

1. General Description:

ID:CN-21012

Project resulting from this CN: N/A

Note: CNs are developed into project proposals following consultation with donor(s).

1.1 Project Title:

Capitalizing on reforestation experiences for the benefit of training and restoration in the Education and Research Forest (FER) of the National School of Water and Forests (ENEF), Cameroon

1.2 Submitting Country/ies:

Cameroon

1.3 Specific Location & Country/ies/regions/areas benefitting from the project:

Education and Research Forest (FER) located in Cameroun; Centre Region; Municipalities of Mbalmayo and Mengueme; Forest Sector (Training and Research)

1.4 Endorsement from ITTO Focal Point:

1541-cameroon-endorsement.pdf

1.5 Intended Project Duration (in months):

24

1.6 Indicative Budget (in US\$):

ITTO	149,500
Counterpart	29,000
Total	178,500

1.7 Programme Line Focus

Forest Landscape Restoration and Resilient Livelihoods

1.8 Project Type

Capacity Building/Training, Community/field-based project implementation,
Pilot/demonstration project

1.9 Proposal Summary:

The Education and Research Forest (FER), National School of Water and Forests (ENEF), is part of the Mbalmayo Forest Reserve established in 1947. Since 1957 the ENEF has set up a Dendrological Trail, forest plantations and pockets of managed natural forests in the FER with a view to carrying out practical work. Its primary purpose is to provide ex-situ teaching support combined with existing educational resources. Since the end of the 1980s, the area has been in a state of continual urbanization and the population is constantly growing. The forest areas in the forest reserve in general, and in the FER in particular, have been subjected to degradation, deforestation or conversion. To reverse the trend, several national and international agencies have implemented reforestation and research activities in the reserve. These include: National Office for Forest Development (Office National de Développement des Forêts—ONADEF), now the National Forestry Development Agency (Agence Nationale d'Appui au Développement Forestier—ANAFOR); - International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO): ENEF arboretum restoration project; - the State through the Departmental Delegation of Forests and Wildlife; - International Institute of Tropical Agronomy (Institut International d'Agronomie Tropicale—IITA); - ENEF during the work of extending its arboretum (Temgoua et al., 2010)); - World Agroforestry Center which has carried out domestication tests on fruit trees using vegetative propagation techniques; and - ONADEF/ODA (Overseas Development Administration) project, which reportedly established close to 200 ha of forest plantation plots involving local villagers (Temgoua and Peltier, 2008). Despite the efforts made so far, the trend has not reversed significantly. This trend contrasts with people's response as they recognize the status and importance of the FER and the services provided by the trees.

2. Proponent Information:

2.1 Executing Agency Information:

Name of Agency/Organization/Institution:

National School of Water and Forests (École Nationale des Eaux et Forêts—ENEF)

Name of main Contact Person:

M. MBOCK Germain, Director

Email:

cmreoref@gmail.com

Phone:

242 649 312

2.2 Type of Organization:

University/Research Institute

2.4 Relevant experience of EA:

The ENEF, with the support of multiple partners, has conducted the following projects within the Mbalmayo Forest reserve and in its FER: - Reforestation of the Mbalmayo forestry reserve with the support of the ONADEF, now ANAFOR; - Restoration and extension of its arboretum, ITTO project; - World Agroforestry Center

3. Relevance:

3.1 Conformity with ITTO objectives (ITTA, 2006) and priorities (current SAP):

One of the objectives of the International Tropical Timber Agreement (ITTA) is to encourage national policies whose aim is to ensure the sustained use and conservation of tropical forests and their genetic resources, and to maintain the equilibrium of the regions concerned. This objective presupposes the sustainability of forest resources and areas. Those of the ENEF-managed FER have been steadily declining over recent decades. The threat is so severe that the fear that forest land will be converted to other uses is justified. In 2002 the ITTO published the ITTO Guidelines for the Restoration, Management and Rehabilitation of Degraded and Secondary Tropical Forests, which represented the first international effort to provide general guidance about the restoration of tropical forests. With forest landscape restoration (FLR) having become a rapidly expanding scientific and practical discipline, many other guidelines and tools have since emerged. In 2020 the ITTO published the Guidelines for the Forest Landscape Restoration in the Tropics, with the aim of assisting decision-makers, practitioners, community organizations and other entities to put FLR into practice in the field.

3.2 Relevance to the ITTO Programme Lines:

The goals of ITTO Programmatic Line 3, which deals with the restoration of forest landscapes and resilient livelihoods, include promoting the use and implementation of the Guidelines for Forest Landscape Restoration in the Tropics; facilitating the enhancement of FLR-related knowledge and skills, and the sustainable management of restored and planted forests; and strengthening planning and implementation capacities for forest landscape restoration (FLR) in the field in the ITTO member countries. These goals are among those assigned to this project.

3.3 Relevance to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Global Forest Goals (GFGs) and other forest related global agenda:

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 15 addresses the protection, restoration and promotion of the sustainable use of land ecosystems, sustainable forest management, the combating of desertification and the halting and reversal of land degradation and biodiversity loss. This ENEF project would contribute to this.

3.4 Relevance to submitting country's policies:

National forestry policy: The national forestry policy places the renewal of forest resources at the center of the strategy for sustainable forest management. For this reason, the concern to restore forests has been reinforced by the provisions of Law No 94/01 of 20 January 1994 governing forests, wildlife and fisheries, and its subsequent texts, the main principles of which are focused on forest management and reforestation. Strategy 2020 of the MINFOF (Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife) forest and wildlife sub-sector: MINFOF's 2020 strategy for reforestation and forest regeneration aims to increase forest production capacity through regeneration, reforestation and agroforestry, and to strengthen the implementation of all actions to reforest cleared areas, to plant new areas, particularly to limit desertification, to create green areas in and around cities, and to regenerate logged forests. National Climate Change Adaptation Plan (PNACC): The PNACC is an integrated, multisectoral strategy for adapting to climate change. It emphasizes the need for planning in all rural sectors. In terms of resilience, it gives priority to landscape regeneration and restoration through reforestation. Adopted in June 2015, the purpose of the PNACC is to assist the government and stakeholders in their efforts to adapt to climate change. The approach is to reduce the vulnerability of the Cameroonian people to the effects of climate change, increase their resilience and quality of life, and improve their adaptive capacity, in order to create new opportunities to support the country's sustainable development. REDD+: Cameroon has committed to reducing by 34 per cent its greenhouse gas emissions (CoP-21) by 2035 (DSCE [Growth and Employment Strategy Document] and Vision 2035). Cameroon has joined the REDD+ mechanism.

4. Project synopsis:

4.1 Objectives (reflecting reference to elements within all ITTO Guidelines as applicable):

Project objectives are as follows: - characterization of the threats hanging over the FER; - development of a FER participatory restoration model; - implementation of FER restoration actions; - capacity-building of the ENEF trainers, local populations, state actors and civil society regarding the importance of forest landscapes and their restoration; - development and testing of FLR training modules.

4.2 Key problem(s) to be addressed:

Today (the remaining portion of) the Mbalmayo forest reserve can be considered as a peri-urban forest. The development of the city and its growing population have increased the pressure on the reserve due to the search for different types of timber, farmland and other forest products. Pressure on the timber resource also involves the arboretum in terms of harvesting firewood and bark. This has resulted in the degeneration of certain plots, the death of some stems, malformations, slowing of tree growth, etc. Despite recurrent encroachments, people admit that they derive benefits from the proximity of these plantations, where they harvest various timber products or other products from trees or hunting. They also believe that the development of these plantations could be a job opportunity. Government officials, for their part, apparently feel it is urgent for land tenure and access to forest resources to be redefined to save this forest, invaded and pillaged both by local populations, who claim to be exercising their traditional rights, and by the people of Mbalmayo, for which the forest is a “vacant” place, open to all for the practice of agriculture and illegal logging (Owona Ndongo et al., 2008).

4.3 Main stakeholders and beneficiaries:

Among the main beneficiaries of this project are: - National School of Water and Forests (ENEF); - local populations of the Mbalmayo Forest Reserve; - actors involved in the processes of forest landscape restoration in Cameroon. Project stakeholders are as follows: - Institutional actors [Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife (Ministère des Forêts et de la Faune—MINFOF); Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development (Ministère de l’Environnement, de la Protection de la nature et du Développement Durable—MINEPDED); Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (Ministère de l’Agriculture et du Développement Rural—MINADER)], etc.; - Decentralized local authorities (commune of Mbalmayo and Menguemé); - Civil society organizations (NGOs, CIGs, cooperatives, etc.)

4.4 Key activities:

The main activities of the project include: - determining the threats hanging over the FER; - developing a model (or plan) for participatory restoration by the FER; - implementing FER restoration actions; - capacity-building of ENEF trainers and other actors with regard to restoration; - developing and testing training modules on restoration at the ENEF, Cameroon.

4.5 Expected outcomes and impacts, including innovation/transformation:

OUTCOMES: Preservation of the integrity of the forest region (Forest reserve and FER); involvement of local populations in restoration activities; capitalization of local experience in forest landscape restoration in course modules. IMPACTS: Maintenance and optimization of forest products and services; practical work by ENEF students and other forest training institutions; sustainability of restoration actions; improvement of living conditions of local populations; and capacity-building of actors involved in the restoration of forest landscapes in Cameroon and in the sub-region.

4.6 Existing funding for (related) initiative(s)/established contacts to potential donors:

The ENEF is currently receiving funding from “The Restoration Initiative (TRI)” project led by INBAR (International Bamboo and Rattan Organization). This project aims to restore approximately 15 ha in the Mbalmayo Forest reserve using bamboo from China and non-timber forest products.

4.8 Risk mitigation measures:

RISKS: The presence of animals or game that feed on plant buds and shoots. There are regular wildfires in the area. Drought, which hampers the establishment, growth and development of seedlings. The existence of conflict in the area. MITIGATING MEASURES: The ENEF will establish security measures around plantations and mobilize staff to watch over sites wherever this risk is considered to be major. The ENEF will establish a 5 to 7 m wide firewall around the plantations, which will be regularly maintained, and/or other safeguards and appropriate arrangements for monitoring planted areas. Compliance with agricultural periods (planting at the beginning of the rainy season) and installation in the nursery of 1 to 2 boreholes/wells for watering; local populations will be made aware, trained and involved in the protection and management of forest planting sites to limit land conflicts.

5. Indicative Budget (in US\$):

Indicative Budget (in US\$):

Description	ITTO	Counterpart	Total
Personnel	5,000	5,000	10,000
Sub-contracts	131,000	8,000	139,000
Travel and DSA	8,000	3,500	11,500
Capital Items	2,000	5,000	7,000
Consumables	1,500	5,000	6,500
Publication / Dissemination	1,000	2,000	3,000
Miscellaneous	1,000	500	1,500
Total	149,500	29,000	178,500