

PROJECT CONCEPT NOTE

MFA MOZAMBIQUE: MOZAMBIQUE CONSERVATION AREAS FOR BIODIVERSITY AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (PCN) (\$3.5 million BD and 1.69 from CC)

Comments by GEF Secretariat (Jaime Cavelier, NR, and Frank Jesus, CC)

OBJECTIVE

The proposed project would support the development of the tourism sector through key investments that will link infrastructure, skill development and private sector participation in targeted conservation areas. This is the third phase of the Trans Frontier Conservation Areas (TFCA) Program.

COMPONENTS: The project has the following components:

- Component 1: Institutional and Human Resources Capacity Building: Staffing, equipment, training and skill development at The National Directorate for Conservation Areas (DNAC) , *Agencia Nacional das Areas de Conservação* ANAC and several other public institutions. The component would also strengthen the operation of BioFund.
- Component 2: Strengthening Commercial Utilization of Conservation Areas: Support ANAC and other public and private institutions in charge for tourism development in Mozambique
- Component 3: Conservation Areas Management: (1) Maputo Special Reserve and Ponta do Ouro Marine Reserve; (2) Banhine and Zinave National Parks; (3) Chimanimani Reserve; (4) Limpopo National Park; (5) Pomene National Reserve and Bazaruto Archipelago National Park; (6) Malhazine National Reserve; and potentially (7) Primeiras e Segundas Islands (if gazetted as conservation area before project start) and Gile Reserve.
- Component 4: Strengthening Economic Opportunities for Local Communities in Buffer Zones: Same as above except Primeiras e Segundas Islands (if gazetted as conservation area before project start) and Gile Reserve and, possibly, (7) Tchuma Tchatu community conservation areas
- Component 5: Project management and monitoring:

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

The project is well structured as far as the Biodiversity investments are concerned. This new project is building on the existing TFCA program running since 1996. There are nonetheless, some overlaps with existing GEF Biodiversity investments and some outstanding issues with the climate change investments will need to be address at PCN stage.

1. INTRODUCTION

The PCN indicates page 8 that the project is consistent with GEF climate change focal area strategic objective—Promote Conservation and Enhancement of Carbon Stocks through Sustainable Management of Land Use, Land-Use Change, and Forestry, and that, by promoting sustainable land management

practices in a broader landscape, the project contributes to the reduction of greenhouse gases emission.

However, there is no mention of climate change mitigation (CCM) in (i) the project development objective, (ii) its major outcomes, (iii) its components, (iv) result framework indicators, (iv) or in the description of the project activities in Annex VI.

Please clarify how the project addresses climate change mitigation objective(s) and outcomes, and include relevant indicators. Please address the project's consistency with Mozambique National Communication to the UNFCCC.

2. PROJECT CONTEXT:

- a) Component 1: ANAC is being supported by a GEF-UNDP project (PMIS 3753). In this project there is an investment of \$2.9M in ANC (GEF \$600K, co-financing). What is the gap that this new project would be filling?
- b) Component 3: The BIOFUND is already being supported by a GEF-UNDP Project (PMIS 3753). In this project there is an investment of \$5.2M in support of BIOFUND (GEF \$1.89M and Co-financing \$3.318M). What is the gap that this new project would be filling?
- c) Baseline project: What is the baseline project? Although there is reference to the \$5.19 million from GEF as incremental to the overall TFCA program, there is no mention of the baseline / co-financing project. Please clarify.
- d) Carbon stocks: The PCN indicates that the project will support community-based natural resources that would restore and/or enhance carbon stocks in forest and non-forest lands. Please clarify what would happen to the carbon stocks in forest and non-forest lands with the baseline activities and without GEF funding. Please provide an estimation of the expected carbon stock enhancement benefits along with a rough rationale for this estimation.
- e) Resilience: The PCN indicates that the project contributes to improving resilience to natural disasters and impacts of climate change because "natural ecosystems in conservation areas are most effective natural buffers to floods and drought and in general climate change". For the PCN please briefly clarify the resilience to potential climate change impacts of the project's investment and activities outcome (To be detailed in the PAD).

3. ASSUMPTIONS:

Tourism: The project heavily relies on tourism as means of providing economic opportunities for local communities.