



GEF-6 REQUEST FOR PROJECT ENDORSEMENT/APPROVAL

PROJECT TYPE: Full-sized Project

TYPE OF TRUST FUND: GEF Trust Fund

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PART I: PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Integrated and Transboundary Conservation of Biodiversity in the Basins of the Republic of Congo			
Country(ies):	Republic of Congo	GEF Project ID:	9159
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP	GEF Agency Project ID:	5612
Other Executing Partner(s):	Ministry of Forest Economy, Sustainable Development and Environment	Submission Date:	December 30, 2016
		Resubmission Date:	March 9, 2017 May 25, 2017
GEF Focal Area (s):	Multi-focal Areas	Project Duration (Months)	72
Integrated Approach Pilot	IAP-Cities <input type="checkbox"/> IAP-Commodities <input type="checkbox"/> IAP-Food Security <input type="checkbox"/>		Corporate Program: SGP <input type="checkbox"/>
Name of Parent Program	9071/Global Partnership on Wildlife Conservation and Crime Prevention for Sustainable Development	Agency Fee (\$)	281,273

A. FOCAL AREA STRATEGY FRAMEWORK AND OTHER PROGRAM STRATEGIES

Focal Area Objectives/Programs	Focal Area Outcomes	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
			GEF Project Financing	Co-financing
BD-1 Program 1 BD-1: Improve sustainability of protected area systems	Program 2: Nature's Last Stand: Expanding the Reach of the Global Protected Area Estate Outcome 2.1: Increase in area of terrestrial and marine ecosystems of global significance in new protected areas and increase in threatened species of global significance protected in new protected areas	GEFTF	325,050	4,000,000
BD-2 Program 3 BD 2: Reduce threats to globally significant biodiversity	Program 3: Preventing the Extinction of Known Threatened Species Outcome 3.1: Reduction in rates of poaching of rhinos and elephants and other threatened species and increase in arrests and convictions (baseline established per participating country)	GEFTF	758,450	6,000,000
LD-3 Program 4 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 Outcome 3.2: Integrated landscape management practices adopted by local communities based on gender sensitive needs.	GEFTF	450,000	4,000,000
CCM-2 Program 4 CCM-2: Demonstrate Systemic Impacts of Mitigation Options	Program 4: Promote conservation and enhancement of carbon stocks in forest, and other land use, and support climate smart agriculture Outcome A. Accelerated adoption of innovative technologies and management practices for GHG emission reduction and carbon sequestration	GEFTF	550,000	3,682,400
SFM-1 Program 3 SFM-1: Reduce the pressures on high conservation value forests by addressing the drivers of deforestation.	Program 3: Identifying and monitoring forest loss. Outcome 3: Increased application of good management practices in all forests by relevant government, local community (both women and men) and private sector actors.	GEFTF	1,041,750	3,000,000
Total project costs			3,125,250	20,682,400

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Project Objective: To strengthen the conservation of globally threatened species in the basins of the Republic of Congo by improving biodiversity enforcement

Project Components/ Programs	Financing Type	Project Outcomes	Project Outputs	Trust Fund	(in \$)	
					GEF Project Financing	Confirmed Co- financing
Component 1: Expanding the network of globally significant protected areas in the Congo Basin	TA	<p>Outcome 1: Expanded PA network and improved management effectiveness of PAs in the Congo Basin, specifically Odzala-Kokoua, Lossi Gorilla Sanctuary, and Messok Dja, an area of 2,667,160 ha , as indicated by:</p> <p>2,667,160 ha of wildlife habitat in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area are covered by PA network and Integrated Management Plans. <i>Baseline – 1,389,600 ha;</i></p> <p>Management effectiveness increased by 78% in average for Odzala-Kokoua National Park and Lossi Gorilla Sanctuary (averaged METT score: 84). <i>Baseline: average score– 47;</i></p> <p>Annual number of poached elephants in the project area decreased at least by 70%. <i>Baseline – 28 elephants killed by poachers in 2016;</i></p> <p>Populations of forest elephant and gorilla in the project area remain stable or increase by 5%. <i>Baseline - forest elephant – 20,000 inds.; gorilla – 26,000 inds. (2016)</i></p>	<p>Output 1.1. Messok Dja National Park is established on the area of 144,000 ha (GEF: \$100,000)</p> <p>Output 1.2. Effective functional zones are planned and officially established around Odzala-Kokoua NP, Lossi Gorilla Sanctuary, and Messok Dja NP on the area of 1,133,560 ha (GEF: \$150,000)</p> <p>Output 1.3. Integrated Management Plans for 3 PAs are developed, officially approved, and implemented (GEF: \$255,500)</p> <p>Output 1.4. Law enforcement and wildlife monitoring components of the Integrated Management Plans are supported with trainings and equipment (GEF: \$638,000)</p>	GEFTF	<p>1,143,500</p> <p><i>BD: 343,000</i> <i>LD:137,200</i> <i>SFM: 486,900</i> <i>CC: 176,400</i></p>	6,100,000

<p>Component 2: Strengthening capacity for effective PA and Illegal Wildlife Trade governance in Congo</p>	<p>TA</p>	<p>Outcome 2. Biodiversity and Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) priorities are integrated into key national policies and plans and harmonized with regional initiatives as indicated by:</p> <p>Capacity of IWT enforcement agencies increased by 63% (UNDP Capacity Score: 80). <i>Baseline – 49</i></p> <p>The overall annual number of inspections/ patrolling in the project area increased by 40% (588). <i>Baseline - 420</i>; annual number of seizures – by 45% (148). <i>Baseline - 102</i>; annual number of arrests - by 40% (137). <i>Baseline - 98</i>; annual number of successful prosecutions on poaching and IWT – by 75% (56). <i>Baseline – 32</i></p>	<p>Output 2.1. National IWT enforcement strategy is revised with involvement of key stakeholders and implemented (GEF: \$30,000)</p> <p>Output 2.2. National Wildlife Crime Enforcement Unit (NWCEU) is established and supported with trainings and equipment (GEF: \$215,500)</p> <p>Output 2.3. Joint Committee on Legal Monitoring of Wildlife Crime Enforcement is supported to identify and close gaps in IWT law enforcement procedures (GEF: \$35,000)</p> <p>Output 2.4. National Training Center for wildlife crime law enforcement is supported. Capacity of the Center increased from 90 to 180 trained officers per year. (GEF: \$250,000)</p> <p>Output 2.5. A detection dog unit is established to strengthen checkpoints and patrol groups in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area (GEF: \$356,000)</p>	<p>GEFTF</p>	<p>886,500</p> <p><i>BD: 367,500</i> <i>LD: 147,000</i> <i>SFM: 183,000</i> <i>CC: 189,000</i></p>	<p>6,200,000</p>
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<p>Component 3: Reducing poaching and illegal trade in threatened species at site levels via CBNRM and sustainable livelihoods</p>	<p>TA /INV</p>	<p>Outcome 3. Strengthened sustainable livelihood capacity of local communities in the targeted PA complexes, as indicated by:</p> <p>1,133,560 ha of habitat in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area are under CBNRM, SLM and SFM. <i>Baseline – 0</i>;</p> <p>1,000 new sustainable biodiversity friendly jobs are established for local communities (8% of the project area population). <i>Baseline – 0</i>;</p> <p>8,000 people (f:5,600/m:2,400) (67% of the project area population) benefiting from CBNRM, sustainable agriculture and forestry, and small business development. <i>Baseline – 115</i>;</p> <p>50 hotspots in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area are under community anti-poaching monitoring. <i>Baseline – 10</i>;</p> <p>Avoided GHG emissions of ~11,380,000 tCO₂eq as per the GEF GWP TT. <i>Baseline – 0</i></p>	<p>Output 3.1. Sustainable livelihood and CBWM training programs are delivered to local communities; ~2000 people are trained (GEF: \$80,000)</p> <p>Output 3.2. Small grant programme and micro-loan schemes for local community sustainable livelihood and CBWM initiatives are developed and implemented; ~750 grants and micro-loans are provided to local people (GEF: \$200,000)</p> <p>Output 3.3. Pilot projects to develop sustainable livelihood and CBWM are implemented; at least 10 pilot projects are supported (GEF: \$302,000)</p> <p>Output 3.4. Sources of renewable and sustainable energy are introduced to local communities; at least 30 villages are equipped with solar panels (GEF: \$300,000)</p> <p>Output 3.5. Sustainable NRM practices are introduced to logging, mining and agro-business companies (GEF: \$56,987)</p>	<p>GEFTF</p>	<p>938,987</p> <p><i>BD: 328,646</i> <i>LD: 131,458</i> <i>SFM: 309,865</i> <i>CC: 169,018</i></p>	<p>5,158,280</p>
<p>Component 4: Gender Mainstreaming, Monitoring, evaluation and knowledge management</p>	<p>TA</p>	<p>Outcome 4. Lessons learned by the project through participatory M&E, including gender mainstreaming practices, are used to fight poaching and IWT and promote community-based conservation at the national and international levels, as indicated by:</p> <p>At least 10 project lessons are used by other projects and PAs. <i>Baseline – 0</i>;</p> <p>Up to 1,000 people participate in the project M&E and adaptive management. <i>Baseline - 115</i></p>	<p>Output 4.1. M&E provides sufficient information for gender mainstreaming, adaptive management and learning via active participation of key stakeholders (GEF: \$0)</p> <p>Output 4.2. Lessons learned from the project, including gender mainstreaming, are shared at national and international levels (GEF: \$0)</p>	<p>GEFTF</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>2,323,750</p>
Subtotal					<p>2,968,987</p>	<p>19,782,030</p>

Project Management Cost (PMC)	(select)	156,263	900,370
		BD: 54,691 LD: 21,857 SFM: 51,568 CC: 28,147	
Total project costs		3,125,250	20,682,400

C. CONFIRMED SOURCES OF CO-FINANCING FOR THE PROJECT BY NAME AND BY TYPE

Please include evidence for co-financing for the project with this form.

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Cofinancing	Amount (\$)
Donor Agency	UNDP Congo	Grants	1,000,000
Recipient Government	Congo Government	In-kind	6,522,400
Private Sector	Congo Conservation Company	In-kind	4,360,000
Private Sector	Eco-Oil Energie SA	In-kind	2,150,000
CSO	Wildlife Conservation Society	Grants	1,250,000
Private Sector	Forest Industry of Ouessou	In-kind	1,250,000
CSO	WWF/ETIC	In-kind	4,150,000
Total Co-financing			20,682,400

D. TRUST FUND RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY (IES) AND COUNTRY (IES) AND THE PROGRAMMING OF FUNDS

GEF Agency	Trust Fund	Country Name/Global	Focal Area	Programming of Funds	(in \$)		
					GEF Project Financing (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total (c)= a +b
UNDP	GEF TF	Republic of Congo	Biodiversity	N/A	1,083,500	97,515	1,181,015
UNDP	GEF TF	Republic of Congo	Land Degradation	N/A	450,000	40,500	490,500
UNDP	GEF TF	Republic of Congo	Climate Change	N/A	550,000	49,500	599,500
UNDP	GEF TF	Republic of Congo	Multi-focal Areas	SFM	1,041,750	93,758	1,135,508
Total Grant Resources					3,125,250	281,273	3,406,523

E. PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Provide the expected project targets as appropriate.

Corporate Results	Replenishment Targets	Project Targets
1. Maintain globally significant biodiversity and the ecosystem goods and services that it provides to society	Improved management of landscapes and seascapes covering 300 million hectares	2, 667,160 ha ¹

¹ Total area under 3 target PA coverage, including buffer and sustainable development zones by the end of the project. Also, this is total area of Integrated Management Plan implementation in the Congo portion of Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area

2. Sustainable land management in production systems (agriculture, rangelands, and forest landscapes)	120 million hectares under sustainable land management	1,133,560 ha ²
3. Support to transformational shifts towards a low-emission and resilient development path	750 million tons of CO ₂ mitigated (include both direct and indirect)	11,380,000 tCO ₂ eq mitigated ³

F. DOES THE PROJECT INCLUDE A “NON-GRANT” INSTRUMENT? No

If non-grant instruments are used, provide an indicative calendar of expected reflows to your Agency and to the GEF/LDCF/SCCF Trust Fund) in Annex D.

² Total area of buffer and sustainable development zones around 3 target PAs were CBNRM, SLM, SFM and corporate environmental standards are implemented by the end of the project. The PPG team is sure this is realistic given the following: (1) The population density of the area is very low (about 0.5 people/km²); (2) deforestation rate in the project area is very low too (0.02% a year in average in 1990-2010); (3) buffer and sustainable development zones of 3 PAs with appropriate conservation and development regimes will cover all 1,133,560 ha adjacent to the 3 target PAs; (4) Integrated Management Plans that incorporates rights of local and indigenous communities on wildlife and forest resources will cover all 1,133,560 ha of the PA zones. The IMPs will incorporate agreements between different stakeholders to develop CBWM, SLM and SFM; and (5) the project will work with local logging and agricultural companies to incorporate sustainable forestry and oil palm plantation principles (RSPO and FSC), develop corporate conservation programs, sign moratorium agreements to prevent clearing of high conservation value forests, suggestion of incentive mechanisms like international carbon payments to avoid deforestation via REDD.

³ Total area currently covered by the rain forest in the project site is ~ 2,667,160 ha. According to the WWF last two decades (1990-2010) deforestation rate in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area was very low ~0.19%/10 years³. Thus, average annual deforestation in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area does not exceed 0.02%/year, or 533 ha/year. Without project for 6 years total deforestation due to logging will be about 3,198 ha. However, plans exist to clear about 55,000 ha of the rain forest in the southern part of Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area for oil palm plantations in the nearest 10 years³. Thus, it is likely the deforestation rate may increase for additional ~5,000 ha/year, or 30,000 ha for 6 years. The total deforestation for 6 years without the project is thus estimated to be about 33,198 ha. With the project given development of Integrated Management Plans, establishment of Messok Dja National Park, promotion of SFM and SLM, and conservation cooperation with local logging companies, the deforestation rate due to commercial and small agriculture logging is expected to decrease by at least twice (our assumption) to ~ 267 ha/year, or 1,602 ha for 6 years of the project. We assume that sustainable agro-forestry under the project will decrease deforestation rate by oil palm plantations at least by half in the project area to ~2,500 ha/year (or 15,000 ha for 6 years). Thus, total deforestation in the area with the project will be nearly a half of what is expected without the project (16,602 ha for 6 years). Moreover, the project will use 400 ha of degraded lands for small scale community oil palm plantations to avoid deforestation. These calculations were used as basis for calculation of carbon benefits with the FAO ExAct Tool. Given these, the lifetime direct GHG emissions avoided because of this project **11.38 million tCO₂eq** based on the 10-year life time period. To achieve desired deforestation rate (50% of current rate) in the project area following mechanisms will be used: (1) Establishment of the Messok Dja National Park (144,000 ha). Thus, total area of 3 target PAs where logging is prohibited will increase up to 57% of the project area; (2) The project will invest considerable funds in law enforcement capacity of the 3 target PAs and will increase the patrolling rate by 40% that will lead to significant decrease of illegal logging in the PAs; (3) Buffer and sustainable development zones of 3 PAs with appropriate conservation and development regimes will cover all 1,133,560 ha adjacent to the 3 target PAs. Agreed with local communities and key stakeholders the zoning will contribute to decreased deforestation rate; (4) Integrated Management Plans that incorporates rights of local and indigenous communities on wildlife and forest resources will cover all 1,133,560 ha of the PA zones. The IMPs will incorporate agreements between different stakeholders to develop CBWM, SLM and SFM. Thus, given the rights of local community on forest resources, local people will protect the forests from illegal logging and will use forest resource sustainably; (5) The project will invest resources in capacity building of local communities on SFM via grants, micro-loans and pilot projects; (6) The project will support development of small scale community oil palm plantations on the areas already cleared from forest, to avoid additional deforestation; (7) The project will work with local logging companies to incorporate environmental standards (FSC) in their practices, develop corporate conservation programmes and set aside considerable parts of high conservation value forests via moratorium agreements, and develop incentive mechanisms for the companies to make the forestry sustainable via REDD carbon payments; (8) Similar the project will work with local oil palm companies to incorporate RSPO criteria and orient them to the small scale plantations on already deforested lands, using RSPO criterion: “no primary forests or areas which contain significant concentrations of biodiversity (e.g. endangered species) or fragile ecosystems, or areas which are fundamental to meeting basic or traditional cultural needs of local communities (high conservation value areas), can be cleared”. Such an areas will be identified and mapped during zoning and IM planning around target PAs.

PART II: PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

A. DESCRIBE ANY CHANGES IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE PROJECT DESIGN WITH THE ORIGINAL PIF

A.1. *Project Description. Elaborate on: 1) the global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed; 2) the baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects, 3) the proposed alternative scenario, GEF focal area strategies, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project, 4) incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing; 5) global environmental benefits (GEFTF) and/or adaptation benefits (LDCF/SCCF); and 6) innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up.*

A1. Project Description.

1) The global environmental and/or adaptation problems, root causes and barriers that need to be addressed

Base line statistical data have been described and the global environmental problems and root causes have been detailed in the Project Document. Barriers along with roots causes have been formulated, please refer to the challenge for sustainable development in sub-section ii of section II of the UNDP-GEF Project Document and Figure 1 showing threats, root causes, and barriers to effectively address poaching, IWT and unsustainable natural resources consumption in the Republic of Congo and suggested UNDP/GEF strategies. The project area has been adjusted to 3 PAs and surrounding areas in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area (Odzala-Kokoua National Park, Lossi Gorilla Sanctuary, and proposed Messok Dja National Park) so as to (a) integrate key domestic and transboundary migration corridors for wildlife in the project area; (b) cover by the project activities the Congo portion of proposed Transboundary Biosphere Reserve in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area, and (c) avoid territorial intersection with WB/GEF Project “Strengthening the management of wildlife and improving livelihoods in northern Republic of Congo”.

2) The baseline scenario or any associated baseline projects

The project document identifies a wider range of involved baseline projects and programs— including FAO and WB GEF-funded projects, projects of bilateral agencies (USAID, EU, AFD), NGOs (WWF, WCS, African Parks Network), and private sector (Odzala-Kokoua Foundation, Congo Conservation Company)—implemented in the Northern Congo. Please refer to the partnership sub-section ii in section (iv) on the project results and partnership. Furthermore, the project document describes the baseline funding for the project area baseline programs for 2017-2021 and beyond with on-going initiatives.

3) The proposed alternative scenario, GEF focal area strategies, with a brief description of expected outcomes and components of the project

Some changes from GWP Child Project Concept Note have been made in Components 1 and 3, Outcomes, and Outputs to avoid thematic intersections and fully reflect focus of the project strategies (see Annex E):

The Objective of the proposed project is *to strengthen the conservation of globally threatened species in the basins of the Republic of Congo by improving biodiversity enforcement*. Thus, the theory of change (TOC) of this project is designed to a) change the current situation of the unprecedented massacre of fauna of global importance and destruction of key habitats by building strong national capacity to fight IWT, and b) promote collaboration and cooperation between local communities and PAs in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area. To make it possible the project will implement four key interlinked strategies (Components):

Component 1. Expanding the network of globally significant protected areas in the Congo basin. Component 1. Expanding the network of globally significant protected areas in the Congo basin. This component is designed to extend PA coverage in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area and establish appropriate functional zoning using UNESCO Biosphere Reserve model. The functional zoning will include **core zone** (existing PAs with strong protection), **buffer zone** (called also Picking Zone) for sustainable management and use of wildlife and forest resources (NTFP), including wildlife oriented ecotourism, and sustainable development zone (called also

Agricultural/Habitation Zone) that will allow a variety of development activities in accordance with community local plans integrated with the IMPs, including sustainable logging, sustainable agriculture and mining, and settlements. Zoning and IMPs will strengthen law enforcement and wildlife monitoring in the PAs, and create the basis for a so-called socioeconomic shield around the PAs via restoration of community access rights and ownership of biological resources around the PAs along with the traditional set of rules and regulations for sustainable use of wildlife, other biological resources and direct profits from these resources as alternatives to poaching (Component 3). The PA zoning and IMPs will provide an overall framework for the planning of the sustainable CBWM and inclusive economic growth at the local level with recognition of community customary rights on wildlife and forest resources. Functional zones will be managed based on the agreements with local communities and other stakeholders. The access right to wildlife and other forest resources will be granted to local communities based on the management agreements and regimes of the zones. The PA zoning will be officially approved by MEFDDE.

Practically speaking under Component 1 the project will catalyse implementation of the Article 31 of Law No. 10-2004 of 26 March 2004 that proclaims the recognition of customary land rights for people occupying the land in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area. Initial implementation of the IMPs will be supported by the project under Component 1 (strengthening law enforcement capacity and wildlife management at the PAs) and Component 3 (development of CBWM, SLM, and SFM in the buffer and sustainable development zones of the PAs). Special trainings and equipment will be provided to the PA staff to increase their capacity in law enforcement and surveillance in cooperation with local people as well as to organize robust monitoring framework for elephants, gorillas, chimpanzees and other endangered species in the area. Under Component 1, the main activities will be concentrated in the core and buffer zones of the PAs that contain viable populations of the species and almost undisturbed ecosystems. In addition to the current government eco-guards, the project will work with village anti-poaching squads' volunteers called Eco-monitors to strengthen protection of the core zones from poaching. Overall, the functional zoning of the PAs supported by IMPs will introduce Biosphere Reserves management principles in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area aiming at three goals: conservation of genetic resources, species, and ecosystems (Component 1); scientific research and monitoring (Component 1); and promoting sustainable development of communities in the surrounding region (Component 3). Numerous examples of Biosphere Reserves all around the world have demonstrated their sustainability and effectiveness for biodiversity conservation and sustainable socio-economic development (<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/ecological-sciences/biosphere-reserves/biosphere-reserves-in-practice/>).

Implementation of the Component 1 will lead to achievement of the Outcome 1. *Expanded PA network and improved management effectiveness of PAs in the Congo Basin, specifically Odzala-Kokoua, Lossi Gorilla Sanctuary, and Messok Dja, an area of 2,667,160 ha*, as indicated by the following:

- Messok Dja National Park is established on the area of 144,000 ha;
- Effective functional zoning for the PA complexes with total area 2,667,160 ha;
- 3 IMPs are implemented over the area of 2,667,160 ha;
- Management effectiveness increased by 78% in average for Odzala-Kokoua National Park and Lossi Gorilla Sanctuary.

Component 2. Strengthening capacity for effective PA and Illegal Wildlife Trade governance in Congo.

This component will address law enforcement capacity for IWT and PA management in Congo, in particular the lack of clear strategies, technical knowledge, skills, tools and equipment to control IWT at the national and local level authorities. The project will facilitate review and update of the National IWT Strategy and improve legal regulations for prosecution of poachers and IW traders. The project will contribute to the establishment and operationalization of the National Wildlife Crime Enforcement Unit (NWCEU) and improvement of collaboration between enforcement agencies, NGOs and the private sector to tackle IWT. The project will strengthen the capacity of national training center (enlargement of infrastructure, additional equipment, development of mandatory training programmes) for wildlife crime enforcement and will establish a detection dog brigade in the project area to increase effectiveness of anti-poaching control.

Implementation of the Component 2 will lead to the achievement of the Outcome 2. *Biodiversity and Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) priorities are integrated into key national policies and plans and harmonized with regional initiatives*, as indicated by:

- National IWT Strategy is updated and implemented with participation of key stakeholders;
- National Wildlife Crime Enforcement Unit is established and functional (has clearly defined mandate, staff, equipment, and funding);
- Updated legislation allows to prosecute successfully 75% of arrested IW traders and poachers;
- 100% increase in training capacity of the National Training Center for wildlife crime law enforcement;
- 1 detection dog brigade is established and operational in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area (operations of the brigade after establishment will be supported by MEFDD and ANFAP in cooperation with Joe Aspinall Foundation).

Cross-border cooperation will be supported through, inter alia:

- Capacity building of the existing cross-border post with the project's canine brigade;
- Mixed patrols between Congo and Cameroon with the arrest and prosecution of poachers in the TRIDOM area. An anti-poaching mechanism was established during the GEF TRIDOM 2008-2015 project, comprising a tri-national encampment for joint patrol teams, a protocol agreement on anti-cross-border poaching in the 20km cross-border patrol band on each side of the border, methodologies and conditions for sharing cross-border arrest and prosecution information for poachers, etc.
- The sharing of the experiences and lessons learned from the Congo and Cameroon projects, e.g. the role of the canine brigade in the fight against trafficking and the illegal trade in wildlife products.
- The sharing of experiences and lessons in setting up and operating the 'socio-economic shield' through community controls against poaching and illegal trade in wildlife products. This includes the integration of 'intelligence' into the village plan;
- Capacity building of COMIFAC's armed division in the implementation of the national action plan on ivory through effective synergy between the Congo and Cameroon projects.
- Cross-border intelligence management, coordinated by the OCFSA / COMIFAC, which will be reinforced by a coordinator of cross-border activities, which will be assured through a pooling of the financial resources of the two brother projects.

Component 3: Reducing poaching and illegal trade on threatened species via CBNRM and sustainable livelihoods.

This component is strongly linked to the Component 1 and will address the lack of capacity of local communities to develop sustainable livelihood based in the target PAs on the basis of functional zones and developed IMPs. Under this Component, local communities will be effectively involved in development of CBWM, SLM, SFM, other alternative to poaching sources of income, and collaboration with PAs to establish effective stronghold against poaching and IWT in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area's inter-zone (so-called socio-economic shield). The project will work with multiple local communities to re-establish their rights on wildlife and forest resources strengthen and increase their capacity in CBWM and development of alternative to poaching options for livelihood such as wildlife oriented ecotourism, agro-forestry, sustainable agriculture, and honey production. Moreover, the project will provide local communities with access to renewable energy to decrease dependence on firewood and charcoal production. Special small grant and micro-loan programmes will be implemented in the project area to provide local people with funding to start CBWM, SLM, SFM, and small alternative business. Larger pilot and demonstration projects on CBNRM and alternative livelihood in the area will be developed and supported under the project supervision and assistance.

Based on the lessons learned from other CBWM projects in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area the project will use following strategies to increase value of wildlife for local communities: (1) re-establishment of community rights and ownership on wildlife and other biological resources in the buffer and sustainable development zones of 3 targeted PAs via involvement them as key partners in development and implementation of IMPs and relevant agreements with the PAs and relevant government agencies; (2) promotion of Community Based Sustainable Game and Bushmeat Hunting in accordance with with the IMPs (In this case local communities will have fair share from game hunting revenues and legal income from selling legal and certified bushmeat on the local markets); and (3) development of Community Based Ecotourism oriented to watching of wildlife including endangered species as additional flow of income that add value to the wildlife in the project area. Particularly, special training programme on wildlife oriented

tourism will be developed and suggested to former poachers in the project area in cooperation with the Congo Conservation Company that has significant experience in ecotourism in Congo (<http://www.odzala.com/>): traditional local hunters will be trained to serve as guides, souvenir makers and entertainers for tourists given their unique tracking skills, knowledge of wildlife and amazing cultural traditions. Special attention in the training programmes will be paid to development of transparent community governance and equity, and mechanisms to ensure sufficient revenue flow and its fair distribution among community members, based on the best examples from Kenya, Tanzania, and South Africa. Given these cumulative profits that are equal or probably higher than the highly risky under increased law enforcement poaching rewards, each target community in the project area is likely to shift from poaching to CBWM and active protection of the source of their legal income (wildlife). In this situation any poacher and seller of illegal bushmeat on the local market will be seen by local communities as someone coming to steal their own property and unlawful competitors. Since the villagers all know each other the community-based surveillance and control on poaching and IWT will be relatively easy to establish with assistance of trained local ecomonitors and PA staff.

The strong market demand of the major TRIDOM cities, including Brazzaville, Yaoundé, Libreville, Sigmélima, Ouessou, Makokou and the towns that have developed around the extractive concessions, remain a preoccupation of the project. The reduction of this demand will be taken into account by the project through the SFICE program on Awareness, Training, Information and Environmental Communication. This education will be reinforced by actions to promote the substitution of bushmeat for sheep, goat and swine operations alongside fish farming, aquaculture and beekeeping. This will be supported by the community development fund, which is fed by local development support funds resulting from a non-binding contribution from the timber companies in the TRIDOM Congo segment, which pay 200 CFA francs per cubic meter of wood marketed. The promotion of these activities to support the inclusive creation of jobs and wealth is envisaged through the setting up of revolving microcredit lines on these Community funds.

The project is also going to increase local communities capacity to produce sustainably cereals, milk, fish, honey, local forest fruits, butter and cheese that have significant value on the local and national markets. These types of activities can provide many additional permanent and seasonal jobs especially for women. Development of honey production through the bee farming around the villages will also contribute to mitigation of human-wildlife conflicts in the area, because the bees will keep elephants away from the village fields.

The pilot projects on CBWM, SLM and SFM will also serve as learning centres for local people to develop sustainable livelihoods. All activities under Component 3 will be tightly coordinated with the PA administrations as a way to involve local communities in the PA management. Overall the project is expected to train ~2,000 villagers (17% of the project area population)

Eco-Oil Industrie's actions traditionally focused on clearing large single-acreage areas for conversion to industrial oil palm plantations. But their focus is undergoing a transition to small-scale family farms to minimize production costs. In the family-run palm oil plantations, agroforestry will be promoted to allow oil palm to cohabit with many other fruit tree species that are traditionally preserved for their economic and cultural values, as well as their multiple uses. As a result, the villagers are unlikely to replace biodiversity-rich areas with more palm trees as they can profit from new commercial options offered by the exploitation of non-wood forest products through the gathering and processing of seeds from the fruits of *irvingia gabonensis* and *pentacletra macrophylla*. Further, village plantations are located in areas of land managed around the adjacent Protected Areas, and clearing is particularly well controlled with fines. Community development is also included in the management plans for forest concessions and protected areas. Closely monitored, the plans establish clear management priorities and objectives are routinely reviewed. The new GEF project will reinforce existing processes. The PMU and Project Board will ensure focused monitoring of this issue to mitigate unintended negative impacts, while village Ecomonitors will also promote sustainable use and management of biological resources. It is important to note that the industrial development policy in the Congo obliges the concessions to adopt the management plans and ensure certification and traceability of natural resources (wood, mines and oil palm, etc.) and will be closely monitored by the project.

The industrial development policy in the Congo obliges the concessionaires to adopt the management plans and, at best, enroll in the certification and traceability of natural resources (wood, mines and oil palm ...). Indeed, the micro-zoning resulting from this development provides for the existence of several management series with management plans, including the community development series. Thus, the monitoring of the implementation of these management plans has a joint team responsible for the

annual review of the activities, referring to the rules prescribed in relation to the general objective, expected impacts, indicators, The level of achievement of the targets, the factors of success, the challenges and the lessons learned.

As a part of the strategy, the project will work with local private logging and agro-forestry companies (mining projects are currently not active in the area due to the recent fall in iron ore prices) to introduce the best practices for sustainable NRM in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area and build cooperation between private sector, PAs and local communities for sustainable NRM. The project will provide assistance to the private sector to integrate/implement environmental standards for NRM certification (RSPO and FSC), corporate conservation programmes (moratorium agreements to protect high conservation value forests), and incentive mechanisms (international carbon payments via REDD) in their activities. Special attention will be devoted to involving local and indigenous communities in the wildlife and forest management on the concession lands and public monitoring of the private sector activities in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area (via community-company agreements and trainings). The techniques for Environmental and Social Impact Assessments will be promoted among the companies in order to develop better techniques and technologies for logging and transportation of wood as well as sustainable oil palm plantation based on improved RSPO criteria to ensure conservation of wild habitat and sustainable benefits for local communities. Particularly, the project will cooperate with the companies to prevent access of poachers to wildlife rich areas via logging roads and develop moratorium agreements on logging in the most biodiversity rich and important for indigenous communities areas. These activities will be implemented in cooperation with WWF, WCS, ULAB Committee and Forest Service Department.

The project private sector partners and co-financers are following:

- Congo Conservation Company (tourist company oriented to wildlife tourism). This company is one of the key stakeholders for the PA zoning and development of Integrated Management Plan (Outputs 1.2-1.3) and the key partner for involvement of local and indigenous communities in wildlife oriented tourism (Output 3.1)
 - Eco-Oil Energie SA (palm oil producer). This company is one the key stakeholders for the PA zoning and development of Integrated Management Plan (Outputs 1.2-1.3) and the key partner for involvement of local and indigenous communities in small scale oil palm plantations on the degraded lands (Output 3.1-3.3) as well as in the development of sustainable oil palm plantation practices based on improved RSPO principles and corporate conservation programmes with involvement of local and indigenous communities (Output 3.5)
 - Industrie Forestière de Ouesso (logging company). This company is one the key stakeholders for the PA zoning and development of Integrated Management Plan (Outputs 1.2-1.3) and the key partner for involvement of local and indigenous communities in SFM (Output 3.1-3.3) as well as in the development of sustainable logging practices and corporate conservation programmes with involvement of local and indigenous communities (Output 3.5)
- All three companies will provide funds for micro-loans in the framework of the project co-financing (Output 3.2).

Implementation of the Component 3 will lead to the achievement of the Outcome 3. *Strengthened sustainable livelihood capacity of local communities in the targeted PA complexes*, as indicated by the following:

- 1,133,560 ha of habitat under CBWM, SLM and SFM in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area.
 - 1000 new sustainable biodiversity friendly jobs are established for local communities (8% of the project area population);
- 50 hotspots in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area are under community anti-poaching monitoring;
 - Avoided emission of 11,380,000 tCO₂eq as the result of establishment of Messok Dja National Park and SFM implemented by local communities and logging companies.

Component 4: Gender mainstreaming, monitoring, evaluation, and knowledge management. This component will improve the project overall performance through adaptive management and participatory M&E system. Under this Component the project will share best practices and lessons learnt among multiple stakeholders at local, national and international levels including Global Wildlife Programme and South-South cooperation. One more particular objective of this Component is to facilitate gender mainstreaming through all the project components and promote active women participation in the project activities. In response to very low women participation in the project development the project will incorporate gender considerations in the implementation procedures in a number of different ways:

- a. Empower women by involving them in IWT intelligence networks, in the shaping of attitudes and in law enforcement processes.
- b. Strong focus on gender within Component 3 with an emphasis on providing microcredit loans to female led households, and/or to households that apply for loans with activities that have an emphasis on female-led activities (e.g., collection of fuelwoods and/or NTF products).
- c. All awareness raising activities will specifically target women and encourage them to take responsibilities including for engagement with the authorities with respect to natural resource management, illegal killing of wildlife and illegal trafficking in wildlife products and live animals.

Where possible and where they exist, women's organisations will be targeted for involvement in the project adaptive management and capacity development (see A4. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment for details).

Implementation of the Component 4 will lead to the achievement of the **Outcome 4**. *Lessons learned through a participatory M&E approach, including gender mainstreaming practices, are used to fight poaching and IWT and promote community-based conservation at the national and international level*, as indicated by:

- At least 10 project lessons are used by other projects and PAs;
- Up to 1,000 people participate in the project M&E and adaptive management

Thus, the project will increase protection of key ecosystems and habitat of endangered species via improvement of PA network and management, build strong national capacity to fight poaching and IWT, and provide local communities with sustainable alternatives to poaching and mechanisms for CBNRM. These strategies will increase the effectiveness of IWT enforcement and will lead to increased prosecution for IWT and poaching as well as active involvement of local people in biodiversity conservation. Besides, the project will allow local communities to generate sustainable and legal income and decrease their dependence on poaching. Suggested approaches are likely to lead to the reduction of poaching and unsustainable natural resource harvesting in the project area and eventually to the restoration of the population of endangered species and the conservation of their key habitat (rain forest). The suggested strategies and theory of change were adopted during village and inter-village meetings, meetings with Local Authorities in Ouesso and the launching workshop of PPG's activities in Brazzaville, and confirmed by the participatory planning workshop with representatives of all stakeholders including local communities, law enforcement agencies, donors, private sector and NGOs.

The project design was developed based on the lessons learnt from other projects, such as: TRIDOM phase 1 UNDP-GEF Sub-regional initiative project (2008-2014); FAO project on Sustainable Wildlife Management and Conservation in the TRIDOM Sub-Region and the Bush Meat Sector in Central Africa (2010-2016); the USAID/USFS-IP project Support to the Application of the Law on Wildlife (PALF) (2010-2015); the Ecosystem Management Project of the East Peripherals OKNP implemented by the Wildlife Conservation Society under support from IFO and USAID/CARPE started in 2011; WWF Space TRIDOM Inter zone Congo Project (ETIC) started in 2010; project of Odzala-Kokoua Foundation in OKNP, and other conservation and sustainable livelihood initiatives in Congo and TRIDOM area in particular. The project draws on the experience and lessons of former projects in order to maximize the scope for success, both at the formulation and implementation level. At the formulation level, the project focuses on the biological corridors concept as expressed in the TRIDOM 1 project but extends the buffer zone concept. In this context, the project strategy aims at including these biological corridors used for trans-boundary seasonal migration into the buffer zones as well as "conservation series" (areas allocated for a particular use, in this case, the protection of high biological diversity) of private extractive companies. Although these entities were provided for in the management plans of the extractive companies, there were never integrated into the conversation mechanisms of PAs.

Based on this observation, the project focuses on integrating these "conservation series" into buffer zones in order to improve the spatial planning of these buffer zones for the sustainable use of biological resources. This initiative is part of a strategy to reduce pressure on core conservation areas. The TRIDOM 1 project evaluation report has shown that the participation of the local population in the CBNRM and PA management is still low. Therefore, in order to address these deficiencies, the project focuses on the concept of restoring community ownership on biological resources of these buffer zones that comprise adjacent Village Territories (VT) in order to create incentives for the population to prevent poaching in both the Picking Zone (PZ) and the Agricultural and Habitation Zone (AHZ) (Component 3).

The project recognizes the importance of integrating extractive industries into the conservation mechanism. The project also takes into account the fact that TRIDOM 1 project did not build strong partnerships with these entities. Therefore, the project will build strong co-financing partnerships with these entities to promote effective synergies. Besides, the project will launch activities related to the conservation of the environment in agro-forestry and logging concessions.

With regards to the selection of income-generating activities as alternative solutions to poaching, the project has drawn on the experience of the wild meat project that left the population free to choose the income-generating activities they want to pursue. The population will thus choose the activities following their areas of interest and experience. The project will strengthen coaching and training mechanisms on the technical, technological and managerial level, focusing on food-gathering areas, agricultural zones and habitats. Indeed, it appears that imposed activities are always abandoned. Therefore, the project will implement alternative solutions to poaching based on the concept of microcredit revolving.

With regards to the lessons learned from the WWF Espace TRIDOM inter-zone Congo (ETIC) project, it appears that patrols alone cannot stop poaching of large mammals, such as elephants. Therefore, the project will implement a continuous monitoring strategy of hotspots using ecoguards and ecomonitors to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of anti-poaching patrols. These hotspots are areas of high concentration of large mammals. Protecting these hotspots with continuous monitoring will help deterring poachers and promote eco-tourism in the Village Lands.

To increase effectiveness and efficiency, the project will actively collaborate with a number of on-going projects and programs to leverage funding, coordinate with on-going activities, avoid thematic intersections and double-funding, share lessons learned and increase overall positive impact on wildlife in Congo. List of proposed partnerships and coordination mechanisms is as follows:

Project name and implementation period	Geographic and thematic focus	Areas of collaboration
WB/GEF project “Strengthening the management of wildlife and improving livelihoods in northern Republic of Congo” (2017-2021)	Ntokou-Pikounda PA and surrounding area. Sustainable Forest management, strengthening anti-poaching capacity at national and local level, development of sustainable livelihood options for local communities in the Ntokou-Pikounda project area	The projects are designed to avoid duplication in the geographic and thematic areas and be complementary in the implementation of the Component 1-3 of the UNDP/GEF Project. MEFDDE will chair SC for both projects and will manage their collaboration

Project name and implementation period	Geographic and thematic focus	Areas of collaboration
AFD/FFEM Project “Landscapes management in the Northern Congo” (2017-2021) with implementation by the Ministry of Environment	Northern area of Congo (Sangha and Likouala district). Fight against poverty with funding from France	Exchange of experience and coordination of activities on design of IMPs and local land development plans, community management of biological resources, creation of green jobs (Outputs 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3)
PIR/EU Project “Odzala-Kokoua National Park management” (2017-2020) with implementation by the Ministry of Environment	OKNP management with infrastructure and equipment improvement; OKNP periphery management	Exchange of experience and coordination of activities on: improvement of PA efficiency in biodiversity conservation (Outputs 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3); anti-poaching (Outputs 2.1, 2.2, and 2.3); CBNRM in the PAs (Outputs 3.11, 3.2, and 3.3)
PIN/EU Project “Local development” (2017-2021) implemented by the Ministry of Local Government	Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe Segment of Congo, with a focus on sustainable development at the PAs periphery	Exchange of experience and coordination of activities on design of IMPs and local land development plans, community management of biological resources, creation of green jobs Outputs 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3)
FAO/GEF Project “Wildlife and bush meat sustainable management in Central Africa” (2010-2016)	Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe Segment of North Congo, Forestry Unit of Ngombe Wildlife management in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area	Use of the lessons learned by the FAO/GEF Project in the design and implementation of Components 2 and 3 of the UNDP/GEF project

Project name and implementation period	Geographic and thematic focus	Areas of collaboration
WCS/IFO/USAID/CARPE Odzala-Kokoua National Park Adjacent Ecosystems Management Programme focusing on the Eastern part of the National Park implemented in collaboration with the Government of Congo and Ouessou forestry company 2006 - 2031	OKNP periphery, promotion of development alternative options to unsustainable NRM	Exchange of experience and coordination of activities on promotion of sustainable development alternative options, jobs creation, sustainable use of biological resources at the PAs periphery (Outputs 3.1, 3.2, 3.3)
GIZ on-going initiative "Ready for Climate Finance" in Central Africa	The approach outlines key elements of climate finance readiness, describes capacity development options and summarizes GIZ experiences. The updated version takes account of recent developments in international climate finance, particularly in the context of GCF and practical experience gained in GIZ's climate finance projects.	Collaboration and exchange of experience for implementation of the project Component 3, Output 3.5 to introduce sustainable NRM standards and carbon payment mechanism to logging and agricultural companies in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area
Joe Aspinall Foundation on-going project to establish detection dog brigades in Congo	Establishment of detection dog brigades in Brazzaville and Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area to increase effectiveness of law enforcement activities on poaching and IWT	Collaboration and leveraging resources to establishment of detection dog brigade in the project area (Output 2.5)
Congo Conservation Company project (2011-2036) funded by German private funds	Development of eco-tourism in OKNP and Ngaga periphery in Kelle Mbomo UFA	Exchange of experience and coordination of activities on promotion of sustainable development alternative options, jobs creation, sustainable use of biological resources at the PAs periphery (Outputs 3.1, 3.2, 3.3)
Global Partnership for the Conservation of Fauna and Wildlife Crime Prevention for Sustainable Development (GWP) 2016-2024	Reduction of IWT, wildlife trafficking and demand for wildlife products in Africa and Asia	Exchange of lessons and experience with other GWP child projects under the Component 4.

4) Incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing

The incremental/additional cost reasoning has been developed together with expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing. Developments made are summarized in this table:

Component	Baseline Scenario (Without the GEF project) (B)	Alternative (with the GEF project) (A)	Incremental Benefit (generated by GEF and co-financing) (A-B)

<p>Component 1. Expanding the network of globally significant protected areas in the Congo Basin</p>	<p>PAs functionality and management are hampered by insufficient PA area, lack of connectivity, inadequate capacity of staff, and non-existent integrated management planning that includes interests of local communities on wildlife and other NR management. This situation trigger increased wildlife crime and related biodiversity loss.</p> <p>Poor management of PAs and low capacity to control poaching and monitor wildlife leads to an increase in the biodiversity loss due to IWT and ineffective conservation efforts.</p>	<p>Implementation of the Component will lead to extension of PA coverage, and improved management and protection of the PAs in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area (Outcome 1) while respecting the interests and values of local communities.</p> <p>Improved PA management and protection will lead to increased number of poacher and trader arrests, prosecution and sentences in the project area as well as a greater area of rainforest and related ecosystems under protection and sustainable management.</p> <p>Biosphere Reserve functional zoning will promote the integration of local communities in PA management and CBNRM will lay the foundations for increased benefits for local communities via implementation of Integrated Management Plans</p>	<p>Establishment of the Messok Dja NP and functional zones for the PAs will lead to an overall enabling environment for improving the effectiveness of the 3 selected Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area's PAs and sustainable protection of biodiversity of global importance.</p> <p>A newly established set of buffer zones interconnected with biological corridors and vital wildlife habitat will provide the basis for a biosphere reserve model for management.</p> <p>This biosphere zoning model will build a PAs network covering up to 2,667,160 ha and contributing to achievement of the country Aichi Target for PA coverage from 70% to 96%.</p> <p>Integrated Management Plans for three PAs will create basis for enhancing the PA management and inclusion of local communities in the landscape and PA management. Implementation of the IMPs will increase the PAs capacity to control poaching and IWT and will establish the so-called socioeconomic shield around the PAs for preventing poaching of endangered large mammals such as elephants, gorillas, and chimpanzees</p>
<p>Component 2: Strengthening capacity for effective PA and Illegal Wildlife Trade governance in Congo</p>	<p>The lack of coordination between IWT enforcement agencies, and the lack of capacity and resources for IWT management impede the effectiveness of anti-poaching and IWT combat at national and local levels</p> <p>A failure of IWT governance nurtures the spread of corruption among high-level authorities, thus triggering increased wildlife crime and related biodiversity loss.</p> <p>Effectiveness of ongoing conservation activities is undermined by poor governance and increasing IWT.</p>	<p>National Strategy will provide necessary policy framework and political will to combat IWT on the national level. Fully functional National WCEU and strong interagency collaboration, effective training of law enforcement officers, strong IWT legislation, detection dog brigades, and international collaboration will allow to considerably increase capacity of law enforcement agencies to fight IWT (Outcome 1) and prosecute more poachers and IW traders (Objective Outcome)</p>	<p>In the result of increased poacher and trader arrests, prosecution and sentences the level of IWT and poaching will decrease (Mid-Term Impact) as well as mortality of wildlife. It will allow wildlife populations to stabilize and grow (Long-Term Impact). The Benefits of this Components will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -100% increase in the capacity of law enforcement agencies to control poaching and IWT, especially in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area; -75% increase in successful prosecution of poachers and IWT traders -Increased international cooperation of Congo, Cameroon and Gabon for conservation and IWT control in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area (~147,000 km²)
<p>Component 3: Reducing poaching and illegal trade in threatened species at site levels via CBNRM and sustainable livelihood (site level)</p>	<p>The lack of economic alternatives will contribute to unsustainable resource exploitation in Congo's globally significant protected areas and low awareness and implication of local people in conservation will trigger further degradation of habitat from human activities (logging, mining, hunting), which could lead existing PAs to lose the biological links between them, eventually becoming biological islands leading to wildlife consanguinity and increased</p>	<p>Communities will develop sustainable forms of CBNRM, SLM and SFM in the appropriate zones of the PAs and will increase their ownership of natural resources (Outcome 3). It will lead to the increased community revenues and benefits from sustainable wildlife and other natural resource use (Objective Outcome). Local agro-forestry and logging companies will switch to international environmental standards of operations and will develop corporate biodiversity conservation</p>	<p>Giving more benefits from sustainable wildlife management and CBNRM communities will decrease their dependence on poaching as a source of income (Mid-Term Impact). The Benefits of this Component will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -1,133,560 ha of habitat in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area are under CBNRM, SLM and SFM. -1,000 new sustainable biodiversity friendly jobs are established for local communities (8% of the project area population) -8,000 people (f:5,600/m:2,400)

	vulnerability to diseases. This will increase the rate of biodiversity loss in the next decades.	programmes	benefiting from CBNRM, sustainable agriculture and forestry, and small business development (67% of the project area population). - Emissions avoidance of ~11,380,000 tCO ₂ eq
Component 4: Gender mainstreaming, monitoring, evaluation and knowledge management	On-going base line situation will lead to weak capacity building because of weak knowledge management and dissemination of best practices and technologies in IWT control and biodiversity conservation strategies	Participatory approach in M&E and strong lesson learning system will allow effective Adaptive Management of law enforcement and community based conservation. Successful techniques will be implemented at national and international level by other projects (Outcome 4) leading to increase of law enforcement and CBNRM effectiveness (Objective Outcomes)	Thus, effect of the project will be strengthened and multiplied leading to decrease of poaching and IWT (Mid-Term Impact) and restoration of wildlife (Long-Term Impact) in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area, nationally and internationally. It is expected that the project lessons and successful practices will be replicated by other projects in the Central Africa.

The total amount of co-financing committed in the child project has increased from 20,482,400 USD (PIF) to 20,682,400 USD gaining during the PPG an additional amount of 200,000 USD. The Government of Congo's (GoC) contribution to the project increased from 3,122,400 USD stated in the PIF to 6,522,400 USD demonstrating strong Government leadership and clear ownership of this GEF initiative. Significant investments will be made by key relevant institutions in the three areas covered by the project. These investments will mainly be allocated to: costs of staff assigned to project activities; supply of equipment for bio-monitoring and to fight poaching at national and local levels; implement of the SMART approach for strengthened law enforcement effectiveness in the target PAs and habitat on the lands of private sector logging and agro-forestry concessions; establish participatory community monitoring of illegal activities as well. The overall risk of failure to provide the project co-financing is evaluated as low due to growing prices for palm oil, high annual payments of logging companies to national reserves to support CBNRM, stable tourist flow to Congo, and long-term commitments of WWF and WCS to invest funds in conservation of Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area. Moreover, the project will build partnerships with other organizations (e.g., Joe Aspinall Foundation, AFB, USAID, GIZ) to leverage resources for the project implementation.

5) Global environmental benefits

Global environmental benefits have been assessed in more details. The project will provide the following benefits:

- A network of 3 interconnected and well-managed PAs with total area of 2,667,160 hectares protect key stands of rain forest, wildlife habitat and corridors in the Northern Congo.
- A total area covering 1,133,560 ha of the PA inter-zone is sustainably managed by local and indigenous communities practicing CBWMM, SLM, and SFM.
- 14.2 million hectares of ecosystems in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area (including Gabon and Congo segment) will benefit from establishment of the Transboundary Biosphere Reserve.
- Stable populations of the forest elephant (no less than 20,000 individuals) and western gorilla (no less than 26,000 individuals) are protected in the project area.
- Increased adoption of sustainable natural resources use practices and reduced bush-meat hunting especially in PAs' neighboring areas.
- Reduced direct pressure of productive logging, mining and agribusiness sectors on the rain forests in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area.
- An overall contribution to climate change mitigation through the directly avoided emission of 11,380,000 tCO₂eq mitigated over the period of 10 years through sustainable forest management, establishment of Messok Dja NP and restoration of degraded land in the project area.
- A total of 1,000 green jobs created of which 70% to the profit of women for inclusive green growth and global environment conservation as well; no less than 8,000 people benefit from CBNRM, SLM, and SFM in the project area.

6) Innovativeness, sustainability and potential for scaling up

The project will invest considerable resources in the institutional sustainability of the project results via the improvement of legal and enforcement frameworks, long-term protection of three project PAs critical for wildlife conservation in Congo Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe Segment, establishment of sustainable CBRNM projects managed by local communities and other relevant co-management arrangements through the project strategic zoning, and development of long-term partnerships at national and regional levels to control poaching and IWT. These proposed results will have lasting effects for at least 5-15 years after project completion and high probability of prolonged government and community support. Thus, the project has been designed in a participatory manner with ANFAP (Agence Nationale de la Faune et des Aires Protégées), WWF, ETIC (Congo TRIDOM Area Inter-zone project), and WCS. All the organizations are well established entities and have engaged in long-term contracts for the management of the three selected PAs. By working closely with these entities a strong degree of sustainability of the GEF 6 investments in the project area is projected, as long-term commitments for continued support and collaboration are in place. In terms of an effective National IWT Strategy, the project will invest into critical strategic support areas: establishment of National Wildlife Crime Enforcement Unit as the key entity for national IWT control and the core for collaboration among low enforcement agencies; and capacity building of enforcement staff that are critical for long-term and effective control of IWT in the country. The design of the project builds on sustainability component by investing into technical support for ANFAP (leader of NWCEU) – national coordination center of wildlife conservation with a certain degree of effective influence within Government through the Ministry of Forest Economy, Sustainable Development and Environment.

Successful implementation of the project will catalyse greater interest among other donors, enhancing financial sustainability of project outcomes. Increased government and public attention to wildlife conservation and IWT issue through the building of partnerships among key national stakeholders will also ensure that wildlife protection and restoration remains a high national and regional priority into the future and has appropriate funding. Moreover, the project is going to involve corporate funding for local community development and support of the target PAs and community based conservation initiatives (Components 1 and 3).

The overall objective of the project is to strengthen conservation of globally threatened wildlife in the Congo and its Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe Segment in particular. Thus, the project will contribute directly to the environmental sustainability and achievement of obligations of the country under a number of international conventions, including those supported through the GEF mechanisms (CBD, CMS) and CITES. The overall environmental impact of the project is expected to be very positive and an important contribution to inclusive vulnerability reduction, building resilience and promoting sustainable development of Congo Local Communities in the project three selected sites; contribute to enhanced protection of national biodiversity assets.

Social sustainability of project outcomes will be in compliance with the Social and Environmental Screening Procedure conducted during project preparation (see Annex E for the SESP summary). Overall, the project is expected to improve local community livelihoods and wellbeing through realization of community sustainable development plans integrated into the PA IMPs. The SESP identified no expected issues that would result in negative social impacts. The project will offer sustainable alternative options to local people through small grants (administered in cooperation with GEF GGP), micro-loans (using co-financing of private sector), and larger pilot projects that are expected to result in ~1000 new jobs. Partnership between UNDP and the GEF SGP will be established (LOA) for effective implementation of the small grant and pilot projects. The project will overall promote gender mainstreaming and capacity building within local communities to improve socio-economic understanding of gender issues, and will appoint a designated focal point (or focal points in each site) to be coached by UNDP CO Gender Specialist, for gender issues to support development, implementation, monitoring and strategy on gender mainstreaming. This will include facilitating gender equality in capacity development and women's empowerment and participation in the project activities. The project will also work with UNDP experts in gender issues to utilize their expertise in developing and implementing GEF projects. The project will promote social sustainability via development of sustainable partnerships of local communities with private sector and international donors. Finally, in order to maximise the sustainability of the project,

an exit plan will be developed through the project implementation process while the project is still going on. This will identify a key owner and sustainability mechanism for each of the project's results.

Upscaling. The lessons learned from the project via participatory M&E system will be made available nationally, regionally and globally for replication through the dissemination of project results, recommendations and experiences including demonstration of best practices. This will be achieved through making project information available in a timely manner through the project quarterly bulletins, publications, and website; through GWP Partnership, UNDP, and GEF Programme Frameworks, as well as through participation in international fora including CBD, Land degradation, National Parks, Climate Change, and Sustainable Forests Management events. The project will take steps towards scaling up the on-site enforcement activities piloted through the project across the whole network of the three selected PA systems including the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area in Gabon, Cameroon and CAR. It also lays the groundwork for expansion of conservancies across the country, building on the experience of the pilot conservancies to be established around the Sangha rain forests, as well as through piloting the implementation of the biological corridors for wildlife seasonal migration across domestic and transboundary landscapes so as to avoid wildlife consanguinity and increase biodiversity and ecosystem services. The upscaling potential of the project in the country is significant. Specific lessons learnt will be derived for upscaling and integration into the National Strategy on IWT.

A2. Child Project

The proposed project is a child project of the GEF initiated programme "Global Partnership on Wildlife Conservation and Crime Prevention for Sustainable Development", which has come as a response to the urgent need to address wildlife poaching and illegal trade as a development issue that deprives countries of their natural assets. Led by the World Bank, the GWP is a \$131 million grant program designed to address wildlife crime across 19 countries in Africa and Asia. The GWP serves as a platform for international coordination, knowledge exchange, and delivering action on the ground. The GWP builds and strengthens partnerships by supporting collaboration amongst national projects, captures and disseminates lessons learned, and coordinates with implementing agencies and international donors to combat IWT globally. National projects within the GWP form an integral part of a community of practice that promotes the sharing of best practices and technical resources. Congo is a national project under the GWP and during the first year of implementation of the global program, Congo already benefited from participation in two in person knowledge exchange events that were held in Kenya and Vietnam. These events brought the GWP countries together to exchange experiences on various anti-poaching, anti-trafficking, and demand reduction issues. During project execution, Congo will also have access to the documentation and materials produced during other virtual- and in-person meetings of relevance to the activities to be carried out in country, especially those on Community Based Poaching Prevention and Control as well, IWT Law Enforcement, and Public-Private Partnership Building Funding Networks." Congo is committed to engaging with GWP partners on joint efforts that will help with the project implementation, including issues related to human wildlife conflict and other technical areas.

This project will contribute to the following Outcomes of the Global Wildlife Programme:

Project Components	Relevant GWP Components and Outcomes	Relevant GWP Targets and Indicators
Component 1 <i>Expanding the network of globally significant protected areas in the Congo basin</i>	Component 1. <i>Reduce Poaching and Improve Community Benefits and Co-management</i> Outcome 1: <i>Reduction in elephants, rhinos, and big cat poaching rates</i>	1.1: Reduction in poaching rates of target species at program sites. 1.2: Number of poaching-related arrests derived from enforcement operations at program sites (increase at first, then decrease over time) 1.3: Number of investigations/patrols at program sites that result in poaching-related arrests (increase at first, then decrease over

	<p><i>Outcome 3:</i> Increase in integrated landscape management practices and restoration plans to maintain forest ecosystem services and sustain wildlife by government, private sector and local community actors, both women and men</p>	<p>time)</p> <p>1.4: Increase in the proportion of poaching-related arrests that result in prosecution</p> <p>1.5: Increase in protected areas management effectiveness (METT) score for program sites</p> <p>3.1: Increase in the number of policies, plans, and regulatory frameworks that support low GHG development (compared to baseline levels at start of project)</p> <p>3.2: Increase in area of forest resources restored in the landscape, stratified by forest management actors (compared to baseline levels at start of project)</p> <p>3.3: Increase in community benefits generated for managing forest ecosystems and restoration plans</p>
<p>Component 2 Strengthening capacity for effective PA and Illegal Wildlife Trade governance in Congo</p>	<p>Component 1. Reduce Poaching and Improve Community Benefits and Co-management Outcome 1: Reduction in elephants, rhinos, and big cat poaching rates</p> <p>Component 2. Reduce Wildlife Trafficking Outcome 4: Enhanced institutional capacity to fight trans-national organized wildlife crime by supporting initiatives that target enforcement along the entire illegal supply chain of threatened wildlife and products</p>	<p>1.1: Reduction in poaching rates of target species at program sites.</p> <p>1.2: Number of poaching-related arrests derived from enforcement operations at program sites (increase at first, then decrease over time)</p> <p>1.3: Number of investigations/patrols at program sites that result in poaching-related arrests (increase at first, then decrease over time)</p> <p>1.4: Increase in the proportion of poaching-related arrests that result in prosecution</p> <p>4.1: Increase in number of dedicated wildlife law enforcement coordination mechanisms at program sites</p> <p>4.2: Increase in number of joint enforcement operations at program sites that involve evidence from, or investigations, in multiple jurisdictions or by multiple agencies</p>

		<p>4.3: Increase in use of intelligence-focused guided enforcement operations at program sites</p> <p>4.4: Increase in random routine inspections at program sites</p> <p>4.5: Increase in proportion of arrest, prosecution, and conviction rates relative to seizures</p>
<p>Component 3 <i>Reducing poaching and illegal trade in threatened species via CBNRM and sustainable livelihood</i></p>	<p>Component 1. <i>Reduce Poaching and Improve Community Benefits and Co-management</i> Outcome 2: <i>Increased community engagement to live with, manage, and benefit from wildlife</i></p>	<p>2.1: Decrease in human-wildlife conflict (HWC) as measured by incident reports</p> <p>2.2: Increase in benefits received by communities from sustainable (community-based) natural resource management activities and enterprises</p>
<p>Component 4. <i>Gender mainstreaming, Knowledge Management and M&E</i></p>	<p>Component 4. <i>Knowledge, Policy Dialogue and Coordination</i> Outcome 6: <i>Improved coordination among program stakeholders and other partners, including donors</i></p>	<p>6.2: Program monitoring system successfully developed and deployed</p> <p>6.3: Establishment of a knowledge exchange platform to support program stakeholders</p>

A3. Stakeholders

Stakeholder consultations have been the key and successful part of the work undertaken during PPG activities in Brazzaville and Ouesso. Three national workshops were organized involving the village leaders, administrative authorities, elected representatives, different concerned ministries, other projects working in the area, NGO's, donor representatives, etc. The PPG Consultants also had separate meetings with local communities, authorities and government officials responsible for forests and protected areas. Overall, about 400 people were consulted during the project development. The project has paid and will pay special attention to applying the UNDP guiding principles regarding indigenous peoples, including Pygmies, as outlined in the document "UNDP and Indigenous People – A Policy of Engagement" (2001). In particular, the project will aim to (i) encourage active participation of pygmies in the decision-making process regarding their natural resources, during the PA zoning and IMP development, and (ii) ensure the recognition and protection of the indigenous tribes' rights, systems and knowledge, especially in terms of natural resources management. Key groups of stakeholders are shown in the Table 4.

Table 4. Key Stakeholders and their roles in the UNDP/GEF project in Congo (see other details in the relevant Annex - Stakeholder Engagement Plan)

Stakeholder/Project Partner	Interest, mandate, and resources available	Potential role in Project
<p>International development and non-government organizations (WORLD BANK, UNDP, FAO, WWF, WCS, GIZ, UNODC).</p>	<p>International development and non-government organizations are critical facilitators and funders of sustainable development and conservation projects in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area. They work for achievement of relevant SD goals, including poverty alleviation, biodiversity protection, climate change adaptation, land</p>	<p>Participation in the project development; Project funding and co-funding; Coordination and collaboration with other conservation efforts in Congo; Participation in the Project Board; Assistance in the implementation of the Components 1-4.</p>

	<p>degradation, sustainable forest management. As an example, TRAFFIC, the wildlife-trade-monitoring network, is the leading non-governmental organization working in the sub-region on trade in wild animals and plants in the context of both biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. UN agencies such as UNDP and FAO support the empowerment and promotion of improved livelihoods for more resilient rural communities in Congo. The World Bank provides finance through loans and grants for institutional development and technical support in environmental protection, biodiversity management and human resource development. It also contributes in the design of development policies and programs in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe countries. WWF strategically focuses efforts on global priority species. Just as IUCN does, WWF also provides lessons learned and technical guidance on wildlife conservation. In a significant effort to scale up the fight against wildlife crime, public and private-sector partners can join efforts through this project to address poaching and wildlife trafficking in Congo.</p>	
COMIFAC	<p>In the area of forest and wildlife resources conservation, COMIFAC is the leading intergovernmental organization in Central Africa. In a trans-border context, its “Convergence Plan“ promotes harmonization of policies and legislation in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area. COMIFAC promotes sustainable and effective conservation principles in the region.</p>	<p>Collaboration in the exchange of experience on forest conservation and sustainable management under Component 4</p>
RAPAC (Réseau des aires protégées d’Afrique Centrale)	<p>The network of protected areas in Central Africa-RAPAC is an international organization that deals with protected areas in Congo Basin. RAPAC has strong connections with</p>	<p>Assistance in the implementation of Component 1 (especially Outputs 1.1 and 1.2) and exchange of experience on PA management under Component 4.</p>

	the Governments and other stakeholders in Congo, Gabon and Cameroon.	
LATF (Lusaka Agreement Task Force)	Congo is member of the Lusaka Agreement Task Force. (LATF is an inter-governmental organization with the main function of facilitating cooperative activities in/among the Party states to the Lusaka Agreement, in carrying out investigations on violations of national laws pertaining to illegal trade in wild fauna and flora. LATF has strong expertise on law enforcement in the project area	Collaboration on the implementation of the Component 1 (Output 3.3) and Component 2
INTERPOL	Congo is a member of the INTERPOL International expertise in the law enforcement including wildlife crime	Collaboration on the implementation of the Component 2. INTERPOL will provide the project with operational and analytical support to investigate and dismantle wildlife supply chains. They will be involved in training activities for PA staff and law enforcement agencies.
<u>Government of Congo:</u> Ministry of Forest Economy and Protected Areas (MEFDDE)	Responsible party and primary decision maker for land-use and forest and wildlife management and law enforcement in the country. The National Agency for Protected Areas and Fauna Protection under MEFDDE has the mandate, budgets and human resources for wildlife crime enforcement.	The project Implementing Partner; Chair of the Project Board; Direct supervision of implementation of Components 1 and 2; Development of the project collaboration with other Government agencies
<u>Government of Congo:</u> National Agency for Protected Areas and Fauna Protection under MEFDDE		
<u>Government of Congo:</u> Ministry of Justice and the Judiciary	Development and supervision of legislative base in the country, including wildlife crime laws. Has judicial power and staff of judges and magistrates	Assistance in the project implementation (Component 2), especially Output 2.3. Participation in the Project Board
<u>Government of Congo:</u> Ministry of National Defence (MINDEFN)	National security mandate Military and law enforcement power (gendarmes and police officers, army)	Assistance and participation in the project implementation for Component 2 (wildlife crime law enforcement)
<u>Government of Congo:</u> Parliamentarians and Local elected representatives	Elected MPs and Representatives are involved in general overseeing of conservation activities and local development for the OKNP. - Implementation of government policy -Mobilization and Community Awareness	One of the key project stakeholders for all three Components Participation in the Project Board Assistance in building of the project cooperation with local communities
<u>Government of Congo:</u> Mining Ministry	Mining ministry has authority to manage and regulate mining operations in the Tri-national Dja-	One of the key stakeholders for implementation of the Component 1 (Integrated Management Planning and PA zoning)

	Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area project zone. It has expertise on the mining development in the project zone	
<u>Government of Congo:</u> State Ministry for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries (MAEP)	State Ministry for Agriculture supervises and ensures the development and monitoring of national agricultural and rural development policies. It has expertise in agriculture and rural development	MAEP will be involved in the agro-forestry and sustainable agricultural practices development (Component 3). Also, this is one of the key stakeholders for development of IMPs. Participation in the Project Board
<u>Government of Congo:</u> OKNP, LGS, and other Protected Areas Management	Managers of PAs have overall responsibility of area governance in the OKNP and other parks. They ensure efficient and effective Law enforcement capacity in the PAs	One of the key project partners in the implementation of all three Components in the project area. Participation in the Project Board
Indigenous population (Bantu and Baka groups)	Indigenous people are key users of wildlife and other nature resources in the project area, often involved in poaching. Together with pygmies, they have traditional rights and knowledge of natural resources in the project area.	Key participants and beneficiaries in the implementation of the Component 1 (IMPs and PA zoning) and Component 3 (development of sustainable livelihood) Participation in the project M&E and adaptive management Participation in the Project Board
Local elites (people from project zone resident in the nation's capital)	Local elites may have political power and influence on local communities in the project area.	One of the key stakeholders for implementation of the project's Component 1 (IMPs and PA zoning) and Component 3 (development of sustainable livelihood) Participation in the project M&E and adaptive management
Private Sector: Traders: Hoteliers, Tour operators, Craftsmen, Retailers, Women's groups	Have economic and political power, knowledge of local resources and some power of influence on local populations	One of the key stakeholders for implementation of the Component 3. Can provide additional funds for community-based initiatives
Private Sector: Tourism, mining, logging, and agro-forestry companies operating in the project zone, especially: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eco-Oil Energy SA • Forest Industry of Ouessou • Congo Conservation Company 	Have political and economic power Have mandate to manage natural resources on the large scale Have intention to develop social responsibility programmes in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area	Key stakeholders and partners in the implementation of the Component 1 (IMPs and PA zoning) and 3 (development of sustainable approaches to NRM) Interested in the green image to sell production on the environmentally sensitive markets and obtain investments. Project co-financing for initiatives of local communities
Operational Monitoring Vigilance Committees (CVO) of the villages around the OKNP and other PAs	Have political power and influence on local communities in the project area	One of the key stakeholders and participants in the implementation of the project's components 1 and 3

		Participation in the Project Board
Local and Traditional Authorities, Patriarchs, Healers and “Wise Men”.	Have political power and influence on local communities in the project area	One of the key stakeholders and participants in the implementation of the project’s components 1 and 3

A4. Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.

In the 2014 edition of the Social Institutions and Gender Index (SIGI), Congo reportedly has medium levels of discrimination against women (SIGI score of 0.2033). It has also very high discrimination in restricted access to resources and assets. During the project preparation phase, the following key gender issues, identified by the SIGI, were considered:

- In an assessment of women’s access to land, the Economic Commission for Africa gave Congo a score of 1 out of a possible 22. Despite these safeguards, discriminatory customary practices still exist and restrict women’s access to land. Legally, any person may individually or collectively acquire land rights, as long as a land title that designates such property rights is obtained. But in practice, due to discriminatory inheritance practices, very few women own land, particularly in rural areas.
- With respect to ownership of non-land assets, the law in Congo discriminates against women. According to national law, women are not fully entitled to use, enjoy, or sell their property. The law grants the husband the right to administer communal property, providing him the right to sell or mortgage the couple’s property without the wife’s consent. The law also stipulates that the husband has the right to manage his wife’s personal property and exercises all rights to it.
- Congo’s current credit legislation does not discriminate against women, but several factors make it difficult for the majority of women to gain access to bank loans. For example, if a woman owns property jointly with her husband, often only the name of the husband is on the title, meaning that women do not legally possess the collateral needed for credit. According to the latest data from the World Bank (2011), 10.9% of women have accounts at formal financial institutions, compared to 18.8% of men, while 3.4% of women had a loan from a financial institution in the past year, compared to 5.5% of men.

The project plans to help women to create Economic Interest Groups (EIGs) for development of CBNRM, SLM, SFM and renewable energy sources initiatives. The project will invest in the transportation system for women (tricycles) to provide goods to village shops and local markets. Use of renewable sources of energy in the target villages will allow women to increase productivity of their labor and find more free time and send more girls to schools instead of engaging them in the housework. Gender balance and gender rank will be ensured as much as possible regarding women participation in the Project Board and in the PMU. In response to very low women participation in the project development the project will incorporate gender considerations in the implementation procedures in a number of different ways:

- a. Empower women by involving them in IWT intelligence networks, in the shaping of attitudes and in law enforcement processes.
- b. Strong focus on gender within Component 3 with an emphasis on providing microcredit loans to female led households, and/or to households that apply for loans with activities that have an emphasis on female-led activities (e.g., collection of fuelwoods and/or NTF products).
- c. All awareness raising activities will specifically target women and encourage them to take responsibilities including for engagement with the authorities with respect to natural resource management, illegal killing of wildlife and illegal trafficking in wildlife products and live animals.
- d. Where possible and where they exist, women’s organisations will be targeted for involvement in the project adaptive management and capacity development. In addition to these activities, the project will adopt the following principles: i) gender stereotypes will not be perpetuated, ii) women and other marginalized peoples will be actively and demonstrably included in project processes and activities whenever possible, and; iii) derogatory language or behaviors will not be tolerated.

As such, the project falls within the Gender Targeted ranking – primarily because changes of the current women’s status will require long-term work beyond the project’s life. Project interventions will seek a greater and more even gender representation with the potential for gender mainstreaming-related activities. Furthermore, relevant gender representation on various levels of project governance will be pursued. All project staff recruitment shall be specifically undertaken inviting and encouraging women applicants. The TORs for key project staff all incorporate gender mainstreaming related responsibilities.

The project will promote gender mainstreaming and capacity building within its project staff to improve understanding of gender issues, and will appoint a designated focal point for gender issues to support development, implementation, monitoring and strategy on gender mainstreaming internally and externally. This will include facilitating gender equality in capacity development and women’s empowerment and participation in the project activities. The project will also work with UNDP experts in gender issues and the UNWOMEN based in Addis Ababa to utilize their expertise in developing and implementing GEF projects. These requirements will be monitored by the UNDP Gender Focal Point during project implementation.

Proposed gender mainstreaming actions for project implementation

<i>Outcome/ Output</i>	<i>Responsible</i>	<i>Gender Mainstreaming Actions</i>
Component 1: Expanding the PA network of global importance in the Congo Basin		
<p>Output 1.1. <i>Messok Dja National Park is established on the area of 144,000 ha</i></p> <p>Output 1.2. <i>Effective functional zones are planned and officially established around Odzala-Kokoua NP, Lossi Gorilla Sanctuary, and Messok Dja NP on the area of 1,133,560 ha</i></p>	MEFDDE and Agence Nationale de la Faune et des Aires Protégées (ANFAP)	Proactive inclusion of women and women organizations in working groups and committees involved in the establishment of Messok Dja NP and PA functional zoning
<p>Output 1.3. <i>Integrated Management Plans for 3 PAs are developed, officially approved, and implemented</i></p>	MEFDDE and Agence Nationale de la Faune et des Aires Protégées (ANFAP)	Proactive inclusion of women and women organizations in working groups and committees to develop Integrated Management Plans for 3 PAs and local sustainable development planning.
<p>Output 1.4. <i>Law enforcement and wildlife monitoring components of the Integrated Management Plans are supported with trainings and equipment</i></p>	MOEF MEFDD	<p>Involvement of local women in trainings for eco-monitors and community based surveillance system on poaching and IWT</p> <p>Involvement of local women in the wildlife monitoring in the PAs (50% of eco-monitor positions will be provided to women)</p>
Component 2: Strengthening capacity for effective PA and Illegal Wildlife Trade governance in Congo		
<p>Output 2.1. <i>National IWT enforcement strategy is revised with involvement of key stakeholders and implemented</i></p>	MOEF, WCS MEFDD and Agence Nationale de la Faune et des Aires Protégées (ANFAP) LATF	Involvement of women in the Working Groups to review the Strategy and round tables for the document discussion
<p>Output 2.2. <i>National Wildlife Crime Enforcement Unit (NWCEU) is established and supported with trainings and equipment</i></p>	Agence Nationale de la Faune et des Aires Protégées (ANFAP)	<p>Gender roles to be clearly articulated while undertaking training needs assessment and incorporate in training modules</p> <p>Involvement of women in the work of the NWCEU</p>
<p>Output 2.3. <i>Joint Committee on Legal Monitoring of Wildlife Crime Enforcement is supported to identify and cover gaps in the IWT law enforcement procedures</i></p>	MEFDD and Agence Nationale de la Faune et des Aires Protégées (ANFAP)	Proactive inclusion of women in TA roles and working groups to review and update wildlife crime legislation under the Committee

Outcome/ Output	Responsible	Gender Mainstreaming Actions
Output 2.4. National Training Center for wildlife crime law enforcement is supported	MEFDD and Agence Nationale de la Faune et des Aires Protégées (ANFAP)	Involving women inspectors in the trainings at the center as much as possible given the current male dominated situation in the national law enforcement agencies
Output 2.5. A detection dog unit is established to strengthen checkpoints and patrol groups in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area	Agence Nationale de la Faune et des Aires Protégées (ANFAP)	Will work to ensure that at least one of the 4 dog handlers trained by the project is female.
Component 3: Reducing poaching and illegal trade in threatened species at site levels via CBNRM and sustainable livelihood (site level)		
Output 3.1. Sustainable livelihood and CBNRM training programs are delivered to local communities.	MOEF, WCS	At least 50% of the raining participants will be local women and women organizations Gender disaggregated reporting on the training participants
Output 3.2. Small grant programme and micro-loan schemes for local community sustainable livelihood and CBNRM initiatives are developed and implemented.	MOEF, WCS, MEFDD, and Agence Nationale de la Faune et des Aires Protégées (ANFAP)	The project will ensure equal possibility to receive micro-loans to women and men Inclusion of women in the work of micro-loan committees to make decision on micro-loans Gender disaggregated reporting on receivers of the micro-loans
Output 3.3. Pilot projects to develop sustainable livelihood and CBNRM are implemented	MEFDDE, WCS, CSOs, Congo Agency for National Parks and Fauna Protection	Promotion of gender balance in the initiative groups for pilot project implementation Development of pilot projects implemented by women organizations (at least 10% of the projects); Gender disaggregated reporting on the participants of the pilot projects
Output 3.4. Sources of renewable and sustainable energy are introduced to local communities	MEFDDE, WCS	Women are main beneficiaries of this Output as the key householders and producers of NTFPs Gender disaggregated reporting on the beneficiaries from renewable energy sources in the local villages
Output 3.5. Sustainable NRM practices are introduced to logging and agro-business companies	MOEF, MEFDD and Agence Nationale de la Faune et des Aires Protégées (ANFAP)	Proactive inclusion of the female staff of the companies in the trainings provided by the project Gender disaggregated reporting on the training participants
Component 4: Gender mainstreaming, monitoring, evaluation and knowledge management		
Output 4.1. M&E provides sufficient information for adaptive management and learning via active participation of key stakeholders	MEFDDE, Agence Nationale de la Faune et des Aires Protégées (ANFAP) and UNDP	Requirement for gender-disaggregated information for appropriate indicators in the M&E Plan Specific monitoring of gender mainstreaming progress during project implementation Promotion of women participation in the project M&E process Gender disaggregated reporting of M&E participants
Output 4.2. Lessons learned from the project are shared at national and international levels	MEFDDE, UNDP, OKNP, Agence Nationale de la Faune et des Aires Protégées (ANFAP)	Reporting of gender oriented lessons learned from the project Inclusion of women in generating and discussion of the lessons learned from IWT management and CBNRM

A5. Risks

The risks that might prevent the project for achieving its objectives are well identified and presented in the table below. Mitigation possibilities have been elaborated and are presented as well.

Description	Probability and Impact	Mitigation
Government Institutions unwilling to collaborate on and coordinate IWT & poaching prevention and enforcement activities because of weak capacity and due to corruption	Probability = 5 Impact = 4 Risk = High	This has been one of the biggest obstacles in the past for successfully combatting wildlife crime. The project is particularly investing into strengthening the newly created <i>Agence Nationale de la Faune et des Aires Protégées</i> (ANFAP) and establishment of NWCEU as an inter-agency structure to overcome this risk. This agency and NWCEU will coordinate the actions of other agencies regarding the fight against poaching and will be responsible for promoting an effective synergy between the different services involved. NWCEU will be supported to facilitate coordination and collaboration with the police, judiciary, port authorities, customs and others through collaboration agreements between agencies, joint training through the Permanent Training Center at Lebang and information sharing at site level, national level and transboundary level. Moreover, stakeholder involvement in the revision and updating the National IWT Strategy will allow to develop a really working collaboration framework for different agencies in IWT combat. Outputs 2.1-2.4 will help to address this issue.
The interests of illegal wildlife profit-making groups are stronger than the political will to fight the issue, undermining the project strategy	Probability = 4 Impact = 3 Risk = Moderate	In order to overcome this risk the project will invest considerable funds in the strengthening of national and local law enforcement systems to develop a deterrent effect against poaching under the Component 2 and 1 (Output 3.3.). Component 3 outputs will also address this risk by providing incentive alternative options to poaching for local communities. Thus, this risk will be addressed by combining both a) strong law enforcement as a deterrent effect to poaching and IWT, and b) robust alternatives via CBNRM, SLM and SFM as sources of income for local communities.
Budget constrains at national and local government institutions to successfully execute their role in combating IWT	Probability = 4 Impact = 3 Risk = Moderate	IWT and Illegal Forest Logging crimes have been hampered by lack of funds that can be directly applied where they are needed. The situation is exacerbated by the current financial crises in Congo due to drastic drop of oil price. More easily accessible funds are needed to help Government implement its Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe Segment National Parks specific anti-poaching plans, including recruiting additional minimum rangers and eco-guards staffs along with building their capacities in poaching enforcement. To address this risk the project suggests development of strong partnerships with International NGOs, multilateral and bilateral agencies to provide leverage resources for achievement of the project Outcomes. Moreover, the project will build strong cooperation with private sector to obtain additional funding for IWT enforcement in the project area and support conservation initiatives of local communities (Components 1 and 3)
Increase of habitat degradation and poaching in the PAs due to sectoral activities and demographic trends counterbalance improvements in the PA management	Probability = 4 Impact = 3 Risk = Moderate	This risk may require action by Government if goes beyond ability of the PA management to address the risks at local level. The project will address the risk through Outputs 1.1-1.3 and 3.1-3.5. Establishment of new National Park and appropriate PA zoning will allow to mitigate the risk and to ensure conservation of the most valuable populations and habitat. The implementation of IMPs along with local community plans for CBNRM will ensure sustainable use of the habitat without degradation.
Limited local capacity to carry out	Probability = 4	For project implementation built on combination of national

Description	Probability and Impact	Mitigation
the project implementation and maintain Outcomes	Impact = 3 Risk = Moderate	and international expertise will provide the necessary technical competencies and skills to PA staff and local communities to mitigate the risk. Output 1.3; 3.1 - 3.3 will ensure sufficient level of capacity to fight IWT and develop CBNRM in the project area
Community Based Alternative Options to Poaching and feasibility of proposed local economic activities are overestimated	Probability = 3 Impact = 3 Risk = Moderate	During the PPG the overall project design had been built upon lessons learnt from other projects in Congo and other countries to develop the most appropriate and viable alternatives to poaching. Detailed cost-benefit analysis for each of proposed alternative economic options will be undertaken during the project implementation (Component 3) to find and implement the most economically viable and sustainable initiative. Every community grant or micro-loan application will have a business plan that will be evaluated by the grant and micro-loan committee. Adaptive management of the project implemented under the Component 4 will allow adjust proposed alternatives for local communities in response of the socio-economic changes in the area
VTs land degradation due to increased agriculture pressure	Probability = 2 Impact = 2 Risk = Low	PA IMPs will help to address this risk via careful zoning and planning (Component 1). Under the Component 3 the project will invest in implementation of sustainable development part of IMPs via establishment of CBNRM, SLM and SFM practices of local communities. The project will address restoration of degraded habitat via larger community based pilot projects and will contribute to restoration of at least 400 ha of wildlife habitat.

The UNDP environmental and social safeguards requirements have been followed in the development of this project. In accordance with the UNDP Social and Environmental Screening Procedure, this project is rated as having a low environmental and social risk (Refer to UNDP-GEF Project Document Annex F). With regards to the overall project, there are almost no activities that are deemed to represent some level of risk. All outputs having little to no potential negative environmental or social effects. Given this logic, there are no tradeoffs between environmental and socioeconomic objectives. The potential negative environmental and social effects of the project are thus mainly those of unintended consequences, largely preventable with the implementation of appropriate studies, sound mitigation measures, surveillance of work as well as monitoring mechanisms. Also, the extent of potential impacts, even without any kind of mitigation action, are generally limited in time and space as well as reversible, and mitigation measures were always designed and integrated to the project to avoid any unwanted impact.

A.6. Institutional Arrangement and Coordination.

The project will be implemented over a period of six years (72 months). The first three months will allow UNDP and the project partners to start up the project in an effective way. This will enable the Responsible Party to be contracted (see below for details) and for project staff (for the Responsible Party) to be recruited. It will then also allow the project partners to collect baseline data for those indicators for which no baseline consolidated data were available during the PPG.

The project will be implemented following UNDP's national implementation modality (NIM), according to the Standard Basic Assistance Agreement between UNDP and the Government of Congo, and the Country Programme.

The Implementing Partner for this project is the Ministry of Forest Economy, Sustainable Development and Environment (MEFDDE). The Implementing Partner will take the responsibility for the oversight of the project, and is the main (but not only) beneficiary for Components One and Two (the components on protected areas and IWT law enforcement, respectively). The Implementing Partner will also appoint a National Project Director. This will be a high-ranking official person responsible to ensure cooperation, collaboration and efficient implementation of the

project. The Implementing Partner will assign a National Project Coordinator (NPC) to the Project Management Unit (PMU, see below).

The day-to-day implementation of the project will be supported by Responsible Party(ies), the selection of which will be done based on a competitive selection process as follows (as per UNDP POPP): the awarding of the contract will be based on a Quality-Based Fixed Budget Selection (QB-FBS). This means that the budget will be disclosed at the time of the Call for Proposal, and the bidders will submit proposals based on that fixed budget.

The selection of the RP(s) shall be formalized through the signing of a Responsible Party Agreement(s) (RPA) – as requested by the Government (see letter of request). In order to participate in the competitive selection process, RPs must be legally constituted and fully registered. The Vendor Sanctions policy of UNDP also applies to potential bidders and their members, regardless of the process undertaken to engage them as RPs.

When selecting the RP(s), the UNDP-CO will conduct a mandatory HACT (capacity) assessment(s).

Because the selection is being conducted for a specific TOR without existence of a roster:

- a. The first step will be the development of the engagement TOR.
- b. Sending RFI & CACHE can be combined in a single step
- c. Steps to conduct the capacity assessment and the risk assessment will remain significantly the same although at this stage it will be conducted from the TOR perspective

The procurement process will also use the following guidelines:

- a. The RP will be selected immediately after the PRODOC has been signed (thus, once the project has officially started and an additional eight months have been added to the project's life to accommodate this recruitment process)
- b. A tendering process that adheres to UNDP procurement rules and regulations will be prepared and bids will be solicited from potential organisations.
- c. The organisations could include government, private sector or non-governmental organisations (NGOs).
- d. The bids will be evaluated on the basis of a number of criteria, including (but not limited to): the proposed composition of the team that will comprise the Project Management Unit (PMU), the relevance of the organisation's experience to working in the sector and on similar projects, the relevance of the organisation's experience to working in the context of Ethiopia, a micro-capacity assessment of the bidding organisations.
- e. The process of selecting the RP will be audited by an independent audit company. The purpose of the audit will be to ensure that the process is free and fair, and without any undue interference.

The Responsible Party Agreement (RPA) will be on the following basis:

- a. The agreement with the RP will be a delivery-based contract and, as such (with the exception of an agreed cashflow), payments will be made to the RP on the basis of agreed milestones, outputs and deliveries
- b. The payments for the RP will be provided by UNDP Direct Project Services under the request of the Government.

The selection of the RP on this basis is based on previous experiences in Congo and the fact that the Government of Congo is familiar with such a modality as it is used by a number of donors working in the country.

Under the oversight of the Project Board, the Responsible Party is responsible and accountable for managing the implementation of all components and outputs of this project, including the monitoring and evaluation of project interventions, achieving project outcomes, and for the effective use of UNDP resources (see draft TORs for the Responsible Partner in Annex E). The Responsible Party will, therefore, form a Project Management Unit (PMU) to ensure efficient and effective implementation of the project. The composition of the PMU will be at the discretion of the Responsible Party taking into account that the Responsible Party will be held to account i) for delivery of the project objective, outcomes and outputs (see Section IV), ii) through the demonstrable, effective and efficient achievement of the targets in the PRF (see Section VI), ii) through the monitoring and evaluation processes (see Section VII), and iii)

through financial audits carried out by an independent and certified auditor (see also Section VII). Although the proposed team composition will be one of the criteria used to evaluate the bids that are submitted for the tendering process, the project team will include a Project Manager. The Project Manager will run the project on a day-to-day basis on behalf of the Responsible Party within the constraints laid down by the PB. It is expected that the Project Manager will be supported by a Procurement and Financial Officer (PFO), and together they will form the Project Management Unit (PMU). The suggested TORs for both the Project Manager and the PFO are included in Annex E. The PMU will not be housed in rented office space in a mutually convenient but neutral location from Government of Congo In-Kind contribution at Ouessou in the Sangha Region and UNDP-CO. Notably all project staff will be recruited by UNDP.

In addition, it is expected that one (or more) Technical Adviser(s)⁴ will be recruited on a part-time basis by the Responsible Parties to cover the technical aspects of the three different components (see Annex E for draft TOR for TA(s)).

The Responsible Parties will prepare annual workplans and budgets for approval by the Project Board. In addition, the Responsible Parties will be responsible for the preparation of all project reports including the project's Inception Report and the Project Implementation Reports (PIR) (see Section VII). The Responsible Party will be responsible for contracting consultants, partner organisations and/or contractual service companies that will be engaged to carry out the different aspects of the project, as necessary and as required.

In addition, the RP may sub-contract other partners to implement different components or sub-components of the project. For example, a sub-contractor could be hired to implement the project in the different selected sites for Component One; a sub-contractor could be hired to implement the whole of Component Two; while a sub-contractor could be hired to implement the micro-credit schemes or the NRM processes under Component Three. How this is managed will be at the discretion of the Responsible Party under the guidance and oversight of the Implementing Party and the PB.

The functions of the Responsible Party will end when the final project terminal evaluation report and corresponding management response, and other documentation required by the GEF and UNDP, has been completed and submitted to UNDP (including operational closure of the project).

The Project Board is responsible for making, by consensus, management decisions when guidance is required by the Responsible Party (with the Project Manager), including recommendation for UNDP/Implementing Partner approval of project plans and revisions. In order to ensure UNDP's ultimate accountability, Project Board decisions should be made in accordance with standards that shall ensure management for development results, best value money, fairness, integrity, transparency and effective international competition. In case a consensus cannot be reached within the Board, final decision shall rest with the UNDP Programme Manager. The terms of reference for the Project Board are contained in Annex E. The Project Board is comprised of the following institutions:

- Ministry of Forest Economy, Sustainable Development and Environment chairing the PB;
- The UNDP Resident Representative;
- UNDP-GEF Coordinator
- The Advisor Program Manager of Environment and Poverty Unit
- The GEF Operational Focal Point;
- The Director General of Congolese Agency for Wildlife and Protected Areas;
- The Director General of Forest Economy;
- The National Coordinator of the Micro Finance Programme of the Global Environment Fund;
- The Focal Point of COMIFAC;
- Observers (All Coordinators of the Projects and implementation of ongoing programs);

⁴ If only one, s/he will be the Chief Technical Advisor (CTA) on a full-time basis.

- The Responsible Party and the Project Management Unit (the secretariat of the meeting)

The Project Board will meet after the Inception Workshop and at least once each year thereafter. Attendance of the PB meetings will be monitored and attendance rate of the delegated people is expected to be no less than 80%. The PB will meet every twelve months; its major tasks involve:

- approve ongoing activities and partnership planned
- share information on anti-poaching actions, adjust and enhance communication between project stakeholders to keep the project focused on its initial objectives
- negotiate with national authorities to adapt and prevent harmful mining, industrial or agri-food projects which could encounter difficulties to integrate into the physical and social landscape as well as having a negative impact on biodiversity. This task does not represent a reject of any projects, because they also have a significant positive impact on employment, but to contribute to their framing so that they become adapted to the sustainable development strategy for the area, which is largely based on eco-tourism development.
- manage non-allocated resources of the project and new resources coming from different sources
- create a specific label for the zone which constitutes a protected area cooperative, and enhance communication about the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area and its recognition through a proper governance body.

The Project Manager, who will have the following tasks will be recruited by the Responsible Party under UNDP oversight will mainly focus on:

- the administration, implementation and coordination of all project activities; the design, planning, monitoring and evaluation of the program in collaboration with site assistants and with other partners; partnership coordination and support for the animation of the anti-poaching strategies and management of PAs; integration, coordination and animation of the team members who work to achieve the objectives which he is responsible. He also hosts the thematic platforms of local consultations; mobilizing resources and achieving the expected results of the project;
- coordinating project activities with activities of other government bodies;
- supervise project expenditures in accordance with the work plans and approved by the Steering Committee budgets;
- monitoring and reporting on the markets and the implementation of activities within the deadlines set by the PTA;
- approving the terms of reference for consultants and tendering documents for the inputs resulting in a subcontracting;
- reporting to UNDP on the implementation and impacts of the project.

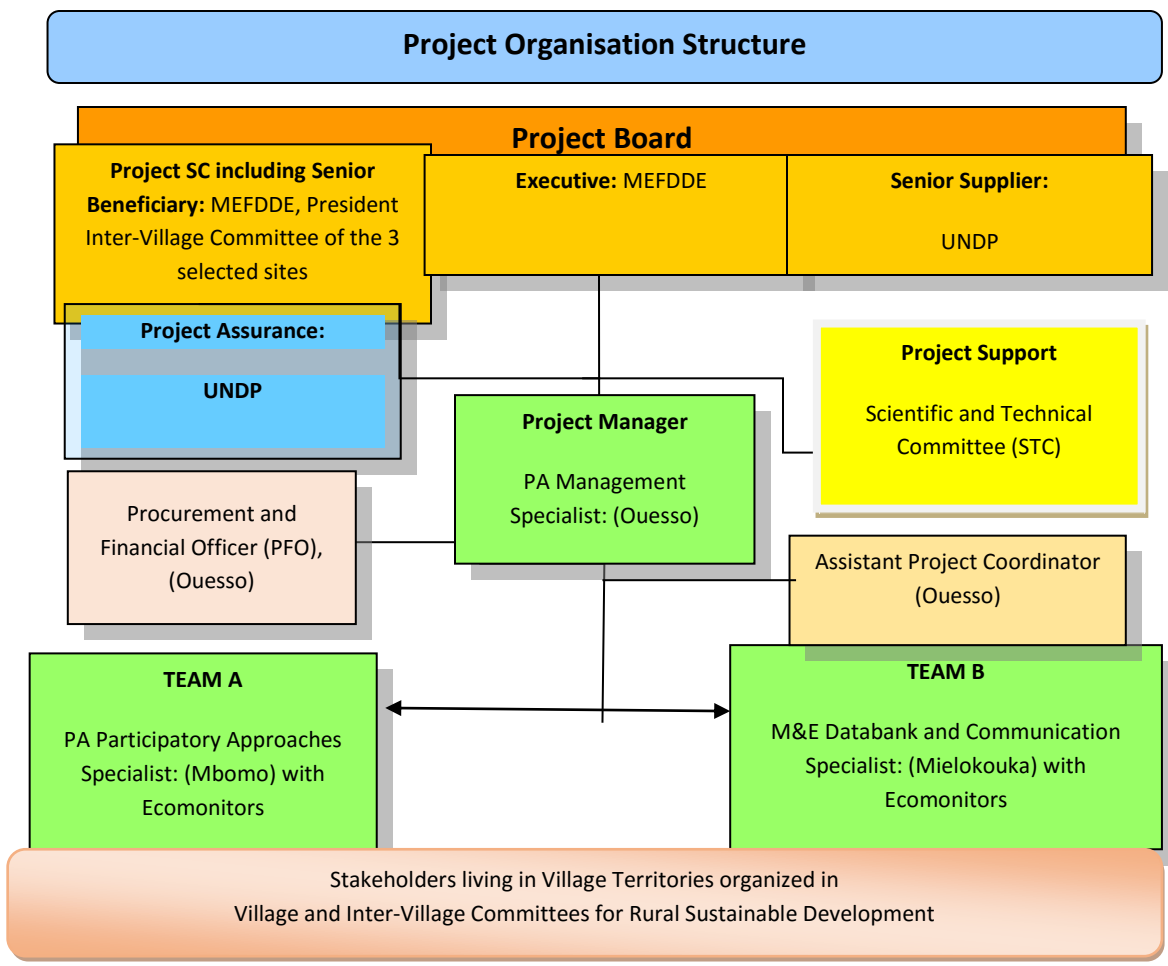
An International Technical Adviser (ITA) will provide on a part time basis, overall professional and technical backstopping to the Project. He/She will render professional and technical support to the PMU, and other government counterparts. The ITA will support the provision of the required professional and technical inputs, reviewing and preparing Terms of Reference (TORs) and reviewing the outputs of service providers, experts and other sub-contractors. He/She will report directly to the RP.

The project assurance roll will be provided by the UNDP Country Office and additional quality assurance will be provided by the UNDP Regional Technical Advisor. Given that the project falls under the Global Wildlife Program, it is expected that additional support and quality assurance will be provided, as required and where available, by the GWP teams within the UNDP and the World Bank Group.

Finally, the project has been designed not just to take into account other initiatives within Congo but to work in cooperation and collaboration with them. The best example of this is the work that WB/GEF is planning with respect to institutional Capacity Building of the Congolese National Agency for Wildlife and Protected Areas (ANFAP): this project works in synergy and mutual benefit with the AFD, the EU and NGOs programs and there are independencies. The full set of synergies, collaboration and coordination are fully described within Section IV Results and Partnerships of the UNDP-GEF Project Document.

In addition as a part of the Global Wildlife Program (GWP) the project will be implemented synchronously and in full collaboration and cooperation with the other projects that are being implemented under the GWP.

Agreement on intellectual property rights and use of logo on the project’s deliverables and disclosure of information: In order to accord proper acknowledgement to the GEF for providing grant funding, the GEF logo will appear together with the UNDP logo on all promotional materials, other written materials like publications developed by the project, and project hardware. Any citation on publications regarding projects funded by the GEF will also accord proper acknowledgement to the GEF. Information will be disclosed in accordance with relevant policies notably the UNDP Disclosure Policy⁵ and the GEF policy on public involvement⁶.



Institutional Arrangement graph

⁵ See http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/transparency/information_disclosurepolicy/

⁶ See https://www.thegef.org/gef/policies_guidelines

Additional Information not well elaborated at PIF Stage:

A7. Benefits

Economic Benefits

The project is designed to strengthen and develop on-going efforts in Congo to conserve globally significant biodiversity within forest landscapes. The project will, however, deliver tangible economic benefits to local communities within target areas. This will be achieved through improving environmental management within project area to help maintain existing livelihoods and develop new options related to tourism, NTFPs, sustainable wildlife management and agriculture as well as reducing social and economic costs of environmental degradation, unsustainable exploitation of natural resources and wildlife crime. The cost of human-wildlife conflict will also be reduced by the demonstration of practices that will avoid these conflicts at village level including ecological solutions through bee hives for honey production, and by the protection of habitat in the project area as elephants will be kept away from VTs due to their remembering of bee mass attacks.

More specifically the project will work with key production sectors within the project area to strengthen sustainable livelihoods practices. The introduction of CBWM, SLM, and SFM is expected to trigger more efficient management of natural resources reducing cost of exploitation or increasing yield in the long-term, this includes for instance sustainable land management practices increasing soil productivity, and agroforestry practices introducing new sustainable agricultural production options for local communities. For instance sustainable integrated land management through agroforestry, multiple use sustain yield tree crops, orchard fruits, aquaculture, honey bee production along with wildlife oriented ecotourism and hotspots permanent monitoring, rural entrepreneurship activities for small business services along with processing of vegetables, forest fruits, poultry and livestock meat, milk and cereals will provide up to 1,000 environmentally friendly jobs for sustainable inclusive green growth. Moreover, no less than 8,000 local and indigenous people (67% of the project area population) will benefit from CBWM, SLM, and SFM in direct and indirect way. The project will thus contribute to increase local communities' income in the long term including income from sustainable agriculture through the creation of agricultural products collect, transport, processing and trading and develop their partnership with private agricultural companies, which could commercialize their processed production. The proposed intervention will also support the development of direct or indirect revenue generation from conservation activities for local communities; appropriate revenue generation mechanisms compatible with the Protected Areas status and ecological characters and responsive to local community needs will be analyzed. Mechanisms might include ecotourism, handicrafts, dye and rural shops management hunting. The project will also facilitate targeted PAs authorities to establish community tourism enterprise to promote ecotourism, tourism based small businesses, services and products as alternative livelihood source. Eco-tourism initiatives have the potential to create around 500 jobs if the area manages to attract at least 1,500 tourists a year through the support of Congo Conservation Company.

Social Benefits

A major aspect of the project concerns law enforcement strengthening and anti-trafficking activities on the ground. The related activities undertaken during the project will trigger a stronger and more efficient legal mechanism with better crime scene management and criminal investigations, as well as a stronger capacity of PA managers and patrols to

prevent and address wildlife crime in the project area. Local communities will thus benefit from an improved security in the zone, with better surveillance of routes and hubs preventing armed groups from freely entering the area.

The project will also support social cohesion in the Congolese part of the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area by fostering increased cooperation between stakeholders over essential issues concerning natural resources management and wildlife crime. Consultations platforms will enable stakeholders to negotiate and solve issues concerning logging concessions for instance. In this process indigenous people and small local communities will be given the opportunity to participate to the decision-making process to ensure their fair representation and appropriation of the development process of the zone. These communities will also receive support to develop community based forest management through the biological resources access.

Finally, as mentioned above, the project is carefully integrating gender mainstreaming considerations to ensure that the project benefits are fairly distributed across genders with special emphasis on women for capacity-building activities on SLM and alternative livelihoods. The project is expected to benefit directly to around 67% of the project area population of 12,000 people. They will benefit from reduced human-wildlife conflict, and introduction of alternative livelihoods creating agricultural jobs and alternative source of income. Around 20,000 people living around the project area will indirectly benefit from project intervention through increased security, enhanced economic activities in the area and better law enforcement.

A8. Knowledge Management.

Capturing and sharing knowledge and lessons learned will constitute an important component of the project and an essential way to ensure sustainability and replicability of project achievements; it will be realized through activities described under Component 4 of the project.

Results from the project will be disseminated within and beyond the project intervention zone through a number of existing information sharing networks and fora. In addition, the project will participate in UNDP/GEF sponsored networks, organized for senior personnel working on projects that share common characteristics. The project will identify and participate, as relevant and appropriate, in scientific, policy-based and/or any other networks, which may be of benefit to project implementation through lessons learned. The project will identify, analyse, and share lessons learned that might be beneficial in the design and implementation of similar future projects. Identifying and analysing lessons learned is an ongoing process, and the need to communicate such lessons as one of the project's central contributions is a requirement to be delivered not less frequently than once every 12 months. The project will benefit from the GWP knowledge platform to share best practices and lessons learned with other child projects in the region and across continents. An emphasis will be put to develop communication tools on the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area in partnership with the Republic of Cameroon and Gabon and the GWP child projects ongoing on their part of Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area. This will present the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area as a globally significant and unitary ecological zone.

B. Description of the consistency of the project with:

B1. Consistency with National Priorities.

Legal experts, investigators and MEFDDE agents do collaborate with Congolese police forces (Gendarmerie Nationale, Police Nationale) in order to have wildlife dealers, traffickers and major poachers arrested and brought before justice. The Project will be working together with the CNLCCF: (National Commission for the Fight against Corruption, Embezzlement and Fraud, or Commission Nationale de Lutte contre la Corruption, la Concussion et la Fraude). CNLCCF is a governmental body, which aims to improve governance in Congo by combating corruption. The assumption is that, if illegal wildlife criminals feel a sense of impunity and there is little risk involved in wildlife trade, then it seems logical that illegal wildlife trade will thrive, so our strategy is to put an end to that sense of impunity and

by helping Congo work towards better application of wildlife law, poachers and illegal traffickers will be less likely to undertake these crimes against nature. The government has also established surveillance, monitoring and anti-poaching units (USLAB) and a National Committee for the Fight Against Poaching (CNLCB). The committee, headed by the Minister of Forest Economy, Sustainable Development and Environment, has the mandate to study and propose to the Minister, the broad strategies policy implementation against poaching on the national and sub-regional levels.

One of the strategic goal of the new Congo NBSAP aims at addressing the causes of biodiversity loss by reducing the direct and indirect pressures on biodiversity, including illegal exploitation and poaching. This project will as well contribute to Aichi targets 1 and 2 of the strategic goal A (Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society), target 7 of strategic goal B (Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use), target 12 of strategic goal C (improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity) and target 14 of strategic goal D (Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services).

The project will also contribute to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 15 through “Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss” (target 15.2, 15.5) by implementing an effective conservation system. It will also contribute to achieve SDG 16 through helping reduce threat finance to violent and criminal organizations (target 16.1 and 16.4), will strengthen countries’ institutional capacity and international cooperation to combat wildlife crime (target 16.6 and 16.a) and will contribute to a consequent reduction in all forms of corruption and bribery related to wildlife poaching and trafficking (target 16.5). The project will also contribute to reduce poverty by providing alternative source of income and sustainable livelihoods for rural households (SDG 1, target 1.1, target 1.5). Development of CBNRM and SLM activities in the project area will participate to achieve SDG 13 especially target 13.2, “by 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources”.

The project will contribute to the implementation of many national strategies concerning biodiversity, and the sustainable use management of natural resources, as detailed in the table below:

National priorities and plans	Contribution of this project
The National Programme for Environmental Management (PNGE), the programmatic framework integrating aspects on PA management, sustainable management of coastal and marine resources, promotion of alternative sources of energy, etc	The proposed GEF initiative will support the implementation of the PNGE through its activities dedicated to improve PA management and PA governance leading to better conservation impacts (Component 1). Its main goal is to strengthen the conservation of globally threatened species in Congo by improving biodiversity enforcement, resilience management. It is directly in line with the PNGE objectives, which are to ensure sustainable management of natural resources, and efficient protection of the environment.
The National Programme for Forest Development includes protection and conservation measures concerning forest resources (NPFDD).	The project is aligned to the NPFDD as it will contribute to enhance forest conservation efforts by creating dialog the government and the private sector on sustainable forestry through Output 3.5. and by strengthening participation of local communities in management practices and conservation initiatives in the forest interzone (Component 3). The project will channel grants to forest-dependent communities to pilot sustainable livelihoods based on SLM and CBNRM to reduce deforestation, IWT and unsustainable bush meat exploitation and promote participatory forest management.
The Programme for Conservation and management of biodiversity in Congo (PCGBC);	The central aspect of the project is to ensure an effective conservation of biodiversity in the Congolese segment of the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area by both strengthening capacities to reduce IWT and related poaching and trafficking, and supporting conservation efforts and sustainable use of natural resources by local communities, but also the private sector. The project thus directly follows the country’s Programme for Conservation and management of biodiversity which initiated biodiversity inventories in Congo and which the main goals were to (i) promote the participation of local populations in bio-diversity conservation, and (ii) encourage sustainable use of renewable natural resources and promote ecologically sound development around protected area.
The Sectoral Programme on Forest and Environment (PSFE)	Many aspects of the proposed project are contributing to this sectoral programme of the MEFDDDE, which is constituted of a number of components declined in four relevant programmes among which one concerns protected areas and wildlife management. Project activities such as bio-monitoring, biodiversity surveys, introduction of agro-forestry practices, consultation platforms for a more sustainable management of the forest resources in the interzone, are all aligned with the objectives of this programme.
REDD Strategy and programme	The proposed GEF initiative is aligned with the REDD+ strategy and activities in Congo, which include the development of projects for biodiversity conservation at the regional level through landscape management. Many activities under the relevant Outputs are directly

The Government of Congo has also engaged into various initiatives for biodiversity and wildlife protection. For instance, Congo has recently published its National Ivory Action Plan in compliance with the CITES Standing Committee (SC65) direction to countries of secondary importance to reinforce their efforts to combat IWT and the ivory trade in particular. Congo is a party to CITES since 1983.

The project will catalyze implementation of the Congo commitments within the CITES via improvement of National IWT enforcement strategy (Output 2.1.); establishment of National Wildlife Crime Enforcement Unit to control poaching and IWT in the country (Output 2.2), strengthening border and domestic check points with sniffer dogs trained to detect mainly ivory, bush meat, pangolin scales and wildlife trophies (Output 2.5); capacity building of Congo Judicial Monitoring Joint Committee to monitor national IWT law enforcement implementation and effectiveness as well as law enforcement obstruction and corruption (Output 2.3). The project will increase overall effectiveness of law enforcement regarding poaching and IWT and control on the national CITES implementation. Additionally, during its implementation phase, the project will build cooperation with the African Development Bank and other donors for leveraging of additional resources to establish IWT check points with modern equipment to detect wildlife illegal trafficking along all the main roads and at the border crossings.

Congo is a member of many international bodies and involved in numerous regional programs related to the implementation of the CBD (e.g. COMIFAC, CEFDHAC, RAPAC, OFSAC, OSFAC, PFBC, GRASP). A national biosecurity framework (GMO legislation, among other legislation) has been developed and the biological diversity clearing-house mechanism (CHM) and biosafety clearing-house mechanism (BCH) have been implemented. Locally, 10 laws, 4 decrees and 4 orders have been adopted to strengthen the legislative framework for the management of biological resources. Since 1983, the year that CITES entered into force in Republic of Congo; wildlife law took on a new dimension in Congo. Today the law is the strictest in Central Africa, punishing poachers and illegal wildlife traffickers with up to 5 years in jail. Although it is clear that COMIFAC endures weaknesses at the political level, we emphasise that the capacity of COMIFAC will be strengthened through the revitalization (in progress) of the associated Organization for Conservation of Wildlife in Central Africa (OCFSA). By pooling the efforts of the inter-linked GEF Gabon, Congo and Cameroon projects, OCFSA / COMIFAC will be enabled to coordinate and implement core activities to combat cross-border poaching on the basis of the tools already put in place by the GEF TRIDOM project: The TRIDOM Brigade and Post located at the intersection of the borders of the three countries; the Memorandum of Understanding Combating Anti-Poaching for joint patrols of 20 km of each common border and cross-border legal proceedings coordinated by the judges of the three countries with the support of INTERPOL; and the management of intelligence on the movement of large poaching targets with the support of village communities of village lands adjacent to poaching hotspots.

The government also adopted a new Strategy and Management Plan for Elephants for 2011-2020. Moreover, Congo is involved in the REDD+ as mentioned earlier. Finally, Congo has also signed transborder agreements to promote integrated management of adjacent national parks situated in neighboring countries. It includes the Tri-nationale Dja-Odzala-Minkébé complex, which was created between Cameroon, Congo and Gabon, the TNS complex comprising the parks of Lobeke (Cameroun), Dzanga-Ndoki (CAR) and Nouabale-Ndoki (Congo) to manage transboundary resources. It is important to notice that Congo has also adheres to the FLEGT process and signed the Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) between the European Union (EU) and the Republic of Congo. A Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) is a legally binding trade agreement between the EU and a timber-exporting country outside the EU. An Observatory of Law Enforcement Project managed by REM (a UK-based lobby NGO), has also been in operation for some time in Congo.

C. Describe the budgeted M&E plan:

The project will be monitored through the following M&E activities:

The project results as outlined in the project results framework will be monitored annually and evaluated periodically during project implementation to ensure the project effectively achieves these results via implementation of *Outcome 4*:

Lessons learned by the project through participatory M&E, including gender mainstreaming practices, are used to fight poaching and IWT and promote community based conservation nationally and internationally

Project-level monitoring and evaluation will be undertaken in compliance with UNDP requirements as outlined in the UNDP POPP and UNDP Evaluation Policy. While these UNDP requirements are not outlined in this project document, the UNDP Country Office will work with the relevant project stakeholders to ensure UNDP M&E requirements are met in a timely fashion and to high quality standards. Additional mandatory GEF-specific M&E requirements (as outlined below) will be undertaken in accordance with the GEF M&E policy and other relevant GEF policies. The monitoring and reporting should include data broken down by categories of beneficiaries and / or potential affected groups and include gender indicators. The project shall be recognizing the fundamental role of women in the conservation of biodiversity; particularly in reference to the fact that they are the greatest actors in the gathering, processing and packaging and marketing of game products.

In addition to these mandatory UNDP and GEF M&E requirements, other M&E activities deemed necessary to support project-level adaptive management will be agreed during the Project Inception Workshop and will be detailed in the Inception Report. This will include the exact role of project target groups and other stakeholders in project M&E activities including the GEF Operational Focal Point and national/regional institutes assigned to undertake project monitoring. The GEF Operational Focal Point will strive to ensure consistency in the approach taken to the GEF-specific M&E requirements (notably the GEF Tracking Tools) across all GEF-financed projects in the country. This could be achieved for example by using one national institute to complete the GEF Tracking Tools for all GEF-financed projects in the country, including projects supported by other GEF Agencies.

M&E Oversight and monitoring responsibilities:

Project Manager: The Project Manager is responsible for the daily management of the project and regular monitoring of results and risks, including social and environmental hazards of the project. The project manager will ensure that all project staff maintains a high level of transparency, responsibility and accountability in monitoring and evaluation and presentation of project results. The Project Manager will inform the Project Board of Directors, the UNDP representative office in the country and the UNDP-GEF RTA, of any delays or difficulties that would arise during the implementation of the project, such so that appropriate support and corrective measures can be adopted. He will prepare annual work plans based on the multi-year work plan in Annex A, including the goals of annual results; to enable the effective implementation of the project. The Project Manager will ensure that the standards and requirements of the UNDP-GEF in monitoring and evaluation are met at the highest level of quality. This includes, but not limited to, ensuring that the indicators of the framework results are duly checked each year to produce reports based on evidence in the GEF PIR, and a monitoring system risks and various plans / strategies are developed to support the implementation of the project (e.g. the kind of strategy, knowledge management strategy, etc.) on a regular basis.

Steering Committee of the Project: The Project's Board (or Steering Committee) will take the necessary corrective measures to ensure that the project achieves the expected results. The project's Board held on project progress assessment sessions to assess project performance and review the annual work plan for the following year. In the last year of the project, the Project Board will hold a review session project end to capture lessons learned and discuss with audiences, scaling possibilities and highlight the results of the project and lessons learned. This final review meeting will be an opportunity to discuss the findings presented in the draft of the final evaluation report and the management response.

Project implementing partner: The implementing partner of the project is responsible for providing all the information and all data necessary for the timely production of complete project reports and based on evidence, including the results and financial data, as far as necessary and appropriate. The implementing partner will ensure that monitoring and evaluation at the project level is undertaken by national institutes and is in alignment with national systems; so that the data used and generated by the project are useful to national systems. The Implementing Partner for this project is the Ministry of Forest Economy, Sustainable Development and Environment.

UNDP Country Office: UNDP Country Office will support the Project Manager as required, including through annual supervision missions. The annual supervision missions will take place on schedule in the annual work plan. The

supervision mission reports will be distributed to the project team and the project's Executive Board in the month following the mission. The UNDP country office will initiate and organize key activities of monitoring and evaluation of the EGF, including the annual PIR GEF independent mid-term and final independent evaluation. The UNDP Country Office will also ensure that the standards and requirements of the GEF UNDP in monitoring and evaluation are met at the highest level of quality.

UNDP country office is responsible for compliance with all monitoring requirements and evaluation at the project level as described in the UNDP POPP. This includes making sure that the evaluation of the UNDP Quality assurance during implementation of the project is undertaken each year; that the annual objectives in outcomes are developed and monitored and are reported using UNDP management systems; the regular updating of the ATLAS risks; and the update of the UNDP Gender indicators on an annual basis based on gender mainstreaming progress as shown in the PIR GEF and UNDP ROAR. All the problems of quality of monitoring and evaluation reports over the activities of monitoring and evaluation (eg. Such annual assessment scores of quality GEF PIR) should be treated by the UNDP country office and the manager project.

The UNDP Country Office will retain all tracking records and evaluation of the project up to seven years after the financial closure of the project to support the ex-post evaluations can be conducted by the UNDP Evaluation Office Independent (IBE) and / or the independent Office of the GEF evaluation (IEO).

UNDP-GEF Unit: Additional quality assurance monitoring and evaluation, and implementation and support in coaching will be provided by the Technical Adviser of the UNDP - GEF Regional and if needed by UNDP -GEF.

Audit: The project will be audited according to the UNDP financial regulations and rules and policies applicable to audit the implementation of NIM projects.

Additional requirements of the GEF monitoring and development:

Inception Workshop: The project Inception workshop will be held within two months after the project document has been signed by all parties concerned. The workshop will work on the following issues:

- a) Refocusing efforts of stakeholders in the project strategy and discuss any changes in the general context that influence the strategy and implementation of the project;
- b) Discuss the roles and responsibilities of the project team, including reporting lines, communication and conflict resolution mechanisms;
- c) Review the results framework and finalize the indicators, means of verification and monitoring regime;
- d) Discuss relationships, roles and responsibilities of monitoring and evaluation, complete monitoring and evaluation budget; identify national / regional institutes that can participate at the project level to the monitoring and evaluation activities; discuss the role of monitoring and evaluation of GEF OFP;
- e) Update and review the monitoring responsibilities in the different plans and strategies of the project, including the Risk log; the Environmental and Social Management and other protection requirements; gender strategy; Knowledge Management Strategy and other relevant strategies;
- f) Review the mandatory procedures and requirements for financial reporting, and agree on the terms of annual inspections;
- g) Plan and schedule project meetings of the Governing Council and finalize the work plan for the first year.

Inception Report: The Project Manager will prepare the initial report within one month after the inception workshop. The inception report will be endorsed by the UNDP country office and the UNDP Regional Technical Advisor - GEF, and will be approved by the Steering Committee.

Implementation Report of the GEF Project (PIR): The Project Manager, UNDP Country Office and the Regional Technical Advisor of UNDP - GEF will make an objective contribution to the GEF Annual PIR covering the reporting period; July (of the previous year) to June (of the current year) for each year of implementation of the project. The Project Manager will ensure that the indicators included in the framework of the project results are monitored every year before the NIR submission deadline; so that progress can be reported in the PIR. The environmental and social risks and related management plans will be monitored regularly and progress will be reported in the PIR.

PIR submitted to the GEF will be shared with the Project Steering Committee. The UNDP country office will coordinate as appropriate, the written contributions of the GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders in the content of the PIR. The quality rating of the RIP of the previous year will be used to inform the preparation of subsequent PIR.

Lessons Learned and Knowledge Generation: The results will be disseminated within and beyond the project intervention zone and other projects and programmes through existing networks and information-sharing forums. The project will identify and participate, in a relevant and appropriate way, in networks and scientific forums, and / or other policy-based networks, which can be beneficial for the project. The project will identify, analyze, and share lessons learned that might be beneficial for the design and implementation of similar projects and widely disseminate these lessons. There will be a continuous exchange of information between this project and other similar projects of interest in the same country, the same region and in the world.

Tracking Tools for GEF focal areas: Global Wildlife Programme Tracking Tool (GWP TT) will be used to monitor the overall results of the environmental benefits: as agreed with the Regional technical advisor of UNDP-GEF. Baseline / approval by the CEO of the GWP TT of this draft document will be updated by the Head of the Project Team (not the consultants responsible for the evaluation retained to undertake the MTR or TE) and shared with consultants for the midterm and final evaluations to review before the required exam/assessment missions to take place. GWP TT updated will be submitted to the GEF and the mid-term review report completed and the final evaluation report.

Independent Mid-Term Review (IMR): An independent mid-term process will begin after the second PIR was submitted to the GEF, and the MTR report will be submitted to the GEF in the same year as the 3rd PIR. The conclusions of the MTR and the responses described in the Management Response will be incorporated as recommendations for enhanced implementation during the final half of the project period. The terms of reference, the review process and the MTR report will respect standard models and guidelines prepared by the UNDP IEO for projects funded by the GEF and available on the website of the UNDP Evaluation Resource Centre (ERC). As indicated in this document, the assessment will be "independent, impartial and rigorous." The consultants that will be hired to undertake the mission will be independent of the organizations that were involved in the design, execution or to advice on the project to evaluate. The GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders will be involved and consulted in the final evaluation process. Additional support for quality assurance will be available from the UNDP-GEF Management. The final report MTR will be available in English and will be endorsed by the UNDP Country Office and the Regional Technical Advisor UNDP-GEF, and approved by the Steering Committee.

Final Evaluation (FE): An independent Final Evaluation (TE) will be held at the end of all results and main activities of the project. The final evaluation process will begin three months before the operational closure of the project by allowing the assessment mission to perform while the project team is still in place, while ensuring that the project is close enough to the end for the evaluation team to draw conclusions on key issues such as sustainability. The Project Manager will remain under contract until the TE ratio and steering response are finalized. The terms of reference, the evaluation and the final report TE process will respect the standard templates and guidelines prepared by the IEO UNDP for projects funded by the GEF and available on the UNDP Evaluation Resource Center site. As indicated in this document, the assessment will be "independent, impartial and rigorous." The consultants will be hired to undertake the mission will be independent of the organizations that were involved in the design, implementation or advising on the project to evaluate. The GEF Operational Focal Point and other stakeholders will be involved and consulted in the final

evaluation process. Additional guidelines for quality assurance are available from the UNDP-GEF Management. TE final report will be endorsed by the UNDP country office and the Regional Technical Advisor UNDP-GEF, and will be approved by the Board of Directors of the project. TE report will be publicly available in English on the UNDP ERC website.

Final Report: At the end of the project, the PIR and the terminal evaluation report (TE) and the response of the corresponding direction will serve as the final project report package. The final package of draft report should be discussed with the Project Board during a final project review meeting to discuss lesson and scaling up opportunities.

The UNDP Country Office will integrate the project evaluation planned in the evaluation plan of the UNDP Country Office, and download the final evaluation report in English and the Project Steering corresponding response at UNDP evaluation resource Centre (ERC). Once downloaded to the ERC, the IEO UNDP will conduct a quality assessment and validate the findings and assessments in the TE report, and evaluate the quality of the TE report. The UNDP IEO's evaluation report will be sent to the IEO GEF and the final project evaluation report.

Mandatory GEF M&E Requirements and M&E Budget:

<i>GEF M&E requirements</i>	<i>Primary responsibility</i>	<i>Indicative costs to be charged to the Project Budget⁷ (USD)</i>		<i>Time frame</i>
		<i>GEF grant</i>	<i>Co-financing</i>	
<i>Inception Report</i>	Project Manager	None	None	Within two weeks of inception workshop
<i>Standard UNDP monitoring and reporting requirements as outlined in the UNDP POPP</i>	UNDP Country Office	None	None	Quarterly, annually
<i>GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR)</i>	Project Manager and UNDP Country Office and UNDP-GEF team	None	None	Annually
<i>Monitoring of environmental and social risks, and corresponding management plans as relevant</i>	Project Manager	None	None	Monitoring of environmental and social risks, and corresponding management plans as relevant
<i>Addressing environmental and social grievances</i>	Project Manager	None	None	Addressing environmental and social grievances
<i>Supervision missions</i>	UNDP Country Office	None	None	Annually
<i>Oversight missions</i>	UNDP-GEF team	None	None	Troubleshooting as

⁷ Excluding project team staff time and UNDP staff time and travel expenses.

GEF M&E requirements	Primary responsibility	Indicative costs to be charged to the Project Budget⁷ (USD)		Time frame
		GEF grant	Co-financing	
				needed
GEF Secretariat learning missions/site visits	UNDP Country Office and Project Manager and UNDP-GEF team	None	None	To be determined.
Inception Workshop	UNDP Country Office	USD 9,000	None	Within two months of project document signature
Monitoring of indicators in project results framework	Project Manager	Per year: USD 5,000 Total: \$30,000	Per year: USD 2,500 Total: \$15,000	Annually
Audit as per UNDP audit policies	UNDP Country Office	None	Per year: USD 3000 Total: \$18,000	Annually as per UNDP Audit policies
Lessons learned and knowledge generation	Project Manager	USD 10,000	None	Annually
Project Board meetings	Project Board UNDP Country Office Project Manager	Per year: USD 4,000 Total: \$ 24,000	None	Annually
Knowledge management as outlined in Outcome 4	Project Manager	USD 7,000	None	On-going
Mid-term GEF Tracking Tool to be updated by ACFAP	Project Manager	USD 6,000	None	Before mid-term review mission takes place.
Independent Mid-term Review (MTR) and management response	UNDP Country Office and Project team and UNDP-GEF team	None	USD 20,000	Between 2 nd and 3 rd PIR.


<i>GEF M&E requirements</i>	<i>Primary responsibility</i>	<i>Indicative costs to be charged to the Project Budget⁷ (USD)</i>		<i>Time frame</i>
		<i>GEF grant</i>	<i>Co-financing</i>	
<i>Terminal GEF Tracking Tool to be updated by (add name of national/regional institute if relevant)</i>	Project Manager	USD 6,000	None	Before terminal evaluation mission takes place
<i>Independent Terminal Evaluation (TE) included in UNDP evaluation plan, and management response</i>	UNDP Country Office and Project team and UNDP-GEF team	None	USD 30,000	At least three months before operational closure
<i>Translation of MTR and TE reports into English/French</i>	UNDP Country Office	USD 4,000	None	
TOTAL indicative COST Excluding project team staff time, and UNDP staff and travel expenses		USD 96,000, or 3.1% of GEF funding	USD 83,000	

PART III: CERTIFICATION BY GEF PARTNER AGENCY (IES)

GEF Agency(ies) certification

This request has been prepared in accordance with GEF policies⁸ and procedures and meets the GEF criteria for CEO endorsement under GEF-6.

A.

B. Agency Coordinator, Agency Name	Signature	Date (MM/dd/yyyy)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	Email Address
Adriana Dinu, UNDP-GEF Executive Coordinator		30/12/2016	Paul Harrison, Regional Technical Advisor – EBD, UNDP	+251 (0) 912 503 310	paul.harrison@undp.org

⁸ GEF policies encompass all managed trust funds, namely: GEFTF, LDCF, and SCCF

ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK (either copy and paste here the framework from the Agency document, or provide reference to the page in the project document where the framework could be found).

This project will contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goal (s): *list relevant SDG goal (s) SDG1: No Poverty ; SDG2: Zero Hunger; SDG5: Gender Equality ; SDG7 : Affordable and Clean Energy ; SDG10: Reduced Inequalities ; SDG12 : Responsible Consumption and Production and SDG15 : Life on Land*

This project will contribute to the following country outcome included in the UNDAF/Country Programme Document: *By 2018, institutions and populations are implementing sustainable environment management policies integrating climate change adaptation and mitigation measures.*

This project will be linked to the following output of the UNDP Strategic Plan :

Output 1.3: Solutions developed at national and sub-national levels for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste. (IRRF Indicators 1.3.1 and 1.3.2)

Output 2.5: Legal and regulatory frameworks, policies and institutions enabled to ensure the conservation, sustainable use, and access and benefit sharing of natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems, in line with international conventions and national legislation. (IRRF Indicator 2.5.1)

Objective/Outcomes	Objective and Outcome Indicators	Baseline	Mid-term Target	End of Project Target	Assumptions
Objective: <i>To strengthen the conservation of globally threatened species in the basins of the Republic of Congo by improving biodiversity enforcement</i>	Mandatory Indicator 1: Number of new partnership mechanisms for financing sustainable management solutions natural resources, ecosystem services at local, national and sub regional (IRRF 1.3.1.)	0	3 ⁹	3	Private sector sees economic and reputation benefits in the establishment of partnerships with local communities
	Mandatory Indicator 2: a) Total number (%) of people (m/f) benefiting from CBNRM, sustainable agriculture and forestry, and small business development in the project areas (IRRF 1.3.2) b) Number of beneficiaries with access to renewable energy and energy efficiency through electric power from solar energy (IRRF 1.5.2)	a) 115 (f: 63/m:52), ~1% of the population in the project area b) 800 (f:440/m:360)	a) 4,000 (f: 2,800/m:1,200), 33% of the population in the project area b) 1,500 (f: 1050/m:450)	a) 8,000 (f:5,600/m:2,400), 67% of the population in the project area b) 3,000 (f:2,100/m:900)	In the result of the project investments, total number of people benefiting from CBNRM and sustainable livelihood will increase

⁹ 3 new partnership mechanisms for financing sustainable management solutions natural resources, ecosystem services will be established with logging and agribusiness companies operating in northern Congo so as to comply with standard certifications norms and to contribute to the project overall funding mainly through the implementation of component 2.

	<p>Mandatory Indicator 3: Extent to which institutional frameworks are in place for conservation, sustainable use, and access and benefit sharing of natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems (IRRF 2.5.1):</p> <p>a) National Wildlife Crime Enforcement Unit;</p> <p>b) National IWT Enforcement Strategy</p>	<p>a) <i>None</i></p> <p>b) <i>None</i></p>	<p>a) <i>officially established</i></p> <p>b) <i>approved by Government</i></p>	<p>a) <i>Fully operational</i>¹⁰</p> <p>b) <i>Implemented</i>¹¹</p>	<p>Government will allocate enough funds and staff for NWCEU and implementation of IWT Strategy</p>
	<p>Indicator 4: Populations of forest elephant (a) and gorilla (b) in the project area</p>	<p>a) <i>20,000</i></p> <p>b) <i>26,000</i></p> <p>(2016)</p>	<p>a) <i>20,000</i></p> <p>b) <i>26,000</i></p>	<p>a) <i>20,000</i></p> <p>b) <i>26,000</i></p>	<p>Poaching and illegal logging are the main threats for the species. As the project mitigates the threats the populations remain stable or increasing</p>
<p>Outcome 1. Expanded PA network and improved management effectiveness of PAs in the Congo Basin, specifically Odzala-Kokoua, Lossi Gorilla Sanctuary, and Messok Dja, an area of 2,667,160 ha</p>	<p>Indicator 5: Total area (ha):</p> <p>(a) covered by PAs/% of Aichi target for Congo, including officially Messok Dja NP, and functioning zones for three target PAs</p> <p>(b) under implemented Integrated Management Plans</p>	<p>a) <i>1,389,600/70%</i></p> <p>b) <i>0</i></p>	<p>a) <i>2,100,380/83%</i></p> <p>b) <i>1,533,600</i></p>	<p>a) <i>2,667,160/96%</i></p> <p>b) <i>2,667,160</i></p>	<p>Governmental agencies and local stakeholders will approve functional zoning developed by the project.</p> <p>Government will approve PA extension suggested by the project with allocation of additional funding for management</p>
	<p>Indicator 6: METT score for targeted PAs</p>	<p><i>PNOK: 68</i></p> <p><i>SGL : 25</i></p>	<p><i>PNOK: 83</i></p> <p><i>SGL: 50</i></p>	<p><i>PNOK : 93</i></p> <p><i>SGL: 75</i></p>	<p>Implementation of MPs and increased capacity of the PA staff will improve PA management</p>
<p>Outcome 2. Biodiversity and Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT) priorities are</p>	<p>Indicator 7: Capacity of National Enforcement Agencies to control IWT (UNDP Capacity</p>	<p><i>49%</i></p>	<p><i>60%</i></p>	<p><i>80%</i></p>	<p>Capacities of law enforcement agencies</p>

¹⁰ Established as the ANFAP department, have appropriate funding and staff, and annual reports

¹¹ Coordinated by ANFAP with allocation of appropriate staff, have annual implementation reports

integrated into key national policies and plans and harmonized with regional initiatives	scorecard, %)				will increase after the project investments and lead to increased number of IW trader arrests and successful prosecutions
	Indicator 8: Results of law enforcement on IWT in the project area in 2016: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. annual number of inspections/patrolling; 2. annual number seizures; 3. annual number of arrests; 4. annual number of successful prosecutions on poaching and IWT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 420 2. 102 3. 98 4. 32 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 504 2. 122 3. 118 4. 46 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 588 2. 142 3. 137 4. 56 	
	Indicator 9: Poaching rate for forest elephants in the project area (individuals killed annually)	28 (2016)	16	8	Increased number of poacher and IW trader arrests and successful prosecutions will have strong deterrent effect on poaching
Outcome 3. Strengthened sustainable livelihood capacity in the targeted PA complexes	Indicator 10: Number of hotspots under effective community based poaching prevention and control	10	20	50	Local people will see economic benefits and increased security of livelihood in the land restoration practices, small biodiversity-friendly business, CBNRM and SFM
	Indicator 11: Number of direct biodiversity-friendly jobs created in the result of the project activities: Total (f/m)	0	500 (f: 350/m:150)	1,000 (f: 700/m: 300), ~8% of the population in the project area	
	Indicator 12: Total area under CBNRM (ha) and sustainable land management	0	566,780	1,133,560	
	Indicator 13: Total volume of CO2 mitigated in the project area as per the GEF GWP TT (tCO2eq)	0	5,000,000	11,380,000	

Outcome 4 Lessons learned by the project through participatory M&E, including gender mainstreaming practices, are used to fight poaching and IWT and promote community based conservation nationally and internationally	Indicator 14: Number of the lessons on IWT control and CBNRM learned by the project that used in other national and international projects	0	5	10	Other stakeholders are interested in the lessons learned by this project
	Indicator 15: % of women among the project participants directly benefiting from the project activities	2%	30%	50%	Other stakeholders are interested to participate in the project M&E

ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS (from GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF).

Responses to the STAP comments relevant to the Congo project are shown in the table below:

STAP Comment on GWP child projects	PPG team response
<p>...these child projects are not yet systematically linked to the programmatic theory of change, and this will evolve further during the PPG phase. We would like to see the PPG laying out more clearly the theory of change, including the key issues that the child projects should consider at a more general level so that they best reflect the Program Framework Document overall theory of change, recognizing the circumstances of each country. As they get resubmitted, they should include explicit linkages to this program and the emerging theory of change, noting that there will and should be iterative learning between the program and child projects.</p>	<p>Strong and clear linkages of the Congo project to the GWP theory of change is articulated in the Strategy section of the Prodoc and Child Project section of the CEO ER. Table showing alignment of the project strategies (Components) to the Outcomes and Targets of GWP is inserted in the sections. Moreover, Component 4 of the project is designed to support iterative learning from the project activities and activities of other child projects.</p>
<p>One strategy is to ban trade, and undercut this market. However, even if this can be operationalized, removing the value of wildlife is equally (perhaps even more?) devastating as wildlife is no longer a competitive land use option outside protected areas, and will be replaced this is clearly illustrated in the loss of wildlife in the 1960s when IWT was not a problem but wildlife was still rapidly disappearing (IUCN 1963). Thus, the PPG should consider the question not only of the price of wildlife, but also the question of wildlife ownership or proprietorship (as defined by (Schlager and Ostrom 1992)).</p>	<p>The Congo project is designed to restore ownership of local communities on wildlife and other natural resources in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area via Integrated Management Planning (Component 1) and development of local capacity for CBNRM, SFM and SLM (Component 3). Restoration of local people rights on NR management and strong capacity to implement this kind of management will establish conditions for the long-term sustainable use of wildlife and forest resources in the project area.</p>
<p>The PPG will need to provide guidance on how to balance emergency short term demand reduction measures to address IWT, with the long term need to increase the potential value of wildlife to landholders and address habitat replacement. It will need to think through how removing value squares up with other initiatives that do the opposite (i.e. increase value of biodiversity) such as REDD+, PES, "making the economic case for protected areas/biodiversity" and so on. This opens up an important opportunity for the PFD to lead conservation in a more effective direction.</p>	<p>The Congo project harmonically address both: short-term issues to fight IWT directly via strengthen law enforcement (Output 1.4 of Component 1 and all Outputs of Component 2) and long-term habitat conservation issues via Integrated Management Planning for target PAs and surrounding community lands (Output 1.3 of Component 1) and development of sustainable NRM via integration of SFM and SLM in the everyday practice of local communities (Component 3).</p>
<p>Thus, the PPG should avoid simplistic solution and address both aspects of the wildlife economy - price and proprietorship. Simple solutions do not address the market failure, and economic irony, that the more valuable wildlife becomes, the faster it disappears. While we have accepted this as normal for wildlife, it is entirely contrary to human experience. For example, for most domestic species and renewable resources, the more valuable a species becomes the more a farmer grows it. Therefore the PPG should consider how the outcome of high wildlife prices is influenced by the underlying "proprietary" status of the resource.</p>	<p>As we said above, the Congo project is designed to include local communities in wildlife and other NR management in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area (Component 1) and develop appropriate local capacity to implement this management sustainably (Component 3).</p>

<p>In sum, wildlife crime/trafficking needs to be dealt with at three levels:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) assisting the landholders themselves (including protected areas) to protect their resources, (PFD needs strengthened in this area) 2) specifically tackling higher level criminals and not just low level poachers at the bottom, and (PFD adequately addresses this issue) 3) tackling international channels for moving illegal products (PFD adequately addresses this issue) 	<p>The Congo project addresses all three levels of wildlife crime management:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Component 1 is designed to involve local people around 3 PAs in the law enforcement and develop a so called socio-economic shield around the PAs (CBNRM area). Thus, the local people will not only have benefits from wildlife, but will be able to actively protect it; 2) Component 2 addresses all levels of the wildlife crime chain via establishment of the National Wildlife Crime Enforcement Unit and improving national wildlife legislation to effectively enforce all segments of the IWT chain; 3) Component 2 will also strengthen international cooperation between Congo, Gabon and Cameroon to disrupt international channels of the IWT (Output 2.6)
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Responses to the GEF SEC comments on the project from January 11 2017:

CEO endorsement Review			
Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments
			Responses locations
Project Design and Financing	1. If there are any changes from that presented in the PIF, have justifications been provided?	1-6-17 Yes. See pages 8-10 Cleared	Thank you!
	2. Is the project structure/ design appropriate to achieve the expected outcomes and outputs?	1-6-17 GENERAL The GEF secretariat wants to congratulate the Republic of Congo and UNDP for the development of this project. In addition to the engagement of the Government Agencies, it is encouraging to the commitment of the Government, the participation of the private Sector and the NGO community needs to be applauded. These are partners that the GEF want to include more in the development and execution of the projects, and this project in Congo is exemplary. POINTS OF SUBSTANCE THAT MAY REQUIRE ADDITIONAL WORK IN CEO ENDO AND PRODOC 1. How are the local communities going to benefit directly from wildlife, so there is a real reason to protect it? If there is no	Thank you! Agree. The local communities will directly benefit from wildlife in the following ways provided by the project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-establishment of community rights and ownership on wildlife and other biological resources in the buffer and

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments Responses locations
		<p>direct benefit, the gains made by the CBNRM, SLM and SFM interventions may be used to supplement the gains made with poaching. In other words, these "alternatives" may simply enhance the livelihoods of local communities, for them to continue poaching or assisting poaching which is much more lucrative. Regarding this point, why would communities carry-out anti-poaching monitoring? (p.11 of CEO Endorsement).</p>	<p>sustainable development zones of 3 targeted PAs (PA zoning and Integrated Management Planning will help to realize in full community rights on wildlife and other forest resources via allocation forest lands for community ownership and development of CBWM, SLM and SFM practices allowed in the buffer and sustainable development zones (in accordance with Article 31 of Law No. 10-2004 of 26 March 2004). Thus, each local community will have officially designated area for CBWM, SFM and SLM confirmed by relevant agreements with other stakeholders);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of Community Based Sustainable Game and Bushmeat Hunting in accordance with Integrated Management Plans developed for 3 PAs and surrounding areas. In this case local communities will have fair share from game hunting revenues and legal income from selling bushmeat on the local markets; • Development of Community Based Ecotourism oriented to watching of wildlife including endangered species as additional flow of income that add value to the wildlife in the project area. <p>All these three mechanisms together will provide local communities with legal rights and tools to manage wildlife, manifest high economic value of wildlife to the communities and give good reasons to protect it from poaching. To make this system working the project will invest considerable resources in the capacity building of local communities (Component 3) to ensure that local communities will have sufficient and stable flow of revenue, good community level governance and equity among community members, and sustainability of the system, based on the best examples of CBNRM in Kenia, South Africa, and Tanzania. Development of such Community Based Wildlife Management (CBWM) system around 3 target PAs will establish so called socio-economic shield around the PAs. In this situation any poacher in the project area will be seen by local communities as someone</p>

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments Responses locations
			<p>coming to steal their own property and source of income. That will be the reason for the communities to carry out anti-poaching monitoring.</p> <p>The emphasis of the project to CBWM has been strengthened as described above: in the Strategy section of the Prodoc (in the documents all this and other changes are highlighted with green): pp. 11-13 (paragraph 20-23) and Table 1. Project Theory of Change, pp. 15-17; in the Expected Results section, pp. 22-30</p> <p>The CBWM component is also strengthened in the CEO ER: Project Justification section, pp. 11-12.</p>

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments Responses locations
		<p>2. No reference was made to CITES and the commitments of Congo to this legally binding convention. Please elaborate on how Congo is using this project to fulfill its commitments with CITES.</p>	<p>The project will catalyze implementation of the Congo commitments within the CITES via:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improvement of National IWT enforcement strategy (Output 2.1.); • establishment of National Wildlife Crime Enforcement Unit to control poaching and IWT in the country (Output 2.2); • strengthening border and domestic check points with sniffer dogs trained to detect mainly ivory, bush meat, pangolin scales and wildlife trophies (Output 2.5); • capacity building of Congo Judicial Monitoring Joint Committee to monitor national IWT law enforcement implementation and effectiveness as well as law enforcement obstruction and corruption (Output 2.3); • facilitation of implementation of the Congo agreements with national countries on IWT prevention and elimination (Output 2.6). • The project will increase overall effectiveness of law enforcement regarding poaching and IWT and control on the national CITES implementation. <p>Additionally, during its implementation phase, the project will build cooperation with the African Development Bank and other donors for leveraging of additional resources to establish IWT check points with modern equipment to detect wildlife illegal trafficking along all the main roads and at the border crossings.</p> <p>The paragraph above was added to the Consistency with National Priorities section of the CEO ER (p.37-38) and to the Strategy section in the prodoc (paragraph 22, p. 12).</p>

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments Responses locations
		<p>3. Please introduce a paragraph describing how the project in Congo has benefited and will benefited from the activities carried out by the WB thorough the Coordination Grant.</p> <p>POINTS OF CLARIFICATION TO BE ADDRESSED IN TEXT OF CEO ENDORSEMENT AND PRODOC:</p> <p>1. ACTION REQUESTED: What does it mean "restoration of community access rights and ownership of biological resources around PAs as alternatives to poaching" (p. 10 CEO Endorsement). Reads as if they have no rights. Is that the case?</p>	<p>A new paragraph describing how the project in Congo has benefited and will benefit from the activities carried out by the WB through the Coordination Grant is introduced in both the CEO ER and prodoc.</p> <p>Please, see Child Project section of the CEO ER, p. 20, and Strategy section of the prodoc, paragraph 30, p.18</p> <p>Yes, currently local and indigenous communities in Congo have no real rights to manage forest and wildlife resources. The Congo traditional governance era on biological resources (up to the middle of 20th century) used to set for informal community based ownership rights on forest and wildlife resources for each local community known and accepted by all communities. But last few decades vast majority of the forest in Congo has been allocated as logging concessions or as strictly protected areas. Thus, today 74% of all Congo forests are under logging concessions (often managed by foreign logging companies), 20.5% - covered by Protected Areas, and 0% - formally allocated to local communities (Eisen et al., 2014)</p> <p>As a result of this change of ownership, started an abandon the local rules and regulations and consequently led to wide spread illegal logging, poaching, and slash and burn agriculture. However, local people can become owners of private forests if they are located on land owned by them, or owners of private forest plantations if these forests were planted on land owned by the State (cf. art. 33 34, 35 16-2000 of 20 November 2000 on the Forest Code). In</p>

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments Responses locations
			<p>addition, Article 31 of Law No. 10-2004 of 26 March 2004 laying down the general principles applicable to federal land and plan proclaims the recognition of customary land rights for people occupying the land for 30 years. Unfortunately, this recognition is subjected to timely and costly fiscal and technical conditions. These conditions can rarely be met by local communities or members of indigenous people without capacity building or external support.</p> <p>Thus, the project will assist local and indigenous communities to claim their legal rights on forest and wildlife defined by the Forest Code. This activities are embedded in the Outputs 1.2 and 1.3 devoted to development of effective functional zones and Integrated Management Plans for three target PAs with involvement of local communities as key stakeholders. Relevant agreements on sustainable forest and wildlife management will be developed and signed between local communities, PAs, forest concessions and relevant government agencies based on the customary rights of local people on forest and wildlife. Moreover, the project will build capacity of local communities on the sustainable community-based wildlife and forest management (Component 3) and will work with private companies to embed community based conservation and management in the plans of logging, mining and agro-forestry concessions (Output 3.5). The forest service in Congo has recently started the process of establishment of community owned conservation concessions, but no results have been yet achieved. The project will catalyze this important process during its implementation.</p> <p>Relevant edits were made in the prodoc in the Development Challenge section (p.9), Strategy section (paragraph 20, p. 11), and Expected Results section (paragraphs 48 and 49)</p> <p>The edits were incorporated in the CEO ER: p.10, Project Justification section.</p>

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments Responses locations
		<p>2. Component 2. Does the "National Training Center for wildlife crime law enforcement" exist or is it going to be created by the project. ACTION REQUESTED: Please elaborate on the specific activities to be supported by the GEF project.</p>	<p>The center does exist. The National Training Centre on wildlife crime enforcement was established at Lébangou near OKNP by the ANFAP, but the Center's current capacity to train law enforcement officers (PA agents, Police, Gendarmerie, Custom Services, Military and Defence, Judiciary court and Prosecutors) is very limited and does not exceed 90 persons a year. To increase the Center's capacity to train up to 180 officers a year (Project Target), additional investment in infrastructures, training equipment, development of mandatory training programmes and curriculum, and training of the Center staff is necessary. Specifically, the project will invest in the extension of the center building (enlargement of dormitory and training rooms), additional equipment (beds for dormitory rooms, mosquito nets, computers, GPS navigators, trail cameras, radios, training attributes). Following mandatory training programs will be developed and officially approved by the Ministry of Forest Economy, Sustainable Development and Environment: wildlife crime law enforcement surveillance, use of technology and interactive tools to control wildlife crime, wildlife crime legislation and its application, wildlife crime criminal investigation and prosecution, strategy and tactic of anti-poaching, etc. The project will train the center staff to effectively deliver the mandatory training programmes and support initial trainings of the National Wildlife Crime Enforcement Unit and ranger staff of 3 target PAs.</p> <p>The above paragraph was added to the prodoc: Expected Results section, p.27, paragraph 55. Also minor edits were made to the CEO ER: Project justification section, Component 2, p.11</p>

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments Responses locations
		<p>3. Output 2.6 comes as a surprise. Isn't there already a history of international agreements in the TRIDOM area? Is this output really needed? ACTION REQUESTED: Remove output?</p> <p>4. ACTION REQUESTED: What does "Sustainable NRM practices introduced to logging, mining and agro-business companies" mean? Please elaborate in CEO Endorsement as there is only one reference to this intervention.</p>	<p>Output 2.6 deleted from the prodoc and CEO ER</p> <p>Output 3.5. Sustainable NRM practices are introduced to logging and agro-business companies. The project will provide assistance to the private sector to integrate environmental standards for NRM certification and corporate conservation programmes in their activities in accordance with requirements of environmentally sensitive markets of Europe and the USA. Special attention will be devoted to involving local and indigenous communities in the wildlife and forest management on the concession lands and public monitoring of the private sector activities in the TRIDOM area (via community-company agreements and trainings). The techniques for Environmental and Social Impact Assessments will be promoted among the companies in order to develop better techniques and technologies for logging and transportation of wood as well as sustainable oil palm plantation based on improved RSPO criteria to ensure conservation of wild habitat and sustainable benefits for local communities. Particularly, the project will cooperate with the companies to prevent access of poachers to wildlife rich areas via logging roads and develop moratorium agreements on logging in the most biodiversity rich and important for indigenous communities areas. These activities will be implemented in cooperation with WWF, WCS, ULAB Committee and Forest Service Department. The above paragraph has been</p>

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments Responses locations
		<p>5. Component 3. What are the specific interventions for eco- tourism and sustainable livestock breeding (the last not eligible by the GEF)? p. 11 of CEO Endorsement. They are superficially mentioned in the project and do not appear to be properly rooted in the project or with a budget. ACTION REQUESTED: Please further elaborate on CEO Endorsement and Prodoc</p> <p>6. How 400 ha of community based restoration compare to the area of influence of the project? Not clear if this is an output that is meaningful at the scale necessary to make an impact in favor of conservation of wildlife. ACTION REQUESTED: Please clarify in CEO Endorsement and Prodoc.</p>	<p>added to the CEO ER (Project Justification section, Component 3, p. 12</p> <p>Livestock breeding was deleted from the project as activity not eligible for GEF funding and due to limited project budget.</p> <p>Special training programme on wildlife oriented tourism will be developed and suggested to former poachers in the project area in cooperation with the Congo Conservation Company that has significant experience in ecotourism in Congo (http://www.odzala.com/): traditional local hunters will be trained to serve as guides, souvenir makers and entertainers for tourists given their unique tracking skills, knowledge of wildlife and amazing cultural traditions.</p> <p>The above paragraph added to the prodoc (Expected Results section, paragraph 58, p. 28) and CEO ER (Project Justification section, Component 3, p. 11)</p> <p>Fully agree. Given very low rate of current habitat degradation in the project area and very significant area of the project overall influence (2,600,000 ha), 400 ha of restored habitat does not make sense for improvement of wildlife status. The project is oriented on the sustainable land management in the buffer and sustainable development zones of 3 target PAs, but not the land restoration. Another reason to remove this outcome is limited funding of the project.</p> <p>Deleted from both prodoc (Expected Results section and PRF) and CEO ER.</p>

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments Responses locations
		<p>7. What are the specific Private Sector companies that will collaborate with the implementation of Component 3 (p. 21 of CEO Endorsement). What are the specific roles of the mining companies in this project?</p>	<p>The specific Private Sector companies that will collaborate with the implementation of Component 3 are following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congo Conservation Company (tourist company oriented to wildlife tourism). This company is one of the key stakeholders for the PA zoning and development of Integrated Management Plan (Outputs 1.2-1.3) and the key partner for involvement of local and indigenous communities in wildlife oriented tourism (Output 3.1) • Eco-Oil Energie SA (palm oil producer). This company is one the key stakeholders for the PA zoning and development of Integrated Management Plan (Outputs 1.2-1.3) and the key partner for involvement of local and indigenous communities in small scale oil palm plantations on the degraded lands (Output 3.1-3.3) as well as in the development of sustainable oil palm plantation practices based on improved RSPO principles and corporate conservation programmes with involvement of local and indigenous communities (Output 3.5) • Industrie Forestière de Ouesso (logging company). This company is one the key stakeholders for the PA zoning and development of Integrated Management Plan (Outputs 1.2-1.3) and the key partner for involvement of local and indigenous communities in SFM (Output 3.1-3.3) as well as in the development of sustainable logging practices and corporate conservation programmes with involvement of local and indigenous communities (Output 3.5) <p>All three companies will provide funds for micro-loans in the framework of the project co-financing (Output 3.2).</p> <p>Mining companies in the project area is one of the key</p>

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments Responses locations
			<p>stakeholders that will be involved by the project in the PA zoning and Integrated Management Planning (Component 1).</p> <p>The paragraph above is inserted in the prodoc's Strategy section (paragraph 27, p. 13-14). The companies are mentioned in the Stakeholders section (p.35).</p> <p>Edits also made in the CEO ER (Project Justification section, Component 3, p. 12</p>

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments Responses locations
	3. Is the financing adequate and does the project demonstrate a cost-effective approach to meet the project objective?	<p>1-6-17</p> <p>1. Not clear if the budget is sufficient to achieve the objectives. It appears that the project may be overpromising and may end up under delivering. The total GEF funds are \$3.1M for a 6 year project. Meaning an investment of \$500K/year on average, with a very high transaction cost. Unless the co-financing materializes during project implementation (both cash and inkind), the GEF investment is not going to be sufficient to have an impact. ACTION REQUESTED: Please assess the risk of the cofinancing NOT becoming available for execution. Four (4) of the seven (7) co-financiers offered In-Kind contributions. See below.</p>	<p>Following changes have been made to the project design and budget to optimize expenses and decrease risk of failure to achieve expected Outcomes in case the co-financing will not be delivered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Output 2.6. has been deleted from the project as unnecessary; • Restoration of 400 ha (under Outputs 3.2-3.3) has been deleted from the project as unnecessary, expensive, and not feasible economically. Instead the project will use the degraded lands for development of the small scale community oil palm plantation using one of the most important RSPO criteria that states that no primary forests or areas which contain significant concentrations of biodiversity (e.g. endangered species) or fragile ecosystems, or areas which are fundamental to meeting basic or traditional cultural needs of local communities (high conservation value areas), can be cleared. Moreover, these activities will be implemented fully under support of Eco-Oil Energie SA company in the framework of the project co-financing. • Sustainable livestock breeding was removed as part of the project (Outputs 3.1-3.3) as not eligible for GEF funding, limited project budget, and high expenses for livestock disease control in the forested regions of Africa. • Under Output 3.5 the project will focus mainly on work with logging and agro-forestry companies that has the most impact on biodiversity in the area. Mining projects are currently not active in the area due to the recent fall in iron ore prices; • Under Output 3.3 number of grants to local community was reduced from 500 to more realistic 250. Thus, additional planned 250 grants and 500

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments Responses locations
			<p>micro-loans will be delivered in case if planned co-financing from private sector materializes.</p> <p>However, it should be mentioned that the overall risk of failure to provide co-financing is low due to growing prices for palm oil, high annual payments of logging companies to national reserves to support CBNRM, stable tourist flow to Congo, and long-term commitments of WWF and WCS to invest funds in conservation of TRIDOM area. Moreover, the project will build partnerships with other organizations (e.g., Joe Aspinall Foundation and African Development Bank, USAID, GIZ) to leverage resources for the project implementation.</p> <p>Relevant changes were made in the prodoc (Expected Results section, paragraphs 60; Planning and financial management, paragraph 148 and co-financing tabel) and CEO ER (Incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCE, SCCF, and co-financing Section, p. 18).</p>

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments Responses locations
		<p>2. The ATLAS Budget Descriptions in the Budget of the Project Document are very difficult to relate to the proposed interventions. ACTION REQUESTED: Please provide a budget per output in all components in CEO Endorsement.</p> <p>3. Budget for Component 1 appears particularly low in relation to the proposed outputs, and when compared to the budget of Component 2. Component 1 covers three PAs with a very large combined surface area. Not sure the funding will be sufficient to cover the proposed activities. ACTION REQUESTED: Suggest reconsidering the budget allocation for this Component and/or the number of target protected areas.</p> <p>4. ACTION REQUESTED: What is the cost of the "detection dog brigade" and who is going to pay the recurrent costs? p. 10 CEO Endorsement.</p>	<p>A budget per output for all project components is provided in the CEO ER (Table B)</p> <p>Budget for Component 1 was increased up to \$1,143,500. Component 2 budget decreased to \$886,500 respectively.</p> <p>The changes were made in the prodoc Total Budget and Work Plan section, pp.66-70; and CEO ER's Table B and Change table, p. 8.</p> <p>The cost for establishment and training of the detection dog brigade is \$350,000-400,000 with \$356,000 planned from the GEF grant (budget note #15). After establishment the brigade will be supported and operated by MEFDD and ANFAP in cooperation with Joe Aspinall Foundation. Similar detection dog brigade was established and is currently operational in Brazzaville.</p> <p>Relevant additions were made in the prodoc (Expected Results section, p.28, paragraph 56) and CEO ER (Project Justification section, Component 2, p. 10)</p>

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments Responses locations
		<p>5.It is not possible to know what percentage of the local communities will be served by the project and which ones will not. Can the project really put 1.1 million hectares under CBNRM, SLM and SFM? That is under \$1/ha with GEF funds and \$6/ha if all co-financing materializes during project execution. ACTION REQUESTED: Clarification in response matrix and amendments in CEO Endorsement and Prodoc as appropriate.</p>	<p>Congo TRIDOM segment has population about 31,000 people only (http://carpe.umd.edu/Documents/2006/Dja_SOF2006.pdf). The entire population of the project area does not exceed 12,000 people per 2,667,160 ha targeted by the project (population density about 0.5 people/km²) (see GWP GEF Tracking Tool).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total number of people that will benefit from the project via CBWM, SLM and SFM is ~ 8,000 (67% of population in the project area, or 26% of population of entire Congo's TRIDOM segment). • The project is going to train ~2,000 people (17% of the project area population) in the project area on CBWM, SLM, SFM and small business and establish ~1,000 new jobs for local people (8% of the project area population). <p>The paragraph above has been used to update the prodoc (Strategy section, Project area, paragraph 30, p.14; Expected Results section, paragraph 40, p.24; and PRF, pp.49-51) and CEO ER, Table B; Project Justification section, Component 3, p. 12; <u>Incremental/additional cost reasoning and expected contributions from the baseline, the GEFTF, LDCF, SCCF, and co-financing</u> section, p.17).</p> <p>The PPG team is quite sure that it is possible to have ~1,133,560 ha under CBWM, SLM and SFM in the result of the project given the following:</p>

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments Responses locations
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The population density of the area is very low (about 0.5 people/km²); • Deforestation rate in the project area is very low too (0.02% a year in average in 1990-2010) and about ~1,000,000 ha of forests are under FSC certification that makes increase of deforestation rate unlikely in the nearest 5-6 years; • Buffer and sustainable development zones of 3 PAs with appropriate conservation and development regimes will cover all 1,133,560 ha adjacent to the 3 target PAs; • Integrated Management Plans that incorporates rights of local and indigenous communities on wildlife and forest resources will cover all 1,133,560 ha of the PA zones. The IMPs will incorporate agreements between different stakeholders to develop CBWM, SLM and SFM; • The project will work with local logging and agricultural companies to incorporate/implement sustainable forestry and oil palm plantation principles (RSPO and FSC), develop corporate conservation programs, sign moratorium agreements to prevent clearing of high conservation value forests, suggestion of incentive mechanisms like international carbon payments to avoid deforestation via REDD. <p>The above paragraph has been incorporated in the prodoc (Expected results section, paragraph 64, p. 30) and CEO ER (Project Justification, Component 3, p. 12; PROJECT'S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS section, footnotes, p. 6)</p>

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments Responses locations

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments Responses locations
	4. Does the project take into account potential major risks, including the consequences of climate change, and describes sufficient risk response measures? (e.g., measures to enhance climate resilience)	1-7-16 Pages 39-42 of Prodoc and 25-27 of CEO Endorsement. Cleared	Thank you!
	5. Is co-financing confirmed and evidence provided?	1-6-17 No. LoC from Eco-Oil Energie SA missing. LoC of CCC, Forest Industry of Ouessou and WWF are in-kind according to the letters. Please fix Table C in CEO Endorsement.	Eco-Oil Energie SA co-financing letter has been provided. Please see Annex. Congo Project Co-financing letters. Table C in CEO Endorsement is fixed so as to reflect the in-kind contribution of CCC, Forest Industry of Ouessou and WWF. Please see Table C of CEO ER, p.5

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments Responses locations
	6. Are relevant tracking tools completed?	<p>1-07-16</p> <p>1. Please clarify how the project aims at reducing the deforestation rate by half, both inside and outside the PA, covering 2,667,160 ha. The GEF wants to better understand how the project will avoid the deforestation of 15,000 ha of the 55,000 of a concession already awarded for oil palm plantations. This reduction in deforestation has implications for the CCM benefits as calculated in the EXACT tool.</p>	<p>The project will decrease deforestation rate approximately by half in the project area via following mechanisms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of the Messok Dja National Park (144,000 ha). Thus, total area of 3 target PAs were logging is prohibited will increase up to 57% of the project area. • The project will invest considerable funds in law enforcement capacity of the 3 target PAs and will increase the patrolling rate by 40% that will lead to significant decrease of illegal logging in the PAs; • Buffer and sustainable development zones of 3 PAs with appropriate conservation and development regimes will cover all 1,133,560 ha adjacent to the 3 target PAs. Agreed with local communities and key stakeholders the zoning will contribute to decreased deforestation rate. • Integrated Management Plans that incorporates rights of local and indigenous communities on wildlife and forest resources will cover all 1,133,560 ha of the PA zones. The IMPs will incorporate agreements between different stakeholders to develop CBWM, SLM and SFM. Thus, given the rights of local community on forest resources, local people will protect the forests from illegal logging and will use forest resource sustainably; • The project will invest resources in capacity building of local communities on SFM via grants, micro-loans and pilot projects; • The project will support development of small scale community oil palm plantations on the areas already cleared from forest, to avoid additional deforestation. • The project will work with local logging companies

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments Responses locations
		<p>2. Please elaborate on the nature of the "Effective functional zones" around the PAs, totaling 1,133,560 ha. Please introduce these changes in the CEO Endorsement (Table B) and in the Annex for the calculation of GHG emissions as appropriate.</p>	<p>to incorporate environmental standards (FSC) in their practices, develop corporate conservation programmes and set aside considerable parts of high conservation value forests via moratorium agreements, and develop incentive mechanisms for the companies to make the forestry sustainable via REDD carbon payments;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Similar the project will work with local oil palm companies to incorporate RSPO criteria and orient them to the small scale plantations on already deforested lands, using RSPO criterion: “no primary forests or areas which contain significant concentrations of biodiversity (e.g. endangered species) or fragile ecosystems, or areas which are fundamental to meeting basic or traditional cultural needs of local communities (high conservation value areas), can be cleared”. Such an areas will be identified and mapped during zoning and IM planning around target PAs. <p>The above has been incorporated in the CEO ER (PROJECT’S TARGET CONTRIBUTIONS TO GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS section, footnotes, p. 6)</p> <p>The project component 1 is designed partly to extend PA coverage in the TRIDOM via establishing appropriate functional zoning using UNESCO Biosphere Reserve model. The functional zoning will include core zone (existing PAs with strong protection), buffer zone (called also Picking Zone) for sustainable management and use of wildlife and forest resources (NTFP), including wildlife oriented ecotourism, and sustainable development zone (called also Agricultural/Habitation Zone) that will allow a variety of development activities in accordance with community local</p>

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments Responses locations
			<p>plans integrated with the IMPs, including sustainable logging, sustainable agriculture and mining, and settlements. Zoning and IMPs will strengthen law enforcement and wildlife monitoring in the PAs, and create the basis for a so-called socioeconomic shield around the PAs via restoration of community access rights and ownership of biological resources around the PAs along with the traditional set of rules and regulations for sustainable use of wildlife, other biological resources and direct profits from these resources as alternatives to poaching (Component 3). The PA zoning and IMPs will provide an overall framework for the planning of the sustainable CBWM and inclusive economic growth at the local level with recognition of community customary rights on wildlife and forest resources. Functional zones will be managed based on the agreements with local communities and other stakeholders. The access right to wildlife and other forest resources will be granted to local communities based on the management agreements and regimes of the zones. The PA zoning will be officially approved by MEFDDE.</p> <p>See prodoc (Strategy Section, paragraph 20; Expected Results section, paragraph 49) and CEO ER (Project Justification section, Component 1, p. 10).</p>
	7. <i>Only for Non-Grant Instrument</i> : Has a reflow calendar been presented?	NA	
	8. Is the project coordinated with other related initiatives and national/regional plans in the country or in the region?	<p>1-7-16</p> <p>1. Please clearly state the actions that will be taken to coordinate the investments of this project with those of ongoing and upcoming projects supported by International Development and non-NGOs listed on p. 19. It is particularly important</p>	<p>To increase effectiveness and efficiency the project will actively collaborate with a number of on-going projects and programs to leverage funding, avoid thematic intersections and double-funding, share lessons learned and increase overall positive impact on wildlife in Congo. List of proposed partnerships and coordination on-going investments is elaborated in the Table 3 of the prodoc (Partnerships section pp. 31-32) and CEO ER (Project</p>

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments Responses locations
		to elaborate on coordination with investments by bilateral organizations, including GIZ, USAID, and AFD.	Justification section, pp. 14-16)
		2. Please clarify the geographic and thematic relationship with the WB Congo project.	UNDP-GEF Project and WB-GEF Project in Congo have clear geographic focus: UNDP-GEF project focuses on the OKNP, LGS and Messok-Dja NP and surrounding area, while WB-GEF project focuses on the Ntokou-Pikounda National Park and adjacent lands. WB-GEF project have stronger focus on sustainable forest management, while UNDP-GEF project more focused on CBWM. Both projects will contribute to IWT control and development of sustainable livelihoods, however, Outputs of each project are designed to avoid thematic or geographic intersections. For example, both projects will support development of detection dog brigades and development of CBNRM, but in different regions. Project Board for both projects will be chaired the same Ministry that will coordinate their collaboration. See the Table 3 of the prodoc (Partnerships section pp. 31-32) and CEO ER (Project Justification section, pp. 14-16)
	9. Does the project include a budgeted M&E Plan that monitors and measures results with indicators and targets?	1-7-16 Yes. Cleared	Thank you!
	10. Does the project have descriptions of a knowledge management plan?	1-7-16 Yes. Component 4 of CEO Endorsement. Cleared.	Thank you!

CEO endorsement Review

Review Criteria	Questions	Secretariat Comment at CEO Endorsement	Response to Secretariat comments Responses locations
Agency Responses	11. Has the Agency adequately responded to comments at the PIF ¹² stage from:		
	• GEFSEC		
	• STAP		
	• GEF Council		
	• Convention Secretariat		
Recommendation	12. Is CEO endorsement recommended?	1-11-17 No. Please address outstanding issues under items 2,3,5,6, and 8.	All outstanding issues have been addressed above.
Review Date	Review	January 11, 2017	
	Additional Review (as necessary)		
	Additional Review (as necessary)		

¹² If it is a child project under a program, assess if the components of the child project align with the program criteria set for selection of child projects.

ANNEX C: STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT PREPARATION ACTIVITIES AND THE USE OF FUNDS

A. Provide detailed funding amount of the PPG activities financing status in the table below:

PPG Grant Approved at PIF: USD 150,000			
<i>Project Preparation Activities Implemented</i>	<i>GEF/LDCF/SCCF Amount (\$)</i>		
	<i>Budgeted Amount</i> <i>(A)</i>	<i>Amount Spent</i> <i>To Date</i> <i>(B)</i>	<i>Amount Committed</i> <i>(A-B)</i>
The following PPG Activities have been completed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collected and compiled baseline/situational review • Conducted a site-level assessment to strengthen wildlife protection against IWT • Designed a capacity-building programme for IWT law enforcement in Congo • Assessed baseline investment, project risk, developed a strategy, budget and developed project document 	150,000	149,998.09	1.91
Total	150,000	149,998.09	1.91

ANNEX D: CHANGES MADE TO THE PROJECT DESIGN FROM GWP CHILD PROJECT CONCEPT NOTE

Summary of changes made	PIF	GEF CEO ER	Rationale
Component 1 name and focus	Component 1: Improving the effective management of globally significant protected areas in the Congo Basin	Component 1: Expanding the network of globally significant protected areas in the Congo Basin	The Component name changed to reflect its focus on the expansion of PA coverage in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area and ensure alignment with the BD-1 Program 2: Nature's Last Stand: Expanding the Reach of the Global Protected Area Estate as recommended by UNDP HQ reviewer

Component 3 name and focus	Component 3. Reducing poaching and illegal trade in threatened species [site level].	Component 3: Reducing poaching and illegal trade in threatened species at site levels via CBNRM and sustainable livelihood	The focus of the Component was changed from law enforcement and CBNRM development in the project area to CBNRM development and sustainable livelihood only, because law enforcement activities at the site level are fully covered in the Component 1 (Output 1.3 supports anti-poaching activities by the PA staff) and Component 2 (Outputs 2.2 and 2.5 support anti-poaching activities by NWCEU and detection dog brigades in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area). Thus, the Component 3 was focused on CBNRM, SLM and SFM development to provide local communities alternatives to poaching and IWT.
Component 4 was added	N/A	Component 4: Monitoring, evaluation, and knowledge management	The Component 4 was added following UNDP guidance to strengthen emphasis on knowledge management and M&E as required in GEF 6 projects.
Outcome 1 name and geographic focus was adjusted	Outcome 1. Improved management effectiveness of PAs in the Congo Basin, specifically Odzala-Kokoua, Ntokou Pikounda, the Ngombe concession, Messok Dja and the Sembe panhandle, an area of over two million ha.	Outcome 1: Expanded PA network and improved management effectiveness of PAs in the Congo Basin, specifically Odzala-Kokoua, Lossi Gorilla Sanctuary, and Messok Dja , an area of 2,667,160 ha	Outcome name was changed to reflect the expansion of PA network in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area. Ntokou Pikounda NP, the Ngombe concession and the Sembe panhandle were excluded from the project area to avoid duplication and geographic intersection with the WB/GEF Project “Strengthening the management of wildlife and improving livelihoods in northern Republic of Congo”. Thus, the project will concentrate on three highly important for wildlife conservation areas: Odzala-Kokoua National Park, Lossi Gorilla Sanctuary, and area of proposed Messok Dja National Park, including surrounding areas. Given expansion of PA network under the Outcome 1 two relevant Outputs were added: <i>Output 1.1. Messok Dja National Park is established on the area of 144,000 ha</i> <i>Output 1.2. Effective functional zones are planned and officially established around Odzala-Kokoua NP, Lossi Gorilla Sanctuary, and Messok Dja NP on the area of 1,133,560 ha</i>
Outcome 2 Outputs were added	N/A	Outputs 2.3-2.5 were added, Output 2.6 was extended	The following Outputs were added to the Outcome 2 to strengthen its IWT law enforcement focus at national and local levels: Output 2.3. Joint Committee on Legal Monitoring of Wildlife Crime Enforcement is supported to identify and cover gaps in the IWT law enforcement procedures Output 2.4. National Training Center for wildlife crime law enforcement is supported (this Output was moved from Outcome 3) Output 2.5. A detection dog unit is established to strengthen checkpoints and patrol groups in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area

Outcome 3 name was changed	Outcome 3: Wildlife crime is combatted on the ground by strengthening enforcement operations in targeted PA complexes	Outcome 3. Strengthened sustainable livelihood capacity of local communities in the targeted PA complexes	<p>The name and focus of the Outcome was changed from law enforcement in the project area to CBNRM development and sustainable livelihood for local communities, because law enforcement activities at the site level are fully covered by the Outcome 1 (Output 1.3 supports anti-poaching activities by the PA staff and local eco-monitors) and Outcome 2 (Outputs 2.2, 2.4, and 2.5 directly support anti-poaching activities by NWCEU and detection dog brigades in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area as well as functioning of National IWT Training Center in the area). Thus, the Outcome 3 was focused on development of capacity of local people and other key stakeholders to implement CBNRM, SLM and SFM as alternatives to poaching and IWT. This change avoids thematic intersections between the Outcomes 1, 2, and 3.</p> <p>Small grant programme Output implemented by the GEF SGP in the PIF was modified in the <i>Output 3.2 Small grant programme and micro-loan schemes for local community sustainable livelihood and CBNRM initiatives are developed and implemented</i> to reflect small grant programme with the GEF SGP implementation and micro-loan programme that will be implemented with the money provided by the local corporations in the co-financing framework.</p> <p><i>Output 3.5. Sustainable NRM practices are introduced to logging and agro-business companies</i> was added to the prodoc after consultations with key stakeholders in Congo.</p>
Outcome 4 was added	N/A	Outcome 4. Lessons learned by the project through participatory M&E, including gender mainstreaming practices, are used to fight poaching and IWT and promote community-based conservation at the national and international levels	The Outcome 4 was added following UNDP guidance to strengthen emphasis on knowledge management and M&E in the GEF 6 projects
Component budgets were adjusted	Component 1: \$980,000 Component 2: \$938,988 Component 3: \$1,050,000 PMC: \$156,262	Component 1: \$1,143,500 Component 2: \$886,500 Component 3: \$938,987 Component 4: \$0 PMC: \$156,263	The budget was adjusted to allocate more resources to the Component 1 (extension of PA coverage). This allocation was carefully calculated to ensure enough funds is available for implementation of other Components. Component 4 will be fully funding from UNDP TRAC resources