ICRA in setting-up R&D programs on FLR and agro-ecology (see Output 3.4 infra)</p> <p>(ii) To build capacities of local populations and civil servants in agro-ecology (see Outputs 3.1 to 3.3 infra)</p> <p>(iii) To promote alternatives IGAs (incl. NTFPs), to increase revenue and diversify the diet, and thus contribute to reducing slash-and-burn (see Output 2.3 infra)</p>
<p>Mining</p>	<p><u>Policy context:</u> Mining Code (2009) inadequate with regard to the artisanal mining. Gold and diamond artisanal mining common in the South-West.</p> <p><u>Financing support:</u> (i) PRADD2 (USAID, USD 0.7 million) to support the "formalization" of the artisanal mining (and conformity to the Kimberley process) in the South-West, (ii) 2018-2022 Mining & Forest</p>	<p>None</p>

	<p>Governance project (USD 4.3 million for the mining part, WB) to support the "formalization" of the artisanal mining in the South-West.</p>	
Poor knowledge of ecosystems values	<p><u>Policy context:</u> On-going studies to cross LULUCF data and carbon stock data, and thus value forest carbon (thanks to the FCPF and soon coming CAPI). The SNPA-DB (2000) poorly reflects existing research in terms of biodiversity in the CAR. Knowledge gaps in terms of agrobiodiversity to be filled. The PAN-LCD (2009) and the PNIMT (2009) do not present land degradation status and trends, nor do they include cost estimates of land degradation.</p> <p><u>Financing support:</u> LDN target setting process (UNCCD/GM, funding level yet unknown) to assess 2001-2014 land degradation in the South-West (work carried out by WRI/OSFAC) and support the LDN target setting.</p>	<p>(i) to assess degradation trends and estimate the cost of land degradation (with WRI / LACCEG) (see Outputs 1.1.1 and 1.1.2 infra)</p> <p>(ii) To compile biodiversity literature and carry out research on agro-biodiversity, to estimate the cost of agro/biodiversity loss (see Outputs 1.1.1 infra)</p> <p>(iii) To review agro/biodiversity cost and upgrade SNPA-DB (see Outputs 1.1.4 infra)</p>
No land planning and poor inter-sectoral coordination	<p><u>Policy context:</u> No land planning, either at national, regional, prefectural or local level. Poor inter-sectoral coordination, leading to overlaps in land use (e.g. mining, forestry, agriculture, etc.), conflicts and/or dilution of the responsibilities.</p> <p><u>Financing support:</u> Comp. 1 of the 2017-2021 PDRSO (AFD-FFEM, EURO 6.5 million) and Forest Comp. A of the 2018-2022 Mining & Forest Governance project (USD 5.7 million for the forest part, WB) to support the 21 forest Communes of the South-West in preparing their Local Development Plans.</p>	<p>Based on the Local Development Plans and based on inter-sectoral consultations and spatial analyses, to support the elaboration of a regional land planning scheme in the South-West (see Output 1.2.1 infra)</p>
Land tenure insecurity	<p><u>Policy context:</u> Land tenure regime outdated and unsuitable in several respects. Draft Framework Law on Land Tenure ready for validation since 2015, pending political impulse for approval.</p> <p><u>Financing support:</u> To our knowledge, no project addressing this issue.</p>	<p>Political impulse to reinforced when fine-tuning the Draft V0 Forest policy in order to get the Framework Law approved (see Output 1.2.3 infra)</p>
Climate change	<p><u>Policy context:</u> NAPA (2008) and INDC (2015) focusing adaptation measures in the agriculture and forestry sectors (ecosystem-based adaptation - EBA).</p> <p><u>Financing support:</u> To our knowledge, no project explicitly supporting EBA</p>	<p>(i) To build capacities of local communities and civil servants in terms of reforestation, ANR, FLR and implement field EBA actions (see Outputs 3.1 to 3.3 infra)</p> <p>(ii) To promote alternatives IGAs (incl. from NTFPs), to increase revenues and diversify diets, thus increasing climate resilience of local communities (see Output 2.3 infra)</p>

Figure 32 - Remaining barriers to address the environmental threats (authors, 2017)

2.2. The GEF alternative

2.2.1. Project objectives and indicators of success

162. The overall objective of the TRI CAR project is to contribute to the restoration and maintenance of critical landscapes to provide global environmental benefits and more resilient economic development and livelihoods, in support of the Bonn Challenge.
163. Indicators to measure success and to capture the change that has been achieved by the project are the following (see details in **Annex 1 – Results Matrix infra**):

Figure 33 - Indicators of the TRI CAR Project (authors, 2017)

Indicators	Targets
1.1) New/additional Bonn Challenge commitment	x Mha ¹
1.2) Policies and Regulatory Frameworks that support FLR while incorporating biodiversity conservation, accelerated low GHG development, and sustainable livelihood considerations	6 PRFs
2.1.a) Area of deforested and degraded landscapes in restoration transition, stratified by land management actors (communities, farmers, private enterprises, and others) – Direct Activity of the project	3,221 ha ^{2a}
2.1.b) Area where deforestation is prevented thanks to direct activities of the project	2,665 ha ^{2b}
2.2) Area of land under improved/new application of FLR and complementary land management, stratified by land management actors (communities, farmers, private enterprises, and others) through indirect project effect	16,346 ha ³
2.3) Number of households directly benefiting from the project (from jobs, revenue and income, sustainably harvested timber, NTFP, improved livelihoods, etc.)	Approx. 3,000 households ⁴ a balance of men and women involved will be important to keep in mind while developing the activities
2.4) tCO _{2eq} avoided emissions/removals in TRI target landscapes as a result of TRI interventions (direct)	3,185,597 tCO _{2eq} ⁵
3.1) Number of cross-agency mechanisms and/or frameworks established and maintained to strengthen and facilitate coordinated national and sub-national action on restoration	1 National FLR Committee
3.2) Number of TRI-supported workshops, and capacity-building/learning events; demonstrated increase in knowledge and capacity to plan for and manage restoration	35 events ⁶
3.3) Value of new and additional resources (public, private, development partners) flowing into FLR	USD 7 million
3.4) Number of bankable restoration projects developed through inclusive development process and meeting industry standards for quality and financial viability.	2 projects
4.1) Attendance of TRI-supported South-South exchanges that address restoration	12 events ⁷
4.2) Degree to which TRI implementing partners practice adaptive management based on M&E inputs.	Effective M&E
4.3) Development of timely and relevant TRI knowledge products that capture lessons learned, and supporting tools for accessing and communicating TRI results to practitioners and global community.	Guide of GP on FLR Training materials
4.4) Development of effective global awareness campaign increasing public awareness & FLR support	Cf. Global TRI Proj.

¹ To be defined during project implementation, by the National Coordination on FLR (see **Part 1.2.3 supra** for details about this Coordination)

^{2a} Estimate from field missions carried out in early 2017 in the five pilot sites (see **Part 2.3.2 infra**)

^{2b} Avoided deforestation direct: Considering (i) 2,221 ha of land to be restored (3,221 minus 1,000ha plantation), (ii) each household has in average 1.5 ha of degraded fallows under his control in the South-West (TECSULT, 1994), (iii) the households engaged in the TRI CAR Projects could reasonably restore half of the degraded fallows under their control, i.e. 0.75 ha/household, then the TRI CAR Project would mobilize $2,221 / 0.75 = 2,961$ households. Normally, each household would clear 0.9 ha of forests every two years for cropping, i.e. 0.45 ha/year (TECSULT, 1994). In the lifetime of the TRI CAR Project, it is reasonable and conservative to assume that the households engaged in the Project (2,961 households engaged in agroforestry + 1 334 households involved around the SEFCA concession) would avoid clearing for at least two years, thus avoided the deforestation of 2,665 ha (0.45 ha/year x 2 years x 4,295 households), out of the 6,662.25 ha (0.45 ha/year x 5 years x 4,295 households) that would have been normally cleared.

³ Avoided deforestation indirect:

During the TRI project: Following the same reasoning and considering 1,743 ha of land to be indirectly directly restored (4,743ha minus 3,000ha plantation), the TRI CAR Project would indirectly mobilize $1,743 / 0.75 = 2,324$ households. Normally, each household would clear 0.9 ha of forests every two years for cropping, i.e. 0.45 ha/year (TECSULT, 1994). In the lifetime of the TRI CAR Project, it is reasonable and conservative to assume that the households indirectly engaged in the Project would avoid clearing for at least two years, thus avoided the deforestation of 2,091 ha (0.45 ha/year x 2 years x 2,324 households), out of the 5,229 ha (0.45 ha/year x 5 years x 2,324 households) that would have been normally cleared. (See [Annex 1 infra](#))

After the TRI project: For this we followed the same reasoning as above for another 10 years following the project. As we are outside of the project life, everything is considered as indirect. We consider, as above, that the households (previously directly or indirectly) engaged in the Project would avoid clearing for at least for years over a 10 years period. This would mean that out of a total of $(6,662+5,229)*2=23,782$ ha which would have been cleared in the scenario without project, $(2,665+2,091)*4=9,512$ ha will not be cleared (See [Annex 1 infra](#))

⁴ 0.75 ha restored per households, and 2,221 ha in total: $2,221 / 0.75 = 2,961$ households (see [Annex 1 infra](#))

⁵ see Ex-Act calculations in [Annex 1 infra](#)

⁶ 5 technical days + 20 meetings of the National Coordination on FLR

⁷ 5 South-South exchanges + 5 annual knowledge meetings + 2 Bi-annual finance meetings

2.2.2. Incremental reasoning and global environmental benefits

164. Based on the above, below is a synthesis, component by component, of the baseline and co-financing, and the GEF technical and financial support:

➔ Component 1: Policy Development and Integration.

165. Baseline and co-financing: The PDRSO and the Forest & Mining Governance Project support the MEDDEFPC and other stakeholders in the forestry sectors to adopt and implement SFM policies and measures. Their actions are mostly focused on the industrial logging activities carried out in the productive forests of the South-West: promotion of Operation and Management Permit (PEA), renewal of industrial equipment, promotion of timber traceability and forest certification, etc. This is estimated to be the equivalent of US\$1,500,000 input provided through the MEDDEFPC.

166. GEF support and financing: In the baseline, actions are targeted towards the productive forests of the South-West. There is little though and financing to promote FLR and include this concern into key policies and regulatory frameworks, dealing with forestry, but also land planning, land tenure, bioenergy, biodiversity, etc. GEF will provide the technical and financial support to improve the knowledge on forest ecosystem services, assess FLR opportunities, develop a South-Western Land Planning Scheme, and upgrade the national strategies and policies in terms of bioenergy, forestry and biodiversity. GEF support to this component is US\$875,750.

➔ Component 2: Implementation of Restoration Programs and Complementary Initiatives.

167. Baseline and co-financing: The PDRSO, the Forest & Mining Governance Project and the FAO contribute to the reduction of deforestation and forest degradation, through diverse types of action, targeting rural households, farmers' groups, forest companies, etc.: capacity building, trainings, granting of equipment, promotion of sustainably harvested timber and NTFP, etc. This is estimated to be the equivalent of US\$5,670,000 input, mainly provided through the MEDDEFPC.

168. GEF support and financing: In the baseline, there is little or no support to FLR (apart from small-scale pilot activities) and the focus is mainly on avoiding the degradation/deforestation, rather than restoring forests and landscapes. GEF will provide the technical and financial support to design and implement FLR actions at significant scale, with different types of stakeholders (communities, farmers, private enterprises, etc.). In particular, GEF will support the restoration of degraded and unproductive fallows with rural households, thus proving it is possible and relevant to restore these lands, instead of flying forward and destroying the natural capital of the CAR. GEF support to this component is US\$3,071,311.

➔ **Component 3: Institutions, Finance and Upscaling.**

169. Baseline and co-financing: The Forest & Mining Governance Project, the CAFI and the FAO aim at building capacities of diverse stakeholders in terms of agro-ecology, agroforestry, and, more generally, alternative activities to slash-and-burn agriculture. Their actions are generally focused on certain pilot areas, not well coordinated by ad hoc institutional arrangements at national level, and the upscaling of these actions is therefore challenging. This is estimated to be the equivalent of US\$3,180,000 input, mainly provided through the MEDDEFPCP.

170. GEF support and financing: GEF will provide the technical and financial support to strengthen and facilitate coordinated national and sub-national action on restoration, to establish and run field-level support entities (i.e. nurseries, restoration value chain businesses, etc.), and attract private and public funding to support FLR actions on the ground. GEF support to this component is US\$1,003,148.

➔ **Component 4: Knowledge, Partnerships, Monitoring and Assessment**

171. Baseline and co-financing: The CAR does not have a national monitoring system of FLR activities, nor the opportunity to exchange about FLR with other developing countries. As at now, there is no support planned to address these issues. Furthermore, good practices in terms of FLR are scattered worldwide and efforts to capitalize these good practices and raise awareness at global level are still needed.

172. GEF support and financing: GEF will provide the technical and financial support to organize South-South exchanges on FLR, to design a national monitoring system on FLR, to develop TRI knowledge products, and to raise awareness at global level on the issues related to FLR. GEF support to this component is US\$727,542.

173. The additional activities that will complement and be incremental to the baseline have been briefly described in **Part 2.1.3 supra** and are further detailed in **Part 2.3 infra**. We focus here on the global environmental benefits this will generate, taking into account the FLR definition given by the Global Partnership on FLR (GPFLR)¹⁵¹: “*Process of regaining ecological functionality and enhancing human well-being across deforested or degraded forest landscapes [...] They generally have multiple functions, as they provide a variety of services to society, such as biodiversity, food, water, shelter, livelihood, economic growth, and human well-being. All these services are interlinked*”. The following is based on the GEF6 GEF Trust Fund (GEFTF) programming directions¹⁵², and refers to indicators/targets 1.1 to 4.4 of the TRI CAR Project presented in **Part 2.2.1 supra**.

➔ **Land degradation (contributing to GEF Objective LD-2 Program 3 and LD-3 Program 4)**

174. Regarding the LD-2 “*Forest Landscapes: Generate sustainable flows of forest ecosystem services, including sustaining livelihoods of forest dependent people*”, Program 3 “*Landscape management and restoration*”, the TRI CAR Project will contribute to the following Outcomes:

- “***O2.1: Support mechanisms for forest landscape management and restoration established***”: (i) Six policies and regulatory frameworks will be upgraded or elaborated to support FLR while incorporating biodiversity conservation, accelerated low GHG development, and sustainable livelihood considerations (ind. 1.2), (ii) The National Coordination on FLR will be supported, in order to increase inter-sectoral coordination and provide guidance in terms of FLR (ind. 3.1);

¹⁵¹ See <http://www.forestlandscaperestoration.org/tool/our-approach-landscape-approach>

¹⁵² GEF, 2014. *GEF6 results frameworks for GEFTF, LCDF and SCCF - Excerpts from the Summary of Negotiations of the 6th Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund, May 2014, Cancun, Mexico - Excerpts from the GEF Programming Strategy on Adaptation to Climate Change for the Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) and Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF), May 2014, Cancun, Mexico.* Geneva – GEF, May 2014. 34p

- “O2.2: Improved forest management and/or restoration”: (i) 3,221 ha of deforested and degraded landscapes will be in restoration transition and 2,665 ha will not be deforested thanks to the direct impact of the project (ind. 2.1), (ii) through the indirect effect of the project 44,131 ha of land will be under improved/new application of FLR, complementary land management and/or saved from deforestation;
- “O2.3: Increased investments in SFM and restoration”: (i) USD 7 million will flow into restoration initiatives (ind. 3.3), (ii) Two bankable restoration projects will be developed through inclusive development process and meeting industry standards (ind. 3.4).

175. Regarding the LD-3 *“Integrated Landscapes: Reduce pressures on natural resources from competing land uses in the wider landscape”*, Program 4 *“Scaling-up sustainable land management through the landscape approach”*, the TRI CAR Project will contribute to the following Outcomes. Indeed, FLR activities promoted by the TRI CAR Project will lead to an integrated natural resources management on the pilot sites, making possible the coexistence of various natural resources users.

- “O3.1: Support mechanisms for SLM in wider landscapes established”: In addition to the targets 1.2 and 3.1 above-mentioned for the LD-2/ P3/O.2.1, additional ha of degraded land may be committed under the Bonn Challenge, in addition to the 3.5 Mha yet committed (ind. 1.1). NB: Decision to be taken by end of 2017 by the National Coordination on FLR, in the frame of the Land Degradation Neutrality target-setting process;
- “O3.2: Integrated landscape management practices adopted by local communities based on gender sensitive needs”: In addition to the targets already mentioned above, around 3,000 households will directly benefit from the project (from capacity building, trainings, equipment, jobs, revenue and income, sustainably harvested timber, NTFP, etc.) (ind. 2.2) and 47 workshops and capacity-building/learning events will be carried out (ind. 3.2);
- “O3.3: Increased investments in integrated landscape management”: The same targets 3.3 and 3.4, already mentioned above, apply here.

➔ **Biodiversity (contributing to GEF Objective BD-4 Program 9)**

176. Regarding the BD-4 *“Mainstream biodiversity conservation and sustainable use into production landscapes and seascapes and production sectors”*, Program 9 *“Managing the human-biodiversity interface”*, the TRI CAR Project will contribute to the following Outcomes. NB: The TRI CAR Project is not intended to contribute directly to the GEF Objective BD-3 Program 7 on agro-biodiversity, but it aims at being agro-biodiversity sensitive, as further explained in **Part 2.3.2 infra**).

- “O9.1 Increased area of production landscapes and seascapes that integrate conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity into management”: The same target 2.1, already mentioned above, apply here. Indeed, all FLR activities to be carried out by the TRI CAR Project will pay due consideration to biodiversity and agro-biodiversity (see Outputs 2.1 and 2.2 in **Part 2.3.2 infra**);
- “O9.2 Sector policies and regulatory frameworks incorporate biodiversity considerations”: The same targets 1.2 and 3.1 already mentioned above, apply here.

➔ **Sustainable Forest Management (contributing to GEF Objective SFM-3 Programs 7 and 8 and SFM-4 Programs 9 and 10)**

177. Regarding the SFM-3 *“Restored Forest Ecosystems: Reverse the loss of ecosystem services within degraded forest landscapes”*, Program 7 *“Building technical and institutional capacities to identify degraded forest landscapes and monitor forest restoration”* and Program 8 *“Integrating SFM in landscape restoration”*, the TRI CAR Project will contribute to the following Outcome:

- “O5: Integrated landscape restoration plans to maintain forest ecosystem services are implemented at appropriate scales by government, private sector and local communities”: The same targets, already mentioned above, apply here.

178. Regarding the SFM-4 “*Increased Regional and Global Cooperation: Enhanced regional and global coordination on efforts to maintain forest resources, enhance forest management and restore forest ecosystems through the transfer of international experience and know-how*”, Program 9 “*Private sector engagement*” and Program 10 “*Global technologies for national progress*”, the TRI CAR Project will contribute to the following Outcome:
- “*O6: Improved collaboration between countries and across sectors on the implementation of SFM*”: Seven annual high-quality TRI-supported annual knowledge and learning workshop reports will be produced (ind. 4.1) and timely and relevant TRI knowledge products will be produced, capturing lessons learned, and supporting tools for accessing and communicating TRI results to practitioners and global community (ind. 4.3).

2.3. Project components, outcomes, and outputs

2.3.1. Comp 1: Policy Development and Integration

Outcome 1.1 - Increased national and sub-national commitment to forest and landscape

→ Output 1.1.1 - Filling of knowledge gap in terms of ecosystem service valuation

179. As presented in **Parts 1.2.3 and 2.1.1 supra**, national data on (agro)biodiversity (level of populations, locations, risk exposure and trends of populations, cost/benefit of (agro)biodiversity protection notably in terms of resilience to climate change, etc.) and soils (chemical and physical fertility by soil types, agricultural potential, carbon storage, cost/benefit of organic matter and soil carbon enhancement, etc.) are fragmented and/or obsolete, or even non-existent (e.g. data on agro-biodiversity and carbon storage). Having no real values, the environmental services derived from (agro) biodiversity and soils are not considered at their right importance, hampering decision-makers’ involvement in and commitment to environmental policies, notably FLR policies. Therefore, filling this knowledge gap is key-factor of success for the TRI CAR Project as a whole. In essence, two assessments will be carried out in the frame of this output: a biophysical one, and an economic one.
180. The biophysical assessment will follow two steps:
- Gathering of data, at national / sub-regional / global levels, allowing to better qualify/quantify environmental services (from a biophysical point of view) derived from (agro)biodiversity and soils, in the two main agro-ecological zones of the CAR, savanna and dense moist forest;
 - Analysis of impacts of FLR activities in terms of (i) (agro)biodiversity variation (composition, location, etc.), (ii) carbon storage variations in soils and vegetation, induced by variations in biodiversity (flora and fauna, macro-to-micro levels), (iii) organic matter and soil fertility;
181. The economic assessment will also follow two steps:
- Gathering of data, at national / sub-regional / global levels, allowing to better qualify/quantify environmental services (from an economic point of view) derived from (agro)diversity and soils, in the same agro-ecological zones, savanna and dense moist forest;
 - Analysis of the costs and benefits of the maintenance of ecosystem services (mainly biodiversity maintenance, soil fertility maintenance and carbon storage) as a result of FLR actions, using ad hoc methods (i.e. decomposition of the Total Economic Value – TEV - of each environmental service, and identification/implementation of a specific economic evaluation for each part of the TEV).
182. These assessments will be carried out during a 3-year period by two PhD students from the University of Bangui (from which depend most of the research institutes in the CAR, notably the ISDR of M’Baïki), supervised by national researchers, in collaboration with researchers from the CIRAD (since 1988 present in M’Baïki and which will be involved in some activities of the project. See **Part 2.3.3 infra**), and other research centers if relevant, such as the Regional Centre for Applied Research for Developing Agricultural Systems in Central Africa (*Pôle régional de recherche appliquée au développement des savanes d’Afrique Centrale – PRASAC*)¹⁵³

¹⁵³ See <http://www.prasac-cemac.org/>

or the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)¹⁵⁴. Two to four study sites (one to two, in each agro-ecological zone) will be chosen with the objective to have a diversity of local situations (especially in terms of vegetation, soils, and level of anthropic pressures), while taking into account the operational constraints (travel time and safety of the study sites).

183. **Deliverables:** PhD thesis on the biophysical impacts of FLR on (agro)biodiversity, soil fertility, soil and plant carbon storage; PhD thesis on costs/benefits of the maintenance of the same ecosystem services; At least two publications in international peer-reviewed journals; At least two participations in international conferences. **Timeframe:** Three years from 2018. **Means:** Allowances for the PhD students (including stays of four to six months per year in CIRAD, if hosting agreements are signed), local travel, other field expenses; Two follow-up meetings for each PhD student; Two trips to international conferences.

➔ **Output 1.1.2 - Filling of knowledge gap in terms of restoration opportunities**

184. As presented in **Part 1.2.3 supra**, the PAN-LCD (MEE, 2009a) and the PNIMT (MEE, 2009b) roughly describe the land degradation situation in the CAR. Quantitative data (i.e. affected areas stratified by type of land degradation, historical trends, future trends, etc.) were not included in this assessment. More generally, spatially explicit data regarding natural resources are few, including for the monitoring of LULUCF, as presented in **Part 1.1.3 supra**. However, thanks to the OSFT and REDDAF projects, an assessment of historical deforestation for the southern part of the country was carried out (JAFFRAIN et PINET, 2014) (DE WASSEIGE et al., 2014), and recently further refined for the South-West area (FRM et al., 2016). Still, much remains to be done to get an overview of LULUCF and land degradation at the national level.
185. Despite past crises, characterized by institutional and funding disruptions (for instance of scientific research centers), human resources and infrastructure are available, although limited, to carry out spatialized biophysical monitoring of natural resources, based on remote-sensing and GIS. Indeed, from an assessment made in the context of the AFD/FFEM-funded GEOFORAFRI project [(DEBARD & PATALANO, 2013)¹⁵⁵; (LARDEUX and al., 2013)¹⁵⁶; quoted in (SalvaTerra, 2015)], these resources are dispersed and low, but form a useful basis for the future:

	CDF ¹	LACCEG ²	MEE ³	AAAGRDF ⁴
Secured premises	Red	Orange	Green	Green
Space available for computer room	Red	Green	Orange	Orange
Air conditioning for computer room	Red	Red	Orange	Orange
Secured power supply (power generator, inverter)	Red	Green	Orange	Orange
Network infrastructure	Grey	Grey	Grey	Grey
Back-up and archiving of data	Red	Orange	Orange	Orange
Internet connection (access, priority management)	Red	Red	Red	Red
Technical human resources	Red	Green	Grey	Grey

¹ CDF - *Centre de données forestières* / Forest Data Centre (depended at this time from the MEFCP).

² LACCEG - *Laboratoire de climatologie, de cartographie et d'études géographiques* / Laboratory of Climatology, Cartography and Geographical Studies

³ MEE - *Ministère de l'environnement et de l'écologie* / Ministry of Environment and Ecology (since then, MEFCP and the MEE have been merged to form the MEDDEFCEP)

⁴ AAAGRDF - *Agence autonome d'appui à la gestion durable des ressources forestières* / Independent Agency for Sustainable Forest Resource Management

Green = OK, Orange = Existent, but not satisfactory / at risk, Red = Not existent, Grey = No data

Figure 34 - CAR's research centers specialized in NR monitoring (SalvaTerra, 2015)

186. Also, the land degradation neutrality target setting exercise is underway (CAR Gvt, 2016a). As presented in **Part 1.2.3 supra**, an assessment of land degradation in the South-West is currently carried out by WRI and

¹⁵⁴ See <http://www.worldagroforestry.org/working-for-icraf>

¹⁵⁵ DEBARD, S. & PATALANO, J.-C., 2013. *Diagnostic de l'accessibilité aux données satellite en RCA – Composante 1 du projet GEOFORAFRI*. Montpellier – IRD, février 2013. 13p

¹⁵⁶ LARDEUX, C., PINET, C. & JAFFRAIN, G., 2013. *Diagnostic des capacités, besoins et actions prioritaires en vue du renforcement des centres de compétence en matière de suivi des forêts en RCA – Composante 2 du projet GEOFORAFRI*. Montpellier – IRD, avril 2013. 35p

OSFAC, thanks to a support from the UNCCD and GM (passing through the African Union and its AFR100 Program). Preliminary results are not yet available for distribution (Pers. comm. R. D. NAMBONA - DG environment at the MEDDEFPC, February 2017), but the objectives of the study were presented during a workshop held in December 2016 in Bangui (Pers. comm. D. BEINA – FAO consultant, March 2017): (i) Calculate the area on which restoration is theoretically possible, (ii) Identify where restoration is technically, economically, and socially feasible, (iii) Estimate costs/benefits of restoration strategies, (iv) Determine the existing or needed incentives to support restoration, (v) Involve stakeholders.

187. The above forms a promising basis to upscale these regional assessments to the entire country, following a similar approach, the Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM) (IUCN & WRI, 2014)¹⁵⁷ (IUCN & WRI, 2016)¹⁵⁸. This methodology has been successfully implemented in Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, etc. and is underway in many other countries. Specifically, in the CAR, building on the on-going WRI/OSFAC study, drawing on the soon-coming ROAM study in Laos (FAO Cambodia, 2016)¹⁵⁹, and building capacities of relevant institutions (AAGRDF and CDF under the MEDDEFPC; AAGRDF), the ROAM study will consist in the following:

- Liaise with the relevant Ministries and institutions, and engage partners to set up a ROAM working group; clarifying tasks, roles and responsibility with the staff involved in the study;
- Stratify the area into homogeneous agro-ecological zones (using indicators such as climate, land use, topography, agronomical zones) and define assessment criteria, data needs, maps and priorities, in order to prepare GIS for the following: degradation maps per criteria, stacked multi-criteria degradation map, and full restoration potential map;
- Carry out “stakeholder mapping” (with particular attention to gender, youth, and vulnerable groups) and map “current land use” using collected data and results from field visits, meetings and stock taking;
- Carry out economic cost-benefit assessment and climate change impact analysis (carbon) of interventions, as well as prepare a short list of interventions for selected pilot Communes;
- Weight criteria per defined objectives and prepare a priority map, to be discussed during a validation workshop, in order to produce FLR opportunity maps for main interventions.

188. Deliverables: Degradation maps per criteria; Stacked multi-criteria degradation map; Full restoration potential map; Stakeholder map; Cost-benefit assessment and climate change impact analysis; Short list of interventions for selected pilot Communes; FLR opportunity maps. Timeframe: One year from 2018. Means: Fees for two international experts and two national experts (45 man-days each); Lumpsum for local travel and local consultations; Two workshops (inception and validation).

Outcome 1.2 - National and sub-national policy and regulatory frameworks are increasingly supportive of restoration, sustainable land management, maintenance and enhancement of carbon stocks in forest and other land uses, and reduced emissions from LULUCF and agriculture

➔ **Output 1.2.1 – Elaborating a Land Planning Scheme for the South-West area**

189. As explained in the **Parts 1.2.5 and 2.1.3 supra**, there is currently no land planning, either at national, regional, prefectural or local level. The inter-sectoral coordination in the rural area is globally poor, leading to overlaps in land use (e.g. mining, forestry, agriculture, etc.), conflicts and/or dilution of the responsibilities. However, an interesting study was carried out 20 years ago in the frame of the PARN, to elaborate a Land Planning

¹⁵⁷ IUCN & WRI, 2014. *Version préliminaire : Guide de la Méthodologie d'évaluation des opportunités de restauration des paysages forestiers (MEOR) - Évaluer les opportunités de restauration des paysages forestiers à l'échelon national ou local*. Gland – IUCN, 2014. 126p

¹⁵⁸ IUCN & WRI, 2016. *Road-test edition: A guide to the Restoration Opportunities Assessment Methodology (ROAM) - Assessing forest and landscape restoration opportunities at the national or sub-national level*. Gland – IUCN, February 2016. 43p

¹⁵⁹ FAO Cambodia, 2016. *Letter of agreement between FAO and IUCN for Technical Assistance on ROAM to Promote FLR in Cambodia*. Phnom penh – FAO Cambodia, January 2017. 16p

Scheme in the South-West (TECSULT, 1994). A complete assessment of the biophysical and socio-economic conditions prevailing at that time has been done, and can be an inspiring source. In addition to that:

- Two projects are focusing their effort in the South-West, notably to support the 21 forest Communes to elaborate their Local Development Plans: Comp. 1 of the 2017-2021 PDRSO (AFD, 2012) and Forest Comp. B of the 2018-2022 Mining & Forest Governance project (World Bank, 2017b). This could lay the ground for a “bottom-up” land planning elaboration;
- Some technical and scientific institutions, notably WRI, LACCEG, CDF, AAAGDRF, and ICASEES, have already produced thematic maps and spatially explicit database. It is especially worth mentioning that the CAR is one of the few countries of the Congo Basin to have a high precision LULUCF map covering nearly half of its territory, thanks to the OSFT and REDDAF project (JAFFRAIN et PINET, 2014) (DE WASSEIGE et al., 2014). All these existing data could be of relevance for a “top-down” land planning elaboration.

190. Specifically, the output will be achieved through the following activities:

- Liaise with the relevant Ministries (in charge of agriculture / forest / mine / environment / interior / finance / etc.) and institutions (local authorities at Prefecture level, Projects and NGOs active in the area, logging companies, etc.), and create a multi-actor South-West land planning working group, as well as four sub-working groups for each of the targeted Prefectures (NB: scope limited to two Communes in Ombella-Mpoko, Bimbo and Bangui, as they concentrate 20% of the population, as well as major issues in terms of food and energy supplies, and as it seems necessary not to disseminate efforts); Clarify tasks, roles and responsibility with the stakeholders involved in the study;
- Set up a land planning technical task force, which could be led by WRI and/or LACCEG, with external support if needed, such as IGN-FI¹⁶⁰ or GAF-AG¹⁶¹; Build capacities (GIS, remote-sensing, database management, legal texts directly or indirectly dealing with land planning, etc.) and provide equipment and technical assistance to create a regional GIS and regional database; Compile existing data, identify gaps of information, and potential major land use conflicts (“top-down approach”);
- Gather and compile preliminary/final elements contained in the draft or final version of the Local Development Plans of the 21 forest Communes, as well as field data from the other targeted Communes (based on field survey, focus group, local workshop) (“bottom-up approach”); Combine and cross-check data issued from the “top-down approach” and the “bottom-up approach” and produce multi-thematic maps as needed (i.e. showing the borders and overlaps of forest estates, mining areas, agriculture area, settlements, etc.) in order to identify precisely land use potentials and major land use conflicts;
- Organize back and forth consultations, as needed, from local communities to upper administrative levels, to reconcile analyses and converge towards a consensual South-West Land Use Planning Scheme (this may include reviewing/upgrading the Local Development Plans), so that this scheme can be technically validated by the multi-actor South-West land planning sub-working group and working group, and conveyed to decision-makers for political and official validation, and transcription into the relevant legal texts.

191. As part of their national strategies, notably REDD+, many countries of the Congo Basin are also preparing such Land Use Planning Schemes. This is the case for the DRC (Gvt of DRC, 2015)¹⁶² and Gabon (Gvt of Gabon, 2016)¹⁶³. In both cases, forest zoning is at the heart of the reasoning, but the planned activities go beyond the strict forestry framework to take into account all other land uses (agriculture, livestock, infrastructure, etc.), so that it deals with land use planning. The DRC has budgeted USD 19 million (USD 8.1 per km²) to elaborate a national land use planning, with specific support to Provinces hosting hot spots of deforestation. Gabon has budgeted for USD 11.1 million (USD 41.5 per km²) to develop its National Land Use Planning Scheme, based on the detailed participatory mapping of 2,600 villages.

¹⁶⁰ See <http://www.ignfi.fr/fr?redirect>

¹⁶¹ See <https://www.gaf.de/>

¹⁶² Gvt of DRC, 2015. *Plan d'investissement REDD+ 2015-2020*. Kinshasa – Gvt de RDC, novembre 2015. 150p

¹⁶³ Gvt of Gabon, 2016. *Draft V3 du CIN - Planification de l'utilisation des terres et surveillance forestière pour promouvoir des stratégies de développement durable et écologique*. Libreville- Gvt du Gabon, décembre 2016. 121p

192. In the case of DRC, costs are moderate, but most of the budget is allocated to fill the data gap because there is not yet basic data in terms of LULUCF (contrarily to the CAR). In the case of Gabon, the unit cost is high, but it covers much more than what is foreseen for the CAR: (i) National mapping of agricultural potential (using remote sensing analyses, ground surveys, and soil analyses), (ii) Establishing a complete network of meteorological stations and modelling the impacts of climate change on land use, (iii) Mapping of hydrocarbon and minerals and modelling future scenarios, (iv) Conducting econometric analyses on the sustainable extraction of natural resources and agriculture, (v) Mapping the high-conservation value zones.
193. Estimating the costs of elaborating a Land Use Planning Scheme is not evident, as existing land use potential and conflicts are, by nature, not known, thus making the exercise more or less tedious. In any case, based on the experience of the DRC and Gabon, and considering the existing data in the CAR, the unit cost of this study (in USD per km²) will not exceed half of the unit cost in the DRC.
194. Deliverables: Multi-thematic maps identifying precisely land use potentials and major land use conflicts; Regional Land Use Planning Scheme and corresponding maps: Upgraded Local Development Plans in the 21 forest Communes, reflecting outcomes of the exercise. Timeframe: Two years from 2018. Means: Fees for three international experts and three national experts (50 man-days each); Lumpsum for field expenses and local consultations; Twelve workshops (inception, mid-term, and validation / three sub-working group + working group).

➔ **Output 1.2.2 – Upgrading the Wood Energy Supply Plan (WISDOM) for Bangui/Bimbo**

195. As explained in the **Parts 1.2.1 and 2.1.3 supra**, wood energy is, by far, the main source of energy (93% in total), especially for rural and urban households; it does not appear as a priority of the Government in terms of energy policy; wood energy harvest is poorly managed by the MEDDEFPC and most of the harvest in peri-urban areas, especially Bangui/Bimbo, is unsustainable, with an increasing gap between the demand and the net annual increment of the peri-urban forests (MWH, 2017). And yet, thanks to the support of the FAO, a WISDOM Platform was put in place in the late 2000's, to quantify and spatialize wood energy fluxes (DRIGO, 2009), and a Strategy for the development of the urban and peri-urban forests of Bangui was prepared, incorporating WISDOM findings (SALBITANO, 2009).
196. Mainly due to the recent years of crisis, the use of these documents remained limited. But, the situation has further worsened: in 2009, the “Greater Bangui” (Bangui and its surroundings) was 10 times larger than in the 1960's, and deforestation was expanding at an annual rate of 300 m, especially towards the South and South-West; in 2017, the population of Bangui/Bimbo increased by 49% (i.e. 750,000 inhabitants in 2009 according to DRIGO (2009); 1,115,000 inhabitants in 2015 according to UNOCHA (2016)). There are now two urgent issues to address: How to sustain the wood energy supply of vulnerable urban and peri-urban households? How to reduce the gap between the “human demand” and “the naturally sustainable offer (carrying capacity)”?
197. Therefore, an upgrading of the WISDOM exercise is urgently needed, to inform the national decision-makers and external partners about the urgency, and try to identify short-term, medium-term and long-term measures to address the above-mentioned issues. These can be done following five steps, as shown below (DRIGO & SALBITANO, 2009)¹⁶⁴ (FAO, undated)¹⁶⁵:

¹⁶⁴ DRIGO, R. et SALBITANO, F., 2009. *WISDOM pour les villes - Analyse de la dendroénergie et de l'urbanisation grâce à la méthode WISDOM - Carte globale intégrée de l'offre et de la demande de bois de feu*. Roma – FAO, 2009. 134p

¹⁶⁵ FAO Roma, undated. *Cartographie globale intégrée de l'offre et de la demande en combustible ligneux – WISDOM. Question méthodologique et structure*. Roma – FAO, non daté. 14p

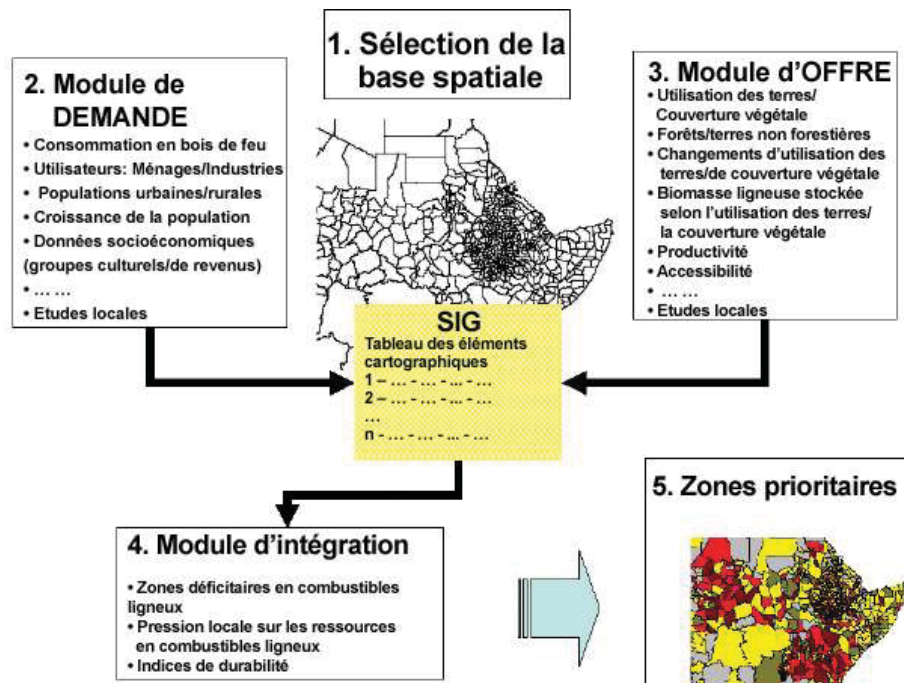


Figure 35 - Five steps of WISDOM (FAO Roma, undated)

198. Specifically, the following steps will be carried out:

- Selecting the Region of Interest (RoI) and the minimal administrative mapping unit: The RoI chosen for the 2009 WISDOM study may no longer be relevant, as the deforestation front has progressed. The RoI for the upgraded WISDOM study may therefore be enlarged. As for the minimal administrative mapping unit, the WRI Forest atlas database¹⁶⁶ may provide various up-to-date shapefiles in that regard;
- Estimating demand: Data from the literature, from spatial analyses, and from field surveys are collected and cross-checked to identify (i) Users (rural/urban households, small industries, etc.), (ii) Uses (cooking, artisanal or semi-artisanal processing – bakeries, brickyards, etc.), (iii) Types of wood energy (firewood or charcoal, coming from forests, fallows, saw-mill cutoff and waste, etc.);
- Estimating offer: Data from the literature, from spatial analyses, and from field surveys are collected and cross-checked to identify (i) Types and locations of wood energy sources (forests, fallows, saw-mill cutoff and waste, etc.), (ii) Harvesting practices (collection of deadwood, green wood – eventually transformed into deadwood by the popular “heated nail” method, coppicing, pruning, thinning, etc.), (iii) Net biomass increment of the different types of wood energy sources;
- Comparing offer and demand: From the above, two main indicators are calculated for each minimal administrative mapping unit (i) Offer - demand gap (expressed in m³/ha/year), (ii) Potential pressure on forests, i.e. demand / surface of forests (also expressed in m³/ha/year);
- Identifying hot spots and upgrading the wood energy supply strategy for Bangui/Bimbo: Diverse statistical methodologies may be used to identify these hot spots (i.e. where the wood energy gap is critical): data aggregation, multiple component analysis, cluster analysis, etc. Finally, the Strategy for the development of the urban and peri-urban forests of Bangui may be upgraded, incorporating all the elements compiled in the WISDOM platform.

199. According to (DRIGO & SALBITANO, 2009), "the costs of performing a WISDOM analysis will vary considerably depending on (i) human resources and available materials at the start of the study and (ii) existence and access to databases, studies, censuses, and georeferenced maps [...] With an already operational GIS unit and full access to the needed socio-economic and environmental information, costs are limited... if a completely new GIS unit is to be created and operational and access to baseline data is rather conflicting, then costs will be

¹⁶⁶ See <http://caf-data.forest-atlas.org/>

multiplied". It is therefore clear that there is no "standard budget" for such an analysis. Keeping in mind there is already a 2009 WISDOM Platform and considering that the costs incurred for setting up this Platform was around USD 430,000 (DRIGO, 2009) (NB: same cost for the WISDOM Platform in N'Djamena Chad, for the same size – 750,000 inhabitants (DRIGO, 2012)¹⁶⁷), it is conservative to assume the upgrading may cost no more than half of the initial budget, i.e. USD 200,000.

200. Deliverables: upgraded WISDOM platform for Bangui/Bimbo; Upgraded Strategy for the development of the urban and peri-urban forests of Bangui/Bimbo. Timeframe: Second year. Means: Fees for two international experts and two national experts (45 man-days each); Fees for field investigators; Lumpsum for field expenses and local consultations; Three workshops (inception, mid-term, and validation).

➔ **Output 1.2.3 – Fine-tuning the Forest Policy Statement and including FLR concerns**

201. As explained in the **Parts 1.2.1 and 2.1.3 supra**, there is no Forest Policy in the CAR, but a process has been recently launched to prepare a Forest Policy statement and to upgrade the forest regulations (DINGA, 2016). As the present time, there is a 16-page document labelled as "draft V0". Much remains to be done to present in details the key issues to be addressed, the political vision to guide the forest policy, operational objectives and guidelines, etc. However, the draft document is a useful basis, touching upon the key weaknesses of the forest regulations and mentioning useful recommendations, notably:
- (i) Land-use planning: Clarifying the borders of Permanent and Non-Permanent Forest Estates, taking into account rural infrastructures, mines, agriculture, livestock, etc.;
 - (ii) Forest governance: Improving the forest governance, in particular the transparency, participation, equity, and accountability of key stakeholders;
 - (iii) Multilateral treaties/initiatives: Better incorporating recent treaties/initiatives (e.g. REDD+, VPA FLEGT, Aichi targets, AFR100, etc.) in domestic policies and measures;
 - (iv) Biodiversity: Strengthening the protection of biodiversity and fighting against unsustainable bushmeat hunting, especially in Protected Areas;
 - (v) NTFPs': Better promoting them;
 - (vi) Community forest: Operationalizing the concept.
 - (vii) FLR and reforestation: Encouraging forest restoration and multifunctional reforestation (wood energy, lumber, NTFPs, etc.), especially in urban and peri-urban areas;
202. As explained in **Part 2.1.3 supra**, all the issues listed above relate, directly or indirectly, to drivers of environmental threats, and therefore should be addressed in order to fully promote natural resources management in general, and FLR in particular. Support could help facilitate a multi-stakeholder reflection and dialogue, then further elaborate the draft document, to go beyond the declarations of intent and propose specific policy measures. To return to the listed measures:
- (i) Land-use planning: The preliminary findings of the Regional Land Use Planning Scheme could feed the debate (Key land use conflicts? Practical recommendations to address these conflicts? Etc.) and could provide useful recommendations to be inserted in the draft document. The urgency of having the draft Framework Law on Land Tenure (FAO Bangui, 2015a) validated should be strongly stressed in the Forest Policy Statement;
 - (ii) Forest governance: The VPA FLEGT and REDD+ processes explicitly request the improvement of the forest governance, with specific guidelines and recommendations, that should be taken into account in the forest regulations, and therefore in the draft document;
 - (iii) Multilateral treaties/initiatives: Since the promulgation of the Forest Code, in 2008, many treaties/initiatives (e.g. REDD+, VPA FLEGT, Aichi targets, AFR100, LDN target, etc.) have emerged and should be reflected in the forest regulations, and therefore in the draft document;

¹⁶⁷ DRIGO, R., 2012. *Appui à la formulation d'une stratégie et d'un plan d'action de la foresterie urbaine et périurbaine à N'Djaména. Plateforme WISDOM pour N'Djaména. Diagnostic et cartographie de l'offre et de la demande en combustibles ligneux. Document de travail sur la foresterie urbaine et périurbaine n°8*. Roma – FAO, 2012. 78p

- (iv) Biodiversity: A draft 2017-2019 National Plan for the Sustainable Management of Wildlife (MEDDEFPC, 2016a) is about to be validated and should be taken into account in the draft document, as it tries to address one of the major threats to the animal biodiversity (poaching) and to the vegetation as a whole (biodiversity, soils, carbon), because of the common use of bushfires for hunting. The draft document should also reflect the findings of the Output 1.2.4 upgrading of the SNAP-DB, presented infra;
- (v) NTFPs': The findings and recommendations of the National Strategy and Action Plan for the promotion of NTFPs (KONZI-SARAMBO et al., 2012) should also be reflected in the draft document;
- (vi) Community forest: The current forest regulations - even the dedicated Ministerial ruling n°15-463 (CAR Gvt, 2015b)¹⁶⁸ - do not adequately define the concept of community forest or the operational modalities to set up such community forest. In addition, the concepts of "local collectivity forest" and "private forest" are only defined in the Forest Code, but not further detailed in a Decree or Ministerial ruling. On-going or soon-coming initiatives (see **Part 2.1.2 supra**: PDRSO, Mining and Governance project, CoNGOs project) may set up pilot community forest and provide operational feedbacks, to be reflected in the draft document. As for the "local collectivity forest" and "private forest", a collective reflection seems necessary, to refine these concepts: what do we want to achieve through these types of forest? Who can practically bring them to fruition? Under which conditions?
- (vii) FLR and reforestation: As presented above (see **Part 1.2.1 supra**), the total reforested area was estimated at 1,848 ha in 2001 (BONANNEE, 2001) and 3,725 ha in 2015 (CAS-DF, 2015). Knowing that the reforestation activities started in 1972, the rate of reforestation is low: 83 ha/year in average over 1972-2015, 134 ha/year in average over 2001-2015. As for the FLR areas, there are close to nil (few ha here and there, e.g. at the Croisement Leroy in Lobaye). There are several issues to be addressed here:
 - Fully recognizing the importance of FLR (which includes reforestation, but not only: ANR, agroforestry, herbaceous revegetation, etc.);
 - Freeing private initiative, by officially recognizing private FLR/reforestation;
 - Elaborating a coherent FLR/Reforestation Strategy. Presently, the CAS-DF establishes new plantations every year (mainly *Tectona grandis*), with a poor follow-up (and many damages, due to bushfires), and without clear idea of how to value these plantations.
 - Better channeling domestic and external resources. Presently, the forest taxation is the main source of resources for the CAS-DF, but the taxation regime is challenged by private companies and should be revised (see. Output 3.5 in **Part 2.3.3 infra**). As for the external resources, apart from a few projects (PDRSO, CAFI), they are poorly mobilized.

203. Deliverables: More than a final deliverable in the form of a document of Forest Policy Statement, what really matters here is the process of bringing together multiple actors at multiple scales and from multiple sectors and encourage a multi-stakeholder reflection and policy dialogue in order to mobilize actors. Workshop and meeting reports are key deliverables, though an upgraded/fine-tuned Forest Policy Statement is aimed for. Timeframe: Two years from 2018 (time lapse voluntarily long, allowing (i) the multi-stakeholder reflection and dialogue, and (ii) capturing lessons learnt from recently launched initiatives). Means: Fees for one international expert and one national expert (50 man-days each); 11 workshops (five in Bangui: one for inception, three for consultations, and one for validation / one for consultation in each of the six other Regions).

➔ Output 1.2.4 – Upgrading the SNPA-DB and including FLR concerns

204. As explained in the **Parts 1.2.3 supra**, the 2005-2015 SNPA-DB (MEEFCP, 2000) outlined the fact that the biodiversity and the agro-biodiversity are poorly known and recommended to exhaustively assess and inventory the fauna and flora, for both the biodiversity and the agro-biodiversity. Unfortunately, this exhaustive inventory was not done between 2000 and 2015 and, more generally, limited results were achieved under this SNPA-DB. The CAR Government decided in 2013 to update this SNPA-DB, in order to better reflect international commitments taken by the CAR (i.e. Aichi targets, REDD+, VPA FLEGT, etc.) and to carry out an

¹⁶⁸ CAR Gvt, 2015b. *Arrêté n°15-463 portant modalités d'attribution et de gestion des forêts communautaires en RCA*. Bangui – Gvt de RCA, décembre 2015.62p

exhaustive inventory of biodiversity and agro-biodiversity. A roadmap was prepared for this update (BEINA et al., 2013), presenting a vision by 2020, five strategic priorities, and 20 specific objectives, as well as transversal recommendations. Till now, the updating of the SNPA-DB has not progressed and there is no evidence that it should start in the short term.

205. As outlined in **Part 2.1.3 supra**, two drivers of environmental threats are directly linked to the issue of biodiversity:
- Bushmeat hunting, often linked to bushfire: The draft 2017-2019 National Plan for the Sustainable Management of Wildlife (MEDDEFCP, 2016a) could lead to an improvement of the situation, notably by (i) Improving the scientific knowledge about wildlife in the CAR (axis n°1.1), (ii) Updating the legal texts related to this issue, especially the Code on Wildlife Protection (axis n°1.2), (iii) Strengthening the participation of local communities and indigenous peoples in the management of wildlife (axis n°2.2). Findings and recommendations from the Plan could therefore be incorporated into an upgraded version of the SNPA-DB;
 - Poor knowledge of ecosystems values: The SNPA-DB (2000) poorly reflects existing research in terms of biodiversity in the CAR, and does not elaborate on agro-biodiversity. Knowledge gaps in terms of biodiversity and agrobiodiversity could be partially filled, in particular through the research to be carried out in Output 1.1 **supra**, and integrated into an upgraded SNPA-DB.
206. A support would be useful in facilitating a multi-stakeholder reflection and dialogue on the upgrading of the SNPA-DB, including the inclusion of FLR concerns into this SNPA-DB. It could follow the roadmap already prepared (BEINA et al., 2013), taking due consideration of the two drivers above-mentioned, and incorporating recent developments since 2013, notably related to land degradation and FLR (e.g. Bonn Challenge, AFR100, LDN, etc.). As for the Output 1.2.3 **supra** regarding the upgrading/fine-tuning of the Forest Policy Statement, more than a final deliverable in the form of an upgraded SNPA-DB, what really matters here is the multi-stakeholder reflection and dialogue: three workshop and meetings would be needed to incorporate views and ideas. This being said, the volume of effort to upgrade the SNPA-DB is slightly lesser than for the upgrading/fine-tuning of the Forest Policy Statement, as a roadmap clearly identifies issues at stake and as these issues have more focused implications.
207. Deliverables: Workshop and meetings reports; Upgraded SNPA-DB. Timeframe: Two year from 2018 (time lapse voluntarily long, allowing (i) the multi-stakeholder reflection and dialogue, and (ii) capturing lessons learnt from the Output 1.1). Means: Fees for one international expert and one national expert (45 man-days each); five workshops in Bangui (one for inception, three for consultations, and one for validation).

2.3.2. Comp 2: Implementation of Restoration Programs & Complementary Initiatives

Outcome 2 - Integrated landscape management practices and restoration plans implemented by Government, private sector and local community actors, both men and women

208. As indicated in **Part 1.1.3 supra**, Project activities under the Components 1, 3, and 4 are poised to having an impact at the national level, whereas demonstration activities under Component 2 will be implemented in selected pilot sites, in the South-West. This region has been targeted as a pilot area during the initial consultations of the project preparation phase, including a regional workshop held in Douala in November 2016 (FAO Roma, 2016a) and a national workshop held in Bangui in December 2016 (FAO Bangui, 2016a).
209. During the two field missions carried out in early 2017 in Bangui and the South West, many stakeholders have been consulted (for details of consultations, see **Part 2.4.2 infra** and **Annex 11 and 12 infra**) and five pilot areas have been identified (as shown below): 1/ Peri-urban area of Bangui, 2/ Peri-urban area of Berbérati, 3/ Peri-urban area of M’Baïki, 4/ Surroundings of Bayanga (buffer area of the APDS), and 5/ Reforestation area of the SEFCA PEA, in the North of Mambéllé.
210. These pilot sites were selected taking into account the following criteria: (i) Importance of land and forest degradation, based on latest findings and notably FRM et al. (2016) (NB: degradation is mostly linked to higher density of population, reason why three of the pilot sites are in peri-urban areas: Bangui/Bimbo, Berbérati and M’Baïki), (ii) Proximity to protected areas (Basse-Lobaye Biosphere Reserve for the pilot site of M’Baïki; APDS

for the pilot site of Bayanga), (iii) Involvement of logging companies (pilot site of Mambéllé: SEFCA is willing to act as a pioneer and set up a Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) gathering the State, local communities, and SEFCA), (iv) Diversity of agro-ecological conditions (from the humid evergreen forest in the pilot site of Bayanga to the dense forest/savanna transition in the pilot site of Mambéllé).

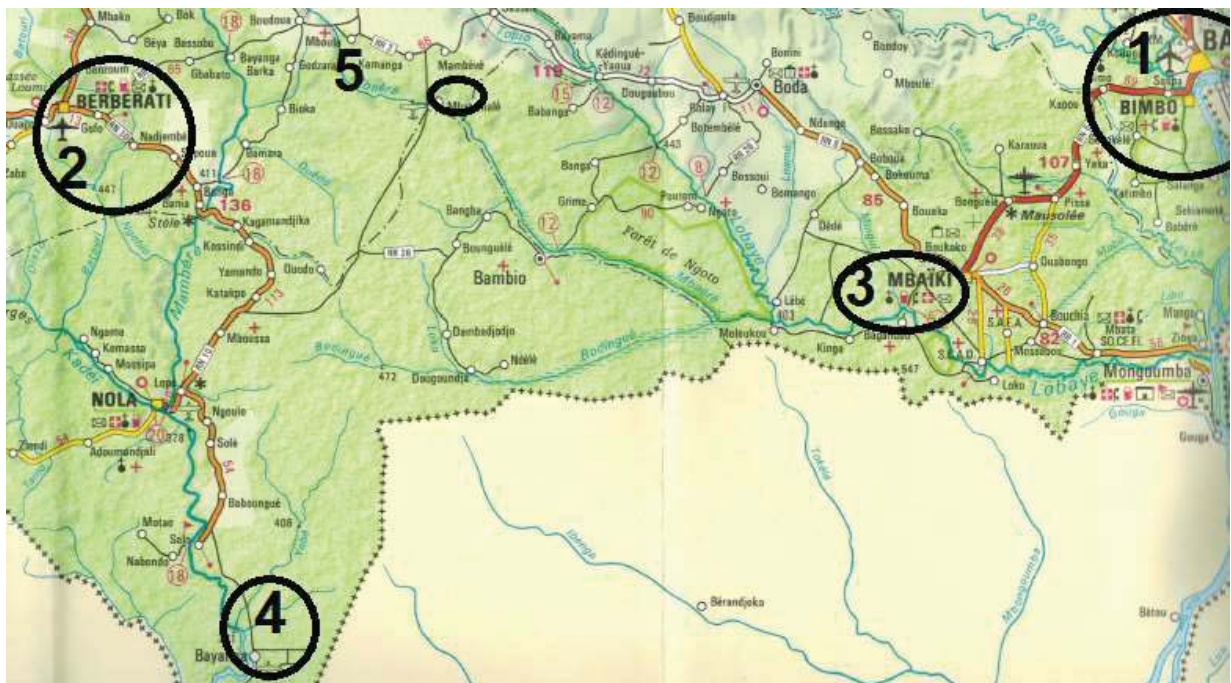


Figure 36 - Pilot sites for FLR activities under the TRI CAR project (authors, 2017)

211. The profiles of these pilot areas are as follows:

- Peri-urban area of Bangui: High combined pressure for food crops, wood energy, NTFPs (incl. bushmeat), and lumber. Indeed, 1,115,000 inhabitants would live in the Bangui-Bimbo complex, according to 2015 estimate (UNOCHA, 2016). Pressure is now clearly visible on the South-Eastern part of the Bangui-Bimbo complex, where PEAs are in place. From the data gathered from the decentralized services of the MEDDEFPC and the MADR, the local authorities, and local communities during the field missions (see [Annex 11 infra](#)), the potential area to be restored is estimated at 1,130 ha;
- Peri-urban area of Berbérati: As for Bangui, there is a high combined pressure for food crops, wood energy, NTFPs (incl. bushmeat), and lumber. 96,000 inhabitants according to 2015 estimate (UNOCHA, 2016), but this hides the fact that many surrounding villages (not included in this estimate) are close to the chief town of Mambéré-Kadéï. Again, the importance of deforestation in this area is corroborated by FRM et al. (2016). There are two specificities here: (i) Existence of gullies, large in the inner city and smaller in peri-urban area, due to the presence of sandy soils, (ii) Frequency of large bushfires, especially on the road Berbérati-Carnot, mainly due to hunting, and favored by the presence of semi-humid forests, more prone to drought and bushfire (see [Part 1.1.3 supra](#)). The potential area to be restored is estimated at 554 ha;
- Peri-urban area of M'Baïki: As for Bangui and Berbérati, there is a combined pressure for food crops, wood energy, NTFPs (incl. bushmeat), and lumber. 29,000 inhabitants according to 2015 estimate (UNOCHA, 2016), may be more if surrounding villages were included. Again, the importance of deforestation in this area is corroborated by FRM et al. (2016). There are two specificities here: (i) Presence of various institutions relevant for the project activities (ARF, ICRA, ISDR). This will be detailed in [Part 2.3.3 infra](#), (ii) Proximity of the Basse-Lobaye Biosphere Reserve (17,176 ha), and subject to encroachment (on-going monitoring by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization - UNESCO). The potential area to be restored is estimated at 184 ha;
- Bayanga: The village is rather small compared to the other cities, 12,000 inhabitants according to 2015 estimate (UNOCHA, 2016), but the population may increase a lot in the coming months/years, with the entry into operation of two forest companies, STBC and SINFOCAM, with new PEAs. SINFOCAM already

settled a base camp in Bayanga. There are three specificities here: (i) Bayanga is very close to 174,240 ha of National Parks (Dzanga-Sangha and Dzanga-Ndoki) and a community hunting area. With the foreseen increase of population, further encroachment is feared, (ii) Even if official estimates are not available in this regard, it is well-known Pygmies / Bay'Aka are frequent in this area (see **Part 3.3.3 infra** for further details), (iii) The Dzanga-Sangha National Park is the major ecotourism site of the CAR¹⁶⁹, as it hosts an iconic Central African wildlife (e.g. Elephants, Gorilla, Red Buffalo, etc.). The potential area to be restored is estimated at 100 ha;

- **Reforestation area in the PEA SEFCA:** SEFCA is the only forest company with a reforestation area foreseen in its PEA. This area is located 45 km North of Mambéllé. It is a savannah area, with a poor natural regeneration, due to frequent bushfires. The site itself is therefore specific and different from the other pilot sites in terms of natural vegetation and FLR needs. Furthermore, the project proponent is original: SEFCA is the largest forest company in the CAR, eager to innovate and to explore the opportunity offered by a PPP (State / local communities / SEFCA) to restore the land, while creating added-value. The potential area to be restored is estimated at 1,253 ha.

212. Below are presented the Output directly linked to the implementation of field activities. As presented in the workplan (see **Annex 2 infra**), the implementation of these field activities will start after a baseline assessment in each FLR perimeter (see Output 2.1 infra), a thorough capacity-need assessment of involved stakeholders (see Output 3.1 in **Part 2.3.3 infra**), and an initial capacity-building of field officers in charge of the day-to-day training and supervision of local populations (see Output 3.2 in **Part 2.3.3 infra**). The implementation of field activities (see Outputs 2.2 and 2.3 infra) will go hand-in-hand with regular capacity-building sessions of the local populations (see Output 3.3 in **Part 2.3.3 infra**). This phased process will ensure basic capacities are there, social cohesion is guaranteeing local communities support and engagement, and FLR activities and IGAs to be implemented have been identified and agreed upon.

➔ **Output 2.1 – Setting the baseline in each FLR perimeter, within the five pilot sites**

213. During the first project year, the biophysical and socioeconomic situation will be determined in each FLR perimeter, within each pilot site and this well before any intervention. This baseline situation will allow the project team to quantify and qualify biophysical and socioeconomic impacts after intervention. Each pilot site may include several FLR perimeters, one perimeter being supervised by one local association (e.g. village / women / youth association...) and/or farmers' group. Useful guidance can be found from the methodology developed for FLR baseline setting by the National Great Green Wall Agency of Niger (*Agence nationale de la grande muraille verte - ANGMV*) (ANGMV, 2016)¹⁷⁰, knowing this methodology has been tested and uses an innovative tool, i.e. Collect Earth Open Foris (CEOF)¹⁷¹.
214. As CEOF is at the heart of the methodology, it is useful to briefly describe it. It is a free on-line mapping tool using more than 40 years of satellite imagery data (Google Earth, Earth Engine, Bing Maps) coupled with user input data. The tool was initially developed by FAO to monitor landscape developments at national and regional scales. It draws its strength from the use of very high resolution satellite images available free of charge thanks to an agreement signed between FAO and Google in 2015, strengthened by an agreement between FAO and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) (FAO Roma, 2016b)¹⁷².
215. Thanks to training courses on CEOF (see **Parts 2.3.3 infra**) and under supervision of the Project Management Unit (PMU), the field agents from the MEDDEFPC and the local communities will carry out the biophysical assessment. In practice, they will create land use maps in the pilot site, following four steps:
- Generation of provisional land-use maps, past trends and current state;

¹⁶⁹ See <http://www.dzanga-sangha.org/fr/content/brochures-de-tourisme>

¹⁷⁰ ANGMV, 2016. *Projet ACD - Termes de référence pour réalisation de la situation de référence sur les aspects biophysiques et socioéconomiques dans les zones d'intervention du projet*. Niamey – ANGMV, août 2016. 16p

¹⁷¹ See <http://www.openforis.org/tools/collect-earth/tutorials/key-features.html>

¹⁷² FAO Roma, 2016b. *Draft Memorandum of Understanding between the FAO and the NASA and Partnership Work Plan*. Roma – FAO Roma, November 2016. 8p

- Entering biophysical information in CEOF from very high resolution images on the pilot site and visual determination of land occupations on a systematic grid of plots. Additional information can be gathered if necessary (e.g. socioeconomic information for example);
 - Ground-truthing mission to confirm or not the interpretations and to validate land use maps;
 - Statistical processing of spatial data to quantify the processes (with the Saiku tool)¹⁷³.
216. With regards to the socio-economic assessment, the field agents from the MEDDEFPC and the local communities will also receive a specific training in order to carry out a simple and participatory survey: population distribution and evolution, types of agro-sylvo-pastoral activities, income and employment related to these activities, land tenure rights, etc. Thus, the biophysical assessment must allow identifying the degraded land suitable for FLR: position on the toposequence, type of soil, type of vegetation, main vocation: agriculture, agroforestry, plantations, etc. The socioeconomic assessment must allow identifying the alternative activities of the local populations on the restored sites (i.e. alternative to unsustainable practices), identifying the beneficiaries, and avoiding any possible land disputes. Restoration activities will be carried out only on old fallows with farmers having clear customary rights recognized by the community itself (e.g. “*Procès-verbal de palabres*”).
217. Finally, the results of the baseline assessment can then be presented in a workshop before the local populations and their representatives (Special Delegation/Communal Council, customary chieftainship, associations and farmers’ groups, etc.) and prospective scenarios in terms of FLR can be discussed and validated. After that, a simple action plan for FLR actions and IGAs can be prepared. Eventually, all the action plans (one per each FLR perimeter) can be gathered and copied to the Special Delegation/Communal Council, for community-based monitoring of progress and compliance (and possibly annex them to the Local Development Plan of the Commune, if it exists).
218. Deliverables: Baseline assessment reports for each FLR perimeter. Timing: First semester of 2018. Means: Fees for one expert in CEOF (30 man-days, for 2 training sessions in situ + hotline); Field agents of the MEDDEFPC and MDRA, in collaboration with the targeted local populations, under supervision and guidance from the PMU. A lumpsum is provided for field expenses (for both biophysical and socio-economic assessments), local consultations, etc. In Niger, based on given cases of similar assessment, the cost was around USD 9 per ha. Considering the landscapes are a bit more complex in the CAR (in most cases: small patches of degradation scattered into intact landscapes), this unit cost has been doubled in order to estimate costs.

➔ Output 2.2 – Implementing FLR activities with local populations

219. Based on the literature review (see **Parts 1.1.3 and 2.1 supra**) and the field interviews with local population (see **Annex 12 infra**), it appears clearly that forest and landscape degradation is caused by a conjunction of diverse drivers, the main ones being the unsustainable practices in terms of slash-and-burn agriculture, wood energy harvest, hunting using bushfires, etc. Currently, rural households are regularly clearing new pieces of forest (0.9 ha every two years in average, according to TECSULT, 1994. These estimates are corroborated by our field observations and interviews. See **Annex 12 infra**) and tend to abandon land considered unproductive after several cropping cycles.
220. To address this issue, the main idea is to encourage households to “retrace their steps” and restore these abandoned lands, considered unproductive, instead of expanding the pioneer front away from the villages. This key idea was thoroughly discussed and the local populations consulted were generally willing to engage in such restoration activities, having realized the current “rush forward” was creating many problems and would not sustain their livelihoods in the long run. There was a general agreement on the negative impact of degraded natural resource: (i) reduced livelihoods (rarefaction of fertile lands, bushmeat, NTFPs, etc.), (ii) increased travel time to farm land or forests to collect NTFPs, lumber, firewood, and (iii) land tenure problems in a context of population growth.
221. Thus, it appears local communities are aware of the potential impacts of forest and landscape degradation. This is a critical element of success of the project, as it helps guarantee support to FLR activities. This being said, when the local populations are questioned about the ways and means to implement these FLR activities,

¹⁷³ See <http://www.meteorite.bi/products/saiku>

they face difficulty in responding, as FLR experiences have been very scarce in the CAR so far. They have very limited knowledge of technical agro-ecological options such as agroforestry based on fast growing N-fixing tree species (well-known in the DRC), direct sowing under crop cover, compost, etc. For that reason, they were generally very curious during the consultations to know what solutions the TRI CAR Project would bring...

222. In order to avoid misperceptions and manage expectations on what the Project can and cannot deliver, it was highlighted that the FLR activities would need to be (i) adapted to local conditions and the own objectives of each farmer, (ii) realistic (i.e. not over-sophisticated, both in terms of inputs or know-how), (iii) carried out in the long run (e.g. improving soil fertility is a matter of years or even decades, especially in the CAR context when most of the soils are ferralitic).
223. In line with the guidance from the FAO in terms of FLR and planted forests (FAO Roma and Bioversity International, 2014)¹⁷⁴ (FAO Roma, 2006)¹⁷⁵ (FAO Roma, undated)¹⁷⁶, agro-ecology in general, and agroforestry in particular, would be promoted through the TRI CAR Project. In agroforestry systems, perennial woody plants are deliberately integrated into crops and / or livestock for a variety of benefits and services. Integration can be done either spatially (e.g. crops grown with trees) or temporally (e.g. improved fallows, rotations). Agroforestry systems have great potential for diversifying food resources and sources of income. These can improve land productivity, halt and reverse land degradation through their ability to provide a favorable microclimate and permanent cover, improve organic carbon content and soil structure, increase infiltration, improve soil fertility and biological activity.
224. Based on interviews carried out with 117 Associations/Groups during the preparation of this document, the most demanded plant species (20 identified) and tree species (65 identified) were listed, as shown in the figures infra. Some plant or tree species, not known to local populations, were also briefly presented during the field discussions (i.e. species with “0” in the row “demand”), as they could be of interest for the FLR activities.

Demand	Latin Name	Common name	Growth speed	Grains-fruits-leaves	Cover crop	N-fixation
+++	<i>Arachis hypogaea</i>	Arachide	Fast	+++	++	++
+++	<i>Cajanus cajan</i>	Pois d'Angole	Fast	++	++	
+++	<i>Chromolaena odorata</i>	Herbe du Laos	Fast		++	
+++	<i>Gnetum spp.</i>	Koko	Fast	+++		
+++	<i>Musa corniculata</i>	Banane plantain	Fast	+++	+	
+++	<i>Musa paradisiaca</i>		Fast	+++	+	
+++	<i>Titonia digitata</i>	Marguerite	Fast		++	
+++	<i>Zea mais</i>	Maïs	Fast	+++		
++	<i>Ananasia sativa</i>	Ananas	Medium	+++	++	
++	<i>Landolphia spp.</i>		?	+++		
++	<i>Raphia spp.</i>	Bambou	Medium		++	
+	<i>Brachiaria spp.</i>		Fast		++	
+	<i>Cymbopogun citratus</i>	Citronnelle	Fast		++	
+	<i>Mimosa pigra</i>		Fast		++	++
+	<i>Penisetum purpureum</i>	Herbe à éléphant	Fast		++	
+	<i>Pueraria phaseoloides</i>	Kudzu	Fast		++	++
+	<i>Sesamum spp.</i>	Sésame	Fast	++	++	
0	<i>Aeschynomene histrix</i>		Fast		+	++
0	<i>Macroptilium spp</i>	Pois poison	?		+	++
0	<i>Mucuna pruriens</i>	Pois mascate	Fast		++	++

Figure 37 - Plant species most demanded for FLR by local populations (authors, 2017)

¹⁷⁴ FAO Roma and Bioversity International, 2014. *The State Of The World's Forest Genetic Resources - Thematic Study: Genetic Considerations In Ecosystem Restoration Using Native Tree Species*. Roma – FAO, 2014. 282p

¹⁷⁵ FAO Roma, 2006. *Responsible Management of Planted Forests: Voluntary Guidelines*. Roma – FAO, 2006. 84p

¹⁷⁶ FAO Roma, undated. *SFM Toolbox FAO SFM Toolbox - Module FLR (16p) and Module Forest Reproductive Material (8p)*. Roma – FAO, 24p

Demand	Latin Name	Common name	Growth speed	Lumber	Firewood	Fruits	Other NTFPs	N-fixation
+++	<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>		Medium		++			++
+++	<i>Acacia mangium</i>		Medium		++			++
+++	<i>Citrus spp.</i>	Citronnier, oranger, etc.	Slow			++		
+++	<i>Cola nitida</i>	Kolatifier	Slow			++		
+++	<i>Moringa oleifera</i>	Moringa	Fast				++	++
+++	<i>Persea americana</i>	Avocatier	Medium			++		
+++	<i>Ricinodendron heudelotii</i>	Essesang	Fast	+		++	++	
+++	<i>Senna siemens</i>		Fast		++			++
+++	<i>Tectona grandis</i>	Teck	Fast	++				
+++	<i>Triplochiton scleroxylon</i>	Ayous	Medium	++			++	
++	<i>Afrostryrax lepidophyllus</i>	Arbre à Ail	Slow		+		++	+
++	<i>Albizia zygia</i>		Medium					
++	<i>Anonidium mannii</i>		Slow			+		
++	<i>Artocarpus spp.</i>	Arbre à pain / jacquier	Medium			+		
++	<i>Autranella congolensis</i>	Mukulungou / bois de fer	Slow	++			++	
++	<i>Beilschmiedia congolana</i>		Slow				+	
++	<i>Canarium schweinfurthii</i>	Aiélé	Lente				+	
++	<i>Carica papaya</i>	Papayer	Fast			+		
++	<i>Celtis zenkeri</i>	Ohia parallèle	Slow		++			
++	<i>Dacryodes edulis</i>	Safoutier	Slow			++		
++	<i>Elaeis guineensis</i>	Palmier à huile	Medium			++		
++	<i>Entandrophragma candollei</i>	Kossipo	Slow	++			++	
++	<i>Entandrophragma cylindricum</i>	Sapelli	Lente	++			++	
++	<i>Gmelina arborea</i>	Gmelina	Fast	+	++			
++	<i>Irvingia gabonensis</i>	Mangue sauvage	Slow			++		
++	<i>Mangifera indica</i>	Manguier	Medium			++		
++	<i>Manilkara mabokeensis</i>	Monghinza argenté	Slow	+				
++	<i>Musanga cecropioides</i>	Parassolier	Fast		++			
++	<i>Psidium guajava</i>	Goyavier	Medium			++		
++	<i>Spondias cytherea</i>	Pommier cythère	Fast			++		
++	<i>Treculia africana</i>	Arbre à pain africain	Fast			+		
++	<i>Trema orientalis</i>		Fast	++	+			
++	<i>Xylopia aethiopica</i>	Poivrier de Guinée	Fast				++	
+	<i>Anacardium occidentale</i>	Anacardier / cajou	Medium			++		
+	<i>Aningeria spp.</i>	Aniégré	Slow	++				

225. In practical terms, FLR activities would be implemented over 3,221 ha (as estimated during the field missions of the Project Preparation Grant (PPG) phase, early 2017) by local Associations/Groups, after signing a LoA with the TRI CAR Project. These Association/Group, gathering at least 20 members (to allow for a landscape approach and to avoid diseconomies of scale), would be supported by the local field agents at each step (baseline setting, implementation of FLR activities, maintenance after restoration). They would receive a financial support from the GEF corresponding to 60% of the cost of restoration, i.e. around USD 440 per ha as shown infra, the remaining part (USD 300 per ha or 40% of the costs) corresponding to the ex-post maintenance during the four first years (regular weeding and maintenance of firebreaks). These costs estimates are considered quite realistic, being derived from real figures compiled by the Eco-Makala project in DRC (WWF-EU funded). They are also in line with data gathered during the field interviews (see **Annex 12 infra**).

<i>Tree nursery</i>	100
<i>Clearing</i>	86
<i>Ploughing</i>	167
<i>Picketing/pitting</i>	34
<i>Planting</i>	34
<i>Remedial fill planting</i>	19
<i>Weeding (2/year x 4 years)</i>	300
	<i>TOTAL</i>
	740
<i>If 40/60 cost sharing, cost for the TRI CAR Project</i>	444

NB: Per hectare cost (USD) for the four first years (minimal weeding after that)

Figure 39 - Cost agroforestry plantation in the Eco-Makala Project - Goma, DRC (SalvaTerra, 2013)¹⁷⁷

226. The Associations/Groups would manage village-based tree/plant nurseries (to be supplied with improved seeds by ICRA/ISDR, or using selected seeds from massal selection (i.e. community-based visual selection of vigorous trees and/or plants able to provide high quality cuttings or seeds) if the ICRA/ISDR is not able to supply the needed quantity/quality). They would also coordinate field activities at perimeter/block level. Finally, they would channel subsidies for their individual members. These subsidies could be released in two instalments: advance payment of 50% before start of field activities and final payment of 50% one year after planting, after verifying the agroforestry plantations are in place and well-managed (not more than 20% of trees lost, complete coverage of the soil with planted trees and/or plants). A detailed management plan of restoration activities will be developed during the project implementation phase.
227. In the specific case of the Mambéllé pilot site, the FLR activities will consist in a PPP between SEFCA, the neighboring communities and the CAR Government. A bit more than 1,250 ha would be planted, 80% of teak (most common specie used for afforestation in the CAR, notably by the CAS-DF) and 20% of local tree species for NTFPs production (fruits, caterpillars, etc.). The costs for this PPP were specifically estimated in a business plan, as the planting techniques would slightly differ from the other pilot sites (e.g. use of equipment from SEFCA to prepare the land, economy of scale regarding the area to be covered, etc.). In this specific case, the TRI CAR Project would only cover 30% of the costs, the remaining part being co-financed by SEFCA (redirection of its forest taxes normally paid to the CAS-DF, based on an ad hoc agreement signed between SEFCA/CAR Gvt/FAO Bangui). Expenses to be supported by the local communities and SEFCA are identified in the business plan. Based on that, local communities would receive subsidies from the TRI CAR Project (gathering GEF financing and SEFCA co-financing) under the same modalities as described supra (channeling through the Association/Group, two instalments).
228. Deliverables: 3,221 ha restored in the five pilot sites. Timing: Lifetime of the Project. Means: Technical support to the local communities and partial co-financing of the FLR activities by the GEF (60% of estimated costs, apart from Mambéllé pilot site where it would be 30%).

¹⁷⁷ SalvaTerra, 2013. *Evaluation finale du projet Eco-Makala : Viabilisation durable de l'approvisionnement en bois-énergie des populations rurales riveraines de la ville de Goma (RDC)*. Paris – SalvaTerra, juillet 2013. 139p

➔ Output 2.3 - Implementing complementary IGAs with local populations

229. Field activities supported by the TRI CAR Project will not be limited to the physical restoration of soils, forests and landscapes, but also the increase and maintenance of their productivity over the long term, allowing the cohabitation of various activities (agriculture, hunting, collection of NTFPs and firewood, etc.). Indeed, as outlined in **Part 1.1 supra**, the CAR has experienced decades of instability and sluggish growth, and the 2013 crisis aggravated the situation even more. Most of the rural populations are living in extreme poverty and suffer from food insecurity, including in the South-West. The promotion of alternative and diversified livelihoods IGAs are therefore needed and aligned with the change theory of the TRI CAR Project.
230. As these IGAs will be precisely identified with the voluntary Associations/Groups (bottom-up and participatory process) when setting the baseline in each of the five pilot sites (see Output 2.1 **supra**), there is no “positive list” of eligible IGAs at this stage, but rather a “negative list”: the TRI CAR Project would not support IGAs that lead to an unsustainable use of natural resources (e.g. equipment for small-scale artisanal mining or artisanal logging leading to forest and soil degradation). Without prejudging what would come out of these participatory processes, here below are examples of eligible activities a priori:
- Agriculture: Support for the improvement of cassava processing (e.g. increase of processing yield, diversification of sub-products – flour, gari, couscous, chips, etc., reduction of storage loss, etc.), support for the diversification of food diet (e.g. supply of seeds, small equipment, and technical support for dry-season gardening, supply of breeding stocks and technical support for small breeding – poultry, pigs, etc.). By diversifying agriculture activities and adding value to the sub-products, the TRI CAR Project will improve the revenues, the food security (in quantity – improved yields - and quality – less cassava in the daily diet and more vegetables and animal/fish proteins) and contribute to reducing the pressure on forests for bush meat hunting;
 - NTFPs: Support for the “domestication” of edible caterpillars (e.g. advising local populations on the diverse host trees and supporting them in good harvesting techniques to avoid the felling), mushrooms or *kökö* (e.g. supply of mushroom strains or *kökö* cutting, technical support for the production), dissemination of leaves or fruits with high nutrition potential but still poorly spread (e.g. moringa leaves, jack fruit, etc.);
 - Wood energy: Support for the improvement of charcoal production in peri-urban areas (e.g. technical support for the design of simple management plans of fast-growing tree plantations, introduction of improved kilns, etc.) making this activity more profitable and sustainable, and contributing to the reduction of fuel poverty for peri-urban and urban households.
231. In practical terms, complementary IGAs would be implemented by local Associations/Groups, as part of their LoA signed with the TRI CAR Project. These Associations/Groups would be supported by the local field agents at each step (identification of IGAs and design of a simplified business plan, implementation with regular follow-up). To be eligible, Associations/Groups would have to prepare a simple and brief funding request, presenting the foreseen IGA and the associated business plan, to prove the IGA would strengthen the sustainable use of natural resources, be technically feasible, profitable and sustainable in the long run after the Project end.
232. Costs of inputs, equipment, etc. for these IGAs would be financially supported by the TRI CAR Project: each Association/Group could theoretically receive the equivalent of 50% of its FLR subsidies. For instance, an Association/Group restoring 10 ha would receive USD 4 400 as FLR subsidies and USD 2 200 as IGAs subsidies. Now, at the contrary to FLR where subsidies were granted, the TRI CAR Project would preferably channel these IGAs subsidies through additional credit lines created within the Resilience Funds (*Caisses de résilience*, CDR) created by the FAO since 2007 (FAO Bangui, 2016c)¹⁷⁸. The Association/Group not yet registered under their local resilience fund as a Village Saving & Lending Association (*Associations villageoises d'épargne et de crédit*, AVEC) would then be encouraged to do so, with the support of the local field agents, and the backstopping of the PMU.

¹⁷⁸ FAO Bangui, 2016c. *La caisse de résilience, approche de la FAO et réalisations* : « nouvel espoir de vie des communautés affectées par la crise en RCA ». Bangui – FAO, 2016. 1p

233. The overall rationale is that FLR activities are supposed to be profitable for the local populations in the medium to long term, thus justifying the grants; Complementary IGAs are expected to be profitable in the short to medium term, thus justifying the choice of the CDR/AVEC approach.

234. Deliverables: Complementary IGAs identified and carried out by Associations/Groups in the five pilot sites. Timing: Lifetime of the Project. Means: Technical support to the local communities and partial co-financing of the IGAs by the GEF, through the AVEC/CDR approach (amount equivalent to 50% of FLR subsidies received by the Association/Group).

➔ **Output 2.4 - Day-to-day supervision and support by field agents and PMU**

235. After consulting the local populations, the MEDDEFPC (central services and deconcentrated services), the MDRA (idem), diverse technical and financial partners (NGOs, donors, etc.), the general opinion was that it would be adapted and effective to share the responsibility of the field supervision between seconded civil servants from the MEDDEFPC and the MDRA, and agents from local NGOs:

- On the one hand, it is important to say that the MEDDEFPC and the MDRA (and other stakeholders) are fully aware of their weaknesses, in terms of capacities and ability to deliver adequate services to the population. After years of politico-military crises, there is a ray of hope with the recent launching of the RCPCA and the progressive return to normal (see **Part 1.1.2 supra**). For most of the peoples consulted, it is therefore time to re-invest and remobilize the technical ministries, to strengthen their capacities along with the local populations in a learning-by-doing process;
- On the other hand, in some of the pilot sites (e.g. Mambéllé and M’Baïki pilot sites), there are unfilled positions of field agents from the MEDDEFPC and the MDRA, while local NGOs are operating in the environment or rural development sector. Even if the field agents of these local NGOs also often lack of capacities in terms of FLR and or IGAs, at least they have a practical experience of the rural areas where they operate.

236. For these reasons, field agents will be recruited, on site by site basis, at the Project inception after an open and competitive selection process, jointly supervised by the MEDDEFPC and the FAO. The academic background, professional experience, motivation to work on an innovative Project together with local populations will be the key criteria for the selection. Field agents from the MEDDEFPC and the MADR will have to be seconded and covered by an overall LoA between the FAO and their supervising Ministry. Field agents from local NGOs will also be covered by a LoA between the FAO and their NGO. The TRI CAR project will strengthen capacities of all these field agents (see **Part 3.2 infra**) and will also support them in the day-to-day supervision of field operations.

237. The numbers of field agents in each of the pilot sites will depend on the number of final beneficiaries and FLR perimeters to supervise. The preliminary estimates, from the field missions carried in early 2017, suggest there would be 3,221 ha subject to FLR in total. Assuming an average ratio of 100 ha monitored by field agent, there would be a need of 32 agents. Divided by the estimates of FLR areas by pilot sites, there would be a need of 11 agents in Bangui, 6 agents in Berbérati, 2 agents in Mbaïki, 1 agent in Bayanga and 13 agents in Mambéllé. Knowing FLR actions and IGAs relate as much to agriculture as to forestry, both agronomists and foresters will be selected, with an exact balance dependent on the needed skills, to be determined site by site.

238. These field agents will be supervised by a local project coordinator. In Bangui, Berbérati and M’Baïki, the local project coordinators will be seconded senior officers (at least 15 years of work experience) from the MEDDEFPC, jointly selected by the MEDDEFPC and the FAO. They will be based in the Regional office of the MEDDEFPC and work on a daily basis with the services of the MEDDEFPC, but they will directly report to the PMU in Bangui (see **Parts 2.3.4 and 4.1 infra**).

239. In Bayanga and Mambéllé, the field agents will be supervised, respectively, by the APDS staff in Bayanga, by the technical direction of SEFCA in Mambéllé. In all cases, the field agents will be regularly involved in field monitoring missions with their local project coordinator / APDS supervisor / SEFCA supervisor, as well as the PMU. These missions will give them the opportunity to directly exchange views and recommendations.

240. Deliverables: Semi-annual brief reports of activity for each field agent. Timeframe: Lifetime of the project. Means: a 125 cc motorcycle, inherent fuel and maintenance costs, a computer with printer, office supplies

and telephone / internet charges. These basic equipment are essential for both seconded field officers from the MEDDEFPC and MADR, and field agents from local NGOs: after decades of under-financing of the rural development, aggravated by the 2013 crisis (see **Part 1 supra**), the support structures (public and private) for rural development are very weak and need to be rebuilt. The TRI CAR Project, as all other projects in the rural sector of the CAR, will operate in a post-emergency context and it needs to be duly reflected in the results matrix and the budget.

2.3.3. Comp. 3: Institutions, Finance and Upscaling

Outcome 3 - Strengthened institutional capacities and financing arrangements in place to allow for and facilitate large-scale restoration and maintenance of critical landscapes and diverse ecosystem services

241. Before presenting the outputs in details, it seems useful to briefly present the rationale of this component:

- - The output 3.1 is about assessing capacity-needs of key stakeholders (namely: field officers, local populations and academic institutions) and outputs 3.2 to 3.4 are about providing specific capacity-building support to these three groups of stakeholders. These outputs should contribute to a better implementation of field level FLR activities, thus contributing to the outcome 3: more technical and institutional capacity to implement and upscale FLR activities;
- - The output 3.5 is about mobilizing domestic and external funding for FLR, thus contributing to the outcome 3: more financing to implement and upscale FLR activities;
- - The output 3.6 is about improving the coordination of stakeholders involved in FLR activities, thus contributing to the outcome 3: a better coordination to implement and upscale FLR activities.

→ Output 3.1 - Capacity needs assessment of key stakeholders

242. As recalled in the FAO Corporate Approach and Strategy¹⁷⁹, effective capacity development approaches are essential to enhance the impact and sustainability of GEF project results through deepening country ownership and leadership of the development process. It is particularly important to address all three capacity development dimensions systematically: (i) Individual capacities (e.g. knowledge, skills and competencies), (ii) Organizational capacities (e.g. performance of organizations, cross-sectoral, multi-stakeholder coordination), and (iii) Enabling environment (e.g. sound regulatory and policy frameworks, institutional linkages and enhanced political commitment and will). The issues related to the third dimension, enabling environment have been addressed in the description of Component 1 (see **Part 2.3.1 supra**). This Output 3.1 will therefore focus on the two other dimensions.

243. As outlined in **Parts 1.2 and 2.1.3 supra**, there are few successful experiences in the CAR in terms of:

- **Reforestation:** Poor success of reforestation perimeters from the CAS-DF (lack of means, as the forest taxation regime is challenged by forest companies / poor follow-up). In addition, there is few experience of local communities and field officers in terms of reforestation, and no national capacity at ICRA to produce forest seeds/plants at scale (see **Part 1.2.1 supra**);
- **FLR actions:** Field experiences in terms of ANR and FLR are rare, put in place on tiny surfaces, and have rarely been monitored in the long term (i.e. put in place by the CTFT, the ARF project and the CIRAD in the 1970's to 1990' near M'Baïki, at Carrefour Leroy and ISDR Campus. See **Part 1.2.1 supra**);
- **Agroecology:** The PNIASAN focuses on "conventional agriculture" to develop food crops and there is little or no experience of local communities, field officers, and academic institutions in terms of agroecology, despite the concept is included in the INDC submitted in 2015. In addition, the agriculture sector has been deeply impacted by the recent crisis and rural development projects have been replaced by emergency and post-emergency projects, which have not allowed promoting agriculture innovations (See **Part 1.2.2 supra**).

¹⁷⁹ See <http://www.fao.org/capacity-development/en>

244. As a consequence, individual and organizational capacities of academic institutions (ICRA, ISDR), field agents (from the MEDDEFPC and MDRA, and local NGOs), and local populations are quite low, and need to be strengthened, as these thematic areas are at the heart of the TRI CAR Project. During the PPG phase of this project, the project team met with many persons representing the stakeholder groups mentioned above (see [Annex 12 infra](#)). Their capacity development needs have been briefly assessed (see [Part 3.3.5 infra](#)). Now, following guidance from the FAO in terms of capacity development (FAO Roma, 2012)¹⁸⁰ (FAO Roma 2015b)¹⁸¹, a three-step process is recommended: jointly assessing capacities with stakeholders, designing appropriate actions, and effectively tracking results.
245. This Output 3.1 relates to the first step, allowing fine-tuning the capacity development needs assessment. It will follow guidance described in CD Learning Module 2 - Chapter 2 “*Analyzing and Understanding the Context*”. The Outputs 3.2, 3.3, and 3.4 (same Part [infra](#)) relate to the second step, and focus respectively on the field officers and Local Project Coordinators, the local populations in the pilot sites, and the academic institutions. The Output 4.5 (see [Part 2.3.4 infra](#)) relates to the third step. It will follow guidance described in CD Learning Module 2 - Chapter 3 “*Tracking Capacity Development Results*”.
246. In practical terms, for the first step, a team will carry out the assessment regarding individual capacities and organizational capacities with the decentralized services of the MEDDEFPC and the MDRA, and local NGOs operating in the five pilot sites, with the academic institutions in M’Baïki (ISDR, ICRA), and with the local populations in the five pilot sites (mobilizing APDS staff in Bayanga and SEFCA staff in Mambéllé).
247. The tools for the assessment will be designed in an ad hoc fashion (e.g. problem/solution tree tool, stakeholder mapping tool, capacity development questionnaire, etc.) and used through individual surveys, focus groups, etc. Thematically, they will target the following issues: reforestation in particular and FLR in general / agroecology / IGAs in the rural sector (including in particular the promotion of NTFPs) / structuration-strengthening of associations-farmers’ groups) / CEOF and Ex-Act tool / Etc. (other themes to be determined after the assessment). Based on the findings, specific capacity development roadmaps (site by site, and stakeholder by stakeholder) will be jointly designed and validated.
248. **Deliverables:** An overall capacity development needs report, gathering all the findings and the capacity development roadmaps. **Timeframe:** First semester of 2018. **Means:** Fees for two international experts in capacity development (30 man-days each); Project Manager, Local Project Coordinators, academic institutions (ISDR, ICRA), targeted local populations. A lumpsum is provided for field expenses, local consultations, etc.; Five workshops (two in Bangui: inception and validation; three for pre-validation: Bangui / Berbérati / M’Baïki).

➔ **Output 3.2: Capacity-building of field officers and Local Project Coordinators**

249. Based on the initial assessment described [supra](#), under Output 3.1, specific capacity development roadmaps will be prepared for each the field officers and Local Project Coordinators in each of the pilot sites (idem). Themes to be covered will be precisely defined in these roadmaps, but may cover the following issues (non-exhaustive list): reforestation in particular and FLR in general / agroecology / IGAs in the rural sector (including in particular the promotion of NTFPs) / structuration-strengthening of associations-farmers’ groups) / use of CEOF and Ex-Act tool / Etc.
250. In order to be flexible and not to pre-empt the results of the capacity development needs assessment, a certain amount of days of training has been earmarked: (i) 40 man-days per year for FAO trainers (10 days per training session in average), thus 200 man-days of trainers in total (ii) 20 participants per training session in average, thus 800 man-days/year and 4,000 man-days of trainees in total. **Expertise from various partners will be sought, such as on** agro-ecology and improved fallow management in central African moist forests, for which the International Institute for Tropical Agronomy (IITA) or the CIRAD may have an added value (see Output 3.4 [infra](#)).
251. **Deliverables:** Preparation, facilitation, and reporting for each specific training session, notably mentioning the follow-up measures to ensure the sustainability of the capacity-building activities. **Timeframe:** Lifetime of the

¹⁸⁰ FAO Roma, 2012. *FAO Capacity Development. Learning Module 2 – FAO approach to capacity-development in programming: processes and tools*. Roma – FAO Roma, 2012. 149p

¹⁸¹ FAO Roma, 2015b. *FAO Capacity Development. Capacity-development brief*. Roma – FAO Roma, 2015. 2p

Project. Means: Fees for experts specialized in the themes of interest (40 man-days per year x five years); Project Manager, Local Project Coordinators, field agents. A lumpsum per trainee (FCFA 10,000 per man-day, approx.. USD 16 per man-day) is provided for room rentals, coffee breaks, lunches, transports, etc.

→ **Output 3.3: Capacity-building of targeted local populations**

252. The reasoning is nearly the same as for the Output 3.2 supra. Based on the initial capacity-building needs assessment described supra, under Output 3.1, as well as the baseline assessment described supra under Output 2.1 (see **Part 2.3.2 supra**), specific capacity development needs roadmaps will be prepared for the local populations in each pilot site: village / women / youth associations and/or farmers' groups. Themes to be covered will be precisely defined in the specific capacity building roadmaps, but may cover the following issues (non-exhaustive list): reforestation in particular and FLR in general / agroecology / IGAs in the rural sector (including in particular the promotion of NTFPs) / structuration-strengthening of associations-farmers' groups) / Etc.
253. Training sessions will be organized and facilitated by the field officers already trained by the FAO experts or external experts, as described under Output 3.2 supra. Training sessions may have diverse settings: indoor training, on-the-job training (notably involving farmer field schools), community-listening clubs, etc. A certain amount of days of training has been earmarked: 20 participants per training session in average, and 120 days of training per year, thus 2,400 man-days/year and 12,000 man-days of trainees in total.
254. Deliverables: Preparation, facilitation, and reporting for each specific training session, notably mentioning the follow-up measures to ensure the sustainability of the capacity-building activities. Timeframe: Second semester of 2018 onward. Means: Local Project Coordinators and field officers. A lumpsum per trainee (FCFA 5,000 per man-day, approx. USD 8 per man-day) is provided for room rentals, coffee breaks, lunches, transports, etc.

→ **Output 3.4: Capacity-building of academic institutions (ICRA and ISDR)**

255. The reasoning is nearly the same as for the Outputs 3.2 and 3.3 supra. Based on the initial capacity-building needs assessment described supra, under Output 3.1, specific capacity development roadmaps will be prepared for the academic institutions. Thematic areas to be covered will be defined in the specific capacity building roadmaps, but may cover at least two specific issues (non-exhaustive list): Reforestation in particular and FLR in general; agro-ecology.
256. As explained earlier (see **Part 2.1.3 supra**), public services in the agriculture sector (MDRA, ICRA, ISDR, ACDA, etc.) are weak. In particular, ICRA and ISDR have received marginal support from the State and the donors for the last years (apart from the NGO Welthungerhilfe which recently supported the renovation of ICRA research stations). Yet, national capacities in terms of plants and seeds production are needed, as well as locally adapted agro-ecology itineraries. Therefore, this Output 3.4 is crucial for the overall success of the TRI CAR Project.
257. In terms of FLR in general: As recalled in Output 3.1 supra, there are limited experiences in terms of reforestation, and even less experience in terms of FLR in the CAR. In addition, the organizational capacities of ICRA and ISDR are quite weak in this regard, as these institutions have for long been understaffed and underfinanced. Capacity-building should therefore aim at supporting the development of a basic, coherent and effective R&D joint-program in terms of FLR in general. Such a R&D program would lead to the following:
- Basic and advanced training courses in terms of FLR, in the context of the dense humid forests: key-concepts, baseline assessment, design of FLR actions, implementation and follow-up;
 - Identification and stock-taking of past experiences in terms of FLR, in the CAR and in the sub-region;
 - Identification of main types of tree species (i.e. multi-purpose species: production of NTFPs, lumber, wood-energy, N-fixing, etc.) most demanded by the rural populations, as well as main types of annual or perennial N-fixing cover crop (unfortunately poorly demanded by local populations, as they have not yet been promoted at large scale);

- In-situ collection of the related trees and plants seeds (through massal selection), or Material Transfer Agreement (MTA)¹⁸² to be concluded with sub-regional National seed services or research centers (e.g. CIRAD, PRASAC, IITA, ICRAF, etc.);
 - Production of basic seeds of the identified trees and plants;
 - Upgrading of the ISDR curricula in terms of FLR, topic currently not well addressed (see **Annex 12 infra**)
258. In terms of agro-ecology: As recalled in Output 3.1 **supra**, there are little or no experiences in terms of agro-ecology in the CAR. Similarly to FLR, capacity-building should therefore aim at supporting the development of a basic, coherent and effective R&D joint-program in terms of agro-ecology. Such a R&D program would lead to the following:
- Basic and advanced training courses in terms of agro-ecology, in the context of the Central African dense moist forests: key-concepts, baseline assessment, design of agro-ecology actions, implementation and follow-up;
 - Identification and stock-taking of past experiences in terms of agro-ecology, in the CAR and in the sub-region;
 - Launching of basic in-station tests and/or farmers' field tests to develop innovative cropping systems, alternative to the traditional slash-and-burn cropping systems;
 - Support to the promotion of such innovative cropping systems, in collaboration with ICRA, MDRA, MEDDEFPC and interested partners (e.g. farmers' groups, NGOs, projects, etc.), taking advantage of the network of Farmer Field School (FFS)¹⁸³ supported by the FAO in the CAR;
 - Upgrading of the ISDR curricula in terms of agro-ecology, topic currently not well addressed (see **Annex 11 infra**)
259. Initiating and implementing such R&D programs, in FLR and agro-ecology, will require a high-level scientific support over the lifetime of the TRI CAR Project. The CIRAD is an historical partner of the ICRA and ISDR: it collaborates with them since 1988, especially through the ARF project in M'Baïki (still on-going, notably with funding from the PDRSO), and a relationship of trust exists between these institutions. Furthermore, the CIRAD has the required skills to implement such a support. In particular, two CIRAD research units could be mobilized:
- Forests and Societies (*UR Forêts et sociétés*)¹⁸⁴. This Unit gathers 38 researchers. It studies tropical forests as ecological and social systems subject to local or global changes that may arise from natural, economic or political determinants. Its main objective is to conserve tropical forests through the development of sustainable management practices that ensure, on the one hand, the maintenance of key environmental services (biodiversity, carbon storage), the production of goods and, on the other hand, improvement of the living conditions of local populations and of society in general. The Forest and Societies Research Unit may then support the R&D Program on FLR.
 - Agroecology and Sustainable Intensification of Annual Crops (*UR Agroécologie et intensification durable des cultures annuelles – Aïda*)¹⁸⁵. This Unit gathers 60 researchers. It focuses on the intensification and sustainability of the production of annual crops in quantity and, when relevant, in quality, in a particularly stressed tropical environment. To this end, its research aims at the full exploitation of available resources, by mobilizing the ecological processes that govern their dynamics within agro-systems.
260. The initiation and implementation of the two R&D Programs could be estimated as follow, for each one: 40 md of CIRAD expert in 2018 (fine-tuning of capacity-development needs and R&D objectives, based on the capacity-development needs assessment done under Output 3.1 **supra**) and 20 md/year of CIRAD experts from 2019 to 2022 (in-situ capacity-building, backstopping and hotline). In addition, a lumpsum would be budgeted for each R&D program for diverse investments (equipment, travels to sub-regional National seed services or

¹⁸² See specimen at http://visacane.cirad.fr/content/download/2305/17909/file/MTA_2017%20specimen.pdf

¹⁸³ See <http://www.fao.org/agriculture/ippm/programme/ffs-approach/en/>

¹⁸⁴ See <http://ur-forets-societes.cirad.fr/>

¹⁸⁵ See <http://ur-aida.cirad.fr/>

research centers, purchase of seeds through MTA, etc.). A UN Volunteer (UNV) would also be hired and based in the ICRA station of Boukoko, near M’Baïki, in order to relay the supports of the CIRAD and collaborate on a daily basis with ICRA and ISDR staff.

261. Deliverables: Design and implementation of two R&D Programs, FLR and agro-ecology, leading to basic and advanced capacity-building of ICRA and ISDR staff, stock-taking of relevant experiences in terms of FLR and agro-ecology in the CAR and the sub-region, identification of most demanded seeds/plants of trees and cover crops, production of basic seeds, identification and test of innovative cropping systems, support to the dissemination of such cropping systems. Timeframe: Second semester of 2018 onward. Means: Fees for CIRAD experts (for each R&D program: 40 md in 2018 and 20 md/year from 2019 to 2022); UNV; A lumpsum for investments under each R&D program (equipment, travels to sub-regional National seed services or research centers, purchase of seeds through MTA, etc.)

➔ **Output 3.5: Mobilizing domestic and external funding for FLR**

262. As described in **Part 1.2.1 supra**, the current domestic resources for FLR are limited to the forest taxes paid to the CAS-DF, which use part of these resources to establish a limited surface of reforestation every year, i.e. 134 ha/year in average over 2001-2015 according to BONANNEE (2001) and CAS-DF (2015). In addition, this tax regime is questioned by forestry firms, who accumulated a large amount of arrears over the past few years. Presently, the CAS-DF itself is suggesting to transform its status (CAS-DF, 2017), to widen its scope of operation and get financial autonomy. These requests are questionable.
263. The PDRSO and the Mining and Governance Project are suggesting to upgrade the forest taxation regime. Finally, official documents suggest that other funds could be used to channel domestic resources: the R-PP (MEEDD, 2013b) quotes the existing National Environmental Fund (*Fonds national pour l’environnement – FNE*), while the INDC (CAR Gvt, 2015a) suggests creating a National Climate Fund. Both the sourcing and the channeling of domestic resources for FLR are thus to be clarified.
264. In terms of external funding for FLR, as described in **Part 2.1.2 supra**, available resources are limited to a few projects, aiming to set up pilot actions (notably the PDRSO and the Mining and Governance Project). As for the USD 1.5 million CAFI funding, it is earmarked primarily for REDD+, but FLR could be considered when preparing the REDD+ National Investment Framework to be prepared for an upscaling of CAFI resources (Comm. pers. I. TOLA KOGADOU – REDD+ Focal Point, February 2017). In any case, it would be worth exploring other sources of funding for FLR, either from public sources (e.g. Green Climate Fund - GCF, Land Degradation Neutrality Fund - LDNF, etc.) or private sources (e.g. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) investments, commercial investments, etc.).
265. To summarize, three main studies could be included under this Output 3.5, focusing respectively on domestic funding, external funding from private sources, and external funding from public sources. These would contribute to the needed upscaling of FLR actions, knowing that financing needs are huge, as highlighted in the report “Reaping the reward – Financing Land Degradation Neutrality” (UNCCD & Global Mechanism, 2015)¹⁸⁶. The contents of these studies are described below.
266. Domestic funding: In collaboration with the stakeholders directly involved (Ministry of Finance, MEDDEFPC, CAS-DF, FNE, Forest Companies, etc.), and in liaison with the PDRSO and the Mining and Forest Governance Project, the study could review the following issues and makes recommendations in that regard: (i) Forest taxation regime (tax basis and levels, link to the refundable VAT to the forest companies, etc.), (ii) CAS-DF benefit-sharing system (between the Communes, the AAGRDF, and the CAS-DF), (iii) Sources of revenue for the FNE, (iv) Benefit-sharing system for the FNE, (v) Disbursement modalities for the two Funds (in particular, explore alternative modalities for the CAS-DF, allowing incentivizing private / decentralized authority / community-based FLR.
267. External funding / private: As mentioned in **Part 1.2.1 supra**, NTFPs are of considerable importance in the daily diet of the Central Africans. The daily diet of 72% of rural people in the CAR would depend partly or entirely on NTFPs. It would even be greater for the marginalized groups, such as Pygmies / Bay’Aka (KONZI-SARAMBO

¹⁸⁶ UNCCD & Global Mechanism, 2015. *Reaping the Reward: Financing Land Degradation Neutrality*. Bonn – UNCCD, 2015. 32p

et al., 2012). The PNIASAN gives harvest estimates for the two most well-known NTFPs: 500 t/year for *kökö* (*Gnetum spp*) and 540 t/year for caterpillars (notably *Imbrasia spp*). However, despite this socio-economic importance, offer, demand, and economic returns from most NTFPs remain largely unknown and they are not subject to large-scale trading.

268. Furthermore, some NTFPs are presently marginally produced in the country, but could be further developed in the CAR, potentially to access export markets, as there has been an increasing demand. It is the case for cocoa or rubber for the dense moist forest area; cashew nut or shea nut for the savanna area. These fruit trees also have the great advantage to be suitable for degraded forests and/or landscapes (NB: cashew nut plantations were even introduced in Sub-Saharan West Africa in the 1960's for this purpose: fixing the soils prone to erosion and stopping bush fires). This being recalled, based on the Market and Development Analysis (MDA) approach (FAO Roma, 2011a)¹⁸⁷, the study would aim at identifying a promising NTFP's supply chain and to promote it together with local populations and a private company, either interested in investing in a commercial business or to fulfill its CSR commitments.
269. External funding / public: Multilateral donors and funds for the environment are diverse. In particular, new Funds expected to leverage considerable amounts of resources for FLR have recently been created: CAFI, LDNF, GCF, etc. Accessing these Funds requires preparing a complete dossier, including undertaking consultations, analyzing data from the literature and field surveys, fulfilling administrative and financing requirements, preparing a coherent and relevant program of work, etc. Human resources are there in the CAR to prepare such elements, but they could benefit from guidance and backstopping of international experts, specialized in the design of project proposals for various multilateral donors.
270. Deliverables: Report on upgrading domestic funding mobilization and disbursement for FLR; Report and bankable project on mobilizing external private funding from FLR; Report and bankable project on mobilizing external public funding from FLR. Timeframe: Two years from 2018. Means (for each study): fees for one expert in FLR financing and one national expert (40 man-days each); Lumpsum for field expenses and local consultations; Two workshops (inception and validation).

➔ **Output 3.6: Support to the National Coordination on FLR**

271. As described in **Part 1.2. supra**, FLR issues are of multi-sectoral nature, and the multi-sectoral coordination needs improvement in the CAR. The Pilot Regional Land Use Planning Scheme to be elaborated under the Output 1.2.1 (see **Part 2.3.1 supra**) aims at facilitating this multi-sectoral coordination, by providing up-to-date and geo-referenced data in terms of land use and land degradation. The present output goes further, as (i) it will promote a broader participation of stakeholders, at national level and not just for the South-West, (ii) it provides logistical means and facilitation for quarterly meetings. The current members of the National Coordination on FLR are representatives from the following groups (i) Ministries/Agencies (Central and deconcentrated services), (ii) Civil society organizations, (iii) Private sector, (iv) Academic institutions, (v) Technical and Financial Partners.
272. The National Coordination on FLR will be very useful for exchanging information quickly and efficiently, and avoiding that the "grey literature" produced by Ministries/project/NGOs, as well as the empirical knowledge of certain key people, are not valued. In addition to exchanging information, this National Coordination could monitor the activities carried out by the TRI CAR Project, assess, amend, and technically validate its draft deliverables. To insure a continuity of action, in addition to the quarterly meetings, daily exchanges could be possible via a dedicated mailing list.
273. Deliverables: Quarterly meetings; Minutes of meetings. Timeframe: Lifetime of the Project (meeting every quarter). Means: Logistics (room rental, lunch, coffee break, local transport). An allowance per participant (FCFA 30,000 per man-day, approx. USD 48 per man-day) is provided

¹⁸⁷ FAO Roma, 2011a. *Community-based Tree and Forest product enterprise: Market Analysis and Development*. Roma – FAO, 2011. 111p

Outcome 4.1 - Increased effectiveness of project investments among project stakeholders

→ Output 4.1.1: South-South exchanges on FLR and agro-ecology

274. South-South exchanges and group discussions in the field are useful means to rapidly and effectively raise awareness on innovations such as FLR and agro-ecology. Fortunately, two neighboring countries sharing the same agro-ecological systems are also part of the TRI Program: Cameroon and the DRC, which would facilitate the logistical aspects and guarantee a convergence of interests. They could thus be prioritized for the organization of South-South exchanges. In terms of content, the following exchanges could be organized, based on crossed-presentations at the office, field visits, and exchanges between stakeholders:
- Political aspects: Integration of FLR concerns into relevant policies and legal texts, highlighting strengths, weaknesses, and foreseen improvements; On-going efforts in terms of international commitment (i.e. REDD+, Aichi targets, Bonn Challenge, AFR100, LDN, etc.)
 - Scientific aspects: Existing results, knowledge gaps, on-going R&D efforts, in terms of valuation of environmental services, FLR techniques, agro-ecology cropping systems, production of selected trees and cover crops seeds, etc.
 - Technical aspects: Field visits of pilot sites.
275. In terms of pilot sites of interest, they are many in both DRC and Cameroon to be visited. Here below are listed a few of them for Cameroon:
- Nkolbisson Station of the Agricultural Research Institute for Development (*Institut de recherche agricole pour le développement – IRAD*)¹⁸⁸ : located in the dense moist forest part of Cameroon, it is specialized in testing innovative agroforestry systems, integrating cocoa, coffee, rubber, etc. with food crops. It has also successfully developed a cassava selection program;
 - Biotropical Agriculture Development Company (BADC)¹⁸⁹: A pioneer in the production and exportation of high-value double certified organic/fair trade products (dried and fresh). The key fruits are wild mango, pineapple, passion fruit, banana, papaya, but BADC also produces more than 60 other tropical fruits, some of them poorly known or even unknown in Sub-Saharan Africa (e.g. Acerola - *Malpighia emarginata*, Durian - *Durio zibethinus*, Jackfruit - *Artocarpus heterophyllus*, etc.). In its 150 ha of agroforestry plantations located near Douala, BADC employs top-of-the-art agro-ecological practices (e.g. integrated biological control, vermicomposting, green manure, improved bee-keeping for better fructification, etc.)
 - The Agricultural and Tree Products Program in Cameroon¹⁹⁰: Launched in West and Northwest Cameroon in 1999, it is now working with over 10,000 farmers and 50 entrepreneurs in 485 communities. It has established more than 40 nurseries where tree propagation techniques are studied and disseminated among farmers.
276. Here below are listed a few of them in the DRC:
- Makala (“charcoal” in Lingala) Project¹⁹¹: Thanks to an EU funding, it had been implemented by the CIRAD from 2009 to 2014 in peri-urban areas of the DRC (Kinshasa and Kisangani) and Congo (Brazzaville). The aim was to reduce pressure on peri-urban forests through the promotion of improved fallow systems, ANR, plantation of fast-growing N-fixing trees to produce charcoal and food crops, etc. Therefore, this project successfully addressed drivers of environmental threats very similar to the ones encountered in the vicinity

¹⁸⁸ See <http://iradcameroun.cm/fr/centre-r%C3%A9gional-nkolbisson>

¹⁸⁹ See <http://www.biotropical.com/interactif/>

¹⁹⁰ See <https://www.oaklandinstitute.org/agricultural-and-tree-products>

¹⁹¹ See <http://makala.cirad.fr/>

of Bangui, Berbérati, etc. Last but not the least, this project produced an impressive amount of field guides, notes, etc.¹⁹², that help to precisely understand what has been done in the field;

- Ibi-Batéké agroforestry scheme (“Ibi carbon sink”)¹⁹³ : Started in 2005 and registered under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) of the Kyoto Protocol in 2008, more than 4,200 ha of agroforestry plantations (mainly *Acacia spp* intercropped with cassava and maize) have been planted on degraded savanna. It is a PPP led by Novacel Sprl, with support from BioCarbon Fund, FCPF, Forest Investment Program (FIP), Danone Livelihood Fund, etc. It aims at sustainably producing charcoal, cassava, as well as carbon credits;
- Musia Bikui / Ibi biodiversity incubator: Led by the Congolese NGO GI-Agro¹⁹⁴, at seven km from the Ibi carbon sink, it includes a conservatory of natural and agricultural biodiversity over 30 ha, showing nine different agroforestry systems and an arboretum with more than 100 natural and introduced tree species. Led by a retired Professor of agronomy of the Brussels and Kisangani University, GI-Agro aims at (i) testing innovative agriculture cropping systems, (ii) building capacities of young Congolese, hosted them as young farmers (incubator put in place for them), trainees, and PhD students. It has allowed publishing an impressive amount of internship reports, PhD thesis, and scientific articles¹⁹⁵.

277. Deliverables: Field mission reports, summarizing exchanges made, pilot sites visited, and useful recommendations for the TRI CAR Project and the involved stakeholders. Timeframe: Lifetime of the Project. Means: Travel costs for 15 participants/exchange x five exchanges (one per year).

➔ **Output 4.1.2: Participation in the annual knowledge meetings and the bi-annual finance events**

278. The aim is to make the PMUs and key stakeholders of all the TRI Child Projects aware of progress, difficulties, lessons learned, etc. in all the TRI Child Projects. The TRI Global Project will coordinate and organize such meetings.

279. Deliverables: Field mission reports, summarizing exchanges made and useful recommendations for the TRI CAR Project and the involved stakeholders. Timeframe: Lifetime of the Project. Means: Travel costs for two participants/exchange x seven exchanges (five annual knowledge meetings and at two bi-annual finance events).

➔ **Output 4.1.3: Monitoring & Evaluation of the Project**

280. The Monitoring, reporting, and evaluation of the TRIC CAR Project is fully described in **Part 5 infra**. It relies on the set of indicators and targets identified in the Results Matrix in **Annex 1 infra**.

281. Deliverables: Regular reporting (PPR, PIR, etc.) allowing for an adaptive and efficient management of the TRI CAR Project; Mid-term and final evaluations. Timeframe: Lifetime of the Project. Means: Lumpsum for the mid-term evaluation and the final evaluation (amount in line with estimates for the TRI Program (IUCN, 2016)¹⁹⁶).

➔ **Output 4.1.4: Project Steering Committee (PSC)**

282. As described in **Part 4.2 infra**, the PSC will be made of representatives of the involved stakeholders (26 members maximum) and be chaired by a representative of the MEDDEFPCP. It will meet once a year, to guide and oversee the project. Technical Committees will be set up at local level, for each of the Pilot sites, gathering local stakeholders involved in field activities. These Technical Committees will be limited to 10 members maximum and will have a consultative and advisory role, to inform the PSC about the progress and challenges

¹⁹² See http://makala.cirad.fr/les_produits/publications

¹⁹³ See <http://www.forestcarbonportal.com/project/ibi-bateke-sink-plantation-project>

¹⁹⁴ See <http://www.giagro.online/>

¹⁹⁵ See <http://www.giagro.online/academiques/>

¹⁹⁶ IUCN, 2016. *GEF-6 Program Framework Document. TRI – Fostering innovation and integration in support of the Bonn Challenge*. Gland – IUCN, November 2016. 48p

faced locally. The meetings of these Technical Committees will be organized twice a year, notably in advance of the PSC meetings.

283. Deliverables: Yearly Technical Committees' meetings and PSC meetings, resulting on information and recommendations (Technical Committees), and Decisions (PSC). Timeframe: Lifetime of the Project. Means: Lumpsum for Technical Committees' meetings and PSC meetings.

Outcome 4.2 - Improved knowledge of best practices on restoration among key external audiences

➔ Output 4.2.1: Facilitation of technical days, gathering practitioners and policy-makers

284. The FLR activities and IGAs implemented in the different pilot sites (see **Part 2.3.2 supra**) would hopefully be successful for most of them, but may present weaknesses in certain conditions (e.g. bushfires, inadequate tree or plant species, etc.). Both cases, successes or weaknesses, can be interesting case studies and be demonstrative. Visits to relatively close sites will be organized every four months or so, highlighting one or more specific themes, e.g. agroforestry plantations mixing N-fixing fast growing tree species and cassava, domestication of NTFPs' (*kökö* cutting, caterpillars on Essessang, etc.), tree nursery and production of high-value grafted fruit trees, etc.
285. Three technical days will be organized every year, gathering approximately 30 peoples from different groups (local populations, policy-makers, field officers, local NGOs, etc.). The organization of the technical days will be on a revolving basis, from one pilot site to another, so that projects participants can visually assess progress made elsewhere and create emulation when back to their locality. The technical days will be organized under the responsibility of the Local Project Coordinator and the field officers in charge of the pilot site. The FFS approach of the FAO could be used to organize these technical days: organizing successive field visits over the same FLR perimeter would give the participants a thorough understanding of FLR dynamics.
286. Deliverables: Field visits and presentations, with key findings and recommendations compiled into a technical report and/or short film. Timeframe: Three times a year from the second semester of 2018 onward. Means: Reprography of supporting documents, lunch, coffee break, transport costs.

➔ Output 4.2.2: Creation and diffusion of technical materials and awareness-raising, to promote FLR and IGAs

287. Globally, and at the sub-region level, there is a large number of documented good practices on FLR and IGAs, adapted for the specific conditions of the CAR. The related training materials are equally numerous and diverse (notes, posters, slideshows, radio programs, small films, etc.). This output aims at collecting the maximum number of materials, classifying them according to themes and audiences (policy-makers, technical agents, local populations, etc.) and refining them as necessary, depending on the capacity-building needs, which will be finely identified after the capacity building needs assessment (see **Part 2.3.3 supra**).
288. Of course, these training materials, which are primarily targeted at the local stakeholders directly involved in the TRI CAR Project (local populations in the first place, but also field officers, members of the National FRL Platform, etc.), should be made freely available to any other local institutions, projects (such as the PDRSO or the Mining and Forest Governance Project), NGOs, etc. In particular, it could be used to reinforce the integration of FLR concerns into the network of FFS that has been set up by the FAO in the CAR. Indeed, the FFS team of FAO Headquarters "re-invigorates" the FFS networks, to bring them back to their original philosophy (collective R&D sites, not just "demonstration" sites) and is obviously anxious to integrate the FLR concerns, which are perfectly in line with their objective to help sustainably intensify agro-sylvo-pastoral production. (Pers. comm. A.-S. POISOT - FFS / FAO Coordinator - October 2016).
289. Once training materials compiled/produced, comes the time of their diffusion. Some of them (slideshows or posters in French for example) can be broadcasted widely at low cost. Others, on the other hand, may require certain means (production/broadcasting of radio programs, short movie making, etc. with translation in Sango or other vernacular languages). Finally, beyond the means needed for the diffusion of training materials themselves, means could be provided to support community-listening clubs (FAO Roma, 2011b)¹⁹⁷, based on

¹⁹⁷ FAO Roma, 2011b. *Clubs d'écoute communautaire : tremplin pour l'action en milieu rural*. Roma – FAO, mai 2011. 5p

the DIMITRA¹⁹⁸ approach. Such community-listening clubs allow sharing broadly and effectively information about rural development issues among local communities, with a special focus on gender, as women play a key role in this domain (see **Part 3.3.2 infra**).

290. To support the PMU in achieving this Output 4.2, external expertise may be requested both in terms of compilation/upgrading of training materials and diffusion of these training materials. Therefore, resources are budgeted for the occasional support of an international expert and a national expert, to be recruited on the basis of a call for tenders.
291. **Deliverables:** Database of training materials on FLR and IGAs; broad diffusion of training materials, attested by semi-annual reports of the Local Project Coordinators (at pilot sites level) and the PMU (at national level). **Timeframe:** From the second semester of 2018 onward. **Means:** PMU, with support from an international expert and a national expert (20 man-days each); Lumpsum for diffusion (flyers, posters, notes, radio programs, short movies, community-listening clubs, etc.)

➔ **Output 4.2.3: Elaboration of a Guide of Good Practices in terms of FLR & IGAs**

292. As recalled in Output 4.2.2 **supra**, at global and/or sub-regional levels, there is a large number of documented good practices on FLR and IGAs, adapted for the specific conditions of the CAR. It would be useful to organize these existing data in a specific manner, linking the choices of such and such good practices to such and such biophysical and/or socioeconomic conditions of the different parts of the CAR. Indeed, as most of the aforementioned documented good practices are generic, readers may face difficulty knowing when and how to use them. To do so, two sources of information could be mobilized: (i) Results of the assessment of restoration opportunities (ROAM study) at national level (see Output 1.1.2 in **Part 2.3.1 supra**), (ii) Results of the baseline assessments at local level (see Output 2.1 in **Part 2.3.2 supra**), to illustrate local diverse conditions prevailing in the dense moist forest area of the South-West.
293. By triangulating these three sets of information, the Guide should help answering these questions: what are the crucial biophysical and socio-economic conditions for the success of FLR actions and accompanying IGAs? The Guide should cover the different biophysical areas of the CAR, but a detailed focus could be put on the South-West, as (i) more information will be available there, (ii) the recommendations contained in the Guide could directly be used for the implementation of field activities foreseen in Component 2 (see **Part 2.3.2 supra**). It will be necessary to organize this information in a simple and readable form, so that it can be easily exploited by field practitioners (field officers of the MEDDEFCP and MDRA, technical staff of NGOs, Associations and Farmers' Groups, etc.). Furthermore, the Guide, as well as the training materials to be developed under Output 4.1.2 **supra**, could be integrated in the ISDR curricula.
294. Organizing information in the form of a flow chart with successive determination keys can be an interesting solution, as illustrated in the flow chart on the next page (CRPF Bretagne, 2006)¹⁹⁹. This flow chart is only an illustration: (i) Consideration may be given to the advantages of determining keys (e.g.: soil types, average rainfall, existing vegetation, terrain position on the toposequence, main objective of the restoration, etc.), (ii) Additional guidance may be provided to the readers (e.g. a simplified soil classification grid so that it can be classified with a simple test with an auger and an examination of the horizons, their colors, their textures; a simplified classification grid for the vegetation, using indicator plants).
295. **Deliverables:** Guide of Good Practices in terms of FLR actions and IGAs, enabling practitioners to quickly and efficiently determine when and how to restore lands in their area of intervention, and allowing ISDR students to get a background on these issues. **Timeframe:** Second semester of 2018. **Means:** PMU and Local Project Coordinators, with support from an international expert and a national expert (40 man-days each); two workshop (inception and validation).

¹⁹⁸ See <http://www.fao.org/dimitra/a-propos-de-dimitra/fr/>

¹⁹⁹ CRPF, 2006. *Code des bonnes pratiques sylvicoles de la Région Bretagne - Document approuvé par Madame la Préfète de la Région Bretagne le 23 juin 2006 après avis de la Commission régionale de la forêt et des produits forestiers*. Rennes – CRPF Bretagne, 24p. juin 2006

Comment identifier les

peuplements forestiers

Pour gérer durablement une forêt, il faut d'abord la connaître et savoir identifier les types de peuplements qui la composent. La clé de détermination qui suit facilite cette tâche. A chaque type de peuplement identifié correspond une fiche comportant des recommandations de gestion. Les bonnes pratiques indiquées en gras dans ces fiches sont à respecter de manière impérative.

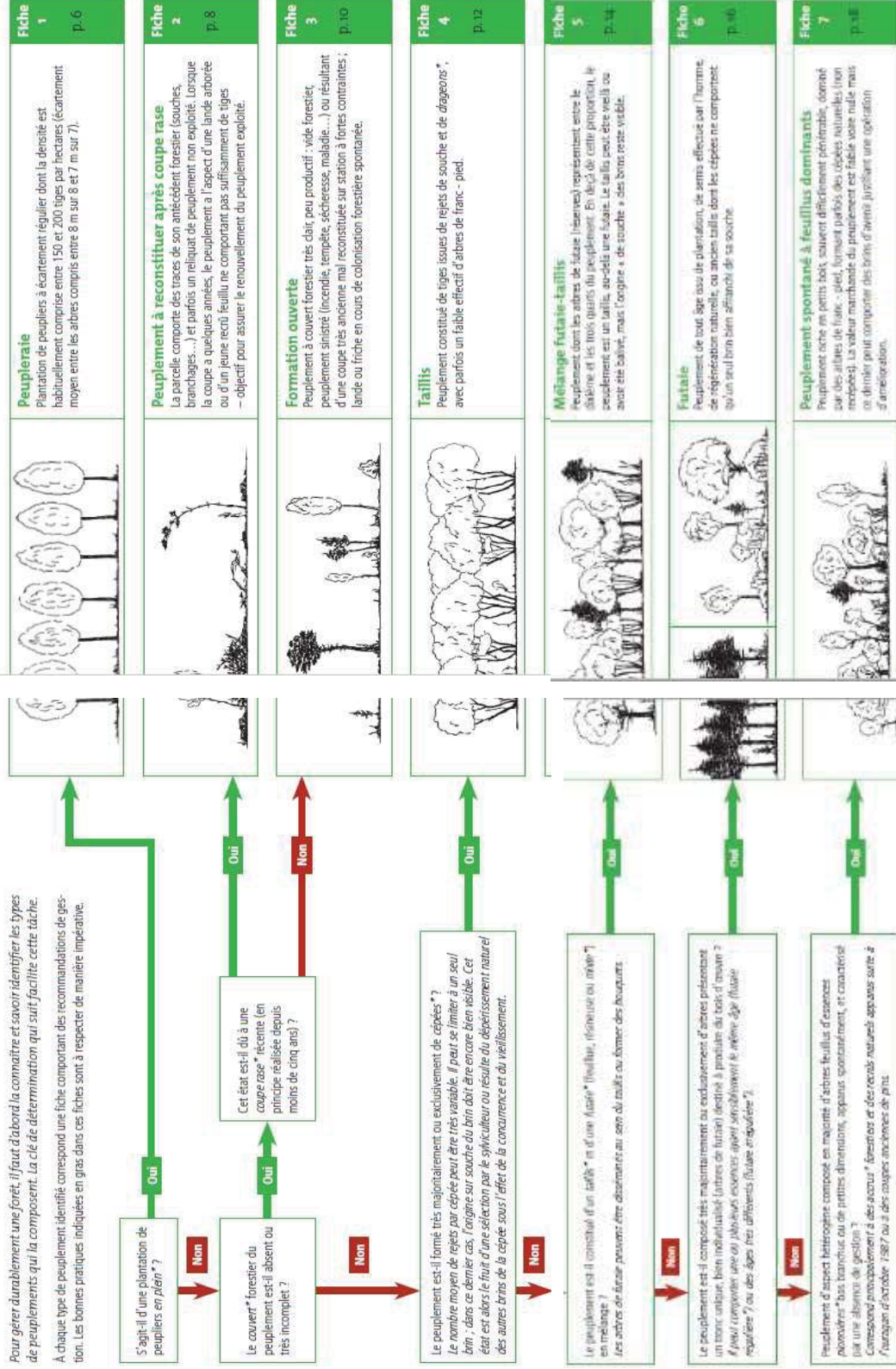


Figure 40 - Keys to determining good forestry practices in Brittany - France (CRPF Bretagne, 2006)

2.4. Project assumptions

296. Based on the Logical Framework Approach (FAO Roma, 2010b)²⁰⁰, here below are listed the project assumptions (see **Annex 1 infra**), i.e. the conditions that need to be met in order to achieve expected TRI CAR Project outcomes and outputs:

<p>Global Environmental Objective and Project Development Objective The RCPCA is successfully implemented, bringing back peace and socioeconomic growth Topic remains of high relevance to national and international stakeholders The Project is adopted and supported by the national, regional and local stakeholders Private and public investors see an interest in investing in FLR actions</p> <p>Program Component 1: Policy Development and Integration Political impulse sufficient to support the processes and validate the final documents</p> <p>Program Component 2: Implementation of Restoration Programs and Complementary Initiatives Appropriation of the Project objectives by the local communities and strong interest in implementing field activities Appropriation of the Project objectives by the field officers and Local Project Coordinators and officers fully dedicated to their tasks in a result-based approach</p> <p>Program Component 3: Institutions, Finance and Upscaling Political willingness to share information and discuss/resolve cross-sectoral issues Good matching of capacity-building support activities to a wide range of stakeholders, with different views and skills Improvement of the business climate, able to attract more private and public resources into FLR activities</p> <p>Program Component 4: Knowledge, Partnerships, Monitoring and Assessment Willingness from TRI Child Project stakeholders in the three countries (the CAR, Cameroon and the DRC) to share views and information regularly Balanced M&E system, as well as training / capitalization / communication materials, (i) detailed enough to capture a wide range of information, (ii) but simple enough to be used by concerned project stakeholders Adequate facilitation of the PSC, to ensure a right representation of all views, incl. from local communities and Indigenous Peoples</p>

Figure 41 - Project assumptions for the TRI CAR Project (authors, 2017)

2.4.1. Stakeholder consultation and engagement

297. This section has been completed in accordance with:
- The FAO's Environmental and Social Standards (FAO Roma, 2015a)²⁰¹ and, in particular, the Environmental and Social Screening (ESS) relating to decent rural employment, gender equality, indigenous peoples and stakeholder engagement and disclosure;
 - The FAO Handbook to the Logical Framework Approach (LFA) (FAO Roma, 2010b) and, in particular, the guidance contained therein on stakeholder, problem and options analysis.

➔ Stakeholders

²⁰⁰ FAO Roma, 2010b. *Handbook on Logical Framework Approach*. Roma – FAO, September 2010. 41p

²⁰¹ FAO Roma, 2015a. *Environmental and Social Management Guidelines*. Roma – FAO, February 2015. 77p

298. The TRI CAR Project key stakeholders (directly involved in the implementation of activities) are the following: local communities (including indigenous peoples – Pygmies / Bay'Aka) gathered in associations and farmers' groups, Special delegations/Communal councils, central / regional / prefectural / local services from the MEDDEFCP, the MDRA, and the Ministry of Energy, APDS staff, SEFCA, local NGOs, ICRA, ISDR. Their main roles in the project can be summarized as follows:

Stakeholders	Main roles
MEDDEFCP (central and decon-centrated services)	It is responsible for the sustainable management of natural resources, and hosts the GEF Focal Points. It will be the institutional anchor of the Project: it will host the PMU and chair the PSC. In operational terms, its deconcentrated services (seconded officers) will be fully involved in the preparation, support, M&E of field activities.
MDRA (central and deconcentrated services)	In charge of the agriculture sector, the MDRA is directly interested in developing alternative to slash-and-burn. It will be mostly involved through its deconcentrated services (seconded officers), in the preparation, support, M&E of field activities.
Ministry of Energy	Mostly focused on hydroelectricity and electrification, the energy policy is marginally addressing the issue of wood energy. The Ministry of Energy would be directly interested in upgrading the WISDOM Platform for Bangui/Bimbo.
Local NGOs active in the rural sector	In pilot sites where they already operate and/or where there are unfilled positions of field agents from the MEDDEFCP and MADR, they will be involved in the preparation, support, M&E of field activities.
ICRA (esp. Boukoko Station)	Lead agricultural research institute administered by the MDRA, it lacks resources and capacities in terms of FLR and agro-ecology. It would be involved in R&D programs on these two issues, in collaboration with the CIRAD
ISDR M'Baïki	Central African only graduate-level school of agriculture and forestry, it will be involved in the R&D Programs with ICRA and CIRAD, and training materials / Guide on good practices for FLR and IGAs will be integrated into the curricula.
Rural households in pilot sites, including Indigenous Peoples	Main beneficiaries and key partners. They are highly dependent on natural resources and generally suffer from the forest and land degradation caused by unsustainable practices. They will be invited to "re-invest" their degraded fallows and implement small-scale FLR actions, accompanied by IGAs.
Special delegations/ Communal councils	Theoretically responsible for implementing rural development activities at communal level, they are very weak. In the 21 forest Communes supported by PDRSO and the WB project, field activities will be coordinated within the LDP.
APDS staff	Based in Bayanga, one of the staff will act as a Local Project Coordinator for the FLR actions / IGAs implemented in this area. As Pygmies / Bay'Aka are frequent in this area, the experiences of APDS staff in that regard will be of added-value.
SEFCA company	Operating two PEAs in the surroundings of Mambéllé, SEFCA is willing to establish a PPP with the communities and the State to reforest a degraded area, part of its PEA. A staff from SEFCA will also act as a Local Project Coordinator.

Figure 42 - Stakeholders directly involved in the TRI CAR Project (authors, 20A7)

299. An extended group of stakeholders (involved in trainings, workshops, technical days, meetings, notably through the National Coordination on FLR) includes: other Ministries interested in FLR in particular and/or rural development in general (Ministries in charge of Finance, Mines, Transport, Planning and Decentralization, etc.), local and international NGOs actives in the environment and rural development, private companies (notably industrial logging companies, and to a lesser extent since they are few, from the agriculture and mining sectors).
300. Among all the stakeholders directly or indirectly involved, there are no stakeholders that may be negatively affected, as (i) "soft" (desk) activities consist mainly in studies, meetings, capacity-building activities, etc. for the benefits of the participants, (ii) "hard" (field) activities are "on-demand" and will be carefully designed, after a complete biophysical and socioeconomic assessment in each specific FLR perimeter, for each of the five pilot sites. During the assessment and all along the implementation of field activities, the principle of Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) has been and will be respected, especially with the Indigenous Peoples households that may participate in the Project. From the field missions carried out in early 2017, it turns out that there are around 3,000 households potentially interested in the field activities, with a fair balance between men and women.

301. The main ethnic groups in the five pilot sites are the following: Gbaya (Bianda, Bokoto, Bogongo, Bokaré, Bouli, Bofi), Banda Yanguéré, Mbimou, Ngbaka, Mbaté. As for Pygmies / Bay'Aka, their total number is estimated between 5,000 to 12,000 for the whole South-West (See **Part 1.1.3 supra**). In addition, as they usually come and go frequently in the forest, they are not easy to meet in the villages. These two reasons explain why few Pygmies / Bay'Aka households were met during the PPG phase.
302. However, the few that were met generally declared their interest in the TRI CAR Project, even if they also mentioned they are more involved in hunting, fishing, NTFPs gathering than in agriculture, and they often do not have agriculture plots, nor old fallows to be restored (see summary of consultations held with Pygmies / Bay'Aka in **Annex 11 infra**). Hopefully, more Pygmies / Bay'Aka will be met at the start of the Project, when adequate information will be passed through the villages. This could be done through the local NGOs active in the promotion of Pygmies / Bay'Aka, such as the House of Pygmies' Women and Children / *Maison de la femme et de l'enfant pygmies* (MFEP) or the Network of indigenous and local peoples of the CAR / *Réseau des populations autochtones et locales de Centrafrique* (REPALCA).

➔ **Stakeholder engagement**

303. As detailed in (FAO Roma, 2014b)²⁰², FAO is committed to ensuring meaningful, effective and informed participation of stakeholders in the formulation and implementation of FAO programs and projects. This process seeks to enhance transparency, two-way communication, information provision and enable fair and representative participation of all sections of affected populations, including the most vulnerable and marginalized. It also deepens country ownership and is in line with effective development principles. Having these in mind, interviews were carried out in Bangui during the Project preparation with key partners and field surveys were carried out in the South-West (see **Annex 11 and 12 infra** the lists of attendance to the various meetings).
304. In Bangui, interviews were made in small groups, in order to have focused exchanges on specific issues. Obviously, an overview of the TRI Program was presented and general comments and recommendations were also captured, in addition to the specific comments and recommendations.
305. In the field, meetings were first organized with the decentralized services of the MEDDEFPC and MDRA, in order to get an overview of the local context. Then, local NGOs and local populations were mobilized and focus groups were organized to present an overview of the TRI Program, to exchange about practices and difficulties faced by local communities in terms of food crop production, supply of wood energy, harvest of NTFPs, bushmeat hunting, etc. Global environmental changes were also touched upon and questions/answers helped the attendance to liaise forest and land degradation / loss of biodiversity / climate changes (at global and local level) / loss of soil fertility / encroachment of invasive weed in the farmers' plots / etc.
306. During the PPG phase, 1,073 local stakeholders were met, including representatives of 117 local associations/groups gathering 8,079 members (out of which 3,721 women – 46% of membership) (see **Annex 12 infra**). Local stakeholders were in general very enthusiastic about the Project, and many useful information were collected in terms of capacity needs, priorities in terms of FLR activities and IGAs, preferred trees and/or plant species for FLR, etc. (see **Annex 11 infra**) They also raised concerns and the most frequent ones are listed infra, as well as the answers given:
 - Individual vs collective restoration perimeters: During the focus groups, participants explained that farm plots are usually contiguous, and so are the degraded fallows to be restored. Farm plots generally have a reduced area. It was therefore agreed that it would be inefficient to work at plot level, and preferable to work at block (of plots) level. Some misunderstandings then appeared: some participants understood the restoration activities would be done collectively and the perimeters would be collectively-managed. As it is not common practice in the South-West to crop collectively, others often responded directly that restoration would be done on block of fallows, each household being responsible for his own fallow/farm plot. It was further added that it would simplify bushfire management (collective firebreaks), supervision by field officers, create emulation between households, etc.

²⁰² FAO Roma, 2014b. *Communication for rural development - Guidelines for planning and project formulation*. Roma – FAO, 2014. 62p

- Choices of tree and plant species: Participants often asked about the species the Project would “bring”. It was responded that the Project was not prescriptive in that regard, the only requirements being to avoid invasive tree or plant species, that would prevent the natural regeneration of the agro-ecosystem. It was also outlined that households should think about the tree and plant species that they would favor, in order to prepare collective tree nurseries and order crop seeds. Finally, the fact that ICRA has not yet the capacity to produce tree and plant material at large scale was not hidden. Exchanges came to the conclusion it would still be possible to get locally-produced seeds by “massal selection”.
 - Type and channeling of support: Questions were raised about it: Cash or in-kind support? Total or partial subsidies? By which channel? It was responded that :
 - In terms of FLR: Support would be provided through technical assistance (field officers, trainings, field visits, etc.), supply of seeds, but also cash payments (for restoration and maintenance), based on performance (minimum survival rate after one year). The amount to be paid would be estimated based on normal costs engaged for such activities (including labor costs, valued at the prevailing price in the South-West), and 60% of this cost would be covered;
 - In terms of IGAs: Technical assistance (field officers, trainings, field visits, etc.) would also be provided. Then, if the local communities are covered by a Resilience fund, financial support would be channeled through this fund and made available to the local associations through small-scale credits. If not, then financial support would be granted directly by the Project to the local associations. The amount of financial support, either credit or grant, would depend on the targeted IGA and be estimated when preparing the micro-project.
307. Finally, as detailed in **Part 3.3.3 infra**, the project area coincides in part with Pygmies / Bay’Aka territories. Following FAO guidance (FAO Roma, 2016c)²⁰³ and GEF guidance (GEF, 2016a)²⁰⁴, it is necessary to undertake an analysis and obtain their consent following good faith consultations and a thorough process of FPIC before any activity can be implemented in that area. This was done during the field missions carried early 2017, and will continue during the lifetime of the Project, as the FPIC is an iterative concept. Some Pygmies / Bay’Aka households were interviewed, especially in the Bayanga Pilot site (villages of Monassao, Mossapoula, etc. See **Annex 11 and 12 infra**). The Project objectives and activities were explained, and their views and recommendations were captured. They did not raise specific concerns, but they insisted on the fact they would be interested in NTFPs (e.g. cropping of *kökö* cutting or mushrooms, planting of Essesang to host edible caterpillars, etc.)

➔ **Grievance Mechanism**

308. As recalled in the FAO’s Guidelines on Compliance Reviews (FAO, 2015c)²⁰⁵ and the FAO’s Grievance Handling Mechanism²⁰⁶, FAO facilitates the resolution of concerns of beneficiaries/stakeholders of FAO projects and programs regarding alleged or potential violations of FAO’s social and environmental commitments. For this purpose, concerns may be communicated in accordance with the eligibility criteria, which apply to all FAO programs and projects. All projects and programs are required to publicize the mechanism for the receipt and handling of grievances at the local level.
309. For the last eight years, the CAR, hosted several processes in the rural sector on which stakeholders consultations were a high priority: FLEGT VPA, R-PP, and more recently INDC. These processes shared the same methodologies in terms of consultations, and strengthened the capacities of two national network of NGOs: (i) National Forum of the Conference on Central and Central African Dense Forest Ecosystems (*Conférence sur les écosystèmes de forêts denses et humides d’Afrique centrale* - CEFDHAC), (ii) Inter-NGOs Centre of the CAR (*Centre inter-ONG de RCA*, CIONGA) a platform of more than 50 NGOs organized

²⁰³ FAO Roma, 2016c. *Free Prior and Informed Consent - An indigenous peoples’ right and a good practice for local communities. Manual for project practitioners*. Roma – FAO, 2016. 52p

²⁰⁴ GEF, 2016a. *User Guide IPs and GEF Project Financing*. Geneva – GEF, June 2016. 20p

²⁰⁵ FAO Roma, 2015c. *Compliance reviews following complaints related to the organization’s environmental and social standards – Guidelines*. Roma – FAO, February 2015. 10p

²⁰⁶ See <http://www.fao.org/aud/en/>

into six thematic networks, including the Network of Non-Governmental Organizations for the Environment and Sustainable Development (*Réseau des ONG pour l'environnement et le développement durable* - RONGEDD).

310. During the different processes and thanks to the advocacy of the local NGOs, notably the two above-mentioned networks, a common grievance mechanism for the rural sector was put in place (building on the efforts of the FLEGT VPA) and an independent observer was put in place to supervise it. This grievance mechanism is known from the MEDDEFCP, the forest companies, and the local NGOs, etc. may be less by the local populations. It has then be explained that the TRI CAR Project would use this grievance mechanism, and that local populations could at any time report their claim to it, so that the project be adjusted. If need be, the operation of this grievance mechanism could be supported by a focal point at the FAO office.

→ **Disclosure**

311. Disclosure of relevant project information helps stakeholders to effectively participate. FAO will disclose information in a timely manner, before appraisal formally begins, that is accessible and culturally appropriate, placing due attention to the specific needs of community groups which may be affected by project implementation (such as literacy, gender, differences in language or accessibility of technical information or connectivity).
312. The content of the present Project Document, which outlines the actions that will be undertaken by the TRI CAR Project, how and with whom, has been validated by key national partners before submission to GEFSEC for CEO Endorsement and before formal appraisal and approval by FAO. A workshop was organized in Bangui the 14th and 15th of June in order to disclose and validate the approaches and methodologies that will be adopted by the Project during its implementation. A report of this workshop is attached in **Annex 10 infra**. It lists comments made during this workshop and consequent changes made in the Project document.

2.4.2. Lessons learned

313. As explained in **Part 1.2.1 supra**, reforestation activities have been very reduced for the last decades, approx.. 134 ha/year at national level over 2001 to 2015, according to BONANNEE (2001) and CAS-DF (2015). These reforestation perimeters were mainly put in place by the CAS-DF, but some projects also participated, as the Participatory Forest Resource Management Program (*Programme de gestion participative des ressources forestières* - PGPRF) financed by the German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) and implemented between 1992 and 2009. This project enabled the reforestation with Gmelina and Teck of 129 ha of the Bangui Special Reserve...However, there is not much difference between activities implemented by the CAS-DF and such type of project (i.e. monospecific plantations of fast-growing tree species in all cases), and lessons learned are few.
314. As for FLR, as also explained in **Part 1.2.1 supra**, there has been little to no actions, apart from few trials carried out from the 1970's to the 1990's, on tiny surfaces and without long term monitoring: trials from CTFT, ARF project and CIRAD near M'Baïki, at Carrefour Leroy and ISDR Campus. These trials are more interesting than the monospecific plantations, but it is difficult to learn lessons from them, in the absence of documentation.
315. This being said, even if not focused on FLR or plantations, a few projects present some interesting lessons:
- WB-funded Project for Natural Resources Management (*Programme d'aménagement des ressources naturelles* – PARN): implemented from 1991 to 1997, it is the only trial of a South-Western Land Planning Scheme (TECSULT, 1994). It was described briefly in the Output 1.2 (see **Part 2.3.1 supra**), as it could be a source of inspiration for an upgraded Land Use Planning Scheme in the South-West;
 - GIZ-funded Project for the sustainable management of NTFPs in the Congo Basin: implemented from 2009 to 2012, it has been followed by a smaller FAO-funded project on the same topic (still on-going). It was notably useful to review the legal framework with regard to NTFPs and to promote certain well-demanded NTFPs, such as kökö, caterpillars, mushrooms, etc. The data collected on NTFPs and the

methodologies to promote the NTFPs could be useful when implementing the Output 2.3 (see **Part 2.3.2 supra**);

- UNESCO-funded Project “Basse Lobaye Biosphere Reserve”: From 1979 till recently, this project supported IGAs and reforestation actions, based on multi-use autochthonous tree species, in the buffer area of the Reserve. Unfortunately, because of the lack of continuity of financing, there is no continuous monitoring of the field activities, like in the case of the FLR trials made by CTFT, ARF Project, and CIRAD. Despite this, it will be interesting to organize some field visits there, in the frame of the Output 4.2.1 (see **Part 2.3.4 supra**).

2.4.3. Alignment and strategic fit

316. The project is fully aligned with the national development goals and policies, thoroughly described in **Part 1.2 supra**:
- **Forest**: It will contribute to fine-tuning the Forest Policy Statement, with which it shares most concerns (e.g. FLR, NTFPs, wood energy, community forest, etc.);
 - **Agriculture and food security**: It aims at improving soil fertility, crop productivity, and food security and diversification. At the contrary to the PNIASAN, which focuses more on the “conventional agriculture”, the Project will aim at promoting agro-ecology and will support ICRA in setting an R&D Program in that regard. However, it will contribute to attaining the final objectives set by the SDRASA and the PNIASAN;
 - **Environment / Biodiversity**: It also aims at protecting biodiversity, by restoring degraded habitats and connectivity. It will also contribute to the upgrading of the SNPA-DB;
 - **Environment / Climate change**: By promoting FLR, the Project will avoid further deforestation and help remove more carbon in restored fallows. It will also contribute to ecosystem-based adaptation. It is therefore fully in line with the PANA, the R-PP, and the INDC;
 - **Environment / Land degradation**: In line with the PAN-LCD and the PNIMT, it will contribute to the fight against land degradation, for which the CAR received little support till now while it has committed to an ambitious pledge under the Bonn Challenge. Supporting the elaboration of bankable projects in terms of FLR, as planned in Output 3.5 (see **Part 2.3.3 supra**), it will also contribute to the upscaling of FLR actions, beyond the present Project;
 - **Land Planning**: It will contribute to the elaboration of the South-Western Land Use Planning Scheme, and put in place innovative tools and methodologies that could be replicated elsewhere in the country.
317. As detailed in **Part 2.2.2 supra**, the Project is fully aligned with the GEF6 Objectives, in terms of Land Degradation (LD-2 and LD-3), Biodiversity (BD-4), and Sustainable Forest Management (SFM-3 and SFM-4).
318. The Project is also fully aligned with the SDG 15.3 aiming at halting land degradation by 2030, as well as the related international objectives, such as the Bonn Challenge (to restore 150 Mha by 2020), Aichi target 15 (to restore 15% of degraded ecosystems by 2020), the UN Declaration on Forests (to restore 350 Mha of forests by 2030). More generally, the Project will contribute to the SDG 1 (fighting extreme poverty and food insecurity), 3 (reducing gender inequality), and 7 (preserving the environment)²⁰⁷.
319. Last but not the least, it is aligned with the FAO Country Programming Framework 2016-2017 (FAO Bangui, 2015c). This framework breaks down in three priority areas, with a total budget of USD 133 billion (out of which USD 23 billion were secured as at November 2015):
- Institutional support and capacity-building of agricultural and rural actors (USD 45 billion): upgrading of the institutional framework in the agriculture sector, capacity-building of 30 governmental services, setting up one National Chamber of Agriculture and seven Regional Chambers of Agriculture, capacity-building of 16 local authorities and 160 local communities;

²⁰⁷ See <http://www.un.org/fr/millenniumgoals/>

- Supporting Livelihood Resilience (USD 53 billion): facilitating the meetings of a national working group on rural development and food security, supporting 20 NGOs and Governmental services in using micro-credit to strengthen Resilience Funds (*Caisses de résilience*), supporting 100 communities to face food insecurity, reinstalling 200,000 rural households, supporting 30,000 people with food aid;
- Supporting the recovery in the agricultural sector (USD 35 billion): preparing guidelines in terms of management and restoration of ecosystems threatened by climate change, increasing food crop production by 6%, increasing the share of NTFP in the Agriculture GDP to 15-20%.

3. INNOVATIVENESS, POTENTIAL SCALING UP & SUSTAINABILITY

3.1. Innovativeness

320. Overall, the TRI CAR Project will be very innovative, in the sense it will support FLR actions that have received little to no support till now. In addition to that, the Project will develop innovative tools and methodologies:
- Biophysical and socio-economic assessment of degraded sites, using the Collect Earth Open Foris tool developed by the FAO;
 - Identification of restoration opportunities, using the ROAM developed by IUCN and WRI;
 - Mapping of wood energy fluxes in Bangui/Bimbo, using the WISDOM Platform;
 - Awareness-raising and diffusion of training materials through the Farmer Field School network and the community-listening clubs DIMITRA, both supported by the FAO;
 - Promotion of agro-ecology, climate-smart agriculture (and ecosystem-based approach), through a joint collaboration between ICRA and CIRAD.
321. This Project provides the means by which local innovation and best practices can be identified, documented and shared. It will seek to increase the linkages between local communities to ensure that communication and learning occurs horizontally rather than following a more traditional top-down method. It will also seek to support the National Coordination on FLR, for increased cooperation between research, Government, local communities, and other interested stakeholders. These horizontal ways of communication, at the contrary to the frequent top-down approach of most rural development projects, will also be innovative aspects.

3.2. Potential for scaling up

322. The FLR pilot activities will be implemented in the South-West, as described in Component 2 (see [Part 2.3.2 supra](#)). However, overall, the TRI CAR Project will provide useful elements in terms of Policy development and integration (Component 1. See [Part 2.3.1 supra](#)), Institutional strengthening, finance mobilization, and upscaling (Component 3. See [Part 2.3.3 supra](#)), and Knowledge sharing among stakeholders (Component 4. See [Part 2.3.4 supra](#)), thus contributing to the successful scaling-up of FLR actions in the CAR.
323. Most of the Outputs under the Component 1 will be of national interest: Valuation of ecosystem services (Output 1.1.1), ROAM study (Output 1.1.2), Upgrading of the Forest Policy Statement (Output 1.2.3), Upgrading of the SNPA-DB (Output 1.2.4). The two remaining output, namely elaboration of a Regional Land Planning Scheme (Output 1.2.1) and Upgrading of the WISDOM Platform for Bangui/Bimbo (Output 1.2.2) will be first focused towards the South-West of the CAR, but they will provide useful lessons for a potential scaling-up in other parts of the CAR.
324. Similarly, most of the Outputs under the Component 3 will provide useful elements in terms of capacity-building needs assessment (Output 3.1), as well as capacity-building of the MEDDEFPC and the MDRA (Output 3.2), local populations (Output 3.3), and academic institutions (Output 3.4) in terms of FLR and agro-ecology. These capacity-building activities would help to upscale FLR activities at national level. In addition to capacity-building, the support to the National Coordination on FLR will strengthen inter-sectoral and multi-stakeholder coordination (Output 3.5). Last but not the least, the studies to be carried

out in terms of FLR funding (Output 3.6) will allow identifying additional and innovate funding for such an upscaling.

325. Finally, the Output 4.1.1. South-South exchange and Output 4.1.2 Annual knowledge meetings and bi-annual finance events under Component 4 will allow exchanging information/experiences in terms of FLR at international level. Under the same Component, the Output 4.2.1 Technical days, Output 4.2.2 Training materials on FLR, and Output 4.2.3 Guide of Good Practice in terms of FLR, will also provide useful elements for a possible upscaling of FLR actions at national level.

3.3. Sustainability

3.3.1. Environmental sustainability

326. Since the publication of the BRUNTLAND Report “*Our Common Future*” in 1987²⁰⁸, the Sustainable Development agenda upheld by the United Nations is based on three pillars: Environmental sustainability, Social Development, and Economic Development. Environmental sustainability refers to a situation in which the demands placed on the environment can be met without reducing its capacity to allow all people to live well, now and in the future.
327. The TRI CAR Project will contribute to strengthening the environmental sustainability in the CAR, by (i) improving efficiency in the use of resources, and (ii) contributing to conserving, protecting and enhancing natural ecosystems:

- Improving efficiency in the use of resources: The key drivers of environmental threats are described in **Part 2.1.1 supra**. Most of them relate to the unsustainable use of natural resources (i.e. slash-and-burn agriculture, harvest of wood energy, bushfire for hunting, etc.) and are characterized by a low efficiency in the use of resources.

For instance, traditional slash-and-burn implies clearing a piece of forest every year or two to three years (depending on the soil fertility and the types of crops), and then leaving it for many years to reconstitute the soil fertility, sometimes forever when the “red line” is crossed (i.e. irreversible situation with the means available to the household: degraded soil, encroachment of weed like Laos herb, etc.).

By promoting FLR and agroecology practices, the TRI CAR Project will allow identifying and testing innovative cropping practices (i) maintaining soil fertility and limiting weed invasion, thus reducing the need for clearing, (ii) reducing environment threats to the forests and landscapes, and (iii) improving efficiency in the use of resources. The same reasoning applies to the other drivers of environmental threats identified;

- Contributing to conserving, protecting and enhancing natural ecosystems: In the traditional system, local populations create a pioneer front, separating degraded landscapes from intact landscapes. Once the needed natural resources are getting rare or even exhausted (i.e. soil fertility, NTFPs, wood energy, etc.), the pioneer front moves forward.

It is particularly clear from the past satellite images used to prepare the WISDOM Platform for Bangui, with a pioneer front advancing at 300 m/year! (DRIGO, 2009). It is sometimes more diffuse when the urban centers are reduced, then translating into mosaic deforestation, with many patches instead of a frontline. In any case, restoring degraded forests and landscapes, that can be used to produce agriculture products, wood energy, lumber, NTFPs, etc. will contribute to conserving, protecting and enhancing natural ecosystems. It is particularly relevant in the South-West, where some of the pilot sites are very closed to Protected Areas of high interest.

²⁰⁸ See <http://www.un-documents.net/wced-ocf.htm>

3.3.2. Gender equality

328. According to (GEF, 2012)²⁰⁹ and (FAO Roma, 2016d)²¹⁰, gender equality is when women and men enjoy equal rights, opportunities and entitlements in civil and political life. For FAO, gender equality is equal participation of women and men in decision-making, equal ability to exercise their human rights, equal access to and control over resources and the benefits of development, and equal opportunities in employment and in all other aspects of their livelihoods.
329. According to the PNIASA (MDRA, 2013), women make up 50.2% of the total population and 53.7% of the workforce. They provide more than 74% of the labour force directly associated with agricultural production, including production, processing, and marketing. In particular, their efforts represent 90% of crop weeding, 80% of field-village transport, 60% of harvest work, and 90% of processing. They also participate in many off-farm activities: rodent hunting, small-scale fishing, picking of mushroom, caterpillars and termites for self-consumption, petty trade, etc.
330. The analysis of human development performance reveals strong gender differences. Women are more affected by poverty than men: in rural areas, 81% of women against 69% of men are affected by poverty. Although women have a higher average life expectancy than men, women are at greater risk of dying between the ages of 15 and 49 because of maternal mortality due to complications of childbirth and early marriages (*Ibid*).
331. The illiteracy rate is higher among women (68%) than among men (46%). The proportion of women with no access to education is particularly high in rural areas (80% of women aged 15-49). The primary school enrolment rate is 55% for girls, compared to 71% for boys in 2009, and school leakage is worsening as girls reach puberty. Overall, the Gender disparity is very high: CAR is ranked 153rd out of 177 countries in terms of Gender Development Index (*Ibid*).
332. This being said, one can see the contribution of the TRI CAR Project in terms of gender equality. The restoration activities will allow increasing (i) crop productivity, as well as food crops and NTFPs diversity, through agro-ecology practices, thus reducing women labour engaged in agriculture, (ii) wood energy supply, through fast-growing tree species plantations, thus reducing women efforts and time engaged in wood energy collection. In addition to that, women groups will benefit from capacity-building activities and awareness raising activities (notably through the Dimitra Club).

3.3.3. Indigenous peoples

333. In accordance with international consensus – in particular the Convention 169 of the International Labour Organization (ILO) on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (ILO, 1989)²¹¹, the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN, 2007)²¹², the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues²¹³ - FAO considers the following criteria to identify indigenous peoples (FAO Roma, 2010c)²¹⁴: priority in time with respect to occupation and use of a specific territory; the voluntary perpetuation of cultural distinctiveness (e.g. languages, laws and institutions); self-identification; an experience of subjugation, marginalization, dispossession, exclusion or discrimination (whether or not these conditions persist).
334. As outlined in **Part 1.1 supra**, two ethnic groups can be considered as Indigenous Peoples in the CAR, in the sense of this FAO Definition: Pygmies / Bay'Aka and Peulh / Mbororo peoples. Pygmies / Bay'Aka are concentrated in the South-West of the CAR, especially in the Prefectures of Lobaye and Sangha-Mbaéré,

²⁰⁹ GEF, 2012. *Policy on Gender Mainstreaming*. Geneva – GEF – May 2012, 7p

²¹⁰ FAO, 2016d. *How to mainstream gender in forestry? A practical field guide*. Roma – FAO, 2016. 12p

²¹¹ ILO, 1989. *Convention 169 relative aux peuples autochtones et tribaux*. Genève – OIT, juin 1989. 14p

²¹² UN, 2007. *Déclaration des Nations-Unies sur les droits des peuples autochtones*. New-York – ONU, septembre 2007. 20p

²¹³ See <https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/>

²¹⁴ FAO Roma, 2010c. *Politique de la FAO concernant les peuples autochtones et tribaux*. Roma – Fao, 2010. 44p

and their number is not well known, estimates varying from 5,000²¹⁵ to 12,000²¹⁶. Peulh / Mbororo peoples, nomadic herders, were quite rare in the South-West before the 2013 crisis, as pasture lands are limited. They nearly disappeared from the area since 2013: most of them are now refugees in Northern Cameroon.

335. In August 2010, the CAR was the first African country to ratify the Convention 169. A study was carried out in 2012 to identify progresses and challenges regarding the implementation of this Convention 169 in the CAR (GILBERT, 2012)²¹⁷. In terms of indigenous peoples' rights over natural resources, it is outlined that the Article 14 of the Constitution, as well as the Articles 1 and 8 of the Forest Code, recognize their rights over natural resources. In particular, the Article 14 of the Decree n°09-021 authorizes their traditional access to NTFPs and wood products in the protected areas.
336. Despite this favorable official legal framework, remaining issues need to be addressed. Indeed, it is also recalled that property rights over the land and the natural resources are commonly based on the "customary right of the axe". For the semi-nomadic Pygmies / Bay'Aka with a poor culture of agriculture, this can restrict their access to the land. In order to address this situation, during the assessment and all along the implementation of field activities of the TRI CAR Project, the principle of FPIC has been and will be respected, following FAO Practical Guidance in that regard (FAO Roma, 2016c). Pygmies / Bay'Aka households, even few in the Lobaye and the Sangha Mbaéré Prefectures, will be duly consulted and their opinions taken into account, to avoid any harm.
337. In addition to that, even if Pygmies / Bay'Aka are poorly interested in agriculture and may be less attracted in FLR and IGAs activities than other ethnic groups, specific measures will be promoted in the FLR and IGAs activities, to respond to their specific needs. For instance, in terms of FLR activities, tree species hosting caterpillars, producing medicinal products, or demanded fruits will be promoted, and inserted in multi-use agroforestry plantations. In terms of IGAs, the TRI CAR project will promote the domestication of certain NTFPs, through cropping of kökö or mushrooms, improved bee-keeping, etc.

3.3.4. Human rights-based approaches

338. In FAO, this area is divided into the following sub-areas: Right to Food (FAO Roma, 2004)²¹⁸ and Decent Rural Employment, in accordance with the Decent Work Agenda endorsed by the UN World Summit of 2005 and by the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)²¹⁹. Furthermore, these two sub-areas are based on the PANTHER principles: Participation; Accountability; Non-discrimination; Transparency; Human Dignity; Empowerment; Rule of Law.
339. With regard to the first item, Right to Food, the TRI CAR Project will provide valuable contributions. Indeed, it aims at restoring degraded peri-urban fallows, and thus increasing crop productivity, as well as food crops and NTFPs diversity, through agro-ecology practices. As the food insecurity is widespread in the CAR, ranging from 26% to 77% in late 2015 (WFP, 2015), and as the current PNIASAN promotes "conventional agriculture" which may not be accessible to many households (poorly equipped for ploughing/harrowing, having little to no access to improved seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, etc.), the TRI CAR Project will address a major concern with innovate approaches.
340. With regard to the second item, Decent Rural Employment, the TRI CAR Project will strengthen existing employments (agriculture, harvesting of wood energy, of NTFPs, etc.) and promote the creation of new employments, through the promotion of innovative IGAs. Overall, the TRI CAR Project will provide

²¹⁵ See <http://centrafriquenligne.over-blog.com/article-les-pygmees-un-peuple-oublie-du-developpement-67658336.html>

²¹⁶ See http://www.lemonde.fr/voyage/article/2006/03/24/les-pygmees-petit-peuple-des-forets_754265_3546.html

²¹⁷ GILBERT, J., 2012. *Etude de la législation de la RCA au vu de la Convention 169 de l'Organisation internationale du travail relative aux peuples indigènes et tribaux*. Bangui – Haut-commissariat aux droits de l'homme et à la bonne gouvernance, février 2012. 96p

²¹⁸ FAO Roma, 2004. *Voluntary guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security*. Roma – FAO, November 2004. 48p

²¹⁹ See <http://www.fao.org/rural-employment/en/>

incentives for allowing rural households to overcome technical, cultural or financial adoption barriers, and thus strengthening employments, food security, and revenues.

341. Specifically, the TRI CAR Project will comply with the six priority dimensions that are crucial to achieving Decent Rural Employment: (i) Respects the core labour standards (no child labour, no forced labour, freedom of association, no discrimination), (ii) Adequate living income, (iii) Adequate employment security and stability, (iv) Risk mitigation measures, (v) No excessive working hours, (vi) Access to adapted technical and vocational training.

3.3.5. Capacity development

342. As explained in **Part 2.3.3 supra**, effective capacity development approaches are essential to enhance the impact and sustainability of GEF project results through deepening country ownership and leadership of the development process. Therefore, all three capacity development dimensions (individual capacities, organizational capacities, enabling environment) will be addressed systematically in the capacity-building need assessment planned in Output 3.1 under Component 3.
343. Based on that, specific capacity-building activities will be implemented, targeting the following groups (see details in **Part 2.3.3 supra**), and will be monitored and evaluated all over the lifetime of the project (see details in **Part 5 infra**):

- Field officers and Local Project Coordinators (Output 3.2): Themes to be covered will be precisely defined in capacity-building roadmaps, but may cover the following issues (non-exhaustive list): reforestation in particular and FLR in general / agroecology / IGAs in the rural sector (including in particular the promotion of NTFPs) / structuration-strengthening of associations-farmers' groups) / use of CEOF and Ex-Act tool / Etc.;
- Local populations (Output 3.3): Similarly, themes to be covered will be precisely defined in specific capacity building roadmaps, but may cover the following issues (non-exhaustive list): reforestation in particular and FLR in general / agroecology / IGAs in the rural sector (including in particular the promotion of NTFPs) / structuration-strengthening of associations-farmers' groups) / Etc.
- Academic institutions (Output 3.4): The organizational capacities of ICRA and ISDR are quite weak with regard to FLR and agro-ecology. More generally, these institutions have for long been understaffed and underfinanced. Capacity-building should therefore aim at developing two basic, coherent and effective R&D joint-programs with CIRAD in terms of FLR on the one hand, agro-ecology on the other hand.

4. INSTITUTIONAL AND IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1. Institutional arrangements

4.1.1. Roles and responsibilities of main institutions

344. The TRI CAR Project key stakeholders (directly involved in the implementation of activities) are the following: local communities (including indigenous peoples – Pygmies / Bay'Aka) gathered in associations and farmers' groups, Special delegations/Communal councils, central / regional / prefectural / local services from the MEDDECFP, the MDRA, and the Ministry of Energy, APDS staff, SEFCA, local NGOs, ICRA, ISDR. Their main roles and responsibilities in the Project are summarized in the Figure inserted in **Part 2.4.1 supra**.

4.1.2. Coordination with other initiatives

345. The TRI CAR Project will closely liaise with the teams of the programs and projects that have been identified as baseline initiatives (see **Part 2.1.2 supra**). Among these programs and project, the PDRSO, the Mining and Forest Governance Project, and the APDS Program are focusing on the South-West of the CAR and will therefore be part of the PSC of the TRI CAR Project (see **Part 4.2 infra**). Other programs and projects, not directly engaged in field activities in the South-West but active in terms of FLR may be

engaged in the National Coordination on FLR (See Output 3.7 in [Part 2.3.3 supra](#)). Specifically, recalling the main drivers of environmental threats identified in the baseline analysis, the coordination with these initiatives will consist of the following:

- [PDRSO](#) (2017-2021, AFD-FFEM funding, EURO 6.5 million): Comp 1 will support 10 forest Communes of the South-West in preparing their Local Development Plans, thus contributing to improve land planning and inter-sectoral coordination. Comp 2 will support PEAs and forest industry in general, thus contributing to reduce unsustainable industrial logging. Comp 3 will set up small-scale / pilot reforestation and ANR/FLR action (few ha) near Bangui, thus contributing to promote A/R and FLR activities. The same Comp 3 will also set up small-scale / pilot agro-ecology trials (few ha) near Bangui, thus contributing to reduce unsustainable slash-and-burn activities;
 - [Forest part of the Mining and Forest Governance Project](#) (2018-2022, WB funding, USD 5.7 million): Comp A will support 11 forest Communes of the South-West in preparing their Local Development Plans, thus contributing to improve land planning and inter-sectoral coordination. Comp B will support PEAs and forest industry in general, thus contributing to reduce unsustainable industrial logging; Comp D will set up pilot Community forests and promote formal artisanal logging near Berbérati, thus contributing to (i) reduce unsustainable artisanal logging, (ii) reduce unsustainable wood energy harvest, (iii) promote A/R activities;
 - [CoNGOs' Project](#) (2016-2018, IIED funding, budget for the CAR not yet defined): It will facilitate multi-stakeholders concertation, thus contributing to (i) reduce unsustainable artisanal logging, (ii) promote A/R activities;
 - [APDS Program](#) (on-going for many year and no expected closure in the coming years, multi-donor trust fund – Tri-National Sangha): The Program aims at preserving the APDS and will thus contribute to reducing encroachment of local populations and the associated unsustainable practices (slash-and-burn cropping, NTFPs harvesting, bushmeat hunting associated in most cases with bushfires, etc.);
 - [ECOFA6](#) (2017-2021, EU funding, EURO 12 million for the CAR): It will support the protection of the three protected areas in the North and the South-East, and will thus contribute to reducing encroachment of local populations and the associated unsustainable practices;
 - [Mining part of the Mining and Forest Governance Project](#) (2018-2022, WB funding, USD 4.3 million): The Mining part of this Project will support the “formalization” of the artisanal mining in the South-West, thus contributing to reduce land degradation due to mining (NB: such land degradation is reduced compared to land degradation caused by slash-and-burn activities, wood energy harvesting, bushfires, etc. as described in [Part 2.1.1 supra](#));
 - [PRADD2](#) (ending in late 2018, USAID funding, USD 0.7 million): It will also support the “formalization” (and the conformity to the Kimberley process) of the artisanal mining in the South-West, thus contributing to reduce land degradation due to mining;
 - [LDN target setting process](#) (recently started, UNCCD/GM funding): It will allow assessing land degradation in the CAR, with a special focus on the South-West (work carried out by the WRI/OSFAC) and support the LDN target setting, thus contributing to improve the knowledge regarding ecosystem values in the CAR.
346. Two major initiatives are presented in the baseline (see [Part 2.1.2 supra](#)), but their exact contents are not yet known: (i) RCPA: 2016-2021, multi-donor funding, USD 387 million planned for the activity III-1 Revamping the productive sectors (agriculture, livestock, forestry, and mining), (ii) National Agriculture Support Program: to be launched in 2018 or even 2019, WB funding, USD 45 million planned. Immediately after its launching, the TRI CAR Project will liaise with these two initiatives, in order to participate in their fine-tuning, to avoid overlaps of funding and to maximize synergies.

4.2. Implementation arrangements

347. The FAO will be the GEF Agency responsible for the supervision and provision of technical guidance during the implementation of the TRI CAR Project. The MEDDEFPC will be the lead national executing partner:

(i) it will chair a multi-stakeholder PSC, and (ii) it will host the PMU. Here below are described the implementation arrangements regarding the PSC and the PMU.

348. The PSC will bring together various institutions and representatives. Here below is a proposal (gathering 26 Representatives), to be discussed and validated at the first meeting of the PSC, together with the detailed rules of operation of the PSC. It is worth noting that other institutions may be invited to take part occasionally to the PSC, if need be: e.g. Ministry in charge of Land Planning if foreseen discussions on the Regional Land Planning Scheme for the South-West, Ministry in charge of Energy if foreseen discussions on the WISDOM Platform, etc.
- MEDDEFCP (2 Rep.): One representative from the Central services and one representative from one of the three Regional services involved in field activities (DR in Bangui covering the Prefectures of Bangui and Ombella-M'Poko, DR in M'Baïki covering the Prefectures of Lobaye, DR in Berbérati covering the Prefectures of Mambéré-Kadéï and Sangha-Mbaéré);
 - MDRA (2 Rep.): One representative from the Central services and one representative from one of the three Regional services involved in field activities;
 - Ministry of Finance (1 Rep.): One representative from the Central services;
 - Ministry of Home Affairs (1 Rep.): One representative from the Central services;
 - FAO (2 Rep.): One representative from the FAO in Bangui and one representative from the FLR team in Roma;
 - Local populations (10 Rep.): Two representatives from each of the five pilots sites (Bangui, M'Baïki, Berbérati, Mambéllé, Bayanga). Out of these 10 Representatives, at least five should be women and at least two should be Pygmies / Bay'Aka, so as to ensure an adequate representation of the marginalized groups;
 - Local NGOs (2 Rep): One active in the field of rural development and/or environment, to be selected from the CIONGA and/or RONGEDD (see [Part 2.4.1 supra](#)); One promoting the rights of Pygmies / Bay'Aka, either from MFEP or the REPALCA (see [Part 2.4.1 supra](#));
 - ICRA (1 Rep.): One representative from the Boukoko station;
 - ISDR (1 Rep.): One representative from the ISDR Campus in M'Baïki;
 - APDS (1 Rep.): One representative from the APDS Program in Bayanga;
 - SEFCA (1 Rep.): One representative from the SEFCA company in Mambéllé;
 - PDRSO (1 Rep.);
 - Forest and Mining Governance Project (1 Rep.).
349. The PMU staff will be present and act as Secretariat of the PSC. The PSC will meet at least once a year to ensure:
- Oversight and assurance of technical quality of outputs;
 - Close linkages between the TRI CAR Project and other ongoing Programs and Projects relevant to the TRI CAR Project;
 - Timely availability and effectiveness of co-financing support;
 - Sustainability of key project outcomes, including up-scaling and replication;
 - Effective coordination of Government partner work under the TRI CAR Project; and
 - Approval of the Annual Project Progress and Financial Reports, as well as the Annual Work Plan and Budget.
350. The members of the PSC will each assume the role of a Focal Point for the TRI CAR Project in their respective institutions or communities (in the case of the Representatives from the local populations). As Focal Points, the concerned PSC members will (i) technically oversee activities in their sector, (ii) ensure a fluid two-way exchange of information and knowledge between their institutions/communities and the

TRI CAR Project, (iii) facilitate coordination and links between the TRI CAR Project activities and the work plan of their institutions/communities, and (iv) facilitate the provision of co-financing to the TRI CAR Project.

351. Technical Committees will be set up at local level, for each of the Pilot sites, gathering local stakeholders involved in field activities. These Technical Committees will be limited to 10 members maximum and will have a consultative and advisory role, to inform the PSC about the progress and challenges faced locally. The meetings of these Technical Committees will be organized twice a year, notably in advance of the PSC meetings. Their exact composition will be defined precisely a few month after the launching of field activities, in an ad hoc manner (adapted to the local conditions in each of the pilot sites).
352. A PMU will be established and hosted in Bangui by the MEDDEFPC. It will include:
- One Project Manager (PM, international/full-time), leader of the PMU, from year 1 to 3;
 - One National Counterpart (national/full-time), Deputy-PM from year 1 to 3, and PM from year 4 to 5;
 - One Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist (national/full time);
 - Three Local Project Coordinators (Local PCs, national experts/full-time). Two will be based in Bangui and one in Berbérati. NB: the day-to-day field activities in the Mambéllé pilot site and the Bayanga pilot site will be respectively coordinated by a SEFCA staff and an APDS staff. They will not be paid by the TRI CAR Project, but they will operationally be part of the PMU and will follow the same terms of reference that the three Local PCs;
 - One United Nations Volunteer (UNV, international expert/full time) based in M’Baïki. He/she will act as a Local PC for the M’Baïki pilot site, and in addition, coordinate and supervise most of the activities planned under the Component 3, including the joint ICRA-ISDR-CIRAD R&D Programs on agro-ecology and FLR;
 - 32 field agents seconded from the MEDDEFPC and the MDRA. As explained in Output 2.4 under Component 2 (see **Part 2.3.2 supra**), these field agents would be distributed as follows: 11 in Bangui, 6 in Berbérati, 2 in Mbaïki, 1 in Bayanga and 13 in Mambéllé. Knowing FLR actions and IGAs relate as much to agriculture as to forestry, these field agents will be selected from both the MEDDEFPC and the MDRA, with an exact balance dependent on needed skills and assessed site by site. The field agents will be supervised by the local PCs.

The finance and administrative oversight of the TRI CAR Project will be guaranteed by the FAO Bangui Office.

353. The terms of references of the PMU staff (as well as finance and administrative tasks to be carried out by the FAO Bangui Office) are provided in **Annex 6 infra**. The PMU staff will be recruited by the TRI CAR Project and will **send regular technical and financial update reports** (through the PM) to the FAO Representative in Bangui (Budget Holder – BH). Some key functions of the PMU are:
- Technically identify, plan, design, and support all activities;
 - Liaise with Government agencies and regularly advocate on behalf of the TRI CAR Project;
 - Prepare the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP/B) and monitoring plan;
 - Be responsible for day-to-day implementation of the TRI CAR Project in line with the AWP/B;
 - Ensure a results-based approach to TRI CAR Project implementation, including maintaining a focus on results and impacts as defined by the results framework indicators;
 - Monitor TRI CAR Project progress;
 - Be responsible for the elaboration of FAO Project Progress Reports (PPRs) and the annual Project Implementation Review (PIR); and
 - Facilitate and support the mid-term and final evaluations of the TRI CAR Project.

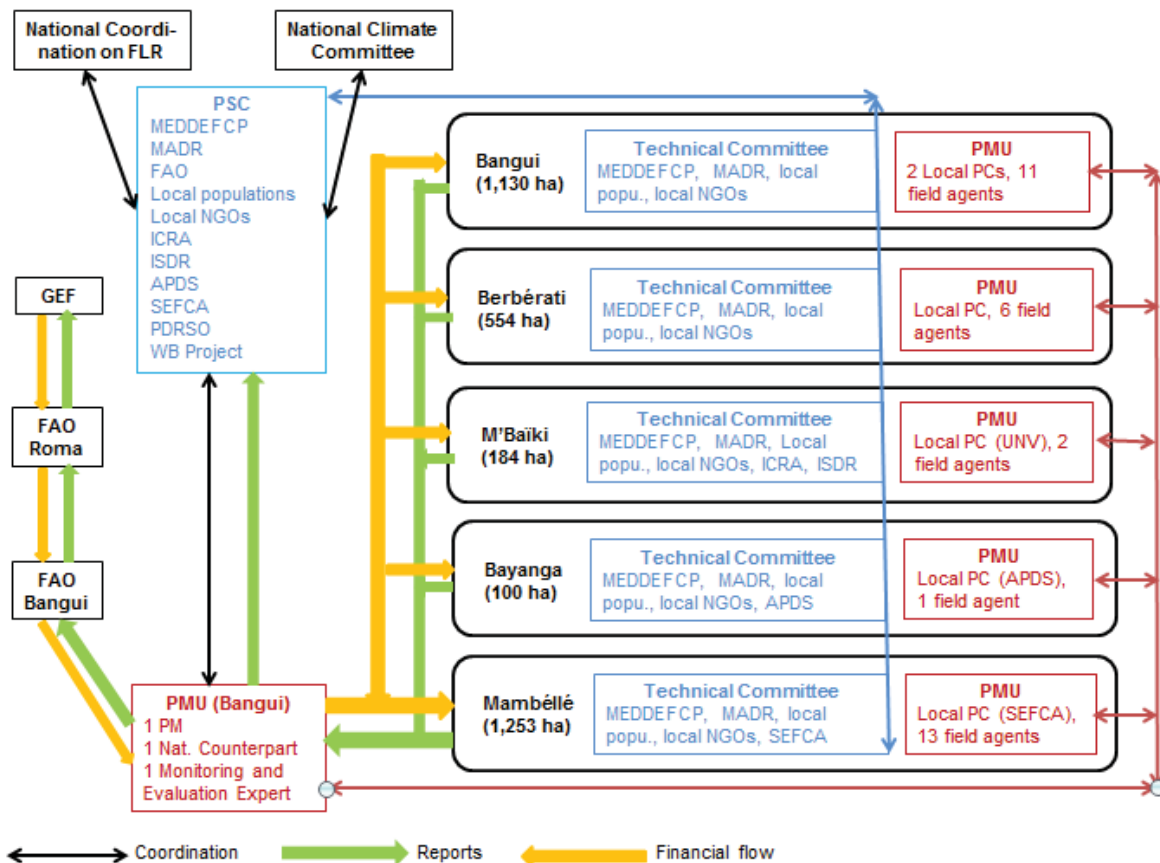


Figure 43 - Organogram of the TRI CAR Project (authors, 2017)

354. All the PMU staff (PM, National Counterpart, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, Local PCs, UNV, field agents) will be recruited after an open and competitive call for applications. The Local PCs will be seconded senior officers (at least 15 years of work experience) from the MEDDEFCEP, jointly selected by the MEDDEFCEP and the FAO. They will be based in the Regional office of the MEDDEFCEP and work on a daily basis with the services of the MEDDEFCEP, but they will directly report to the PMU in Bangui. The field agents will have at least five years of work experience, be either seconded officers from the MEDDEFCEP and the MARD, or field agents from local NGOs. They will be jointly selected by the MEDDEFCEP, the MARD, and the FAO. They will be hosted in the Prefectural services of the MEDDEFCEP and/or MDRA, and work on a daily basis with these services, but they will directly report to their respective Local PCs.
355. The PMU will be supported by a Lead Technical Officer (LTO) from the FLR team in FAO Roma, as well as a Chief Technical Officer (CTA). Both will carry out regular supervision missions. Last, but not the least, the PMU staff will be supported by national and international consultants who will be identified during the TRI CAR Project implementation, to carry out the tasks described in the following Outputs (See **Part 2.3.1 supra** for Outputs 1.xx; **Part 2.3.3 supra** for Outputs 3.xx; **Part 2.3.4 supra** for Outputs 4.xx)
- Output 1.1.1: Two PhD students for the valuation of ecosystem services;
 - Output 1.1.2: Two international experts and two national experts for the assessment of restoration activities;
 - Output 1.2.1: Three international experts and three national experts for the elaboration of a South-Western Land Planning Use Scheme;
 - Output 1.2.2: Two international experts and two national experts for the upgrading of the WISDOM Platform for Bangui/Bimbo;
 - Output 1.2.3: One international expert and one national expert for the fine-tuning of the Forest Policy Statement and the inclusion of FLR concerns

- Output 1.2.4: One international expert and one national expert for the upgrading of the SNPA-DB;
- Output 3.1: Two international experts for the capacity need assessment;
- Output 3.2: A volume of short-term expertise for capacity-building of civil servants (ad hoc experts to be identified, based on the capacity need assessment);
- Output 3.4: Various experts from the CIRAD, specialized in agro-ecology (UR Aïda) and FLR (UR *Forêts et sociétés*), to implement joint R&D Programs with ICRA and ISDR;
- Output 3.6: Various experts, specialized in the elaboration of bankable FLR projects (ad hoc experts to be identified, based on the types of financing opportunities to explore);
- Output 4.2.2: One international expert and one national expert for the preparation of training materials;
- Output 4.2.3: One international expert and one national expert for the preparation of a guide of good practices in terms of FLR activities and IGAs.

4.3. Risk management

4.3.1. Significant risks faced by the Project

356. No major risk (i.e. ranked “High”, with an impact estimated as “High” or “Medium High”, and a likelihood estimated as “High” or “Medium High”) has been identified (see **Annex 4 and Annex 5 infra**). This being said, the likelihood of the RCPCA to be successfully implemented, and to bring back peace and socioeconomic growth, could be questioned (see risk#1 infra): the fact that that USD 2.5 billion have already been pledged at the CAR Donor conference in Brussels in November 2016 and the Government has started implementing the RCPCA (see **Part 1.1.2 infra**) lead to be optimistic and to consider the risk of failure of the RCPCA as “Medium Low”.

#	Risk statement	Impact*	Likelihood**	Ranking***	Mitigating action	Action owner
1	The RCPCA is not successfully implemented, not bringing back peace and socioeconomic growth	H	ML	ML	Out of reach of the project, as it depends on the overall political situation in the CAR.	CAR Gvt
2	Poor improvement of the business climate, unable to attract more private and public resources into FLR activities	H	L	ML	Idem: Out of reach of the project, as it depends on the overall political situation in the CAR.	CAR Gvt
3	Topic no more of high relevance to national policy-makers and international stakeholders	H	L	ML	MEDDEFPC and PMU to raise awareness and maintain the political momentum regarding FLR	MEDDEFPC & PMU
4	Poor appropriation of the Project objectives by the local communities and poor interest in implementing field activities	H	L	ML	MEDDEFPC and PMU to raise awareness among communities and to develop ad-hoc FLR activities and IGAs, based on local needs	MEDDEFPC & PMU
5	A long dry spell and/or extreme temperatures, the reported effects of climate change - could exacerbate existing human-induced pressures on natural resources, such as impact, intensity and extension of forest fires.	H	L	L	The project focuses on restoration and sustainable management, and therefore makes the ecosystems more resilient and consequently less prone to fire. Also, the project works in different ecosystems, tackling a number of different drivers of degradation. The impacts of one exacerbated climate event would unlikely impact	MEDDEFPC

					all ecosystems to the same extent.	
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*effect on project if risk were to occur: H, MH, ML, or L **estimate of likelihood: H, MH, ML, or L *** Red/Amber/Green

Figure 44 - Significant risks faced by the Project (authors, 2017)

4.3.2. Environmental and social risks posed by the project

357. The checklist of the Project environmental and social screening is included in **Annex 4 infra**. Out of the checklist, four risks appear with a mitigation hierarchy estimated as “Moderate”, as described in the figure infra. For each of these four risks, the following aspects are described in **Annex 4 infra**: mitigation options, responsible, timeframe, and indicator.

Risk	Mitigation hierarchy
ESS 3.2.1 & 3.2.2: Importing or transfer of seeds and/or planting materials for cultivation and/or R&D	Moderate
ESS 3.4: Management of planted forests	Moderate
ESS 7.4: Major gender inequality in the labour market	Moderate
ESS 9.3: Indigenous Peoples living in the project area	Moderate

Figure 45 - Environmental and social risks posed by the project (authors, 2017)

4.3.3. Risk management strategy

358. For each of the four environmental and social risks presented supra, a risk log is described in **Annex 4 infra**, detailing for each risk the following aspects: mitigation options, responsible, timeframe, and indicator. During the lifetime of the TRI CAR Project, project team meetings will include a standing agenda item to update the risk log and monitor progress of mitigations on key risks. Project partners will be kept informed of significant residual risk exposures that affect them.

4.4. Financial management

4.4.1. Financial planning

359. The total cost of the TRI CAR Project will be USD 16,361,638, to be financed through a USD 5,961,638 GEF Trust Fund grant and USD 10,400,000 co-financing. The figures infra show the costs by components and by sources of financing. The FAO will, as GEF Agency, only be responsible for the execution of the GEF resources.

Project Components	GEF Financing		Co-Financing		Total (\$) c=a+ b
	(\$ a)	%	(\$ b)	%	
Component 1	875,750	37%	1,500,000	63%	2,375,750
Component 2	3,071,311	35%	5,670,000	65%	8,741,311
Component 3	1,003,148	24%	3,180,000	76%	4,183,148
Component 4	727,542	100%	0	0%	727,542
Project management	283,887	85%	50,000	15%	333,887
Total Project Costs	5,961,638		10,400,000		16,361,638

Figure 46 - TRI CAR Project costs by component and by sources of financing (authors, 2017)

Name	Co-financier	%
MEDD - PDRSO (AFD/FFEM)	4,000,000	38.5%
Forest Gvce (WB)	4,800,000	46.2%
MEDD - CAFI	1,000,000	9.6%

FAO	600,000	5.8%
Total Co-financing	10,400,000	100.0%

Figure 47 - TRI CAR Project co-financiers (authors, 2017)

360. The detailed results-based budget in **Annex 3 infra** details how the GEF Trust Fund grant will be utilized and to what end. It provides expected expense details per outcome and per year. The other co-financiers of the TRI CAR Project will contribute as follows (in USD million):

	PDRSO (AFD/FFEM)			For. & Min. Project			CAFI			FAO			Total co-financing		
	In-kind	Cash	Total	In-kind	Cash	Total	In-kind	Cash	Total	In-kind	Cash	Total	In-kind	Cash	Total
Component 1															
Subtotal		1.00	1.00		0.50	0.50								1.50	1.50
Component 2															
Subtotal		3.00	3.00		2.40	2.40				0.27	0.27			5.67	5.67
Component 3															
Subtotal					1.90	1.90	1.00	1.00		0.28	0.28			3.18	3.18
Component 4															
Subtotal															
PMC										0.05		0.05	0.05	-	0.05
Subtotal										0.05		0.60	0.05		0.05
TOTAL		4.00	4.00		4.80	4.80	1.00	1.00		0.55	0.60		0.05	10.35	10.40

Figure 48 - Details of TRI CAR Project co-financing (authors, 2017)

4.4.2. Financial management and reporting

361. **Financial Records.** FAO shall maintain a separate account in United States dollars for the Project's GEF resources showing all income and expenditures. Expenditures incurred in a currency other than United States dollars shall be converted into United States dollars at the United Nations operational rate of exchange on the date of the transaction. FAO shall administer the Project in accordance with its regulations, rules and directives.
362. **Financial Reports.** The BH shall prepare six-monthly Project expenditure accounts and final accounts for the Project, showing amount budgeted for the year, amount expended since the beginning of the year, and separately, the un-liquidated obligations as follows:
- Details of Project expenditures on a component-by-component and output-by-output basis, reported in line with Project budget codes as set out in the Project document, as at 30 June and 31 December each year;
 - Final accounts on completion of the Project on a component-by-component and output-by-output basis, reported in line with Project budget codes as set out in the Project document;
 - A final statement of account in line with FAO Oracle Project budget codes, reflecting actual final expenditures under the Project, when all obligations have been liquidated.
363. The BH will submit the above financial reports for review and monitoring by the LTO and the FAO GEF Coordination Unit. Financial reports for submission to the GEF will be prepared in accordance with the provisions in the GEF Financial Procedures Agreement and submitted by the FAO Finance Division.
364. **Budget Revisions.** Semi-annual budget revisions will be prepared by the BH in accordance with FAO standard guidelines and procedures.
365. **Cost Overruns.** The BH is authorized to enter into commitments or incur expenditures up to a maximum of 20% over and above the annual amount foreseen in the Project budget under any budget sub-line provided the total cost of the annual budget is not exceeded. Any cost overrun (expenditure in excess of the budgeted amount) on a specific budget sub-line over and above the 20% flexibility should be discussed with the GEF Coordination Unit with a view to ascertaining whether it will involve a major change in Project scope or design.
366. If it is deemed to be a minor change, the BH shall prepare a budget revision in accordance with FAO standard procedures. If it involves a major change in the Project's objectives or scope, a budget revision and justification should be prepared by the BH for discussion with the GEF Secretariat. Savings in one

budget sub-line may not be applied to overruns of more than 20% in other sub-lines even if the total cost remains unchanged, unless this is specifically authorized by the GEF Coordination Unit upon presentation of the request. In such a case, a revision to the Project document amending the budget will be prepared by the BH. Under no circumstances can expenditures exceed the approved total Project budget or be approved beyond the NTE date of the Project. Any over-expenditure is the responsibility of the BH.

367. **Audit.** The Project shall be subject to the internal and external auditing procedures provided for in FAO financial regulations, rules and directives and in keeping with the Financial Procedures Agreement between the GEF Trustee and FAO. The audit regime at FAO consists of an external audit provided by the Auditor-General (or persons exercising an equivalent function) of a member nation appointed by the Governing Bodies of the FAO and reporting directly to them, and an internal audit function headed by the FAO Inspector-General who reports directly to the Director-General. This function operates as an integral part of the FAO under policies established by senior management, and furthermore has a reporting line to the governing bodies. Both functions are required under the Basic Texts of FAO which establish a framework for the terms of reference of each. Internal audits of imprest accounts, records, bank reconciliation and asset verification take place at FAO field and liaison offices on a cyclical basis.
368. **Procurement.** Careful procurement planning is necessary for securing goods, services and works in a timely manner, on a “Best Value for Money” basis. It requires analysis of needs and constraints, including forecast of the reasonable timeframe required to execute the procurement process. Procurement and delivery of inputs in technical cooperation projects will follow FAO’s rules and regulations for the procurement of supplies, equipment and services (i.e. Manual Sections 502 and 507):
- Manual Section 502: “Procurement of Goods, Works and Services” establishes the principles and procedures that apply to procurement of all goods, works and services on behalf of the FAO, in all offices and in all locations, with the exception of the procurement actions described in Procurement Not Governed by Manual Section 502;
 - Manual Section 507 establishes the principles and rules that govern the use of Letters of Agreement (LoA) by FAO for the timely acquisition of services from eligible entities in a transparent and impartial manner, taking into consideration economy and efficiency to achieve an optimum combination of expected whole life costs and benefits.
369. As per the guidance in FAO’s Project Cycle Guide, the BH will draw up an annual procurement plan for major items, which will be the basis of requests for procurement actions during implementation. The first procurement plan will be prepared at the time of Project start-up, if not sooner. The plan will include a description of the goods, works, or services to be procured, estimated budget and source of funding, schedule of procurement activities and proposed method of procurement. In situations where exact information is not yet available, the procurement plan should at least contain reasonable projections that will be corrected as information becomes available.
370. The procurement plan shall be updated every twelve months and submitted to FAO BH and LTO for clearance, together with the Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP/B) and annual financial statement of expenditures report for the next instalment of funds. The BH, in close collaboration with the Project Manager, the LTO and the Budget and Operations Officer will procure the equipment and services provided for in the detailed budget in **Annex 3 infra**, in line with the Budget and in accordance with FAO’s rules and regulations.

5. MONITORING, REPORTING AND EVALUATION

5.1. Oversight

371. Project oversight will be carried out by the PSC, the FAO GEF Coordination Unit and relevant Technical Units in HQ. Oversight will ensure that: (i) Project outputs are produced in accordance with the Project results framework and leading to the achievement of Project outcomes; (ii) Project outcomes are leading to the achievement of the Project objective; (iii) Risks are continuously identified and monitored and appropriate mitigation strategies are applied; and (iv) Project global environmental benefits/adaptation benefits are being delivered.

372. The FAO GEF Unit and HQ Technical Units will provide oversight of GEF financed activities, outputs and outcomes largely through the annual Project Implementation Reviews (PIRs), periodic backstopping and supervision missions.

5.2. Monitoring

373. Project monitoring will be carried out by the PMU and the FAO BH. Project performance will be monitored using the Project results matrix (see **Annex 1 infra**), including indicators (baseline and targets) and AWP/B. At inception, the results matrix will be reviewed to finalize identification of: (i) outputs (ii) indicators; and (iii) missing baseline information and targets. A detailed M&E plan, which builds on the results matrix and defines specific requirements for each indicator (data collection methods, frequency, responsibilities for data collection and analysis, etc.) will also be developed during project inception by the M&E specialist.

5.3. Reporting

374. Specific reports that will be prepared under the M&E program are: (i) Project Inception Report; (ii) AWP/B; (iii) Project Progress Reports (PPRs); (iv) annual Project Implementation Reviews (PIRs); (v) Technical Reports; (vi) Co-financing reports; and (vii) Terminal Report. In addition, assessment of the GEF Monitoring Evaluation Tracking Tools against the baseline (completed during Project preparation) will be required at midterm and final Project evaluation.
375. **Project Inception Report.** It is recommended that the PMU prepares a draft Project Inception Report in consultation with the LTO, BH and other Project partners. Elements of this report should be discussed during the Project Inception Workshop and the report subsequently finalized. The report will include a narrative on the institutional roles and responsibilities and coordinating action of Project partners, progress to date on Project establishment and start-up activities, and an update of any changed external conditions that may affect project implementation. It will also include a detailed first year AWP/B and a detailed Project monitoring plan. The draft Project Inception Report will be circulated to the PSC for review and comments before its finalization, no later than one month after Project start-up. The report should be cleared by the FAO BH, LTO and the FAO GEF Coordination Unit and uploaded to the Field Programme Management Information System (FPMIS) by the BH.
376. **Results-based AWP/B.** The draft of the first AWP/B will be prepared by the PMU in consultation with the FAO Project Task Force and reviewed at the Project Inception Workshop. The Inception Workshop (IW) inputs will be incorporated and the PMU will submit a final draft AWP/B within two weeks of the IW to the BH. For subsequent AWP/B, the PMU will organize a Project Progress Review and planning meeting for its review. Once comments have been incorporated, the BH will circulate the AWP/B to the LTO and the GEF Coordination Unit for comments/clearance prior to uploading to the FPMIS by the BH. The AWP/B must be linked to the Project's Results Framework indicators so that the Project's work is contributing to the achievement of the indicators. The AWP/B should include detailed activities to be implemented to achieve the Project outputs and output targets and divided into monthly timeframes and targets and milestone dates for output indicators to be achieved during the year. A detailed Project budget for the activities to be implemented during the year should also be included together with all monitoring and supervision activities required during the year. The AWP/B should be approved by the PSC and uploaded to the FPMIS by the BH.
377. **Project Progress Reports (PPRs):** PPRs will be prepared by the PMU based on the systematic monitoring of output and outcome indicators identified in the Project's Results Matrix (see **Annex 1 infra**). The purpose of the PPR is to identify constraints, problems or bottlenecks that impede timely implementation and to take appropriate remedial action in a timely manner. They will also report on Projects risks and implementation of the risk mitigation plan. The BH has the responsibility to coordinate the preparation and finalization of the PPR, in consultation with the PMU, LTO and the Investment Centre Division GEF Funding Liaison Officer (TCI GEF FLO). After LTO, BH and TCI GEF FLO clearance, the TCI GEF FLO will ensure that PPRs are uploaded to the FPMIS in a timely manner.
378. **Annual Project Implementation Review (PIR):** The BH (in collaboration with the PMU and the LTO) will prepare an annual PIR covering the period July (the previous year) through June (current year) to be submitted to the TCI GEF FLO for review and approval no later than (check each year with GEF Unit but

roughly end June/early July each year). The FAO GEF Coordination Unit will submit the PIR to the GEF Secretariat and GEF Evaluation Office as part of the Annual Monitoring Review report of the FAO-GEF portfolio. PIRs will be uploaded to the FPMIS by the TCI GEF Coordination Unit.

379. Key milestones for the PIR process:

- Early July: the LTO submits the draft PIR (after consultations with BH, project teams) to the GEF Coordination Unit (faogef@fao.org, copying respective GEF Unit officer) for initial review;
- Mid-July: GEF Unit responsible officers review main elements of PIR and discuss with LTO as required;
- Early/mid-August: GEF Coordination Unit prepares and finalizes the FAO Summary Tables and sends to the GEF Secretariat by (date is communicated each year by the GEF Secretariat through the FAO GEF Unit);
- September/October: PIR is finalized, after careful and thorough review by the GEF Coordination Unit and discussion with the LTO for final review and clearance;
- Mid-November (date to be confirmed by the GEF): the GEF Coordination Unit submits the final PIR - cleared by the LTO and approved by the GEF Unit - to the GEF Secretariat and the GEF Independent Evaluation Office.

380. Technical Reports: Technical reports will be prepared by national and/or international consultants (partner organizations under LOAs) as part of Project outputs and to document and share Project outcomes and lessons learned. The drafts of any technical reports must be submitted by the PMU to the BH who will share it with the LTO. The LTO will be responsible for ensuring appropriate technical review and clearance of said report. The BH will upload the final cleared reports to the FPMIS. Copies of the technical reports will be distributed to Project partners and the PSC as appropriate.

381. Co-financing Reports: The BH, with support from the PMU, will be responsible for collecting the required information and reporting on co-financing as indicated in the Project Document/CEO Request. The PMU will compile the information received from the executing partners and transmit it in a timely manner to the LTO and BH. The report, which covers the period 1 July through 30 June, is to be submitted on or before 31 July and will be incorporated into the annual PIR. The format and tables to report on co-financing can be found in the PIR.

382. GEF Tracking Tools: Following the GEF policies and procedures, the relevant tracking tools for full sized projects will be submitted at three moments: (i) with the Project document at CEO endorsement; (ii) at the Project's mid-term review/evaluation; and (iii) with the Project's terminal evaluation or final completion report. The Tracking Tools will be uploaded in FPMIS by the GEF Unit. They are developed by the Project Design Specialist, in close collaboration with the FAO Project Task Force. They are filled in by the PMU and made available for the mid-term review and again for the final evaluation.

383. Terminal Report: Within two months before the end date of the Project, and one month before the Final Evaluation, the PMU will submit to the BH and LTO a draft Terminal Report. The main purpose of the Terminal Report is to give guidance at ministerial or senior Government level on the policy decisions required for the follow-up of the Project, and to provide the GEF with information on how the funds were utilized. The Terminal Report is accordingly a concise account of the main products, results, conclusions and recommendations of the Project, without unnecessary background, narrative or technical details. The target readership consists of persons who are not necessarily technical specialists but who need to understand the policy implications of technical findings and needs for insuring sustainability of Project results.

5.4. Evaluation

384. For full-sized Projects such as the TRI CAR Project, a Mid-Term Evaluation will be undertaken at Project mid-term to review progress and effectiveness of implementation in terms of achieving the Project objectives, outcomes and outputs. Findings and recommendations of this review/evaluation will be instrumental for bringing improvement in the overall Project design and execution strategy for the remaining period of the Project's term. FAO will arrange for the mid-term review/evaluation in consultation with the Project partners. The evaluation will, inter alia:

- Review the effectiveness, efficiency, and timeliness of Project implementation;
- Analyze effectiveness of partnership arrangements;
- Identify issues requiring decisions and remedial actions;
- Propose any mid-course corrections and/or adjustments to the implementation strategy as necessary; and
- Highlight technical achievements and lessons learned derived from Project design, implementation, and management.

385. It is recommended that an independent Final Evaluation be carried out three months prior to the terminal review meeting of the Project partners. The Final Evaluation will aim to identify the Project impacts and sustainability of Project results and the degree of achievement of long-term results. This evaluation will also have the purpose of indicating future actions needed to sustain Project results and disseminate products and best-practices within the country and to neighbouring countries.

5.5. M&E plan

386. The M&E Plan of the TRI CAR Project will be as follows:

Type of M&E Activity	Responsible Parties	Time-frame	Costs (USD)
Inception Workshop (IW)	PMU in consultation with the LTO, BH, PSC	Within 1 month after start-up	10,000
Results-based AWP/B	PMU in consultation with the FAO Project Task Force	3 weeks after start-up and annually (with the reporting period July to June)	Salaries and expendables / non-expendables for PMU staff
Project Inception Report	PMU in consultation with the LTO, BH. Report cleared by the BH, LTO and the FAO GEF Coordination Unit and uploaded to FPMIS by the BH	1 month after start-up	
Project M&E Plan	M&E Specialist	1 month after start-up onward	
Finalization of baseline information, and reassessment at mid-term and Project closure	M&E Specialist	During project year 1, 3, and 5	
Supervision Visits	FAO	Annually	Fees
Project Progress Reports (PPRs)	PMU, based on the monitoring of output and outcome indicators identified in the Project's Results Matrix. PPR submitted to the BH and LTO for comments and clearance. BH to upload it to the FPMIS.	No later than one month after the end of each six-monthly reporting period (30 June and 31 December)	Salaries and expendables / non-expendables for PMU staff
Project Implementation Review reports (PIRs)	LTO (in collaboration with the PMU) to prepare a PIR covering July (previous year) through June (current year) to be submitted to the BH and the TCI GEF FLO	August 1, of each reporting year	Fees
Co-financing Reports (Disbursement, Output)	PMU	On a semi-annual basis (as part of the semiannual PPRs)	Salaries and expendables /non-PPRs

GEF Tracking Tools	PMU, reviewed by LTO	At midterm and end of Project	expendables for PMU staff
Technical Reports	Project staff and consultants, with peer review as appropriate	As appropriate	
Mid-term Evaluation	External consultant, FAO Office of Evaluation in consultation with PMU, GEF Coordination Unit and other partners.	At midterm	30,000
Independent Final Evaluation	External consultant, FAO Office of Evaluation in consultation with PMU, GEF Coordination Unit and other partner	Three months prior to terminal review meeting	40,000
Terminal Report	PMU with assistance of other project staff and the LTO	Two months before Project end	7,000
Lessons Learned workshop and impact assessment	Project Staff, short-term consultants and FAO	At Project end	10,000
Total			97,000

Figure 49 - M&E Plan of the TRI CAR Project (authors, 2017)

5.6. Communication

387. Communication for Development (ComDev) is a social process based on dialogue promoted by FAO to be used in its portfolio of development programs and projects. It is a key driver of change in agriculture and rural development. It is a results oriented communication process based on dialogue and participation, that allows rural people to voice their opinions, share knowledge and actively engage in their own development (FAO Roma, 2014c)²²⁰.
388. Through the use of local media, policy dialogues, workshops, seminars, short video clips, and more, the TRI CAR Project will apply ComDev to maximize its impact, fostering multi-stakeholders dialogue, informed decision-making and collective action. All communication and outreach material, platforms and events will be made available in Sango and French, the two national languages, as well as other local languages if needed (e.g. Pygmies / Bay'Aka language).
389. In addition to the information-management and knowledge-sharing strategy at national level, the TRI CAR Project will also participate to South-South exchanges and knowledge sharing (see details of Component 3 in **Part 2.3.3 supra**).

²²⁰ FAO Roma, 2014c. *Communication for rural development - Guidelines for planning and project formulation*. Roma – FAO, 2014. 62p

ANNEX 1: Results matrix & EXACT calculations

The TRI CAR Project results matrix was elaborated taking into account the guidance received from TRI Coordination Unit (FAO-UNEP-UICN, 2017)²²¹. Regarding the targets a), b), and c), the explanations are as follow:

- a) The field activities of the TRI CAR Project will take place in the South-West, i.e. an area estimated at 10,068,500 ha (see Part 1.1.3 supra). During the field missions carried out for the preparation of the TRI CAR Project, households were met in the pilot sites of Bangui, Berbérati, M'Baïki and Bayanga, and they have pledged a total of 984 ha (see Annex 12 infra). As the consultations were carried out after a limited notice, it can conservatively be assumed that twice this surface could be restored, i.e. 1,968 ha. Adding the 1,253 ha of the Mambéllé site, the total of surface to be restored by the TRI CAR Project would be 3,221 ha. The project will also directly avoid deforestation on 2, 665 ha (see Part 2.2.1 supra).
- b) It can be considered that the indirect impact of the project will extend on 16,346 ha (cf Figure 33 for detailed explanation).
- c) Applying the Ex-Act methodology (see details of calculation at the end of this Annex 1), these restoration activities would translate into 3,185,597 tCO2eq of direct lifetime GHG emission avoided during 20 years and 12,005,914 tCO2eq of indirect lifetime GHG emission avoided

Results chains	Indicators	Baseline	Targets	Means of Verification (MoV)	Assumptions
Global Environmental Objective: Biodiversity conservation, protection of climate and other ecosystem services through restoration of critical landscapes in the CAR and complementary SLM.	<p>a) Area (ha) of deforested and degraded landscapes in restoration transition, stratified by land management actors (communities, farmers, private enterprises, and others).</p> <p>b) tCO2eq avoided emissions/increased removals in the CAR landscapes as a result of TRI interventions.</p>	<p>a) Nearly nil for the last decades, apart from few ha restored mainly from the 1970's to the 1980's in the Lobaye (Croisement Leroy near Boukoko and M'Baïki), by CTFT and ARF.</p> <p>b) 15,002,800 tCO2eq/year of emissions in the South-West [0.13% of deforestation over 3,313,419 ha, with an average loss of 3,483 tCO2eq/ha, according to (FRM et al., 2016)]</p> <p>c) Nil</p>	<p>a) 3,221 ha of degraded agro-ecosystem and degraded forest landscapes moved to sustainable land management regimes.</p> <p>b) 3,185,597 tCO2eq avoided emissions/increased removals over the Project's impact period.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Project Progress Reports • Field monitoring reports • Joint monitoring missions • GEF Tracking tools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity baseline and monitoring survey • Application of Ex-Act methodology • GEF Tracking tools 	<p>The RCPCA is successfully implemented, bringing back peace and socioeconomic growth</p> <p>Topic remains of high relevance to national and international stakeholders</p> <p>The Project is adopted and supported by the national, regional and local stakeholders</p> <p>Private and public investors see an interest in investing in FLR actions</p>
Program Development Objective: Poverty reduction, strengthened food security, and human well-being and livelihoods enhanced in the CAR through restoration of critical landscapes and complementary SLM.	<p>c) Number of households directly benefiting from the project (from jobs, revenue and income, sustainably harvested timber, NTFP, improved livelihoods, etc.)</p>		<p>c) 3,000 households will benefit from capacity building, trainings, equipment, jobs, revenue and income, products such as sustainably harvested timber, NTFP, improved livelihoods etc linked to FLR</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field monitoring reports • Joint monitoring missions • SenseMaker or customized existing socioeconomic surveys using Collect Mobile • GEF Tracking Tools 	

²²¹ FAO-UNEP-IUCN, 2017. *The Restoration Initiative (TRI) information document: Making Use of the TRI M&E Framework in Developing Child Project M&E Logframes and Systems*. Roma – FAO, February 2017. 8p

	d)Value from restored landscapes (including jobs; livelihoods from production, sale and consumption of wood and non-wood products; crop yields from agroforestry; cultural and ancillary values, etc.)	d)Restoration is generally weak and inadequate in the forest and agricultural sectors of the CAR as characterized by perverse incentives that encourage deforestation and degradation resulting in economic inefficiency.	d)Increased contribution of sustained forest and agro-forest ecosystem services to national economies and local livelihoods of both women and men	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National jobs data in relevant sectors National and sub-national poverty-level data Revenue amount distributed to communities Surveys of key livelihood indicators (e.g. income, employment, school enrolment rates, etc.) for communities linked with the Project 	
Program Component 1: Policy Development and Integration					
Outcome	Indicators	Baseline	Targets	Means of Verification	Assumptions
Outcome 1.1) Increased national and sub-national commitment to forest and landscape restoration;	1.1) New/additional Bonn Challenge commitments from TRI countries.	1.1) 3.5 million ha of current pledge to Bonn Challenge by the CAR	1.1.1) xx million ha* of deforested and degraded land newly committed to restoration by the CAR, in support of the Bonn Challenge. *to be defined by the LDN National Coordination	www.Bonnchallenge.org	
OP 1.1.1 Filling of knowledge gap: ecosystem service valuation					
OP 1.1.2 Filling of knowledge gap: assessment of restoration opportunities					
Outcome 1.2) National and sub-national policy and regulatory frameworks are increasingly supportive of restoration, sustainable land management, maintenance and enhancement of carbon stocks in forest and other land uses, and reduced emissions from LULUCF and agriculture.	1.2) Policies and regulatory frameworks in the CAR that support forest and landscape restoration while incorporating biodiversity conservation, accelerated low GHG development and emissions reduction, and sustainable livelihood considerations; degree to which governments implement relevant regulations and programs.	1.2) Existing policies and regulatory frameworks with certain gaps: (i) Knowledge gap for ecosystem valuation (ii) Knowledge gap for restoration opport. (iii) No Land Planning Scheme at any level (national/regional/prefectural/communal) (iv) Poor knowledge and consideration of wood energy in the energy and forest policies (v) No forest policy as such and on-going elaboration of a forest policy statement (vi) Outdated SNPA-DB, not mentioning FLR concerns	1.2.1) Key policies and regulatory frameworks strengthened (scale 1 to 4: 1=Above expectations, 2=On target, 3=Below expectations, 4=Completed) (i) Improved knowledge: (agro)biodiversity, soil fertility, C storage, C/B of ecosystem services (ii) ROAM study (iii) South-Western Land Planning Scheme (iv) Upgraded WISDOM Platform / Strat. for (peri)urban forests in Bangui (v) Fine-tuned forest policy statement developing new concepts, incl. FRL (vi) Upgraded SNPA-DB, including FLR concerns 1.2.2) 2,000 women and men providing input to policy planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respective Governments' policy documents and regulatory frameworks Gender disaggregated participation tracking data GEF Tracking Tools 	Political impulse sufficient to support the processes and validate the final documents

OP 1.2.1 Elaborating a Land Planning Scheme for the South-West area					
OP 1.2.2 Upgrading the Wood Energy Supply Plan (WISDOM) for Bangui/Bambio					
OP 1.2.3 Fine-tuning the Forest Policy Statement and including FLR concerns					
OP 1.2.4 Upgrading the SNPA-DB and including FLR concerns					
Program Component 2: Implementation of Restoration Programs and Complementary Initiatives					
Outcome	Indicators	Baseline	Targets	Means of Verification	Assumptions
Outcome 2) Integrated landscape management practices and restoration plans implemented by government, private sector and local community actors, both men and women.	2.1) Area (ha) of deforested and degraded landscapes in restoration transition, stratified by land management actors (communities, farmers, private enterprises, and others) in the CAR.	2.1) 37 ha/year of reforestation at national level from 2001 to 2015 [134 ha/year from 2001 to 2015, and 27.5% of reforestation in the South-West, according to BONANNEE (2001) and CAS-DF (2015)]	2.1.1) 3,221 ha under restoration in the landscape, stratified by land management practices and actors such as communities, farmers, private enterprises, etc., and progress on restoration (<i>Index of Restoration Progress</i> , 1-5) 2,665 ha of avoided deforestation, and 22,232 ha under improved land management practices. In total, 3,185,597 tCO ₂ eq avoided emissions/removals in TRI target landscapes as a direct result of TRI interventions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual Project Progress Reports Field monitoring reports Joint monitoring missions Collect Earth complemented with biophysical survey and using Collect Mobile Application of Ex-ACT methodology Bonn Challenge Progress-Tracking Protocol Gender disaggregated participation tracking data GEF Tracking tools 	Appropriation of the Project objectives by the local communities and strong interest in implementing field activities Appropriation of the Project objectives by the field officers and regional staff of the MEDDEFCP and MADR, and officers fully dedicated to their tasks in a result-based approach
	2.2) Number of households directly benefiting from the project (from jobs, revenue and income, sustainably harvested timber, NTFP, improved livelihoods, etc.)	2.2) Nil	2.2.1) 3,000 households will benefit from capacity building, trainings, equipment, jobs, revenue and income, products such as sustainably harvested timber, NTFP, etc. to be engaged in restoration activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Field monitoring reports Joint monitoring missions SenseMaker or customized existing socioeconomic surveys using Collect Mobile GEF Tracking Tools 	
OP 2.1 Baseline setting in each FLR perimeter, within the five pilot sites					
OP 2.2 Implementing FLR activities with local populations					
OP 2.3 Implementing complementary IGAs with local populations					
OP 2.4 Day-to-day supervision and support by field agents and PMU					
Program Component 3: Institutions, Finance and Upscaling					

Outcome	Indicators	Baseline	Targets	Means of Verification	Assumptions
Outcome 3 Strengthened institutional capacities and financing arrangements in place to allow for and facilitate large-scale restoration and maintenance of critical landscapes and diverse ecosystem services in the CAR.	3.1) Number of cross-agency mechanisms and/or frameworks established and maintained to strengthen and facilitate coordinated national and sub-national action on restoration.	3.1) Little to no coordination of actions on restoration	3.1.1) National Coordination mechanism on FLR (the overall coordinating framework on FLR)	GEF Tracking Tools	Political willingness to share information and discuss/resolve cross-sectoral issues Right adequation of capacity-building support activities to a wide range of stakeholders, with different views and skills Improvement of the business climate, able to attract more private and public resources into FLR activities
	3.2) Establishment/functioning of field-level support entities (i.e. nurseries, restoration value chain businesses, etc.); number of TRI-supported trainings, workshops, and capacity-building/learning events; demonstrated increase in knowledge and capacity to plan for and manage restoration.	3.2) Little to no field-level capacities in terms of FLR and agro-ecology	3.2.1) Capacity-building needs assessment carried out and ad hoc capacity-building actions implemented for (i) MEDDEFCP and MADR (esp. Field officers), (ii) Targeted local populations, (iii) Academic institutions (ICRA and ISDR), in the following areas: FLR, agro-ecology, IGAs, structuration-strengthening of associations-farmers' groups, CEOF and Ex-Act tool, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UN Environment Capacity development scorecard Knowledge, Attitude, Practice (KAP) methodology GEF Tracking Tools 	
	3.3) Value of resources (public, private, development partners) flowing into restoration initiatives in TRI countries.	3.3) None (PDRSO recently started with marginal funds for micro-projects in terms of restoration; Forest and Mining Governance Project and CAFI not yet started)	3.3) by the end of the Project, 7 million US\$ of additional funding (in addition to TRI CAR Project) flowing into restoration and complementary SLM initiatives from diverse sources and innovative mechanisms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enabling Investment Rapid Diagnostic tool GEF Tracking Tools 	
	3.4) Number of bankable restoration projects developed in TRI countries through inclusive development process and meeting industry standards for quality and financial viability.	3.4) Nil	3.4) Two bankable restoration projects developed (one with external private funding, one with external public funding) as well as a study on domestic channelling and disbursement of forest taxes and others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scorecard matrix for status of bankable projects Technical reports on domestic channelling and disbursement of forest taxes and others 	
OP 3.1 Capacity needs assessment of key stakeholders					
OP 3.2 Capacity-building of field officers and local project coordinators					
OP 3.3 Capacity-building of targeted local populations					
OP 3.4 Capacity-building of academic institutions (ICRA and ISDR)					
OP 3.5 Mobilizing domestic and external funding for FLR					
OP 3.6 Support to the National Coordination on FLR					
Program Component 4: Knowledge, Partnerships, Monitoring and Assessment					

Outcome	Indicators	Baseline	Targets	Means of Verification	Assumptions
Outcome 4.1) Increased effectiveness of Program investments among stakeholders;	4.1 Participation in TRI Annual Knowledge Sharing events, Biennial Restoration Finance events, and TRI sponsored South-South exchanges that address restoration	4.1) Nil	4.1.1) Participation in at least 1 event sponsored by TRI annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Implementation Reports and meeting minutes. # of TRI exchange events held, attendance at events (f/m) 	Willingness from TRIC child project stakeholders in the three countries (the CAR, Cameroon and the DRC) to share views and information regularly
	4.2) Program monitoring system successfully developed and supporting implementation of Project	4.2) Nil	4.2.1) Program monitoring system successfully developed and supporting implementation of the TRI CAR Project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting minutes Adaptive management scoring tool GEF Tracking Tools		Balanced M&E system, (i) detailed enough to capture a wide range of information, (ii) but simple enough to be concretely used by concerned project stakeholders
OP 4.1.1 South-South exchange for a mixed audience (civil servants, asso/groups, ICRA/ISDF-ARF): FLR actions / FRM					
OP 4.1.2 Participation in the annual knowledge meetings and the bi-annual finance events					
OP 4.1.3 Monitoring & Evaluation of the Project					
OP 4.1.4 Project Steering Committee (PSC)					
Outcome 4.2) Improved knowledge of best practices on restoration among key external audiences.	4.3) Development of timely and relevant TRI knowledge products that capture lessons learned, and supporting tools for accessing and communicating TRI results to practitioners and global community.	4.3) Nil	4.3.1) TRI-related best practices and lessons-learned published on TRI web portal and shared with environmental and development agencies and organizations, in particular (i) Reports/short movies re: technical days (three/year), (ii) Training materials on FRL and IGAs, (iii) Guide on good practices in terms of FRL and IGAs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Knowledge products developed Distribution records (mailing list, physical distribution records) Download records Event attendance records 	Adequate facilitation of the PSC, to ensure a right representation of all views, incl. from local communities and indigenous peoples
	4.4) Development of effective global awareness campaign increasing public awareness and support for FLR.	4.4) Nil	4.4.1) Increased number of people equipped with new knowledge related to forest and landscape restoration through communications from the TRI CAR Project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Online platform metrics (likes, retweets, followers, page hits, views, comments) References to FLR in global media		Balanced training / capitalization / communication materials, (i) detailed enough to capture a wide range of information, (ii) but simple enough to be concretely used by concerned project stakeholders
OP 4.2.1 Facilitation of technical days, gathering practitioners and policy-makers					
OP 4.2.2 Creation and diffusion of technical materials and awareness-raising, to promote FLR and IGAs					
OP 4.2.3 Elaboration of a Guide of Good Practices in terms of FLR & IGAs					

Project Mitigation Benefits EXACT - METHODOLOGICAL BASIS OF CARBON BENEFITS QUANTIFICATION

The EX-ACT results file are available separately.

The table below is a summary of the planned restoration activities both direct and indirect. For more detailed information on the activities, please refer to the detailed results file.

Type	Area	Activity Type	Direct Ha	Indirect Ha	Notes
Restoration operations	Bangui	Agroforestry (1)	1,130	565	As indirect, it is estimated that the same kind of activities will be replicated, by other partners involved in FLR and inspired by the project, on a surface equivalent to half of the original one.
	Berberati	Agroforestry (1)	554	277	
	M'Baiki	Agroforestry (1)	184	92	
	Bayanga	Agroforestry (1)	100	50	
	SEFCA	Agroforestry (1)	253	759	
	SEFCA	Replantation Tech (2)	1,000	3,000	As indirect it is estimated that the system put in place will inspire 3 other concessions to have the same type of activities. So the surfaces have been multiplied by 3.
Sub Total			3,221	4,743	
Avoided deforestation		Avoided deforestation (3)	2,665	2,091	Avoided deforestation direct : Considering (i) 2,221ha of land to be directly restored (3,221ha minus 1,000ha plantation), (ii) each households has in average 1.5 ha of degraded fallows under his control in the South-West (TECSULT, 1994), (iii) the households engaged in the TRI CAR Projects could reasonably restore half of the degraded fallows under their control, i.e. 0.75 ha/household, then the TRI CAR Project would mobilize 2,221 / 0.75 = 2,961 households. Normally, each household would clear 0.9 ha of forests every two years for cropping, i.e. 0.45 ha/year (TECSULT, 1994). In the lifetime of the TRI CAR Project, it is reasonable and conservative to assume that the households engaged in the Project would avoid clearing for at least two years, thus avoided the deforestation of 2,665 ha (0.45 ha/year x 2 years x 2,961 households), out of the 6,662 ha (0.45 ha/year x 5 years x 2,961 households) that would have been normally cleared.
Avoided deforestation (after the end of the project)				9,512	Avoided deforestation indirect : Following the same reasoning and considering 1,743 ha of land to be indirectly restored (4,743ha minus 3,000ha plantation), the TRI CAR Project would indirectly mobilize 1,743 / 0.75 = 2,324 households. Normally, each household would clear 0.9 ha of forests every two years for cropping, i.e. 0.45 ha/year (TECSULT, 1994). In the lifetime of the TRI CAR Project, it is reasonable and conservative to assume that the households indirectly engaged in the Project would avoid clearing for at least two years, thus avoided the deforestation of 2,091 ha (0.45 ha/year x 2 years x 2,324 households), out of the 5,229 ha (0.45 ha/year x 5 years x 2,324 households) that would have been normally cleared.
Total			5,886	16,346	For this we followed the same reasoning as above for another 10 years following the project. As we are outside of the project life, everything is considered as indirect. We consider, as above, that the households (previously directly or indirectly) engaged in the Project would avoid clearing for at least for years over a 10 years period. This would mean that out of a total of (6,662+5,229)*2=23,782ha which would have been cleared in the scenario without project, (2,665+2,091)*4=9,512ha won't be cleared
EXACT		(1) Agroforestry we consider that we are going from annual crop system to agroforestry systems (3.2.2 in EXACT with Tier 2 information)			
		(2) Replantation from set aside to planted forest (2.2 in EXACT with Tiers 2 information for Teak plantations)			
		(3) Avoided deforestation (2.1 in EXACT)			
Total GHG direct				3,185,597	
Total GHG indirect				12,005,914	
Total				15,191,511	

The carbon benefits from the project are estimated in terms of lifetime direct as well as consequential GHG emissions avoided over the default time horizon of 20 years under the IPCC guideline and the guidance of the GEF Tracking Tools. For this project, the duration of the implementation phase and the capitalization phase are defined as respectively 5 years and 15 years. The carbon benefits are calculated using EX-Ante Carbon Balance Tool (EX-ACT).

Direct lifetime GHG emission avoided

In the GEF Tracking Tool for Climate Change Mitigation projects, direct lifetime GHG emissions avoided are the emissions reductions attributable to the investments made during the project's supervised implementation period, totalled over the respective lifetime of the investments. The estimated values of direct lifetime GHG emission avoided during 20 years (5 years of implementation phase and 15 years of capitalization phase) are **3,185,597 tCO₂eq** as follows:

Project Name	TRI: Forest and Landscape		Climate	Tropical (Moist)		Duration of the Project (Years)		20		
	Continent	Africa		Dominant Regional Soil Type	LAC Soils	Without	With		Total area (ha)	
Components of the project										
Land use changes	Gross fluxes		Balance	Share per GHG of the Balance		N ₂ O	CH ₄	Result per year		
	Without	With		All GHG in tCO ₂ eq	Biomass				Soil	Other	Without	With
	All GHG in tCO ₂ eq		Positive = source / negative = sink	CO ₂					Balance	
Deforestation	5,365,519	3,220,756	-2,144,763	-1,937,321	-208,967	-1,017	0	268,276	161,038	-107,238
Afforestation	0	-711,343	-711,343	-684,200	-27,143	0	0	0	-35,567	-35,567
Other LUC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	11,578	-317,914	-329,492	-292,154	0	-19,459	-17,879	579	-15,896	-16,475
Annual Perennial Rice	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grassland & Livestocks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Degradation & Management	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coastal wetlands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Inputs & Investments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fishery & Aquaculture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	5,377,096	2,191,499	-3,185,597	-2,913,675	-236,110	-20,475	-17,879	268,855	109,575	-159,280
Per hectare	544	222	-322	-294.8	-23.9	-2.1	-1.8			
Per hectare per year	27.2	11.1	-16.1	-14.7	-1.2	-0.1	-0.1	27.2	11.1	-16.1

Figure 50 - Ex-Act tool: estimate of direct lifetime GHG emission avoided (authors, 2017)

Consequential (indirect) lifetime GHG emission avoided

According to the Guidelines for Greenhouse Gas Emissions Accounting and Reporting for GEF Projects (GEF/C.48/Inf.09, 7 May 2015), indirect emissions reductions have been re-defined as “consequential emissions”. Consequential GHG emission reductions are those projected emissions that could result from a broader adoption of the outcomes of a GEF project plus longer-term emission reductions from behavioral changes. Broader adoption of a GEF project proceeds through several processes including sustaining, mainstreaming, replication, scaling-up and market change.

The explanation of the indirect effects of the project is given in the table above and in the text part 2.2 And 2.3. The consequential GHG emission mitigation potential during 15 years (5 years of implementation phase and 10 years of capitalization phase) from the project is estimated as **12,005,914 tCO₂eq** in the considered biome and time frame.

Project Name	TRI: Forest and Landscape	Climate	Tropical (Moist)	Duration of the Project (Years)			
Continent	Africa	Dominant Regional Soil Type	LAC Soils	Without	With		
			Total area (ha)				
			33754				
Components of the project	Gross fluxes	Balance	Share per GHG of the Balance	N ₂ O	CH ₄	Result per year	Balance
Land use changes			CO ₂				
	Without	With	Biomass	Soil	Other		
Deforestation	24,036,169	14,422,861	-8,434,797	-909,811	-73,027	1,201,808	-480,665
Aforestation	0	-2,134,028	-2,052,600	-81,428	0	0	-106,701
Other LUC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Annual	9,086	-249,493	-229,277	0	-15,271	454	-12,475
Perennial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rice	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grassland & Livestocks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grassland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Livestocks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Degradation & Management	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coastal wetlands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Inputs & Investments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fishery & Aquaculture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	24,045,255	12,039,341	-10,716,674	-991,238	-88,298	1,202,263	601,967
Per hectare	712	357	-317.5	-29.4	-2.6	601.967	17.8
Per hectare per year	35.6	17.8	-15.9	-1.5	-0.1	35.6	17.8
							-17.8

Figure 51 - Ex-Act tool: estimate of direct lifetime GHG emission avoided (authors, 2017)

ANNEX 2: Workplan

	2018				2019				2020				2021				2022			
	T1	T2	T3	T4	T1	T2	T3	T4	T1	T2	T3	T4	T1	T2	T3	T4	T1	T2	T3	T4
COMPONENT 1 - Policy Development and Integration																				
Outcome 1.1 - Increased national and sub-national commitments to forest and landscape restoration																				
OP 1.1.1 Filling of knowledge gap: ecosystem service valuation																				
OP 1.1.2 Filling of knowledge gap: assessment of restoration opportunities																				
Outcome 1.2 - National and sub-national policy and regulatory frameworks are increasingly supportive of landscape restoration																				
OP 1.2.1 Elaborating a Land Planning Scheme for the South-West area																				
OP 1.2.2 Upgrading the Wood Energy Supply Plan (WISDOM) for Bangui/Bambio																				
OP 1.2.3 Fine-tuning the Forest Policy Statement and including FLR concerns																				
OP 1.2.4 Upgrading the SNPA-DB and including FLR concerns																				
COMPONENT 2 - Implementation of Restoration Programs and Complementary Initiatives																				
Outcome 2 - Integrated landscape management practices and restoration plans implemented by Government, private sector and local community actors, both men and women																				
OP 2.1 Baseline setting in each FLR perimeter, within the five pilot sites																				
OP 2.2 Implementing FLR activities with local populations																				
OP 2.3 Implementing complementary IGAs with local populations																				
OP 2.4 Day-to-day supervision and support by field agents and PMU																				
COMPONENT 3 - Institutions, Finance and Upscaling																				
Outcome 3 - Strengthened institutional capacities and financing arrangements in place to allow for and facilitate large-scale restoration and maintenance of critical landscapes and diverse ecosystem services																				
OP 3.1 Capacity needs assessment of key stakeholders																				
OP 3.2 Capacity-building of field officers and local project coordinators																				
OP 3.3 Capacity-building of targeted local populations																				
OP 3.4 Capacity-building of academic institutions (ICRA and ISDR)																				
OP 3.5 Mobilizing domestic and external funding for FLR																				
OP 3.6 Support to the National Coordination on FLR																				
COMPONENT 4 - Knowledge, Partnerships, Monitoring and Assessment																				
Outcome 4.1 - Increased effectiveness of project investments among project stakeholders																				
OP 4.1.1 South-South exchange for a mixed audience (civil servants, asso/groups, ICRA/ISDF-ARF): FLR actions / FRM																				
OP 4.1.2 Participation in the annual knowledge meetings and the bi-annual finance events																				
OP 4.1.3 Monitoring & Evaluation of the Project																				
OP 4.1.4 Project Steering Committee (PSC)																				
Outcome 4.2 - Improved knowledge of best practices on restoration among key external audiences																				
OP 4.2.1 Facilitation of technical days, gathering practitioners and policy-makers																				
OP 4.2.2 Creation and diffusion of technical materials and awareness-raising, to promote FLR and IGAs																				
OP 4.2.3 Elaboration of a Guide of Good Practices in terms of FLR & IGAs																				

Figure 52 - Workplan of the TRI CAR Project (authors, 2017)

ANNEX 3: Budget

Oracle code	Input description	Unit	Units	Unit cost	BUDGET						EXPENDITURES BY YEAR									
					C1		C2		C3	C4		PMC	GEF	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5		
					OC I.1	OC1.2	Tot	OC2		OC3	OC4.1								OC4.2	Tot
5300 Salaries professionals																				
	Human Resources and Procurement Officer	Lumpsum	1	\$ 141,944										\$ 141,944	\$ 28,389	\$ 28,389	\$ 28,389	\$ 28,389	\$ 28,389	\$ 28,389
	Operations and Administrative Officer	Lumpsum	1	\$ 141,944										\$ 141,944	\$ 28,389	\$ 28,389	\$ 28,389	\$ 28,389	\$ 28,389	\$ 28,389
5300 Sub-total salaries professionals														\$ 283,888	\$ 56,778	\$ 56,778	\$ 56,778	\$ 56,778	\$ 56,778	\$ 56,778
5570 Consultants																				
International Consultants																				
	Project Coordinator	Month	36	\$ 10,000			\$ -	\$ 180,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000
	UN Volunteer	Month	60	\$ 2,500			\$ -		\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000
	Chief Technical Advisor	Days	315	\$ 600	\$ 15,750	\$ 15,750	\$ 31,500	\$ 94,500	\$ 31,500	\$ 15,750	\$ 15,750	\$ 31,500	\$ 31,500	\$ 189,000	\$ 37,800	\$ 37,800	\$ 37,800	\$ 37,800	\$ 37,800	\$ 37,800
	2 experts in Collect Earth (baseline setting) (OP2.1)	Day	38	\$ 600			\$ -	\$ 22,500						\$ 22,500	\$ 22,500					
	2 experts for Capacity need assessment (OP3.1)	Day	75	\$ 600			\$ -		\$ 45,000					\$ 45,000	\$ 45,000					
	Experts for Capacity-building of field officers (OP3.2)	Day	250	\$ 600			\$ -			\$ 150,000				\$ 150,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000
	Finance expert - Mobilizing funding for FLR (OP3.5)	Day	150	\$ 600			\$ -			\$ 90,000				\$ 90,000	\$ 45,000	\$ 45,000	\$ 45,000	\$ 45,000	\$ 45,000	\$ 11,250
	Expert for creation of	Day	20	\$ 1,000			\$ -				\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000					

Expert for creation of technical materials on FLR and IGAs (OP4.2.2)	Day	20	\$ 250	\$ 146,500	\$ 10,500	\$ 157,000	\$ 796,437	\$ 51,000	\$ 10,500	\$ 1,040,437	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 232,137	\$ 220,971	\$ 183,221	\$ 171,887
Expert for creation of guide of GP on FLR and IGAs (OP4.2.3)	Day	40	\$ 250	\$ 162,250	\$ 26,250	\$ 188,500	\$ 1,093,437	\$ 427,500	\$ 131,250	\$ 2,046,937	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 551,187	\$ 390,021	\$ 341,021	\$ 329,687
Sub-total national Consultants																
5570 Sub-total consultants																
5650 Contracts																
ROAM study - assessment of restoration opportunities (OP1.1.2)	Lumpsum	1	\$ 126,500	\$ 126,500	\$ 126,500	\$ 126,500	\$ 796,437	\$ 51,000	\$ 10,500	\$ 1,040,437	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 232,137	\$ 220,971	\$ 183,221	\$ 171,887
Land Planning Scheme for the South-West area (OP1.2.1)	Lumpsum	1	\$ 241,500	\$ 241,500	\$ 241,500	\$ 241,500	\$ 1,093,437	\$ 427,500	\$ 131,250	\$ 2,046,937	\$ 90,563	\$ 90,563	\$ 120,750	\$ 30,188	\$ 17,313	\$ 194,176
Upgrading the Wood Energy Supply Plan (WISDOM) for Bangui (OP 1.2.2)	Lumpsum	1	\$ 138,500	\$ 138,500	\$ 138,500	\$ 138,500	\$ 1,093,437	\$ 427,500	\$ 131,250	\$ 2,046,937	\$ 51,938	\$ 51,938	\$ 69,250	\$ 17,313	\$ 17,313	\$ 194,176
Fine-tuning the Forest Policy Statement and including FLR (OP1.2.2)	Lumpsum	1	\$ 97,000	\$ 97,000	\$ 97,000	\$ 97,000	\$ 1,093,437	\$ 427,500	\$ 131,250	\$ 2,046,937	\$ 36,375	\$ 36,375	\$ 48,500	\$ 12,125	\$ 12,125	\$ 194,176
Upgrading the SNPA-DB and including FLR (OP1.2.3)	Lumpsum	1	\$ 66,250	\$ 66,250	\$ 66,250	\$ 66,250	\$ 1,093,437	\$ 427,500	\$ 131,250	\$ 2,046,937	\$ 24,844	\$ 24,844	\$ 33,125	\$ 8,281	\$ 8,281	\$ 194,176
FLR activities with local populations - excl. Mambélé (OP2.2)	Ha	1,968	\$ 444	\$ 873,792	\$ -	\$ 873,792	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 873,792	\$ 97,088	\$ 97,088	\$ 194,176	\$ 48,380	\$ 194,176	\$ 48,380
FLR activities with local populations in	Ha	1,253	\$ 174	\$ 217,709	\$ -	\$ 217,709	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 217,709	\$ 24,190	\$ 24,190	\$ 48,380	\$ 48,380	\$ 48,380	\$ 48,380

Car PMU	Lumpsum	1	\$ 30,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 5,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 5,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	
Motorbikes field agents, UNV and local coordinators	Lumpsum	36	\$ 1,133		\$ 39,644.0	\$ 567	\$ 567	\$ 567	\$ 1,133	\$ 40,777	\$ 40,777	\$ 40,777	\$ 40,777	\$ 40,777	\$ 40,777	\$ 40,777	
Computer/printer field agents	Lumpsum	32	\$ 809		\$ 19,545	\$ 19,545	\$ 19,545	\$ 19,545	\$ 19,545	\$ 19,545	\$ 19,545	\$ 19,545	\$ 19,545	\$ 19,545	\$ 19,545	\$ 19,545	
Computer/printer PMU (excl. Driver)	Lumpsum	7	\$ 809		\$ 4,248	\$ 4,248	\$ 4,248	\$ 4,248	\$ 4,248	\$ 4,248	\$ 4,248	\$ 4,248	\$ 4,248	\$ 4,248	\$ 4,248	\$ 4,248	
6100 Sub-total non-expendable procurement			\$ 30,000	\$ 2,500	\$ 5,000	\$ 78,436	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,067	\$ 3,067	\$ 5,000	\$ 94,569	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	
6300 General Operating Expenses budget																	
Car PMU - operation and maintenance	Year	5	\$ 5,000	\$ 2,084	\$ 4,167	\$ 12,500	\$ 4,167	\$ 2,084	\$ 2,084	\$ 4,167	\$ 25,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	
Motorbikes field agents - operation and maintenance	Month	1,933	\$ 32		\$ 62,544	\$ 62,544					\$ 62,544	\$ 12,509	\$ 12,509	\$ 12,509	\$ 12,509	\$ 12,509	
Motorbikes UNV and 3 local coord. - operation and maintenance	Month	240	\$ 32		\$ 5,825	\$ 5,825					\$ 7,767	\$ 7,767					
Tel/internet field agents	Month	1,933	\$ 16		\$ 31,272	\$ 31,272					\$ 31,272	\$ 6,254	\$ 6,254	\$ 6,254	\$ 6,254	\$ 6,254	
Tel/internet PMU	Month	480	\$ 65		\$ 31,068	\$ 31,068					\$ 31,068	\$ 6,214	\$ 6,214	\$ 6,214	\$ 6,214	\$ 6,214	
6300 Sub-total GOE budget			\$ 2,084	\$ 2,084	\$ 4,167	\$ 143,209	\$ 4,167	\$ 3,055	\$ 3,055	\$ 4,167	\$ 157,651	\$ 31,530	\$ 31,530	\$ 31,530	\$ 31,530	\$ 31,530	
TOTAL			\$ 297,500	\$ 578,250	\$ 875,750	\$ 3,071,311	\$ 1,003,148	\$ 727,542	\$ 5,677,751	\$ 283,888	\$ 5,961,639	\$ 1,134,282	\$ 1,134,282	\$ 1,134,282	\$ 1,134,282	\$ 1,134,282	

SUBTOTAL Comp 1	\$ 875,750
SUBTOTAL Comp 2	\$ 3,071,311
SUBTOTAL Comp 3	\$ 1,003,148
SUBTOTAL Comp 4	\$ 727,542
SUBTOTAL	\$ 5,677,751
PMC	\$ 283,888
GRANT TOTAL	\$ 5,961,639

Figure 53 - Detailed budget of the TRI CAR Project (authors, 2017)

ANNEX 4: The Project risk log

A. Risks

#	Risk statement	Impact*	Likelihood**	Ranking***	Mitigating action	Action owner
1	The RCPA is not successfully implemented, not bringing back peace and socioeconomic growth	H	ML	ML	Out of reach of the project, as it depends on the overall political situation in the CAR.	CAR Gvt
2	Poor improvement of the business climate, unable to attract more private and public resources into FLR activities	H	L	ML	Idem: Out of reach of the project, as it depends on the overall political situation in the CAR.	CAR Gvt
3	Topic nor more of high relevance to national policy-makers and international stakeholders	H	L	ML	MEDDEFCP and PMU to raise awareness and maintain the political momentum regarding FLR	MEDDEFCP & PMU
4	Poor appropriation of the Project objectives by the local communities and poor interest in implementing field activities	H	L	ML	MEDDEFCP and PMU to raise awareness among communities and to develop ad-hoc FLR activities and IGAs, based on local needs	MEDDEFCP & PMU

*effect on project organization if risk were to occur: H, MH, ML, or L

**estimate of likelihood: H, MH, ML, or L

*** Red = H / Amber = MH / Green = ML or L

Figure 54 - Main risks faced by the TRI CAR Project (authors, 2017)

B. Environmental and Social risks (GEF, 2016b)²²²

The main environmental and social risks and mitigation action, timeframe and indicators are described below, followed by the complete environmental and social risks screening:

➔ ESS 3.2.1 & 3.2.2: Importing or transfer of seeds and/or planting materials for cultivation and/or R&D Mitigation hierarchy: MODERATE

Mitigation actions:

- Ensure that the seeds and planting materials are from locally adapted crops and varieties that are accepted by farmers and consumers;
- Ensure that the seeds and planting materials are free from pests and diseases according to agreed norms, especially the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC);
- Clarify whether seed saving is permitted under the country's existing laws and/or regulations and advise the counterparts accordingly;
- Ensure, according to applicable national laws and/or regulations, that farmers' rights to Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (PGRFA) and over associated traditional knowledge are respected in the access to PGRFA and the sharing of the benefits accruing from their use;
- Ensure compliance with Access and Benefit Sharing norms as stipulated in the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the Nagoya Protocol of the Convention on Biodiversity, as may be applicable.

Responsible: PMU

Timeframe: Over the lifetime of the project

Indicator: M&E reports related to field activities (Component 2)

²²² GEF, 2016b. *Environmental and Social Risk Identification: Applicable Environmental and Social Safeguards*. Geneva – GEF, November 2016. 18p

➔ **ESS 3.4: Management of planted forests**

Mitigation hierarchy: **MODERATE**

Mitigation actions:

- Adhere to existing national forest policies, forest programmes or equivalent strategies;
- Observe principles 9, 10, 11 and 12 of the Voluntary Guidelines on Planted Forests;
- Incorporate conservation of biological diversity as fundamental in planning, management, utilization and monitoring of planted forests.

Responsible: PMU

Timeframe: Over the lifetime of the project

Indicator: M&E reports related to field activities (Component 2)

➔ **ESS 7.4: Major gender inequality in the labour market**

Mitigation hierarchy: **MODERATE**

Mitigation actions:

- To anticipate likely risk of socially unsustainable agriculture and food systems, integrate specific measures to reduce gender inequalities and promote rural women’s social and economic empowerment. In particular, women of all ages would be supported in priority through the capacity-building activities and the field activities (see [Part 3.3.2 supra](#)).

Responsible: PMU

Timeframe: Over the lifetime of the project

Indicator: M&E reports for CB (Comp 3) and field activities (Comp 2)

➔ **ESS 9.3: Indigenous Peoples living in the project area**

Mitigation hierarchy: **MODERATE**

Mitigation actions:

- Ensure the FPIC process is followed all over the lifetime of the project (see [Part 3.3.3 supra](#));
- Pygmies Bay’Aka groups are few in the South-West (see [Parts 1.1.3 and 3.3.3 supra](#)), are poorly interested in agriculture and may be less attracted in FLR and IGAs activities than other ethnic groups (See [Annex 12 infra](#)). Despite this, specific measures will be promoted in the FLR and IGAs activities, to respond to their specific needs.

SAFEGUARD 1 NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

	Management of soil and land resources	If No	If Yes	Results
1.1	Could this project result in the degradation (biological or physical) of soils	LOW	MOD	LOW
1.2	Could this project undermine sustainable land management practices?	LOW	HIGH.	LOW
	Management of water resources and small dams			
1.3	Would this project develop an irrigation scheme that is more than 20 hectares or withdraws more than 1000 m³/day of water?	LOW	MOD	LOW
1.4	Would this project develop an irrigation scheme that is more than 100 hectares or withdraws more than 5000 m³/day of water?	LOW	HIGH.	LOW
1.5	Would this project aim at improving an irrigation scheme (without expansion)?	LOW	MOD	LOW
1.6	Would this project affect the quality of water either by the release of pollutants or by its use, thus affecting its characteristics?	LOW	HIGH	LOW
1.7	Would this project include the usage of wastewater?	LOW	MOD	LOW
1.8	Would this project involve the construction or financing of a dam that is more than 15 m. in height?	LOW	NO GO	LOW
1.9	Would this project involve the construction or financing of a dam that is more than 5 m. in height?	LOW	HIGH.	LOW
	Tenure			

1.10	Could this project result in a negative change to existing legitimate tenure rights?	LOW	HIGH	LOW
Climate				
1.11	Could this project result in a reduction of the adaptive capacity to climate change for any stakeholders in the project area?	LOW	HIGH	LOW
1.12	Could this project result in a reduction of resilience against extreme weather events?	LOW	HIGH	LOW
1.13	Could this project result in a net increase of GHG emissions beyond those expected from increased production?	LOW	NEXT	LOW
	1.13.1 Is the expected increase below the level specified by FAO guidance or national policy/law (whichever is more stringent)?	HIGH	LOW	
	1.13.2 Is the expected increase above the level specified by FAO guidance or national policy/law (whichever is more stringent)?	LOW	HIGH	

SAFEGUARD 2 BIODIVERSITY, ECOSYSTEMS AND NATURAL HABITATS

Protected areas, buffer zones or natural habitats				
2.1	Would this project be implemented within a legally designated protected area or its buffer zone?	LOW	HIGH	LOW
Biodiversity Conservation				
2.2	Could this project change a natural ecosystem to an agricultural/forestry production unit with a reduced diversity of flora and fauna?	LOW	HIGH	LOW
2.3	Could this project increase the current impact on the surrounding environment (by using more water, chemicals, etc.)?	LOW	MOD	LOW
Use of alien species				
2.4	Would this project use an alien species which has exhibited an invasive behavior or a species with unknown behavior?	LOW	HIGH	LOW
Access and benefit sharing for genetic resources				
2.5	Would this project involve access to genetic resources for their utilization and/or access to traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources that is held by indigenous, local communities and/or farmers?	LOW	MOD	LOW

SAFEGUARD 3 PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Introduce new crops and varieties				
3.1	Would this project introduce crops and varieties previously not grown?	LOW	MOD	LOW
Provision of seeds and planting materials				
3.2	Would this project provide seeds/planting material for cultivation?	LOW	NEXT	
3.2.1	Would this project involve the importing or transfer of seeds and/or planting materials for cultivation?	LOW	MOD	MOD
3.2.2	Would this project involve the importing or transfer of seeds and/or planting materials for research and development?	LOW	MOD	MOD
Modern biotechnologies and the deployment of their products in crop production				
3.3	Would this project supply or use modern plant biotechnologies and their products?	LOW	MOD	LOW
Planted forests				
3.4	Would this project establish or manage planted forests?	LOW	MOD	MOD

SAFEGUARD 4 ANIMAL (LIVESTOCK AND AQUATIC) GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Introduce new species/breeds and change in the production system of locally adapted breeds				
4.1	Would this project introduce non-native or non-locally adapted species, breeds, genotypes or other genetic material?	LOW	NEXT	LOW
4.1.1	Would this project foresee an increase in production by at least 30% (due to the introduction) relative to currently available locally adapted breeds and can monitor production performance?	NO GO	LOW	

	4.1.2	Would this project introduce genetically altered organisms, e.g. through selective breeding, chromosome set manipulation, hybridization, genome editing or gene transfer and/or introduce or use experimental genetic technologies, e.g. genetic engineering and gene transfer, or the products of those technologies?	LOW	HIGH	
	4.2	Would this project introduce a non-native or non-locally adapted species or breed for the first time into a country or prod. system?	LOW	MOD	LOW
	4.3	Would this project introduce a non-native or non-locally adapted species or breed, independent whether it exists in the country?	LOW	MOD	LOW
	4.4	Would this project ensure there is no spread of the introduced genetic material into other production systems (i.e. indiscriminate crossbreeding with locally adapted species/breeds)?	MOD	LOW	LOW
	Collection of wild genetic resources for farming systems				
	4.5	Would this project collect living material from the wild, e.g. for breeding, or juveniles and eggs for on-growing?	LOW	MOD	LOW
	Modification of habitats				
	4.6	Could this project modify the surrounding habitat or production system used by existing genetic resources?	LOW	MOD	LOW
	4.7	Would this project be located in or near an internationally recognized conservation area e.g. Ramsar or World Heritage Site, or other nationally important habitat, e.g. national park or high nature value farmland?	LOW	MOD	LOW
	4.8	Could this project block or create migration routes for aquatic species?	LOW	MOD	LOW
	4.9	Could this project change the water quality and quantity in the project area or areas connected to it?	LOW	MOD	LOW
	4.10	Could this project cause major habitat / production system changes that promote new or unknown chances for gene flow, e.g. connecting geographically distinct ecosystems or water bodies; or would it disrupt habitats or migration routes and the genetic structure of valuable or locally adapted species/stocks/breeds?	LOW	HIGH	LOW
	4.11	Would this project involve the intensification of production systems that leads to land- use changes (e.g. deforestation), higher nutrient inputs leading to soil or water pollution, changes of water regimes (drainage, irrigation)?	LOW	MOD	LOW

SAFEGUARD 5 PEST AND PESTICIDES MANAGEMENT

Supply of pesticides by FAO		If No	If Yes	Results
5.1	Would this project procure, supply and/or result in the use of pesticides on crops, livestock, aquaculture or forestry?	LOW	MOD	LOW
5.2	Would this project provide seeds or other materials treated with pesticides (in the field and/or in storage)?	LOW	MOD	LOW
5.3	Would this project provide pesticides to farmers directly or through voucher schemes?	LOW	MOD	LOW
5.4	Could this project lead to increased use of pesticides through intensification or expansion of production?	LOW	MOD	LOW
5.5	Would this project manage or dispose of waste pesticides, obsolete pesticides or pesticide contaminated waste materials?	LOW	HIGH	LOW

SAFEGUARD 6 INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT AND DISPLACEMENT

		If No	If Yes	Results
6.1	Would this project imply removal?	LOW	NEXT	LOW
6.2	Would this removal* be voluntary?	NO GO	HIGH	

SAFEGUARD 7 DECENT WORK

		If No	If Yes	Results
7.1	Could this project displace jobs? (e.g. because of sectoral restructuring or occupational shifts)	LOW	HIGH	LOW

7.2	Would this project operate in sectors or value chains that are dominated by subsistence producers and other vulnerable informal agricultural workers, and more generally characterized by high levels “working poverty”?	LOW	MOD	LOW
7.3	Would this project operate in situations where youth work mostly as unpaid contributing family workers, lack access to decent jobs and are increasingly abandoning agriculture and rural areas?	LOW	MOD	LOW
7.4	Would this project operate in situations where major gender inequality in the labour market prevails? (e.g. where women tend to work predominantly as unpaid contributing family members or subsistence farmers, have lower skills and qualifications, lower productivity and wages, less representation and voice in producers’ organizations, more precarious contracts and higher informality rates, etc.)	LOW	MOD	MOD
7.5	Would this project operate in areas or value chains with presence of labour migrants or that could potentially attract labour migrants?	LOW	MOD	LOW
7.6	Would this project directly employ workers?	LOW	MOD	LOW
7.7	Would this project involve sub-contracting?	LOW	MOD	LOW
7.8	Would this project operate in a sector, area or value chain where producers and other agricultural workers are typically exposed to significant occupational and safety risks?	LOW	MOD	LOW
7.9	Would this project provide or promote technologies or practices that pose occupational safety and health (OSH) risks for farmers, other rural workers or rural populations in general?	LOW	HIGH	LOW
7.10	Would this project foresee that children below the nationally-defined minimum employment age (usually 14 or 15 years old) will be involved in project-supported activities?	LOW	NO GO	LOW
7.11	Would this project foresee that children above the nationally-defined minimum employment age (usually 14 or 15 years old), but under the age of 18 will be involved in project-supported activities?	LOW	MOD	LOW
7.12	Would this project operate in a value chain where there have been reports of child labour?	LOW	HIGH	LOW
7.13	Would this project operate in a value chain or sector where there have been reports of forced labour?	LOW	HIGH	LOW

SAFEGUARD 8 GENDER EQUALITY

		If No	If Yes	Results
8.1	Could this project risk reinforcing existing gender-based discrimination, by not taking into account the specific needs and priorities of women and girls?	LOW	MOD	LOW
8.2	Could this project not target the different needs and priorities of women and men in terms of access to services, assets, resources, markets, and decent employment and decision-making?	LOW	MOD	LOW

SAFEGUARD 9 INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

		If No	If Yes	Results
9.1	Are there indigenous peoples living outside the project area where activities will take place?	LOW	NEXT	
9.2	Do the project activities influence the Indigenous Peoples living outside the project area?	LOW	MOD	LOW
9.3	Are there indigenous peoples living in the project area where activities will take place?	LOW	MOD	MOD
9.4	Would this project adversely or seriously affect on indigenous peoples’ rights, lands, natural resources, territories, livelihoods, knowledge, social fabric, traditions, governance systems, and culture or heritage (physical and non-physical or intangible) inside and/or outside the project area?	LOW	HIGH	LOW
9.4	Would this project be located in an area where cultural resources exist?	LOW	MOD	LOW

Figure 55 - Environmental and Social Risks faced by the TRI CAR Project (authors, 2017)

ANNEX 5: Risk classification certification form

After completing the E&S screening checklist, the LTO certifies this certification form.

Project symbol: GCP/CAF/001/GFF	
Project title:	Forest and Landscape Restoration supporting Landscape and Livelihoods Resilience in the Central African Republic (CAR)

A. RISK CLASSIFICATION

Low
 Moderate
 High

1. Record key risk impacts from the E&S Screening Checklist

Risk	Mitigation hierarchy:
ESS 3.2.1 & 3.2.2: Importing or transfer of seeds and/or planting materials for cultivation and/or R&D	Moderate
ESS 3.4: Management of planted forests	Moderate
ESS 7.4: Major gender inequality in the labour market	Moderate
ESS 9.3: Indigenous Peoples living in the project area	Moderate

2. Has the project site and surrounding area been visited by the compiler of this form?

Yes
 No

B. STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION/ ENGAGEMENT

(See [Annex 12 infra](#) for the complete lists of attendance of meetings)

Identification of stakeholders	Date	Participants	Location
Inception workshop – Policy-makers from the CAR Gvt; Academic institutions; Local and international NGOs; FAO staff	15/12/16	48	Bangui
Local consultations during the 1 st field mission – Local communities and decentralized services; Consultants	22/01/17	54	Bagandou
	23/01/17	9	Mambéllé
	23/01/17	17	M’Baïki
	25/01/17	19	Bayanga
	26/01/17	44	Nola
	27/01/17	58	Berbérati
Debriefing of the 1 st mission – FAO Rep ; Deputy FAO Rep; Consultants	29/01/17	4	Bangui
Local consultations during the 2 nd field mission – Local communities and decentralized services; Consultants	11-14/03/17	183	Bayanga ¹
	15-16/03/17	142	Berbérati
	23-25/03/17	467	Bangui ²
	29-31/03/17	208	Mambéllé ³
	1-2/04/17	28	M’Baïki ⁴
Final workshop – Policy-makers from the CAR Gvt; Academic institutions; Local and international NGOs; FAO staff	14-15/06/17	30	Bangui

Figure 56 - List of consultations held for preparing the TRI CAR Project (authors, 2017)

¹ Bayanga city and surroundings: Batali, Manassao, Mossapoula 1, Yandoumbé

² Bangui city and surroundings: Bôh, Boubou, Gbâ, Gbagoyola, Gbango, Gbanyele, Gbetin, Inohoro, Kassenbé, Kourounbouga, Kpanbaladeke, Landji, Loungoudi, Mbakari, Mboko, Myo, Ngoundja, Nguinda, Trage, 5 Sakai

³ Mambéllé city and surroundings: Bekombo, Dengbé, Kamanga, Mbaéré, Mbatamale, Quartier Tondo, Siplac

1. Summarize key risks and impacts identified from the stakeholder engagement

#	Risk identified by the local stakeholders	Response given
1	Inadequate plant and/or tree species distributed by the TRI CAR Project	Choices of species to be made by the populations, according to their needs
2	Lack of technical support on a day-to-day basis	Field agents to be appointed for each sites, trained and equipped by the Project
3	Bushfires to destroy restored areas	Provision of technical support in terms of fire-resistant species and firebreaks; Promotion of "block restoration" (adjacent degraded fallows) to facilitate bushfire management
4	Land use conflicts to arise once areas are restored	Baseline study to identify the land use rights and the land users; Restoration activities to be carried out only on old fallows with farmers having clear customary rights recognized by the community itself (e.g. "Procès-verbal de palabres")
5	Most in needs to be excluded from the TRI CAR Project field activities	Baseline study to identify these marginalized groups and PMU and field agents to support them in priority in carrying out field activities, following the FPIC approach
6	Restored areas to be degraded again once the TRI CAR Project stops	Baseline study to determine the most adapted FLR activities and IGAs, ensuring self-sustainability of the restored areas in the long term

Figure 57 - Main risks identified by the local stakeholders (authors, 2017)

2. Have any of the stakeholders raised concerns about the project?

No, no major concern was raised about the project.

<p>The LTO confirms the information above</p> <p>Date: 06/12/2017</p> <p>Signature:</p> <p>Christophe Besacier</p>
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ANNEX 6: Terms of reference of PMU staff

International Project Manager - PM (full time) and national Counterpart (full time)

NB: The terms of reference for the international PM and the National Counterpart are presented together, as the International PM will lead the Project for the three first years, with the support of the National Counterpart acting as a Deputy PM. Then, as most of the field activities and transversal activities would have been launched, the National Counterpart would lead the Project for the two last years, with an enhanced support from the international CTA.

Under the direct supervision of the FAO Representative in the CAR (Budget Holder - BH) and the technical guidance of the FLR Team in FAO Roma, the PM will lead the PMU that acts as Secretary to the PSC. He/she will work in close collaboration with the FAO Representation in the CAR and all PMU staff, and be responsible for the overall planning, daily management, technical supervision and coordination of all Project activities. Specifically this will include the following tasks:

- Serve as the FAO's point of contact with the Project and Project partners and be responsible for overall functioning and performance of the Project;
- Manage and supervise human resources allocated to the PMU including: providing technical supervision/guidance in implementing Project activities and day-to-day coordination and communication with the Project executing partners;
- Act as the Secretary for all PSC meetings and activities, including preparation of documents and the reports;
- Participate in the inception workshop, annual Project progress review and planning workshops with local stakeholders and Project executing partners to prepare the AWP/B in collaboration with the PMU;
- Prepare six-monthly Project Progress Reports (PPRs) in coordination with the PMU, reporting on the implementation of activities, and monitoring the achievement of project outcomes and output targets;
- Support the LTO in preparation of the annual Project Implementation Review (PIR) report;
- Establish working relations with appropriate national and local institutions (Government and grass-roots organizations) to ensure effective implementation of Project supported activities at national and local level;
- Coordinate the design of participatory Project M&E system and exercise overall management responsibility of the regular monitoring and review of the execution of the activities including: (i) conducting regularly field M&E visits to Project sites, which information will be included into the six-monthly PPRs; (ii) preparing monthly monitoring progress in achieving all Project outputs and outcome indicators; (iii) providing technical and operational guidance to executing partners staff; and (iv) proposing eventual shifts in Project implementation strategies if the Project is not performing as planned.

M&E Specialist (national/full time)

Under the overall supervision of the PMU and the direct supervision of the PM, he/she will support the PMU in designing and establishing the M&E system of the Project. The M&E system will be used by the PM when complying M&E tasks, as detailed: (i) conducting regularly field M&E visits to project sites, which information will be included into the six-monthly PPRs; (ii) monitoring progress in achieving Project outputs and outcome indicators; (iii) providing technical and operational guidance to PMU staff and executing partners, and (iv) proposing eventual shifts in project implementation strategies if the Project is not performing as planned.

In collaboration with the PM, the PMU staff and the main executing partners, he/she will perform the following main tasks:

- Presentation and clarification (if needed) of the Project Results framework with all project stakeholders;
- Design the M&E monitoring plan, agreed with all stakeholders based on the outcomes of the inception workshop and the project M&E plan summary;
- Reviewing of the M&E indicators and their baseline values;

- Drafting the required clauses to include in consultants' contracts to ensure they complete their M&E reporting functions (if relevant);
- Updating project risks matrix and mitigation measures;
- Developing mechanisms and methodologies for systematic data collection and recording in support of outcome and output indicators monitoring and evaluation.

Local Project Coordinators – Local PCs (three, national/full time)

Under the overall supervision of the BH, the LTO and the direct supervision of the PM, the local PCs will directly assist the PM in the daily management, technical supervision and coordination of all Project field activities related to Component 2, and in gathering inputs from the Technical Committee (TC) for the preparation of Project Progress Reports (PPRs) and the Annual Project Implementation Reviews (PIRs). Specifically this will include the following main tasks:

Technical duties:

- In collaboration with the PMU and members from the TC, support the elaboration of baselines for FLR activities (Output 2.1);
- In consultation with the PMU and members from the TC, identify FLR activities and IGAs that are: (i) selected in a participatory manner to ensure social acceptance by the target communities; (ii) gender sensitive; (iii) economically viable (production of crops, NTFPs, wood energy, etc. that can be linked to viable value chains); (iv) favorable to the preservation of the existing agro-ecosystem, biodiversity and natural habitats;
- Based on the two first items, through the guidance and backstopping of Project partners and field staff, support the local populations in implementing FLR activities (Output 2.2) and complementary IGAs (Output 2.3);
- Participate in the establishment of mechanisms to collect appropriate information for the monitoring and evaluation system of activities;
- Prepare reports and other documents as required;

Management duties:

- Support the PM in developing, liaising and maintaining regular contacts and partnerships with Governmental bodies and implementing partners to ensure effective implementation of Project supported activities;
- Conduct regular monitoring and support visits to the Project area to ensure maximum impact of the interventions;
- Provide support to the PM in gathering inputs from the local stakeholders, Project field staff and executing partners for the preparation of the PIRs and PPRs;
- Provide support to the PM in the six-monthly monitoring of progress in achieving Project outcomes and outputs targets;
- Support the preparation of the English version of PPRs and PIRs complying with GEF and FAO requirements;
- Participate in the inception workshop, annual project progress review and planning workshops;
- Undertake any other related duties arising within the context of the project.

Un Volunteer - UNV (international/full time)

Under the overall supervision of the BH, the LTO and the direct supervision of the PM, the UNV will directly assist the PM in the daily management, technical supervision and coordination of all Project field activities in M'Baïki and related to Component 2, and in gathering inputs from the Technical Committee (TC) for the preparation of Project Progress Reports (PPRs) and the Annual Project Implementation Reviews (PIRs). He will also provide support to the PM in the implementation of all activities under Component 3, in particular the institutional strengthening of ICRA and ISDR (Output 3.4). Specifically, this will include the following main tasks:

Technical duties:

- In collaboration with the PMU and members from the TC, support the elaboration of baselines for FLR activities (Output 2.1);
- In consultation with the PMU and members from the TC, identify FLR activities and IGAs that are: (i) selected in a participatory manner to ensure social acceptance by the target communities; (ii) gender sensitive; (iii) economically viable (production of crops, NTFPs, wood energy, etc. that can be linked to viable value chains); (iv) favorable to the preservation of the existing agro-ecosystem, biodiversity and natural habitats;
- Based on the two first items, through the guidance and backstopping of Project partners and field staff, support the local populations in implementing FLR activities (Output 2.2) and complementary IGAs (Output 2.3);
- In collaboration with the PM, the Local PCs, and the LTO, supervise the capacity need assessment (Output 3.1) and the related capacity-building activities (Outputs 3.2 and 3.4) with a special focus on Output 3.4, which will consist in the design and implementation of the joint CIRAD-ICRA-ISDR R&D Programs on agro-ecology and FLR;
- In collaboration with the PM, the Local PCs, and the LTO, coordinate and supervise the other activities under Component 3: (i) Output 3.5 related to South-South exchanges regarding FLR, (ii) Output 3.6 related to FLR financing, and (iii) Output 3.7 related to the National FLR Platform;
- Participate in the establishment of mechanisms to collect appropriate information for the monitoring and evaluation system of activities;
- Prepare reports and other documents as required;

Management duties:

- Support the PM in developing, liaising and maintaining regular contacts and partnerships with Governmental bodies and implementing partners to ensure effective implementation of Project supported activities;
- Conduct regular monitoring and support visits to the Project area to ensure maximum impact of the interventions;
- Provide support to the PM in gathering inputs from the local stakeholders, Project field staff and executing partners for the preparation of the PIRs and PPRs;
- Provide support to the PM in the six-monthly monitoring of progress in achieving Project outcomes and outputs targets;
- Support the preparation of the English version of PPRs and PIRs complying with GEF and FAO requirements;
- Participate in the inception workshop, annual Project progress review and planning workshops;
- Undertake any other related duties arising within the context of the Project.

Field officers (32, national/full time)

Under the overall supervision of the BH, the LTO and the direct supervision of the PM and their local PC, they will carry out the following main tasks included under Component 2:

- In collaboration with the PMU and members from the TC, support the elaboration of baselines for FLR activities (Output 2.1);
- In consultation with the PMU and members from the TC, identify FLR activities and IGAs that are: (i) selected in a participatory manner to ensure social acceptance by the target communities; (ii) gender sensitive; (iii) economically viable (production of crops, NTFPs, wood energy, etc. that can be linked to viable value chains); (iv) favorable to the preservation of the existing agro-ecosystem, biodiversity and natural habitats;
- Based on the two first items, through the guidance and backstopping of the PMU and Project partners, support the local populations in implementing FLR activities (Output 2.2) and complementary IGAs (Output 2.3);
- Participate in the establishment of mechanisms to collect appropriate information for the monitoring and evaluation system of activities;

- Prepare reports and other documents as required;

Finance and Administrative Management

The following tasks will be carried out by the FAO office in Bangui and be supported by the Project Management Costs:

- Ensure smooth and timely implementation of Project activities in support of the results-based workplan, through operational and administrative procedures according to FAO rules and standards;
- Coordinate the Project operational arrangements through contractual agreements with key Project partners;
- Arrange the operations needed for signing and executing Letters of Agreement (LoA) and Government Cooperation Program (GCP) agreements with relevant Project partners;
- Maintain inter-departmental linkages with FAO units for donor liaison, finance, human resources, and other units as required;
- Day-to-day manage the Project budget, including the monitoring of cash availability, budget preparation, budget revisions, and budget recording to be reviewed by the PM. This include (i) Initiate travel authorizations for staff and non-staff, prepare travel expense claims and secondment reports using the FAO's computerized travel system; (ii) Verify accuracy of coding, appropriate budget line and conformity with financial rules and regulations of transactions to be initiated; (iii) Maintain records of expenditure, verify conformity with administrative rules and availability of funds prior to review by the supervisors; enter forecast data in the BMM; (iv) Review data warehouse transaction monthly listings following each BMM refreshment to reconcile projects accounts and prepare requests for adjustment through journal vouchers; (v) Draft routine correspondence with regard to budgetary, administrative, and financial matters;
- Ensure that relevant reports on expenditures, forecasts, progress against workplans, Project closure, are prepared and submitted in accordance with FAO and GEF defined procedures and reporting formats, schedules and communications channels, as required;
- Execute accurate and timely actions on all operational requirements for personnel-related matters, equipment and material procurement, and field disbursements;
- Undertake missions to monitor the outputs-based budget, and to resolve outstanding operational problems, as appropriate;
- Be responsible for results achieved within her/his area of work and ensure issues affecting Project delivery and success are brought to the attention of higher level authorities through the BH in a timely manner,
- In consultation with the FAO Evaluation Office, the LTO, and the FAO-GEF Coordination Unit, support the organization of the mid-term and final evaluations, and provide inputs regarding Project budgetary matters;
- Provide inputs and maintain the Field Program Management Information System (FPMIS) up-to-date.

Operations and Administrative Officer (national/full time)

Under the general supervision of the FAO Representative in CAR (Budget Holder) and the Project Coordinator, and in close collaboration with the project executing partners, the Operations and Administrative Officer will take the operational responsibility for timely delivery of the project outcomes and outputs. In particular, he/she will perform the following main tasks:

- Ensure smooth and timely implementation of project activities in support of the results-based workplan, through operational and administrative procedures according to FAO rules and standards;
- Coordinate the project operational arrangements through contractual agreements with key project partners;
- Arrange the operations needed for signing and executing Letters of Agreement (LoA) and Government Cooperation Programme (GCP) agreement with relevant project partners;

- Maintain inter-departmental linkages with FAO units for donor liaison, Finance, Human Resources, and other units as required;
- Day-to-day manage the project budget, including the monitoring of cash availability, budget preparation and budget revisions to be reviewed by the Project Coordinator;
- Ensure the accurate recording of all data relevant for operational, financial and results-based monitoring;
- Ensure that relevant reports on expenditures, forecasts, progress against workplans, project closure, are prepared and submitted in accordance with FAO and GEF defined procedures and reporting formats, schedules and communications channels, as required;
- Execute accurate and timely actions on all operational requirements for personnel-related matters, equipment and material procurement, and field disbursements;
- Participate and represent the project in collaborative meetings with project partners and the Project Steering Committee, as required;
- Undertake missions to monitor the outputs-based budget, and to resolve outstanding operational problems, as appropriate;
- Be responsible for results achieved within her/his area of work and ensure issues affecting project delivery and success are brought to the attention of higher level authorities through the BH in a timely manner,
- In consultation with the FAO Evaluation Office, the LTO, and the FAO-GEF Coordination Unit, support the organization of the mid-term and final evaluations, and provide inputs regarding project budgetary matters; and
- Provide inputs and maintain the FPMIS systems up-to-date.

Human Resources and administrative officer (national/full time)

Under the general supervision of the FAO Representative in CAR (Budget Holder) and the Project Coordinator, and in close collaboration with the Operations and Administration Officer, the Human Resources and administrative officer will have the following responsibilities and functions:

- Initiate travel authorizations for staff and non-staff, prepare travel expense claims and secondment reports using the Organization's computerized travel system;
- Verify accuracy of coding, appropriate budget line and conformity with financial rules and regulations of transactions to be initiated;
- Maintain records of expenditure, verify conformity with administrative rules and availability of funds prior to review by the supervisors; enter forecast data in the BMM;
- Review Data Warehouse transaction monthly listings following each BMM refreshment to reconcile projects accounts and prepare requests for adjustment through journal vouchers;
- Draft routine correspondence with regard to budgetary, administrative, financial and accounting matters;
- Assist in the preparation of meetings, workshop and seminars, book meeting rooms and assure that all necessary arrangements are made;
- Create, maintain and update office files and reference systems; and
- Perform other related duties as required.

ANNEX 7: Key-figures of the CAR: economics and NRM²²³

Central African Republic

Population (millions) 4.6 Land area (1,000 sq. km) 623 GDP (\$ billions) 1.5

	Country data	Sub-Saharan Africa group	Low-income group
GNI per capita, <i>World Bank Atlas method</i> (\$)	320	1,686	728
Adjusted net national income per capita (\$)	305	1,382	637
Urban population (% of total)	39.5	36.7	30.0

Agriculture

Agricultural land (% land area)	8	44	39
Agricultural irrigated land (% of total agricultural land)	..	..	..
Agricultural productivity, value added per worker (2005 \$)	863	673	332
Cereal yield (kg per hectare)	1,716	1,433	2,158

Forests and biodiversity

Forest area (% land area)	36.2	27.7	27.5
Deforestation (avg. annual %, 2000–2011)	0.1	0.5	0.6
Terrestrial protected areas (% of total land area)	18.0	16.4	13.8
Threatened species, mammals	8	..	..
Threatened species, birds	10	..	..
Threatened species, fish	3	..	..
Threatened species, higher plants	18	..	..

Oceans

Total fisheries production (thousand metric tons)	30.2	6,652	12,351
Capture fisheries growth (avg. annual %, 1990–2013)	3.7	1.8	3.9
Aquaculture growth (avg. annual %, 1990–2013)	2.4	15.6	5.2
Marine protected areas (% of territorial waters)	..	..	..
Coral reef area (sq. km)	..	17,980	15,120
Mangroves area (sq. km)	..	27,808	25,817

Energy and emissions

Energy use per capita (kg oil equivalent)	..	681	359
Energy from biomass products and waste (% of total)	..	57.6	66.0
Electric power consumption per capita (kWh)	..	535	219
Electricity generated using fossil fuel (% of total)	..	65.1	30.9
Electricity generated by hydropower (% of total)	..	20.0	45.5
CO ₂ emissions per capita (metric tons)	0.1	0.8	0.3

Water and sanitation

Internal freshwater resources per capita (cu. m)	30,543	4,120	4,875
Total freshwater withdrawal (% of internal resources)	0.1	3.0	4.2
Agriculture (% of total freshwater withdrawal)	1	81	90
Access to improved water source (% of total population)	68	64	69
Rural (% of rural population)	54	53	61
Urban (% of urban population)	90	85	87
Access to improved sanitation (% of total population)	22	30	37
Rural (% of rural population)	7	23	33
Urban (% of urban population)	44	41	46

Environment and health

PM _{2.5} pollution, mean annual exposure (µg/cu. m)	19	17	19
PM _{2.5} exposure (% pop. exceeding WHO guideline level)	100	72	78
Acute resp. infection prevalence (% of children under five)	..	5	6
Diarrhea prevalence (% of children under five)	..	14	14
Under-five mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	139	92	76

National accounting aggregates—savings, depletion and degradation

Gross savings (% of GNI)	..	23.8	23.1
Consumption of fixed capital (% of GNI)	8.2	8.6	7.5
Education expenditure (% of GNI)	1.2	3.6	3.1
Energy depletion (% of GNI)	0.0	5.7	1.1
Mineral depletion (% of GNI)	0.2	1.6	1.5
Net forest depletion (% of GNI)	0.0	1.9	4.5
CO ₂ damage (% of GNI)	0.1	0.5	0.3
Air pollution damage (% of GNI)	0.6	1.1	1.6
Adjusted net savings (% of GNI)	..	6.7	9.2

ANNEX 8: Data and maps about recent deforestation in CAR

ANNEX 9: Plans of actions & budgets of relevant Projects

→ RCPCA

Composantes prioritales	Coûts (millions de dollars É.-U.) ^a				
	2017	2018	2019	2020-2021	Total
Pilier I : Restaurer la paix, la sécurité et la réconciliation	117	130	113	100	461
Appuyer la réduction de la violence par le désarmement et la réintégration des ex-combattants et des enfants associés aux groupes armés	42	43	30	0	115
Promouvoir la stabilité par la réforme du secteur de la sécurité	35	36	27	33	131
Réformer l'Institution judiciaire et promouvoir la fin de l'impunité	19	21	24	40	105
Faciliter la réconciliation et la cohésion sociale, et mettre en place les conditions pour le retour des réfugiés et les solutions durables pour les personnes déplacées	21	30	31	27	109
Pilier II : Renouveler le contrat social entre l'État et la population	200	246	284	596	1 326
Redéployer l'administration sur tout le territoire et mettre en place une gouvernance locale inclusive	28	25	18	17	88
Fournir les services de base à la population sur tout le territoire, en particulier dans les domaines de l'éducation, de la santé et de l'eau, en transférant progressivement les capacités et les moyens aux structures nationales	65	105	140	344	654
Assurer la sécurité alimentaire et la résilience	14	19	21	50	104
Renforcer la bonne gouvernance (stabilité macroéconomique, gestion et contrôle des finances publiques, recettes fiscales, lutte contre la corruption)	92	98	106	185	481
Pilier III : Promouvoir le relèvement économique et la relance des secteurs productifs	58	182	262	721	1 224
Relancer et développer les secteurs productifs (agriculture et élevage, Industries extractives et forestières)	19	68	88	213	387
Réhabiliter et construire les Infrastructures (notamment les réseaux de transport, d'électricité et de communication)	29	101	156	456	742
Assurer les conditions propices au développement du secteur privé et à l'emploi (amélioration de l'appui aux entreprises et des services financiers, formation professionnelle, entrepreneuriat et emploi)	10	14	18	52	94
Renforcement des capacités et appui à la mise en œuvre	30	30	30	60	150
Total	406	589	689	1 477	3 161

a. Les coûts ont été arrondis dans ce tableau pour ne pas faire apparaître les décimales, ce qui explique de légères différences dans les sommes.

Figure 58 - Plan of actions and budget of the RCPPCA (CAR Gvt, 2016c)

→ Forest and Mining Governance Project

Component	Mining	%	Forestry	%	Total	%
1 Support the implementation of effective regulatory frameworks in the mining and forest sectors	759 123	8%	516 622	5%	1 275 745	13%
2 Strengthen institutional capacity to govern the sectors through enhanced operational efficiency and administrative tools	1 808 175	18%	613 488	6%	2 421 663	24%
3 Improve Communes' access to revenue from forestry and mineral resources to enable collective development and poverty reduction	1 485 287	15%	2 486 241	25%	3 971 528	40%
4 Generate investor awareness and incentives to accelerate private investment in forestry and mining	142 071	1%	1 988 993	20%	2 131 064	21%
Sub-total	4 194 656	42%	5 605 344	56%	9 800 000	98%
Project Preparation Advance (SESA, ESMF, and frameworks)					200 000	2%
Grand total					10 000 000	

Figure 59 - Global budget for the Forest and Mining Governance Project (World Bank, 2017b)

	Objet	Unit type	Unit Price	Quantity	Number	Technical assistance	NRGP Coord. Unit	Total	%	CAR contribution
A	Rural development - support to 11 forest communities in completing and implementing their development plan									
1	Management plan development	per community	40,000	11	1	440,000				
2	Support to priority investments as derived from management plans	per community	130,000	11	1	1,430,000				
3	Capacity building to improve skills of communities in management planning and project management	per community	5,000	11	1	55,000				
	Sous total					1,925,000		1,925,000		0
B	Strengthening the private sector									
1	Capacity building to improve company efficiency by strengthening skills of workers (loggers, sharpeners, skidders, etc.)	Per logging company	15,000	11	1	165,000				
2	Support to priority investments aiming at increasing mill efficiency	Per logging company	100,000	11	1	1,100,000				
3	Comparative analysis of fiscal regimes of the timber industry within the Congo Basin	Study	100,000	1	1	100,000				
4	Study on the service provision to mills and Douala	Study	100,000	1	1	100,000				
5	Cost analysis of FOB Douala prices	Study	75,000	1	1	75,000				
	Sous total					1,540,000		1,540,000		0
C	Strengthening institutional capacity									
1	Assessment of the efficiency of the tax collection and redistribution process, with a view to reforming the modalities of its implementation	Study	100,000	1	1	100,000				
3	Support the newly established team of eco-guards to tackle illegal logging	Lump sum per year	75,000	1	5	375,000				
	Sous total					475,000		475,000		0
D	Community forests									
1	Facilitate the creation of community forests in the vicinity of Berberati, with a view to reducing illegal activities	Lump sum	100,000	1	1	100,000				
2	Develop the management plan of 2 newly created community forests	Community forest	50,000	2	1	100,000				
3	Support the implementation of management plans, while promoting innovative approaches, through e.g. the emergence of SMEs made of former artisanal loggers.	Lump sum	200,000	1	1	200,000				
	Sous total					400,000		400,000		0
	TOTAL FORESTRY					4,340,000		4,340,000	44%	0

Figure 60 - Forest part of the budget for the Forest and Mining Governance Project (World Bank, 2017b)

ANNEX 10: Questions raised at the validation workshop

The validation workshop took place at the FAO office in Bangui on the 14th and 15th of June 2017. It gathered 39 representatives from the FAO, the Ministries (MEDDEFPC, MADR, Finance), the National Committee on Climate (CNC), the CAS-DF, the APDS, Research Centers (ICRA, ISDR, ARF, LACCEG), donors and projects (UNDP, PDRSO), local NGOs (PRESIBALT, REPALCA, MFEP - *Maison de la femme et de l'enfant pygmées*) (see list of attendance at the end of Annex 10)

The draft TRI CAR Project document was presented in details: general context, state of natural resources, barriers to overcome, objectives, outcomes, outputs, activities, budget, workplan, institutional arrangements, risks and mitigation options, etc. It was generally well-received and the participants expressed their satisfaction at the end of the workshop. Comments and questions were also collected, that were later used to enrich the draft document. Here below are the questions raised during the workshop, as well as the responses given (elements later included in the document are underlined):

Q1 (A. OUESSEBANGA – LACCEG): *Will the Project use high and very high resolution imagery to assess FLR opportunities?* → Yes, thanks to the OSFT project (AFD-funded), such images are available for the major part of the CAR and covers all the South-West.

Q2 (J. SITAMOU, NGO MFEP): *The draft framework law on land tenure has been prepared, but is not yet validated. Would it be possible to highlight the need to get this framework law validated when fine-tuning the forest policy statement?* → Yes, explicit mention will be added under Output 1.2.3.

Q3 (B. BOKOTO DE SIMBOLI, UNDP): *When is the forest policy statement expected to be finalized?* → By early 2020, after a 2-year consultation process, to make sure all views expressed during the consultations are well reflected.

Q4 (K. VERMONT, UNDP): *Would the IGAs be supported through grants or credits?* → As detailed in Output 2.3, they will be supported by small-scale credits, channeled through the Village Saving & Lending Association (AVEC) supported by many donors (including the FAO and the UNDP).

Q5 (B. B. NZANGA, CNC): *Would the PhD students mobilized under Output 1.1.1 be supervised by the University of Bangui and the CIRAD?* → They will be supervised by the University of Bangui as a national partner, but the choice of the international partner is not limited: it can be CIRAD, IITA, PRASAC, ICRAF, etc.

Q6 (H. BEDAME-MOYOUKPEMA, ICRA): *Agro-ecology practices using cover plants are very promising, but their design in the Central African context needs an adequate support. Who will provide this support?* → As detailed in Output 3.4, the Aïda research unit at CIRAD has the adequate expertise and will be mobilized.

Q7 (M. LACHARME, PDRSO): *The PRSO will implement small-scale REDD+ pilot actions in the South-West of Bangui. In that context, data on wood energy will be collected locally and could support the upgrading of the WISDOM Platform for Bangui.* → Information well-noted: data can be shared in due time between the PDRSO and the TRI CAR Project.

Q8 (B. POPOCKO, NGO PRESIBALT): *Are there any negative environmental impacts foreseen?* → As detailed in Annex 4, a thorough risk assessment was carried out and leads to the conclusion that there is no major negative environmental impact foreseen. A particular attention is paid to the issue of “importing or transfer of seeds and/or planting materials” (ESS 3.2.1 & 3.2.2) and the issue of “management of planted forests” (ESS 3.4). Adequate mitigation actions are planned in that regard.

Q9 (J. SITAMOU, NGO MFEP): *A draft Code of the local authorities has been prepared, but its status remains unclear and it is unlikely it will be submitted to the National Assembly until the communal elections take place.* This should be reflected somewhere in the document. → Yes, explicit mention will be added under Part 2.1.2.

Q10 (M. AMOUDOU, CNC): *After years of stand-by caused by under-financing, the REDD+ process should be soon relaunched, thanks to the support of the FCPF and the CAFI. This should be reflected somewhere in the document.* → It is already described in Part 1.2.3.

Q11 (B. BOKOTO DE SIMBOLI, UNDP): *The buffer zone of the APDS should be re-delineated, as the population increases* → Thanks to the fine-tuning of the forest policy statement (Output 1.2.3) and the upgrading of the SNPA-DB (Output 1.2.4), the current national text regarding the classification of protected areas can be brought in line with the international guidelines from IUCN. Thanks to the Land Planning Scheme for the South-West (Output 1.2.1), impacts of such re-delineation for the buffer zone of the APDS can be assessed, to inform decision-makers.

Q12 (B. BOKOTO DE SIMBOLI, UNDP): *Will the Project support the restoration of degraded fallows that could be outside of “series agricoles” of a PEA, knowing local populations are not supposed to practice slash-and-burn agriculture in such locations?* → As detailed in Outputs 2.1 and 2.2, the Project will operate in strict compliance with existing rules and regulations. As such, old fallows to be restored should necessarily be located in the “series agricoles” of the PEAs and outside protected areas.

Q13 (O. SEMBOLI, Univ. of Bangui): *Can we estimate ex ante the impacts of the Project on the revenues of households?* → Households would benefit from both FLR activities and accompanying IGAs. These activities will be demand-driven and one cannot prejudge of the precise types of FLR activities and IGAs that would be carried out. However, thanks to the PhD thesis on valuation of tradable cost-benefits of restoration activities (Output 1.1.1) and the monitoring & evaluation system (Output 4.1.3), the impacts of Project activities on the revenues of households will be assessed during Project implementation.

Q14 (A. BANGE, MEDDEFPCP): *Will the Project support isolated farmers, i.e. not part of a local Association/Group?* → The aim of the Project is to support FLR activities over blocks of adjacent old fallows, allowing landscape restoration and minimizing restoration costs (economy of scale).

Q15 (J. F. BAGA, CAS-DF): *Is it possible for the Project to restore a CAS-DF afforestation perimeter at 25 km from Berbérati, that was burnt in 1984?* → The end-beneficiaries of the Project are households. Now, if the local populations and the CAS-DF have a common interest in restoring such an afforestation perimeter and if the CAS-DF is willing to transfer the management to the local populations, which is possible under current regulations (community forest), then this opportunity could be explored.

Q16 (J. TOMBET, MEDDEFPCP): *Would it be possible to promote the breeding of grasscutter (aulacodes) in the frame of the Project?* → As explained in Output 2.3, the list of eligible IGAs is not restricted and design and implementation of IGAs will be demand-driven.

Q17 (G. PAMONGUI, APDS): *It should be noted that the buffer zone of the APDS, as presented in its 2016-2020 management plan, is divided by a river, reason why local populations tend to concentrate on the Eastern bank of the river, where there is an easy access to the road. The Project should keep it in mind when supporting FLR activities near the APDS. Furthermore, even if the WWF, main operator of the APDS, is more interested in conservation than FLR, synergies would be possible between the WWF and the Project* → Well-noted, this will be taken into account during Project implementation.

Q18 (B. F. KEMANDA, NGO MFEP): *In the Prefecture of Sangha-Mbaéré, some villages are mostly inhabited by Pygmies / Bay’Aka households (e.g. villages of Yadoumbé, Moudimba, etc.). In these villages, Pygmies / Bay’Aka households are sometimes tempted to cede their land use rights to non – Pygmies households, in exchange of cigarettes or food stuff. The Project should take care of that and support Pygmies / Bay’Aka households to secure their land use rights.* → Following GEF and FAO guidelines regarding indigenous peoples, the Project will adopt specific provisions to collaborate with the Pygmies / Bay’Aka (e.g. systematic use of the FPIC approach, dedicated communication tools for these households, due consideration of their land use rights during baseline setting, etc.)

Q19 (J. SITAMOU, NGO MFEP): *Local NGOs could be part of the end-beneficiaries, but also provide field officers for the day-to-day supervision of the activities. This should be reflected in the document.* → Yes. As it stands now, local NGOs can directly implement FLR activities and IGAs with the Project,

assuming they gather interested households. As for the field officers, from the initial consultations with the MEDDEFPC and MADR, and taking into account the current situation (2013 crisis and recovery process), the draft document emphasizes the need to strengthen the decentralized services of the MEDDEFPC and MADR to carry out the day-to-day supervision. Now, it can be explicitly mentioned in Output 2.4 that the field officers can be seconded civil servants or NGOs agents. In any case, these field officers will be selected on a competitive basis at the inception of the Project, taking into account their experience and motivation.

Q20 (I. BADAKA NABENA, MADR): *ICRA and ISDR should be responsible for managing all the tree nurseries to be put in place by the Project.* → Considering the size of the Project area and the fact that ICRA and ISDR does not have the mandate, nor the capacity, to produce tree seedlings at large scale, the Project aims at supporting ICRA and ISDR in the production of “basic plants and seeds”, which will then be distributed to community-based tree nurseries for multiplication. This arrangement is common in large-scale community-based afforestation projects.

Q21 (M. LACHARME, PDRSO): *It would be useful to include Communal councils in the design of the field activities.* → As detailed in Output 2.1, this is foreseen. In addition, as explained in Part 2.1.2, synergies will be created with the PDRSO (AFD-funded) and the Forest and Mining Governance Project (WB-funded) in the 21 Communes where they operate.

Q22 (B. B. NZANGA, CNC): *In terms of REDD+ and FLR, the CNC is willing to develop bankable projects, to be submitted to the GCF, LDNF, CAFI, etc. Support from the Project would be welcome in designing such projects.* → Yes, as detailed in Output 3.5, this is foreseen and already budgeted in the project.

Q23 (M. AMOUDOU, CNC): *All the documentation produced by the Project could be made available online at www.apvrca.org, as it is done for documents related to the VPA-FLEGT and REDD+.* → Well-noted. It will be done during Project implementation.

Q24 (B. LANRY, Ministry of Finance): *The Ministry of Finance corroborates the fact that forest Communes face difficulty to manage the forest taxes (e.g. lack of capacity to plan and budget Local development plans, delay in disbursing the funds, etc.).* → As explained in Part 2.1.2, the PDRSO (AFD-funded) and the Forest and Mining Governance Project (WB-funded) will support the 21 forest Communes of the South-West. These two projects are part of the baseline of the present Project and they will strengthen the fiduciary and planning capacities of these forest Communes, thus creating the enabling conditions for an effective implementation and scaling-up of the Project activities.

Q25 (J. C. BOMESSE, Ministry of Home Affairs): *Our Ministry is in charge of elaborating the document “CAR, vision 2050”. As such, we are interested in topics such as FLR, agro-ecology, natural resources management, etc. and we should be represented in the Steering Committee of the Project.* → In the current wording of the document, the Ministry of Home Affairs is not mentioned as a permanent member of the Steering Committee, but it is mentioned it can be invited as required, when issues under its mandate, have to be discussed by the Steering Committee. Now, as there seems to be no objection, the Ministry of Home Affairs, as well as the Ministry of Finance, will be identified as permanent members of the Steering Committee.

Q26 (J. SITAMOU, NGO MFEP; M. LACHARME, PDRSO; B. BOKOTO DE SIMBOLI, UNDP; G. PAMONGUI, APDS; C. BESACIER, FAO): *It would be worth having a representative of local NGOs and a representative of indigenous peoples’ organizations in the Steering Committee.* → In the current wording of the document, there are 10 representatives (at least five women and at least two Pygmies / Bay’Aka) of the local populations in the Steering Committee. It will be mentioned that the Steering Committee includes one rep. of local NGOs and one rep. of indigenous peoples’ organizations.

Q27 (B. B. NZANGA, CNC): *Is it possible to have a UNV permanently based in M’Baïki.* → M’Baïki is a small city, but it is safe, only 2-hour drive from Bangui, and French volunteers from the CIRAD and French Ministry of Foreign Affairs have been placed there for the last 20 years without problem.

Q28 (M. VEYRET-PICOT, FAO): *There is no need to have a Finance and Administrative Manager in the PMU and a dedicated budget line for such Manager, as the Project Management Costs can cover the*

extra-costs of finance and administrative management to be internalized in the FAO Bangui Office. →
Well-noted, it will be reflected in the document.

Q29 (H. BEDAME-MOYOUKPEMA, ICRA; E. NGOUNO-GABIA, FAO; M. LACHARME, PDRSO; B. B. NZANGA, CNC): *Taking into account the need to ensure ownership of the Project, it would be worth having a national counterpart to the international Project Manager. After the three first years, the position of international Project Manager could be abolished and the national counterpart could act as Project Manager for the two remaining years, with an enhanced support for the international CTA →*
Well-noted. It will be reflected in the document.



15/06/17

25
YEARS



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6	GBAZA Edith Bonville	Directrice (ACDA)	75 18 53 43	
7	MEISSANE MARYOUL PENUN Houri	Représentant DG/ISCR	75 05 99 33	
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10	KEMANDA DANGUIZA Jean-Charles	PF CNULCD-RCA	75 51 68 51 / 72 63 30 15	
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23	SITAMON St-Jerôme	ONG MEFP	75 24 59 61	
24	AGBeko Bernard	MEDDEFCP	45 64 68 72	
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35	Dr Olivia SEMBOLI	Ecologiste Biochimie	75 36 61 33	
36	Dr Nouray MBALLA	Représentant Organ FMS/EG	75 46 24 2 / 72 02 09 44	
37	BOKOTO DE SEMBOLI Zanna	Cl-Reliensa PNUD	75 33 33 33	
38	NGOUNW GABIA Etienne	AFAOR/ Prop	72 76 07 40	
39	SEPAMID Achmed	DR 2	70 10 30 10	

ANNEX 11: Data gathered during the field missions

→ RECAP SITES

Per pilot site: Number of Communes, Number of CDR, Drivers of deforestation/degradation, Description of fallows to be restored, Number/positions of fields agents (MEDDEFCPF, MADR), Level of capacity of field agents in terms of FLR planning, implementation of FLR, implementation of IGAs. Here below is a sample of data for the pilot site of Bangui (the same data have been gathered for the four other pilot sites):

COMMUNES CONCERNEES	<i>Lister toutes les Communes potentielles (en s'assurant qu'elles correspondent à celles listées en colonne E de l'onglet "Communes")</i>	Bimbo, Damara
NOMBRE D'ASSO DANS LES COMMUNES CONCERNEES	<i>Lister toutes les Asso, en indiquant si possible leur nombre d'adhérents, leurs surfaces cultivées, leurs montants en caisse (cumul), etc.</i>	Groupement : 13, Membres : 2 836, Femmes : 1 441,466 Surface : 428 ha, Caisse : 531 900 FCFA
MOTEURS DE DEGRADATION DANS LA ZONE	<i>Lister par ordre d'importance décroissant, avec explications succinctes.</i>	Premièrement : Cultures sur abattis-brûlis récurrentes ; Deuxièmement : abattages d'arbres à grande échelle pour bois de feu et charbon de bois, les deux phénomènes associés à la croissance démographique
DESCRIPTION DES FRICHES A RESTAURER DANS LA ZONE	<i>Présenter de façon synthétique : nombre de strates, espèces dominantes et nombre de tiges par strates, état du sol, niveau de fertilité, etc.</i>	Dans la périphérie de Bangui, les friches se distinguent par un mélange d' <i>Imperata cylindrica</i> (Poaceae), de <i>Panicum maximum</i> (Poaceae) et de <i>Chromolaena odorata</i> (Asteraceae); la strate arborescente est constituée de <i>Mangifera indica</i> (Anacardiaceae), <i>Elaeis guineensis</i> (Palmaceae), de jeunes pousses d' <i>Hymenocardia acida</i> (Euphorbiaceae) et des rejets de <i>Terminalia glaucescens</i> (Combretaceae) et <i>Albizia zygia</i> (Fabaceae).
AGENTS DES E&F DANS LA ZONE	<i>Présenter les agents présents : DR, Inspecteurs (nbre, localisation), Chefs cantonnement (nbre localisation), éléments/agents (nbre, loca), etc.</i>	1 Directeur Régional (DR), Ingénieur Forestier et MSc. basée à Bangui; 2 Ingénieurs (1 Cadre à la Direction, 1 Chef de Brigade); 9 Techniciens (2 Cadres à la Direction, 7 Chefs de Brigades); 15 Préposés Forestiers ou Eléments répartis dans 6 Brigades); 4 Pépiniéristes, 2 Surveillants Pisteurs, 3 Admin. civils
NIVEAU GLOBAL DES AGENTS E&F EN PLANIFICATION DE LA RFP	<i>Synthétiser les capacités (0 = aucune, + = faible, ++ = bonne) : 1/ analyses biophysiques, 2/ analyses socio-éco, 3/ planification concertée, 4/ SIG, 5/ clarification et sécurisation foncière</i>	DR: 1 : ++; 2: ++; 3: +; 4:+; 5:+ IP: 1 : ++; 2: ++; 3: +; 4:+; 5:+ CC: 1 : 0; 2: 0; 3: 0; 4: 0; 5: 0 Elém./Agents: 1 : 0; 2: 0; 3:0; 4: 0; 5: 0
NIVEAU GLOBAL DES AGENTS E&F EN MISE EN OEUVRE DE LA RFP	<i>Synthétiser les capacités (0 = aucune, + = faible, ++ = bonne) : 1/ gestion de pépinières, 2/ reboisement "classique" (en plein pour bois d'œuvre), 3/ reboisement multi-usage (agroforesterie, bois de feu, etc.), 4/ agro-écologie (association d'activités agro-sylvopastorales)</i>	DR: 1 : ++; 2: ++; 3: +; 4:+ IP: 1 : ++; 2: ++; 3: +; 4:+ CC: 1 : ++; 2: ++; 3: 0; 4: 0 Elém./Agents: 1 : +; 2: +; 3: 0; 4: 0
NIVEAU GLOBAL DES AGENTS E&F EN MISE EN OEUVRE DES AGR	<i>Synthétiser les capacités (0 = aucune, + = faible, ++ = bonne) : 1/ élaboration de microprojets et plans d'affaire (faisabilité technique, rentabilité, etc.), 2/ appui techniques sur AGR PFNL, 3/ appui techniques sur AGR agropastorales</i>	DR: 1 : 0; 2: +; 3: 0 IP: 1 : 0; 2: +; 3: 0 CC: 1 : 0; 2: 0; 3: 0 Elém./Agents: 1 : 0; 2: 0; 3: 0

AGENTS DE L'AGRI DANS LA ZONE	<i>Présenter les agents présents : DR, Inspecteurs (nbre, localisation), Chef service (nbre localisation), agents etc.</i>	1 Directeur Régional (DR), Ingénieur, basé à Bangui; 3 Chefs de secteur, Techniciens d'Agriculture, basés à Bangui; 6 Conseillers Techniques Agricoles, Techniciens, basés à Bangui
NIVEAU GLOBAL DES AGENTS DE L'AGRI EN PLANIFICATION DE LA RFP	<i>Synthétiser les capacités (0 = aucune, + = faible, ++ = bonne) : 1/ analyses biophysiques, 2/ analyses socio-éco, 3/ planification concertée, 4/ SIG, 5/ clarification et sécurisation foncière</i>	DR: 1 : +; 2: +; 3: ++; 4:0; 5:0 CS: 1 : +; 2: +; 3: +; 4:0; 5:0 CTA: 1 : 0; 2: 0; 3: 0; 4: 0; 5: 0
NIVEAU GLOBAL DES AGENTS DE L'AGRI EN MISE EN OEUVRE DE LA RFP	<i>Synthétiser les capacités (0 = aucune, + = faible, ++ = bonne) : 1/ gestion de pépinières, 2/ reboisement "classique" (en plein pour bois d'œuvre), 3/ reboisement multi-usage (agroforesterie, bois de feu, etc.), 4/ agro-écologie (association d'activités agro-sylvopastorales)</i>	DR: 1 : ++; 2: ++; 3: +; 4:+ CS: 1 : +; 2: +; 3: +; 4:0 CTA: 1 : 0; 2: 0; 3: 0; 4: 0
NIVEAU GLOBAL DES AGENTS DE L'AGRI EN MISE EN OEUVRE DES AGR	<i>Synthétiser les capacités (0 = aucune, + = faible, ++ = bonne) : 1/ élaboration de microprojets et plans d'affaire (faisabilité technique, rentabilité, etc.), 2/ appui techniques sur AGR PFNL, 3/ appui techniques sur AGR agropastorales</i>	DR: 1 : ++; 2: +; 3: ++ CS: 1 : +; 2: +; 3: + CTA: 1 : +; 2: 0; 3: +

Figure 61 - Synthesis of field data gathered per pilot site, example of Bangui (authors, 2017)

➔ DETAILS PER PILOT SITE

Per Asso/Group in each pilot site: Name of the Asso/Group, Name and contact of the President, Date of creation, Number of members (men/women), Legal status, Presence of meeting book and cash book, Amount in cash, Main activities, Main crops, Average yield in cassava (t/ha/yr), Average deforested area (ha/yr/household), Average cropping cycle (year), Area under fallow (ha/Asso-Group), Potential area for FLR (ha/Asso-Group), Main objectives of FLR (improving soil fertility and/or producing lumber and/or producing fire wood and/or producing fruits and/or producing other NTFPs. NB: For each objective, classification as +/++/+++), Demanded plant/tree species per main objective (exhaustive listing. NB : classification as +/++/+++), Level of capacities (management of tree nursery, monospecific plantation, multiuse plantation/agroforestry, agro-ecology, elaboration of micro-project, implementation of micro-project re: NTFPs / re: other agrosylvopastoral activities)

Here infra are presented, as example, the data for three Associations/Groups in the Bangui Pilot Sites. Data have been gathered and compiled for 117 Associations/Groups spread over the five Pilot sites.

NOM ASSO/GROUPE	ARJADE	TARA MO BA	KPINGB NA MABOKO
NOM PRESIDENT(E)	KOMONDO Rodrigue Nestor	TAYANGA Marie Josée	NGAGNINI Esther Aimée
TEL PRESIDENT(E)	72 01 71 09	72 39 96 31	75 70 89 47
NOMBRE MEMBRES	177	50	80
DONT FEMMES	65	45	65
RECO. LEGALE	N°00019/09	NA	NA
PLAN D'ACTION	Oui	NA	NA
LIVRE DE PV	NA	Oui	Oui
LIVRE DE CAISSE ?	Non	Non	Non
MONTANT EN CAISSE (en FCFA)	30 000	1 625	1 775
ACTIVITES DE L'ASSO/GROUPE (par ordre décroissant)	1/ Manioc, 2/ Riz, 3/ Arachide, 4/ Maïs, 5/ Haricot, 6/ Sésame, 7/ Aviculture, 8/ Porcherie, 9/ Bœufs d'attelage	1/ Production vivrière (indifférenciée), 2/ Elevage de cabris	1/ Production vivrière (indifférenciée), 2/ Commerce, 3/ Elevage (indifférencié)
SURF. MOY. DEFRICHEE (ha/ménage/an)	1	0,75	0,5
DUREE CULTURE (an)	2	2	2

SURF. MOY. EN FRICHE (ha/ménage)	2	30	40
CULTURES PRINCIPALES (importance en % des membres)	Maïs (100%), Sésame (100%), Arachide (100%), Manioc (85%), Courge (4%), Haricot (2%)	Manioc (100%), Maïs (100%), Arachide (100%)	Manioc (100%), Maïs (100%), Arachide (100%), Gombo (100%), Courge (50%)
REND. MOYEN EN MANIOC (t/ha)	NA	5	5
SURF. MOY. A RESTAURER (ha/ménage)	3	0,6	0,5
OBJECTIFS DE RESTAURATION			
<i>(i) Hausse fertilité pour agri</i>	++	++	++
<i>(ii) Production bois œuvre</i>	+	++	++
<i>(iii) Production bois de feu</i>	+	+	0
<i>(iv) Production fruits</i>	++	++	++
<i>(v) Production autres PFNL</i>	NA	NA	NA
SI OBJ. FERTILITE : ESPECES DESIREES ?	Acacia spp. = +++	Moringa = +++, Mondjiom = +++	Mondjom = +++, Moringa = +++
SI OBJ. BOIS ŒUVRE/SERVICE : ESPECES DESIREES ?	Sapin = ++, Gmelina = + Teck = +, Acacia spp. = +, Cèdre = ++	Tectona grandis = +++	Tectona grandis = +++
SI OBJ. BOIS DE FEU : ESPECES DESIREES	Bebera = +++, Dèrè = ++, Goup = ++, Paka = ++, Bourounda / Celtis spp. = +++	Acacia spp. = +++	Acacia spp. = +, Javanica = +, Toronica = +, Damal = +
SI OBJ. FRUITS : ESPECES DESIREES ?	Marronnier = ++, Poivrier = ++, Colatier = ++, Cocotier = +++, Oranger = ++, Palmier = ++, Citronnier = ++, Avocatier = +++	Oranger = +++, Avocatier = +++, Colatier = +++, Olivier = +++, Corossolier = +++, Colatier = +++	Oranger = +++, Avocatier = +++, Pamplémoussier = +++, Olivier = +++, Cocotier = +++, Corossolier = +++, Colatier = +++
SI OBJ. AUTRES PFNL : ESPECES DESIREES ?	Gnetum = ++, Ngbin / Dorstenie sp. = ++, Done / Landolphia spp. = ++, Karité = ++, Divers arbres à chenilles = +++, Kèkè ti laurier = +++, Kèkè ti nguiriki = ++	Nguiriki = +++, Dèkè = +++, Biri = +++, Balawa = +++, Nguiriki = +++, Kombé = +++)	Nguiriki = +++, Poko = +++, Mbaka = +++, Biri = ++, Yembe = +++, Boro = +++, Nguiriki = +++, Doko = +++, Mbaka = +++, Biri = +
NIVEAU GLOBAL DES MEMBRES DE L'ASSO EN			
Gestion de pépinière	+	0	0
Reboisement classique	+	0	0
Reboisement multi-usage	0	0	0
Agro-écologie	0	0	0
Elaboration de micro-projets	0	0	0
MeO d'AGR sur PFNL	0	0	0
MeO d'AGR agropastorales	+	0	0

Figure 62 - Details of field data gathered per Association/Group, examples in Bangui (authors, 2017)

➔ CURRICULUM AT ISDR: IMPORTANCE GIVEN TO FLR AND IGAS

THEMES	Sous-thèmes	Cours	BTS1	BTS2	LP2	LP3	Ingé	Synthèse du contenu	
PLANIFICATION DE LA RFP	1/ Analyse biophysique	1/ Topographie	20				45	Lecture d'une carte topographique prenant en compte les longitudes et latitudes, les courbes de niveau et réalisation d'un profil topographique en travaux pratiques	
		2/ Environnement des plantes					30	Description des facteurs biotiques et abiotiques qui caractérisent la zone d'occurrence d'une espèce végétale, notamment le climat, le substrat édaphique, la phytogéographie ainsi que la faune et l'entomofaune impliquées dans la pollinisation et dissémination des semences.	
		3/ Agrostologie-Agroclimatologie	30		45			45	Description du climat local et du microclimat qui déterminent la répartition régionale des cultures et qui sous-tendent la cartographie agricole et le calendrier agricole
		4/ Botanique forestière							Centrée sur la phytogéographie et les descriptions morphologiques, anatomiques; présentation des paramètres décrivant la qualité technologique du bois tels que la dureté, la densité du bois / masse volumique et le principe de la détermination des tarifs de cubages. Peu de références aux équations allométriques, aux services écosystémiques et aux questions émergentes (REDD+, LULUCF, FLR, sauvegardes environnementales, etc.)
		5/ Pédologie		35					Description des processus de formation des sols, présentation de la typologie des sols, description des processus de minéralisation de la matière organique et de dégradation des sols, réalisation des profils topographiques suivie de la description des couches en travaux pratiques; présentation des paramètres de caractérisation d'un sol : pH, teneur en matière organique, teneur en matière organique dissoute, teneur en eaux, etc.
		6/ Ecologie		40				30	Ecologie générale comprenant la description des facteurs écologiques, la présentation des cycles biogéochimiques, l'introduction aux changements climatiques
	2/ Analyses socio-éco	1/ Analyse socio-éco et envrtale de projet				25			Présentation des données socioéconomiques et environnementales concourant à la problématique et la justification des projets
		2/ Economie rurale						80	Répertoire et décrit les activités économiques en milieu ruraux par région et/ou communauté et met l'accent sur les potentiels naturels locaux et les perspectives de leur développement et les possibilités d'échanges interrégionaux à même de sous-tendre un développement équitable
		3/ Sociologie							Introduction à la géographie humaine, l'anthropologie et la sociologie : description des grands groupes sociaux et leur répartition géographique, mettant l'accent sur leurs mœurs, us et coutumes, ainsi que leur organisation sociales, leurs principales activités économiques, notamment les principales pratiques écologiques qui fondent leurs rapports au milieu naturel et la typologie de leur gouvernance sociopolitique
		1/ Gestion participative des RN							Cours basé sur l'aménagement des ressources naturelles caractérisé par l'implication des communautés locales et autochtones dans toutes les étapes de la gestion, incluant la cartographie participative, la planification participative, l'élaboration de plan simple de gestion et sa mise en œuvre, etc.
		4/ SIG			30			45	Bases théoriques de l'utilisation combinée de système d'information géographique, de la télédétection et de la cartographie pour le suivi du couvert végétal, de l'utilisation des terres et du

									changement d'utilisation des terres, généralement sans applications pratiques du fait du manque de technologies appropriées	
	5/ Clarification / sécur. foncière	1/ Aménagement foncier						45	Cours essentiellement théorique axé sur les principes de l'aménagement du territoire; très peu d'illustrations pratiques basées, par exemple, sur la gestion des terroirs villageois	
MISE EN OEUVRE DE LA RFP	1/ Gestion de pépinières	1/ Amélioration des plantes	30						Cours théorique, basé sur la génétique, les principes de la sélection végétale et de croisement variétal, sans démonstrations pratiques.	
		2/ Expérimentat* agricole	30						Cours en principe très pratique de mise en place de parcelles stratifiées à des fins de traitements, mais désormais devenu théorique par manque de moyens logistiques	
	2/ Reboisement "classique" (plein)	1/ Arboriculture	40						Cours théorique associés à des applications pratiques sur le périmètre de reboisement ISDR	
		2/ Sylviculture	40	30			60		Idem	
	3/ Reboisement multi-usage (agroforesterie, bois de feu, etc.)	1/ Arboriculture		40					Idem	
		2/ Agro-écologie							Inexistant. A créer	
	4/ Agro-écologie	1/ Reproduction des plantes cultivées							Inexistant. A créer	
		1/ Analyse socio-éco et envrntale de projet			25				Présentation des données socioéconomiques et environnementales concourant à la problématique et la justification des projets	
	MISE EN OEUVRE DES AGR	2/ Appui techniques sur AGR PFNL	1/ Economie	80	50	50		50		Cours d'économie décrivant les principales activités économiques, agriculture, industries, mines, commerce, etc. et leurs impacts sur l'emploi, le PIB, les recettes fiscales, etc.
			2/ Politique et gouvernance des RN							Présentation des textes législatifs et réglementaires fixant les modalités d'accès, de prélèvement et de répartition des bénéfices
3/ Appui techniques sur AGR agropastorales		1/ Economie	80	50					Cours d'économie décrivant les principales activités économiques, agriculture, industries, mines, commerce, etc. et leurs impacts sur l'emploi, le PIB, les recettes fiscales, etc.	
		2/ Culture vivrière						80	Présentation de la gamme des cultures vivrières, des pratiques culturales associées, de la production et commercialisation des produits	
		3/ Agroforesterie			20				Agriculture associée à la gestion de la fertilité du sol par la plantation d'espèces fixatrices d'azote et par l'association des cultures pour soutenir la production et le rendement	
4/ Intégration élevage agriculture									Inexistant. A créer	

Figure 63 - Screening of Curriculum at ISDR: importance given to FLR and IGAs (authors, 2017)

➔ SUMMARY OF CONSULTATIONS WITH PYGMIES / BAY'AKA

SITES	Berbérati (Commune de Senkpa-Mbaéré) / Bayanga (Commune de Yobé-Sangha)
NOMBRE DE FAMILLES	Environ 120 à Berbérati, environ 80 à Bayanga (NB : bien sûr, d'autres familles cantonnées dans d'autres sites, mais non rencontrées)
ACTIVITES PRINCIPALES	Chasse : +++ Cueillette PFNL : +++ Exploitation forestière (guide) : ++ Agriculture : +
COMPREHENSION DES OBJECTIFS DU PROJET (Présentation, puis clarifications demandées par les pygmées, et réponses apportées)	<p>Ils ont facilement compris le projet. L'acceptation du Projet s'est traduite par des acclamations dans les communautés visitées.</p> <p>Ils ont déclaré être a priori rassurés des impacts positifs de ce Projet car jamais ils ont été mis à contribution dans ce genre d'exercice. Déclaration du plus vieux pygmée (centenaire) rencontré à Mbatamalé (Senkpa-M'Baéré) : « <i>Notre cadre de vie est en danger car la forêt brûle chaque année, d'où des répercussions sur nos pratiques. Si rien n'est fait, nous (Pygmées) allons un jour laisser incendier toute la forêt afin que l'on n'entende plus parler de nous</i> ».</p> <p>Les questions récurrentes ont été les suivantes : Le Projet va-t-il nous doter en semences ? Nous former en techniques de conduite des pépinières ? Fournir de tracteurs pour les activités de terrain ? Peut-on avoir un document sur le Projet ? Pourquoi vous nous faites participer à l'élaboration du projet ? Comment SEFCA va tenir ses promesses ? Comment éviter les dégâts d'éléphant sur les terres restaurées ?</p> <p>Les réponses ont été les suivantes : Le Projet vous appuiera techniquement et vous facilitera l'accès aux plants. Les engrais chimiques et le travail du sol au tracteur ne seront pas encouragés, mais on appuiera la mise en place de nouvelles techniques (agro-écologie). On cherchera à cibler des zones où les conflits hommes/éléphants sont réduits. Des séances de renforcements de capacités seront organisées. On vous fait participer au projet car le Projet se veut être la réponse à vos vrais besoins de développement. Vous serez les acteurs principaux en restaurant des superficies brûlées. L'activité ne concerne pas les jachères mais les friches (jachères abandonnées).</p>
SUGGESTIONS POUR LE RENDRE PLUS ADAPTE AUX PYGMEES	<p>Démarrage rapide du projet</p> <p>Appuyer la sécurisation foncière des terres à restaurer</p> <p>Appuyer certains ménages à racheter les friches vendues (NDR : malheureusement hors de portée du Projet)</p>
CRAINTES EMISES SUR LE PROJET : DOMMAGES POSSIBLES AUX PYGMEES	<p>Non-respect des limites des champs des Pygmées par les autres communautés non Pygmées, voire entre groupes Pygmées.</p> <p>Il a été souligné l'importance d'un mécanisme de gestion de conflits entre les Pygmées et entre Pygmées et autres communautés voisines.</p>
AUTRES COMMENTAIRES	<p>Ils ont dénoncé la mise à feu d'une partie du PEA de la SEFCA par les autres communautés (conducteurs de motos-taxis, chasseurs, ramasseurs de kökö et champignons, etc.).</p> <p>Les femmes ont déploré le fait qu'ils travaillent beaucoup plus dans les champs des autres que dans leurs propres champs. Elles déplorent le fait que leurs conjoints échangent les champs et friches contre 2 500 FCFA ou 1 à 2 litres d'alcool de traite.</p> <p>Certains, vivant à l'intérieur des Aires Protégées de Dzanga-Sangha, se plaignent d'avoir un accès limité en forêt. Il a été difficile d'éclaircir ce point (normalement, ils ont libre accès à l'APDS ?)</p>

Figure 64 - Summary of consultations with Pygmies / Bay'Aka households (authors, 2017)

ANNEX 12: Consultations – Lists of attendance of meetings

ANNEX 13 Linkages between this TRI child projects and the TRI program

The project is one of 12 child projects of The Restoration Initiative (TRI), a GEF-supported program to contribute to the restoration and maintenance of critical landscapes to provide global environmental benefits and enhanced resilient economic development and livelihoods, in support of the Bonn Challenge. TRI is designed and led by three GEF Agencies – IUCN (lead agency), FAO and UN Environment – in partnership with TRI countries.”

The TRI program is comprised of 11 national child projects in 10 Asian and African countries, and is supported by a Global Learning, Finance, and Partnerships project (Global Child). The Global Child project will be responsible for facilitating overall coordination, monitoring, and adaptive management of the TRI Program, while at the same time providing key support along each of the four program components.”

The design of the project “Forest and Landscape Restoration supporting Landscape and Livelihoods Resilience in the Central African Republic (CAR)” includes mechanisms to ensure cross-fertilization between the Project, other TRI child projects, and the overall TRI program. Mechanisms include:

- Participation in annual TRI knowledge sharing workshops;
- Exchange and study visits with other TRI countries;
- Project anticipates receiving and integrating support from the Global Child project. This includes benefiting from provision of:
 - o international experts and trainings on FLR- and TRI-relevant topics;
 - o establishment and participation in TRI Community of Practice groups (via online and other groups) facilitated by the Global Child project;
 - o support for identification and integration of policies that are supportive of FLR, including through partnership with the Global Child project in developing and utilizing relevant and high-value case studies and policy briefs;
 - o support for mobilization of FLR finance, including help in developing bankable FLR investment proposals;
 - o enrollment of Project stakeholders in a TRI course on FLR Finance to be developed by the Global Child project in partnership with Yale University, and made available beginning in 2018;
- The Project will develop knowledge products on in-country FLR practices, experiences, and achievements, for sharing with other TRI child projects, including through annual TRI knowledge sharing workshops;
- Project team member(s) will take part in regular calls with the TRI Program Coordinator, to allow all NCPs and Global Child team members to hear first-hand from all projects on relevant updates and emerging opportunities. Those opportunities include linkages between the Global Child and NCPs. They may also include linkages between Child projects themselves and/or linkages between Child projects and relevant external initiatives;
- The Project will be responsive to any guidance received from the TRI Program Advisory Committee and the TRI Global Coordination Unit of the Global Child (see TRI Program institutional structure below);
- The Project will make use of Global Child provided standardized means (including standardized templates, and processes) for capturing and documenting lessons learned;
- The Project will make use of the Harmonized TRI Tracking Tool for reporting to the GEF, to facilitate comparability and utility of aggregated M&E data;”

TRI Program Institutional Structure and Linkages

The TRI Program will be strengthened by the establishment and operation of a TRI Program Advisory Committee (PAC), supported by the TRI Global Child. The PAC will be comprised of representatives from the three TRI Partner Agencies, the GEF, as well as representatives from some or all of the TRI countries (TBD), and relevant external experts. The PAC will provide oversight and recommendations over the course of TRI implementation, to capitalize on emerging opportunities, facilitate linkages to existing and relevant restoration initiatives, and provide recommendations to address any implementation bottlenecks as they arise.

Recommendations provided by the PAC are of an advisory nature only – TRI child projects are not bound to follow the advice of the PAC. However, experience has demonstrated the value that an advisory body, with substantial expertise and experience and a unique vantage point and perspective, can bring to a program. It is therefore anticipated that TRI Child projects will incorporate recommendations of the PAC into their work plans and operations.

Specific functions of the PAC shall include:

- Provide overall strategic policy and management direction to the Program and Child projects;
- Review progress of previously agreed Program work plans;
- Review key milestones and points for review;
- Discuss process forward, and any proposed changes to plans and main activities;
- Facilitate linkages between the TRI Program and other relevant FLR initiatives where appropriate;
- Provide technical and substantive input to the TRI Annual Knowledge Sharing workshop where appropriate;”

The TRI Program will also be strengthened by the establishment and operation of a TRI Global Coordination Unit (GCU), housed within the Global Child project. Specific functions of the GCU shall include:

- Lead the focus on optimizing integration and capture of synergies among child projects;
- Develop and implement a TRI Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) System for the TRI Program with effective linkages to all 12 child projects, based on the TRI Theory of Change, the results matrices in the project documents of all 12 TRI child projects, the TRI M&E Framework, as well as additional monitoring elements that may be required to achieve value for money assessments and other desired assessments, to ensure the systematic monitoring of the implementation of the TRI Program;
- Develop and implement a TRI Global Communications and Outreach Strategy supporting achievement of TRI communications objectives;
- Develop and implement a TRI Partnership Strategy supporting effective engagement and partnership with external programs, projects, institutions, and potential donors/investors, that help foster achievement of TRI objectives, both at the Program- and child project-levels, and participation in appropriate external fora on behalf of the TRI Program;
- Organize and participate in monthly working group meetings with TRI child project managers, to hear first-hand from all projects on relevant updates and emerging opportunities.;
- Organize and participate in biannual meetings of the Program Advisory Committee;
- Provision of secretarial services to the Program Advisory Committee;

- Preparation of biannual Program Progress Reports for the Program Advisory Committee;
- Coordinate adequate response to all specific issues and concerns raised by the Program Advisory Committee;”

“Figure 1 shows the institutional structure and reporting linkages between TRI program constituents. Additional reporting by Child projects to the GCU is not anticipated but opportunities will be offered by the GCU to the countries to participate in studies on TRI Program efficacy, such as Value for Money studies during the final years of TRI implementation.”

Figure 1. TRI Program institutional structure.

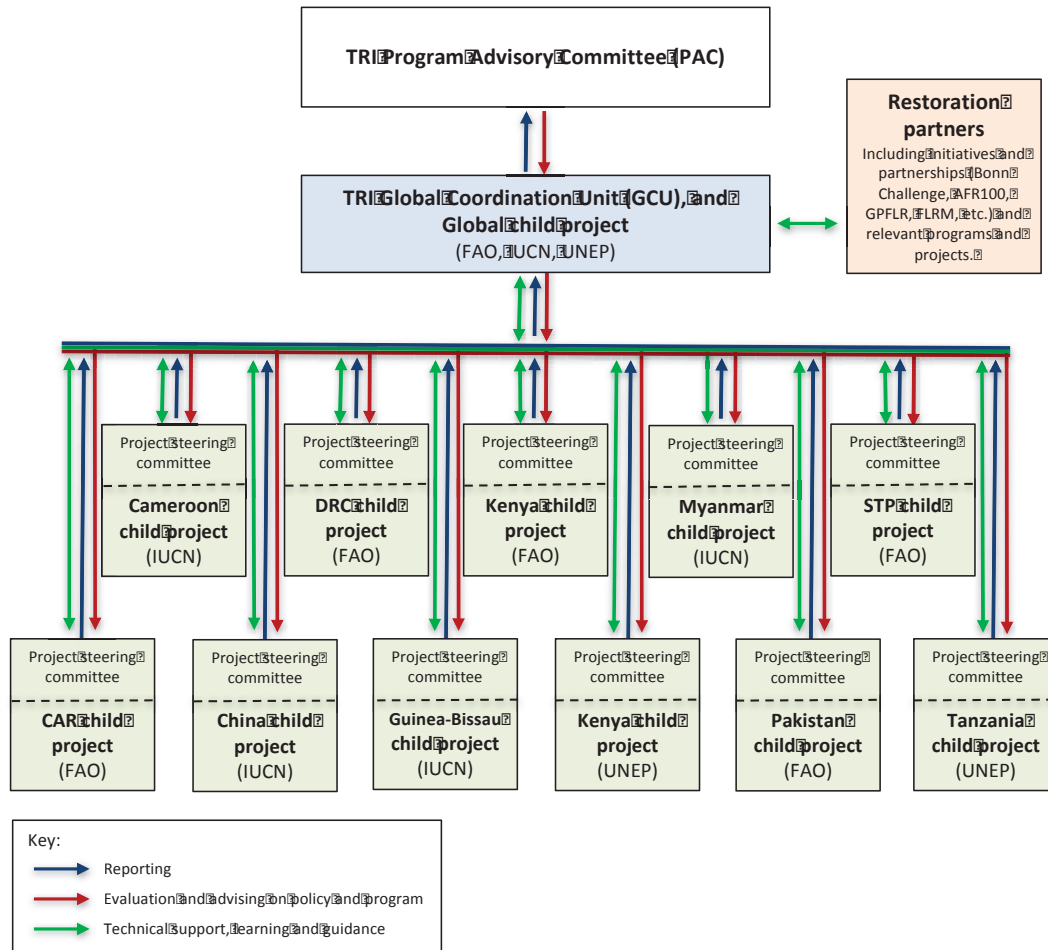


Table Detailing Alignment of Child Project with TRI Program

Table 1. Child Project Alignment with TRI Program

Criteria	Child project design features aligned with criteria
Project interventions are designed/informed by forest landscape restoration best practices and are in line with support for the Bonn Challenge	Yes, all the project interventions are aligned the FLRM best practices to support the Bonn Challenge
Project strategy employs TRI strategic approach, and includes work under each of the four TRI Programmatic components	Yes, this projects strictly follows the PFD frameworks under each of the 4 components
Project anticipates making use of supports from TRI Global Learning, Finance, and Partnership project (the Global Child project)	Yes, as described in the ProDoc, the projects is planning to make use of the technical assistance offered by the GCP and will participate to the different forms of knowledge gathering and dissemination offered.
Project anticipates making contributions to the capture and dissemination of knowledge, for the benefit of all TRI child projects	Yes, as described in the ProDoc, the project will actively capture knowledge to disseminate it in country and more broadly.
Project design recognizes institutional linkages with the Global Child project, including with TRI Program Advisory Committee, for adaptive management.	Yes
Project includes a planned activity and dedicated funding for participation in Annual TRI Knowledge-Sharing workshops	Yes
Project funding and anticipated global environmental benefits are in-line with estimates made at the time of PFD submission/approval	The total and component repartition budget is in-line with estimates made at the time of the PFD. GEBs estimations in terms of sustainable land management and carbon benefits are also aligned, even if a bit lower than expected, with the PFD submission. But the number of hectares on which biodiversity will be improved/maintained had to be reduced compared to what was planned to order to reach a more realistic target. Considering the direct and indirect effects of the project, we can consider that the project will improve land management and biodiversity status over almost 50,000 ha in the buffer zone of parks. The impact on biodiversity in the parks through improved buffer zone management hasn't been evaluated at PPG but will be during the project. This should bring up the biodiversity target during project implementation.
Other (including any additional support for partnership and knowledge sharing activities with TRI partners)	This project has been developed as part of a program both benefitting and contributing to it. Several of its features have been developed having this idea in mind.

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