Funding for the projects and pre-projects listed below was announced by ITTO in June 2008. A total of $430,000 was also provided in the first half of 2008 for 2006–09 Work Program activities, including workshops on criteria and indicators and forest law enforcement, ITTO fellowships, and for preliminary work on ITTO’s Status of Tropical Forest Management—2010 report.

Value adding and kiln drying of commercial timbers by small-scale community saw mills in Guyana, PD 401/06 Rev.2 (I)

Budget ITTO US$473,040
Gov’t of Guyana US$22,000
Guyana industry US$44,000
Total US$539,040

Implementing agency The Guyana Forestry Commission (GFC)

The objective of this one-year project is to train small-scale community saw mills in commercial kiln drying techniques. Currently, an estimated 25% of Guyana’s total wood production is from small to medium community enterprises (SMES) employing on average five to ten people, and supplying mainly the domestic market with rough sawn green scantlings, although some of them export low value green dressed lumber to countries in the Caribbean (CARICOM) region. The ability to kiln dry their sawnwood output will improve the prospects for these SMES on domestic and international markets.

Forest seeds management and conservation (Côte d’Ivoire), PD 419/06 Rev.3 (F)

Budget ITTO US$912,764
Gov’t of Côte d’Ivoire US$546,746
Total US$1,459,510

Implementing agency Forest Development Corporation (SODEFOR)

The overall aim of the project is to contribute to the sustainable rehabilitation of Côte d’Ivoire’s forests by developing a seed supply system having the capacity to provide high-quality products to meet the needs of the national forest rehabilitation stakeholders. The specific objective is to produce and supply forest seeds from plant stock of high genetic quality.

Conservation and utilization of medicinal plants in Ghanaian forest fringe communities, PD 424/06 Rev.2 (F)

Budget ITTO US$429,138
Government of Ghana US$107,955
Total US$537,093

Implementing agency Forestry Research Institute of Ghana (FORIG)

The development objective of this project is to develop conservation and sustainable utilization strategies for medicinal plant species within forest fringe communities of different ecological zones in Ghana. Specifically, it intends to document the distribution, utilization, conservation status (endangered, common) and conservation practices for sustainable supply of medicinal plants from three different forest ecological zones in Ghana.

Independent validation of legal timber in Ghana, PD 487/07 Rev.1 (M)

Budget ITTO US$473,040
Government of Ghana US$22,000
Ghana industry US$44,000
Total US$539,040

Implementing agency Ghana Forestry Commission

The purpose of this project is to further improve the sustainability of the forest management regime in Ghana by addressing weak forest control and law enforcement. This will be achieved by establishing a system for monitoring and validating legal timber in Ghana. The new system, which will build upon Ghana’s existing paper-based log tracking system, will be overseen and managed by an independent agency; at arms length from the Ghana Forestry Commission.

The project will contribute to transparency and accountability in the forest sector, and to the Government of Ghana’s strategy of improving public and private sector governance. It will also contribute to the goal of Ghana’s Natural Resource Management Program (NRMP) and the institutional strengthening and policy reforms implemented over the past 10 years.

Strengthening capacity of forest law enforcement and governance in Cambodia, PD 493/07 Rev.1 (F)

Budget ITTO US$561,195
Gov’t of Cambodia US$123,167
Total US$684,362

Implementing agency Forest Administration of Cambodia

The project aims to facilitate the implementation of the government’s policy platform in combating illegal logging, forest clearing and land encroachment through the improvement of human resource capacity and the upgrading of operational means/equipment to ensure effective forest law enforcement and governance (FLEG) in Cambodia. In addition to FLEG-related training for staff members of the Forest Administration, selected local communities will be trained in how effective FLEG policies/implementation can benefit the community by protecting their interests in legal forest activities and ensuring their access to legal forest and non-timber forest products.

Study for the conservation, land management and sustainable mountain biodiversity management in the Centre North region of Togo, PD 136/07 Rev.1 (F)

Budget ITTO US$52,358
Gov’t of Togo (DEF/MERF) US$16,273
Total US$68,631

Implementing agency Direction des eaux et forêts (DEF)/MERF

This pre-project aims at contributing to the conservation, restoration and sustainable management of mountain biodiversity in the Centre-North region of Togo. Its goal is to improve the living conditions and environment of local communities, and to secure sufficient natural resources for present and future generations. It specifically intends to provide technical assistance for the development of a local community support project to conserve and sustainably manage mountain biodiversity in the Centre North region of Togo.

Strengthening of the national forest information system (Thailand), PD 139/07 Rev.1 (M)

Budget ITTO US$84,505
Gov’t of Thailand US$31,500
Total US$116,005

Implementing agency Royal Forest Department

The objective of the pre-project is to elaborate elements for the strengthening of the national forest information system (NFIS). The outputs of the pre-project are: a) a feasibility study elaborated for the strengthening of the NFIS with an action plan for priority activities; and b) an ITTO project proposal to implement relevant components of the action plan. The pre-project involves broad participation of stakeholders through thematic working groups, national and regional level workshops, and participation in the pre-project steering group.