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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 thirty nine (39) approved projects are currently under implementation while additional five (5) projects are awaiting the signing of an agreement to initiate activities. There are twenty five (25) 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 33<sup>rd</sup> 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-seventh Session of the Committee and in accordance with the two most recent progress reports submitted in March and July 2014 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 signing and promulgation of this decree had allowed the executing Agency to adjust the draft management plan which was already prepared by *Société Forestière ABAH-BARAK (SFAB)* in order to take into account the formal demarcation of this gazette forest as well as the formal micro-zoning (protection area, production forest area and agroforestry area) included in this decree for land utilization within this gazette forest. The readjusted management plan should be submitted to the review by the Ministry of Forestry and Fauna (MINFOF) as well as by other relevant institutions, prior to its final approval;
- 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 when it will be considered as finalized 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. The management plan of the Si-Kop Gazetted Forest has been revised for the consistency with all provisions of the Decree No. 2013/7570/PM of 12 August 2013;
- The process for the creation and establishment of community forests was initiated for the Mahohi, Nemkok and Wag communities. The sub-contractor *ACADER Consulting* has been preparing the simplified management plan for these three potential community forests in collaboration with key stakeholders; and
- The two warehouses constructed in Ndambog and Botbea villages, for the storage of crops produced by local communities involved in the project implementation through agroforestry activities, have been made operational for local communities.

The project extension is nearing completion, as most activities have been completed by the Executing Agency. Some few activities are still implemented, mostly dealing with the finalization of the management plan of the Si-Kop Gazetted as well as the finalization of three simplified management plans for community forests, as they have been impacted by the delay in signing the decree for the formalization of the establishment of Si-Kop Gazetted Forest by the Prime Minister of Cameroon.

**(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 (during suspension, from 2005 to 2008):		US\$	689,614
Maderas del Darien S.A.:		US\$	301,517
Implementing Agency:	Corporación de Desarrollo Sostenible del Chocó (CODECHOCÓ)		
Session of Approval:	ITTC Session XXVII, November 1999, Yokohama, Japan		
Starting Date and Duration:	March 2001 / 36 months June 2009 (restarting)		
Approved Revised Date of Project Completion:	December 2010 (CRFXLII)		

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

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

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

The Committee may further take note that at its previous session it observed that the implementation of this project had been progressing at a slow pace, that the Executing Agency CODECHOCO continued to be haphazard in submitting its progress reports and other documents in paper format, that the last ITTO 6-monthly disbursement was made in June 2009 and another three disbursements for a total of US\$ 240,000 are still pending to date, and that all these are required to fully achieve the project's objectives and report the project as satisfactory. In addition, a satisfactory annual financial audit report for year 2010 was also still pending, and no further disbursements have been made based on the lack of submission of this audited report. While the project was slated to have been completed in December 2010, the Committee further observed that prior to its last session the Executing Agency had submitted, however very late, a progress report, a YPO to December 2013 and a request for an extension in time until December 2013 in order to satisfactorily complete the project. However, these documents were incomplete, lacked proper justification for the extension in time and did not include the 2010 financial audited report.

As such, the Committee at its previous session urged the Executing Agency to immediately submit a satisfactory financial audit report for 2010, apply for a reasonable extension in time, without additional funds, for an approximate period of 18 months (as three 6-monthly ITTO disbursements totaling US\$ 240,000 are still pending), and further submit to the Secretariat a formal request with a justification for the aforementioned

extension in time, together with any required budget amendments and an updated detailed Work Plan and Yearly Plan of Operations, in order to successfully complete the project's activities.

Since the Forty-seventh Session of the Committee and in accordance with the ITTO Regional Officer's report, the Executing Agency submitted revisions of the aforementioned progress report, YPO and a request for an extension in time, but upon review by ITTO Regional Officer these were considered to continue being unsatisfactory, and sent back once again for the required adjustments. To date these have not been resubmitted, apparently due to administrative changes within CODECHOCO that affected the coordination of the project. The ITTO Regional Officer, however, further informed that it appeared that some unspecified work in the field continued to be carried out with funds provided by the National Environmental Compensation Fund.

**(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 EA apparently increased the counterpart funds - TBC

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

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

The project had its scheduled execution for 48 months, but due to the difficulties faced over time it is now in its tenth year of implementation. In this period, two extensions of time were approved by CRF 42 and 43, between 2008-2010 and 2010-2011, respectively. In 2011 internal administrative changes within the Executing Agency and the Environment Secretariat of Minas Gerais created serious difficulties in continuing the implementation of the project.

At its previous session the committee noted that the latest progress report received for this project only covered the implementation of its activities until March 2013. It further stated that all activities but one have been completed, but the description of these were lacking, and so were the technical reports, workshop aide memoirs and other means of verification, such as manuals, publications, maps, pamphlets, videos, etc. Moreover, it further observed that the project was slated to have been completed in March 2012 but had continued intermittently until March 2013, when it came to a halt, with no further progress reports or a request for an extension in time having been submitted to the Secretariat since then.

At that same session, the Committee further observed that the 2010-2011 audited report had been latest one submitted to the Secretariat, and that this report stated that the expenditures were only executed

up to December 31, 2010, not having incurred in any expenses during the year 2011. Also, the unspent amount of ITTO funds with the EA as at 31 December 2011 was reported as approximately US\$55,000. In addition, ITTO was also still withholding the originally programmed 8<sup>th</sup> and last disbursement for an additional US\$ 50,000. The Committee also took note that the Executing Agency, The State Forest Institute of Minas Gerais (IEF/MG), had requested the Secretariat to consider this project as completed, but had not submitted the required completion report, technical reports and other means of verification to the ITTO Secretariat.

Additionally, it also noted at that time that the final financial audit report was also pending, and taking into account the financial audit report for 2010-2011, there also was still approximately US\$ 50,000 unaccounted for that needed to be reimbursed to ITTO if the project was deemed as completed. In addition, the Executing Agency also needed to submit an official notification relinquishing the project's last disbursement from ITTO in the amount of US\$ 50,000, in order for the Secretariat to be able to reimburse all the remaining funds to the original donors, as per ITTO procedures.

Based on the aforementioned facts, the Committee may recall that at its previous session in Libreville, Gabon last year, it had recommended an independent mid-term evaluation be carried out to assess what had been achieved, and further provide unanimous recommendations on the actions needed in order to either continue or close the project, in accordance with ITTO's rules of procedure.

The independent mid-term evaluation took place in May 2014 in the project's area of influence and both the executive summary [CRF(XLVIII)/6] and the full report (48RFM-4) are available upon request from the Secretariat. Overall, the mid-evaluation's main recommendation was that the Executing Agency expedite the preparation and submission to the ITTO Secretariat of a proper Completion Report, a Final Financial Audit Report, an Official Notification relinquishing the ITTO last disbursement of US\$ 50,000, and finally, reimburse to ITTO the unspent amount of ITTO funds (US\$ 45,668.96 as of May 30, 2014), as per ITTO rules of procedure. Additionally, it also recommended ITTO to disseminate and make the best use of the lessons learned and experiences gained by the project and share the knowledge to promote South-South and Triangular cooperation in rehabilitation of degraded forest areas.

ITTO's Regional Officer is in constant contact with the Executing Agency in order to assist it in expeditiously following-up on the mid-term evaluation's recommendations and further overseeing the necessary ITTO procedures are complied with for the closure of this project.

**(4) 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(XLVIII)/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 2015.

**(5) 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.

At its previous session, the Committee noted that the Executing Agency EMBRAPA continued to be late in submitting its progress reports and other documentation, and when submitted these were incomplete and did not follow ITTO formats, and that it was also hiring project staff without requesting no-objections from the Secretariat as per ITTO's rules of procedure. Additionally, it had further noted that the audited report submitted for 2012 did not follow the ITTO guidelines, and therefore could not be approved by the Secretariat.

Based on the aforementioned facts, the Committee may recall that at its previous session in Libreville, Gabon last year, it had urged the Executing Agency to strictly abide to ITTO's procedures and scheduling, and periodically submit all pending documents following ITTO's guidelines and formats and within the established deadlines, such as the project progress reports, technical documents, and other documented means of verification, and the yearly audited reports, and further regularize all project staff positions financed with ITTO funds via no-objection requests.

Since the forty-seventh Session of the Committee, the Secretariat has not received any information on progress in project implementation of the project, nor any of the abovementioned documents. Several reminders sent by the Regional Officer requesting for information on follow up actions to the recommendations made by the committee have gone unanswered by the EMBRAPA, strongly suggesting that the Executing Agency appears to have insufficient capability to properly manage and supervise the project operations. It should be noted however, that ITTO's Regional Officer's continues to make efforts in maintaining contact with the Executing Agency and further assist EMBRAPA in complying with ITTO's procedures and getting this project back on track.



**(6) 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) Fourth extension until December 2014 (No. F.14-0127)		

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. The sixth and last disbursement was further executed in February 2013.

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-seventh Session of the Committee and in accordance with the two most recent progress reports submitted in February and August 2014, progress in project implementation can be summarized by outputs as follows:

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

99% of the activities required to achieve this output have been completed. The only activity pending is the publication of the results.

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

98% of the activities required to achieve this output have been completed. The only activity pending is the publication of the results.

**3. Identification and propagation of Meliaceae borer-resistant genotypes**

97% of the activities required to achieve this output have been completed. The only activity pending is the publication of the results.

The Project's sixth and last Steering Committee meeting was held in February 2014. At this meeting, the Committee noted that all outputs had already been achieved, and that only the editing, publishing and peer review of the scientific and technical documents was pending. It further observed the need of a final extension until December 2014, so as to allow the peer review of the scientific papers to be produced by the project. As such, project completion is now anticipated around the end of this year, after the publication of the scientific and technical documents and their wide dissemination throughout the Yucatan Peninsula. Moreover, this project is expected to be reported as completed to the CRF at its next session in 2015.

**(7) 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) Fourth extension until December 2014 (No. F.14-0051)		

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. The second disbursement of funds was transferred to INIFAP in February 2009, after verifying the executing agency's compliance with the conditions established for it. The 3rd disbursement was released on October 13th, 2011, after a successful and productive 3rd Project Steering Committee took place in Campeche in February 2011. The fourth and last disbursement was released in April 2014 shortly after submission of their 15<sup>th</sup> progress report, several technical reports and an appropriate explanation as regards the sustainability of the implemented actions after project completion and its expected impacts. Last but not least, due to some delays incurred during the verification process, the Secretariat approved several extensions requested by INIFAP, and approved one last extension without additional funds until December 31, 2014 in order to incorporate one additional activity requested by CONAFOR, at which the project's activities are expected to be successfully completed.

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-seventh Session of the Committee and in accordance with the most recent progress reports submitted in February and August 2014, progress in project implementation can be summarized by outputs as follows:

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

This output has been 100% successfully achieved.

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

75% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date.

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

60% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date.

The Executing Agency has also produced several products, among them studies, maps and technical documents. These publications are to be uploaded onto the ITTO website upon project completion for further dissemination to all our member countries and other interested parties.

The Project's seventh and last Steering Committee meeting was held in February 2014. At this meeting, the Committee noted that most outputs had already been achieved, but that INIFAP wished to include an additional activity financed with new counterpart funds provided by UNDP so as to also train other communities in the application of the regionally-developed C&I, in particular at the Santa Catarina Ixtpeji community forests. As such, the Steering Committee recommended, among others, that the EA and CONAFOR include the proposed additional output, funded with counterpart funds from UNDP, to provide further training in the application of the C&I developed for certain regions of Mexico, and further extend the project with budgetary modifications until December 2014. This project is expected to be reported as completed to the CRF at its next session in 2015.

**(8) 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 urges the Executing Agency to submit the final financial audit report at its earliest convenience, not later than end of March 2015.

**(9) 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.

No progress report was submitted in August 2014 by the Executing Agency which informed the Secretariat that the preparation of the completion report was under way, as all project activities have been completed. The project shall be reported at the next Committee Session if the Secretariat receives the completion report and an acceptable final financial audit report. It is important to remind that 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.

**(10) 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)  
Second extension: until December 2014 (NOLF.14-0300)

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. Two project extensions were granted until December 2014, without additional ITTO funds, by the ITTO Secretariat, based on official requests including proper justification with appropriate detailed work plan and budget.

The project aims to contribute to the 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-seventh Session of the Committee, no project's progress report was submitted by the Executing Agency in order to share information on the 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 Ministry of Forestry of Gabon. The Secretariat has postponed the disbursement of the remaining installments of ITTO until the Executing Agency will submit the annual financial audit reports for the years ended 31 December 2012 and 31 December 2013, as required by the rules and procedures applying to ITTO projects.

The Fifth project monitoring mission and associated Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting had been scheduled for November 2014, in order to assess in-depth the implementation status of this project. The Secretariat asks the Executing Agency to submit, at its earliest convenience, all missing progress reports as well as the abovementioned 2012 and 2013 annual financial audit reports in order to be again in the position. The receipt of these report is a pre-requisite for the disbursement of the remaining installments of ITTO funds which should allow to resume project activities with the involvement of the international consultant in community forestry. The project extension is expected, as there are four installments of ITTO funds not disbursed yet.

**(11) 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/GOC:		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 Cote d'Ivoire. The first disbursement of ITTO funds was made in December 2008. Three project extensions were granted until December 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 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.

No progress report was submitted in August 2014 by the Executing Agency which informed the Secretariat about the preparation of the completion report to be shortly submitted, when all project activities could be considered as completed. The project shall be reported at the next Committee Session if the Secretariat receives the completion report and an acceptable final financial audit report. It is important to remind that 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.

**(12) PD 419/06 Rev.3 (F) 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/GOC:		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.

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

- A series of sensitization meetings were convened with local authorities and representatives of key stakeholders, including local communities (refugees, internally displaced persons and local populations) in order to explain the project objective and expected outputs;
- The Executing Agency has engaged EGP Consulting cabinet as the consultancy work regarding the socio-economic study of the project target area, while the vehicles, equipment and materials were purchased for the project implementation;
- Around 1000 persons have sensitized in 13 villages around the Duékoué and Scio Gazetted Forests on the importance of contributing to protect these forests, and also on the establishment of agroforestry plantations with their involvement;
- Field visits were undertaken by the project implementing team and it led to the selection of four appropriate sites of degraded forest lands in both gazette forests, for total surface area of 669 hectares, to be rehabilitated with the participation of community groups involved in the project implementation;
- The sensitization campaigns were an opportunity to explain to target community groups the taungya agroforestry system allowing to combine trees with food crops, as way to get early income from the food crops products which could contribute to the improvement of their livelihood; and
- Five nurseries (three around Guiglo village, one in Guinkin village and one in Bedi-Goazon village) were established with the participation of local communities, duly trained for that purpose by the technicians of SODEFOR, for the production of a total of 521,000 seedlings of the following species: *Tieghemela heckelii*, *Ricinodendron heudelotii*, *Tectona grandis*, *Khaya ivorensis*, *Pericopsis elata*, *Mansonia altissima* and *Irvingia gabonensis*.

The second project monitoring mission, with the associated Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting and field visits of selected project sites, has been scheduled for end of September 2014, in order to assess project implementation during its first year.

**(13) 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. Two project extensions were granted until October 2014, 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-seventh 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:

- 16 hectares of degraded lands in the Headwaters Forest Reserve have been rehabilitated, for the establishment of in-situ conservation plots of medicinal plants, with the involvement of local communities living around the forest reserve. The rehabilitation was undertaken as a taungya agroforestry system mixing priority medicinal indigenous tree species with food crops (mainly the plantain banana suckers, maize and yam), after a sensitization campaign with the involvement of local and traditional chiefs and herbalists;
- The draft 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, is nearing its finalization and publication for information sharing;
- Preparation of a workshop for the validation of the tentative lists of medicinal plants established with fringe communities on the uses of medicinal plant species in the Western, Ashanti and Eastern Regions of Ghana;
- The draft report of the technical studies/surveys, which 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, have been circulated for comments; 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.

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

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	1,172,473
ITTO Budget:		US\$	547,917
Government of Japan:	US\$	412,917	
Government of USA:	US\$	135,000	
CORANTIOQUIA:		US\$	624,556
Implementing Agency:	Autonomous Corporation of Central Antioquia (CORANTIOQUIA)		
Session of Approval:	ITTC Session XLII, May 2007, Port Moresby, PNG		
Starting Date and Duration:	September 2008 / 36 months		
Approved Revised Date of Project Completion:	First extension until May 2012		

The Council approved the project during its Forty-second Session in May 2007. The final agreement regulating the implementation of the project was duly signed in July 2008. The first installment of funds was transferred in September 2008, after the submission, by the Executing Agency, of the first Yearly Plan of



Operations, a request for the no-objection of the project's key personnel and a notification that implementation is about to begin, and the approval of the aforementioned by the Secretariat

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

At its previous session, the Committee noted that the Executing Agency continued to be late in submitting its progress reports, technical documents, and other documented means of verification, and when submitted, these were incomplete and did not follow ITTO formats. As such, the Committee at that time urged the Executing Agency to strictly abide to ITTO's procedures and scheduling, and submit all the pending documents in time, such as the project completion report, technical documents, and other documented means of verification, and the final financial audited report, so as to report this project as completed at its next session.

Based on the latest communications between the EA and the ITTO Regional Officer, project activities were completed in June 2013 and a completion report, the Magdalena Medio Forest Reserve Land-Use Plan and an article for the TFU have been submitted to the Secretariat. However, the Secretariat has requested the aforementioned first two documents be resubmitted in a visually-attractive format adequate for posting on ITTO's website. While the aforementioned revised documents and the final audited report are still pending, these are expected to be submitted and approved shortly, so as to be able to report this project as completed at the next session.

**(15) 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
Approved Revised Date of Project Completion:	First extension until December 2014 (No. F. 13-0253)

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. The 3rd disbursement was released in November 2013, after a successful and productive 3rd Project Steering Committee took place in Panama City in November 2013.

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-seventh session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports submitted in February and August 2014, 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**

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

- Three 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;
- Nine 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 elaborated, one for each pilot site;
- Three voluntary forest fire brigades, each composed of 24 people, have been established and trained for each of the three pilot areas: the Cerro Guacamaya Hydrological Reserve, the El Montuoso forest Reserve, and the Buenos Aires community in Ñurum. In addition, basic fire-fighting equipment has been provided to these brigades;
- Fire break rounds have been carried out in the three pilot areas, and a further 4 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 has been 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 and currently contains complete data for the last five years;
- An Early-Warning System has been 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**

60% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date, as follows:

- A plan for training in integrated fire management has been devised and is being socialized by the 3 established technical consultative committees;
- Training manuals have been elaborated and are in the process of being published;
- 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;
- 5 forest fire-fighter courses, 8 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 eight 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 Project's fourth Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for late November 2014.

**(16) 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		
Approved Revised Date of Project Completion:	First extension: December 2014 (NOLF.14-0125)		

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. A project extension was granted until December 2014, 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 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-seventh 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:

- Seeds collection has started in different ecological zones of the country. Seeds were collected from Bibiani, Goaso and Abetifi. A socio-economic survey was conducted at Kranka to determine the knowledge base of the community farmers on issues pertaining to climate change;
- Technical papers developed from carbon content studies of 19 timber species panted in OCAP project site got reviewed. One paper was submitted to the Journal New Forest was brought to the project technical committee for correction and resubmitted for final approval for publication. Those technical papers were presented by the project leader in a meeting with Forestry Commission of Ghana for discussion on progress of the CDM forestry and its contribution to the national reforestation plan;
- Monitoring and maintenance of established stand at Pamu-Berekum and OCAP was done to evaluate the project's success, while a community workshop to plan fire management strategies was carried out in Pamu Berekum and new farmers who joined the group this year were registered;
- Community farmers involved in the project implementation were given bee hives to improve their beekeeping activity and livelihood in order to motivate them to establish forest plantations

mixing indigenous and exotic species in various designs, in Pamu-Berekum Forest Reserve and in selected sites near Kranka village;

- Workshops were organized for students to sensitize them on the reforestation initiative of the project involving local communities on forest rehabilitation activities which could contribute to climate change mitigation in the long term;
- The project coordinator participated in the UNFCCC COP-19 ITTO-JICA joint side event in Warsaw, Poland. He gave a presentation on 'Lessons learnt from Capacity building for local communities on CDM Forestry in Ghana' emphasizing efforts of ITTO in reforestation of degraded forest;
- Seed collection is on course and maintenance of community nurseries has been conducted in Kranka and Pamu-Berekum villages to initiate the establishment of seed orchards; and
- Postgraduate training in wood density and carbon content determination at Michigan Technological University was successfully completed. Results of this study were utilized by Mr. Daniel Yeboah a postgraduate student for his thesis at Michigan Technological University, USA.

The project is progressing smoothly with cooperation of all stakeholders especially the community farmers. The involvement of the community farmers in establishment of nurseries and its management has built their capacity for future plantation development in the area. Undergraduate and graduate students involvement in field assessment, data analysis, carbon estimation had contributed to improving technical capacity of Ghanaians in CDM project implementation.

**(17) 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 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 requested ITTO to consider the Institute of Amazonian Research and Development (IPDA) as the new executing agency. In this light, the Brazilian government 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.

The agreement regulating the implementation of the project was duly signed on 13 January 2012. The first installment of funds was transferred in May 2012, 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. The second disbursement was released in July 2014.

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.

At its previous session, the Committee noted that the Executing Agency continued to be late in submitting its progress reports and other documentation, and when submitted these were incomplete and did not follow ITTO formats, and that it was also hiring project staff without requesting no-objections from the Secretariat as per ITTO's rules of procedure. It further observed that the submitted financial audited report for 2012 did not follow the ITTO guidelines, and therefore could not be approved by the Secretariat. In this light, the Committee urged the Executing Agency to strictly abide to ITTO's procedures and scheduling, and periodically submit all pending documents following ITTO's guidelines and formats and within the established deadlines, such as the project progress reports, technical documents, and other documented means of verification, and the yearly audited reports, and further regularize all project staff positions financed with ITTO funds via no-objection requests.

Since the Forty-seventh session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress report and second YPO submitted in June 2014, progress in project implementation can be summarized as being overly sluggish, even though the second disbursement was only released this last July. Several communications sent by the Regional Officer requesting for information on follow up actions have gone unanswered by IPDA, strongly suggesting that the Executing Agency appears to have insufficient capability to properly manage and supervise the project operations, and even preparing basic documentation. It should be noted however, that ITTO's Regional Officer's continues to make efforts in maintaining contact with the Executing Agency and further assist IPDA in complying with ITTO's procedures and getting this project back on track.

**(18) 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-seventh 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 University of Laval and CERFOR Technical Forestry Centre of Canada, in consultation with RIFFEAC training institutions, have finalized the draft of twelve (12) reference training modules/programmes and associated teaching methodologies [six (6) at university level and six (6) at lower level];
- A regional training workshop was scheduled to be held by end of September 2014 for the validation of these reference training modules/programmes et associated teaching methodologies by all RIFFEAC training institution members, including those not directly supported by the project PD 456/07 Rev.4 (F); and
- The Executing Agency (RIFFEAC Secretariat) is continuing the consultation process with all seven RIFFEAC training institutions (CRESA-Yaoundé in Cameroon, ENEF-Libreville in Gabon, ENEF-Mbalmayo in Cameroon, ERAIFT-Kinshasa in Democratic Republic and University of Brazzaville in Republic of Congo, ISDR-Mbaiki in Central African Republic and University of Dschang in Cameroon) in order to update/readjust their needs for building construction/rehabilitation, capital equipment and materials in correlation with the twelve (12) reference training modules/programmes and associated teaching methodologies to be validated in September 2014.

The third monitoring mission and associated project steering committee meeting were scheduled for November 2014 in order, among others, to mainly assess the updated needs of seven RIFFEAC training institutions involved in the implementation of this project.

**(19) 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.

Since the Forty-seventh Session of the Committee, the project has worked mainly on the establishment of a national C&I Committee (NCIC); training workshops on C&I/SOP elaboration for stakeholders; and elaboration of a first draft of C&I/SOP for community forests and planted forests. However, the Executing Agency has been urged to submit an updated progress report summarizing detailed project implementation as no progress report has been submitted to the Secretariat until the preparation of this document. A meeting of the project technical committee is scheduled for December 2014 to review project implementation and yearly plans of operation for 2015.

#### **(20) 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. The second installment was executed in January 2014, based on the prior submission and approval of the corresponding required 6-monthly progress report and yearly YPO.

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 project 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 the Forty-seventh session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports submitted in February and August 2014, 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 is about to be completed (80% progress);
- The statistical analysis of the aforementioned data is well underway (70% progress);
- The monitoring of existing permanent sample plots is being carried out on an ongoing basis. To date data has been collected from 560 plots in plantations and 78 plots in natural forests (25% progress); and
- The systematization of new monitoring information collected from the existing permanent sample plots is underway (40% progress).

**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 PSP software is in the process of being updated nationwide (60% progress);
- The prioritization of tree species to be included in the technological packages has been finalized (100%); and
- The generation of growth and yield tables and curves for some of the prioritized species is underway (33% progress).

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

- The dissemination and outreach strategy has begun to be implemented and the first yearly report on PSPs in Guatemala is being developed (10% progress);
- Interim results are currently being prepared for publishing and uploading on INAB and SIFGUA websites (35% progress); and
- The design and publication of a geographic information system on permanent forest sample plots is currently being developed (60% progress).

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

- The permanent training program for forest sector stakeholders is currently being finalized (65% progress); and
- A strategy for disseminating the results is being implemented (30% progress).

The Executing Agency to date has also produced several products, among them studies, maps and technical documents. These publications are to be uploaded onto the ITTO website shortly for further dissemination to all our member countries and other interested parties.

The Project's second Steering Committee meeting was held in September 2014. At this meeting, the Committee noted that most outputs were on track to be achieved, but further observed that both INAB and CONAP needed to provide greater priority to the established information system on forest productivity if it is to be sustainable in the long run.

**(21) 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 44<sup>th</sup> 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.

During the last three years, 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. As recommended by the 47<sup>th</sup> Committee Session, a special financial monitoring mission was carried by Mr. Manohar, ITTO Finance/Administration Officer, from 05 June to 02 July 2014, for an in-depth technical assessment of the project implementation.

Based on the findings of the abovementioned special monitoring mission and in accordance with the standard operation procedures applying to ITTO projects, the following recommendations are addressed to the Committee, for final decision:

1. The Executing Agency should submit, by 31 December 2014, a Yearly Plan of Operation (YPO), for the implementation of the project in 2015, with an appropriate budget based on the remaining ITTO funds not disbursed yet (three installments and contingency of ITTO funds, for a total amount of US\$141,954); and
2. The project implementation should be extended until end of December 2015, if an acceptable YPO for the extension period is submitted by 31 December 2014, in order to allow the Executing Agency to complete all project activities.

**(22) 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  
Extension until December 2014 (NOL Ref No. F.13-0194)

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 duration of the project implementation has been extended to the end of December 2014 in order to fully achieve the project objectives without additional funds.

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 to (i) 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) 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-seventh Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's progress report submitted by the Executing Agency in July 2014, progress in implementation of the project can be summarized as follows:

**Output 1. Community participation in conservation and economic potential improved**

- Continued to conduct awareness raising to facilitate community involvement in conservation area and enhance their livelihoods to ensure the sustainability of the project. It facilitated community involvement in rehabilitation zone and provided necessary skill and equipment for cultivation of oyster mushroom
- Coordination has been carried out to identify and implement the task of the MKNP office to realize follow-up actions in connection to the approval and registration of MKNP REDD+ as a demonstration one by the Minister of Forestry.

**Output 2. System for monitoring emission reduction and enhancement of carbon stocks established in MRV form**

- Monitoring the overall results of REDD+ activities in MKNP and identification of non-carbon benefits are underway. An analysis was conducted to support the preservation of national park and the implementation of REDD + as a climate change mitigation effort.
- Conducted a pre-validation to review Project Design Document based on Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) methodology of VM-0015. The pre-validation has been carried out by Epic Sustainability based in Bangalore India, which is officially listed as an official validator for REDD+ projects under the VCS.

**Output 3. Lesson learned from MKNP disseminated and potential market identified**

- An analysis of potential REDD+ markets in global/national level, and benefit sharing mechanism has been continued. Policy recommendations will include establishing a fair and equitable benefit sharing as a prerequisite for the effectiveness of REDD + financing.
- The organization of a workshop in December 2014 to disseminate the lessons learned from the MKNP REDD+ partnership is underway. The topics of the workshop include: increasing awareness and public participation in REDD+; carbon accounting for MRV; and implementation of REDD + in the conservation area; and livelihood improvement and community development.

**(23) 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
Approved Revised Date of Project Completion:	First extension: April 2015 (NOLF.14-0126)

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. A project extension was granted until April 2015, 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 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-seventh 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:

- Seed collection continued in the moist evergreen forest zones of Ghana and seed preparation has been in progress to establish nurseries for needs of this year's tree planting;
- Monitoring and evaluation of pruning experimental plots at FORIG and Mesewam sites was carried out by the project team in collaboration with selected students from the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and technology (KNUST) of Kumasi (Ghana). Data entry and pre-analysis for the pruning experiment has started to ascertain trends in the pruning strategy as a pest management approach;
- Harvested mahogany trees from the field (from the natural forests and forest plantations) have been effectively processed at the lumber companies involved in the project implementation. Two students from the Faculty of Forest Resources Technology, in KNUST, were accepted by the project coordinator on industrial attachment on the project for the follow-up on timber quality of the Mahogany logs processed by these lumber companies;
- Mixed forest plantation plots of *Khaya grandifoliola*, *Khaya ivorensis*, *Nauclea diderrichii*, *Terminalia superba* and *Entandrophragma* spp. species were established at Mesewam site in the moist semi-deciduous forest in Ghana;
- Forest plantation plots of *Khaya ivorensis*, *Khaya grandifoliola* and *Triplochiton scleroxylon* were established at Benso site in the Wet forest zone in Ghana;
- New provenances and mixed species planting were established at Abofour site in the moist semi-deciduous forest zone in Ghana to determine growth performance and tolerance to pest attack by the Mahogany species;
- Seedlings of *Khaya grandifoliola*, *Khaya ivorensis*, *Milicia excelsa*, *Terminalia superba*, and *Entandrophragma angolense* were given to Saviour Church, in Osiem, in the Eastern Region of Ghana for planting by community members;
- *Swietenia macrophylla*, which is an exotic mahogany (from Latin America), has been mixed with African Mahogany in experimental trials established at Mesewam site in order to determine the trends in the survival and growth performance of the species;
- Grafting experiment of different species of Mahogany continued at FORIG nursery. Some fruiting seed trees were monitored at Bobiri Forest reserve in the moist semi-deciduous forest and other parts of the country to know the time for collection; and
- Mechanical, durability and other wood properties test of natural and plantation grown Mahogany were successfully carried in FORIG laboratory.

The project has been contributing to reviving the interest of community farmers and other tree growers to engage in planting of indigenous tree species like Mahogany. Activities implemented by this project have proved that Mahogany species have an acceptable growth in forest plantations established for trial purpose

by the project. The Forestry Commission of Ghana has expressed interest in the findings of this project regarding the utilization of Mahogany species in forest rehabilitation activities in Ghana.

**(24) 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 47<sup>th</sup> 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-seventh 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:

- Upon the development of the capacity of participating farmers in the project, they have been guided to plant the NTFPs and indigenous timber trees in six (6) project sites: Ntabene, Twumkrom and Abonsrakrom in the PamuBerekum Forest Reserve in Dormaa forest district; Nsugunsua in the Afrensu-Brohoma Forest Reserve, Offinso Forest District; Olanthan and Ahenkwa in the Southern Scarp Forest Reserve in Begoro Forest District;
- To motivate farmers in the tree planting process, the project supplied them with various logistics including cutlasses, wellington boots, raincoats, rice, cooking oil and plantain suckers. The project further assisted farmers to transport the plantain suckers and provided technical to communities for the production of seedlings of the timber trees to be used for the establishment of forest plantations;
- To initiate the development of the benefit-share document for the farmers, the project undertook fact finding visits to the Resource Support Management Center (RSMC) of the Forestry Commission in Kumasi. The purpose for this was to gain an understanding of the prevailing procedures for documenting and registering such forest plantations established with community collaboration. In addition to the visit to the RSMC, four other communities in the Nkawie and Sunyani Forest Districts were also visited to interact with farmers who have established similar forest plantations and whose bio data have already been taken for the processing of the benefit-share document, in accordance with Ghanaian regulations;

- Having established the processes involved in the developing the benefit-share document for the farmers, the project team is making the necessary arrangements and contacts to get the requisite officials and logistics to the project's plantation sites and communities to begin the tree, farm and bio data collection;
- Biophysical data has already been collected from sample plots located inside and outside the forest plantations that the communities have established. The net carbon stored in these plantations is being assessed and estimated by the project implementing team;
- The monetary value of the stored net carbon is being determined through a review of the voluntary and REDD+ carbon markets. An average CO<sub>2</sub> per ton for similar forest plantations is being sought in order to determine the monetary value of the net carbon. Alongside, institutional arrangements required to govern these forest plantations for the carbon finance is being reviewed; and
- The challenges in managing such plantations for the carbon benefits are also being reviewed. Additional work for this activity involves the organization of workshops in the project area. The purpose for this is to present the background paper, validate its findings and firm up the governance structures and equitable benefit-sharing mechanisms for these forest plantations.

**(25) 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 46<sup>th</sup> 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 Ofra (*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.

No progress report was submitted in August 2014 by the Executing Agency which informed the Secretariat that the preparation of the completion report was under way, as all project activities have been completed in the field. The project shall be reported at the next Committee Session if the Secretariat receives the completion report and an acceptable final financial audit report.

**(26) 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-seventh Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent Project Steering Committee Meeting held in May 2014, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

- A reforestation awareness programme is in operation for landowners and the wider community. Teak stumps were prepared at Kuriva Forest nursery by a group of women and training on plating teak stumps was provided by NFS officers.
- As of January 2014, activities on the project site at Gomore has picked up momentum particularly after the 21st March - International Day of Forest (IDoF) where PNG Forest Authority (PNGFA) staff celebrated the day at Gomore and planted up to 7,000 teak stumps on the site. Following that, landowner groups continue to plant teak while PNGFA with partners supervise and coordinate other activities namely irrigation, planting of agriculture crops such as bananas, pineapples, variety of sweet potato, green eatable leaves like aibika (*Abelmoscus Manihot*) and others in the site where Teak is growing. An area of 55 m x 20 m was ploughed in May to continue the planting of agriculture crops.
- The Third Meeting of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) was held on 13th May 2014 at PNG Forest Authority (PNGFA). The meeting's recommendations include: re-engaging the collaboration with the Education Department and the concerned Secondary and Primary schools in Rigo district to implement Output 1; strengthening the dissemination of project results through the regular publication of a newsletters (e.g. 2 to 3 pages e-bulletin) which could be posted on PNGFA website; organizing a Project Technical Committee (PTC) meeting on a quarterly basis; and submitting Financial Audit Report for the financial year 2013.

Since no Financial Audit Report has been submitted, the Executing Agency has been urged to submit the Financial Audit Report for 2013 in accordance with the project agreement and the guidelines for annual auditing.

**(27) 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.

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.

The Fourth Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting was held in Siem Reap, Cambodia on July 4, 2014 to review the implementation of project activities. Among the recommendations of this PSC meeting was to ensure the effective participation of the project team in CBD COP 12 in Korea in October 2014 to increase the dissemination of project results and visibility of the Emerald transboundary partnership established by the project. Since the Forty-seventh Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress report submitted in July 2014, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

**Cambodian component:**

- An assessment of land use and carbon stocks in the Preah Vihear Protected Forest (PVPF) has been carried out and the preparation of technical reports is underway;
- Mapping of the distribution of key wildlife landscape species in PVPF is currently under preparation based on the assessment of wildlife distribution in and around PVPF, especially along the borders with Lao PDR;
- Law enforcement patrolling in PVPF and in its surrounding areas has been periodically carried out in cooperation with provincial police and military officers since January 2013. Eleven (11) incidences of illegal activities were recorded in the project sites during the reporting period. These illegal activities resulted in the confiscation of 100 kg of wild meat, 34 m<sup>3</sup> of wood, 1

chainsaw and 15 wild animal traps. Reports of enforcement patrols to reduce incidences of illegal forest activities in the target sites are prepared in Khmer;

- The second joint research and training activities on wide-ranging species distribution and land use changes were organized in Preah Vihear Cantonment in Cambodia on 11-14 March 2014. Practical training was provided to local forestry administration staff and other local stakeholders in GIS mapping, land-use planning, and forest management;
- The construction of a project headquarters has been completed and is now in use for staff of the Preah Vihear Forest Administration Cantonment, as well as other organizations with sustainable forest resource management or biodiversity conservation programs operating for PVPF; and
- Feld interviews on livelihood improvements with local people have been conducted in five targeted local communities. The project team has visited integrated communities development sites established in Phase II of the project to discuss planned activities in Phase III. The monitoring of those activities has revealed improvements in the numbers of cows in the cow bank, the amount of rice in the rice bank, the availability of credit, and other provisions, including the planting of fruit trees and chicken raising, since the completion of the previous phase of the project.

**Thai component:**

- Wildlife trainings/workshops were organized successfully with the cooperation of Kasetsart University, Thailand and Chamapasak University, Lao PDR on 12-15 December 2013, with the participation of scientists and officials from the Department of National Park and Wildlife (DNP). Cooperation on wildlife research between the two Universities and the Thailand component of the project are on-going;
- GIS and Wildlife trainings/workshops were organized on 5-6 February 2014 to prevent wildlife poaching, illegal logging, illegal trading and collection of wild plants. A joint research on land use changes in the Emerald Triangle training/workshop was organized in Cambodia on 10-15 March 2014, with the participation of staff from Chamapasak University, DNP and the project team;
- Preparation of a scientific paper on consequences of land-use change on wide-ranging species distributions in the Emerald Triangle is underway;
- Regularly visited the communities and villages involved with the biodiversity conservation inside and outside protected areas for livelihood improvement assessment. Meetings to review the establishment of nurseries and a tissue culture laboratory for orchid domestication were organized from January to May 2014;
- Collaboration is underway with forest protection units of the project sites to prevent wildlife poaching, illegal logging, illegal trading and the collection of wild plants; and
- Ecotourism training workshops were also organized for local communities and protected areas staff. Local community fora and networks to facilitate biodiversity conservation are being continuously enhanced. Raising public awareness through school drawing contests and exhibitions of biodiversity conservation are regularly being organized to support community-based conservation activities.

**(28) 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 48<sup>th</sup> 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-seventh 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:

- Report on the studies and surveys, which have 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, have been circulated for comments to selected experts in the executing agency (ODEF) and in other relevant institutions;
- The Executing Agency (ODEF) had acquired the computer equipment and materials which have been being installed in ODEF's offices in Lomé and in other regions of Togo together with the training sessions carried out by the supplying company;
- The consultation process 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
- Special training sessions have been carried out in order to reinforce the capacity of selected staff members of ODEF on the utilization of software dealing with the management of database, geographical information system (GIS), mapping process with ArcGis, basic elements of statistics, etc.

**(29) 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 47<sup>th</sup> 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.

No progress report was submitted in August 2014 by the Executing Agency (ODEF) which informed the Secretariat that the preparation of the completion report was under way, as all project activities have been completed in the Eto-Lilicope Forest complex, in Togo. The project shall be reported at the next Committee Session if the Secretariat receives the completion report and an acceptable final financial audit report.

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

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	\$513,356
ITTO Budget:		US\$	414,104
Government of Japan:	US\$	344,104	
Government of USA		50,000	
Government of Korea		20,000	
Government of Indonesia		US\$	99,252
Implementing Agency:	Dipterocarps Research Centre, FORDA, MOF		
Session of Approval:	ITTC Session XLVI, Nov.2010, Yokohama, Japan		
Starting Date and Duration:	July 2011 / 36 months		

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

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

No detailed progress report was submitted, through the project on-line monitoring system, in August 2014, by the Executing Agency (Dipterocarps Research Center, Ministry of Forestry of Indonesia) which however informed the Secretariat that the preparation of the completion report was under way, as all project activities have been completed in the field. The project shall be reported at the next Committee Session if the Secretariat receives the completion report and an acceptable final financial audit report.

**(31) 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 fourth disbursement of funds was transferred to AVM in July 2013 and the fifth one in February 2014, both also after verifying the executing agency's compliance with the conditions established for each of these payments. A very productive 3<sup>rd</sup> Project Steering Committee took place in Guatemala City in April 2014. 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. The sixth and last disbursement was released in July 2014 shortly after submission of their 5<sup>th</sup> progress report, several technical reports and an appropriate explanation as regards the sustainability of the implemented actions after project completion and its expected impacts.

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-seventh session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports submitted in February and July 2014, and the third Project Steering Committee meeting held in May 2014, progress in project implementation can be summarized by major outputs as follows:

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

This output has been 100% successfully achieved.

- 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 have been finalized.

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

95% 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 is ongoing; 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.**

90% 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 completed; 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).

Most of the aforementioned documents will also be uploaded onto the ITTO website for further dissemination to all our member countries and other interested parties.

The project is on track and is expected to be completed shortly. It will be reported as completed to the CRF at its next session in 2015.

**(32) 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		
Starting Date and Duration:	TBD / 24 months		

This project was approved under the Spring 2012 Project Cycle through the electronic approval system put in place, and was fully financed under the ITTO/CBD Collaborative Initiative for Tropical Forest Biodiversity at the Forty-ninth Session in November 2013 at Libreville, Gabon. The final agreement regulating the implementation of the project was duly signed in September 2014.

The Secretariat is currently awaiting for 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, in order to transfer the first installment of funds for the project's start-up.

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 project 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 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.

The Project's first Steering Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 2015.

**(33) 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:	October 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. After finalizing the Yearly Plans of Operation and Inception Report, the project is operational since October 2013.

The main objective of the project is to promote the sustainable conservation management of the Betung Kerihun National Park (BKNP) established in 1992 covering around 800,000 ha, as a transboundary ecosystem between west Kalimantan, Indonesia and Sarawak, Malaysia. The project's transboundary conservation cooperation is focused with the Lanjak Entimau Wildlife Sanctuary (LEWS) and the Batang Ai National Park (BANP) in Sarawak which are adjacent to BKNP in west Kalimantan, Indonesia. The expected outputs of the project are: (1) cooperation between Indonesia and Malaysia for the conservation of transboundary ecosystem between BKNP and BANP/LEWS; (2) formulation of an operational work plan on biodiversity conservation for the transboundary ecosystems; and (3) improved sustainable livelihoods of the local communities within and surrounding BKNP.

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

- A Ministerial Working Group (MWG) has been formed for BKNP to facilitate the design and implementation of joint activities with LEWS and BANP in Sarawak. The MWG is currently holding internal meetings and communicating with LEWS and BANP authorities for the conservation of transboundary ecosystems of BKNP and LEWS- BANP. Partnerships are being enhanced with TFCA Kalimantan, GIZ-FORCLIME, HOB initiative, WWF Indonesia and JICA-IJREDD Project;
- A meeting on formation of Joint Technical Task Force (JTTF) for transboundary biodiversity conservation area cooperation was held on 11 August 2014 in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia. As the function of the JTTF is to technically strengthen and sustain transboundary biodiversity conservation between BKNP and LEWS-BANP, it will act as a guiding and collaborative body of which meets at least once a year. Its membership includes a maximum of 10 members including Director of Conservation Areas and Protected Forests Development and Head of BKNP in Indonesia as well as Director of Forests, Forest Department Sarawak (FDS) and Head of Nature Conservation & Constitutional Division in FDS in Sarawak, Malaysia. Five priority areas to facilitate the work of JTTF are
  - Ecotourism development
  - Community participation in biodiversity conservation and protected area management
  - Capacity building of national park and sanctuary staff
  - Research and development

- Exchange of information
- Joint patrol over the shared boundaries; and
- In collaboration with WWF Indonesia, baseline information and data are being analyzed for the development of eco-farming and utilization of NTFPs to increase livelihoods of concerned local communities. The potential of eco-tourism developments in BKNP has been reviewed.

**(34) 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: Oct 2012 / 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. The third tranche was disbursed in October 2013 after receipt of the second progress report and the fourth and last tranche was transferred to the EA in May 2014 after a successful Project Technical Committee meeting at which the third progress report and several draft technical reports were reviewed, as well as the impacts and sustainability of the project's activities in the long term.

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

In general, the project 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-seventh session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress reports submitted in February and July 2014, and the third Project Steering Committee meeting held in May 2014, 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**

70% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date.

- Several workshops were organized to inform and disseminate the project's draft regional policy paper 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.**

95% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date.

- 3 community tree nurseries have been established and are operational, one in each of the villages of Puma-Hermana, San José and Ocol;
- A total of 150 seed trees of 5 species, namely *Alnus acuminata*, *Cedrela odorata*, *Ocotea sp.*, *Gordonia fruticosa* and *Solanum pseudosycophanta* have been identified, selected and marked in the field and are periodically monitored for seed production and collection; and
- 40 ha of degraded forest lands have been rehabilitated, surpassing by far the original target of 15 ha.

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

95% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date.

- 3 permanent plots have been established, planted and tended for the production of seeds.

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

77% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date.

- The community-based enterprise "Asociacion para la Conservacion del Bosque de Palmeras – ACOBOSQUE" has been legally established and is currently collecting, selecting and marketing tree seed and seedlings; and
- Local farmers are being trained to enhance tree germplasm identification, selection and collection skills.

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

75% of the activities required to achieve this output have been carried out to date.

- 3 manuals and 3 scientific studies are currently being finalized for their publication and wide dissemination in the project's area of influence and beyond.

The project's Technical Committee met for the second and last time in May 2014 and recommended, among others, that the EA only develop a regional policy proposal and its regulations and submit it to the Amazonas Regional Government for its consideration, as seeking its approval went beyond its mandate. In addition, it also emphasized that the seed marketing enterprise needed to consolidate itself soon in order to become auto-sufficient upon project completion. It further suggested IIAP finalize all technical documents and the completion report by the end of October 2014, initiate the final external audit, solicit the transfer of capital goods from the project to the final beneficiaries, and further widely disseminate its findings through the EA's website and publications produced. In addition, it should also highlight the lessons learnt and



impacts of the project in Peru, and see to the sustainability of activities after project completion. Last but not least, it is to provide visually attractive digital versions of the technical reports and other publications for upload onto the ITTO website for widest dissemination possible of the project's results. The Secretariat is expected to assess the completion report, other technical documents and final audit, and report the project as completed at the 51<sup>st</sup> ITTC.

**(35) 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:	August 2014 /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 send out to the Ministry of Primary Industries and Commodities Malaysia in January 2013. The project agreement was duly signed in August 2014. 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 in August 2014.

The establishment and management of buffer zones in national parks and wildlife sanctuaries has been weak because Sarawak's National Parks and Nature Reserves Ordinance (1998) and Wild Life Protection Ordinance (1998) do not currently provide for any guidance. As rapid economic development activities continue to expand into rural areas and cause 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 Pulong Tau National Park (PTNP), the project aims at facilitating the establishment of 6,000 ha of buffer zone and securing forest resource 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 respond to 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).

**(36) 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 48<sup>th</sup> 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-seventh 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:

- A total of 67.5 acres (46.5 acres with mixed indigenous timber species, 19.0 acres with pure teak and 2.0 acres with pure cassia) of plantation has been established by local communities in the following villages: Tayi, Ntumda, Tepo, Akolba, Bumbula 1, Bumbula 2, Kabo 1, Kabo 2 and Kabo 3. ;
- Though the larger part of the work on fire belts around the plantations, were done at the onset of draught, continuous education of the communities, by way of speaking to them at gatherings, on the effects of bush burning and the importance of fire belts were intensified till the beginning of the rainy season. This was mainly done by the community animators and the project coordinator;
- Enough quantities of seeds of the indigenous species (mainly Ofram, Wawa, Mahogany and Cassia) as well as the bulk of the teak seeds were collected and raised at the nursery to meet the second year's target for tree planting. Excess stock is left at the nursery to meet the demand of out growers;
- Prior to the installation of the crusher and presses, sheds were constructed by the executing agency to house them. The communities were tasked to fully cover the sides of the sheds from the proceeds of the cassava processing. The Tayi community has since completed theirs and is properly managing their equipment. For the other communities, though the equipment has been fully installed and running, they are yet to fully cover the sides of the sheds;
- The processing of cassava products were taught to all communities involved in the project implementation as well as the packaging of the products; and
- The preparation of cassava starch biscuits was also taught in all the communities, as a potential source of income for them.

**(37) 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:	July 2014 / 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 under the ITTO/CBD Collaborative Initiative for Tropical Forest Biodiversity at that same session. The final agreement regulating the implementation of the project was duly signed by the Executing Agency, the Governments of Guatemala and Mexico and ITTO in December 2013. The first installment of funds was transferred at the end of June 2014, 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.

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.

The project's first Steering Committee meeting was held at San Marcos, Guatemala, in September 2014, and counted with the participation of both Mexican and Guatemalan stakeholders, in particular CONAFOR, CONANP, CONAP, INAB and local governments. At this meeting, the Executing Agency HELVETAS reported that the project had initiated its activities in July 2014 and that to date the following are underway:

- The mapping of restoration/conservation areas and environmental services in the Tacaná Volcano and its range of influence on the Guatemalan and Mexican;

- The mentoring of local stakeholders to promote beneficiary and implementer involvement in planning, implementation and follow-up of Project activities;
- The control and monitoring of areas through training and equipment for rangers;
- Baseline and biological monitoring studies; and
- Binational and international cooperation activities to share knowledge and expertise among stakeholders.

**(38) PD 673/12 Rev.1 (F) Strengthening the Capacity in Forest Law Enforcement and Governance of the Permanent Forest Estates in Kratie and Monduliri 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 to implement project activities in May 2013.

The project aims specifically at strengthening forest law enforcement in the Permanent Forest Estates (PFEs) of Monduliri and Kratie provinces which have been suffered from inadequate capacities in controlling illegal forest activities although the two provinces are among the richest in terms of forest and biodiversity resources. The project will build on a platform of forest law enforcement and governance established in the country with support of many partners. 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 Forty-seventh Session of the Committee and in accordance with the project's most recent progress report, progress in project implementation can be summarized as follows:

- Updated the two existing technical guidelines for forest law enforcement and developed patrolling guidelines for local community. Updated the 2013 forest cover maps of PFEs in Kratie and Monduliri provinces through field verification;
- Awareness of local communities has been improved at 20 community forestry programme sites. A total of 608 participants attended in Monduliri and Kratie provinces in supporting FLEG initiative;
- Established 4 demo plots of high-yield agro-forestry system at 4 sites totaling 20 ha and 4 small-scale nurseries at 4 sites with selected 80 participants in the two provinces; and
- Organized a provincial workshop on the critical role of local communities in implementing forest law enforcement and sustaining the PFEs on 9 May 2014 in Kratie province. It was attended by about 100 participants including local FA, concerned government line agencies and local authorities of Kratie province, local communities, academics and NGOs.

**(39) PD 710/13 Rev.1 (F) Promoting Conservation of Selected High-Value Indigenous Species of Sumatra (Indonesia)**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	620,209
ITTO Budget:		US\$	479,976
Government of Japan (MoFA):	US\$	479,976	
Government of Indonesia		US\$	140,233
Implementing Agency:	Forest Research Institute, Forestry Research and Development Agency (FORDA), Ministry of Forestry		
Session of Approval:	ITTC Session XLIX, Nov.2013, Yokohama, Japan		
Starting Date and Duration:	November 2014 (expected) / 48 months		

The project was approved under Autumn 2013 Project Cycle and was financed at ITTC 49 in November 2013. The project agreement for regulating project implementation has been signed by the Indonesian Government, the Executing Agency and ITTO in July 2014. Administrative arrangements for the implementation of the project including Detailed Yearly Plans of Operation are being finalized by the Executing Agency. It is expected that the project will start to implement project activities in November 2014.

Sumatra is the largest island in Indonesia and has abundant biological diversity, including many indigenous plant species. Some of the high-value indigenous species are Sumatran yew (*Taxus sumatrana*), and Sumatran merbau (*Intsia palembanica*). However, over exploitation, encroachment, and illegal activities have made many of the high-value species threatened with extinction. High commercially valuable timber species such as Sumatran merbau, kulim, andalaz, and giam have been excessively and illegally logged for the past several decades. Whereas endemic and relatively limited distribution and small population size, *T. sumatrana* has been threatened by habitat encroachment, population disruption and illegal logging.

The overall objective of this project is to contribute to the sustainable management of high-valued indigenous species of Sumatra. Specifically, it is to enhance the achievement of conservation goals through revitalization of the existing conservation program, harvest control systems, and regeneration. The expected outputs are (1) accelerated conservation of selected high-value indigenous species; (2) promotion of harvest control of those species, and (3) improving the regeneration capacity of those species. The expected benefits include updated data and information on distribution, the conservation status and protection, and regeneration for selected high-value indigenous species as well as improved socio-economic conditions of forest-dependent community.

**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 of 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 in February 2013. Review of establishing an efficient management structure of the project has been continued by the Ministry of Forestry with a suggestion of switching the Executing Agency from the Forest Service of Bengkulu province to the FORDA. It is expect that the project will start to implement project activities in January 2015.

The development objective of the project is to contribute to the sustainable forest management in Bengkulu provincial forest through rehabilitation and community prosperity improvement by planting local prospective timber species. More specifically, the project aims (1) to establish suitable techniques for production of high quality planting materials of locally adapted and prospective species for plantations and (2) to improve stakeholders' involvement and community prosperity through successful rehabilitation and plantation of promising local timber species.

**(2) PD 563/09 Rev.4 (F) Community-Based Forest Management of Sungai Medihit Watershed Sarawak, Malaysia**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	835,000
ITTO Budget:		US\$	100,000
APFNet	US\$	430,000	
Government of Malaysia:	US\$	305,000	

Implementing Agency: Forest Department of Sarawak

Session of Approval: Spring 2011

Starting Date and Duration: TBD / 24 months

The project was approved in Spring 2011. APFNet has expressed its financial support for the implementation of the project under the MOU between ITTO and APFNet on Rehabilitation and Sustainable Forest Management. Final review of the draft project agreement between ITTO, APFNet and Sarawak Forest Department is underway.

The project intends to promote the sustainable development of a remote and hilly 35,400 ha - 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. Specifically, 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 local forum to help local communities, timber/plantation interests and government bodies in the sustainable management and use of the catchment and its resources. The Project beneficiary groups are Kelabit men and women of Long Napir and the Penan men and women of Kampong Bahagia. The beneficiaries will gain a new insights into ways to sustainably manage the catchment resources for their own benefit. They will have used newly-acquired information on the area, skills and synergies with other stakeholders to implement pilot community development programmes to generate cash based on the sustainable use of the catchment's non-timber forest products, wildlife and land and to initiate projects such as conserving and rearing local fish, providing guiding services and home stays, raising novel forest crops and introducing home gardens and animal husbandry.

**(3) 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
Government of Japan:	US\$	300,402	
Government of USA:	US\$	50,000	
WWF – Panama:		US\$	101,961.00
ANAM:		US\$	163,800.00
Implementing Agency:	WWW – PANAMA OFFICE		
Period of Approval:	Spring 2012		

This project was approved under the Spring 2012 Project Cycle through the electronic approval system put in place, and full financing for its implementation was pledged at the Forty-ninth Session in November 2013 at Libreville, Gabon. The Agreement regulating the implementation of the project was forwarded to the Government of Panama in the first quarter of 2014 for the respective signatures and is expected to be finalized shortly.

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

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

**(4) 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 Japan	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			
Starting Date and Duration:	TBD / 24 months			

The project was approved in Spring 2013 but its financing was made at ITTC 49 in November 2013. The draft project agreement was sent out to the PNG Forest Authority in February 2014. The review of the draft agreement has been finalized by University of Southern Queensland (USQ) and signing the project agreement is underway. It is expected that the Executing Agency will start the implementation of project activities in December 2014/January 2015.

In light of the need for strengthening the governance of REDD+ in PNG, the project is designed 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.

**(5) PD 696/13 Rev.2 (F) Community Based Restoration and Sustainable Management of Vulnerable Forests of the Rewa Delta, Viti Levu, Fiji**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:			US\$	387,511
ITTO Budget:			US\$	310,576
Government of Japan (MoFA)	US\$	310,576		
Government of Fiji :	US\$	76,935		
Implementing Agency:	Department of Forest, Ministry of Fisheries and Forest, Republic of Fiji			
Session of Approval:	Autumn 2013			
Starting Date and Duration:	TBD / 36 months			

The project was approved in Autumn 2013 and its financing was made at ITTC 49 in November 2013. The draft project agreement was sent to the Department of Forest, Ministry of Fisheries and Forest, Republic of Fiji in Feb. 2014 for signature. ITTO is waiting for the signed Agreement and Inception Report to ensure the effective commencement of the project.



The coastal and mangrove wetlands in the Rewa Delta (35,238 ha), Fiji are undoubtedly a source of important marine and terrestrial resource for local communities in the area but more importantly, these forests safeguard the entire coastal ecosystem that supports riparian flat lands. However, the wetlands have been affected by social and economic pressures without any specific policy aligned to a single Government Agency. Excessive resources extraction has resulted in reduction in vegetation area and habitat loss as well as declining quality in livelihood opportunities.

The development objective of the project is to contribute to the sustainable management of coastal and mangrove wetlands in the Rewa Delta, while improving the livelihoods of local communities. Specifically, the project proposes the restoration and management of at least 3,381 hectares as demonstration site; training of 17 communities involved in awareness creation on the importance of wetlands, and development of alternative livelihood options to reduce overdependence on the coastal and mangrove wetland vegetation. The target community lies within the Tikina of Bau, Tailevu; a densely populated area in the Rewa Delta. Expected outputs of the project include the collation of key issues on coastal and mangrove wetlands and the formulation of relevant policy framework. In addition, it is expected that communities will adopt alternative livelihoods that will reduce pressure from over-utilization of coastal and mangrove wetland resources; and by the end of the project, at least 500 ha of the degraded area in the selected demonstration site would be rehabilitated with appropriate coastal tree species to support ecosystem services and local communities in the long term.

### 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

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

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

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

The Council approved the project at its Forty-third Session in November 2007. The project was revised into Phase I and Phase II at the Forty-fourth Session of the Council in November 2008. Financing of Phase I was made in Spring 2010 Project Cycle and Phase I was 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 609/11 Rev.3 (F) Enhancement of the Participatory Bushfire Prevention and Management System in Togo**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	789,476
ITTO Budget:	US\$	658,825
Government of Togo:	US\$	130,651

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

Period of Approval: Autumn 2012

This project proposal is the third revision of PD 609/11 (F) and incorporates the recommendations of the Forty-fourth Expert Panel. This project is the result of a 6-month mission (August 2010 – January 2011), conducted by an international consultant and a national consultant, which led to the study entitled "Identification of a project to implement priority actions of the national strategy for managing bushfires," with the financial support of ITTO. It has been designed with the participation of local people and aims to establish a system, both material and human, that can help prevent and control bushfires in forests and reforested areas of the State in Togo.

The development objective of the project is to contribute to increase the vegetation cover and biodiversity, soil rehabilitation and physical safety and preservation on the property of local communities. It specifically intends to establish a participatory and sustainable system to prevent and control bushfire in the most exposed areas of Togo.

Expected outputs are:

- Community surrounding the most vulnerable of state-owned forests in 15 prefectures are informed of the impacts of bushfires on suitable media;

- The sustainable farming and hunting practices developed in the areas adjacent to the most vulnerable forests; and
- The prevention and active control of wildfires in most vulnerable areas are enhanced.

**(5) PD 618/11 Rev.4 (F) Establishment of Spatial Forst 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: Rev.3 approval: Autumn 2012  
Rev.4 approval: Oct.2014 (revived for Pending Financing from Sunset)

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 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.

**(6) PD 623/11 Rev.3 (F) Production and Availability of Teak Clone Varieties: Development of Improved Plant Material for Reforestation in Togo**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	840,833.59
ITTO Budget:	US\$	599,324.13
Government of Togo:	US\$	241,509.46

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

Collaborating Agency : University of Lomé (UL)

Period of Approval: Autumn 2012

This project proposal is the third revision of PD 623/11 (F) and incorporates the recommendations of the Forty-fourth Expert Panel. Studies prepared by the University of Lomé and some research centers, in collaboration with ODEF, have revealed that the teak technological characteristics of interest (natural durability, wood color, physical and chemical characteristics) were showing considerable variability between individuals and between different plots. Some of these technological and morphological characteristics are of great value and can be used for improving the teak gene pool.

The aim of this project is to contribute to reduce the level of Togo's dependence as far as timber is concerned and to improve the living conditions of target communities through the establishment of high-yield teak plantations which will be more competitive on both the domestic and international markets. The project

specific objective is to develop and improve plant material for the establishment of high-yield teak plantations to benefit the stakeholders of the timber industry in Togo.

Expected outputs are:

- High-yield and suitable plant material is available for teak reforestation projects in Togo;
- Environmental conditions of plant material production under control; and
- Improved silvicultural practices.

**(7) PD 631/12 Rev.2 (F) Reforestation of Coastal Wetlands in Southern Ghana Using Indigenous Tree and Bamboo Species**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	647,095
ITTO Budget:	US\$	511,661
Government of Ghana:	US\$	135,434

Implementing Agency: Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation, Ghana

Session of Approval: Autumn 2013

Starting Date and Duration: To be determined / 36 months

Ghana's coastal wetlands and adjoining forests are useful resources for human communities living within and in proximity to them. These ecosystems not only provide a source of marine and other products, but also protect the lives and safeguard the livelihood of human communities. The continual provision of these essential benefits by the coastal wetlands is threatened by overexploitation and degradation of the resource. This project seeks to contribute to addressing the problem of overexploitation and the gradual degradation of the coastal wetlands of Ghana through the development of guidelines and implementation of rehabilitation measures for coastal wetlands restoration and management, training of communities on coastal wetland conservation and management, awareness creation on the importance of wetlands, and development of alternative livelihood options to reduce the overdependence of the communities on the coastal wetland vegetation.

The project intends to contribute to the sustainable management and conservation of coastal wetlands in Ghana. Its specific objective is to reforest degraded coastal wetlands for biodiversity conservation and improvement in community livelihoods.

Expected outputs are:

- Governance framework for coastal wetlands improved;
- Local communities trained and empowered to implement activities linking livelihoods improvement to reduce overdependence on coastal wetland resources; and
- Degraded wetland catchments rehabilitated and guidelines for restoring degraded coastal wetlands developed

**(8) 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.

**(9) 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) enhanced community capacity in Cempaka plantation development, (ii) increased participatory planting of Cempaka by local community and (iii) formulated an integrated policy on Cempaka conservation.

**(10) 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.

**(11) PD 684/13 Rev.3 (F) Biodiversity Conservation with Collaboration of Local Communities in Traditionally Owned Forest Areas of South Western Ghana**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	565,694
ITTO Budget:	US\$	489,194
Government of Ghana:	US\$	76,500

Implementing Agency: Forestry Research Institute of Ghana (FORIG)

Session of Approval: Spring 2014

Starting Date and Duration: To be determined / 36 months

The economic loss to the nation of loss of biodiversity through deforestation and land degradation has been estimated at about US\$54bn (about 4% of the Gross Domestic Product) (Tutu, et al. 1993). To ensure sustainable utilization of Ghana's biological resources, it has been recommended that local community participation in sustainable management of biodiversity and the strengthening of the management of off forest reserve biological resources should be undertaken. Addressing biodiversity conservation and empowering local communities can thereby help ensure relevance to local people by reducing poverty.

This project aims at contributing to the efficient community based biodiversity conservation and monitoring contributes to ecosystem stability and promotes improvement in livelihoods of local communities. It specifically intends to implement community based forests management and utilization to restore degraded forests, and contribute to improvement in biodiversity conservation, livelihood as well as environmental services.

Expected outputs are:

- Capacity of local communities built and implemented in sustainable forest management systems;
- Strategies for restoration of degraded areas identified and implemented;
- Capacity of local communities in flora and fauna survey built, baseline data determined and hot spots identified and mapped;
- Mechanisms for effective community based biodiversity monitoring developed and implemented;
- The importance of the use of biodiversity on local communities livelihood determined; and
- Determination of the feasibility of designing and implementing PES scheme for the benefit of Communities.

**(12) PD 690/13 Rev.3 (F) Bamboo for Life: An Alternative for the Rehabilitation of Degraded Forests and Sustainable Rural Development in the Peruvian Amazon Region (Peru)**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	1,010,737
ITTO Budget:	US\$	601,037
PERUBAMBU	US\$	309,700
Regional, Local Governments	US\$	100,000

Implementing Agency: PERUVIAN BAMBOO ASSOCIATION – PERUBAMBU

Period of Approval: Spring 2014

The project was approved under the Spring 2014 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.

This project stems from the increasing importance of bamboo in Peru as a result of the characteristics and properties of this resource, making it suitable for a wide variety of uses, particularly in the restoration or rehabilitation of degraded forest lands, the construction of housing and other seismic-resistant infrastructure, and the manufacturing of furniture, crafts, food and other products of significance for rural and urban development in the Peruvian tropical forests and coastal areas. This proposal has been developed in response to a request from leaders, local governments and beneficiaries from the San Martin and Amazonas regions after the successful implementation of Project PD 428/06 Rev.1 (F), as well as the interest expressed by many native community organizations and other local stakeholders, particularly native communities and settlers living in poverty, who in the final stage of that project became aware of the qualities and benefits of bamboo but require specialized technical support to continue or initiate the management of natural forests, the rehabilitation and restoration of deforested lands and ecosystems through bamboo plantations in agroforestry systems, and the value-added processing of bamboo canes, so as to consolidate the use of bamboo as a sustainable socioeconomic development alternative in these departments and their area of influence.

Overall, the project envisages reducing the degradation of tropical bamboo forests and improve the living standards of poor local communities in the northern forest region of Peru via the rehabilitation of degraded forest lands and adding value to natural bamboo stands under sustainable forest management, and further training users for the development of production chains so as to improve the socioeconomic and environmental living standards of the population living in poverty in the project's area of influence.

**(13) PD 695/13 Rev.2 (F) Rehabilitation of Degraded Gazetted Forests in the Mount Korhogo, Foubou and Badenou in Northern Côte d'Ivoire with the Involvement of Local Communities**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	1,716,118
ITTO Budget:	US\$	1,259,942
Government of Côte d'Ivoire:	US\$	456,176

Implementing Agency: Société de Développement des Forêts (SODEFOR)

Session of Approval: Autumn 2013

Starting Date and Duration: To be determined / 36 months

The gazetted forests of Northern Côte d'Ivoire (the Poro Region, having Korhogo as capital city), specifically those of Badénou, Foubou and Mount Korhogo are in a state of advanced degradation, due to the combined effects of uncontrolled bush fires, extensive shifting cultivation (slash-and-burn being a widespread practice in the Poro area), extensive pastoralism and transhumance. Furthermore, the strong demand for fuel wood from the local communities has led to uncontrolled exploitation and degradation of these forest areas. In addition, the military and political crisis which occurred in September 2002 caused the Forestry Administration to leave these areas for several years, which led to fraudulent and/or uncontrolled overlogging of existing stands by the communities in both natural forests and reforested areas.

The project intends to contribute to the sustainable development of gazetted forests in the Poro region" through a 5% increase of the forest cover in the Poro area (Korhogo) and a 3% rise of income level of the population during the next 10 years. It specifically aims to contribute to rehabilitating the three gazetted forests of Mont Korhogo, Badenou and Foubou in the Poro Region through the establishment of 400 ha fuel wood plantations; 200 ha timber plantation and 200 ha cashew tree plantations, and the establishment of five (5) Fire Control Committees and the use of innovating energy-saving technologies by households.

Expected outputs are:

- 400 ha of *Cassia siamea* plantation, 200 ha timber plantation and 200 ha cashew tree plantation are established;
- New energy-saving technologies are made available to 200 pilot households; and
- Bush fire are under control.

**(14) PD 712/13 Rev.2 (F) Enhancing the Implementation of Landscape Management of Giam Siak Kecil-Bukit Batu Biosphere Reserve (GSK-BR) in Riau Province of Sumatra Island, Sumatra, Indonesia**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	843,364
ITTO Budget:	US\$	498,154
Government of Indonesia :	US\$	52,200
Sinarmas Forestry & Partners	US\$	293,010

Implementing Agency: Centre for Conservation and Rehabilitation R&D, Forestry Research and Development Agency (FPRDA), Ministry of Forestry (MOF)

Session of Approval: Spring 2014

The project was approved in Spring 2014 but it is waiting for financing.

The Giam Siak Kecil Bukit Batu Biosphere Reserve (GSK-BR) covering an area of approximately 705,000 ha in the province of Riau, Sumatra has been recognized as a public-private partnership biosphere reserve by the UNESCO World Monitoring Networks in 2009. However, this biosphere reserve has not been sustainably managed. The main problems include weaknesses in planning framework of GSK-BR without an integrated strategic management plan, weak capacity of concerned institutions in implementing the biosphere reserve concept and poor participation of local communities in management operations. Therefore, the project is intended to initiate an effective implementation framework of sustainable management and conservation of GSK-BR by realizing the management objectives and basic functions of GSK-BR. More specifically, it aims at promoting the sustainable management and conservation of the reserve in an effective manner. The expected outputs are: i) enhanced planning framework of GSK-BR, ii) strengthened institutional capacity to sustainably manage GSK-BR, and iii) promoted partnerships between key stakeholders on the operational management of GSK-BR. All planned activities including the development of an integrated management plan will be implemented collaboratively by local institutions and stakeholders, Ministry of Forestry, provincial government of Riau, Sinarmas Forestry and Partners as well as local communities and local research and development institutions.

**(15) PD 713/12 Rev.2 (F) Operationalising the Policy on Sustainable Management of Sandalwood Resource Through Improved Livelihood and Increased Participation of Local Communities (Indonesia)**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	692,955.20
ITTO Budget:	US\$	592,155.20
Government of Indonesia :	US\$	100,800.00

Implementing Agency: Directorate General of Forest Utilization, Ministry of Forestry, in collaboration with Forestry Service of East Nusa Tenggara Province

Session of Approval: Spring 2014

The project was approved in Spring 2014 but it is waiting for financing.

In view of the challenge of strengthening the enabling conditions for sustainable Sandalwood resource in east Nusa Tenggara province, Indonesia, the project is designed to strengthen the policy framework on Sandalwood management for the effective and full participation of local communities in maintaining Sandalwood resource. More specifically, the project is to promote the effective participation of local communities in Sandalwood plantation development and management on private/community lands in east Nusa Tenggara province. The expected outputs of the project are: 1) effective implementation of a new policy on sustainable management of sandalwood resource through increased participation of local

communities; (2) improved capacity of the local communities on provision of seedlings and planting techniques; and (3) formulated a long-term program on sandalwood resource development in east Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia. To achieve such outputs, key project activities include: wider dissemination of the newly adopted regulations; review of the existing procedures for the efficient and sustainable use of Sandalwood; establishing model Sandalwood plantations; organizing capacity building training courses for Sandalwood nursery and plantation development techniques; and developing a long-term programme and action plans on Sandalwood resource development in east Nusa Tenggara province.

**(16) PD 715/13 Rev.1 (F) Improving the Production, Conservation and Management of Forest Seeds in Benin**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	715,768
ITTO Budget:	US\$	609,168
Government of Benin:	US\$	106,600

Implementing Agency: *OFFICE NATIONAL DU BOIS* (ONAB) – National Timber Board

Session of Approval: Autumn 2013

Starting Date and Duration: To be determined / 36 months

The project aiming to improve production, conservation and management of forest seeds in Benin was initiated by the Office National du Bois (ONAB) whose chief mission is to rehabilitate the national forest estate and to restore timber production levels. In the implementation of its reforestation mission, ONAB faces the unavailability of quality seeds in sufficient quantity. The main goal is to ensure a sustainable supply of forest seeds to meet the needs of ONAB and private and public reforestation stakeholders in Benin.

The project intends to contribute to the rehabilitation and sustainable management of the forest resources of Benin through the development of a supply system for high-quality forest seeds that would meet the needs of stakeholders. Specifically, it intends to secure high-quality forest seed production and supply.

Expected outputs are:

- Seed producing system is improved;
- The capacities to manage and conserve ONAB seeds are enhanced; and
- The technical and organizational capacities of grassroots stakeholders are enhanced.

**(17) PD 717/13 Rev.2 (F) Enrichment of Young Forest Plantations with Selected NTFPs for Livelihood Improvement and Support of Forest Fringe Communities in Atwima Mponua District of Ghana, in order to Secure and Protect the Resources on a Sustainable Forest Management Basis**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	636,304
ITTO Budget:	US\$	414,904
Government of Ghana:	US\$	221,400

Implementing Agency: RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND YOUTH ASSOCIATION (RUDEYA)

Session of Approval: Spring 2014

Starting Date and Duration: To be determined / 36 months

Non-timber forest products (NTFPs) integrated into reforestation programmes can provide sustainable income to motivate 120,000 inhabitants at Atwima Mponua forest communities to manage forest plantations. Unfortunately, the farmers lack forest and land resources rights, forest business skills and NTFP

technologies to undertake commercially viable NTFPs production within forest plantations. The main goal is to establish sustainable Community Forest Management and Enterprises (CFME) aiming to reduce rural poverty through improved livelihood options, reduced land degradation, and soil fertility management in young reforestation area in the project region.

The project intends to establish sustainable community forest management and enterprise to reduce rural poverty through improved alternative livelihood options; reduce deforestation and land degradation in thirty (30) forest communities. It specifically intends to strengthen 600 farmers' capacity and skills to develop forest based enterprises as an integral part of the Modified Taugya System (MTS) program in Ghana.

Expected outputs are:

- 600 farmers resourced with Best practices training and inputs for sustainable NTFPs production;
- 600 farmers attained NTFPs processing, marketing and value addition skills;
- Three (3) NTFPs farmers' cooperative groups reorganized and strengthened; and
- MOU on NTFPs benefit sharing agreed on, prepared and adopted by key stakeholders.

**(18) PD 721/13 Rev.2 (F) Building a Participatory and Inclusive Sustainable Forest Management Process for the Reduction of Deforestation and Forest Degradation in the Ixil Forest Areas of the Municipality of Nebaj, Quiché, Guatemala**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget: US\$ 698,001.00

ITTO Budget: US\$ 441,238.50

CALMECAC US\$ 256,762.50

Implementing Agency: FUNDACIÓN PARA EL DESARROLLO INTEGRAL DEL HOMBRE Y SU ENTORNO – CALMECAC

Period of Approval: Spring 2014

The project was approved under the Spring 2014 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 has followed the trend of accelerated deforestation and forest degradation in the tropics, which has led to risks, impacts and natural disasters. These problems have been aggravated by climate change and poverty, which are widespread throughout the region, increasing its vulnerability to natural phenomena. However, there are still extensive forest areas, many of which are traditionally managed by indigenous communities, as Guatemala currently holds the highest density of indigenous groups in Meso-America. In particular, the Department of Quiché has 7% of the national forest cover. However, these forests are threatened by new pressures from population growth and, more recently, from agro-industrial development. Therefore, there is an urgent need to carry out efforts to avoid the loss of forest resources and implement integrated development alternatives for the local communities.

In order to reduce deforestation and forest degradation, INAB and CALMECAC are seeking to develop a sustainable forest planning system and establish financial mechanisms derived from the management and conservation of resources and environmental services in the Department of Quiché, which can also serve as a climate change adaptation measure.

As such, this project seeks to enhance the sustainable forest management skills of local community forest organizations in the Municipality of Nebaj, Quiché, with a view to reducing deforestation and forest degradation in the Xacibal watershed area. Major outputs expected are: (1) a PDD developed for community forests; (2) Good forest management practices agreed and developed for community forests to reduce deforestation and forest degradation; and (3) Sustainable forest management plans developed and implemented to ensure the conservation of community forests in the Municipality of Nebaj, Quiché. This is an

innovative proposal as it links and creates social dynamics between different sectors for the development of new models of participatory management of natural resources, through sustainable forest management and conservation systems that will contribute to the development of benefit-sharing mechanisms at the local level within the framework of the *Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation* initiative.

**(19) PD 723/13 Rev.1 (F) Capacity Building for Strengthening Transboundary Biodiversity Conservation of the Taninthayi Range in Myanmar**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	3,296,376
ITTO Budget:	US\$	3,093,976
Government of Myanmar:	US\$	202,400

Implementing Agency: Forest Department, Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry, Government of Myanmar

Session of Approval: Autumn 2013

The project was approved in Autumn 2013 but it is waiting for financing.

The Taninthayi (Tenasserim) Mountain Range, along the border between Myanmar and Thailand, covers a global important terrestrial eco-region with a transition zone from continental dry evergreen forests common in the north to semi-evergreen rain forests to the south. As a consequence, they contain some of the highest diversity of both bird and mammal species found in the Indo-Pacific region. The world's smallest mammal, Kitti's hog-nosed bat, equal in mass to a large bumblebee, resides in the limestone caves of this eco-region. Recent studies indicated that this eco-region is recognized as one of the world's largest populations of Asian elephants and tigers survive in the forests along the border between Thailand and Myanmar. Besides biodiversity features, the rugged watersheds drain into the mighty Tennaserim, Salween, and Chao Phraya rivers, supporting globally endangered and endemic species as well as a diversity of human cultures of Karen and Mon people.

However, the outstanding biodiversity features and cultural diversity of the Taninthayi Range are vulnerable due to poaching, fragmentation and encroachment for agriculture, illegal logging, settlements inside and around the park, and human-elephant conflicts. In addition, limited capacity and resources for adequate biodiversity conservation in Myanmar make it unable to contribute to the transboundary biodiversity conservation in this eco-region. Therefore, this project aims at strengthening national capacity and resources in biodiversity conservation and effective conservation of forest ecosystems and biodiversity in the Taninthayi Range in Myanmar. The expected outputs include: 1) capacity building of national institutions to design and implement biodiversity conservation, monitoring and research programmes in the Taninthayi Range; 2) establishment of initial institutional mechanisms for the transboundary biodiversity conservation in protected areas in the Taninthayi Range; and 3) strengthening of local stakeholder participation and livelihoods of forest-dependent local communities in the transboundary biodiversity conservation areas. At the national level the project will contribute to establishing transboundary biodiversity conservation programmes and activities that can be further enhanced in the Taninthayi Range between Myanmar and Thailand.

**(20) PD 724/13 Rev.1 (F) Guidelines for the Management of Tara (Caesalpinea Spinosa) Plantations with a View to the Rehabilitation of Waste Lands in the Sub-Humid Tropics of the Coastal Region of Peru**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	364,942
ITTO Budget:	US\$	149,632
APAIC	US\$	215,310

Implementing Agency: APAIC – ASOCIACION PRO DESARROLLO AGROINDUSTRIAL DE CAMANA

Period of Approval: Autumn 2013

The project was approved under the Autumn 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.

This small project derived from project PD 583/10 Rev.1 (F), which was implemented to assess the feasibility of restoring arid or sub-humid ecosystems in the southern coastal region of Peru and which has proven to be highly beneficial from an environmental and socioeconomic viewpoint after reforesting 75 hectares with *Caesalpinea spinosa* in *eriaza* (waste) lands that previously had no economic or environmental value. As a result of that project phase, it was possible to develop a new flora and fauna ecosystem of considerable significance and the future outlook of nearly one million hectares in this Peruvian coastal ecosystem has been improved by contributing not only to the socioeconomic development of the region but also to carbon sequestration, increasing CO<sub>2</sub> storage levels from 0 to an average 8-10 Mt/ha/year. This is fully consistent with the concepts and strategies of climate change mitigation and rehabilitation of degraded forest lands.

This project is to be implemented in the Province of Camaná, Department of Arequipa, in Southern Peru. Given its ecological, environmental and socioeconomic conditions, this region is highly significant and representative of tropical semi-arid or sub-humid areas in Peru, where social, economic and environmental alternatives need to be adjusted to the shortage of water for both irrigation and human consumption, so as to generate economic income to help improve the living standards of the rural population. The specific objective of the project is to develop guidelines for SFM and agroforestry systems with a view to the rehabilitation of degraded lands in the Peruvian coastal region and develop a technological package that can be used for reforestation with *Caesalpinea spinosa* and agroforestry systems.

Major outcomes to be achieved upon project completion are: i) The consolidation of technical experiences in the management and competitive production of Tara in the southern coastal region of Peru through a high productivity module; ii) The development of a technological package for the management of Tara and associated agroforestry systems; and iii) Guidelines for SFM in Tara plantations and rehabilitation of degraded and *eriaza* lands to be applied throughout the coastal region of Peru.

**(21) PD 725/13 Rev.2 (F) Rehabilitation of Degraded Forest Land in the Ahua Forest Reserve by the Women Members of Association Malebi in Compensation for the Forest Resources Removed to Meet the Need for Fuel Wood (Charcoal and Fire Wood) (Côte d'Ivoire)**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	216,162
ITTO Budget:	US\$	149,408
MALEBI / Gov't of Côte d'Ivoire:	US\$	66,754

Implementing Agency: MALEBI (meaning « charcoal » in local Adjoukrou language)

Session of Approval: Spring 2014

Starting Date and Duration: To be determined / 24 months

The Ahua Forest Reserve has deteriorated sharply due to land clearing for the establishment of crops, illegal logging to meet the needs for fuel wood (charcoal and firewood) and the extraction of timber to source construction material and supply timber product industries (home furniture, household items such as mortars and pestles, etc.). Meeting those needs to the detriment of the Ahua forest reserve has led to further pressure on the forest reserve by local communities, which has been the main cause of its advanced state of degradation. Therefore this trend has to be reversed to put a stop to the degradation of the forest reserve by engaging in rehabilitation activities involving agroforestry practices, which will be initiated with women members of the MALEBI Association. Thus the MALEBI Association developed the idea to prepare this project for its women members; these women must shift from the status of persons consuming raw wood (for

charcoal production), to that of persons contributing to raise the level of forest resources through rehabilitation activities on the Ahua forest reserve. These pilot rehabilitation activities, to be conducted by the Women's Association MALEBI, are to set an example for the local communities surrounding the Ahua Forest Reserve.

The project intends to contribute to increasing the forest cover of the Ahua Forest Reserve through the involvement of local communities surrounding the forest. It specifically aims at implementing the gradual rehabilitation of the Ahua Forest Reserve with women members of the Malebi Association, to compensate for the wood they remove and use to manufacture charcoal.

Expected outputs are:

- One production and distribution structure for quality seeds and seedlings is operational; and
- The 100-ha agroforestry plantation of *Cassia siamea*, *Technona grandis* and *Triplochiton scleroxylon*, mixed with food crops (rice, maize, yams and cassava) is established.

**(22) PD 736/14 Rev.1 (F) Enhancing Conservation and Sustainable Production of Indonesian Rosewood (*Dalbergia* spp)**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	494,545
ITTO Budget:	US\$	414,792
Government of Indonesia :	US\$	79,753

Implementing Agency: Centre for Forest Biotechnology and Tree Improvement Research (CFBTI)

Session of Approval: Spring 2014

The project was approved in Spring 2014 but it is waiting for financing.

At least 10 species of *Dalbergia* are naturally found in Indonesia with a common name as Indonesian Rosewood and they range from small plants to large timber trees. Some well-known timber tree species are *Dalbergia latifolia* (known as Sonokeling) and *Dalbergia sisso* (known as sonobritz.). Problems with these species in Indonesia are the depletion and rapid decrease in its natural population. Habitat encroachment, unsustainable harvest and slow growing are making limited progress in replantation of these species. In addition, the conservation of plant genetic resources of the species within this genus is unclear, the natural populations are not updated and extremely limited studies on their natural population status. The overall objective of this project is to contribute to conservation of plant genetic resources and sustainable management of Indonesian rosewood species (*Dalbergia* spp). The expected outputs are (1) updated and improved information and data on the natural population and conservation status of *Dalbergia* spp and (2) accelerated replantation of selected Indonesian rosewood species. By conserving the plant genetic resources and improving harvesting methods of these species and replantation, its contribution will include future breeding program development of *Dalbergia* species.

**(23) PD 739/14 Rev.1 (F) Initiating the Conservation of Eboni Species (*Diospyros celebica* Bakh) Involving Local Stakeholders in Sulawesi (Indonesia)**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	515,540
ITTO Budget:	US\$	402,550
Government of Indonesia :	US\$	112,990

Implementing Agency: Makassar Forestry Research Institute (MFRI), Forest Research and Development Agency, Ministry of Forestry

Session of Approval: Spring 2014

The project was approved in Spring 2014 but it is waiting for financing.

Eboni species (*Diospyros celebica Bakh.*) is one of the most valuable fancy woods of Indonesia and naturally distributed in Sulawesi island. This species, however, has been seriously degraded due mainly to over-harvesting during the era of massive logging operations in the past and the lack of efforts for its conservation thereafter that sparks concern over its sustainability. In light of this challenge, this project is designed to contribute to the sustainable management of Eboni species. Its specific objective is to initiate conservation efforts for Eboni species with active engagement of local stakeholders. Technically, multi storied stand improvement to increase productivity and ensure conservation will be implemented by enrichment planting utilizing superior seedlings from selected natural Eboni stands in Sulawesi. Silvicultural treatments will include space arrangements of associated species to facilitate Eboni growth. The expected outputs are: i) improved programs on genetic conservation of eboni species; ii) development of Eboni plantations with the engagement of local stakeholders; iii) increased involvement of local communities in Eboni conservation; and iv) promoted use of close substitutes for Eboni timber in practical applications.

**(24) PD 742/14 Rev.1 (F) Local Capacity Building for the Management of Secondary and Residual Primary Forests in the Provinces of Coronel Portillo and Padre Abad, Department of Ucayali, Peru**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	737,683
ITTO Budget:	US\$	522,637
AIDER	US\$	215,046

Implementing Agency: ASSOCIATION FOR INTEGRATED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (AIDER)

Period of Approval: Spring 2014

This project was approved under the Spring 2014 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.

This project seeks to address the problem of the limited capacity of local communities for the management of secondary forests and residual primary forests in the Provinces of Coronel Portillo and Padre Abad, in the Department of Ucayali. It will help improve local living standards and the conservation of secondary and residual primary forests through capacity building for forest management. The intended outcomes include: promote the management of secondary forests and residual primary forests; increase the value of this type of forest in the Districts of Campo Verde, Nueva Requena, Irazola and Curimaná; strengthen the organization of the management of secondary forests and residual primary forests; and improve the capacity to market (timber and non timber) forest products and environmental services provided by forests. Forest management activities will include: implementation of individual production plans and pilot forest management plans (for timber and non-timber production); awareness building campaigns at the District level through events, radio spots and in schools; and estimation of the amount of carbon sequestered by forests as an awareness building strategy. Forest management organizations will be encouraged to participate in public discussion spaces.



**(25) PD 747/14 Rev.1 (F) Strengthening Community Forest Management Through the Implementation of Forest Training and Extension in Guatemala**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	805,700
ITTO Budget:	US\$	572,292
INAB	US\$	190,848
IUCN	US\$	42,560
Implementing Agency:	NATIONAL FOREST INSTITUTE (INAB)	
Period of Approval:	Spring 2014	

This project was approved under the Spring 2014 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's territory is essentially suitable for forestry; however, its lands are mostly used for agricultural purposes and therefore, forest degradation has reached an alarming rate. Concerned about this situation, the Forests for Peace Project in 1992 launched a program to incorporate forestry issues into the National Education System.

In the 1970s, the General Directorate for Agricultural Services (DIGESA) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA) was assigned agricultural extension and technical assistance functions, while in the field of livestock production, these same functions were assigned to the General Directorate for Livestock Production Services (DIGESEPE), attached to the same Ministry. Eventually, these two institutions responsible for providing public extension services were closed in 1998 and 1999 respectively. In 2011, with the restructuring of INAB, forest extension services regained significance, which led to the establishment of the Department of Forest Training and Extension with the objective of strengthening the capacities of forest sector stakeholders through the transfer of technology and the provision of technical assistance. At the same time, the position of forest extension officer was established within the structure of regional directorate offices throughout the country.

It is in this context that INAB identified the need to establish and implement a Forest Extension Programme to respond to the current needs of the population involved in forest activities and to maximize the use of forest incentive benefits, while substantially contributing to the development of a *forest culture* in the country.

This project stems from the need to strengthen community forest management through a forest extension programme so as to enable the communities to adequately and sustainably use and manage their forest and agroforestry resources, thus contributing to poverty alleviation and to the reduction of forest cover loss and degradation by recognizing the value of forest resources, including timber and non-timber forest products and environmental services.

Overall, the project envisages *contributing towards the restoration and protection of forests through the management of knowledge in rural community areas of Guatemala*". More specifically, it aims to improve the means and capacities of rural communities for forest management and efficient land use through the transfer of technology and the provision of technical assistance and information on forest and agroforestry resource management in formal and non-formal education settings.

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

- 1) 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

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

● **PRE-PROJECT WORK IN PROGRESS**

A total of four (4) approved pre-projects are currently under implementation while no pre-project is awaiting the signing of an agreement to initiate activities. There is seven (7) approved pre-project still awaiting full financing and two (2) pre-projects that 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 2015.

**(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(XLVIII)/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 2015.

**(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(XLVIII)/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 2015.

**(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 (Colombia)**

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
Period of Approval:	ITTC Session XLVII, November 2011, Guatemala City, Guatemala
Starting Date and Duration:	November 8, 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 sent in November 8, 2012, beginning its execution. The second disbursement was sent 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 achieve its objectives, within the time schedule and budget approved.

The Executing Agency ASOCARS has completed all pre-project activities and forwarded the Completion Report, as well as products 1 (Technical Report on forest fires causes) and 2 (the project proposal), to ITTO's Regional Officer. The Completion Report was assessed by the latter who requested adjustments and corrections from ASOCARS. Despite several deadlines and the insistence from ITTO's Regional Officer, ASOCARS has not yet returned the revised documents. Throughout the year 2014, ITTO's Regional Officer continued requesting and insisting ASOCARS for these, in addition to the submission of the pre-project's Final Audited Report, all of which are already overdue. However, once submitted and approved, this pre-project can be reported as completed, hopefully at the next Session of the Committee.

## B. PRE-PROJECTS AWAITING IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENT

None.

## C. PRE-PROJECTS AWAITING FINANCING

### (1) 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.

**(2) 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.

**(3) PPD 166/13 Rev.2 (F) Improving the Fuel Wood Supply through the Provision of Support to the Development of Forest Plantations in the Mokolo, Maroua and Kaelé Municipalities in the Sahelian Part of Cameroon**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	83,591
ITTO Budget:	US\$	70,056
Government of Cameroon:	US\$	13,535

Implementing Agency: *AGENCE NATIONALE D'APPUI AU DÉVELOPPEMENT FORESTIER (ANAFOR)*  
(National Forest Development Support Agency)

Session of Approval: Autumn 2013

Starting Date and Duration: To be determined / 6 months

The fuel wood supply from plant formations located in the Mokolo, Maroua and Kaélé municipalities in the Sahelian part of Cameroon is in a shortfall and will soon fail to cover the needs of local communities. The main cause of this situation is the receding forest cover and the low capacity of local stakeholders to establish and manage existing forest plantations and natural forests. To reverse this trend, there is a strong justification for a project aimed at increasing the fuel wood supply, and meeting the demand, by supporting the development of community forest plantations and agro-forests and the establishment of an efficient system of fuel wood use in the aforesaid municipalities. However, the lack of information necessary for setting up the project warrants the formulation of a pre-project whose implementation will consist in conducting baseline studies and the formulation of a full project proposal.

The future project, to be derived from this pre-project, intends to contribute to growth and employment by the economic development and environmental protection of forests, through sustainable forest management, forest plantation establishment and the enhancement and value-added development of environmental services. The pre-project specific objective is to conduct the socio-economic and environmental studies required to formulate one project proposal aiming to improve the fuel wood supply in three municipalities of the Sahelian region of Cameroon.

Expected outputs are:

- Socio-economic and environmental studies are completed; and
- The project proposal *"Improving the fuel wood supply through the provision of support to the development of forest plantations in the Mokolo, Maroua et Kaelé village communities in the Sahelian part of Cameroon"* is developed and submitted to ITTO for funding.

**(4) PPD 169/13 Rev.2 (F) Identification of a Project for the Reforestation and Management of the Large Ndjock-Lipan Forest Complex in the Bondjock, Departement of Nyong-and-Kéllé, Central Cameroon**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	99,945
ITTO Budget:	US\$	93,285
Government of Cameroon:	US\$	6,660

Implementing Agency: BONDJOCK MUNICIPALITY

Session of Approval: Spring 2014

Starting Date and Duration: To be determined / 6 months

Because of shifting cultivation, the excessive development of oil palm cultivation, the overexploitation of non-timber forest products (NTFPs) and timber, the forest ecosystem Ndjock-Lipan has been undergoing

various pressures for more than two decades. It has become clear that the State can no longer cope alone with all forest challenges, including forest regeneration problems made more acute by the steady increase in population and its demand for timber and non-timber.

The future project, to be derived from this pre-project, intends to contribute to the conservation and sustainable management of the NDJOCK-LEPAN forest ecosystem in the BONDJOCK municipality, Nyong and Kélé Department to promote the local forest economy as part of the poverty alleviation effort. Based on the studies implemented, the pre-project specifically intends to formulate a project proposal aimed at establishing a template for the participatory sustainable management of natural resources in the BONDJOCK Municipality.

Expected outputs are:

- Awareness-raising workshops are held to facilitate the removal of constraints hindering the successful completion of the forest reserve gazetting process;
- Socio-economic, mapping, ecological and environmental studies have been implemented and data have been released; and
- A full project proposal has been formulated and validated and submitted to the ITTO Secretariat.

**(5) PPD 170/13 Rev.2 (F) Identification of a Project in Support of Natural Regeneration and the Establishment of Forest Plantations in the Mbam-and-Kim Department (Cameroon)**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	99,539
ITTO Budget:	US\$	90,804
Government of Cameroon:	US\$	8,735

Implementing Agency: *ACTION POUR UN DÉVELOPPEMENT ÉQUITABLE INTÉGRÉ ET DURABLE (ADEID)* –  
Action for Fair, Integrated and Sustainable Development

Session of Approval: Spring 2014

Starting Date and Duration: To be determined / 6 months

Cameroon is one of the major forest countries in the Congo Basin which loses an average of 200,000 ha of forest cover each year. Forest lands are highly degraded and in some places the forest cover is being removed. The direct causes of deforestation and receding forest cover are the slash-and-burn practices of shifting cultivation, the excessive development oil palm plantation, over-logging of timber species, the excessive extraction of valuable non-timber forest products (NTFPs) and mining activities. In addition to these direct causes there are indirect causes of deforestation such as the increasing population pressure, economic pressure and weaknesses of some aspect of governance.

The future project, to be derived from this pre-project, intends to contribute to the sustainable management of the Mbam and Kim forest ecosystems through the reduction forest degradation and the value-added development of environmental services in this forest complex (REDD). The pre-project specifically intends to formulate a project proposal in support of natural regeneration and forest plantations using high value species and the local environment governance as part of REDDES and REDD+ in the MBAM & KIM Department.

Expected outputs are:

- Participatory multi-resource inventory studies, socio-economic and mapping studies have been implemented and resulting data have been released;
- The training needs of communities and municipalities in the region have been clearly identified in terms of controlled forestry work, MRV and Safeguards together with a capacity-building methodology; and
- A full project proposal has been formulated, with an action plan and substantial budget, validated and submitted to the ITTO Secretariat.

**(6) PPD 176/13 Rev.1 (F) Identification and Planning of Measures for the Sustainable Management of the Forest Estate Owned by Individuals in Togo**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	64,318
ITTO Budget:	US\$	53,368
Government of Togo:	US\$	10,950

Implementing Agency: *NGO GESTION DES CONNAISSANCES POUR LA CONSERVATION DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT (\*) (G2CE)*  
in collaboration with the  
GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF THE *OFFICE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT ET D'EXPLOITATION DES FORETS*  
(ODEF) (Forest Development Board)

(\*)Knowledge Management for Environment Conservation

Session of Approval: Autumn 2013

Starting Date and Duration: To be determined / 10 months

Regrettably, forest owners in the private forest estate are often left to fend off for themselves once their plantations are established, given the costs of development work. While Togo is now planning to achieve a 30 % forest cover nationwide by 2030, to fully meet the needs for timber products, conserve biodiversity and ensure sustainable protection of areas and wildlife habitats at risk, it is unacceptable to let private planters, who are prime partners under this objective, operate in an informal setting and out of their own resources.

The future project, to be derived from this pre-project, intends to contribute to the sustainable management of the private forest estate in Togo. The Specific objective of this pre-project is to collect data to develop a project to build the capacities of planters operating in the private forest estate of Togo.

Expected outputs are:

- The data necessary for the identification and planning of a project to build the capacities of private planters for the sustainable management of the private forest estate are available; and
- A full capacity-building project for private planters to undertake the sustainable management of their forest is formulated and submitted to ITTO for approval.

**(7) PPD 177/14 Rev.1 (F) Inventory of Mangrove Ecosystem and Development of a Management Plan for Gabon**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:	US\$	139,350
ITTO Budget:	US\$	95,928
Government of Gabon:	US\$	53,700

Implementing Agency: MINISTRY OF WATER AND FOREST RESOURCES  
GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS

Session of Approval: Spring 2014

Starting Date and Duration: To be determined / 6 months

Mangroves are extensive wetlands located in tropical or subtropical intertidal environment which are influenced by tidal marshes. They are a true high-value element of the natural heritage considering the economic and social and ecological functions they fulfill. In Gabon, mangrove forests are located along the coast in three (3) areas with contrasted landscape features : the Komo estuary, the Ogowe



Delta and the lagoon outlets in the South. These mangroves ecosystems are facing the problem of degradation for urban development needs, development of industrial zones and fishery-related activities.

The future project, to be derived from this pre-project, intends to achieve is to secure the sustainability of the ecological standard of mangrove resources while incorporating the needs of socio-economic development. The specific objective of the pre-project is to define and formulate a project proposal on mangrove ecosystem inventory and to develop a management plan.

Expected outputs are:

- One report on mangrove ecosystem diagnostic is available; and
- One project proposal is identified, formulated and finalized.

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

- (1) **PPD 151/11 Rev.3 (F) Support to the Local Communities of the Mono Plain for the Promotion and Sustainable Management of Community Forests in Togo**
- (2) **PPD 160/12 Rev.1 (F) Study for the Rehabilitation and Sustainable Management of the Mangrove Forests in the Coastal Area of Benin**

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