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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 (40) approved projects are currently under implementation while additional three (3) projects are awaiting the signing of an agreement to initiate activities. There are fourteen (14) approved projects still awaiting full financing while there are two (2) 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 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:	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 2013 respectively, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

- The Decree No. 2013/7570/PM of 12 August 2013, formalizing the establishment of the SiKop Gazetted Forest for the benefit of the Communes of Ngambe, Ndom and Nyanon, was signed by the Prime Minister of Cameroon;
- The certificate of compliance with environmental requirements was granted to the Si-Kop Gazetted Forest and should be added as annex to the forest management plan to be finalized soon and validated by relevant national authorities;
- 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 implementation and updating of the management plan of the Si-Kop Gazetted Forest;
- Technicians from ICRAF-Cameroon had continued to conduct training sessions, for local communities living in the project area, on the local techniques for the processing of main crops produced in the project area (cassava, plantain banana, sweet potato, etc.) for longer conservation and food security in villages involved in the project implementation with agroforestry activities. Training sessions were also conducted on the apiculture techniques for the production of honey, as a source of additional income for local communities involved in the project implementation;
- The process for the creation and establishment of community forests was initiated for the Mahohi, Nemkok and Wag communities; and
- Construction of two warehouses completed in Ndambog and Botbea Villages, for the storage of crops produced by local communities involved in the project implementation through agroforestry activities.

After three project extensions granted until July 2013, a fourth project extension was granted until December 2013, without additional ITTO funds, for the completion of planned project activities, in particular for activities which were pending due to the delay in signing the decree for the formalization of the establishment of Si-Kop Gazetted Forest.

(2) 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		US\$	689,614
(during suspension, from 2004 to 2008):			
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 May 2000, 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 21, 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- sixth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the last progress reports submitted in 2013 and based on the latest communications and correspondence with the ITTO Secretariat, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

The activities which were planned in the corresponding YPO for execution during 2013 and their percentage of execution are presented as follows:

- A total of 198 beneficiaries, totaling 300 ha, were confirmed for the establishing of plantations: 100% executed;
- A total area of 173 ha to be geo-referenced: 58% completed;
- An area of 115 ha prepared for the plantations in the basins of the Rivers Salaquí and La Larga, and in the indigenous communities of Truandó: 38% completed;
- The selections of species for the plantations in the previous item: 100% completed;
- A total of 113 thousand seedlings were delivered for the plantations, corresponding to 55% of the planned activity;
- An area of 25 ha was fully planted, corresponding to 8.3% of the total planned; this activity was affected by climatic conditions;
- A number of 45 users were trained in the establishment and management of plantations;

It should be registered that the climatic adverse conditions are, as a whole, affecting the normal implementation of the plantations as originally planned. Another determinant factor was related to difficulties in the transferring of financial resources from the Environment Compensation Fund, from the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MADS). As the EA was not able to prepare all documentation, in special a proper auditing report, following ITTO standards, the second disbursement after project restart was not made so far. The project auditing for the years 2010 and 2011, was done as part of the accountability of the Executing Agency itself, and not as a project specific auditing. Of a total of 4 installments of US\$80 thousand, only the first was effected so far, after the project was re-started by CODECHOCO.

The documents and reports sent by the EA, normally have missing data, incomplete information, do not follow the current ITTO Manual, and there is systematic delay in their delivery.

(3) 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)		

The Council approved this project at its Twenty-ninth Session in November 2000 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.

The project had its scheduled execution for 48 months, but due to the difficulties faced over time their full extent was 102 months. In this period, two extensions of time were approved by CRF 42 and 43, between 2008-2010 and 2010-2011, respectively. From 2011, the resources used for the execution of activities were undertaken by the State Forestry Institute, with a view to full compliance with the workplan, valuing the partnership assumed to ITTO.

The internal changes in the EA and the Environment Secretariat of Minas Gerais in 2010, made it difficult to progress with the project. After an intensive exchange of communications between EA, Secretary, ABC and ITTO, it was decided to conclude the project, along with the return of funds of the last installment (US\$ 50,000) which was not used. Another and last disbursement of the same value was left without transferring.

However, even if the planned activities in the Adjusted Work Plan and approved in the PSC meeting have not been undertaken with funds provided by ITTO, all were met and the results achieved. The EA presented the Completion Report and products, with full execution of project planned activities. However the Final Auditing is still pending.

Normally the documents and reports sent by the EA have missing data and incomplete information, and there is systematic delay in their delivery.

(4) 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(XLVII)/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 2014.

(5) 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(XLVII)/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 2014.

(6) 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:	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 2014.

(7) 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 also includes 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.

According to the two last progress reports referring to the year 2013, developments in the project's physical implementation can be summarized as follows:

Of a total of 23 project activities, the implementation can be summarized as follows: 6 activities were finalized, 2 activities are in normal execution and other 3 prioritized in 2013, while 11 activities were postponed for the delay in the financial availability for work of the ITTO disbursement, which had difficulties in the bank processing. The most recent Progress Report mentioned as main activities: the conclusion of collecting survey information about property land use; the mapping of the properties engaged in the project; and the growth evaluation of planted trees. The project team was invited by one community to take active part in an event of recovery of permanent protection area.

The publication of technical - scientific papers and academic thesis derived from the project continued. Following some of the academic publications produced with work executed under the project activities, some technical conclusions can be withdrawn. They are:

- It is possible to start the process of land restoration with the plantation of native forest species based on productive arrangements selected in a participatory manner.

- The installation of the recovery units, in a participatory manner in familiar properties, allowed to establish a network of situations and solutions experienced by individual farmers. The different productive forest arrangements implanted, in addition to being a productive alternative for short, medium and long term for the family, may allow recovery of the productive capacity of the soil, restore some ecological functions, providing forest environment in the property and, therefore, assist in compliance with environmental legislation.
- The top-climate conditions analysis show that there are areas with potential for expansion of forest plantations of taxi-branco (*Sclerolobium paniculatum* Vogel) and paricá (*Schizolobium amazonicum* Huber ex Ducke), especially in areas with severe loss of vegetation cover as in the northeast of Para. Based on the data obtained, it is recommended the planting of the two species to recover the degraded landscape with characteristics similar to top-climate areas studied in the project.
- Field observations associated with literature information show that it is possible to identify areas preferred for the forest plantations of taxi-branco for the recovery of altered or degraded areas, reinforcing the importance of field validations as pre-studies for the selection of areas versus species in the Amazon.

In terms of administrative issues, the significant delay between the disbursement of ITTO and the effective release of the resources to the EA, associated with other administrative difficulties, delayed further the project, leading to a further extension in time requested by the EA. Since January 2013, the project activities seem to be normalized as the third payment was available in the FIDESIA bank account. During the previous period, the project was partially suspended. Based on these difficulties, there is a need to make a new request for project extension until July 2014. The EA has not submitted the NOL request to date.

(8) PD 350/05 Rev.3 (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:	January 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 September 2006. Upon the submission of the first Yearly Plan of Operations, the first installment of funds was transferred in January 2007.

This project 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, it 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-sixth 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:

- Output 1.1: Assessment of direct control of *H. grandella* and *C. Yucatánensis*, determining effectiveness and costs: estimated 96% completed;
- Output 1.2: Monitoring of damage and pest for getting more information on the biology of the Meliaceae borers in the study area (population fluctuation and environmental factors that regulate life cycles on *Hypsipyla grandella* and *Chrysobothris Yucatánensis*): estimated 93% completed;
- Output 1.3: Identification and propagation of tolerant genotypes to Meliaceae borers: estimated 96% completed.

The Project's fifth Steering Committee meeting was held in April/2013, when it was recognized the need of a further and final extension of eight months, until April 2014, to allow the project be completed producing all results as planned, and also the preparation of a written review of all experiences developed during the project to be published as a further contribution by the project, and the training of researchers on the application of natural products for pests control.

(9) 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) Third extension until September 2013 (CRF XLVI)	

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 July 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 utilization 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-sixth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the most recent progress reports submitted in 2013, progress in project implementation can be summarized by outputs as follows:

- Output 1- Forest management evaluation processes tailored to Mexico's tropical forest conditions (society, legislature, economy and environment): 100% completed;
- Output 2 - Validated local C&I with a holistic view of ecological, economic and social systems required to evaluate tropical forest management: estimated 95% as completed;
- Output 2 - Agents of change (ejido residents, technical experts and management personnel) trained in the use of C&I to monitor tropical forest sustainability: 20% completed.

It was held the 6th Steering Committee Meeting in April 2013, which recommended the EA to request a project extension for six months until March, 2014 for successful completion of project activities, but to date the EA has not submitted a NOL request of extension. At that Meeting it was recognized that the original proposal to apply the ITTO C&I in seven Mexican states was pretty bold. On the other hand, it was concluded that the efforts made in the project have been very rewarding for generating an unprecedented experience of application of C & I for Sustainable Forest Management in Latin America and the Caribbean. The project strategic approach had strong influence on the delay of its execution, but resulted in an unique opportunity of testing the C&I with intense community participation through the Ejidos.

Two technical- scientific articles were published on the project results obtained so far. These publications are intended to spread the work that has been done and its contribution to tropical forest management in Mexico.

(10) 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:	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 2014.

(11) 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)		
	Extension until July 2013 (NOL Ref No F.13-0024)		
	Extension until December 2013 (NOL Ref No. F.13-0194)		

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 December 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-sixth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's progress report submitted by the Executing Agency in August 2013, progress in implementation of the project can be summarized as follows:

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 in Tsunami affected areas in Phang Nga and Ranong provinces, two training courses on Bamboo Propagation and Maintenance were organized on 28 May at Kuraburi District, Phang Nga province and 30 May 2013 at Kapor District, Ranong province. The courses provided concerned farmers with appropriate local knowledge and techniques on bamboo propagation, planting and maintenance to get better production on both shoot and culm.

Output 1.6: Research and Monitoring program developed

- Monitoring is taking place on coastal areas' forest rehabilitation in respect to criteria for securing community-based coastal ecosystem management covering three components, namely community security, ecosystem health and ecosystem management.
- Developed a CBM-SLES supporting research and development program. Monitoring framework covers the social, economic and ecological systems, such as survival and growth rates of planted forests. A household survey with a questionnaire and in-depth interviews was carried out to present the changes resulting from forest rehabilitation.
- Developed a community-based ecological monitoring system. A monitoring on survival rates of 4 sampling plots size 4x4 m. found that most replanted samplings had their survival rate of 80-95 percent, except one sampling plot where lots of weeds found its survival rate below 60 percent. At the same time, a survey at Koh Kor Khao and Bang Klauy Noke communities found plant density slightly increased between 2011 and 2013. Furthermore, a monitoring and evaluation of fertile and carbon sink of terrestrial forests in Klong Tone watershed area with the sampling plot 20x50 m. indicated that its fertile was in a moderate level and an overall carbon sequestration capacity increased to 2.84 tons per Rai in 2012.
- Organized a validation workshop for research and monitoring systems. A one-day workshop was also organized in July 2013 to present the results, experiences and lessons learned from the implementation of coastal forest restoration and livelihood improvement activities. It was participated by around 50 attendants from government officials, academics, NGOs, local governments and community leaders groups.

Output 2.2: Technology for bamboo house construction in use.

- Negotiated loan contracts for 2 bamboo houses and one bamboo shop. The second joint-venture bamboo house was negotiated with the resort owner at Koh Kor Kao and Phang Nga provinces and had been constructed on 6 May – 30 June 2013. Another bamboo shop for the trained group was already planned and is going to complete its construction by early October 2013.

It is expected that the project will conclude all activities before the end of December 2013. Planning the organization of the final PSC meeting is underway to ensure the successful completion of the project in accordance with the rules and procedures of ITTO.

(12) 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) Extension until July 2013 (NOL.Ref.No.F.13-0065) Extension until December 2013 (NOL Ref. No.F.13-0182)	

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 2013.

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-sixth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's progress report submitted by the Executing Agency in August 2013, progress in implementation of the project can be summarized as follows:

The project has continued its work for the development of TROF inventory and monitoring information systems with inventory and monitoring sampling designs in two demonstration areas: one in the Northeastern province of Ubon Ratchatani and the other in the Southern province of Chumpon. The Northeast demonstration area consists of one sub-district (Nong Lao) while the South demonstration area is located in two sub-districts (Pato and Pat Song. A combination of sector sampling (areas with scattered trees) and fixed-area plot sampling (community forest areas) approach has been established in the Nong Lao sub-district. Only the fixed-area plot sampling approach shall be applied in the Pato and Pak Song sub-districts because most of the TROF areas are covered with coconut, rubber and oil palm plantations. Field plot establishment, data entry and quality assurance (QA), and preliminary data analysis have been completed in both demonstration areas. Two workshops were held in the Northeast Demonstration Area and the South Demonstration Area to present the results of each area. In addition, a draft technical report entitled "Guidebook for the Inventory and Monitoring of Tree Resources outside Forests in Thailand" was prepared in both English and Thai.

The final PSC meeting was held on 16 August 2013 to ensure the successful completion of the project. Key recommendation raised at the PSC meeting was to prepare a comprehensive technical report on national forest resources monitoring systems in Thailand. This report is encouraged to include the main outcome of this project as well as the two previous projects, namely Phase I "Preparatory Studies to Install a Continuous Monitoring System for the Sustainable Management of Thailand's Forest Resources" and Phase II "To Establish a National Monitoring Information System for the Effective Conservation and Sustainable Management of Thailand's Forest Resources" which had been implemented by RFD. It is expected that the project will complete the implementation of all field project activities before the end of December 2013.

(13) 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:	December 2008 / 36 months	
Approved Revised Date of Project Completion:	First extension: December 2012 (NOLF.12-0005) Second extension: June 2013 (NOLF.12-0237)	

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. Two project extensions were granted until July 2013, without additional ITTO funds, by the ITTO Secretariat, based on official requests 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-sixth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

- 6.5 ha of orchards of seed trees, from fifty (50) best clones of Samba, had been established in Sangoué Gazetted Forest and a scientific follow-up through appropriate measurement had been carried out for further selection of best clones among those made available during the project implementation;
- The cuttings process had continued, for the production of clones of Samba and African Mahogany, from 48 tree-plus of Samba and 32 tree-plus of African Mahogany which were selected in Sangoué Gazetted Forest, for the cuttings process leading to the production of clones. The Tiokoue had also been subject to cuttings process for the production of seedlings which are frequently requested by local communities;
- The database for the processing of data and information accumulated in the field work undertaken in Sangoué Gazetted Forest had been put in place and some project implementing team members had trained to use it.

The project implementation is nearing completion. The Fifth project monitoring mission and associated Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting had been scheduled in September 2013, in order to assess the main achievements of this project, as its implementation had been disturbed by the post-election socio-political turmoil in Cote d'Ivoire from November 2010 to June 2011.

(14) 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: March 2009 / 36 months

Approved Revised Date of Project Completion: First extension: until March 2013 (NOLF.12-0274)

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-sixth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports, and also with the involvement of the international consultant on community forestry, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

- Sensitization campaigns had been conducted by the project implementation team under the technical guidance of the international consultant, in the Nkang, Guietsou and Ongam Communities. The populations of Nkang and Ongam had expressed a positive attitude for the establishment of a community forest, while Guietsou Community had expressed skepticism about the ownership of the benefits of a community forest;
- The draft of reference documents for the establishment of a community forest had been prepared by the international consultant and circulated for review by relevant institutions dealing with the community forestry in Gabon; and
- 2973 ha of forest had been demarcated by the populations of Nkang through a participatory mapping process, but this is less than 5000 ha previously planned because of the claiming of surrounding villages (Andock-Mbenga, Essong-Medzome and Mvomayop).

No action was taken by the Executing Agency for a new extension of the project implementation period, as the previous one was granted until March 2013. The Fourth project monitoring mission and associated Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting had been scheduled for October 2013, in order to assess the implementation status of this project.

(15) 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:	December 2008 / 36 months	
Approved Revised Date of Project Completion:	First extension: December 2012 (NOLF.12-0006) Second extension: June 2013 (NOLF.12-0235) Third extension: December 2013 (NOLF.13-0180)	

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

- 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;
- Additional 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;
- For the storage of forest seeds, three warehouses covering 280 m² and one forest seed laboratory with a surface area of 50 m² were constructed in Adzopé, Duékoué and Brobo;
- All equipment and materials required for collecting, conserving, packaging and transporting forest seeds had been purchased and installed in the warehouses and seed laboratory built in the abovementioned cities;
- 314,13 ha of forest seed orchards had been established, mapped and demarcated for the following species: 35,25 ha of African Mahogany (Acajou), de 265,16 ha de Teak and 13,72 ha of mixture of Niangon, Terminalia (Fraké and Framiré), Mansonia (Bété), Cedrela, Gmelina, and Afrormosia (Assamela) in Sangoué Gazetted Forest; and
- The study tour to the national seed center of Burkina Faso was undertaken in April 2013, in order to share the knowledge and experience regarding the forest seed management.

The project implementation is nearing completion, although the implementation of most project activities had been disturbed and delayed due to the post-election socio-political turmoil in Cote d'Ivoire from November 2010 to June 2011.

(16) PD 419/06 Rev.3 (F) EXT Forest Seeds Management and Conservation; Project for Rehabilitation and Restoration of Degraded Forests in Côte d'Ivoire with the Involvement of Local Communities (Refugees, Internally Displaced People and Local Populations) (Côte d'Ivoire)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	2,318,280
ITTO Budget:	US\$	1,800,000
Government of Japan:	US\$	1,800,000
Agency/GOG:	US\$	518,280
Implementing Agency:	Société de Développement des Forêts (SODEFOR)	
Session of Approval:	Spring 2013 Project Cycle, Yokohama, Japan	
Starting Date and Duration:	October 2013 / 48 months	

The project was approved under the Spring 2013 Project Cycle through the electronic time-bound approval system, and the financing was made at the same Project Cycle under the framework of the Fifth Tokyo International Conference for African Development (TICAD V). The Agreement regulating the implementation of the project was signed on 02 June 2013, during the TICAD V meeting in Yokohama, Japan, by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Côte d'Ivoire, Executive Director of ITTO and the Managing Director of SODEFOR. The first disbursement of ITTO funds was made on 16 October 2013.

The project intends to contribute to the sustainable management of gazetted forests in Côte d'Ivoire. Specifically, the goal of this project is to have degraded forest lands rehabilitated by displaced populations and refugees. A special meeting was held in August 2013, for the preparation of a smooth transition between PD 419/06 Rev.3 (F) and PD 419/06 Rev.3 (F) EXT-TICAD5 Rev.1, in order to ensure that the main outputs, outcomes and results of the first project feed the second for its implementation.

(17) 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:	October 2008 / 48 months
Approved Revised Date of Project Completion:	First extension: October 2013 (NOLF.13-0022)

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. A project extension was granted until October 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 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-sixth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports and monthly highlights submitted through the project online monitoring system, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

- Demarcation of the appropriate lands in the Headwaters Forest Reserve for the establishment of in-situ conservation plots of medicinal plants with the involvement of local communities, after a sensitization campaign with the involvement of local and traditional chiefs and herbalists;
- Circulation for comments, to relevant experts, of a technical report compiling the findings and results documenting the distribution, utilization and conservation methods of medicinal tree 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, and 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 in different habitats of species for identification and to record mode and frequency of harvesting in each of the ecological zones of Ghana.

(18) 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 First extension until May 2012
Project Completion: Second extension until December 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-sixth 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 Secretariat, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows.

In this period the project team was finalizing the activities as a whole. The existence of armed conflict of interest in the forests is still causing disorder in the region and hence causing difficulties and delays in the implementation of activities. However, the project was able to complete the activities planned in the YPO. A first version of the Completion Report was received by ITTO Secretariat, on the last 27th of August. Some of the results related to the project planned outputs are:

- It was finalized the effective marks and settings of the Forestry Reserve of Magdalena Medio (RFMM), defining its final area, based on the cadastre of the private property land, which was finalized as a project activity. The following are the sub-items of this main topic:
 - Definition of the area for subtraction at Puerto Lopez (Municipality of El Bagre); the studies and procedures were advanced to the Ministry of Environment.
 - As a result of the Cadastre, it was identified an area of 42, 000 hectares that was previously classified simply as "wasteland" ignoring the existence of peasant settlements for several decades (Definitive Report on Labor cadastral page appears in ITTO).
 - As for the recognizance of the private property in the Reserve, it was constructed a legal reform proposal to allow for the subtraction.
- Practical training of the timber extractors to improve their operations (training workshops were held for at least 200 chainsaw operators).
- The Management Plan for the Reserve is under implementation and is reference for the socio-economic activities in the RFMM.
- Improved the monitoring of harvesting activities and provide technical services to users. Currently there are present in the area 22 professionals and two leaders paid by the forest management process of San Lucas.

The PSC meeting was scheduled to take place from 27 to 30 July, 2013, but for safety critic reasons presented in the region due to miners' strike with violent movements, the EA was forced to suspend the meeting for the security of participants coming from affected areas to Medellin.

(19) 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. During 2010 and 2011 ANAM went through a period of political uncertainty which seriously delayed the implementation of most of the project's activities, even though ANAM did consistently continue to provide close to US\$ 100,000 in counterpart funding to the project throughout this complicated period. However, after a PSCM held in May 2012 at ANAM, the project began to be reactivated and therefore the second disbursement of funds was released at the end of May 2012.

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 the Forty-sixth session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports submitted in February and August 2013, and the third Project Steering Committee meeting held in November 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

40% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date, as follows:

- Two 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;
- Six workshops have been organized to promote the adequate use of integrated fire management techniques at the national, regional and local levels, and three consultative technical committees have been established, one in each pilot area;
- Three baseline documents have been drafted, one for each pilot site, and are currently being finalized;
- 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 Nurum. 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 Fire-fighter 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. In addition, the aforementioned fire data has been uploaded into Panama's forestry statistics database system
- An Early-Warning System is currently being established in ANAM's regional offices; and
- An in-depth analysis of prescribed agricultural burns is also being carried out, with a view to implement a registry for these types 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

35% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date, as follows:

- Pamphlets and other dissemination materials are being prepared to promote the prevention of forest fires. Some have already been distributed among schools in the pilot areas;
- 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;
- 3 forest fire-fighter courses, 6 forest fire prevention courses and 2 first aid courses were carried out in the pilot areas;
- 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;
- Three articles related to the objectives and interim achievements have been published locally and five radio programs on forest fire prevention aired throughout Panama's rural areas; and
- Environmental festivals were also organized by the schools in the 3 pilot sites.

The Committee may wish to take note that while most of the project's activities are slowly but surely getting back on track, some have suffered delays, particularly due to the period of political uncertainty that ANAM went through during 2010 and 2011. As such, the Executing Agency considered applying for an extension in time until December 2014 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.

The Project's third Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for November 2013.

(20) 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:	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-sixth 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 project team had continued to interact with local communities involved in the project implementation in order to ensure the capacity building for CDM-Forestry in Ghana via community forestry;
- Improved 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
- Rehabilitation activities had started in selected degraded forests, in relation to the CDM requirements, for pilot and demonstration actions.

The monitoring mission of this project had been disturbed by the sickness of the ITTO Regional Officer for Africa, Mrs. Celestine NTSAME-OKWO, who passed way in May 2013. Therefore, a project monitoring mission and associated project steering committee meeting were scheduled for September 2013.

(21) 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:	July 2012 / 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 in December 2010 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.

Therefore, 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 the executing agency was approved during 45th CRF Session.

In January 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 difficulties to produce a satisfactory Inception Report. This process was finalized on May 31, 2012, when was released the first disbursement, officially marking the project beginning.

The project aims the establishment of three areas under community control in the Maués State Forest for timber production, following management plans prepared as project activity. The timber produced will be destined for the market supply in the cities in the region of the State Forest like the cities of Maués and Parintins.

In the period 24-26 July, 2012, in Manaus city, an extraordinary meeting was held between ITTO Secretariat with the EA and the Amazonas Environmental State Secretary to set guidelines and procedures to be adopted for project implementation, including the selection of areas in the Maués State Forest to be included in the project implementation. During the second semester of 2012, it was started the meetings with community leaders of the three areas pre-defined as capable to be included in the program. At the beginning of 2013, the project coordinator resigned and started the selection of a new coordinator which was finalized last June.

The development of project so far is slow and there are difficulties in the preparation of documents. The situation is considered worrying. The documents and reports sent by the EA, normally have missing data, incomplete information, do not follow the current ITTO Manual, and there is systematic delay in their delivery.

(22) 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\$	3,523,645.00	
Government of Switzerland	US\$	270,000.00	
Government of Belgium	US\$	97,036.69	
Outstanding balance	US\$	517,875.31	
RIFFEAC Training Institutions:		US\$	110,300.00
Implementing Agency:	RIFFEAC Secretariat		
Period of Approval:	Spring 2011		
Starting Date and Duration:	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 Forty-sixth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

- The Executing Agency (RIFFEAC Secretariat) had continued the consultation and sensitization campaigns 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;
- The University of Laval and CERFOR Technical Forestry Centre of Canada, had been selected for the elaboration of six reference training modules/programmes and associated teaching methodologies, in close collaboration with all seven RIFFEAC training institutions involved in the implementation of this project; and
- The draft of six reference training modules/programmes and associated teaching methodologies had been circulated among experts of RIFFEAC training institutions, for technical comments and inputs, prior to the holding of the validation workshop which should gather experts from RIFFEAC training institutions.

The second monitoring mission and associated project steering committee meeting were scheduled for October 2013 in order to plan the second part of the project implementation which should start with the updating of the needs of seven RIFFEAC training institutions involved in the implementation of this project.

(23) 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:	August 2013 / 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. After finishing necessary administrative arrangements for the implementation of the project, the Executing Agency started the implementation of project activities in August 2013.

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 include: adoption of national C&I and standards of performance for SFM; adoption of national tracking/COC system and auditing system for C&I/standards of performance and COC/timber tracking; and adequate personnel trained on auditing C&I/standards of performance and COC.

The project implemented its activities in August 2013. Main activities to be implemented in the first year include: establishment of national C&I Committee (NCIC); training workshops on C&I/SOP elaboration for stakeholders; elaboration of the first draft of C&I/SOP for community forests and planted forests; testing of the first draft C&I/SOP in pilot areas; analysis and review of pilot testing results; and elaboration of second drafts of C&I/SOP.

(24) PD 495/08 Rev.4 (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:	April 2013 / 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 first installment of funds was transferred at the end of March 2013, after the submission, by the Executing Agency, of an inception report, the first yearly plan of operations, a request for the no-objection of the project's key personnel and a notification that implementation was about to begin, and the approval of the aforementioned by the Secretariat.

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.

Since its inception in April 2013 and in accordance with the project's first progress report submitted by the Executing Agency in August 2013, progress in project implementation can be summarized by major outputs as follows:

Output 1: Information system based on permanent forest sample plots established

- The collection of information from existing permanent sample plot networks has been initiated;
- The annual monitoring of existing permanent sample plots has been carried out for the first year; and
- The systematization of monitoring information collected from the existing permanent sample plots is well underway.

Output .2 At least 12 technological packages developed to provide strategic data for decision-making in the planning and implementation of sustainable forest management

- The process for the prioritization of species to develop technological packages has begun.

Output 3: Dissemination and outreach strategy on Guatemalan forest productivity implemented

- The dissemination and outreach strategy is bein developed.

Output 4: Capacity built for the adequate operation of an information system on forest productivity in Guatemala

- The training program for forest sector stakeholders is currently being assembled. .

The project is on track. The Project's first Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for October 2013.

(25) 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 36-month 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-sixth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress report submitted in March 2013 and update from the Executing Agency, it was noticed that the technical implementation of most project activities had been completed. The completion report was to be submitted by the Executing Agency, in order to get this project be reported as completed during the next Committee session.

(26) 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: 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-sixth Session of the Committee, no project's progress report was submitted by the Executing Agency in order to share information on progress in project implementation. 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 monitoring mission and associated project technical committee meeting was scheduled in September 2013.

(27) 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 (MKNP) 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 MKNP.

Since the Forty-sixth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's progress report submitted by the Executing Agency in August 2013, progress in implementation of the project can be summarized as follows:

Output 1.1: Community participation in conservation improved

- Dissemination workshop on the implementation of REDD+ in MKNP was held on 4 April 2013 at IPB International Convention Center, Bogor. The workshop was attended by about 60 people from various backgrounds, including relevant government agencies, the Ministry of Forestry, local governments, donors, international agencies, universities, NGOs, and the private sector.
- The workshop disseminated the experiences and lessons from the implementation of REDD + in MKNP including community involvement in MRV of carbon estimation. The workshop noted the importance of preparing a quality Project Design Document (PDD) following the guidance of the Voluntary Carbon Standard (VCS) towards a model of results-based payment for REDD+. The suggestions of the workshop include: it should be linked with the framework of national REDD+ strategies that put REDD+ to enhance a new way of thinking for conservation management beyond carbon; and more systematic development of community's role in measuring and monitoring forest carbon in a strategic way.

OUTPUT 1.3: Illegal logging and forest encroachment reduced and reported

- Several public awareness activities involving local communities have been carried out. These include focused group discussion to support the implementation of REDD+ activities in MKNP.
- After a comparative study of the production of oyster mushroom seeds in Malang - East Java in April 2013, training on oyster mushroom cultivation for local community in the buffer zone of MKNP has been carried out to increase community income with the aim of reducing the local community's pressure to forest ecosystems resources of MKNP. The training was focused on a simple and low skill for cultivation of oyster mushroom and implemented by the Laboratory of the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Jember. It was attended by around 20 farmers from village communities in surrounding MKNP.

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

- Preparation of a REDD+ Project Design Document (PDD) has been continued with estimation of net emissions reductions and enhancement of carbon stocks in MKNP.
- The PDD covers 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, and development of MRV systems. It also includes analyzing the land use changes in MKNP according to IPCC Guideline 2006. The assessment of carbon benefits or emission reduction has focused basically on reducing deforestation and enhancing forest carbon stocks through plantation in the rehabilitation zone of MKNP.

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

- To set up an institutional system for monitoring of forest carbon stocks that support exit strategy after project completion, data and information collection has been continued for forest carbon stocks and social economic aspects of concerned local communities.
- An independent verifier has been identified to conduct pre-validation (JACO Consulting) to assess the applied methodologies; and measures to enhance the sustainable emissions reductions and enhancement of carbon stocks in MBNP.

(28) 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:	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-sixth 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 tests of technological, chemical and mechanical properties of samples, extracted from some trees of superior mahoganies (resistant/tolerant to insect attacks) selected in old mahogany plantations established in different ecological zones of Ghana during the 1960's and 1970's, had been undertaken in FORIG laboratory under the control of a scientist researcher who will analyze the data and information in a thesis;
- Seedlings had been produced from high quality seeds of resistant/tolerant Mahogany in nurseries established by selected farmers in Berekum and Kranka Communities, under the technical control of FORIG, for the implementation of rehabilitation activities in degraded forest lands leading to the establishment of mahogany plantations;
- The Executing Agency had continued interacting with the ABTS Company for the implementation of some project activities (production of seedlings, establishment of mahogany plantations, etc.) ;
- Continuation of the maintenance of field plots established during the implementation of the Mahogany Phase I project, and the monitoring of those plots has been undertaken in collaboration with local communities; and

- The scientific follow-up with specific measurement conducted on provenance/genotype experiments established in three different ecological zones of Ghana, with different spacing experiments.

(29) 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: 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 March 2012, 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 Forty-sixth 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 continuation of consultation and sensitization campaigns by the Executing Agency in order to ensure further involvement of all stakeholders in the project implementation through a participatory process;
- Collection and analysis of data and information in forest plots selected in forest lands rehabilitated by local communities during the implementation of the project first phase [PD 30/97 Rev.6 (F)]; and
- Field studies and surveys have been initiated by consultants engaged by the Executing Agency regarding the involvement of local communities in forest rehabilitation activities contributing to the enhancement of biodiversity conservation, provision of goods and services, and improvement of local community's livelihood through appropriate mechanisms for payment of environmental services.

The findings and lessons of the project first phase [PD 30/97 Rev.6 (F)], as well as those of the project PD 530/08 Rev.3 (F), had been presented in a joint JICA-UNCCD-ITTO side event at the Conference of Parties of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) held in Windhoek (Namibia), on 26 September 2013.

(30) 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:	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-sixth 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:

- Field studies and surveys had been initiated by external consultants hired by the Executing Agency, in order to support the project implementing team;
- Continuation of training sessions 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;
- Market prospection had been undertaken by the Executing Agency in main cities of the Ashanti Region and East Region of Ghana (Kumasi, Koforidua, Konongo, Obuasi, etc.); and
- Rehabilitation of forest plots, demarcated in degraded forest lands by the project implementing team in collaboration with local communities and local/traditional chiefs. These forest rehabilitation activities had been carried out in close collaboration with women groups involved in the project implementation.

(31) 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 in November 2009 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. After completing necessary administrative arrangements for the implementation of the project, the Implementing Agency started the implementation of project activities 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-sixth Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress report submitted in August 2013, 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 landowner from Barakau village along the Magi highway has also registered his desire to reforest his land. The area proposed is approximately 70 hectares and has open native eucalyptus forest. Further awareness on the Agro-forestry concept to the Barakau community was discussed and actual awareness was conducted in mid 2013.
- Two awareness meetings were held with the principal Papa landowners (Vane Clan) and LLG officers to stimulate and maintain their reforestation interest, on their grassland areas. The Vane clan has requested NFS to write to them, stating NFS's expression of interest, to reforest their grasslands using the Agro-forestry 'business' concept.
- A total of approximately 3 hectares were planted during the first week of December 2012, which coincided with the onset of the "delayed" rainy season. The teak stumps were planted at 3m X 4m spacing to allow for other food crops to be planted in between. Intercropping teak with pineapple, corn, watermelon and other vegetables for this site is proposed.
- Teak stumps were prepared at Kuriva Forest nursery by a group of women, packed in four copra bags each holding 1,300 and transported to Gomore planting site. Three of the youths were trained by NFS officers to do picketing, use a compass, read the 100m tape, make holes and plant the teak stumps.

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

- A ten days 'Start Your Business' training program was conducted at Gomore village from 6 to 17 August 2012. Topics covered included: what is a business?; your business idea; market study; business management; cash flow statements; legal forms of business; legal responsibilities; application of a loan; and a business plan. A total of 66 participants were in attendance from the Gomore community. Of this 24 were women (36%).
- The training was facilitated by Small Business Development Corporation to prepare business plans which are to be submitted to the Rigo District Administration scheme for assessing grants by micro-small business. However, a Business Clinic for 2-3 days is recommended to further diagnose project challenges in order to maintain the communities' interest.

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

- Information covering various aspects of agro-forestry has been collected. The preparation of a practical manual for rural dwellers of PNG society is under way to facilitate the development of reforestation entrepreneurs
- Two meetings between NARI and NFS have been conducted for this activity. The concept of a resource center was explored and discussion on the site to locate such a facility is continuing.

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

- Two trips were taken into the Clone Seed Orchard, at Mt. Lawes to verify the conditions of the individual standing trees. The 44 candidate trees at Kuriva Forestry Plantations have been visited twice to observe their fruiting and flowering status. These trees are now, over 15 years old and ready for seed collection. Seed germination trials are to be conducted by PNGFRI in 2013.
- The Roasi Garoma ILG landowners of Gomore have demarcated an area to build a nursery. The production of planting stocks is currently dependent on improved seed production sites and is limited to Mt. Lawes, Kerevat, Kuriva, Oomsis, and Mare. The former two are declining in production whilst the latter two have recently started and one is continuing.

(32) 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. 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 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 was organized on 1 October 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia with the First PSC meeting on 2 October 2012. The Second PSC meeting was held on 1 May 2013 at Royal Forest Department of Thailand. One of the recommendations of these PSC meetings was to facilitate the effective engagement of Lao PDR in a joint wildlife survey of the Emerald Triangle Protected Forests.

The development objective of the project aiming at conserving transboundary 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 transboundary habitats of the protected wide-ranging wildlife species in the Emerald Triangle.

Cambodian component:

Output 1: Management plans incorporating research results on wide-ranging species and ecological processes, which are compatible between countries, are established and implemented.

- Recruited key project personnel such Project Manager, Field Manager, Accountant and Administration Officer, and local and field staff with designation of PSC/PTC members. National experts/consultants were also recruited to facilitate the conservation of forest biodiversity, community livelihood development and forest land-use planning. The selection of PricewaterhouseCoopers Ltd. (Cambodia) as the project auditing firm for the Cambodia project component was finalized and subcontracted.
- Conducted an assessment of land use and carbon stocks in the Preah Vihear Protected Forest (PVPF). Conduct analyses of land use and land cover changes. The assessment of 135 sample plots in PVPF to determine land use and land cover changes has been completed while the assessment of 150 other sample plots will be completed by late September 2013.
- Conducted an assessment of wildlife distribution in and around PVPF, especially along the borders with Lao PDR and Thailand to understand the distribution of key wildlife landscape species in the border areas between the three countries. Mapping the distribution of such landscape species is under way
- A presentation on Emerald Triangle Trans-boundary Biodiversity Conservation was made at the ITTO/JICA/Birdlife Side Event on "Collaborative approach to forest-related Aichi Targets" during UN CBD COP 11 held in Hyderabad, India in October 2012.

Output 2: Capacity of multi-stakeholders in biodiversity conservation and monitoring is strengthened.

- Conducted law enforcement patrols in PVPF and in its surrounding areas in cooperation with military police and provincial military officers since January 2013. Forest law enforcement patrol reports were compiled and submitted to Forestry Administration management and the Office of the Provincial Forestry Administration.
- Organized meetings with relevant stakeholders on law enforcement activities. Meetings with the provincial court and prosecutors and commanders of military police, border police and military battalions were conducted to discuss mechanisms for effective collaboration in forest law enforcement and the organization of monthly patrolling activities in PVPF.
- Conducted training in GIS mapping, land-use planning, and forest management planning for the local Forestry Administration, local communities and other stakeholders after preparing practical materials targeted for local stakeholders. Information on project activities was presented on the Forestry Administration's semi-annual Forestry and Wildlife magazine.
- The capital items procured include six motorcycles, two 4WD pick-up trucks, two desktop computers, four laptop computers, three GPS units, four hand-held cameras, two color printers and three black & white printers, two LCD projectors, and three external hard disks.
- Construction of a project headquarters in the Preah Vihear Forestry Administration Cantonment is under way and will be completed in the end of October 2013.

Output 3: Local communities are empowered to implement activities linking livelihoods improvement to reduced dependence on resources of protected areas.

- The collection of information on sustainable livelihoods assessment incorporating forest and biodiversity resources conservation concerns has been carried out through meetings in targeted local communities in line with livelihood improvement initiatives.
- Monitored the progress of the integrated community development programmes established in Phase II. Results of this monitoring indicated that the numbers of cows raised by the targeted communities has been increased from 13 to 26; the availability of small credit from USD 1,000.00 to USD 1,415.00; and the amount of rice in the rice bank from 16.50 ton to 22.35 ton.

In addition, a number of fruit trees and chicken has been increased since the completion of Phase II. Based on these results, project activities will be further strengthened for more benefits of concerned local communities.

- Facilitated strengthening local community fora and networks to enhance biodiversity conservation with the aim of establishing a strong network between local community committees, the Preah Vihear Forestry Administration Cantonment staff and NGOs.

Thai component:

Output 1: Management plans incorporating research results on wide-ranging species and ecological processes, which are compatible between countries, are established and implemented.

- The Project Staff were recruited and started working from September 1, 2012. ISAC-International Standard Audit and Consultant Co., Ltd (Thailand) was sub-contracted for financial auditing of the project – Thai component.
- Wildlife distribution data in the project area is being collected regularly by the staff of the wildlife sanctuaries, Department of National Parks.
- Recruited GIS Consultant to improve the GIS capacity of the project team including Cambodian and Laotian officials in modeling land-use and species distribution.
- Brochures and leaflets featuring the project work were published in both Thai and English and circulated to interested parties in the country
- A Common Vision for the conservation of the Emerald Triangle Protected Forests Complex was drafted in the 2nd PSC meeting, and was disseminated to the IUCN E-News (www.tbpa.net – Tbenews 7)

Output 2: Capacity of multi-stakeholders in biodiversity conservation and monitoring is strengthened.

- Updating and maintaining the information system on biodiversity conservation inside and outside protected areas in the country has been carried out. These information and data are compiled at the project headquarters.
- Collaboration is under way with forest protection units to prevent wildlife poaching, illegal logging, illegal trading and the collection of wild plants. Meetings with the universities and NGOs in Ubon Ratchathane were held to plan for cooperation. Meetings were also organized for effective patrolling and protection. An assessment of the feasibility of establishing a nursery and a tissue culture lab in the targeted villages was carried out.
- Organized a Joint Task Force meeting and stakeholder meetings for transboundary biodiversity conservation cooperation and analyzing future land use changes derived from Phase II of the project with collection of baseline information.

Output 3: Local communities are empowered to implement activities linking livelihoods improvement to reduced dependence on resources of protected areas.

- Trainings for local people on networking and raising awareness have been carried out for the sustainable development of local community fora and networks to facilitate biodiversity conservation.
- Conducted outreach programmes to local schools and local communities to raise awareness on conservation benefits associated with TBPA. These were presented in a monthly meeting of schools boards in the project area. These discussions led to school drawing contests and exhibitions of conservation in the schools. Five school drawing contests were organized in the first year and it was agreed to organize such school contests in each protected areas in the second year.
- Maintained the existing integrated community development programmes established by Phase II and additional programmes will be provided for domesticated wild flora and fauna pilot program to improve the livelihoods of local communities in accordance with criteria jointly approved by the project and the local community network.

(33) 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 Japan:	US\$	345,840
Government of Togo:	US\$	219 683
Implementing Agency:	Office de développement et d'exploitation des forêts (ODEF)	
Period of Approval:	November 2011	
Starting Date and Duration:	April 2013 / 36 months	

The project was approved under Autumn 2011 Project Cycle through the electronic time-bound approval system, but it was fully funded during the 48th ITTC Session in November 2012. The Project Agreement has been signed by the parties in January 2013. The project implementation started in April 2011, after the disbursement of the first installment of ITTO.

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: (1) The collection and processing of forest sector data are based on the use of modern equipment and methodology; (2) Stakeholders trained in the use of forestry GIS do make use of the skills they have acquired; and (3) A system of decentralized geo-spatial information management for forests is in place.

Since the Forty-sixth 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:

- Studies and surveys had been initiated by external consultants, in order to arrange the collection and analysis of forest sector data to be processed by computers to be installed in Lomé and other important cities of Togo;
- The Executing Agency had contacted the ministry of forestry and fauna of Cameroon, which is operating a similar system called SIGIF, for the exchange experience and lessons on the way to establish and operate a geographical information system (GIS) for the sustainable management of forests in Togo; and
- Field visits had been undertaken by the project implementing team in all provinces of Togo, in order to assess the needs for the establishment of a geographical information system (GIS) for the sustainable management of forest areas of Togo.

(34) 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:	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 March 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 Forty-sixth 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:

- Studies and surveys had been finalized by external consultants, and their findings, results and lessons had been used to update the collaboration framework established for the sustainable management of the Eto-Lilicope Forest Complex;
- 90% of the boundary of the Eto-Lilicope Forest Complex had been demarcated through a participatory process involving all parties, including surrounding local communities; and
- The consultation and sensitization campaigns had continued, in order to get the remaining 10% of the boundary of the Eto-Lilicope Forest Complex, with some target reluctant surrounding local communities, through a participatory process.

The project implementation was nearing the completion, and the Executing Agency was to start preparing the completion report of the project PD 584/10 Rev.2 (F), upon the finalization of the demarcation process of the boundary of the Eto-Lilicope Forest Complex.

(35) 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 Tengkawang species and livelihood of indigenous people. Specifically, it intends to stop the depleting process of Tengkawang genetic diversity.

Since the Forty-sixth 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 study on the economics of Tengkawang seeds processing was finalized by an external consultant, and the findings and conclusion had been disseminated through the holding of local workshops for the benefit of local communities involved in the implementation of some project activities;
- Other studies were still conducted by external consultants in order 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 Tengkawang species;
- The consultation and sensitization campaigns had been initiated in order to establish a village cooperative model based on the findings and conclusion of the consultant study on the economics of Tengkawang seeds processing, as a way to improve the livelihood of local communities involved in the project implementation; and
- Ex-situ and in-situ genetic conservation plots of Tengkawang species had been initiated in close collaboration with the Faculty of Forestry of the University of Samarinda, as a contribution to stop the depleting process of Tengkawang genetic diversity.

The second project monitoring mission and associated project steering committee meeting was scheduled for December 2013.

(36) 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 First Yearly Plan of Operations were further received from the Executing Agency Vivamos Mejor 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. The second disbursement of funds was transferred to INAB in September 2012 and the third one in December 2012, both after verifying the executing agency's compliance with the conditions established for each of these payments. The very productive 2nd Project Steering Committee took place in Guatemala City in May 2013. At that time, the committee noted that the project continued to be implemented in a timely fashion following the original schedule developed for the project, suffering no delays so far.

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-sixth session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports submitted in February and July 2013, and the second Project Steering Committee meeting held in May 2013, progress in project implementation can be summarized by major outputs as follows:

Output 1: Institutional capacity for community-based Integrated Fire Management (IFM) strengthened.

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

- The methodological aspects of the training courses have finalized and all training courses have been carried out, both at the technical level as well as the community-based integrated fire management (IFM) level. A National Course on Integrated Fire Management was held in June 2013 with the participation of 30 technicians from seven departments of the country. Specialized personnel from INAB, CONAP and Vivamos Mejor also participated at the Fourth International Symposium on Fire Economics, Planning, and Policy: Climate Change and Wildfires held in Mexico City in November 2012; and
- The development, revision and validation of IFM planning and evaluation tools are currently underway.

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

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

- An inter-institutional coordination group for project implementation has been established and is operational;
- A community-based IFM planning and approval process was completed for each of the 4 pilot sites;
- The actions defined in community-based IFM plan for each pilot site are under implementation;
- The exchange of experiences in the implementation of community-based IFM practices between pilot sites has been initiated; and
- The acquisition of appropriate basic equipment for community-based IFM practices has been completed.

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

50% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date, as follows:

- A baseline and evaluation protocol on community-based IFM practices and to study the current forest status for each of the pilot sites have been completed;
- The implementation of the Monitoring and Evaluation Protocol is well underway;
- The conduct of a study on economic costs and benefits of fire use practices and their impact on the forest is about to be initiated; and
- Some printed and audio-visual materials on community-based IFM experiences are currently

being published and disseminated.

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

1. Methodology for the Implementation of the National Training Course on Integrated Fire Management at the Local Foresters level.
2. General Characterization of the Forest Cover and Fuel Situation at Four Pilot Sites in Guatemala for the Preparation of the Plan of Integrated Fire Management - Pinalón Forest Site Report.
3. General Characterization of the Forest Cover and Fuel Situation at Four Pilot Sites in Guatemala for the Preparation of the Plan of Integrated Fire Management - Parque Regional la Enea Site Report.
4. General Characterization of the Forest Cover and Fuel Situation at Four Pilot Sites in Guatemala for the Preparation of the Plan of Integrated Fire Management - Noreast Quiscab watershed Site Report.
5. General Characterization of the Forest Cover and Fuel Situation at Four Pilot Sites in Guatemala for the Preparation of the Plan of Integrated Fire Management - San Jeronimo watershed Site Report.
6. Four Integrated Fire Management Plans, one for each pilot area.
7. 27 Powerpoint presentations as part of the material developed for training in community-based integrated fire management (IFM).

The project is on track.

(37) PD 617/11 Rev.4 (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\$	\$1,214,479
ITTO Budget:		US\$	941,559
Government of Japan:	US\$	84,661	
Government of Japan (MoFA)		350,000	
Government of Switzerland		503,486	
Government USA		3,412	
Government of Indonesia		US\$	272,920
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:	Oct 2013 / 48 months		

The project was approved under Autumn 2011 Project Cycle and was financed at both ITTC 47 in November 2011 and ITTC 48 in November 2012 under the ITTO/CBD Collaborative Initiative for Tropical Forest Biodiversity. The draft project agreement was sent out to the Ministry of Forestry of Indonesia. The project agreement was duly signed in September 2013. The Executing Agency has finalized the preparation of an inception report with a yearly plan of operation for the first year. The project started the implementation of project activities from October 2013.

The main objective of the project is to promote sustainable conservation management of the Betung Kerihun National Park (BKNP) established in 1992 covering around 800,000 ha, as a transboundary ecosystem between Indonesia and Malaysia (Sarawak). The project will focus on more strong transboundary cooperation with Sarawak for enhancing commonly shared ecosystems and other conservation concerns. This will build 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”.

The project's transboundary conservation cooperation is focused 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.

(38) 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:	April 2013 / 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 first installment of funds was transferred at the end of October 2012, 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 was about to begin, and the approval of the aforementioned by the Secretariat. The second tranche of funds was transferred in April 2013, immediately after the members of the project's technical committee verified in the field the adequate implementation of the activities to date, and the Secretariat verified that the other conditions for the second disbursement had also been complied with.

Members of the Taulia 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.

Since the Forty-sixth session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports submitted in February and July 2013, and the second Project Steering Committee meeting held in March 2013, progress in project implementation can be summarized by major outputs as follows:

Output 1: One regional policy and its regulations have been developed, proposed and adopted by the Amazonas Regional Government

- Four workshops were organized to inform and disseminate the project's activities and expected outcomes in the villages of Molinopampa, Puma Hermana, Ocol and San Jose, all of these being part of the Taulia-Molinopampa Rural Community.

Output 2: Three community nurseries are in production and 15 hectares have been reforested with native species in the target area.

- The construction and improvement of 3 tree nurseries in the villages of Puma-Hermana, San José and Ocol are well underway;
- A participatory process was put in place to prioritize and select the tree species to be promoted by the project, those selected being aliso, cedro de altura, chilca brava, ishpingo y san Pablo;
- Potential seed collection sites for the aforementioned species have been identified in the rural community;
- A total of 137 seed trees of the aforementioned species have been identified, selected and marked in the field; and
- Research has begun as regards the pre-germinative treatments of San Pablo seeds.

Output 3: Three permanent plots have been established to produce certified seeds and seedlings.

- Sites are currently being identified for the establishment of the permanent plots.

Output 4: Establishment and operation of a seed marketing enterprise and 20 trained beneficiaries applying their acquired skills.

- Training workshops are being planned to enhance tree germplasm identification, selection and collection skills of the local farmers.

Output 5: Four manuals and 4 scientific studies have been published on production, phenology, germination, growth and traditional uses.

- Background information is being compiled as regards the production, phenology, germination, growth and traditional uses of the aforementioned selected tree, with a view towards producing manuals in layman's terms for use by the local farmers; and
- The design and preparation of 3 themes for scientific studies is underway.

It can be further noted that the EA has provided the project with the required facilities and infrastructure in the town of Chachapoyas, and that the project is on track.

(39) 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 Japan:	US\$	245,272		
Government of Togo:			US\$	78,816
Implementing Agency:	PICODEV GHANA			
Period of Approval:	April 2012			
Starting Date and Duration:	May 2013 / 24 months			

The 24-month project was approved under Spring 2012 Project Cycle through the electronic time-bound approval system, but it was fully funded during the 48th ITTC Session in November 2012, thanks to the generous contribution of the Government of Japan. The Project Agreement had been signed by the parties in January 2013. The project initiated implementation in May 2013 following the disbursement of the first installment of ITTO funds.

The project aims at contributing to the sustained socio-economic development and environmental protection in the Biakoye area in Ghana's Volta Region, through the restoration of forest degraded lands with precious indigenous timber species and exotic timber species, with the involvement of local communities. It specifically intends to initiate a participatory poverty alleviation approach (innovative value adding cassava processing and sale) through a sustainable forest enrichment and plantation development using tropical timber species mixed with exotic species

Since the Forty-sixth 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 sub-contractors to support the project implementing team and purchased the vehicle, equipment and materials required for the project implementation;
- The training of target community groups on the processing of cassava products which could contribute to the improvement of their livelihood, as an approach to combat rural poverty alleviation through profit sales of processed cassava products; and
- Field visits were undertaken by the project implementing team in order to select the degraded forest lands to be rehabilitated by the project with the involvement of community groups to be involved in the project implementation.

(40) PD 673/12 Rev.1 (F) Strengthening the Capacity in Forest Law Enforcement and Governance of the Permanent Forest Estates in Kratie and Mondulkiri Provinces of Cambodia

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	\$555,527
ITTO Budget:		US\$	464,033
Government of Japan:	US\$	444,033	
Government of Korea		20,000	
Government of Cambodia		US\$	91,494
Implementing Agency:	Forest Administration of Cambodia		
Session of Approval:	ITTC Session XLVIII, Nov.2012, Yokohama, Japan		
Starting Date and Duration:	May 2013 / 36 months		

The project was approved under Autumn 2012 Project Cycle and was financed at ITTC 48 in November 2012. The agreement regulating the implementation of the project was duly signed in January 2013. After completion of all administrative arrangements for the efficient and successful implementation of the project, the Executing Agency started the implementation of project activities in May 2013.

Illegal forest activities resulting in deforestation and forest degradation are major obstacles for sustainable forest management in Cambodia. The underlying causes of illegal activities are complex and often reflect fundamental problems in forest legislation and regulations and limited institutional capacities to combat such illegal activities. A platform of forest law enforcement and governance has been established in the country with support of many partners including ITTO. In order to address illegal forest activities, there is a continued need for stronger capacity building programmes in the country.

The project aiming specifically at strengthening forest law enforcement in the Permanent Forest Estates (PFEs) of Monduliri and Kratie Provinces which have been suffered with inadequate capacities in controlling illegal forest activities although the two provinces are among the richest in terms of forest resources. Its development objective is to contribute to SFM through suppression of illegal forest activities on PFEs with a particular focus on the improved capacity of Monduliri and Kratie Provinces in forest law enforcement and governance. The project's expected outputs are: i) enhanced operational capacity of Forestry Administration in enforcing forest laws in PFEs of Monduliri and Kratie provinces; ii) increased support of local communities to law enforcement initiative of Forestry Administration; and iii) promoted collaboration between Forestry Administration and stakeholders.

Since the implementation of project activities in May 2013, the project's efforts have been focused on the improvement of the operational capacity of the Forestry Administration in enforcing forest laws in PFEs in Monduliri and Kratie provinces. Project activities being implemented include: training a sufficient number of qualified technical staff in the two provinces; purchasing of equipment and facilities for efficient forest law enforcement practices; establishing and operating the forest crime information systems for PFEs in the two provinces; raising awareness of local communities on FLEG initiatives; and reviewing of the existing requirements and procedures for designation of community forests.

B. PROJECTS AWAITING IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENT

(1) 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 Japan:	US\$	338,256
Government of Indonesia	US\$	92,168
Implementing Agency:	Forestry Service of Bengkulu Province	
Session of Approval:	Spring 2009 Approval validity extended during ITTC Session XLVI, Nov.2010, Yokohama, Japan	
Starting Date and Duration:	TBD / 36 months	

The project was approved under Spring 2009 Project Cycle and its validity was extended until Spring 2013. It was financed at ITTC 48 in November 2012. The draft project agreement was sent out to the Ministry of Forestry of Indonesia. Since the review of the draft agreement and an efficient management structure of the project has been recently finalized, it is expect that the Executing Agency will start the implementation of project activities in January 2014.

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 timber species. The specific objectives are (1) to implement suitable technology for production of high quality planting materials of locally adapted and prospective species for plantations and (2) to improve stakeholder involvement and community prosperity through successful rehabilitation and plantation of promising local timber species.

(2) PD 635/12 Rev.2 (F) Buffer Zone Management for Pulong Tau National Park with Involvement of Local Communities in Management, Sarawak, Malaysia

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	\$1,421,925
ITTO Budget:		US\$	517,450
Government of Japan:	US\$	242,690	
JLIA		50,000	
Government Switzerland		224,760	
Government of Malaysia		US\$	904,475
Implementing Agency:	Forest Department of Sarawak		
Session of Approval:	ITTC Session XLVIII, Nov.2012, Yokohama, Japan		
Starting Date and Duration:	TBD /24 months		

The project was approved under Autumn 2012 Project Cycle and was financed at ITTC-48 in November 2012. The draft project agreement was sent out to the Ministry of Primary Industries and Commodities Malaysia in January 2013. The draft agreement has been reviewed by the Attorney General Chamber of Malaysia. Since such an important review has been recently finalized, it is expected that the Executing Agency will start the implementation of project activities in January 2014.

The establishment and management of buffer zones in national parks and wildlife sanctuaries has been weak as currently Sarawak's National Parks and Nature Reserves Ordinance (1998) and Wild Life Protection Ordinance (1998) do not provide for any guidance. As rapid economic development activities continue to expand into rural areas causing more natural forests to be disturbed, nature conservation will be more challenging as resource-rich totally protected forests may become vulnerable to illegal encroachment.

In light of the importance of sustainably managing the Pulong Tau National Park (PTNP), the project aiming at facilitating the establishment of 6,000 ha of the buffer zone and securing a forest base to meet the communities' needs. It will study the multiple functions of buffer zones for environmental services like watershed protection, biodiversity conservation and research, and communal use. Guidelines for buffer zone management will be developed and submitted to the State Government for consideration. The project's outputs and activities will involve baseline surveys to determine the buffer zone's resources for integrated management, assessing local subsistence needs and how the buffer zone will be able to provide these needs. Local involvement in management will include development of non-timber forest products, handicrafts and ecotourism, for which training will be given. The project objectives and outputs will be met through integrated buffer zone management, training, and active involvement of primary and secondary stakeholders. The project will be sustained by Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) through its Community Service Initiative Unit (CSIU).

(3) PD 668/12 Rev.1 (F) Integrated Management of Natural Resources and Biodiversity in the Tacaná Volcano and Its Range of Influence in Mexico and Guatemala

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	949,491.90
ITTO Budget:		US\$	641,638.80
Government of Japan:	US\$	441,638.80	
Government of USA:	US\$	200,000.00	
HSI		US\$	67,696.80
Municipalities (approx. amount in kind)		US\$	26,560.00

Forest Agencies (CONAFOR,
CONANP, CONAP and INAB)
(in kind)

US\$ 213,596.30

Implementing Agency: HELVETAS SWISS INTERCOOPERATION (HSI)

Period of Approval: ITTC Session XLVIII, November 2012, Yokohama, Japan

Starting Date and Duration: TBD / 24 months

The Council approved the project at its Forty-eighth Session in November 2012 at Yokohama and full financing for its implementation was pledged at that same session. The Agreement regulating the implementation of the project was forwarded to the Executing Agency and the Governments of Guatemala and Mexico in June 2013 for the respective signatures and is expected to be finalized shortly.

Guatemala and Mexico share the Tacaná Volcano border area which straddles the Department of San Marcos and the State of Chiapas respectively, an area in the Mesoamerican Biodiversity Corridor, featuring biological richness and ecotourism potential although most of the population lives in poverty, using natural resources unsustainably. An initiative was developed for sustainable development in the protected areas of the Tacaná Volcano border area, based on coordinated actions, a study of the situation and various exchanges between regional representatives of Mexican and Guatemalan Government institutions, civil society and the Swiss organization HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation.

The objective of the project is to contribute to improving living standards for 28,000 people in both countries, based on the conservation and sustainable use of local natural resources. More specifically, it will launch a participatory process for natural resource and biodiversity management, conservation and use in the Tacaná Volcano and its range of influence in Guatemala and Mexico. The project begins with an initial two-year phase to establish the foundations of joint work with the community, men and women, with pilot activities including forest management, diversification of economic opportunities, upgrade of the legal framework of Protected Areas and enhancement of collaboration between both countries.

Expected outputs are as follows: i) Pilot areas for restoration or conservation have been established in a participatory manner; ii) Pilot projects identified and established with the community, to enhance local livelihood, including: ecotourism, agro-forestry and livestock-forestry systems; iii) The technical and legal framework for integrated management in Tacaná Volcano has been updated; and iv) Local communities, Municipal Councils and public bodies share information, take decisions by consensus and are actively involved in the Guatemala – Mexico Binational Cooperation.

C. PROJECTS AWAITING FINANCING

(1) PD 452/07 Rev.5 (F) Sustainable Management of Production Forests at the Commercial Scale in the Brazilian Amazon – Phase II (Brazil)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$ 1,547,558
ITTO Budget:	US\$ 656,630
EMBRAPA:	US\$ 576,807
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. It further resubmitted it with an updated budget as Revision 5 in 2013 and requested it be considered for financing for an additional 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
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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
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Session of Approval:	ITTC Session XLIV, Nov.2008, Yokohama, Japan
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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 Phase I is going to be reported as complete at the Forty-seventh Session of CRF in November 2013. Phase II has not yet been financed and is still awaiting financing to fully implement all the project activities.

Mangrove forests in Zhejiang Province, Southern China are playing an important role by providing sources of income and ecological security systems for environmental protection. In recent years, the continuous over exploitation and conversion of existing mangrove forests in Zhejiang Province had caused a serious impact to the environment. The development objective of the project aims at contributing to the sustainable management of mangrove forests in Southern 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 in the Fujian Zhangjiakou Mangrove Natural Reserve where many local communities are living together with abundant and diversified mangrove forests in good growth conditions compared to the rest of mangrove forests in China.

(3) PD 554/09 Rev.3 (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\$	722,481
ITTO Budget:	US\$	529,034
Government of Colombia – University of Tolima:	US\$	107,266
Community Council of the Bajo Calima Black Ethnic Group:	US\$	55,787

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 3 in 2013 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.

(4) 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. Consultation with APFNet has been taken place for financing of this project under the MOU between ITTO and APFNet on Rehabilitation and Sustainable Forest Management.

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.

(5) 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.

(6) 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 Darién*) for timber products and by-products from forests under good management practices in the region of Darien.

(7) PD 605/11 Rev.3 (F) Demonstration and Extension of Fire-break Forest Belts for Efficient Forest Fire Management in Tropical Forests in Guangdong Province, China

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget: US\$ 447,944

ITTO Budget: US\$ 278,020

Government of China: US\$ 169,924

Implementing Agency: Research Institute of Forest Resources Information Techniques, Chinese Academy of Forestry (IFRIT, CAF)

Session of Approval: Autumn 2012

The project was approved in Autumn 2012 but financing has not been made.

Establishing fire-break forest belts (FBF Belts) is an effective approach to reducing forest fires and creating great eco-environment benefits. In light of this importance, the project aiming at achieving the establishment and management of improved quality of FBF belts to block tropical forest fires in Guangdong Province, southern China. It will enhance the awareness of management bodies at different levels of the FBF Belts quality through establishing optimized technology models for FBF Belts, building a demonstration base and technology extension system in Yunnan County and Gaoyao City, and improving the skills and techniques of local communities and farmers. It is expected through the project implementation to contributing to the sustainable management of tropical forests in southern China by improving local communities' capacity to prevent and control forest fires.

(8) PD 618/11 Rev.3 (F) Establishment of Spatial Forest Resources Information System (SPA-FRIS) in West Papua Province (Indonesia)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget: US\$ 406,989

ITTO Budget: US\$ 364,878

Government of Indonesia : US\$ 42,111

Implementing Agency: Forest Planning Agency Region XVII, Manokwari (BPKH XVII Manokwari) , Ministry of Forestry

Session of Approval: Autumn 2012

The project was approved in Autumn 2012 but financing has not been made.

The development objective of the project is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable forest management in West Papua Province, Indonesia where 90% of its area remains as forest but forest-related data and information in local forest agencies are poorly documented under rough geographical conditions and limited transportation infrastructures. The project seeks to establish an internet-based network system to control and monitor forest resources in West Papua Province. The system will enable local forest agencies to make good and reliable decisions on forest planning based on reliable forest maps and related information under "Spatial Forest Resources Information System (SPA-FRIS)". Data and information in remote areas will be easily updated. In order to develop a spatial forest resources information system in West Papua Province, the project activities include gathering spatial and non-spatial data and information from local forest agencies and synchronizing with data from MoF. A series of training courses in GIS, remote sensing and network management will be organized. The expected outputs of this project are: provision of spatial forest resources data and information; and improvement of institutional capacity in West Papua Province which will contribute to strengthening the forest monitoring systems.

(9) PD 628/11 Rev.3 (F) Strengthening of Forest Management Practices of Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples in Guatemala

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	703,463
ITTO Budget:	US\$	472,505
Government of Guatemala:	US\$	230,958
Implementing Agency:	NATIONAL FOREST INSTITUTE - INAB	
Collaborating Agency:	NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF COMMUNITY FOREST ORGANIZATIONS AND NATIONAL NETWORK OF INDIGENOUS AUTHORITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS OF GUATEMALA	
Period of Approval:	Autumn 2012	

The project was approved under the Autumn 2012 Project Cycle through the electronic approval system, 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.

Guatemala is committed to strengthening the capacity and means to promote community forest management by enhancing the instruments that promote sustainable forest management and by encouraging community involvement and inter-institutional coordination. In this context, the development objective of this project aims to contribute towards sustainable forest management and forest governance in Guatemala by empowering and strengthening forest communities in the poorest areas of the country. Moreover, its specific objective envisages strengthening and enhancing the forest management practices and instruments available to local communities and indigenous peoples in Guatemala, so as to improve the utilization and conservation of their forests. To this end, the project will improve local community and indigenous peoples' access to forest incentive programmes, while enhancing the technical, social and political conditions of local communities for improved forest resource management.

Outputs expected from the implementation of the project include: i) A programme in place to support local community and indigenous peoples' access to forest incentives programmes; ii) A technical assistance and forest training programme is operating and guiding forest management practices of local communities and indigenous peoples; iii) Enhanced involvement of local communities and indigenous peoples in decision-making on the use and conservation of their forests; and iv) Community forest management promotion and dissemination programme under implementation.

In addition, the long-term outcomes and impacts to be generated by the project are as follows: Forest cover increased by at least 10,000 hectares through natural regeneration and reforestation activities; Forest management practices of 25 indigenous communities strengthened on the basis of customary standards and rules; At least 5,000 jobs have been generated in rural communities thanks to forest activities; By the end of the project there is 50% increase in local community and indigenous peoples' awareness and access to forest incentives and technical assistance programmes; and by the end of the project indigenous peoples and local communities are involved in at least 5 local decision making spaces and in at least 4 national decision making spaces.

(10) 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
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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, 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.

(11) PD 645/12 Rev.3 (F) Promoting Sustainable Forest Management of Rinjani Barat Forest Management Unit (Indonesia)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	677,667
ITTO Budget:	US\$	505,781
Government of Indonesia :	US\$	171,886
Implementing Agency:	Directorate of Forest Management Unit and Forest Estate Utilization Arrangement, Directorate General of Forest Planning, Ministry of Forestry in collaboration with Rinjani Barat Protection Forest Management Unit	
Session of Approval:	Spring 2013	

The project was approved in Spring 2013 but financing has not been made.

FMU Rinjani Barat of West Nusa Tenggara Province, Indonesia comprises of more than 40,000 ha of forests and has been declared as Protection FMU mode in West Nusa Tenggara Province by the Ministry of Forestry. However, it has suffered from the absence of forest management plans, as well as lack of qualified human resources and local community participation in the management of forest resources. The development objective of the project is to contribute to the sustainability of permanent forest estates through

the implementation of sustainable forest management at site level. Specifically, the project is to strengthen the capacity of stakeholders to sustainably manage Rinjani Barat FMU as a model for best practices of FMU in Indonesia. Local community empowerment is an important approach and a wide range of training and development of local institutions will be carried out. The expected outputs at the completion of the project are i) formulated a long-term management plan as a guidance in executing forest management practices, ii) enhanced capacity building of FMU Rinjani Barat staff and iii) enhanced local communities capacity. Project results are expected to be mainstreamed into local and national policies for the sustainable management of FMU in Indonesia.

(12) PD 646/12 Rev.3 (F) Initiating the Conservation of Cempaka Tree Species (*Elmerrillia* spp) Through Plantation Development with Local Community Participation in North Sulawesi, Indonesia

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	564,037.20
ITTO Budget:	US\$	435,187.20
Government of Indonesia :	US\$	128,850.00

Implementing Agency: Manado Forestry Research Institute (MFRI), Forestry Research and Development Agency (FORDA), Ministry of Forestry

Session of Approval: Spring 2013

The project was approved in Spring 2013 but financing has not been made.

In northern Sulawesi, Indonesia, there is an increasing demand for Cempaka wood (*Elmerrillia ovalis* (Miq.) Dandy) as this wood has been used as raw materials for traditional houses (knocked down housing) which has proven against natural disasters. However, the supply of Cempaka wood has been reduced dramatically and the wood industry in the North Sulawesi has faced a big challenge with declined supply of Cempaka wood. In light of the importance of improving sustainable development of Cempaka wood, the project is designed to sustain Cempaka trees that are an icon species for North Sulawesi community. In particular, the project is to increase the plantation of Cempaka through community participation. The expected outputs of the project are: (i) community capacity in Cempaka plantation development enhanced, (ii) participatory planting of Cempaka by local community increased, and (iii) a policy on Cempaka conservation formulated.

(13) PD 665/12 Rev.2 (F) Implementation of a Fire Prevention and Control Plan in the Central Amazon Region of Peru

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	1,048,863.95
ITTO Budget:	US\$	767,786.35
PRONATURALEZA:	US\$	281,077.60

Implementing Agency: PRONATURALEZA

Period of Approval: Spring 2013

The project was approved under the Spring 2013 Project Cycle through the electronic approval system, 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.

Peru has approximately 68 million hectares of natural forests, with the second largest forest area in Latin America where approximately 94% of forests are in the Amazon Region. These Amazon forests are in

the high and low altitude rainforest, with the high altitude rainforest ecosystem recording the highest rate of Andean population immigration to work in agriculture; this has put enormous pressure on the forests, and is one of the main causes leading to deforestation and burning of forests for land use change. Amazon forests in the Pasco Department cover approximately 1.4 million hectares, with 302,000 hectares already deforested. As a result of the burning done as part of the subsistence agriculture systems and the land use change, forest fires have been causing human, economic and ecology losses, year after year; this in turn has caused loss of biodiversity, soil degradation, loss of water quality and quantity, as well as an increase in poverty among the rural and native population.

It is in this context that there is an urgent need for a project with a view towards curbing deforestation and forest ecosystem degradation through a significant reduction in forest slash and burn practices so as to mitigate climate change and contribute to the improvement of the quality of life of the population of Pasco. The specific objective of the project would be to implement the Regional Forest Fire Prevention and Control Plan in the Pasco Department. The target area of the project in the Department covers the five districts with the highest occurrence of heat spots in the province of Oxapampa, Department of Pasco. The project will develop a regional system to articulate the various state and private sector bodies; it will implement a monitoring centre with timely and reliable information; and it will train all stakeholders involved, particularly native and rural communities. Furthermore, the project will provide high tech operating units to fight forest fires. Finally, the project will implement initiatives to promote harmony between society and the environment.

Major outputs include: i) A provincial forest fire prevention and control system has been established in coordination with regional and local authorities, and the active participation of indigenous communities; ii) A Forest Fire Prevention and Control plan is operational at the regional level, with the involvement of the different regional and local authorities, and indigenous communities; and iii) A fire monitoring centre with timely and reliable information for forest fire prevention and control is operational.

(14) PD 682/13 Rev.1 (F) Development of Quality-of-Governance Standards for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) in Papua New Guinea

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	179,744
ITTO Budget:	US\$	149,744
Government of PNG :	US\$	30,000

Implementing Agency: Australian Centre for Sustainable Catchments (ACSC), University of Southern Queensland (USQ) in close collaboration with PNG Forest Authority

Session of Approval: Spring 2013

The project was approved in Spring 2013 but financing has not been made.

The PNG Forestry Authority (FA) has undertaken a variety of initiatives to fully promote the concept of REDD+, including reviewing provincial forest plans, undertaking internal restructuring and launching new policy initiatives. Strengthening the governance has been recognized as an important challenge to ensure the effective design and implementation of REDD+ with support across departments and broad stakeholder support towards REDD+ performance-based payments.

In light of the need for strengthening the governance of REDD+ in PNG, the development objective of the proposed project is to contribute to good governance of REDD+ in the country so as to facilitate the achievement of climate change mitigation and national development goals through the sustainable management and enhancement of forest resources. Specifically, the project aims to develop a voluntary standard for REDD+ quality-of-governance, which can strengthen governance by guiding and evaluating REDD+ structures and processes at national and sub-national levels. The REDD+ quality-of-governance standard will be developed through a multi-stakeholder process that involves an online survey, face-to-face interviews with key stakeholders, a multi-stakeholder forum workshop, and field-testing at demonstration sites. The project will also analyze the process and outcomes of the research and determine the feasibility of applying such standards regionally and internationally.

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

- 1) PD 541/09 Rev.2 (F) Forest Promotion and Development by Native Communities in Peru
- 2) PD 544/09 Rev.2 (F) Increased Economic Returns from Forest Management in Permanent Production Forests of Peru

● PRE-PROJECT WORK IN PROGRESS

A total of five (5) approved pre-projects are currently under implementation while no pre-project is awaiting the signing of an agreement to initiate activities. There is three (3) 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: 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 2014.

(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:	October 2006 / 12 months		

This project was reported as completed at a previous CRF session and documented as such in CRF(XLVII)/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 2014.

(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:	July 2007 / 6 months		

This project was reported as completed at a previous CRF session and documented as such in CRF(XLVII)/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 2014.

(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
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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		
Session of Approval:	ITTC Session XLVII, November 2011, Guatemala City, Guatemala		
Starting Date and Duration:	November 2012 / 12 months		

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 executing agency submitted the Inception Report, and this was approved on September 28. Thus the pre-project had his first disbursement made in October 25, 2012, beginning its execution. The second disbursement was done in July 2013.

During the 10 months of implementation of the pre-project scheduled activities were developed, producing important results for the decision-making of the country related to forest fires, contributing relevant information to the resulting project formulation. In the same way the pre-project has been able to get its objectives, within the time schedule and budget approved.

On the work done in the period, Activity 1, "Revision information of the national entities", was completed. Activity 2, "Workshops with participation of local communities", and 3, "Analysis, processing and systematization of information from the workshops", are currently being finalized.

The first PSC Meeting of the pre-project was held on 26th of July in Bogota DC, Colombia. From the project coordinator presentation, it should be recorded the correctness of the methodology used in the project to bring about the difference in view of the various stakeholders on the issue of fire.

In the minutes of the meeting it was recognized that the present EA, ASOCARS, is doing a comprehensive work for this pre-project, but for the execution of the resulting project, it should be searched an institutional arrangement with an official institution taking the lead to provide widespread impact in the country of a specific policy to address the control of forest fires.

Further else, it was recommended to draw up a summary of the results to be published on the web pages of the related entities.

From the exposition by the EA during de SCM, the pre-project will be completed on time, in October, 2013, with the preparation of the project proposal to be submitted to ITTO, which is the main output of the pre-project.

(5) PPD 165/12 Rev.1 (F) Study for the Rehabilitation and Sustainable Management of Sacred Forests on RAMSAR Sites 1017 and 1018 in Benin

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	96,980
ITTO Budget:		US\$	79,380
Government of U.S.A.:	US\$	39,380	
Government of Rep. of Korea:	US\$	20,000	
Government of Japan:	US\$	20,000	
Ce.Sa.Re.N - NGO:		US\$	17,600
Implementing Agency:	Ce.Sa.Re.N - NGO		

Session of Approval: October 2012

Starting Date and Duration: April 2013 / 8 months

The 8-month pre-project was approved under Autumn-2012 Project Cycle, and fully financed at the Forty-eighth Session in Yokohama, Japan, in November 2012, thanks to the generous contribution of the Governments of Japan, Republic of Korea and United States of America. The Agreement regulating the implementation of this pre-project was signed on 14 March 2013. The pre-project implementation was initiated in April 2013 following the disbursement of the first installment of ITTO funds.

The aim of this pre-project is to contribute to the sustainable forest management and conservation of biodiversity in Benin by building the capacity of local communities to improve their living conditions, through the conservation of sacred forests part of Ramsar Sites 1017 and 1018. It specifically intends to evaluate the potential of sacred forests located in the Ramsar Sites 1017 and 1018, in order to formulate a project aiming to support their rehabilitation and sustainable management. Ramsar Sites 1017 and 1018 in Benin are dotted with pockets of sacred forests with a very rich biodiversity, representing a natural heritage of great value from their multiple functions. These sacred forests constitute an endogenous form of biodiversity conservation and play a crucial role in the lives of local people. Currently, the basic information and data needed to develop a program of sustainable management and conservation of these sites are lacking. This pre-project will contribute to address the lack of the necessary information and data required for the preparation of a project dealing with the sustainable forest management and conservation of biodiversity of those sacred forests.

Since the inception of the pre-project implementation in April 2013, and in accordance with the most recent progress report, progress in pre-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 relevant stakeholders of the Ramsar Sites 1017 and 1018 which have multiple functions (religious, ecological, socio-economic, cultural, etc.), in a stakeholder analysis aiming to take into account their requirements correlated to the identified key problem that the future project could contribute to address;
- The Executing Agency has engaged the relevant national consultants to support the pre-project implementing team, through appropriate studies and surveys (socio-economic, environmental, cultural, mapping, etc.) to be carried out in the target area of the future project; and
- The committee, in charge of providing technical guidance and support to the pre-project team, has been operational and meeting on a monthly basis with representatives from the following institutions/organizations: Environment Authority of Benin, General Directorate of Forestry and Natural Resources, NGO-CESAREN (pre-project executing agency), local Traditional Chiefs, Regional Centre for Agriculture and Rural Development, Decentralized Administrative Entities, and any other relevant institution/organization (to be invited, if need be). The aim of this committee is to ensure the ownership of the findings and results of the pre-project, as well as to anticipate how to ensure that the ownership of main outcomes of the future project (to be derived from the implementation of this pre-project).

The pre-project implementation has been on the tracks with field works undertaken by consultants, in close collaboration with the pre-project implementing team. However, some delay has been noted for some activities due to frequent rainfalls, but efforts will be made to make sure that a project proposal is developed and submitted to the ITTO Secretariat for the regular project cycle starting in December 2013.

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
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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.

(2) PPD 162/12 Rev.2 (F) Developing Model of Self-sufficient and Sustainable FMU (Indonesia)

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	115,291
ITTO Budget:	US\$	70,291
Government of Indonesia	US\$	45,000

Implementing Agency: Regional Forestry Training Office, Java-Madura Region,
Directorate General of Forest Planning, Ministry of Forestry

Period of Approval: Spring 2013

The pre-project was approved under Spring 2013 Project Cycle and awaits financing.

Indonesian government has intensified various efforts to address the problem of deforestation and forest degradation in the country. These include the development of Forest Management Unit (KPH) in production forests. The development of KPH has been the commitment of the government which has been mandated by Indonesia Law No. 41 of 1999 on Forestry. KPH Yogyakarta comprises about 16,400 ha of forests and is the first KPH defined by Ministry of Forestry in 2007 and become a self-sufficient unit model for other KPHs in Indonesia, but it still faces many critical problems due to lack of sound forest management and forestry business development plans. The underlying reasons of this failure include that data and information on forest resources in the region is limited, and capacity of concerned local stakeholders for SFM is still low. In order to address such problems, this pre-project aims to: 1) gather the necessary baseline information to draw up an inventory of forest areas, 2) identify the local capacity building needs and 3) formulate a full project proposal on enhancing the enabling condition for a model self-sufficient unit FMU to support sustainable forest management.

(3) PPD 163/12 Rev.2 (F) Assessing Growth and Yield Rates of Major Commercial Species for the Adjustment of Forest Management Programs in the Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	156,352.14
ITTO Budget:	US\$	93,618.84
INIFAP:	US\$	62,733.30

Implementing Agency: National institute for Forest, Agriculture and Livestock Research (INIFAP)

Collaborating Agency: Southern Frontier School (ECOSUR) and Postgraduate School (CP)

Period of Approval: Spring 2013

The pre-project was approved under the Spring 2013 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.

Forest management programs in the Yucatan Peninsula have traditionally been based mainly on estimated average annual diameter and height increments, and these estimates have not been updated according to forest structure and composition changes occurred over the years due to logging operations. This has resulted in management programs that most often use obsolete data, which in turn, in some cases, could lead to over-logging due to overestimation of growth and yield rates. It is in this context that Ejido producers, plantation owners and forest managers have stated their concern and expressed their interest in updating information on growth and yield rates and logging cycles for the main commercial forest species, so as to enable them to develop more accurate estimates of logging rates that would ensure the sustainability of resources as well as increased certainty for long-term forest planning.

In this light, this proposal is to contribute towards the sustainable forest management in the Yucatan Peninsula and to long-term timber harvesting planning through the use of updated and reliable information on growth and yield (G&Y) rates for major commercial species in this region of Mexico. Moreover, it expects to achieve the aforementioned objective by: i) Defining an overall strategy and methodology to update the required growth and yield information and provide training in the analysis and use of this information for its incorporation in forest management plans so as to improve logging planning and contribute to sustainable forest management in the Yucatan Peninsula; and by ii) Developing a full project proposal for the implementation of the above strategy, including the training required to ensure its adequate use in the estimation of commercial species logging rates and the formulation of forest management plans.

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

None.

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