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REPORT ON

PROJECT AND PRE-PROJECT WORK IN PROGRESS

IN THE FIELD OF REFORESTATION AND FOREST MANAGEMENT

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● **PROJECT WORK IN PROGRESS**

A total of forty-nine (49) approved projects are currently under implementation while an additional one (1) project is awaiting the signing of an agreement to initiate activities. There are twelve (12) approved projects still awaiting full financing while there are five (5) approved projects that fell under the sunset provision since the last Session. In this report the projects are grouped into four categories:

- A. Projects under active implementation;
- B. Projects which have financing allocated, but for which the contract or agreement regulating implementation has still not been concluded;
- C. Projects which still do not have full financing secured; and
- D. Projects coming under the sunset provision since the last Session consistently with Decision 2(X), Annex 2, Paragraph 2. In some cases, these projects were at least partially funded or had other developments which the Committee may wish to consider in its discussions. These projects are grouped together in Section C of this report.

A. PROJECTS UNDER IMPLEMENTATION

- (1) **PD 2/93 Rev.1 (F) Integrated Pilot Management of the Ngoua II Forest North - Phase I: The Preparation of the Management Plan (Congo)**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	945,146
Government of Congo:	US\$	188,384
Government of Japan:	US\$	756,762

Implementing Agency: Direction Générale des Eaux et Forêts - Ministère des Eaux et Forêts

Session of Approval: ITTC XIV, May 1993, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Starting Date and Duration: August 1995 / 18 months

Approved Revised Date of Project Completion: March 2003 (CRF XXXI)

This project was reported as completed at a previous CRF session and documented as such in CRF(XXXVIII)/3, but is still pending the final financial audit report. The secretariat urges the Executing Agency to submit the final financial audit report at its earliest convenience, not later than end of March 2013.

- (2) **PD 21/98 Rev.2 (F) Forest Management, Community Involvement and Sustainable Use of Si-Kop Forest Area (Coastal Province, Cameroon) - Phase II**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	1,289,007
ITTO Budget:	US\$	647,517
Government of Japan:	US\$	647,517
Government of Cameroon:	US\$	641,490

Implementing Agency:	Office National de Développement des Forêts (ONADEF)
Session of Approval:	ITTC XXIV, May 1998, Libreville, Gabon
Starting Date and Duration:	15 June 2000 / Four years
Approved Revised Date of Project Completion:	First project extension granted until July 2011 (NOLF.09-0197) Second project extension granted until July 2012 (NOLF.11-0197) Third project extension granted until January 2013 (NOLF.12-0197)

The project was approved by the Council at its Twenty-fourth Session in May 1998. Full financing was pledged by the Government of Japan during the Twenty-seventh Session in November 1999. The Agreement regulating the implementation of the project was signed on 20 March 2000 in Yaoundé, during an official visit of the Executive Director to Cameroon. The first disbursement of funds was made on 20 June 2000. The project has been under suspension enforced since November 2003, as it was decided by the 33rd Session of the Committee on Reforestation and Forest Management.

The objectives of the project are to sustainably manage the communal and community forests of the Si-Kop forest area, to increase the income of the local communities through agroforestry and improved agriculture and to develop eco-tourism as a new source of income.

Once again, it is important to remind that this project has been suspended from November 2003 to October 2008. Based on the findings of the special monitoring mission conducted in October 2003 and in accordance with Article 25, Paragraph 4, of the ITTA, 1994, and Article IX, Section 9.01, of the Project Agreement, the Executive Director decided to suspend this project until the recommendations by the mission are fully complied with. Then, the Thirty-third Session of the Committee on Reforestation and Forest Management recommended that the suspension of the project be maintained until the conditions for further ITTO support as stated by the ITTO mission have been fully met.

Further to the recommendation of the Forty-first Session of the Committee, the progress made by the Executing Agency to meet the requirements related to the suspension of this project can be summarized as follows: (i) The replenishment of the ITTO funds (US\$ 110,982), that have been utilized by the Executing Agency for other expenditures without prior consultation with and expressed approval by ITTO, was confirmed by a bank statement of Cameroon Commercial Bank dated on 25 August 2008; (ii) The process for the gazetting of the 25,000 ha Si-Kop Forest has resumed thanks to the payment of the amount of XAF11,535,000 (equivalent to EUR17,585) by the Ministry of Forestry and Fauna of Cameroon, in June 2008, as the counterpart contribution covering the costs of that process. The process is to be finalized soon with the signing of the Forest Classification Act by the Government of Cameroon.

In relation to the progress made by the Executing Agency to meet the suspension-related requirements, the ITTO Secretariat lifted the suspension on 7 October 2008 in order to allow an independent mid-term evaluation to be conducted. The lifting of the suspension was endorsed by the Forty-second Session of the Committee on Reforestation and Forest Management in November 2008.

Since the Forty-fifth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the two most recent progress reports submitted in March and August 2012 respectively, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

- The Executing Agency has selected sub-contractors for the construction of appropriate infrastructure required to support local communities involved in the project implementation (water wells for the supply of water for the production of forest seedlings, storehouse for crops produced by local communities through agroforestry plantations);
- Continuation of the sensitization campaigns have continued in order to explain to local communities the process that should lead to the establishment of a gazetted forest in Si-Kop, for the benefit of the Communes of Ngambe, Ndom and Nyanon;
- The Executing Agency has continued to provide the logistical support to the local forestry administration offices in order to increase their capacity regarding the follow-up of activities related to the updating of the management plan of the future Gazetted Si-Kop Forest;
- Technicians from ICRAF-Cameroon has continued to conduct training sessions, for local communities living in the project area, on agroforestry techniques; and

After two project extensions granted for twenty-four (24) and twelve (12) months respectively, a third project extension was granted until January 2013, without additional ITTO funds, for the continuation and completion of planned project activities.

(3) PD 20/99 Rev.2 (F) Establishment and Management of Production-Protection Community Forests in Lower and Middle Atrato, Department of Choco, Colombia

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	1,550,624
ITTO Budget:		US\$	559,493
Government of Japan:	US\$	484,493	
Government of U.S.A.:	US\$	75,000	
Government of Colombia (during suspension, from 2005 to 2008):		US\$	689,614
Maderas del Darien S.A.:		US\$	301,517

Implementing Agency: Corporación de Desarrollo Sostenible del Chocó (CODECHOCÓ)

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XXVII, November 1999, Yokohama, Japan

Starting Date and Duration: April 2001 / 36 months

Approved Revised Date of Project Completion: December 2010 (CRFXLII)

The Council approved the project at its Twenty-seventh Session in November 1999 and fully financed it at its Twenty-eighth Session in Lima, Peru. The Agreement regulating the implementation of the project was signed on March 5, 2001. The first disbursement of funds was made on March 16, 2001.

This project seeks to establish and manage 2,000 hectares of protection/production plantations on lands granted by the Colombian government to the Afro-Colombian communities in the Domingodo-Truando region. Reforestation has been identified as one of the activities that will facilitate the sustainable development of the area given the high forestry potential of these lands. The local communities will work in a participatory manner with Maderas del Darien S.A., a local forest industry with extensive experience in the proposed forestry practices, so as to ensure the equitable distribution of benefits generated by the project.

The Committee may take note that the project was suspended in January 2004 due to irregularities by the former executing agency, SINERGIA. However, after the government of Colombia addressed these irregularities and selected a new Executing Agency, CODECHOCO, the suspension was lifted in September 2008. An ancillary agreement, regulating the implementation of the project with the new Executing Agency, CODECHOCO, was duly signed in March 2009. The third installment of funds was transferred in June 2009, after the submission, by the Executing Agency, of an updated Yearly Plan of Operations and a notification that implementation is about to begin, and the approval of the aforementioned by the Secretariat.

Since the Forty-fourth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the two most recent progress reports submitted in 2011, the Project Steering Committee Meeting held in August 2011, and based on the latest communications and correspondence with the ITTO's Regional Officer for Latin America, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

During this year, there was an important modification in the EA administration, Codechocó, with the election of the general director last July, what brought changes in the administration and project staff. This likely will improve in documents preparation and communication between project and ITTO. The delay in providing project reports and others is adding difficulty for the EA to access the normal disbursement schedule, so the project had to rely on counterpart funds, provided by the program Environmental Compensation Fund. However, this also presented difficulties for the election period, when contracting and transference of funds are strict by law.

The project development remains delayed as the country had again climate difficulties during the winter (the rainy season, not as bad as last year), when there is a considerable increase in the volume of water in rivers, lakes and ponds, causing negative impacts on the plantation work. As a consequence, the completion of project activities will be delayed further on.

Even with those difficulties, project figures are reasonable: there was the acquisition of 209,279 seedlings; 179 ha were prepared for the sowing, and established 74 ha from the total planned planting area of 230 ha. Besides that, there was the first silviculture maintenance of 214 ha established in the project.

The PSC Meeting is planned for December 2012, in Quibdó, the headquarter of the EA, especially aiming to analyze the project's current situation and to decide what follow-up actions and improvements are recommended for the speeding up of the project and its finalization.

(4) PD 62/99 Rev.3 (F) Reforestation Pilot Project for the Recovery of Degraded Areas in the Medium Rio Doce Region, State of Minas Gerais, Brazil

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	*1,851,064
ITTO Budget:		US\$	543,892
Government of Japan:	US\$	503,892	
Government of the U.S.A.:	US\$	40,000	
IEF/MG:		US\$	*1,307,172

Implementing Agency: State Forest Institute of Minas Gerais (IEF/MG)

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XXIX, November 2000, Yokohama, Japan

Starting Date and Duration: September 2004 / 48 months

Approved Revised Date of Project Completion: First extension until September 2009 (CRFXLII)
Second extension until March 2011 (CRFXLIII)
Third extension until March 2012

The Council approved this project at its Twenty-seventh Session in November 1999 in Yokohama, Japan. The Agreement regulating the implementation of the project was signed in February 2003. Upon submission of the first Yearly Plan of Operations and a notification from the Executing Agency that the project was ready to start, the Secretariat disbursed the first installment of funds in September 2004.

The objective of this Project is to contribute in a cooperative manner and through the utilization of educational processes to the sustainable production of timber, promoting the recovery of degraded areas, as well as the protection and recovery of resources through the implementation of demonstrative units of technology for desirable environmental reforestation.

According to the last Progress Reports and based on the latest communications and correspondence with the ITTO's Regional Officer for Latin America, developments in the project's physical implementation can be summarized as follows:

The internally changes in the EA and in the Secretary of Environment continues to cause difficulties in the project progress. Additionally, there was even the uncertainty about the project continuity by the EA. In order to try to solve this unfavorable situation it was sent a letter to the Environment Secretary of Minas Gerais, emphasizing the difficult current situation, as well as, showing the benefits of finalizing the project activities, urging the Secretary to present a final position relating to the project continuation. As a response, the Secretary reaffirmed its interest in requesting an extension in time to finalize the project in 2013. Further than this, the EA informed the continuity in project activities with counterpart funds and the maintenance of the areas as a natural mobilization of the farmers, who became conscious of the importance of recovering degraded areas. By sure, this consciousness can be ascertained as a direct project outcome.

During the period there were two important agreements for the project continuity. One, as a follow up of other similar agreement, with the Instituto Terra, the NGO which is being very important for the PD 62/99

implementation. The Institute has its own recovery project "Strategic Project for the Conservation and Recovery of the Atlantic Forest, Cerrado and Caatinga." This aims to recover the ecosystem in three important Brazilian biomes, through environmental sustainability of individual rural properties, working in the same direction of the ITTO project, in a larger area. The other agreement was made with a local NGO, Rede Vidas, which will execute the project "Strengthening of the apiculture in Rio Doce Krenak Territory." This will seek to promote the ecological recovery of 100 water springs of properties included in the ITTO project.

The Project Steering Committee Meeting (PSCM) is being organized for November 2012 to evaluate the overall situation and define the best strategy to complete the project. The meeting is being suggested to be held at the headquarters of the Secretary of Environment to facilitate the participation of the high staff of the Secretary, which shall commit themselves with the SCM decisions.

(5) PD 28/00 Rev.2 (F) Integrated Management of Community Forests in the Valley of Mefou and Afamba (Central Province of Cameroon)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	825,465
ITTO Budget:		US\$	563,265
Government of Japan:	US\$	533,265	
Government of the U.S.A.:	US\$	20,000	
Government of Republic of Korea:	US\$	10,000	
Government of Cameroon		US\$	262,200

Implementing Agency: Forestry Dept of Ministry of Environment and Forests (MINEF)

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XXX, June 2001, Yaoundé, Cameroon

Starting Date and Duration: 06 November 2002 / 36 months

Approved Revised Date of Project Completion: First project extension until November 2007 (NOLF.07-0047)
Second project extension until November 2008 (NOLF.08-0016)
Third project extension until August 2009 (NOLF.09-0170)

The project was approved by the Council at its Thirtieth Session in June 2001 in Yaoundé, Cameroon and full financing was pledged by the Governments of Japan, USA and Korea during the same Session. The Agreement regulating the implementation of the project was signed on 15 November 2001. The first installment of funds was released on 06 November 2002. The project has been extended three times until August 2009, without additional ITTO funds, by the ITTO Secretariat, based on an official request including proper justification, a work plan and a budget.

The project aims at ensuring the sustainability and productivity of village areas in the country's "agroforestry zone" through the development of community forests and the promotion of tree growing. Specific objectives are: 1) to develop strategies for the participative management of woodlots and to create the necessary structures for follow up; 2) to set up community forests and develop the autonomous systems of forest management.

Since the Forty-fifth session of the Committee and in accordance with the updates from the Executing Agency, all project activities have been completed.

The Committee reiterates its recommendation by urging the Executing Agency to submit the completion report, which was due in November 2009, and final financial audit report at its earliest convenience, not later than end of March 2013, in order to report this project as completed during the next committee session.

(6) PD 53/00 Rev.3 (F) Implementation of a Permanent Network of Stands Dynamics Monitoring Plots for the Gazetted Forests of Côte d'Ivoire (Côte d'Ivoire)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	424,377
ITTO Budget:		US\$	342,795
Government of Japan:	US\$	342,795	
Government of Côte d'Ivoire:		US\$	81,582

Implementing Agency:	Société de Développement des Forêts (SODEFOR)		
Session of Approval:	ITTC Session XXXII, May 2002, Bali, Indonesia		
Starting Date and Duration:	July 2003 / 36 months		
Approved Revised Date of Project Completion:	First project extension until December 2006 (NOLF.06-0258) Second project extension until June 2007 (NOLF.07-0020) Third project extension until December 2007 (NOLF.07-0216)		

This project was reported as completed at a previous CRF session and documented as such in CRF(XLIII)/2, but is still pending the final financial audit report. The Secretariat urges the Executing Agency to submit the final financial audit report at its earliest convenience, not later than end of March 2013.

(7) PD 54/00 Rev.4 (F) Genetic Resistance of Iroko to *Phytolyra lata* – Phase II (Côte d'Ivoire)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	472,152
ITTO Budget:		US\$	378,584
CFC:	US\$	258,584	
Government of U.S.A.:	US\$	80,000	
Government of Japan:	US\$	40,000	
Government of Côte d'Ivoire:		US\$	93,568

Implementing Agency:	Société de Développement des Forêts (SODEFOR)		
Session of Approval:	ITTC Session XXXII, May 2002, Bali, Indonesia		
Starting Date and Duration:	19 February 2007 / 36 months		
Approved Revised Date of Project Completion:	First project extension until February 2010 Second project extension until March 2011		

The project was approved by the Council at its Thirty-second Session in May 2002 and financing was secured during the same Session. The ITTO Agreement regulating the implementation of the project, as well as the CFC Grant Agreement, was signed on July 2005. The first disbursements of funds have been made by both the CFC and ITTO Secretariats in February 2007. In addition to the previous one, a second project extension was granted until February 2011 without additional ITTO funds, by the ITTO Secretariat, based on official requests including proper justification with appropriate detailed work plan and budget.

The proposed project is a follow-up to PD 3/95 Rev. 2 (F) implemented by Ghana in collaboration with Cameroon and Cote d'Ivoire, which focused on the genetic improvement of Iroko species through the selection of resistant seeds and individuals, vegetative reproduction and silvicultural techniques for the establishment and development of healthy Iroko plantations. During Phase I, gene conservation plots of various Iroko provenances and arboreta of mother trees selected for their tolerance to attacks of the pest

were established, and the production of cuttings from clones was developed. The development objective of Phase II is the conservation and sustainable management of the Iroko populations in Ivory Coast. The project will focus on broadening the genetic base of the available material for the collection of new provenances and on the establishment of experimental plantations of Iroko. The main expected outputs are the availability of more resistant genotypes, improved cuttings, 100 ha of Iroko plantations mixed with other species and expanded cooperation and exchange between the three countries involved.

All parties have signed the Grant Agreement, and the Project Agreement and Appraisal Agreement finalized by the Secretariat of the Common Funds for Commodity (CFC). The project inception has been delayed due to the security status of the project site. A joint CFC-ITTO project inaugural mission has been conducted in September 2006 in order to assess the conditions for the inception of the project in the new project site located in a secured zone of Cote d'Ivoire. The positive conclusion of the inaugural mission has led to the first disbursement of funds by both the CFC and ITTO Secretariats for the commencement of the project.

Since the Forty-fourth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the update from the project Executing Agency, most project's activities were completed. A regional workshop was held in September 2012 to share the project findings and results with representatives from Cameroon and Ghana.

The completion report and final financial audit report are to be submitted shortly by the Executing Agency, in order to report this project as completed during the next committee session.

(8) PD 63/01 Rev.2 (F) Assessment and Management of Mangrove Forests in Egypt for Sustainable Utilization and Development (Egypt)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	439,745
ITTO Budget:		US\$	301,570
Government of Japan:	US\$	301,570	
Government of Egypt:		US\$	138,175

Implementing Agency: Ministry of State for Environmental Affairs

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XXXII, May 2002, Bali, Indonesia

Starting Date and Duration: August 2003 / 24 months

Approved Revised Date of Project Completion: First Project Extension until June 2006 (NOLF.05-0263)
Second Project Extension until December 2006 (NOLF.06-0221)

This project was reported as completed at a previous CRF session and documented as such in CRF(XLIII)/2, but is still pending the final financial audit report. The secretariat urges the Executing Agency to submit the final financial audit report at its earliest convenience, not later than end of March 2013.

(9) PD 66/01 Rev.1 (F) Establishment of the Mengamé-Minkébé Transboundary Gorilla Sanctuary (MMGS) at the Cameroon-Gabon Border (Cameroon)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	968,091
ITTO Budget:		US\$	770,751
Government of Japan:	US\$	530,751	
Government of Switzerland:	US\$	200,000	
Government of U.S.A.:	US\$	40,000	
Government of Cameroon:		US\$	197,340

Implementing Agency:	Directorate of Fauna and Protected Areas, Ministry of Environment and Forestry
Session of Approval:	ITTC Session XXX, June 2001, Yaoundé, Cameroon
Starting Date and Duration:	17 September 2002 / 24 months
Approved Revised Date of Project Completion:	First Project Extension until December 2004 (NOLF.04-0633) Second Project Extension until June 2006 (NOLF.05-0121) Third Project Extension until June 2007 (NOLF.06-0222) Fourth Project Extension until June 2008 (NOLF.07-0258)

The project was approved by the Council at its Thirtieth Session in June 2001. Full financing was pledged by the Governments of Japan, Switzerland and USA at the Thirty-first Council session in November 2001. The Agreement regulating the implementation of the project was signed on 24 April 2002 and the first disbursement of funds was made in September 2002. Four project extensions were granted until June 2008 without additional ITTO funds, by the ITTO Secretariat, based on official requests including proper justification with appropriate detailed work plan and budget.

The project aims to contribute to the protection of the Gorillas and of their habitats in the MMGS. Specific objectives are to put in place a collaborative management process for the sanctuary to ensure its protection, and to initiate a process for transboundary cooperation between Cameroon and Gabon for the joint management of the sanctuary.

The Executing Agency has submitted the completion report. It shall be reported as completed project upon receipt of final financial audit report. The Secretariat urges the Executing Agency to submit the final financial audit report at its earliest convenience, not later than end of March 2013.

(10) PD 142/02 Rev.2 (F) Sustainable Production of National Forests under the “Regime of Forest Concessions” (Brazil)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	1,325,394
ITTO Budget:		US\$	878,157
Government of Japan:	US\$	798,157	
Government of U.S.A.:	US\$	80,000	
DIFLOR		US\$	447,237

Implementing Agency:	Brazilian Forestry Service -SFB (formerly National Forest Program Directorate - DIFLOR), Ministry of the Environment (MMA)
Session of Approval:	ITTC Session XXXII, May 2002, Bali, Indonesia
Starting Date and Duration:	April 2005 / 24 months
Approved Revised Date of Project Completion:	First extension until December 2008 (CRFXLI) Second extension until December 2009 (CRFXLII) Third extension until March 2012 proposed during the PSC meeting held in Brasilia in November 2010

The Council approved and fully financed this project at its Thirty-second Session. The Agreement regulating the implementation of the project was signed in May 2004. Upon submission of the first Yearly Plan of Operations and a notification from the Executing Agency that the project was ready to start, the Secretariat disbursed the first installment of funds in April 2005.

The project envisions increasing the production of timber from sustainably managed natural forests in the Brazilian Amazon and is a cornerstone of the Brazilian National Forest Program, which has the goal of expanding the management of native forests in public areas to reach 50 million hectares by 2010. The

Project specifically aims at carrying out the necessary preparatory studies to develop a “Regime of Forest Concessions” for sustainable timber production in Brazil, as well as to elaborate the related management plans and the rules and procedures for the concessions.

Since the CRF 45th Session and according to the most recent progress report, the development in the project activities can be summarized as follows:

The slow implementation of project activities due mainly to the institutional arrangements and technical requirements for the management of the FLONAs in Brazil affected severely the project development. It is important to note that these difficulties arose with the rearrangement of the Brazilian public environmental sector occurred after the project proposal preparation. Even though, the Management Plan for the FLONA Altamira, one of the three scheduled for the project, has already been completed. The second MP, for the FLONA of Caxiuanã, is near completion, whereas the third one, for the FLONA Itaituba, which has two parts, is still in the phase of basic studies. However, some of these were already prepared for other studies and projects, what will result favorably to preparation of this MP.

The 6th Project Steering Committee Meeting (PSCM) was scheduled to be in July 30, but had to be postponed for the impossibility in participation of Japanese Embassy representative. The date is being rescheduled to November 2012. Due to the difficulties for the preparation of all MPs, as planned in the original proposal, this issue is going to be discussed in the SCM to decide the continuity of the ITTO project or its finalization with the outputs obtained so far.

(11) PD 197/03 Rev.2 (F) Support for the Implementation of a Sustainable Forest Development Master Plan in Eco-floristic Area IV, Togo

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	445,483
ITTO Budget:		US\$	317,093
Government of Japan:	US\$	287,093	
Government of Norway:	US\$	30,000	
Government of Togo:		US\$	128,390

Implementing Agency: Department for the Control and Protection of Flora Utilization (DPCEF)

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XXXV, November 2003, Yokohama, Japan

Starting Date and Duration: 08 October 2004 / 36 months

The project was approved by the Council at its Thirty-fifth Session in November 2003 in Yokohama, Japan, and fully funded at the same Session. The Agreement regulating the implementation of the project was signed on 13 July 2004. The first installment of the ITTO funds was released in October 2004.

The aim of this project is to increase the potential of timber resources in Togo through the restoration of the national forest cover. Specifically, the project envisions enhancing the capacity of local communities to develop community forestry for optimal timber production through the management of the remaining natural forests and the extension of plantations in this area, involving all stakeholders.

The project completion report was submitted to the ITTO Secretariat. The Secretariat urges the Executing Agency to take the necessary arrangements for the submission of the final financial audit report, in order to report this project as completed at the next Committee session, not later than end of March 2013.

(12) PD 248/03 Rev.4 (F) Antimary Forest Management Regional Training Center (Brazil)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	784,800
ITTO Budget:		US\$	577,800
Government of Switzerland:	US\$	250,000	
Government of Japan:	US\$	227,800	
Government of U.S.A.:	US\$	100,000	
FUNTAC:		US\$	207,000

Implementing Agency: State of Acre Technology Foundation (FUNTAC)

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XXXVII, December 2004, Yokohama, Japan

Starting Date and Duration: July 2006 / 24 months

A fourth revision of this project proposal was approved and fully funded by the Council at its Thirty-seventh Session in December 2004. The Agreement regulating the implementation of the project was signed in September 2005. Upon the submission of the Yearly Plan of Operations, the disbursement of funds were made in July 2006, November 2008, April 2009 and the final one in May 2011.

This project aims to contribute towards the sustainability of forest management practices in the Western Amazon and the achievement of ITTO's Objective 2000 through the establishment of a regional training center for sustainable forest management in the State of Acre. This proposed center takes advantage of the existing facilities in the Antimari State Forest and focus on improving the knowledge and capacities of forest operators, technicians and forest workers at the forest management unit level. It also put into place several dissemination mechanisms oriented towards the promotion of sustainable forest management practices. The location of the project makes it possible to carry out training activities not only for the Brazilian States of Acre, Amazonas, Rondônia and Mato Grosso, but also for the Bolivian Departments of Pando and Beni, and the Peruvian Department of Madre de Dios.

The project is in final stages and the expected outputs were all obtained. Some of the important data can be summarized as follows:

- Regional Forest Management Training Center was established and is operating;
- Training program on appropriated forest practices for the sustainable management of tropical forest of the region, with 300 persons of the region trained was successfully executed. As show by the numbers:
 - 104 courses (5/2007, 19/2008, 32/2009, 23/2010, 9/2011 and 16/2012);
 - 1566 persons trained (45/2007, 312/2008, 410/2009, 339/2010, 156/2011 and 304/2012);
 - 30 people trained at the center for working in capacity building in forestry management as an extension work, multiplying such practices in communities and others sectors; and
 - 4000 copies of training materials, including a manual on forest practice adapted to Acre region, were printed in booklet format.

As the normal ITTO Project Manager for PD 248/03 left the Organization last March, the EA had some difficulties in the orientation on how to deliver the reports and to submit the project documents through the On Line Monitoring System.

The last Project Steering Committee Meeting, including a field visit to the Antimary facilities, was held on the 27th and 28th August 2012, when was possible to see the project final outcomes in comparison to the means of verification of the Logical Framework Matrix. The EA is now preparing the completion report and necessary documents for finalization, which will be declared, only in the next CRF.

(13) PD 346/05 Rev.2 (F) Conservation and Recovery of Degraded Land in Family Agriculture Units in the Eastern Brazilian Amazon (Brazil)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	515,700
ITTO Budget:		US\$	324,000
Government of Japan:	US\$ 324,000		
COUNTERPART:		US\$	191,700

Implementing Agency: Embrapa Eastern Amazon

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XXXVIII, June 2005, Brazzaville, Rep. of Congo

Starting Date and Duration: October 2007 / 24 months

Approved Revised Date of December 2011 (CRFXLIV)
Project Completion:

The project was approved and fully financed by the Council at its Thirty-eighth Session in June 2005. The final agreement regulating the implementation of the project was duly signed in May 2007. Upon the submission of the First Yearly Plan of Operations and a notification that implementation was about to begin, the first installment of funds was transferred in October 2007.

The objective of this project is to contribute towards the recovery of degraded areas on family-owned lands in the eastern Amazon through capacity-building among farmers in the project area, networking of partnerships involving farmers, scholar students, research institutions, and producers' associations interested in the rehabilitation of degraded forests. The project will also include the establishment and monitoring of demonstration areas using various schemes and a review of current legislation with a view to reducing deforestation and promoting the rehabilitation of degraded lands. The project plans to involve 150 farmer families and to establish 20 demonstration areas, of which nine will be monitored in order to collect and process biophysical and chemical information.

Since the forty-five session of the CRF and the communication between EA and ITTO ROLAC, the project progress can be summarized by the following aspects:

Of a total of 20 project activities of the original proposal, the situation is as follows:

- 6 activities finalized (1.1.1; 1.1.2; 1.1.3; 1.2.1; 1.2.2; 1.2.4);
- 4 activities suspended (1.2.5; 1.5.1; 1.5.2; 2.1.2): these are related to the technical assistance provided by a technician whose work was discontinued for the delay in the project disbursement;
- 2 activities delayed (1.3.1; 1.3.2): activities related to environment law evaluation;
- 5 activities partially executed (1.4.1; 1.4.2; 1.5.3; 1.5.4; 2.1.1): these activities are related to office work; and
- 2 activities to be initiated (1.3.3; 1.5.5): those are programmed for the final stages of the project.

The Executing Agency continues to present difficulties for coordinating the preparation of progress reports and other administrative demands within the deadlines stipulated by the Secretariat. Besides that, there are difficulties in the routine preparation of documents for NOL (No Objection Letters) following the provisions by the ITTO Manual, what is influencing the schedule of funds disbursement and the steady project development. These aspects have had influences in the implementation work in the field, especially for the discontinuity of some labor or scholarships.

Although the administrative difficulties are affecting the normal project execution, they surely can be addressed in the Project Steering Committee Meeting, which is being planned for next November.

(14) PD 350/05 Rev.2 (F) Production Systems and Integrated Management of Shoot-borers for the Successful Establishment of Meliaceae Plantations in the Yucatan Peninsula and Veracruz, Mexico

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	575,871
ITTO Budget:		US\$	366,271
Government of Japan:	US\$	346,271	
Government of Finland:	US\$	20,000	
Government of Mexico:		US\$	209,600
Implementing Agency:	National Institute for Forestry, Agricultural and Animal Research (INIFAP)		
Session of Approval:	ITTC Session XL, May-June 2006, Mérida, Mexico		
Starting Date and Duration:	February 2007 / 36 months		
Approved Revised Date of Project Completion:	First extension until July 2011 (CRFXLIII) Second extension until July 2012 (CRFXLV) Third extension until July 2013 (NOL F.12-0185)		

The Council approved the project during its Fortieth Session in June 2006 and full financing for its implementation was pledged at that same session. The final agreement regulating the implementation of the project was duly signed in August 2006. Upon the submission of the first Yearly Plan of Operations, the first installment of funds was transferred in January 2007.

This project proposal aims to achieve the sustainable production of tropical timber in Mexico through the development, implementation and transfer of technology to foresters by an integrated system for the management of pests that are currently limiting the establishment of cedar and mahogany plantations in the Mexican tropics. More specifically, the proposal envisages developing an integrated borer management system for young Meliaceae plantations, including silvicultural management, to enable forest producers in the Yucatan Peninsula and Veracruz to successfully establish plantations for the sustainable production of tropical timber; and further designing an operational model for the development and adoption of technologies for the management of community Meliaceae plantations with the direct participation of producers and technicians in the establishment of 12 demonstration plantations in the Yucatan Peninsula and Veracruz.

Since the Forty-fifth session of the Committee and in accordance with the two most recent progress reports submitted in February and August 2012, progress in project implementation can be summarized by outputs as follows:

1. Validation of direct control methods for *H. grandella* and *C. yucatanensis*, assessing their cost-effectiveness

90% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date, as follows:

- Two one-hectare pest-affected plantation test sites were identified on project start-up for validation in Campeche and Quintana Roo continue to be monitored;
- Several silvicultural trials to test the resilience of *Cedrela odorata* seedlings to pests under various conditions were established on project start-up. Treatments to be validated during the study are based on: i) the genetic component of *Cedrela odorata* (progenies), ii) biological control (*Beauveria bassiana* and *Metarhizium fungii*), and iii) controlled treatments with organic (killNeem) and chemical (Novaluron, Cipervel, Piretroide) insecticides. Applications are carried out on a monthly basis. An initial attempt at utilizing ovicides was discarded, as it was noted that most of the damage had appeared at the larvae stage of the *H. grandella*;
- A total of 4,000 certified seedlings were planted at two new sites about a year ago to validate the genetic component of the trials; and
- The selected sites and trials continue to be periodically monitored and evaluated, and final results are already being obtained and compiled.

2. Monitoring of damage and pests to collect information on the biology of Meliaceae shoot-borers in the study area

85% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date, as follows:

- 12 Plantation sites have been established in order to monitor pest damage over a wide variety geographic, climatic and soil conditions in four Mexican States: Campeche, Quintana Roo, Yucatan and Veracruz;
- Methodologies have been developed to carry out some basic studies on shoot-borer biology, such as the degree of damage inflicted on plants, and its reactions to different trapping methods and environmental factors; and
- Data continues to be collected for the abovementioned studies and is periodically analyzed, and final results are already being obtained and compiled.

3. Identification and propagation of Meliaceae borer-resistant genotypes

80% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date, as follows:

- Inspection tours for the identification of resistant genotypes and selection of individuals continue to be periodically carried out. An initial 200 trees were pre-selected in these tours and the further evaluated to finally select 46 trees considered as resistant to *H. grandella*;
- Initially cuttings from the aforementioned resistant trees were considered as the reproductive materials of choice, but as problems occurred, grafts were performed instead. Two clone banks were established: one at the El Palmar Experimental Station in Veracruz with 30 genotypes, and another at the Mocochoa Bacalar Experimental Station in Yucatan, with 12 genotypes;
- 46 genotypes with good growth and *H. grandella* tolerance potential have been selected: 30 at the El Palmar Experimental Station and 16 at the San Felipe Bacalar Experimental Station, and are currently subject to 3 genetic trials; and
- The trials are periodically monitored and evaluated, and some preliminary results are already coming in.

The Committee may wish to take note that while most of the project's activities have been progressing satisfactorily, some have suffered delays, particularly due to the difficulties encountered in cloning of *Cedrela odorata* genotypes and in finding partner reforestation enterprises who will volunteer the establishment of control plots, as the pests tend to wander into their treated plantations. As such, the Executing Agency considered applying for a third extension in time until July 2013 without additional funds, in order to successfully complete the project and has submitted to the Secretariat a formal request and a justification for the aforementioned extension in time, together with the required budget amendments and an updated Yearly Plan of operations in order to successfully complete the project's activities. The Secretariat reviewed the corresponding documents, considered these to be justified and further approved it.

The Project's fifth Steering Committee meeting is to be scheduled for early 2013.

(15) PD 351/05 Rev.1 (F) Criteria and Indicators for the Evaluation of Tropical Forest Management Sustainability in Mexico (Southeastern Coastal Plains: Gulf of Mexico and Yucatan Peninsula)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	696,225
ITTO Budget:		US\$	514,653
Government of Japan:	US\$	474,653	
Government of U.S.A.:	US\$	10,000	
Government of Finland:	US\$	30,000	
INIFAP:		US\$	181,572

Implementing Agency: National Institute for Forestry, Agricultural and Animal Research (INIFAP)

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XXXVIII, June 2005, Brazzaville, Rep. of Congo

Starting Date and Duration:	July 2006 / 24 months
Approved Revised Date of Project Completion:	First extension until March 2011 (CRF XLIII) Second extension until September 2012 (CRF XLIII)

The project was approved by the Council during its Thirty-eighth Session in June 2005 and full financing for its implementation was pledged during the Thirty-ninth Session in November 2005. The Agreement regulating the implementation of the project was signed in April 2006. Upon the submission of the Detailed Work Plan and a notification that implementation was about to begin, the first installment of funds was transferred in June 2006.

This project seeks to strengthen, encourage and evaluate sustainable tropical forest management in Mexico, with a view to achieving the ITTO's Objective 2000 and the Mexican Government's Forest Development Plan so that international trade may be based on raw materials originating from forests managed and certified according to criteria and indicators that strengthen the sustainability of this resource.

Overall, the proposal aims to develop management programmes for the sustainable conservation and utilisation of tropical forests in the southeast of Mexico (Los Tuxtlas, Chimalapas, Selva Lacandona, Centla, Calakmul, Tekax, and Sián Kaán). More specifically, it envisions transferring knowledge to the Ejido communities that own tropical forest resources in these regions in order to develop and implement specific local C&I to evaluate and monitor the progress towards sustainable forest management.

Since the Forty-fifth session of the Committee and in accordance with the most recent progress reports submitted in February and September 2012, progress in project implementation can be summarized by outputs as follows:

1. Forest management evaluation processes tailored to Mexico's tropical forest conditions

This output has been 100% successfully achieved by activities, i.e.:

- Seven diagnostics on humid and sub-humid forest and environmental resources have been completed and published for eleven areas in the following seven federal states: Veracruz, Oaxaca, Tabasco, Chiapas, Campeche, Yucatan and Quintana Roo;
- Two multidisciplinary and inter-institutional teams, one for the Gulf Region and another for the Yucatan Peninsula Region were formed and trained in C&I; and
- Several state-wide workshops and region-wide workshops were organized to systematically develop appropriate C&I for the Gulf of Mexico and Yucatan Peninsula regions, with the participation of ejido members, authorities, technical experts, academics and NGO members.

2. Validated local C&I with a holistic view of ecological, economic and social systems required to evaluate tropical forest management

75% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date, as follows:

- The multidisciplinary and inter-institutional teams from the two regions reviewed the ITTO C&I and those generated in other counties, using analytical methods, discussion and consensus, and developed a "master list" of C&I for Mexico's tropical forests;
- 20 workshops were organized in order for *Ejido* members and technical experts to define 14 draft sets of C&I, based of the aforementioned previously developed "master list";
- Of the aforementioned 14 lists, one set of specific C&I for each of the seven states are currently being finalized in a participatory manner;
- 5 ejidos are currently testing the C&I checklist in the Yucatan Peninsula, these being: 20 de Noviembre, Alvaro Obregon, Nuevo Becal, Silvituc, and San Agustin.
- A Model for the Evaluation of Sustainability is being developed for Mexico's tropical forests using the results and conclusions of the development of C&I in participating regions of Los Tuxtlas, Veracruz; Central, Tabasco; Chimalapas, Oaxaca; Lacandona, Chiapas; Calakmul, Campeche; Tekax, Yucatán and Sián Ka'an, Quintana Roo; and
- A C&I Master List for Mexico is being drawn up.

3. Agents of change (*ejido* residents, technical experts and management personnel) trained in the use of C&I to monitor tropical forest sustainability

20% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date, as follows:

- Training programmes were organized for the application of 7 federal state-specific C&I for sustainable management of tropical forests currently being developed by the project;
- Dissemination and training material is being produced on the application of C&I targeting *ejido* members, technical experts and academics; and
- Several technical documents and articles have been produced to date.

The Committee may wish to take note that while most of the project's activities are progressing satisfactorily, some have suffered delays due mainly to the participatory process involving the Ejidos. In this light, The Committee may take note that the Executing Agency is considering to request an additional extension for 12 months until September 2013, without additional funds, to fully achieve the project objectives, and has submitted to the Secretariat a formal request and a justification for the aforementioned extension in time, together with the required budget amendments and an updated Yearly Plan of operations in order to successfully complete the project's activities. The Secretariat reviewed the corresponding documents, considered these to be justified and seeks the CRF's endorsement.

The Project's fifth Steering Committee meeting is to be scheduled for early 2013.

(16) PD 360/05 Rev.2 (F) Multispectral Three-Dimensional Aerial Digital Imagery for Monitoring Forest Management and Conservation in the Republic of Congo

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	1,267,395
ITTO Budget:		US\$	610,000
Government of Japan:	US\$	400,000	
Government of U.S.A.:	US\$	180,000	
Government of France:	US\$	20,000	
Government of Norway:	US\$	10,000	
Government of Republic of Congo:		US\$	411,346
Winrock International:		US\$	154,500

Implementing Agency: Winrock International in collaboration with Centre National d'Inventaires et d'Aménagement des Ressources Forestières et Fauniques, and The Wildlife Conservation Society

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XXXVIII, June 2005, Brazzaville, Republic of Congo
ITTC Session XL, June 2006, Merida, Mexico [endorsement of the revised version with the ITTO budget reduced to the amount already secured by donors]

Starting Date and Duration: 02 April 2007 / 24 months

Approved Revised Date of Project Completion: First extension: December 2010 (NOLF.10-0155)
Second extension: December 2011 (NOLF.11-0046)

The project was approved by the Council at its Thirty-eighth Session in June 2005 in Brazzaville, Congo, and partially funded at the same Session, and the ITTO budget shortfall amounted to US\$91,549. The revised version of the project based on the modified ITTO budget scaled down to the amount of US\$610,000 already secured by donors was endorsed by the Council at its Fortieth Session in Merida, Mexico. The Agreement is currently in the process of being finalized among the parties. The agreement regulating the implementation of the project was signed on 10 October 2006 and the first disbursement of ITTO funds was made in April 2007. The project extension was granted until December 2011, without additional ITTO funds, by the ITTO Secretariat, based on an official request including proper justification with appropriate detailed work plan and budget.

The project aims at contributing that the Congolese export timber resources provide sustainable income through improved access to markets concerned with raw material originating from sustainable forest

management. Specifically, it intends to make available a transparent forest monitoring system for the sustainable management of Congo forests at the national and Forest Management Unit levels.

It is important to inform the Committee that a special monitoring mission was conducted in February 2003 and its findings and conclusion can be summarized as follows:

- The satellite image-related mapping of Congolese forests could not be achieved as the satellite Landsat TM7 stopped being operational at the beginning of this project. Therefore, it was no longer possible to carry out the regular comparison of satellite image-related maps which allow detecting anomalies (illegal logging, deforestation, etc.) in view of complementary actions regarding sustainable forest management in the Republic of Congo;
- Subsequently to the previous finding related to the fact that the satellite images from Landsat TM7 were no longer available, the project was able to achieve only the first output through the implementation of its activities, while other five outputs were stagnating and could not make any progress;
- Two Congolese experts (Gaspard LEMBE and Guy Fortune MASSENDZA), who had been trained in USA by the Executing Agency (Winrock International) left the Collaborating Agency (CNIAF), while their trainer (Alfredo UNDA) also left the Executing Agency, after one year of project implementation. Therefore, it was impossible for the project implementation to move forward;
- It was noticed that some staff members in the Executing Agency were paid with ITTO funds without being listed in the ITTO no-objection letter engaging external experts operating under Winrock International control;
- It was also noticed that the two computers purchased in 2007 became obsolete while the printer was no longer operational; and
- The Executing Agency disbursed US\$15,000.00 in favor of WCS-Congo upon the signature of a memorandum of understanding between both institutions, for the implementation of activities related to Output 3. WCS-Congo did not implement those activities because of the abovementioned problem of Landsat TM7 images which were no longer produced and provided to users.

In accordance with the provisions of Article X of the contract governing the implementation of this project and subsequently to the abovementioned findings and conclusions, the Committee may wish to terminate this project, as recommended in the special monitoring mission report.

(17) PD 367/05 Rev.2 (F) Promotion of the Sustainable Management of Tropical Planted Forest in Congo's Tropical Forest Plantations (Republic of Congo)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	187,226
ITTO Budget:		US\$	143,856
Government of France:	US\$	60,000	
Government of Japan:	US\$	83,856	
UR2PI:		US\$	34,370
ECO Corp.:		US\$	9,000

Implementing Agency: Research Unit on the Productivity of Industrial Plantations (UR2PI) in collaboration with the General Directorate for Forest Economy (DGEF)

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XXXIX, November 2005, Yokohama, Japan

Starting Date and Duration: 30 January 2009 / 12 months

Approved Revised Date of Project Completion: First extension: July 2010 (NOLF.10-0155)

The Council approved the project at its Thirty-ninth Session in Yokohama, Japan, in November 2005, and financing for its implementation was partly pledged during the Fortieth Session in June 2006, for an amount of Euro 50,000. The Council authorized the Executive Director to start implementation as soon as earmarked funds for the total ITTO contribution became available in the Special Account. The full financing for its implementation was ensured when the shortfall amount was made available in August 2007 by France.

The agreement regulating the implementation of the project was signed on 7 September 2007 and the first disbursement of ITTO funds was made in January 2009. A project extension was granted until July 2010, without additional ITTO funds, by the ITTO Secretariat, based on an official request including proper justification with appropriate detailed work plan and budget.

The project aims at contributing to the sustainable management of forest resources and the reduction of poverty through the application of basic management principles in Congo's planted forests. Specifically, it intends to develop a set of sustainable management criteria & indicators based on ITTO C&I for the establishment and management of plantation forests in Congo.

The Executing Agency has submitted the completion report. It shall be reported as completed project upon receipt of the final financial audit report. The Secretariat asks the Executing Agency to submit the final financial audit report at its earliest convenience, not later than end of March 2013.

(18) PD 372/05 Rev.1 (F) Contribution to Forest Rehabilitation in Thailand's Areas Affected by Tsunami Disaster (Thailand)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	1,133,640
ITTO Budget:		US\$	790,020
Government of Japan (BPF-A)	US\$	230,020	
Government of Switzerland	US\$	500,000	
Government of U.S.A.:	US\$	50,000	
Government of Republic of Korea:	US\$	10,000	
Government of Thailand:		US\$	343,620

Implementing Agency: Thai Environmental Institute

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XXXVIII, June 2005, Brazzaville, Republic of Congo

Starting Date and Duration: July 2008 / 36 months
Extension until January 2013 (NOL Ref. No F.11-0108)

The project was approved by the Council at its 38th Session as a tsunami relief project and was fully funded during the 39th Session. The agreement regulating the implementation of the project was forwarded to the Government of Thailand on 17 February 2006 for signature and was duly signed by all parties on 3 July 2007. The first disbursement of funds was made on 11 July 2008. The duration of the project was extended until January 2013 to strengthen the project activities by fully achieving the project's objectives without additional funds.

The project aims to contribute to the long-term rehabilitation of the coastal forest resources. Its specific objectives are: i) to initiate a process of developing a community-based coastal resource management to enhance the contribution of forests to ecological security; and ii) to promote bamboo use in tsunami affected areas in order to meet medium and long term needs in rural house construction.

Since the Forty-fifth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's progress report submitted by the Executing Agency in August 2012, progress in implementation of the project can be summarized as follows:

Output 1.2 250 km of destroyed coastal forests (net area: 750 ha) rehabilitated.

- Plant production with community-based coastal forest management is progressing in the target areas in collaboration with local communities and local governments. 15 planting activities were carried out with 29,000 seedlings of mangrove; *Burquiera gymnorrhiza*, *Nipa fruticans*, *Rhizophora apiculata*, and *Rhizophora mucronata*, and 4,080 seedlings of terrestrial forest; *Cerbera odollam*, *Eugenia curtisii*, Cossod Tree, Iron wood, bamboo, etc.
- A group of community leaders of Baan Thung La-Ong went for field visits on a campaign of "Community Forest – Locals Protect Water" at Kanchanaburi and Chumporn provinces. There was a

workshop on survey and assessment the community forests at Klong Tone of Baan Muang Mai, by having around 30 community leaders from Koh Kor Khao.

- A training course on a campaign of “Understanding, appreciating and developing forest management with communities” at Paa-to district of Chumporn province was organized with the attendance of 43 participants from community leaders,

Output 1.3 100 ha of bamboo plantations established in tsunami affected areas.

- Follow up to the progress of bamboo planting and propagation in the project areas, another 10,000 bamboo seedlings (*Thrysostachys oliveri*, *Dendrocalamus asper* and *Dendrocalamus cericeus*) were prepared and distributed to the people in Tsunami affected areas in Phang Nga and Ranong province in July 2012.

Output 1.4 Awareness raising activities implemented.

- A group of youths has been supported on continuous collaboration with their community leaders such as a complete survey on coastline aquatic catching of fishermen at Baan Bang Kluay Nok to become a supporting data on value estimation for the coastline aquatic life by the Youth Group. Their data about the economic species were collected from 43 households as it showed that the community had the total catching amount for Baht 31,459,793 and the cost of catching at Baht 6,834,107 as it was 21.72 percent of the total amount.
- Activities on forest monitoring survey and estimation on carbon-captured in soil of Klong Tone watershed area also created learning and promoted awareness among community and local youths regarding the importance of watershed area benefits on absorbing carbon
- From the data survey of coastline aquatic catching among coastal fishermen by the Youth Group of Ban Bang Kluay Nok, a geographical map was produced as a survey tool for all of them to understand the catching areas of various aquatic species and community’s major coastal resources.
- In addition, the continuous environmental studies for students at Baan Bang Hin secondary school was still going on with the learning activities from local guru imparting knowledge about the breeding and conservation of *Dracaena loureiri* Gagnep, which is regarded as an auspicious plant and becomes rare in the local.

Output 1.5 Two Pilot CBM-SLES plans developed and endorsed by major stakeholders

- Preliminary data are receiving comments from each community’s monthly meeting by having representatives from community networks take responsible with the TEI staff to avoid any possible duplication of other meetings.

Output 2.1 Capacity in use of bamboo for house construction strengthened.

- A workshop in bamboo house construction was organized on 7 February at Tambon Maenang-Kao, Amphor Kuraburi, Phang Nga Province.
- An on-job training course on bamboo use in house construction in tsunami affected areas was conducted during 8 February – 2 March 2012 at Tambon Maenang-Kao, Amphor Kuraburi, Phang Nga Province.

Output 2.2 Technology for bamboo house construction in use.

- The physical properties of 5 bamboo species (*Bambusa bambos*, *B. longispata*, *Dendrocalamus hamiltonii*, *Thrysostachys oliveri*, *T. siamensis*) were completely tested.
- One bamboo house is negotiated for joint-venture with the resort owner at Kuraburi district, Phang Nga province and had been constructed as an on-job training.

(19) PD 376/05 Rev.2 (F) To Develop and Promote a Monitoring Information System to Support the Sustainable Development of Tree Resources Outside Forests at the Sub-district Level in Thailand (Thailand)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	718,487
ITTO Budget:		US\$	462,645
Government of Japan (MoFA):	US\$	439,645	
Government of Australia:	US\$	13,000	
Government of Republic of Korea:	US\$	10,000	
Government of Thailand:		US\$	255,842
Implementing Agency:	National Park, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Department of Thailand (DNP)		
Session of Approval:	ITTC Session XL, May-June 2006, Mérida, Yucatán, Mexico		
Starting Date and Duration:	December 2008 / 36 months Extension until March 2012 (NOL Ref.no. F.11-0201) Extension until December 2012 (NOL Ref.no. F.12-0093)		

The project was approved at the 40th Session of the Council and fully funded at the same Session. The agreement regulating the implementation of the project was duly signed on 29 January 2008. The first disbursement of funds was made on 5 September 2008. The project commenced in December 2008 and the project's duration has been extended until December 2012.

The project aims to contribute to the sustainable development of tree resources outside forests (TROF) for maximum socio-economic and cultural benefits to the rural people of Thailand. Its specific objective is to develop and promote procedures to establish current and easily accessible baseline inventory and monitoring information on TROF cover, diversity and abundance to support TROF national policy decisions and land use and development planning at the sub-district level.

Since the Forty-fifth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's progress report submitted by the Executing Agency in August 2012, progress in implementation of the project can be summarized as follows:

Output 1: TROF uses and formations defined

- Four consultative regional workshops held to define TROF formations and functions, identify potential Project demonstration areas, and resolve to support the inventory and monitoring system to be developed.
- One national consultative workshop held to confirm TROF inventory and monitoring objectives and demonstration sites
- Literature review conducted on past methods for inventory and monitoring TROF in Thailand and elsewhere.
- TROF inventory and monitoring design and data collection methods proposed.

Output 2: TROF inventory and monitoring information system developed

- Refinement of the inventory and monitoring methods to collect biophysical data and integration them with socio-economic data are underway.
- Tested the inventory and monitoring sampling designs in a small pilot project TROF area.

Output 3: TROF inventory and monitoring information and sustainable management promoted

- Established two demonstration areas. Trained two demonstration staff on the TROF inventory and monitoring methods, GIS applications and use of the TROF information for planning.
- Developed an extension strategy to disseminate demonstration areas results.
- Conducted two seminars (1.5 days) with 40 participants at each seminar.

(20) PD 377/05 Rev.3 (F) Development of Cloning for Samba (Obéché), West African Mahogany and Tiokoué Tree Species (Côte d'Ivoire)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	648,194
ITTO Budget:		US\$	421,060
Government of Japan:	US\$	421,060	
Government of Côte d'Ivoire:		US\$	227,134
Implementing Agency:	Société de Développement des Forêts (SODEFOR)		
Session of Approval:	ITTC Session XLI, November 2006, Yokohama, Japan		
Starting Date and Duration:	15 December 2008 / 36 months		
Approved Revised Date of Project Completion:	First extension: December 2012 (NOLF.12-0005)		

The project was approved by the Council at its Forty-first Session in Yokohama, Japan, in November 2006, and fully financed at the Forty-third Session in Yokohama, Japan, in November 2007. The Agreement regulating the implementation of the project was signed on 23 June 2008 during an official visit of the Executive Director to Cote d'Ivoire. The first disbursement of ITTO funds was made in December 2008. A project extension was granted until December 2012, without additional ITTO funds, by the ITTO Secretariat, based on an official request including proper justification with appropriate detailed work plan and budget.

The objective of the Project is « the diversification of tree plantation species in Côte d'Ivoire ». This project will contribute to the establishment of a programme of cloning and seedling production technique improvement aimed at accelerating the development of *Obeche/Samba*, *West African Mahogany* and *Tiokoue* industrial plantations. Specifically, it aims at developing strategies to ensure a regular supply in selected and improved planting stock (*Obeche/Samba*, *West African Mahogany* and *Tiokoue*) to reforestation programmes.

Since the Forty-fifth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

- Fifty (50) best clones of Samba were selected in trial orchards established in Sangoué Gazetted Forest;
- Forty-eight (48) trees-plus of Samba were selected in Sangoué Gazetted Forest, for the cuttings process leading to the production of clones;
- Around 85,000 seedlings were produced from cuttings of Samba;
- Eighty (80) ha of orchards of Samba were established in Sangoué Gazetted Forest;
- Thirty-two (32) trees-plus of West African Mahogany were selected in Sangoué Gazetted Forest, for the cuttings process leading to the production of clones;
- Around 10,000 seedlings were produced from cuttings of West African Mahogany;
- Creation of one hundred (100) ha of orchards of West African Mahogany mixed with Teak, in Sangoué Gazdetted Forest;
- Around 21,000 seedlings were produced from cuttings of Tiokoue;
- Ten (10) ha of orchards of tiokoue were established in Tene Gazetted Forest; for the cuttings process leading to the production of clones;

The Fourth Project Steering Committee meeting took place in September 2012 and it was an opportunity to assess the level of execution of all project activities, which were disturbed by the post-election socio-political turmoil in Cote d'Ivoire from November 2010 to June 2011. A second project extension was expected as recommended by the Fourth Project Steering Committee meeting held in September 2012..

(21) PD 383/05 Rev.2 (F) Community Forest Development in Gabon

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	899,832
ITTO Budget:		US\$	594,432
Government of Japan:	US\$	514,432	
Government of France:	US\$	60,000	
Government of Norway:	US\$	20,000	
Government of Gabon:		US\$	305,400

Implementing Agency: *Direction Générale des Eaux et Forêts*

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XL, May-June 2006, Mérida, Yucatán, Mexico

Starting Date and Duration: 19 March 2009 / 36 months

Approved Revised Date of Project Completion: First extension: until March 2013

The Council approved the project at its Fortieth Session in Merida, Mexico, in June 2006. Financing was not allocated at that time, but it was fully funded at the Forty-first Council Session, in November 2006, in Yokohama, Japan. The Agreement regulating the implementation of the project was signed on 13 March 2007 and the first disbursement of ITTO funds was made in March 2009. A project extension was granted until March 2013, without additional ITTO funds, by the ITTO Secretariat, based on an official request including proper justification with appropriate detailed work plan and budget

The project aims to contribute to the sustainable management of the rural forest estate and organizing the village estates and combating poverty in the communities established in the rural areas through the development of community forests. The specific objectives are to experiment the establishment of three pilot community forests and to develop SFM guidelines for community forests from the model forest experiment.

Since the Forty-fifth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the updates from the Executing Agency, an international consultant on community forestry was selected and most of project activities have resumed under his guidance.

(22) PD 419/06 Rev.3 (F) Forest Seeds Management and Conservation (Côte d'Ivoire)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	1,459,510
ITTO Budget:		US\$	912,764
Government of Japan:	US\$	912,764	
Agency/GOG:		US\$	546,746

Implementing Agency: *Société de Développement des Forêts (SODEFOR)*

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XLIII, November 2007, Yokohama, Japan

Starting Date and Duration: 15 December 2008 / 36 months

Approved Revised Date of Project Completion: First extension: December 2012 (NOLF.12-0005)

The project was approved by the Council at its Forty-third Session in Yokohama, Japan, in November 2007, and fully financed at the ITTO High Level Meeting in Accra, Ghana, in June 2008. The Agreement regulating the implementation of the project was signed on 23 June 2008 during an official visit of the Executive Director to Cote d'Ivoire. The first disbursement of ITTO funds was made in December 2008. A project extension was granted until December 2012, without additional ITTO funds, by the ITTO Secretariat, based on an official request including proper justification with appropriate detailed work plan and budget

The project will contribute to implement the sustainable rehabilitation of Côte d'Ivoire's forests through the development of a seed supply system having the capacity to provide high-quality products to meet the needs of the national forest rehabilitation stakeholders. Specifically, it intends to produce and supply forest seeds from planting stock of high genetic quality.

Since the Forty-fourth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the updates from the Executing Agency, the project implementation was disturbed by the post-election socio-political turmoil from November 2010 to June 2011. The project activities resumed in July 2011.

Since the Forty-fifth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

- Draft report on the creation of orchards with best clones of nine tree species (Acajou, Assamela, Bete, Cedrela, Frake, Framire, Gmelina, Niangon and Teak), to be used as sources of seeds, was circulated for comments;
- Laboratory equipment and materials and other technical equipment and materials for the conservation of forest seeds have been purchased by the Executing Agency, in order to be progressively installed in the buildings constructed by the project as storehouse;
- The construction of two buildings to be used as storehouse and as seed laboratory respectively was completed in the City of Adzope near the Gazetted Forest of Mopri;
- One storehouse was built in Duekoue, while another one was still under construction in Brobo;
- Training sessions on techniques regarding the conservation and management of forest seeds were carried out by specialists from the National Seed Laboratory of Cote d'Ivoire and also from the University of Cocody-Abidjan;

The Fourth Project Steering Committee meeting took place in September 2012 and it was an opportunity to assess the level of execution of all project activities, which were disturbed by the post-election socio-political turmoil in Cote d'Ivoire from November 2010 to June 2011. A second project extension was expected as recommended by the Fourth Project Steering Committee meeting held in September 2012.

(23) PD 424/06 Rev.2 (F) Conservation and Utilization of Medicinal Plants in Ghanaian Forests Fringe Communities (Ghana)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	537,093.40
ITTO Budget:		US\$	429,138.00
Government of Japan:	US\$	399,138.00	
Government of USA:	US\$	20,000.00	
Government of Korea:	US\$	10,000.00	
Government of Ghana:		US\$	107,955.40

Implementing Agency: Forestry Research Institute of Ghana (FORIG)

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XLII, May 2007, Port Moresby, PNG

Starting Date and Duration: 28 October 2008 / 48 months

The project was approved by the Council at its Forty-second Session in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, in May 2007, and fully financed at the ITTO High Level Meeting in Accra, Ghana, in June 2008. The Agreement regulating the implementation of the project was signed on 1 October 2008. The first disbursement of ITTO funds was made on 28 October 2008.

The project will contribute to develop conservation and sustainable utilization strategies for medicinal plant species within forest fringe communities of different ecological zones in Ghana. It specifically intends to document the distribution, utilization (endangered, common) and practice conservation methods for sustainable supply of medicinal plants from three different ecological zones in Ghana.

Since the Forty-fifth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports and the monthly highlights submitted through the project online monitoring system, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

- First compilation in a technical report of findings and results documenting the distribution, utilization and conservation methods of medicinal tree plants was prepared and included the preliminary results of the inventory of medicinal plants in each of the ecological zones covered by the project;
- Tentative lists of medicinal plants were established thanks to draft report on the consultative meetings with fringe communities on the uses of medicinal plant species in the Western, Ashanti and Eastern Regions of Ghana, was circulated to key stakeholders;
- Technical studies/surveys have been undertaken by two students selected for the inventory of medicinal plants and their utilization in fragile forest ecosystems and in designated sacred groves; and
- Continuation of the Field visits by selected scientists, collectors, herbalists and fetish priests to plants habitats and species for identification and to record mode and frequency of harvesting have continued being carried out in each of the ecological zone of Ghana.

The Executing Agency of the project PD 424/06 Rev.2 (F) has been implementing the ITTO online monitoring system on a pilot basis. Therefore, all reports (monthly highlights and related cash flow and financial statements, progress reports, YPO, etc.) have been submitted to ITTO Secretariat through the project online monitoring system. The fourth Project Steering Committee meeting was held in June 2012, and it was a good opportunity to provide guidance to the new project coordinator, for the smooth implementation of this project, after the decease of the project coordinator in May 2012.

(24) PD 428/06 Rev.2 (F) Promoting the Rehabilitation, Management and Sustainable Use of Tropical Bamboo Forests in the North-Western Region of Peru

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	789,378
ITTO Budget:		US\$	502,978
Government of Japan:	US\$	502,978	
Government of Peru:		US\$	140,000
PERUBAMBU:		US\$	146,400

Implementing Agency: Peruvian Association for Bamboo (PERUBAMBU) in cooperation with the National Institute for Natural Resources (INRENA)

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XLII, May 2007, Port Moresby, PNG

Starting Date and Duration: April 2009 / 36 months

Approved Revised Date of Project Completion: First extension until October 2012 (NOL F.10-0168)

The Council approved the project during its Forty-second Session in May 2007 and full financing for its implementation was pledged during the Forty-fourth Session in November 2008. The final agreement regulating the implementation of the project was duly signed in March 2009. The first installment of funds was transferred in April 2009, after the submission, by the Executing Agency, of the first Yearly Plan of Operations, a request for the no-objection of the project's key personnel and a notification that implementation is about to begin, and the approval of the aforementioned by the Secretariat.

Most tropical forests with bamboo stands, particularly those in easily accessible areas of the north western region of the country where a high percentage of the local communities live in poverty conditions, are rapidly being degraded due to unplanned and uncontrolled overexploitation and other demographic pressures. It is therefore paramount to seek and implement alternative sustainable activities before these resources are irremediably depleted.

This proposal envisages reducing the tropical forest degradation and simultaneously improving the socioeconomic conditions of extremely poor rural communities, as well as their environmental quality, in the aforementioned region. More specifically, it aims to ensure the rehabilitation and sustainable management of

degraded or endangered tropical forests with bamboo stands and to effectively contribute to poverty alleviation in an area with a high level of unmet basic needs and hence with a high level of deforestation (185,000 ha/year) in Peru.

Since the Forty-fifth session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports submitted in February and July 2012, progress in project implementation can be summarized by major outputs as follows:

Output 1: Local population (250 people) trained in intermediate techniques for rehabilitation, management and sustainable utilisation of forests with bamboo stands

75% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date, as follows:

- The project is operating from the facilities built in Moyobamba by the Regional Government of San Martín
- A literature review has been carried out and background information has been compiled on bamboo biology and management worldwide;
- The project's outreach activities have been widely disseminated throughout the rural communities of the Provinces of Moyobamba, Rioja and Saposoa in the Department of San Martín and in the Province of Bagua in the Department of Amazonas;
- Bilateral cooperation agreements have been signed for the implementation of bamboo forest management and rehabilitation activities with four beneficiary organizations: the Shampuyacu Native Community and the Yantaló Municipal Government in the Alto Mayo region, the Grand Saposoa Cooperativa Ltda. in the San Martín region, and one with the Municipal Government of Aramango in the Amazonas region;
- An interinstitutional cooperation agreement has been finalized with the Alto Mayo Special Project – PEAM;
- Bamboo forest inventories have been carried out in the Departments of San Martín (provinces of Moyobamba and Rioja) and Amazonas (province of Bagua);
- The identification and evaluation of taxonomic, physiological and morphological characteristics of bamboo species in the project area was carried out with the support of an international expert from Colombia. As expected, these studies facilitated the identification of species with suitable morphological characteristics and physical-mechanical properties to be used for the rehabilitation and management of permanent bamboo production forests;
- Physical-mechanical properties studies have been carried out for Aramango and Flor del Valle bamboo prototype jointly with the Ministry of Housing, Construction and Sanitation and the National Engineering University. These studies were performed according to international standards (ISO/DIS 22157 "Assessment of physical-mechanical properties of bamboo");
- Six workshops were organized to assist local communities to improve their skills in bamboo propagation techniques, bamboo plantation establishment and sustainable management, and the rehabilitation of degraded bamboo forests. The training was led by an international expert from Colombia;
- A workshop was organized in Aramango to train locals in bamboo construction techniques. The training was carried out by an international expert from Ecuador; and
- With the participation of locally-trained workers, the bamboo construction of the Mini Bamboo Crafts Centre - MINCABAMBU was completed and is currently operational.

Output 2: Tropical bamboo forests (200 ha) rehabilitated and sustainably managed

80% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date, as follows:

- Four bamboo vegetative reproduction nurseries have been established, one in the native community of Shampuyacu, one in the district of Yantalo, one in Saposoa and another in Aramango, and to date have produced a total of 10,000 bamboo plants;
- 76 hectares of natural bamboo forests are being commercially harvested, and a bit more than half of these are now properly managed, and another 292 hectares of bamboo have been planted, and
- Five Bamboo Forest Management Demonstration Areas have been established: 3 in Aramango and 2 in Alto Mayo.

Output 3: Rural communities (2000 people) actively involved in and economically benefiting from four bamboo production chains

70% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date, as follows:

- A total of 3 workshops were organized in May 2011, one each in Aramango, Calzada and Pinto Recodo. 75 beneficiaries were trained in the asexual propagation of bamboo, bamboo plantation establishment and the management of bamboo production forests, at these workshops;
- A bamboo market study has been initiated by a consultant; and
- A total of three technical pamphlets were produced and disseminated among farmers interested in bamboo plantations.

The Committee may wish to take note that while most of the project's activities have been progressing satisfactorily, some are suffering delays, particularly due to the erratic climatic conditions in the project's area of influence. As such, the Executing Agency considered applying for an additional extension in time until December 2012 without additional funds, in order to successfully complete the project and has submitted to the Secretariat a formal request and a justification for the aforementioned extension in time, together with the required budget amendments and an updated Yearly Plan of operations in order to successfully complete the project's activities. The Secretariat reviewed the corresponding documents, considered these to be justified and seeks the CRF's endorsement.

(25) PD 438/06 Rev.2 (F) Sustainable Forest Management for the Forest Production Area of the Northern and North-eastern Regions of the Department of Antioquia, Colombia

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	1,172,473
ITTO Budget:		US\$	547,917
Government of Japan:	US\$	412,917	
Government of USA:	US\$	135,000	
CORANTIOQUIA:		US\$	624,556

Implementing Agency: Autonomous Corporation of Central Antioquia (CORANTIOQUIA)

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XLII, May 2007, Port Moresby, PNG

Starting Date and Duration: September 2008 / 36 months

Approved Revised Date of Project Completion: First extension until May 2012

The Council approved the project during its Forty-second Session in May 2007. The final agreement regulating the implementation of the project was duly signed in July 2008. The first installment of funds was transferred in September 2008, after the submission, by the Executing Agency, of the first Yearly Plan of Operations, a request for the no-objection of the project's key personnel and a notification that implementation is about to begin, and the approval of the aforementioned by the Secretariat

Overall, it aims to contribute towards the integrated socioeconomic development and environmental protection of the North and Northeast Regions of the Department of Antioquia. More specifically, it intends to launch a participatory forest management process to foster the rational use of production forests and environmental protection with a view to reaching a consensus-based vision among key stakeholders regarding the use and sustainable management of the Magdalena Medio Forest Reserve. To this end, the project will develop and implement a Management Plan for the Reserve, train forest workers, forest owners, loggers, assistants and carriers, and support the strengthening of local forest organisations, as well as providing awareness-raising services regarding the advantages of forest management certification.

Since the Forty-fourth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the two most recent progress reports submitted in 2011, and based on the latest communications between the EA and the ITTO Regional Officer for Latin America, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

A critical condition in the Forest Reserve Madalegna Medio is the existence of armed groups of conflicting interests in the forests, displacing people from their farms and generating disorder in the region. This situation causes severe delays and decreases the efficiency of project implementation. This was the main reason for the budget neutral extension in time applied for by the EA, and agreed upon by the ITTO Secretariat, extending the project until May 2012. At the same time, the EA formalized the increase in counterpart funds in US\$ 132,342, to support the participation of project staff until the end of the activities. Apart from the disturbing factors already mentioned, the project implementation is smooth and shall produce good results. It is worthwhile to mention that the project gradually moves from forest products utilization to an approach closer to the ordering of the properties within the forest reserve, before proposing the forest management implementation. Although the normal project activities continued to be implemented, like training in forest techniques, the adoption of 25 model farms and so on, more strength has been applied to social related activities, as to conclude, for example, the cadaster of the properties in the five municipalities where the project is being executed. In this direction, the project provides for the approximation of land and properties institutions. The substitution of the project coordination in 2010 favored this gradual change.

The main aspects of project implementation in the last year can be summarized as follows:

The project continues with a good progress and presenting their activities on a regular basis. Almost all activities are concluded. However, the existence of armed groups of conflicting interests in the forests is still causing difficulties for the execution of training operations in the field. Another factor that affected the project activities during the year 2012 was the region's climate; increased rainfall has hampered the normal activities course. As a result of these factors, the EA applied for a project time extension, which was approved until October 2012.

During the year 2012, there was a request for a no objection for disbursement on July, 13. This processing took longer than normal, resulting in the delay of implementation of some activities.

The Steering Committee Meeting is schedule to be held in December. A workshop is being planned to take place in the same period for the socialization of project results and outcomes.

(26) PD 441/07 Rev.2 (F) Institutional Strengthening of ANAM for Integrated Fire Management in the Tropical Forests of Panama

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	758,415
ITTO Budget:		US\$	463,115
Government of Japan:	US\$	413,115	
Government of U.S.A.:	US\$	50,000	
Government of Panama:		US\$	295,300

Implementing Agency: National Environmental Authority (ANAM)

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XLIII, November 2007, Yokohama, Japan

Starting Date and Duration: July 2010 / 36 months

The Council approved the project at its Forty-third Session in November 2007 and full financing for its implementation was pledged during the Forty-fourth Session in November 2008. The final agreement regulating the implementation of the project was duly signed in March 2009. The first installment of funds was transferred in June 2010, after the submission, by the Executing Agency, of the first Yearly Plan of Operations, a request for the no-objection of the project's key personnel and a notification that implementation is about to begin, and the approval of the aforementioned by the Secretariat

Overall, this proposal aims at strengthening the capacities of ANAM, the National Commission for Forest Fire Prevention, Management and Control, local groups and community grassroots organisations, in integrated forest fire management applicable to the tropical forests of Panama. More specifically, it intends to achieve integrated fire management practices with the participation of communities and other national stakeholders in three pilot areas with high forest fire incidence.

Since its inception in July 2010 and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports submitted by the Executing Agency in February and July 2012, and the minutes of the second Project Steering Committee meeting held in May 2012, progress in project implementation can be summarized by major outputs as follows:

Output 1: Project's installed capacity established and integrated fire management activities implemented and monitored

30% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date, as follows:

- Several workshops have been organized to develop the planning of procedures to be followed for project implementation and development of annual work plan for each pilot area;
- Several workshops have been organized to promote the adequate use of integrated fire management techniques at the national, regional and local levels;
- Three voluntary forest fire brigades, each composed of 24 people, were established and trained for each of the three pilot areas: the Cerro Guacamaya Hydrological Reserve, the El Montuoso forest Reserve, and the Buenos Aires community in Ñurum. To date basic fire-fighting equipment has been provided to these brigades and more will be obtained in the near future;
- Fire break rounds have been carried out in the three pilot areas, and a further 2 km of firebreaks were constructed at each of the pilot sites with the help of around 50 local volunteers at each site, for a total of 6 km;
- The planning, organisation and site selection for the implementation of controlled and/or prescribed burnings to reduce fuel loads is currently underway at the three pilot sites;
- A draft protocol and guidelines for the Volunteer Firefighter Brigades is currently being developed and will later be discussed in workshops before finalization;
- A registry of forest fires has been designed at the national level so as to maintain forest fire statistics in Panama and to further control them. This last dry season 142 brush fires were registered in Panama, of which 5 occurred in the pilot areas and were controlled. These fires are also being mapped; and
- An in-depth analysis of prescribed agricultural burns is also being carried out, with a view to implement a registry for these type of fires too.

Output 2: Personnel from target communities in pilot areas and officers from relevant institutions in the field informed and trained on integrated fire management

20% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date, as follows:

- Other forest fire-related institutions are being contacted at both the national and international level with a view towards creating a network in the region;
- Meetings have been carried out with school authorities in order to implement educational sessions at the schools located in pilot areas, such as role plays, lectures and competitions on the issue of forest fire prevention. One of these educational sessions has already been carried out in each of the 3 pilot sites; and
- Environmental festivals were also organized by the schools in the 3 pilot sites.

The Project's third Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for November 2012.

(27) PD 450/07 Rev.2 (F,I) Capacity Building for CDM Forestry in the Framework of SFM Emphasizing Community Forests and Poverty Alleviation in Ghana (Ghana)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	666,255
ITTO Budget:		US\$	402,516
Government of Japan:	US\$	402,516	
Government of Ghana (in kind):		US\$	110,039
Michigan Technological University:		US\$	94,500
SAMARTEX (in kind):		US\$	59,200

Implementing Agency: Forestry Research Institute of Ghana (FORIG)
 Session of Approval: ITTC Session XLIV, November 2008, Yokohama
 Starting Date and Duration: 26 April 2011 / 36 months

The Council approved the project at its Forty-fourth Session in Yokohama, Japan, in November 2008. Financing was not allocated at that time, but the Council authorized the Executive Director to start implementation as soon as earmarked funds for the total ITTO contribution became available in the Special Account. It was fully financed at the spring 2010 ITTO regular project cycle. The Agreement regulating the implementation of the project was signed on 21 December 2010. The first disbursement of ITTO funds was made on 26 April 2011.

The project intends to build capacity for CDM-Forestry in Ghana via a community rehabilitation of degraded forests. It specifically intends to improve the capacity for CDM-Forestry in Ghana via community forest targeted at poverty alleviation in conjunction with sustainable forest management (SFM), and by involving the private sector and native communities.

Since the Forty-fifth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports and the monthly highlights submitted through the project online monitoring system, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

- Two training workshops dealing with capacity building for CDM-Forestry in Ghana via community forestry were convened for the Berekum and Kranka Communities, in order to ensure their involvement in the project implementation;
- The draft of the socio-economic surveys/studies in selected communities, to be involved in the project implementation, was circulated by the consultant for comments. Those surveys/studies were in relation to the baseline for situation analysis, socio-economic aspects and inventory of natural resources used by communities and participatory strategies; and
- The selection of degraded forest plots to be covered by the project, in relation to the CDM requirements, was extended in order to take into account the preliminary recommendations of the socio-economic surveys/studies draft report.

The Executing Agency of the project PD 450/07 Rev.2 (F) has been implementing the ITTO online monitoring system on a pilot basis. Therefore, all reports (monthly highlights and related cash flow and financial statements, progress reports, YPO, etc.) have been submitted to ITTO Secretariat through the project online monitoring system. The second project steering committee meeting was scheduled for October 2012.

(28) PD 454/07 Rev.3 (F) Community Forest Management: A Sustainable Alternative for the Maues State Forest, Amazonas State (Brazil)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	650,332
ITTO Budget:		US\$	513,527
Government of Japan:	US\$	463,527	
Government of USA:	US\$	50,000	
IBENS:		US\$	136,805

Implementing Agency: Institute of Amazonian Research and Development (IPDA) – New Executing Agency to be approved by Council
 Session of Approval: ITTC Session XLVI, December 2010, Yokohama, Japan
 Starting Date and Duration: 36 months

The Council approved the project in Spring 2008. Financing was not allocated within a period of 20 months after approval. However, the government of Brazil revised and resubmitted this project to the Council

invoking the “Sunset” clause in ITTC Decision 2 (X) Annex 2. Revision 3 of this project was approved by Council at its XLVI session and fully financed at that same session. In February 2011 a draft agreement regulating the implementation of the project was forwarded to the Brazilian Government for joint review with IBENS, the original executing agency that was to implement the project. However, in April 2011 the Brazilian government informed the Secretariat that IBENS had moved to the State of Bahia and therefore could no longer act as the project’s executing agency that required implementing activities in the State of Amazonas.

In this light, the Committee may take note that the Brazilian Government searched for another suitable executing agency and has requested ITTO to consider the Institute of Amazonian Research and Development (IPDA) as the new executing agency. In this light, the Brazilian government has further submitted to the Secretariat a formal request to change the executing agency together with a profile and other detailed information on IPDA. The Secretariat reviewed the corresponding documents, considered these to be justified and seeks the CRF’s endorsement.

In the 45th CRF Session the request for the change of the Executing Agency was considered appropriate and the Institute for Amazon Research and Development - IPDA was approved as the new EA, thus it was recommended the beginning of the activities as soon as possible.

During the year of 2012 it was signed the Project Agreement and the initial documents were prepared to start the project. For lack of knowledge of the ITTO standard procedures, the EA had a lot of difficulties to produce a satisfactory Inception Report. This process was finalized on May 31, when was released the first disbursement, officially marking the project beginning.

In the period 24-26 July, in Manaus city, an extraordinary meeting was held between ITTO ROLAC with the EA and the Amazonas Environmental State Secretary to set guidelines and procedures that will be adopted for project implementation, including the issue of which areas in the Maués State Forest will be covered in the project implementation. Now it can be said the activities are under normal execution.

(29) PD 456/07 Rev.4 (F) Building the Capacities of Forestry Training Institutions Members of the Network of Central African Forestry and Environmental Training Institutions (RIFFEAC) For Providing SFM Training for Forest Concessions
“Capacity Building for Sustainable Management of Tropical Rainforests and Biodiversity Conservation in the ITTO Congo Basin Countries” (ITTO)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	4,518,857.00
ITTO Budget:		US\$	4,408,557.00
Government of Japan:	US\$	3,614,347.00	
Government of Switzerland	US\$	270,000.00	
Government of Belgium	US\$	97,036.69	
Outstanding balance	US\$	427,173.31	
RIFFEAC Training Institutions:		US\$	110,300.00

Implementing Agency: RIFFEAC Secretariat

Period of Approval: Spring 2011

Starting Date and Duration: 26 April 2011 / 60 months

The Council approved the project at its Forty-second Session in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, in May 2007. Financing was not allocated at that time, but the Council authorized the Executive Director to start implementation as soon as earmarked funds for the total ITTO contribution became available in the Special Account.

The project will contribute to building human resources capacities required to achieve sustainable forest ecosystem management in the Congo basin by reconciling social economic imperatives and the maintenance of ecological balances. Specifically, it intends to build the capacities of an environmental and

forestry training institutions in Central Africa to ensure they are capable to train personnel qualified to implement sustainable forest management, while ensuring the biodiversity conservation in the Congo Basin.

Belgium has pledged US\$97,037 in January 2008, as a partial funding for a total ITTO budget of US\$1,080,741 for this regional project. A regional consultant was engaged to convert this project into a phased project (Phase I with an ITTO budget of US\$569,689 and Phase II with US\$511,052) in order to facilitate its additional financing by potential donors of ITTO. No additional financing was allocated by donors to the phased project version.

The project was further revised under the ITTO/CBD collaborative initiative to conserve tropical forest biodiversity [Council Decision 6(XLVI)], in close collaboration with the RIFFEAC institutions and the CBD Secretariat. Its budget was increased from US\$1,080,741 to US\$4,408,557. In relation to the application of Council Decision 4(XLVI), the revised version was posted on the ITTO internet homepage and approved through the time bound process on 06 July 2011. This project was partially financed at the Forty-seventh Session of the Council in Guatemala, in November 2011. The Agreement regulating the project implementation was signed in March 2012. The first disbursement of ITTO funds was made in April 2012.

Since the inception of the project implementation in April 2012, and in accordance with the project's most recent progress report, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

- The consultation and sensitization campaigns have been initiated by the Executing Agency in order to ensure the involvement of all seven RIFFEAC training institutions (CRESA-Yaounde in Cameroon, ENEF-Libreville in Gabon, ENEF-Mbalmayo in Cameroon, ERAIFT-Kinshasa in Democratic Republic of Congo, IDR-Brazzaville in Republic of Congo, ISDR-Mbaiki in Central African republic and University of Dschang in Cameroon) involved in the project implementation; and
- Regional workshop for the launching of the project implementation took place in May 2012 with the aim of discussing the ways and means for a smooth implementation of this project while ensuring the involvement of all seven RIFFEAC training institutions mentioned here above.

The Executing Agency of the project PD 456/07 Rev.4 (F) should be trained, in October 2012, on the utilization of the ITTO online monitoring system, as recommended by the project donors. The first project steering committee meeting was scheduled for October 2012.

(30) PD 459/07 Rev.1 (F) Improving the Enabling Conditions for Sustainable Management of Sandalwood Forest Resources in East Nusa Tenggara Province, Indonesia

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	718,163
ITTO Budget:		US\$	593,163
Government of Japan:	US\$	583,163	
Government of Korea:	US\$	10,000	
Government of Indonesia (Forestry Service of NTT Province & other parties):		US\$	125,000

Implementing Agency: Directorate General of Forest Production Management of the Ministry of Forestry

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XLIII, November 2007, Yokohama, Japan

Starting Date and Duration: 5 November 2009 / 36 months

The project has been approved by the Council during its 43rd Session in November 2007 and fully funded during the 44th ITTC Session in November 2008, thanks to the generous contributions of the Government of Japan and the Government of Korea. The Project Agreement has been signed by the parties in August 2009, following a re-arrangement proposed by the Government of Indonesia between the executing agency and the collaborating agency, and a project coordinator has been nominated in September 2009. A Memorandum of Understanding between the executing agency, the Directorate General of Forest

Production Management of the Ministry of Forestry of Indonesia and the collaborating agency, the Forestry Service of East Nusa Tenggara Province, has been signed on 11 August 2009. The project initiated its operations in 5 November 2009.

The project intends to contribute to the sustainable management of Sandalwood Resources in East Nusa Tenggara (NTT) Province. These forest resources have been seriously depleted due to high demand of sandalwood and it has stimulated over exploitation. In addition, local government policies tend to neglect local people's right to the benefits of the valuable sandalwood and thus discourage them from participating in the maintenance of sandalwood natural regeneration.

The project specific objective is to strengthen the policy, economic incentive and local institutional framework for sustainable management of sandalwood resource. This objective shall be achieved through the accomplishment of the following outputs: (1) New effective policies at district level for managing the resources formulated and endorsed by the local government and being implemented by the executive agencies concerned; (2) Suitable economic incentive framework to support sustainable sandalwood resources developed; (3) Capacity of forestry staff and communities leader improved for planning, managing and sustainable utilizing sandalwood resources; (4) Community awareness on sustainable management of sandalwood resources raised.

During the reporting period, several activities in accordance with the Yearly Operation Plan 2012 have been carried out, including:

- Continued facilitating the process to improve regulations related to sandalwood development at the central government level. The project has facilitated meetings, consultations and dialogues to synchronize existing regulations in provincial and national levels. The project also supported a dialogue on timber legality of Sandalwood; and
- Strengthening local institutions to develop Sandalwood resources. The project has facilitated the following activities: (i) accomplishment of a handbook of sandalwood cultivation techniques for community/farmer groups. This activity has been carried out in cooperation with the Kupang Regional Office for Forestry Training and Education, (ii) extension and training on Sandalwood cultivation for farmers in 10 villages, (iii) conducting series of Focus Group Discussion (FGD) on mapping of Stakeholder's role in developing sandalwood in NTT.

During the implementations of its activities, the project has received full support from the stakeholders, including the communities.

(31) PD 460/07 Rev.2 (F) Achieving Sustainable Management of Mangrove Forests in China through Local Capacity Building and Community Development – Phase I (China)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	393,399
Phase I ITTO Budget:	US\$	277,333
Government of China:	US\$	116,066

Implementing Agency: Beijing Forestry University in collaboration with Fujian Zhangjiakou Mangrove Nature Reserve

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XLIV, Nov.2008, Yokohama, Japan

Starting Date and Duration: January 2011 / 24 months

The Council approved the project at its Forty-third Session in November 2007. The project was revised into Phase I and Phase II at the Forty-fourth Session of the Council in November 2008. Financing of Phase I was made in Spring 2010 Project Cycle. The agreement regulating the implementation of the project was duly signed on 11 Nov 2010. The project activities have been initiated since January 2011.

The development objective of the project is to contribute to the sustainable management of mangrove in China through local capacity building and community development. Its specific objectives are (1) to enhance the capacity of local forestry institutions in mangrove management and (2) to reduce community reliance on mangrove resources through sustainable income generating activities.

Since the Forty-fifth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress report submitted in August 2012, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

- A new management plan of the model forests has been reviewed by stakeholders including a consultation forum. The conclusion was that the new management plan is feasible and the selection of a demonstration mangrove forest is needed to adopt the new management plan.
- Training on mangrove forest management skill was conducted on May 11, 2012. The trainees mainly included the staff of the local nature reserve, as well as some local farmers. Through the training, the management skill and awareness of local people were further improved.
- Key information about existing policies has been collected and reviewed during the stakeholder forum. Experts reviewed the existing policies and refined the weaknesses and strengths of the current mangrove conservation and management policies and concluded the legislation issue was a key to solve the land use and compensation issues in order to safeguard the sustainable management of mangrove forests.
- Based on background information and "Preliminary Analysis of Potential Demand for Eco-tourism", local eco-tourism resources at Fujian Zhangjiangkou Mangrove Nature Reserve were fully evaluated. An eco-tourism plan was developed and endorsed by relevant departments of State Forestry Administration.
- As a platform to discuss key issues on the mangrove forests management, a stakeholder consultation forum was established and operated. The stakeholders mainly include relevant staff from the local Forestry Bureau, Agricultural Bureau, Environment Protection Bureau, Ocean and Fishery Bureau, Water Affair Bureau, Education Bureau, representatives from Dongxia Township, Zhuta Village and Chuanchang Village, Zhuta Elementary and Middle School, as well as Chuanchang Elementary School. The topics of the forum focus mainly on the management plan of MNR, eco-tourism demand based on the mangrove forest and the current policy on mangrove resources management, and emerging issue such as invasive species control.

(32) PD 470/07 Rev.1 (F) Development and Implementation of Criteria and Indicators for Sustainable Management of Planted Forests and Community Forests (Thailand)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	258,674
ITTO Budget:	US\$	209,574	
Government of Japan (FA) :	US\$	209,574	
Government of Thailand:		US\$	49,100

Implementing Agency: Royal Forest Department in collaboration with the Department of National Park, Wildlife and Plant Conservation, Thailand

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XLIII, November 2007, Yokohama, Japan

Starting Date and Duration: November 2012 (expected) / 24 months

The Council approved the project at its Forty-third Session in November 2007. Financing was allocated at the Forty-fourth Session of the Council in November 2008. The agreement regulating the implementation of the project was sent to the Royal Forest Department in January 2009. After a long delay, the project agreement was duly signed on 1 March 2011. The Implementing Agency is still in the process of finalizing an inception report including a detailed yearly plan of operation.

The project aims to contribute to improved availability of timber and NTFPs from sustainable and legal sources. Specifically, the project intends to establish a comprehensive system of C&I for SFM in Thailand.

The expected outputs of the project are: National C&I and standards of performance for SFM developed, tested and adopted; National tracking/COC system developed, tested and adopted; Auditing system for C&I/standards of performance and COC/timber tracking developed, tested and adopted; and Adequate personnel trained on auditing C&I/standards of performance and COC.

(33) PD 482/07 Rev.2 (F) Sustainable Forest Production and Conservation with Community Participation in the Chepigana Forest Reserve of Darien, Panama

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	707,424
ITTO Budget:		US\$	470,108
Government of Japan:	US\$	320,108	
Government of U.S.A.:	US\$	150,000	
Government of Panama:		US\$	237,316

Implementing Agency:	National Association for Nature Conservation (ANCON)
Session of Approval:	ITTC Session XLIV, November 2008, Yokohama, Japan
Starting Date and Duration:	February 2010 / 24 months
Approved Revised Date of Project Completion:	First extension until December 2012 (NOL F.12-0159)

The Council approved the project at its Forty-fourth Session in November 2008 and full financing for its implementation was pledged during Spring 2009. The final agreement regulating the implementation of the project was duly signed in December 2009. The first installment of funds was transferred in January 2010, after the submission by the Executing Agency of the first Yearly Plan of Operations, a request for the no-objection of the project's key personnel and a notification that implementation is about to begin, and the approval of the aforementioned by the Secretariat.

This project envisages promoting the sustainable production of tropical forest timber in the Chepigana Forest Reserve, while critical forest assets are conserved and local quality of life is improved. More specifically, it seeks the production and commercialization of timber and non-timber forest products from the Chepigana Forest Reserve on the basis of environmental, economic and social sustainability, while simultaneously increasing conservation of forest values in the Bagre Highland Biological Corridor, which forms an integral part of the Chepigana Forest Reserve. Project's major outputs are: i) an Integrated Management Plan and other required planning tools for the Chepigana Forest Reserve developed and approved; ii) Forest management and administrative training implemented in Chepigana Forest Reserve and its buffer zone; and iii) capacity to implement sustainable natural resource management and sustainable development enhanced in CBSB corridor and its buffer zone.

Since its inception in January 2010 and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports submitted by the Executing Agency in February and July 2012, progress in implementation of the project can be summarized by major outputs as follows:

Output 1: Integrated Management Plan and other required planning tools for the Chepigana Forest Reserve developed and approved

80% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date, as follows:

- The photo-interpretation of satellite images and the field verification of the reserve was completed;
- The majority of the envisaged thematic maps using GIS have been generated to date;
- The planning stage for the zoning and development of the 5-year management plan for entire Reserve (including inventory of timber and non-timber forest products with extensive participation of locals, the rapid ecological evaluation, and the participatory rural appraisal) was completed;
- The forest inventory field work has been carried out;
- The socio-economic survey field data compilation has been completed;
- An environmental impact assessment is being finalized within the reserve;
- A 5-year zoning and development plan for the reserve is currently being finalized; and

- A long term forest management plan is being finalized for the area zoned to be sustainable managed within the reserve, with a view towards achieving certification shortly.

Output 2: Forest management and administrative training implemented in Chepigana Forest Reserve and its buffer zone

90% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date, as follows:

- A SWOT analysis of the Darien Association of Agroforestry Communities (ACAFOD) has been completed;
- Actions for the establishment of ACAFOD as legally recognized organization are being finalized; and
- One training workshop in forest legislation, protected areas and wildlife was organized in April 2010 for 20 local members of ACAFOD;

Output 3: Capacity to implement sustainable natural resource management and sustainable development enhanced in CBSB corridor and its buffer zone

95% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date, as follows:

- The project's Technical Consultative Committee, was established and is conformed by members from ANAM, Fundación Natura, ACAFOD and ANCON, and meets regularly to discuss the implementation of the project;
- Many training workshops were carried out on the specifics of forest management, tree nursery establishment and maintenance, agroforestry and wildlife ranching, to the benefit of the local communities; and
- Promotional activities to disseminate project objectives and results continue being carried out.

The Committee may wish to take note that project implementation is currently slower than initially projected as some activities have suffered delays, particularly those related to the development of the short and long-term forest management plans and the approval of these by the competent authorities. As such, the Executing Agency applied for an additional extension in time until December 2012 without additional funds, in order to successfully complete the project, and further submitted to the Secretariat a formal request and a justification for the aforementioned extension in time, including budget modifications. The Secretariat reviewed the corresponding documents, considered these to be justified and extended a no-objection in this regard.

The next Project Steering committee meeting, slated for December 2012, will assess the project's current situation, and review the results achieved and outputs pending in order to successfully achieve the project's objectives.

(34) PD 492/07 Rev.3 (F) Participatory Rehabilitation and Management Project for Mangroves and Watersheds in the Coastal Area of the Douala/Edéa Wildlife Reserve – “Douala-Edéa Mangrove Project” (Cameroon)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	830,252
ITTO Budget:		US\$	676,231
Government of Japan:	US\$	526,231	
Government of the U.S.A.:	US\$	150,000	
Cameroon Ecology:		US\$	154,021

Implementing Agency: Cameroon Ecology (CAM-ECO)

Period of Approval: Spring 2009

Starting Date and Duration: 5 February 2010 / 36 months

The project was approved under Spring 2009 Project Cycle through the electronic approval system put in place, as there is no longer a Council Session organized in spring, and it was fully financed at the same Project Cycle. The Agreement regulating the implementation of the project was signed on 5 November 2009. The first disbursement of ITTO funds was made on 5 February 2010.

The project will contribute to ensure the sustainability of mangrove resources in order to improve the living conditions of surrounding communities. It specifically intends to contribute to the sustainable management of mangrove ecosystems around the Douala-Edéa Wildlife Reserve and associated watersheds.

Since the Forty-fifth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports submitted in March and August 2012 and the updates from the Executing Agency, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

- Field visits continued to be undertaken by the project implementing team members to supervise the implementation of activities of rehabilitation of degraded mangroves by the communities selected in the project area, with the technical support of relevant national and international national consultants;
- The sensitization campaigns have been undertaken to demonstrate the importance of mangrove ecosystems and the need for the rehabilitation of degraded mangroves by local communities which should be part of solution as they were identified as part of the problem of degradation of mangroves;
- The continuation of the participatory mapping process of the project areas by the project implementing team members with the support of a national consultant and under the supervision of the international consultant selected by the Executing Agency;
- Meetings for the information sharing have been held with key stakeholders (local communities, representatives of decentralized administrative entities in the project area, representatives of the ministry of forestry and fauna, environmental NGOs); and
- The first draft of the master plan was prepared and circulated for the preparation of the national workshop aiming to share the main findings and results of this project.

The Third Project Steering Committee meeting was scheduled for October 2012, with the purpose of providing guidance to the Executing Agency for a smooth completion of this 3-year project.

(35) PD 495/08 Rev.3 (F) Guatemalan Forest Productivity Information System

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	608,998
ITTO Budget:		US\$	492,588
Government of Japan:	US\$	350,000	
Government of USA:	US\$	142,588	
AIDER:		US\$	116,410

Implementing Agency: National Forest Institute – INAB

Period of Approval: ITTC Session XLV, November 2009, Yokohama, Japan

Starting Date and Duration: January 2013 (expected) / 36 months

The Council approved the project at its Forty-fifth Session in November 2009 and full financing for its implementation was pledged during its Forty-seventh Session in November 2011. The final agreement regulating the implementation of the project was duly signed on 2 April 2012. The Secretariat is currently awaiting the submission by the Executing Agency of the project's inception report jointly with its first Yearly Plan of Operations, a request for the no-objection of the project's key personnel and a notification that implementation is about to begin, in order to release the first installment of funds.

For many years, various forest sector stakeholders have attempted to generate information on forest growth, sites and productivity in the country. However, these efforts have been limited due to institutional, technical and financial constraints.

This proposal responds to the need to generate information on natural forest and forest plantation productivity so as to provide data to support best practices for sustainable forest management planning and implementation, increase forest productivity and thus enhance the value of forestry activities, which will in turn lead to lower deforestation rates and reduced environmental vulnerability.

The project seeks to develop 12 technological packages for major forest species based on the establishment of networks of permanent sample plots at the national level. It envisages broad-based dissemination, awareness and training processes, as well as a cross-cutting approach with major stakeholders, including the academic, private, and public sectors.

(36) PD 501/08 Rev.1 (F) Promoting Household Reforestation in Tropical Zone of Southwestern China through Development and Extension of Household-Oriented Techniques (China)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	592,263
ITTO Budget:		US\$	353,435
Government of Japan (MoFA):	US\$	353,435	
Government of China:		US\$	238,828

Implementing Agency: Yunnan Academy of Forestry (YAF)

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XLIV, Nov. 2008, Yokohama, Japan

Starting Date and Duration: March 2010 / 36 months

The project was approved under Spring 2009 Project Cycle through the electronic approval system put in place, and it was fully financed at the Forty-fifth Session of the Council in Yokohama, in November 2009. The Agreement regulating the implementation of the project was signed on 18 January 2010. The first disbursement of ITTO funds was made on 10 March 2010.

The project contributes to promote household reforestation as well as rural development in tropical mountainous areas of Southwestern China through the development and extension of household-oriented reforestation techniques (HORT). It specifically intends to promote household-oriented reforestation techniques (HORT) through close cooperation between Forestry Research Institute and local households.

Since the Forty-fifth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports submitted in February and August 2012, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

- The Executing Agency has started the process facilitating the negotiation of a formal agreement, to be signed between relevant government institutions and households involved in the project implementation, regarding the ownership of forest products from forest plantations (being established by households in Menglian County). It was noticed that it was important to secure the ownership of the forest products from forest plantations being established by households involved in the project activities for the rehabilitation of degraded forest lands, as one of key factors for the sustainability of main project outcomes;
- Three nurseries managed by selected households have been established in Huiza, Jingkeng and Laga villages (for the production of the seedlings of the following species: *Altingia excelsa*, *Aquilaria sinensis*, *Betula alnoides*, *Mytilaria laosensis*, *Paramichelia baillonii*, *Pometia tomentosa*, *Pterocarpus indicus*, *Swietenia khaya* and *Taxus yunnanensis*);
- The Executing Agency has conducted appropriate experiments on seedling production in two nurseries established in Menglian County of Puer Prefecture;
- The continuation of the seasonal work of seed collection which was undertaken by the project technicians in collaboration with the Yunnan Academy of Forestry and two forestry stations selected for the implementation of this project; and
- A new project site was selected in the village of Shanzhai for the establishment of demonstration forest plantations, regarding the rehabilitation of degraded forest lands, in Huigu and Huizha villages..

The Third Project Steering Committee meeting was scheduled for October 2012, with the purpose of providing guidance to the Executing Agency for a smooth completion of this 3-year project.

(37) PD 507/08 Rev.1 (F) Development of the National Reforestation Policy and Afforestation Strategy Consistent with Liberia 3C-Approach (Liberia)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	505,320
ITTO Budget:		US\$	396,310
Government of Switzerland:	US\$	78,000	
Government of Japan:	US\$	68,310	
Government of USA:	US\$	50,000	
Government of Liberia:		US\$	109,010

Implementing Agency: Forestry Development Authority (FDA)

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XLIV, November 2008, Yokohama

Starting Date and Duration: 07 July 2009 / 30 months

This project has been approved and fully funded during the 44th ITTC Session in November 2008, thanks to the generous contributions of the Governments of Switzerland, Japan and the USA. The Project Agreement has been signed by the parties in April 2009. The project initiated implementation in July 2009 following the delivery of relevant documentation and nomination of a project coordinator.

The project intends to contribute to the development of forest plantations and forest restoration as an effective tool for the conservation and sustainable management of the Liberia's forest and wildlife resources, to maintain environmental quality and improve the flow of benefits to all segments of society, in line with the Liberian Forest Policy "3 C Approach": Commercially-based, Conservation-oriented and Community-involvement, which is based on the three pillars of sustainable forest management (SFM): economic, ecological and social sustainability.

The project specific objectives are: 1) To develop a national reforestation policy and afforestation strategy consistent with the National Forestry Reform Law; and 2) To develop knowledge, expertise and capability of the Forest Development Authority and other stakeholders to assess, monitor and plan forest plantation and forest restoration activities in the country.

Since the Forty-fifth Session of the Committee, and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports and the updates from the Executing Agency, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

- Further assessment and monitoring of forest plantations was carried out in order to cross check information and data already collected through field visits;
- The analysis of the first results from the field assessment of forest plantations, collected through 35 sample plots (25M X 20 M) were established and assessed (measurement of height, diameter, general observation for dead trees, standing trees, etc.) established in: Yekepa/Lamco, Kpaytuo and Tappita Counties;
- The results derived from the analysis of data and information from field exercises continued to be processed and stored in the computer, in order to be used for the preparation of reports on those three forest plantations.

The implementation of some project activities had been delayed because of internal turnover of some personnel, involved in the project implementation, within the Forestry development Authority (FDA) which is the project Executing Agency. The project extension was expected in order to complete all activities.

(38) PD 519/08 Rev.1 (F) Tropical Forest Conservation for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Enhancing Carbon Stocks in Meru Betiri National Park, Indonesia

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	973,388
ITTO Budget:		US\$	814,590
7&i Holdings Co. Ltd (Japan):	US\$	814,590	
Government of Indonesia:		US\$	158,798
Implementing Agency:	Forestry Research and Development Agency (FORDA), Ministry of Forestry, Indonesia		
Session of Approval:	Spring 2009		
Starting Date and Duration:	January 2010 / 48 months		

The project was approved under the Spring 2009 Project Cycle and full financing was made by 7&i Holdings Co. Ltd (Japan). The agreement regulating the implementation of the project was duly signed on 8 October 2009. The Implementing Agency has initiated the project activities since January 2010.

The development objective of the project is to contribute to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and to enhancing forest carbon stocks through enhanced community participation in conservation and management of the Meru Betiri National Park as an integral part of the larger landscape in which they live. Specifically, the project intends (i) to improve the livelihoods of local communities living inside and in the surrounding area of the Meru Betiri National Park (MBNP) through participation in avoiding deforestation, degradation and biodiversity loss and (ii) to develop a credible measurable, reportable and verifiable system for monitoring emission reductions from deforestation and forest degradation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in the MBNP.

Since the Forty-fifth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress report submitted in August 2012, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

Output 1.1 Community participation in conservation improved

Continued active consultations with local communities in Jember and Banyuwangi Districts to facilitate the full and effective engagement of local communities living inside or in the buffer zone of the MBNP. The concerns of the local communities include the integration of local development into regional development programs as well as their engagement in the Meru Betiri National Park Management.

Output 1.2 Alternatives source of income to improve the livelihood of local communities living inside and in the surrounding area of Meru Betiri National Park (MBNP) developed

Activities are in progress to collect information related to the local communities near the rehabilitation zone and to prepare the establishment of plantations with high carbon content species. The rehabilitation zone to be accessed by farmer groups of Curahnongko has been mapped and inventoried while arrangements are being made for Sanenrejo village. Data collection is in progress with a total respondent of 100 peoples from Curahnongko and 100 peoples for Sanenrejo

OUTPUT 1.3 Illegal logging and forest encroachment reduced and reported

Various activities are under way to support the reduction of illegal logging and encroachment in the MBNP. These include: (1) Data gathering on socio-economic conditions of the local communities, firewood requirements for home industry in the villages; (2) Conduct extension activities and protection of forests as efforts in prevention of illegal logging and encroachment activities; (3) Strengthen the local institution (SPKP) and forest guards community partners in reducing illegal logging and other disturbances that are threatening the conservation of the MBNP.

OUTPUT 2.1 Capacity in resource base inventory and carbon accounting improved in measurable, reportable and verifiable form

Guidance is being prepared for the implementation of Demonstration Activity REDD+ in national parks with basic experiences from the MBNP. The draft has been prepared and currently is under review by the Director of PJKKHL. The content of the guidance includes, regulations related to the implementation of REDD+ at the national level, MRV concept in the implementation REDD+ (MRV principle, carbon accounting, emission accounting using IPCC Guidelines 2006, REL determination, monitoring and reporting), the components of social and environmental safeguards and carbon trade.

OUTPUT 2.2 Establishment on comprehensive baseline data and estimation of emissions reduction and carbon enhancement of the National Park prepared

Preparation of a PDD is underway for estimating net emission reductions and enhancement of carbon stocks in the MBNP. The PDD will cover Project Description, Application of methodology of VM0015 (Methodology for Avoid Unplanned Deforestation), Analysis of deforestation and degradation, assessment of agent, driver, underlying causes of deforestation and forest degradation, reference condition without REDD+ project, project strategies and development of MRV system.

Activities have been continued by FORDA and Cerido to identify a land cover in the rehabilitation zone. This will facilitate identifying the eligibility of the rehabilitation zone categorized as non-forest for at least 10 years according to VCS approved methodology of VM0015. It will also facilitate analyzing the land use change according to IPCC Guideline 2006.

OUTPUT 2.3 System for monitoring emission reduction and enhancement of carbon stocks established and validated

A TOR has been prepared to collect information on carbon stocks in the project areas and to set up an institutional system for monitoring forest carbon stocks that supports an exit strategy after project completion. Information on the social-economic aspects of the local communities and an analysis of the project's impacts will also be included in the system.

(39) PD 528/08 Rev.1 (F) Towards Sustainable Indigenous Mahogany Timber Production in Ghana: Phase II, Refining the Silvicultural "Tool Kit" and Practical Training for Industrial-Foresters and Community Farmers

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	775,114
ITTO Budget:		US\$	465,264
Government of Japan:	US\$	445,264	
Government of U.S.A.:	US\$	20,000	
Government of Ghana:		US\$	147,150
Michigan Technological University:		US\$	101,500
SAMARTEX:		US\$	61,200

Implementing Agency: Forestry Research Institute of Ghana (FORIG)

Period of Approval: Spring 2009

Starting Date and Duration: 08 April 2010 / 48 months

The project was approved under Spring 2009 Project Cycle through the electronic approval system put in place, as there is no longer a Council Session organized in spring, and it was fully financed at the Forty-fifth Session of the Council in Yokohama, in November 2009. The Agreement regulating the implementation of the project was signed on 5 April 2010. The first disbursement of ITTO funds was made on 8 April 2010.

The project intends to improve the sustainability of indigenous mahogany in Ghana by developing superior mahoganies that are ecologically adapted and insect tolerant and expand the collaboration with industrial and community tree farmers. It specifically intends to refine the mahogany silvicultural "Tool Kit" in

order to improve the ability to produce economically viable indigenous mahogany in mixed plantations and to transfer this technology to Ghana's key industrial partners and community trees growers via a practical "*How to Cultivate Indigenous Mahoganies in Plantations*" manual.

Since the Forty-fifth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports and the monthly highlights submitted through the project online monitoring system, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

- The selection of superior mahoganies (resistant/tolerant to insect attack) had continued in old mahogany plantations established in different ecological zones of Ghana during the 1960's and 1970's;
- The collaboration between the Executing Agency and selected farmers in Berekum and Kranka Communities has led to the establishment of nurseries for the production of high quality seeds of resistant/tolerant Mahogany needed for the implementation of some project activities;
- The Executing Agency had continued interacting with the ABTS Company for the implementation of some project activities;
- Maintenance of field plots established during the implementation of the Mahogany Phase I project continued, and the monitoring of those plots has been undertaken in collaboration with local communities; and
- The establishment of new provenance/genotype experiments in three different ecological zones of Ghana, with different spacing experiments, had continued.

The Executing Agency of the project PD 528/08 Rev.1 (F) has been implementing the ITTO online monitoring system on a pilot basis. Therefore, all reports (monthly highlights and related cash flow and financial statements, progress reports, YPO, etc.) have been submitted to ITTO Secretariat through the project online monitoring system.

(40) PD 530/08 Rev.3 (F) Phase II of ITTO Project [PD 30/97 Rev.6 (F): Management of Forests Established through Rehabilitation of Degraded Forests by Local Communities in Ghana

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	642,534
ITTO Budget:		US\$	569,665
Government of Japan:	US\$	569,665	
Government of Ghana (in kind):		US\$	72,869

Implementing Agency: Forestry Research Institute of Ghana (FORIG)

Period of Approval: Autumn 2010

Starting Date and Duration: 14 March 2012 / 36 months

This project was approved under Autumn 2010 Project Cycle through the electronic approval system, but it was fully funded during the 47th ITTC Session in December 2010, thanks to the generous contribution of the Government of Japan. The Project Agreement has been signed by the parties in March 2012. The project implementation started in April 2011, after the disbursement of the first installment of ITTO funds.

The ex-post evaluation of the completed project PD 30/97 Rev.6 (F) "*Rehabilitating Degraded Forests through Collaboration with Local Communities (Ghana)*", commissioned by ITTO in November 2007, recommended the implementation of a second phase for the consolidation of the project achievements regarding the use of indigenous species for the rehabilitation and restoration of degraded and secondary tropical forests.

The project objective is to contribute to rural livelihood by improving benefits from forests established by local communities through rehabilitation of degraded forests. Specifically, it intends to develop models and identify strategies and use them for management of forests established by local communities through rehabilitation of degraded lands to enhance biodiversity conservation, provision of goods and services and also determine mechanisms for payment of the services to ensure improve livelihood of local communities.

Since the inception of the project implementation in March 2012, and in accordance with the project's most recent progress report and the monthly highlights submitted through the project online monitoring system, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

- The Executing Agency has engaged the relevant external consultants to support the project implementing team and purchased the vehicle, equipment and materials required for the project implementation;
- The consultation and sensitization campaigns have been initiated by the Executing Agency in order to ensure the involvement of all stakeholders in the project implementation through a participatory process;
- Field visits have been undertaken to select among forest plots established by local communities during the implementation of the project first phase [PD 030/97 Rev.6 (F)].

The Executing Agency of the project PD 530/08 Rev.3 (F) has been implementing the ITTO online monitoring system on a pilot basis. Therefore, all reports (monthly highlights and related cash flow and financial statements, progress reports, YPO, etc.) have been submitted to ITTO Secretariat through the project online monitoring system. The first project steering committee meeting was scheduled for October 2012.

(41) PD 534/08 Rev.1 (F) Small-Scale Private Mixed Plantations Development PLUS Nutrition Promotion: The Case of Six Rural Community Women's Groups in the Eastern and Ashanti Regions of Ghana: Phase II (Ghana)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	639,349
ITTO Budget:		US\$	424,837
Government of Japan:	US\$	369,837	
Government of USA:	US\$	55,000	
Pitris Consult / Government of Ghana:		US\$	214,512

Implementing Agency: PITRIS Consult

Period of Approval: Spring 2009

Starting Date and Duration: 11 April 2011 / 36 months

This project was approved under Spring 2009 Project Cycle through the electronic approval system, but it was fully funded during the 46th ITTC Session in December 2010, thanks to the generous contributions of the Governments of Japan and the USA. The Project Agreement has been signed by the parties in March 2011. The project implementation started in April 2011, after the disbursement of the first installment of ITTO funds following the delivery of relevant documentation and submission of a memorandum of understanding with the collaborating agencies (Ghana Forestry Commission and the Forestry Research Institute of Ghana - FORIG).

This three-year Phase 2 Project (2009-2011) seeks to empower six rural women groups to continue to create wealth by cultivating small-scale individually-owned mixed plantations of commercial indigenous timber species of Wawa (*Triplochiton scleroxylon*), and Ofram (*Terminalia superba*), in combination with *Moringa oleifera* and *Tectona grandis*. The women beneficiaries will utilize degraded land legally allotted to them by their respective traditional clan heads.

Since the Forty-fifth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports and the monthly highlights submitted through the project online monitoring system, progress in project implementation can be mainly summarized as follows:

- The Executing Agency has engaged the relevant external consultants to support the project implementing team and purchased the vehicle, equipment and materials required for the project implementation;

- The training of target women groups on the processing of Moringa products which could contribute to the improvement of vitamin food intakes of these women and their relatives, in particular their children, as well as towards rural poverty alleviation through profit sales. The processing of Moringa products was initiated in order to be used as an incentive factor for women groups involved in the project activities dealing with the rehabilitation of forest degraded lands in Eastern and Ashanti Regions of Ghana; and
- Field visits were undertaken by the project team implementation to select the degraded forest lands to be rehabilitated by the project with the involvement of women groups.

The Executing Agency of the project PD 534/08 Rev.1 (F) has been implementing the ITTO online monitoring system on a pilot basis. Therefore, all reports (monthly highlights and related cash flow and financial statements, progress reports, YPO, etc.) have been submitted to ITTO Secretariat through the project online monitoring system. The second project steering committee meeting was scheduled for October 2012.

(42) PD 552/09 Rev.1 (F) Encouraging Customary Landowners in the Lowlands of Central Province (PNG) to Reforest Their Grasslands with High Value Trees

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	828,576
ITTO Budget:		US\$	644,814
Government of Japan:	US\$	644,814	
Government of PNG:		US\$	183,762

Implementing Agency: Papua New Guinea Forest Authority

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XLV, Nov.2009, Yokohama, Japan

Starting Date and Duration: January 2012 / 36 months

The project was approved and financed in November 2010. The agreement regulating the implementation of the project was sent to the Papua New Guinea Forest Authority in February 2010 and signed duly on 24 May 2010. The Implementing Agency is in the process of finalizing the necessary administrative matters, including a detailed yearly plan of operation and the project management team. The project commenced in January 2012.

The objective of the project is to create a model reforestation framework that encourages customary landowners in the Central Province lowlands to grow high value trees on their grasslands. The successful implementation of the project will lead to the expansion of long-term social, environmental and economic benefits for landowners in the Central Province lowlands through development of reforestation enterprises to promote an appropriate set of business models and production systems. Teak (*Tectona grandis*) will be a focal species to be promoted through a range of model business arrangements and production systems. The expected outputs of the project include: A reforestation awareness programme is in operation for landowners and the wider community in Central Province; A business training & support package is in operation for small-scale reforestation enterprises; An agro-forestry training & support package is in operation for small-scale reforestation enterprises; and A distribution system is in operation for small-scale reforestation enterprises with agro-forestry stock and materials.

Since the Forty-fifth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress report submitted in August 2012, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

Output 1: A reforestation awareness programme is in operation for landowners and the wider community

- A series of discussions have been held with the National Department of Education, Curriculum Development Division with the aim of producing and distributing educational materials. Project team members took part in the PNGFA World Environment Day celebration by planting trees at the Gomore Community School involving school children and the community on 5 June 2012. A total of 120 tree seedlings were distributed and planted.

- A Training Needs Analysis (TNA) workshop was conducted (by NARI, SBDC & PNGFA) at the project site for 3 days to assess present understanding and awareness gaps. Participants education levels and past work experiences were collected, and are to be used in designing the most relevant awareness, information & training materials in the fields of Agriculture, Forestry & Business.
- Site selection and the original Incorporation Land Group (ILG) processes are completed for the three affected ILG's of the Gomore site project.
- A teak planting area at the Gomore project site was surveyed using a hand held GPS with in-built digital camera. A total area of 22.84 hectares was surveyed in May and is awaiting favorable conditions for the establishment phase.

Output 2: A business training and support package is in operation for small-scale reforestation enterprises.

- Collaboration between the PNGFA/ITTO and the Curriculum Development Division of the National Education Department and Small Business Development Corporation is continuing on exploring ways of establishing the Know About Business (KAB) course at Kwikila Secondary School. The KAB course is taught only to grade 11 & 12 students at secondary schools.
- Present business know-how and information needs were assessed and the community profile on minimum education and work experiences were collected, analysed and updated.

Output 3: An (agro) forestry training and support package is in operation for small-scale reforestation enterprises.

- A combined effort (between NARI & NFS) was undertaken in assessing the present know-how and training needs of target groups during a 3-day workshop. A series of meetings between NARI and PNGFA/ITTO were held (both at Laloki & Hohola) to verify the existing MOU, budgets & costs of nursery/irrigation materials required for project implementation.

Output 4: A distribution system is in operation providing (agro) forestry stock and materials for reforestation enterprises.

- Clonal orchard at both established locations were visited and is in need of good maintenance. Current Kuriva Teak planting stock for Gomore project site is assessed to be sufficient. There is an abundance (~30%) of overgrown teak seedlings at the Kuriva Forestry nursery that requires planting out without delay.
- Planting stock supplies at Kuriva is not sufficient to supply the two project sites. A nursery on each of the project site (Gomore & Boera/Papa) is proposed to be built to cater for increased demand for teak seedlings, for planting out on the customary grassland areas in the three districts (Rigo, Abau & Kairuku-Hiri) of Central Province.

(43) PD 564/09 Rev.1 (F) Production of an Educational Book Series on Mangroves for Sustainable Management and Utilization of Mangrove Ecosystems (Japan)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	222,234
ITTO Budget:		US\$	149,904
Government of Japan:	US\$	149,904	
ISME:		US\$	72,330

Implementing Agency: International Society for Mangrove Ecosystems (ISME)

Period of Approval: Spring 2010

Starting Date and Duration: January 2012 / 15 months

The project was approved under Spring 2010 Project Cycle and was financed under Spring 2011 Project Cycle. The project agreement was prepared by ITTO and signed by the implementing agency in July 2011. However, ITTO's signature of the agreement and commencement of project activities were delayed to the end of 2011 pending receipt of project funds from the government of Japan.

The project is designed to provide the necessary information for the development of appropriate policies and/or management plans for sustainable management and utilization of mangrove forests through the production of educational book series on the environmental, ecological and socio-economic functions of mangrove ecosystems. Three educational books to be published by the project include: Introduction to Mangrove Ecosystems; Structure and Function of Mangrove Forests; and Useful Products from Mangrove Plants.

Activities during 2012 commenced with the recruitment of a project coordinator (Dr. Chan Hung Tuck) and technical experts/lead authors for each of the three educational books referred to above (Dr. Barry Clough, Prof. Ong Jin Eong and Prof. Shigeyuki Baba, respectively). Information on user needs has been collected through a survey of mangrove stakeholders. The contents and structure of each book were finalized during a project technical meeting. Work on all three books is underway, with draft chapters in all at least 50% complete. Activities still to be implemented include an international workshop to introduce the completed books to potential users and uploading electronic versions of the books to GLOMIS (an online mangrove information database developed under previous ITTO projects maintained by ISME).

A project monitoring mission is scheduled for October 2012. The full progress report submitted by the Implementing Agency is available from the Secretariat (English only).

(44) PD 577/10 Rev.1 (F) Management of the Emerald Triangle Protected Forests Complex to Promote Cooperation for Transboundary Biodiversity Conservation Between Thailand, Cambodia and Laos (Phase III)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Grand Total Budget:	US\$	2,619,441
Total ITTO Budget:	US\$	2,051,039
Government of Japan (through JICA):	US\$	2,051,039
Government of Thailand:	US\$	339,552
Government of Cambodia:	US\$	228,850

Implementing Agency: Royal Forest Department (main agency) (Thailand)
Forestry Administration (Cambodia)

Session of Approval: Autumn 2010

Starting Date and Duration: August 2012 / 36 months

The project was approved under Autumn 2010 Project Cycle and was financed at the ITTC Session XLVI in November 2010 under the ITTO/CBD Collaborative Initiative for Tropical Forest Biodiversity. A preparatory meeting was held on 27 May 2011 in Phnom Penh with the participation of Cambodian project team and JICA experts to review the arrangement of the Cambodian component. The meeting's review includes: engagement of Lao PDR; effective collaboration with the CALM project; engagement of an international auditing firm; community livelihood development components; feasibility of establishing a new project HQs and a tissue culture lab; and operation of PSC and national Project technical Committee in Cambodia.

The agreement regulating the implementation of the project was duly signed by the Royal Forest Department of Thailand (RFD), the Cambodia Forestry Administration and ITTO in May 2012 after concluding a long internal procedure of the government of Thailand relating to signing international project agreements. The inception report and the yearly plan of operation for the first year had been reviewed and endorsed by the ITTO Secretariat. The project commenced officially its activities from the beginning of August 2012. To renew the commitments and partnerships towards the success of the project under the ITTO/CBD Collaborative Initiative for Tropical Forest Biodiversity, a launching ceremony of the project is being organized on 1 October with the first meeting of the project steering committee on 2 October 2012. The Forestry Administration of Cambodia is currently working for the organization of the launching ceremony with the attendance of representatives of key stakeholders.

The development objective of the project is to conserve trans-boundary biodiversity in the Emerald Triangle Protected Forests Complex situated between Thailand, Cambodia and Lao PDR in a framework of the trans-boundary biodiversity conservation area (TBCA). The protected areas of the Emerald Triangle comprise habitats of a diversity of wildlife species. Large species, such as the wild elephant, banteng and tiger, are observed along the national borders and seasonally migrate across the tri-national boundaries. The Emerald Triangle has some of the most extensive unfragmented natural forests in Southeast Asia containing large numbers of globally threatened species as a last refuge for sixteen “critically Endangered” and “Endangered” species from the IUNC Red List.

Specifically, the project aims to strengthen the protection of trans-boundary habitats of the protected wide-ranging wildlife species in the Emerald Triangle. It will apply lessons learned in Phase II as well as in Phase I of the project and will address in a comprehensive manner those remaining limitations that impact the sustainability of biodiversity conservation and alternative livelihood impacts of project activities that will have been implemented through the project.

(45) PD 583/10 Rev.1 (F) Restoring Sub-Humid Ecosystems in Southern Peru through Reforestation with *Caesalpinia spinosa*

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	308,711
ITTO Budget:		US\$	149,796
Government of Japan:	US\$	149,796	
APAIC		US\$	158,915

Implementing Agency: APAIC – ASOCIACION PRO DESARROLLO AGROINDUSTRIAL DE CAMANA

Period of Approval: ITTC Session XLVI, November 2010, Yokohama, Japan

Starting Date and Duration: October 2011 / 24 months

The Council approved the project at its Forty-fifth Session in November 2009 and full financing for its implementation was pledged during its forty-sixth Session in November 2010. The final agreement regulating the implementation of the project was duly signed in April 2011. The first installment of funds was transferred at the end of September 2011, after the submission, by the Executing Agency, of an inception report, a detailed work plan, a request for the no-objection of the project’s key personnel and a notification that implementation is about to begin, and the approval of the aforementioned by the Secretariat.

Deforestation and climate change are currently increasing in the Peruvian coastal region, which over the last few decades has led to total degradation or even the disappearance of special ecosystems that were previously important sources of biodiversity and goods and services for the local population in areas where extreme climate and soil conditions make restoration difficult through conventional methods.

This small project aims to ensure the rehabilitation of arid or degraded lands in the Peruvian Coastal Region so as to generate reforestation opportunities with a view to improving the environment and the living conditions of the local rural population. It expects to implement a forest production system in a highly degraded micro coastal region using fast-growing, high commercial value forest species of high carbon sequestration and soil improvement efficiency for the benefit of the Province of Camaná, Department of Arequipa, Southern Peru, while simultaneously contributing to the mitigation of climate change effects. More specifically, the project seeks to promote the development of a critical mass area of cultivated land (100 ha, with 20 families) that will serve as a catalyst for the growing of 1,000 hectares in the next 10 years. This will not only restore climatic conditions in the “lomas” area, re-vegetating the coastal sub-humid tropical ecosystem of the region, but will also generate CO₂ storing biomass, employment (500 permanent workers) and sufficient economic resources to support approximately 250 families. It would represent a true economic, ecological and social revolution that would break the paradigm that reforestation can only take place in the humid areas of the Peruvian Rainforest (Selva) and Highlands (Sierra) Regions.

Since the Forty-fifth session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports submitted in February and July 2012, and the first Project Steering Committee meeting held in February 2012, progress in project implementation can be summarized by major outputs as follows:

Output 1: 100 ha of Tara (*Caesalpinia spinosa*) plantations on eriaza lands under drip irrigation systems established, including the installation of 3 artesian wells.

55% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date, as follows:

- To date 40 ha have been planted with Tara and another 15 ha with Olive trees. The first crop of Tara pods is expected in October 12. All the plantations are watered by installed drip irrigation systems. However, serious constraints currently exist as regards the supply of irrigation water due to bureaucratic impasses;
- Another 20 ha have been site-prepared and are ready to receive seedlings;
- 3 water wells have been drilled but are currently being evaluated for water quality and quantity; and
- A nursery with a capacity of 40,000 seedlings/yr has been established and is providing the seedlings for the ongoing plantations.

Output 2: 50 families directly benefitting from plantation production after 24 months and feasibility study for the establishment of 1,000 ha over the next 10 years.

55% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date, as follows:

- To date 32 families have registered and committed themselves to the establishment of Tara plantations;
- Several field trips have been organized with the participation of regional staff of the Ministry of Agriculture, AGRORURAL, Municipality of Camaná and APAIC Members to demonstrate techniques for seedling production, site preparation, drip irrigation, fertilization and pruning;
- Technical assistance is periodically provided, and a seminar on Tara plantation establishment was organized in February 2012 in Camana, with the participation of government officials and institutions and to the benefit of all the local population; and
- A feasibility study for rehabilitation and reforestation program using *Caesalpinia spinosa* in an area of 1,000 ha within the CDM framework will be initiated shortly.

Output 3: Feasibility study for the development of an industrial Tara processing plant and carbon market model for non-timber forest products (fruits and seeds) and biomass under arid climate conditions.

10% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date, as follows:

- Steps are being taken to initiate a feasibility study early in 2013 for the development of an industrial Tara processing plant and a carbon market model for non-timber forest products (fruits and seeds) and biomass under arid climate conditions.

The Project's second Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for early 2013.

(46) PD 584/10 Rev.2 (F) Implementing the Cooperative Framework between ODEF and the Stakeholders for the Effective Participatory and Sustainable Management of the Eto-Lilicope Forest Complex (Togo)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	218,298
ITTO Budget:	US\$	162,788
Government of Japan:	US\$	162,788
Government of Togo:	US\$	55,510

Implementing Agency: Office de développement et d'exploitation des forêts (ODEF)

Period of Approval: Spring 2011

Starting Date and Duration: 17 May 2012 / 15 months

The 15-month project was approved under Spring 2011 Project Cycle through the electronic approval system, but it was fully funded during the 47th ITTC Session in November 2011, thanks to the generous contribution of the Government of Japan. The Project Agreement has been signed by the parties in February 2012. The project initiated implementation in May 2012 following the disbursement of the first installment of ITTO funds.

This project proposal is a follow-up to PD 217/03 Rev.2 (F): *"Establishing a Cooperative Framework between ODEF and the Communities Living in the Eto-Lilicope Forest Complex for the Sustainable Participatory Management of this Complex"*. As the groundwork for the participatory management process has been laid, the process must be advanced through the effective implementation of the agreements entered into, in particular, the forest boundaries to be landmarked together with other land-use parcels including farm land; as well as blocks of farm land to be allocated to the communities, while ensuring that the Forest Management Committee for this forest complex is made operational.

The overall aim of the project is to implement the sustainable and participatory management of the Eto-Lilicope forest complex for timber production. It specifically intends to implement the collaboration framework established between the main stakeholders for the consensual and sustainable management of the Eto-Lilicope forest complex.

Since the inception of the project implementation in May 2012, and in accordance with the project's most recent progress report and the monthly highlights submitted through the project online monitoring system, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

- The equipment and materials required for the project implementation were purchased; and
- The consultation and sensitization campaigns have been initiated by the Executing Agency in order to ensure the involvement of relevant stakeholders of the Eto-Lilicope Forest Complex in the project implementation through a participatory process;

The Executing Agency of the project PD 584/10 Rev.2 (F) has been implementing the ITTO online monitoring system on a pilot basis. Therefore, all reports (monthly highlights and related cash flow and financial statements, progress reports, YPO, etc.) have been submitted to ITTO Secretariat through the project online monitoring system.

(47) PD 586/10 Rev.1 (F) Operational Strategies for the Conservation of Tengkwang Genetic Diversity and for Sustainable Livelihood of Indigenous People in Kalimantan (Indonesia)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	\$513,356
ITTO Budget:		US\$	414,104
Government of Japan:	US\$	344,104	
Government of USA		50,000	
Government of Korea		20,000	
Government of Indonesia		US\$	99,252

Implementing Agency: Dipterocarps Research Centre, FORDA, MOF

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XLVI, Nov.2010, Yokohama, Japan

Starting Date and Duration: July 2011 / 36 months

The project was approved by the Council at its Forty-sixth Session in November 2010 in Yokohama, Japan, and fully funded at the same Session. The Agreement governing the implementation of the project was signed on 7 March 2011. The first disbursement of ITTO funds was made in 14 July 2011.

The project development objective is to contribute to the improvement of biodiversity conservation of Dipterocarps especially Tengkwang species and livelihood of indigenous people. Specifically, it intends to stop the depleting process of Tengkwang genetic diversity.

Since the inception of the project implementation in July 2011, an operational project implementing team has been put in place for the implementation of this project, and was also trained on the utilization of the ITTO project on-line monitoring system (POLMS).

Since the Forty-fifth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports and the monthly highlights submitted through the project online monitoring system, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

- The Executing Agency has engaged the relevant external consultants to support the project implementing team in the preparation of guidebooks and manuals on ways and means to improve the biodiversity conservation of Dipterocarps especially Tengkwang species;
- The consultation and sensitization campaigns have been initiated by the Executing Agency in order to ensure the involvement of all stakeholders in the project implementation through the holding of training workshops on the utilization of these guidebooks and manuals by technicians to be involved in the project implementation; and
- Field visits have been undertaken to select appropriate sites where project activities should be implemented in order to contribute to the improvement of biodiversity conservation of Dipterocarps especially Tengkwang species and livelihood of indigenous people, while contributing also to stop the depleting process of Tengkwang genetic diversity.

The Executing Agency of the project PD 586/10 Rev.1 (F) has been implementing the ITTO online monitoring system on a pilot basis. Therefore, all reports (monthly highlights and related cash flow and financial statements, progress reports, YPO, etc.) have been submitted to ITTO Secretariat through the project online monitoring system. The First Project Steering Committee meeting was scheduled for November 2012.

(48) PD 590/10 Rev.1 (F) Integrated Fire Management in Rural Communities of Guatemala: Establishment of Pilot Sites for the Implementation of Sustainable Integrated Fire Management Practices

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	799,332
ITTO Budget:		US\$	517,563
Government of Japan:	US\$	497,563	
Government of Korea:	US\$	20,000	
AVM:		US\$	174,169
INAB:		US\$	107,600

Implementing Agency: ASOCIACION VIVAMOS MEJOR – AVM

Collaborating Agency: NATIONAL FOREST INSTITUTE – INAB

Period of Approval: ITTC Session XLVI, November 2010, Yokohama, Japan

Starting Date and Duration: October 2011 / 36 months

The Council approved the project at its Forty-sixth Session in December 2010 and full financing for its implementation was further pledged at that same session. The Project Agreement regulating the implementation of the project was duly signed on April 8th 2011. The Project Inception Report and the Detailed Work Programme were further received and approved by the ITTO Secretariat. The project's first Steering Committee met on June 22nd 2012, and assessed the project's start-up activities and its compliance with ITTO's rules of procedures. Further orientation on the use of the OLMS was also provided. Moreover, the Committee observed that already a few of the project's activities are quite advanced and have even produced some interim products and outputs.

Wild and man-made forest fires destroy vast areas of Guatemala each year. Overall, this project aims to contribute to sustainable management of Guatemala's tropical forests via the development and application of community-based integrated fire management practices. More specifically, it seeks to implement sustainable integrated forest fire management practices in four pilot sites in rural community areas of Guatemala.

It is expected that through community courses and workshops, this project will seek to define appropriate strategies for the protection of (tropical moist, cloud) broadleaved and pine forests against catastrophic fires caused by agricultural and other activities, such as the use of fire for tropical pine forest restoration, regeneration and improvement. IFM programs will be planned and implemented with the extensive participation of rural communities in four pilot sites, based on the principles of *Integrated Fire Management (IFM)* (Myers, 2006), integrating ecological, socio-economic, policy and technical factors to address the issues of forest fires and the use of fire in Guatemala. The results obtained will be applied to similar communities and ecosystems in tropical areas. The project will be focused on IFM for tropical broadleaved and pine forests to ensure forest protection and appropriate use of fire in forest management and improvement processes. The project will serve as a link between government agencies responsible for forest fire issues and the communities living within and around selected pilot sites.

Since the Forty-fifth session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports submitted in February and July 2012, and the first Project Steering Committee meeting held in June 2012, progress in project implementation can be summarized by major outputs as follows:

Output 1: Institutional capacity for community-based IFM strengthened.

- The methodological aspects of the training courses have finalized and two training courses have been carried out, one at the technical level and another at the community-based integrated fire management (IFM) level, and more the community-based level will ensue shortly (50% complete); and
- In addition, the development, revision and validation of IFM planning and evaluation tools have also been initiated (25% complete).

Output 2: Community-based Integrated Fire Management (IFM) Plans developed and implemented.

- An inter-institutional coordination group for project implementation has been established and is currently being consolidated (80% complete);
- A community-based IFM planning and approval process is currently under development for each of the 4 pilot sites (25% complete);
- The actions defined in community-based IFM plan for each pilot site are still to be implemented (0% complete);
- The exchange of experiences in the implementation of community-based IFM practices between pilot sites has been initiated (10% complete);
- The Acquisition of appropriate basic equipment for community-based IFM practices has begun (20% complete); and
- Some printed and audio-visual materials on community-based IFM experiences are currently being published and disseminated (25% complete).

Output 3: Fire-related socio-economic impacts and forest dynamics documented and disseminated.

- Meetings and field trips have been organized for the development of a baseline and evaluation protocol on community-based IFM practices and to study the current forest status for each pilot site (30% complete);
- The conduct of a study on economic costs and benefits of fire use practices and their impact on the forest has been initiated with a view toward the development and implementation of a monitoring and evaluation protocol for IFM practices in Guatemala.

In addition, the Project has already produced several products, among them studies, maps, technical documents and training materials, among others.

(49) PD 622/11 Rev.1 (F) Marketing of Native Plant Seeds, Seedlings And Timber Products to Improve Living Standards and Strengthen Regional Forest Policies in the Amazon Region of Peru: A Pilot Case on the Taulia Molinopampa Rural Community (Peru)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	188,743
ITTO Budget:		US\$	149,958
Government of Japan:	US\$	124,958	
Government of USA:	US\$	25,000	
IIAP/NCI		US\$	38,785
Implementing Agency:	PERUVIAN AMAZON RESEARCH INSTITUTE (IIAP) – AMAZONAS OFFICE		
Period of Approval:	ITTC Session XLVII, November 2011, Guatemala City, Guatemala		
Starting Date and Duration:	January 2013 (expected) / 24 months		

The Council approved the project at its Forty-seventh Session in November 2011 at Guatemala City and full financing for its implementation was pledged at that same session. The final agreement regulating the implementation of the project was duly signed on 22 August 2012. The Secretariat is currently awaiting the submission by the Executing Agency of the project's inception report jointly with its first Yearly Plan of Operations, a request for the no-objection of the project's key personnel and a notification that implementation is about to begin, in order to release the first installment of funds.

Members of the Taulía Molinopampa Rural Community, the Molinopampa Association of Conservationist Producers (APROCOM), the Peruvian Amazon Research Institute (IIAP) and Nature and Culture International (NCI) in the Amazon Region of Peru, through joint actions aimed at improving production capacity, establishing innovative mechanisms and practices, and creating an enterprise for the marketing of certified seeds, seedlings and timber products from native species, will contribute to strengthen regional forest policies based on the use of native timber species, community experience and scientific research to generate additional income and thus improve community living standards.

In general, the proposal seeks to improve the living standards of the Molinopampa Rural community through the production, diversification and marketing of native tropical timber species, using innovative mechanisms and practices to enhance regional forest skills and policies. More explicitly, the project intends to establish a community enterprise to market certified seeds, seedlings and by-products of native timber species.

Major outputs expected, among others, are as follows: i) One regional policy and its regulations have been developed, proposed and adopted by the Amazonas Regional Government; ii) Three community nurseries are in production and 15 hectares have been reforested with native species in the target area; iii) Three permanent plots have been established to produce certified seeds and seedlings; iv) Establishment and operation of a seed marketing enterprise and 20 trained beneficiaries applying their acquired skills; and Four manuals and 4 scientific studies have been published on production, phenology, germination, growth and traditional uses.

B. PROJECTS AWAITING IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENT

(1) PD 617/11 Rev.2 (F) Promoting Biodiversity Conservation in Betung Kerihun National Park (BKNP) as the Trans-boundary Ecosystem between Indonesia and State of Sarawak Malaysia - Phase III (Indonesia)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	\$806,399
ITTO Budget:		US\$	591,559
Government of Japan:	US\$	84,661	
Government of Switzerland	US\$	503,486	
Government USA	US\$	3,412	
Government of Indonesia		US\$	214,840

Implementing Agency: Betung Kerihun National (BKNP), Directorate General of Forest Protection and Nature Conservation (PHKA), Ministry of Forestry (MOF)

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XLVII, Nov.2011, La Antigua, Guatemala,

Starting Date and Duration: January 2013 (expected) / 36 months

The project was approved under Autumn 2011 Project Cycle and was financed under Autumn 2011 Project Cycle. The project agreement has been prepared and sent to the Ministry of Forestry of Indonesia. The Executing Agency is in the process of preparing an inception report with a yearly plan of operation.

The main objective of the project is to promote sustainable conservation management of the Betung Kerihun National Park (BKNP), which was established in 1992 through the Ministerial Decree and was enlarged to 800,000 ha, as a transboundary ecosystem between Indonesia and Malaysia (Sarawak). The project builds on the outcomes of ITTO Project PD 26/93 Rev.1 (F) "Development of Betung Kerihun Nature Reserve as a National Park, Phase I" and PD 44/00 Rev.3 (F) "Implementation of a Community-Based Transboundary Management Plan for the Betung Kerihun National Park, West Kalimantan, Indonesia, Phase II". Although some progress had been made through the previous projects, the BKNP management as a transboundary conservation area (TBCA) is still facing several challenges. There is a growing recognition that effective strategies to conserve biodiversity requires more strong transboundary cooperation between the countries in relation to shared ecosystems and other conservation concerns.

The proposed strategies and activities of the project are in line with transboundary conservation areas cooperation with the Lanjak Entimau Wildlife Sanctuary (LEWS) and the Batang Ai National Park (BANP) in Sarawak sites which are adjacent to BKNP in Indonesia. The project will be implemented by BKNP in collaboration with many stakeholders including WWF-Indonesia in order to ensure the conservation of the integrity of BKNP's biodiversity values. The project activities include establishing a joint task force for the efficient implementation of TBCA with the participation of representatives from LEWS and BANP. The expected outputs of the project are: (1) Cooperation between Indonesia and Malaysia for the conservation of transboundary ecosystem between BKNP and BANP/LEWS is maintained/strengthened; (2) Operational/ Work plan on biodiversity conservation of transboundary ecosystem is formulated; and (3) Sustainable livelihoods of the local communities within and surrounding BKNP improved.

C. PROJECTS AWAITING FINANCING

(1) PD 452/07 Rev.4 (F) Sustainable Management of Production Forests at the Commercial Scale in the Brazilian Amazon – Phase II (Brazil)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	1,517,068
ITTO Budget:	US\$	865,659
EMBRAPA:	US\$	337,288
MMA:	US\$	263,271
IFT:	US\$	50,850

Implementing Agency: Embrapa Amazônia Oriental (EMBRAPA), Belém, Pará

Period of Approval: Spring 2008

The Council approved the project in Spring 2008. Financing was not allocated at that time, but the Council authorized the Executive Director to start implementation as soon as earmarked funds for the total ITTO contribution became available in the Special Account within a period of 20 months after approval. After the 20-month validity period, this project will be acknowledged as "Sunset", unless it is revised and then resubmitted to the Council for decision prior to the end of the validity period for review, at the option of the submitting member state. The Government of Brazil has resubmitted the proposal with a modified budget as Revision 4 in 2011 and requested it be considered for financing for another period of 20 months.

The project proposal for a second phase will build upon the achievements of the completed project PD 57/99 Rev.2 (F) "Sustainable Management of Production Forests at the Commercial Scale in the Brazilian Amazon – Phase I" implemented by EMBRAPA. In its first phase, the project is developing and validating, in collaboration with two timber enterprises, a set of silvicultural and managerial tools to support enterprises working in terra firme forests of the Brazilian Amazon in planning, implementing and monitoring its operations to achieve sustained financial benefits under current and foreseeable environmental and social conditions.

The present second-phase project proposal overall objective is to encourage the adoption of good forest management practices by medium and large scale timber enterprises in the Brazilian Amazon via the transfer of the aforementioned tools being developed. In particular, the project will consolidate the tools for Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) developed in the first phase, build capacity of training centres and universities of the Amazon region to transfer the SFM tools to timber enterprises and government environmental agencies responsible for forest management, evaluate the direct and indirect impacts of transferring the SFM tools to timber enterprises, and disseminate project achievements and products to a large audience of relevant stakeholders.

Major outputs, among others, include: A set of SFM computer tools consolidated; Guidelines to support SFM prepared; Capacity of project collaborators for implementing training of SFM tools strengthened; Project clients trained in the use of SFM tools; Strategies for transfer of SFM tools evaluated; and Technical, social, financial and environmental impacts of changes caused by SFM adoption in selected timber enterprises evaluated.

(2) PD 460/07 Rev.2 (F) Achieving Sustainable Management of Mangrove Forests in China through Local Capacity Building and Community Development - Phase II (China)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	245,697
Phase II		
ITTO Budget:	US\$	155,585
Government of China:	US\$	90,112

Implementing Agency: Beijing Forestry University in collaboration with Fujian Zhangjiakou Mangrove Nature Reserve

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XLIV, Nov.2008, Yokohama, Japan

The Council approved the project at its Forty-third Session in November 2007. The project was revised into Phase I and Phase II at the Forty-fourth Session of the Council in November 2008. Financing of Phase I was made in Spring 2010 Project Cycle and it is currently being implemented. However, Phase II is awaiting financing.

(3) PD 477/07 Rev.4 (F) Improving Forest Functions in Bengkulu Province through Community Participation in Rehabilitation of Degraded Forest by Using Local Prospective Commodities (Indonesia)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	\$430,424
ITTO Budget:	US\$	338,256
Government of Indonesia:	US\$	92,168

Implementing Agency: Forestry Service of Bengkulu Province

Session of Approval: Spring 2009

The project was approved Spring 2009 and its validity was extended until Spring 2013.

The development objective of the project is to contribute to sustainable forest management in Bengkulu provincial forest through rehabilitation and community prosperity improvement by planting local prospective commodities. The specific objectives are (1) to implement suitable technology for production of high quality planting materials of locally adapted and prospective commodities for plantations and (2) to improve stakeholder involvement and community prosperity through successful rehabilitation and plantation of local prospective commodities.

(4) PD 541/09 Rev.2 (F) Forest Promotion and Development by Native Communities in Peru

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	1,002,345
ITTO Budget:	US\$	610,505
AIDER:	US\$	391,840

Implementing Agency: Association For Integrated Research And Development – AIDER

Period of Approval: ITTC Session XLV, November 2009, Yokohama, Japan

The Council approved the project at its Forty-fifth Session in November 2009. Financing was not allocated at that time, but the Council authorized the Executive Director to start implementation as soon as earmarked funds for the total ITTO contribution became available in the Special Account within a period of 20 months after approval. After the 20-month validity period, this project will be acknowledged as "Sunset", unless it is revised and then resubmitted to the Council for decision prior to the end of the validity period for review, at the option of the submitting member state. The Government of Peru resubmitted the proposal as Revision 2 in 2011 and as such will be considered for financing for another period of 20 months.

There are currently more than 12 million hectares of forests located in native community territories in Peru. These forests are in good conservation status and are therefore under constant pressure from illegal timber logging, which also favors the expansion of deforestation for agricultural purposes. It is therefore

necessary to launch a promotion and training process to strengthen the skills and capacities of local communities for the sustainable management of their forests.

Thus, the project seeks to contribute to improving the quality of life of forest-dependent indigenous communities (4 ethnic groups settled in 3 Amazon regions) and to the conservation of biodiversity in the Amazon region. More specifically, this proposal aims to ensure legally recognized forest management practices by native communities in the Peruvian Amazon region for commercial production purposes and for the supply of environmental services from moist tropical forests. The target communities have participated in the formulation of this project through consultation workshops for the validation and acceptance of the proposal, which were organized through ITTO-financed pre-project PPD 129/06 Rev.1 (F) "Forest Promotion and Development by Native Communities in Peru".

Main project outcome indicators by the end of the project are: i) 130 community members will have strengthened their forest management capacity incorporating 13 community forests into the process; ii) 1 technical business management strengthening plan for native communities will have been formulated and implemented; iii) 13 native communities will be linked to the regional and national markets for forest goods and services; iv) 7 native communities will have consolidated their voluntary forest certification under FSC standards; v) 13 native communities will be practicing sustainable forest management for commercial production purposes in 220,000 ha of forests; vi) 13 native communities will be engaged in sustained forest business activities, vii) 1 proposal for the supply of environmental services by native communities will have been developed and in the process of being marketed; and viii) 1 native community forest management proposal will be under discussion at regional policy and decision making platforms.

(5) PD 544/09 Rev.2 (F) Increased Economic Returns from Forest Management in Permanent Production Forests of Peru

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$ 1,043,946
ITTO Budget:	US\$ 592,229
CNF:	US\$ 451,717

Implementing Agency: National Forestry Chamber

Period of Approval: ITTC Session XLV, November 2009, Yokohama, Japan

The Council approved the project at its Forty-fifth Session in November 2009. Financing was not allocated at that time, but the Council authorized the Executive Director to start implementation as soon as earmarked funds for the total ITTO contribution became available in the Special Account within a period of 20 months after approval. After the 20-month validity period, this project will be acknowledged as "Sunset", unless it is revised and then resubmitted to the Council for decision prior to the end of the validity period for review, at the option of the submitting member state. The Government of Peru resubmitted the proposal as Revision 2 in 2011 and as such will be considered for financing for another period of 20 months.

This project proposal stems from the implementation of two previous projects: PD 23/00 (F) "Promotion and Transfer of Knowledge on Sustainable Forest Management Models to Timber Producers", which has already been completed, and PD 421/06 Rev.2 (F) "Strengthening of the production chain for timber from forest concessions and other forests under management", which is currently under implementation. During interactions with forest producers, it was noted that forest management costs were currently increasing, thus jeopardizing forest management sustainability. As such, it is imperative to offer alternatives to generate economic income from environmental services, including non-timber forest products, as well as improving production efficiency and forest timber productivity.

Based on the lessons learned in the above experiences, this proposal was formulated as a follow-up to the latter with the aim of promoting a diversified forest resource management model, including market articulation and improved forest governance within the framework of the regional decentralization process that is currently taking place in Peru.

The development objective of this project is to contribute to sustainable forest management in the forest production units of the Peruvian Amazon Region, while its specific objective is to increase the economic returns derived from forest management practices in forest concessions. Outcomes expected include: Forest production units are economically valued in a diversified manner according to market opportunities for forest products and environmental services, forest producers are successfully linked to the goods and services market, forest producers have developed their technical and business management capacities to improve the efficiency of their enterprises, and the efficiency of the technical personnel of competent forest authorities has increased substantially.

(6) PD 554/09 Rev.2 (F) Pilot Sustainable Management Systems for Secondary Forests in the Collective Territory of the Bajo Calima Community Council, Municipality of Buenaventura, Colombia

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	603,600
ITTO Budget:	US\$	453,600
Government of Colombia – University of Tolima:	US\$	100,000
Community Council of the Bajo Calima Black Ethnic Group:	US\$	50,000

Implementing Agency: UNIVERSITY OF TOLIMA

Period of Approval: ITTC Session XLV, November 2009, Yokohama, Japan

The Council approved the project at its Forty-fifth Session in November 2009. Financing was not allocated at that time, but the Council authorized the Executive Director to start implementation as soon as earmarked funds for the total ITTO contribution became available in the Special Account within a period of 20 months after approval. After the 20-month validity period, this project will be acknowledged as “Sunset”, unless it is revised and then resubmitted to the Council for decision prior to the end of the validity period for review, at the option of the submitting member state. The Government of Colombia resubmitted the proposal as Revision 2 in 2011 and as such will be considered for financing for another period of 20 months.

This proposal originates from a recommendation of Project PD 415/06 Rev.2 (M) “Systematization and Modeling of Economic and Technical Information to Train Professionals Related to the Production, Processing and Marketing of Timber Products”. Secondary forests in the collective Afro-Colombian territory of Bajo Calima are situated on the Colombian Pacific plateau bio-geographic region, one of the most biologically diverse ecosystems on the planet. The management of these forests, which was under the responsibility of a private forest industry for several decades, was devolved at the end of the last century to the African community descendants through their Community Councils. However, this transfer came about without any training in sustainable forest management for the communities, and therefore a lack of management ensued, resulting in a considerable degradation of the forests in their territory.

Overall, the project proposal aims to contribute to the implementation of management, conservation and restoration programmes for strategic ecosystems in the Pacific region of Colombia, based on enrichment and agroforestry systems established and managed in a sustainable manner. More specifically, it expects to launch a participatory process to achieve sustainable management of secondary forests and collective lands of Bajo Calima in the Republic of Colombia, involving the establishment of a 100-hectare pilot area under sustainable management, and implementing line enrichment and agroforestry systems. Teachers, community leaders and farmers will be trained in community organization, and in administration, use, management and conservation of natural resources. This process will be complemented by a research-action programme executed by undergraduate and graduate students from the University, with special emphasis on environmental services related to climate change.

(7) PD 563/09 Rev.3 (F) Community-Based Forest Management of Sungai Medihit Watershed (Malaysia)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	\$1,060,928
ITTO Budget:	US\$	537,704
Government of Malaysia:	US\$	523,224

Implementing Agency: Forest Department of Sarawak
Hirosar Jaya Snd Bhd

Session of Approval: Spring 2011

The project was approved in Spring 2011 but financing has not been made.

The project intends to promote the sustainable development of the Sungai Medihit catchment in Ulu Limbang Division, North Sarawak where the Kelabit and Penan indigenous communities subsist on shifting agriculture and resources collected from increasingly disturbed forests. The specific objective of the project is to formulate and apply approaches to manage the catchment and its resources and use them sustainably. The project will deliver information, provide skills training and set up a forum for synergy to help local communities, timber/plantation interests and government bodies in the sustainable management and use of the catchment and its resources. Each group will develop approaches to manage its own interests in the catchment sustainably and profit from them. Stakeholder participation will be central to the project and it is expected that at least 50% of Long Napir households and 50% of Kpg. Bhagia households will be above the State Poverty Line after the completion of the project.

(8) PD 581/10 Rev.2 (F) Establishing a Geographic Information System for the Sustainable Management of the Forest Areas of Togo

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	565 523
ITTO Budget:	US\$	345 840
Government of Togo:	US\$	219 683

Implementing Agency: Office de développement et d'exploitation des forêts (ODEF)

Period of Approval: Autumn 2011

The project was approved under Autumn 2011 Project Cycle through the electronic approval system, but financing has not been made at the same Project Cycle.

The sustainable management requires the availability and control of related statistical and geographical information. The forest sector of Togo is characterized by a lack of geo-spatial organization and insufficiently reliable data. This represents a barrier to planning and forestry development. Therefore, it is important for Togo to organize and improve information on the forestry sector. This project aims to contribute to the optimization of forestry potential and sustainable management of forest areas in Togo. It specifically intends to improve the management of forest geo-spatial in Togo. The project expected outputs are:

- The collection and processing of forest sector data are based on the use of modern equipment and methodology;
- Stakeholders trained in the use of forestry GIS do make use of the skills they have acquired; and
- A system of decentralized geo-spatial information management for forests is in place.

(9) PD 601/11 Rev.3 (F) Strengthening Mangrove Ecosystem Conservation in the Biosphere Reserve of Northwestern Peru

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	958,219.60
ITTO Budget:	US\$	496,289.60
MDA:	US\$	75,630.00
Regional Governments of Tumbes and Piura:	US\$	386,300.00

Implementing Agency: MDA

Period of Approval: Spring 2012

The project was approved under the Spring 2012 Project Cycle through the electronic approval system put in place, but financing was not allocated at that time. However, Council has authorized the Executive Director to start implementation as soon as earmarked funds for the total ITTO contribution became available in the Special Account within a period of 20 months after approval. After the 20-month validity period, this project will be acknowledged as "Sunset", unless it is revised and then resubmitted to the Council for decision prior to the end of the validity period for review, at the option of the submitting member state.

Mangrove forests constitute one of the most vulnerable ecosystems to climate change, while at the same time they are one of the ecosystems that can sequester and store the highest volumes of carbon, and while the National System for Natural Protected Areas (SINANPE) has contributed to the sustainability of this ecosystem by establishing the National Sanctuary of Tumbes Mangroves (Santuario Nacional de los Manglares de Tumbes – SNLMT), there is an insufficient number of participatory mechanisms for the overall conservation of mangrove forest ecosystems in the Piura and Tumbes regions. This in turn leads to low living standards for the communities living in mangrove ecosystem areas and to the loss of biodiversity.

In order to address this situation, this proposal envisages improving the standard of living of the population in mangrove ecosystem areas in the regions of Tumbes and Piura. More specifically, it will increase the number of participatory mechanisms for mangrove forest protection and conservation in the regions of Tumbes and Piura through the: 1) Adequate use of legal powers by regional and local governments for the conservation of mangrove forests; 2) Improved level of forest administration and management so as to preserve mangrove ecosystems; and 3) Financial sustainability strategies for mangrove forests developed and under implementation.

The main project outcomes that are expected to be achieved upon project completion are: (i) The management capacity for the conservation of mangrove forests in two (2) regional governments and two (2) municipalities will have been strengthened; (ii) three (3) protected areas will have been established: the Mangrove /Dry Forest Biological Corridor, the San Pedro de Vice Mangrove Forest and the New Vichayal Mangrove Forest; (iii) the management efficiency of the National Sanctuary of Tumbes Mangroves (SNLMT) will have been improved; (iv) the appropriate use of resources (forest and hydrobiological resources) in mangrove forests will have been promoted through the implementation of 10 sub-projects for sustainable economic activities, and (v) two (2) financial mechanisms will have been promoted so as to contribute to the sustainability of mangrove forests.

(10) PD 602/11 Rev.3 (F) Tropical Forest Governance in the Region of Darien, Panama

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	616,603.00
ITTO Budget:	US\$	350,842.00
WWF – Panama:	US\$	101,961.00
ANAM:	US\$	163,800.00

Implementing Agency: WWW – PANAMA OFFICE

Period of Approval: Spring 2012

This project proposal was approved under the Spring 2012 Project Cycle through the electronic approval system put in place, but financing was not allocated at that time. However, Council has authorized the Executive Director to start implementation as soon as earmarked funds for the total ITTO contribution became available in the Special Account within a period of 20 months after approval. After the 20-month validity period, this project will be acknowledged as “Sunset”, unless it is revised and then resubmitted to the Council for decision prior to the end of the validity period for review, at the option of the submitting member state.

This project proposal is aimed at following up one of the outputs of ITTO-financed project PD 405/06 Rev.3 (F): “Extending the area under sustainable forest management in the forest lands of the Emberá-Wounaan Comarca, Darien, Panama”, which characterized and described institutional, administrative and socioeconomic factors promoting illegal logging in the region of Darien and, as a result, produced a framework document on guidelines and strategies requiring immediate institutional action to counteract incremental forest degradation, which leads to illegal logging related practices and other unsustainable activities.

Thus, the main aim of this project proposal is to support the implementation of the Strategy for Illegal Logging Prevention and Control, as the problem of illegal logging has become out of control. Its negative effects not only hinder any forest land management initiatives through unfair price competition and non-payment of stumpage fees but, most importantly, lead to a drastic reduction of the forest cover and continued loss of biodiversity in the country, including in the Darien National Park and other protected areas.

Expected project outcomes at the macro level are: (i) Establishment of an institutional and governance framework for illegal logging prevention and control based on a cross-sectoral agreement and the adjustment of harvesting permits to the size of forest management units (FMU), the allocation of technical and legal responsibilities to forest professionals (forest reGENCY system) and the revision of harvesting standards by local governments (Comarcas and Municipalities); (ii) Incorporation of an efficient timber flow monitoring and control mechanism, including: a) origin and legality; b) rotational forest permit verification systems; c) checking of timber volumes both at processing centers and transport points; d) development of software for production and transport control; and e) establishment of a traceability and chain of custody system; (iii) Development of a proposal on financial mechanisms to promote responsible forest management and trade in the natural forests of Panama by: a) exploring various incentive mechanisms; and b) promoting responsible purchasing policies as an incentive for stakeholders involved in sustainable forest management practices; (iv) Development of a responsible purchasing campaign so as to raise awareness on the administrative and institutional provisions of the Strategy and promote the certificate of origin “*Darién Responsable*” (*Responsible Darien*) for timber products and by-products from forests under good management practices in the region of Darien.

(11) PD 629/11 Rev.2 (F) Protection, Management and Restoration of Forest Lands for Water Catchment and Flow Regulation as a Climate Change Adaptation Measure (Guatemala)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	888,738
ITTO Budget:	US\$	485,136
INAB:	US\$	255,418
WWF:	US\$	148,184

Implementing Agency: National Forest Institute - INAB

Period of Approval: Spring 2012

The project was approved under the Spring 2012 Project Cycle through the electronic approval system put in place, but financing was not allocated at that time. However, Council has authorized the Executive

Director to start implementation as soon as earmarked funds for the total ITTO contribution became available in the Special Account within a period of 20 months after approval. After the 20-month validity period, this project will be acknowledged as “Sunset”, unless it is revised and then resubmitted to the Council for decision prior to the end of the validity period for review, at the option of the submitting member state.

Over the past few years, the National Forest Institute (INAB) has endeavoured to maintain and conserve strategically important forests for water catchment and flow regulation; to this end, it has developed programmes and projects to strengthen and enhance forest management. However, immediate actions are required to prevent and adapt to current and future conditions arising from climate change and affecting Central America, in particular actions to ensure water quality and quantity for the country's population.

This project proposal will contribute to address the above issues. This is a project on a national scale, since it will mainly deal with the adjustment of policy instruments to improve the use of sustainable forest management in Guatemala.

The expected outcomes of the project proposal include: i) To generate information and tools to assist INAB and other key stakeholders in improving efficiency in the management, restoration and conservation of forest lands for water catchment and flow regulation purposes; ii) To make available relevant and up-to-date information on forests and their role in the water cycle, to support decision-making on forest management with a view to improving water quality and quantity for human, agricultural, industrial and other uses; iii) To increase coordinated involvement in appropriate management of forest catchment areas.

Outputs planned for the project include a strategic information base to help prioritise Forest Lands for Water Catchment and Flow Regulation for protection and restoration; the implementation of instruments and tools to use, protect and restore forest catchment areas; and the processing and mainstreaming of lessons learnt on forest catchment area management.

(12) PD 653/12 Rev.1 (F) Sustainable, Mixed and Pure Forest Plantation Development in the Transitional Zone of Ghana’s Biakoye District Assembly, Employing Poverty Reduction Strategies (Ghana)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	324,088
ITTO Budget:	US\$	245,272
Government of Togo:	US\$	78,816

Implementing Agency: PICODEV GHANA

Period of Approval: Spring 2012

The project was approved under Spring 2012 Project Cycle through the electronic approval system, but financing has not been made at the same Project Cycle.

This multi-dimensional project consists of the cultivation of fast and slow-growing commercial indigenous tropical forest timber species like Emire, Ofra, Dodowa- Sofo, Onyina, Papaw, Wawa, and West African Mahogany species in mixed stands, and exotic teak and Cassia siamea (for fuel- wood) in pure-stands, along with professional training on how to creatively process self-grown local cassava tubers (using simple home-made technology) into popular demand-driven value-added staple foods and thereby directly reducing rural poverty. The targeted beneficiary youths consider the self-sustaining cassava value-adding food segment, very vital and attractive owing to the short-term rural poverty reducing aspects that it possesses.

D. PROJECTS COMING UNDER THE SUNSET PROVISIONS SINCE THE LAST SESSION

- (1) **PD 467/07 Rev.4 (F) Generating an Ongoing Information System on the Status of Mahogany (*Swietenia Macrophylla*) and Cedar (*Cedrela Odorata*) Populations in Support of Cites Scientific Authority in Peru**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget: US\$ 1,548,694

ITTO Budget: US\$ 896,724

UNALM/FCF: US\$ 651,970

Implementing Agency: Faculty of Forestry Science, National Agrarian University of La Molina (UNALM/FCF)

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XLIV, November 2008, Yokohama, Japan

The Council approved the project at its Forty-fourth Session in November 2008. Financing was not allocated at that time, but the Council authorized the Executive Director to start implementation as soon as earmarked funds for the total ITTO contribution became available in the Special Account within a period of 20 months after approval. After the 20-month validity period, this project will be acknowledged as "Sunset", unless it is revised and then resubmitted to the Council for decision prior to the end of the validity period for review, at the option of the submitting member state. The Government of Peru has resubmitted the proposal as Revision 4 in 2010 and requested it be considered for financing for another period of 20 months, and which have already lapsed.

- (2) **PD 475/07 Rev.2 (F) Restoring the Ecosystem Functions of the Jambi Grand Forest Park Through Promotion of Multiple-Use Function of Forest Resources in Collaboration with Local Stakeholders (Indonesia)**
- (3) **PD 476/07 Rev.3 (F) Clonal Test of Superior Progeny of *Shorea Leprosula* for Enrichment Planting Program (Indonesia)**
- (4) **PD 560/09 Rev.3 (F) Conservation and Sustainable Management of Mangrove Forests of the Kouilou Coastal Area, with the Participation of Local Communities Established in this Area of Southern Congo (Republic of Congo)**
- (5) **PD 568/09 Rev.1 (F) Developing Community-Based Sustainable Mangrove Management System for the Amanzuri and Ama Emissa River Estuaries in Ghana**

● **PRE-ROJECT WORK IN PROGRESS**

A total of four (4) approved pre-projects are currently under implementation while no pre-project is awaiting the signing of an agreement to initiate activities. There is one (1) approved pre-project still awaiting full financing and no approved pre-project fell under the sunset provision since the last Session. In this report the pre-projects are grouped into four categories:

- A. Pre-projects under active implementation;
- B. Pre-projects which have financing allocated, but for which the contract or agreement regulating implementation has still not been concluded;
- C. Pre-projects which still do not have full financing secured; and
- D. Pre-projects coming under the sunset provision since the last Session consistently with Decision 2(X), Annex 2, Paragraph 2. In some cases, these pre-projects were at least partially funded or had other developments which the Committee may wish to consider in its discussions. These pre-projects are grouped together in Section C of this report.

A. PRE-PROJECTS UNDER IMPLEMENTATION

9.2 Pre-projects

(A) Pre-projects under implementation

(1) PPD 94/04 Rev.1 (F) Evaluation of the Status of Forest Resources in Côte d'Ivoire

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	64,128
ITTO Budget:		US\$	52,402
Government of Japan:	US\$	37,402	
Government of U.S.A.:	US\$	15,000	
Government of Côte d'Ivoire:		US\$	11,726

Implementing Agency: Ministry of Water and Forest Resources

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XXXVI, July 2004, Interlaken, Switzerland

Starting Date and Duration: 22 November 2006 / 6 months

Approved Revised Date of Project Completion: Extension until February 2008 [CRF(XLI)]

The 6-month pre-project was approved by the Council during its Thirty-sixth Session in Interlaken, Switzerland, July 2004 and full financing was pledged at the same Session. The Agreement regulating the implementation of the pre-project was signed on 14 January 2005. The first disbursement of ITTO funds was made in November 2006. A pre-project extension was granted until February 2008 without additional ITTO funds, by the Committee on Reforestation and Forest Management at its Forty-first Session, based on an official request including proper justification with appropriate detailed work plan and budget.

This pre-project intends to contribute to the sustainable management of forests in Côte d'Ivoire. It specifically intends to provide better knowledge of the current status of forest resources and management capacities during the post-conflict period, as a basis for developing better forest policies.

Most of the pre-project activities have been completed. However, the submission of reports (final technical report compiling the outcomes and findings of consultant reports, and completion report) has been delayed due to the long validation process within Cote d'Ivoire, requiring the involvement of all relevant stakeholders. The submission of these reports was further delayed by the pre-election and post-election socio-political turmoil in Cote d'Ivoire, from 2008 and 2011.

The Secretariat urges the Executing Agency to take the necessary arrangements for the submission of the technical report and completion report, as well as the final financial audit report, not later than end of March 2013.

(2) PPD 108/04 Rev.1 (F) Sustainable Community Management, Utilisation and Conservation of Mangrove Ecosystems in Ghana (Ghana)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	94,252
ITTO Budget:		US\$	75,578
Government of Japan:	US\$	40,000	
Government of U.S.A.:	US\$	35,578	
Government of Ghana:		US\$	18,674

Implementing Agency: Institute of Renewable Natural Resources Management (IRNR),
in collaboration with Forestry Research Institute of Ghana
(FORIG) and Forestry Commission

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XXXII, May 2002, Bali, Indonesia

Starting Date and Duration: 30 October 2006 / 12 months

This project was reported as completed at a previous CRF session and documented as such in CRF(XLIII)/2, but is still pending the final financial audit. **The Secretariat urges the Executing Agency to submit the final financial audit report, at its earliest convenience, not later than end of March 2013.**

**(3) PPD 123/06 Rev.1 (F) Controlling dieback and Decay Phenomenon in Plantations Species
(Cote d'Ivoire)**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	98,045
ITTO Budget:		US\$	79,920
Government of Japan:	US\$	79,920	
Government of Côte d'Ivoire:		US\$	18,125

Implementing Agency: Société de Développement des Forêts (SODEFOR)

Session of Approval: ITTC Session XL, June 2006, Merida, Mexico

Starting Date and Duration: 3 July 2007 / 6 months

This project was reported as completed at a previous CRF session and documented as such in CRF(XLIII)/2, but is still pending the final financial audit. **The Secretariat urges the Executing Agency to submit the final financial audit report, at its earliest convenience, not later than end of March 2013.**

**(4) PPD 153/11 Rev.1 (F) Forest Fire Prevention through the Implementation of Regional
Actions with the Participation of Local Communities and Other
Relevant Stakeholders so as to Ensure the Protection of Forests and
Ecosystem Services**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	123,326
ITTO Budget:		US\$	99,576
Government of Japan:	US\$	99,576	
ASOCARS		US\$	23,750

Implementing Agency: Association of Regional Autonomous and Sustainable
Development Corporations – ASOCARS

Collaborating Agency: Autonomous Corporations
Ministry for the Environment, Housing and Land Development,
Division of Risk Management, Regional Governments and
Municipalities

Period of Approval: ITTC Session XLVII, November 2011, Guatemala City,
Guatemala

The Council approved the pre-project at its Forty-seventh Session in November 2011 in Guatemala City, Guatemala and full financing was made available at that same session. The agreement regulating the

implementation of the pre-project was duly signed on 30 August 2012. The Implementing Agency is in the process of preparing an inception report including a detailed yearly plan of operation.

Year after year, forest fires have been an ongoing problem in the country, affecting mainly forest ecosystems and, as a result, the ecosystem services they provide. No consistent studies have been carried out on the main causes in any of the three major regions of the country where forest fires occur with increasing frequency and intensity every year (Andean, Caribbean and Orinoquia regions).

This pre-project is aimed at gathering information on the culture and customs of the rural communities in each of these three regions in relation to fire management, particularly in all aspects related to agriculture, tourism and other local customs, so as to facilitate the design and formulation of a project proposal on forest fire prevention.

B. PRE-PROJECTS AWAITING IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENT

None.

C. PRE-PROJECTS AWAITING FINANCING

(1) PPD 160/12 Rev.1 (F) Study for the Rehabilitation and Sustainable Management of the Mangrove Forests in the Coastal Area of Benin

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	90,500
ITTO Budget:	US\$	72,900
Government of Benin:	US\$	17,600

Implementing Agency: Ce.Sa.Re.N - ONG

Period of Approval: Spring 2012

The pre-project was approved under Spring 2012 Project Cycle through the electronic approval system, but financing has not been made at the same Project Cycle.

The coastal zone of Benin is lined with mangroves rich in biodiversity which represents a natural heritage of great value from their multiple biological, ecological and economic functions. They play a crucial role in the lives of local communities which causes them to exert pressure on resources present, these mangrove forests are subject to a sharp deterioration that threatens the entire ecosystem of the coastal zone of Benin and therefore the livelihoods of local people. But baseline information and data are lacking to develop a program of restoration and sustainable management for mangrove forests in Benin. This pre-project aims to gather the necessary baseline information to draw up an inventory of mangroves in the coastal zone of Benin and subsequently prepare a project document for the restoration and sustainable management of these mangrove forests.

D. PRE-PROJECTS COMING UNDER THE SUNSET PROVISIONS SINCE THE LAST SESSION

None.

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