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**REPORT ON COMPLETED PROJECTS AND PRE-PROJECTS  
IN THE FIELD OF REFORESTATION AND FOREST MANAGEMENT**



**REPORT ON COMPLETED PROJECTS AND PRE-PROJECTS IN THE FIELD OF  
REFORESTATION AND FOREST MANAGEMENT**

**A) COMPLETED PROJECTS**

**(1) 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 / Planned: 36 months Actual: 89 months
Approved Revised Dates of Project Completion:	First extension: until March 2013 (NOLF.12-0274) Second extension: until December 2014 (NOLF.14-0300) Third extension: until December 2015 (NOLF.15-0005)

**I. Introduction**

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. However, as an acceptable version of the project completion report was received in August 2016, the project operation period had lasted 89 months instead of 36 initially designed by the implementing agency (Direction Générale des Eaux et Forêts).

After several reminders, from 2016 to 2021, the final financial audit report of the project was submitted in May 2021, and it was reviewed by the Division of Operations and considered as acceptable for this project to be documented for the completion and closure procedures.

**II. Project Objective**

The project aimed 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 were as follows: (1) to experiment the establishment of three pilot community forests and (2) to develop SFM guidelines for community forests from the model forest experiment.

**III. Project Achievements and Outputs**

The promulgation of the Forest Code in 2001 did not lead to the creation of community forests in Gabon, as a way to empower local communities for the management of forest estate allocated to them. This was due to the lack of formal guidelines or directives allowing to apply the provisions of articles dealing with creation of a community forest (CF). Communities' forests were supposed to replace the *permis de pied d'arbre* (a logging permit stipulating a quota of harvestable trees) in order to help local communities improving their living standards with income to be generated by CF resources. This project contributed to the preparation of the missing formal guidelines and directives through the achievements and outputs summarized here below:

- 1) The main actions of the project were focused on the facilitation process and the mobilization of the various stakeholders, in the following three sites selected among those nominated by the Community Forest Feasibility study conducted in 2000: Ongam Village (Estuaire Province), Nkang Village (Woleu-Ntem Province) and Oyenano Village instead of Guiétsou Village (Ngounié Province).
- 2) The project implementation contributed to the development and validation of the following reference technical documents providing clear guidance for the creation and management of a community forest:
  - Guidebook for a socio-economic study;
  - Guidebook for a participatory demarcation of a community forest;
  - Guidebook for a participatory mapping of a community forest;
  - Guidebook for a participatory forest inventory in a community forest; and
  - Guidebook for the preparation of a simplified management plan for a community forest.
- 3) The abovementioned reference technical documents and other findings of this project had led to the signature of the following legal texts:
  - Ministerial Decree No.018/MEF/SG/DGF/DFC dealing with the procedures and formalities for the allotment and management of a community forest;
  - Ministerial Decree No.106/MFEPRN dealing with the reservation right of a community forest by a local community, for a right of pre-emption in favor of local communities; and
  - Ministerial Decree No.105/MFEPRN dealing with the specifications of each party to the management convention of a community forest by a local community.
- 4) Subsequent to the abovementioned ministerial decrees, the project contributed to the creation of the Nkang Community Forest through the signing of the following ministerial legal documents:
  - Ministerial Decision allotting the Nkang Community Forest (2,973 hectares) to the Association N'NEM-MBO representing local communities of Nkang; and
  - Ministerial Convention No.02/13/MEF/SG/DGF/DFCOM on the management of the Nkang Community Forest signed between the Minister of Forestry and the Chairman of N'NEM-MBO Association, for the duration of 20 years, based on the simplified management plan (SMP) prepared with the support of the project. The SMP is subject to revision every five years and the revision could be source the modification of the ministerial convention with an addendum.

At the project completion, one community (Nkang) out of three communities involved in the project implementation was formally allotted through a ministerial decision.

#### **IV. Outcomes and Impacts**

The abovementioned legal instruments and technical documents, developed during the project implementation, had provided guidelines and directives which had led to the allotment of a community forest to one community (Nkang) out of three communities involved in the project implementation. Therefore, the government institutions, in particular the ministry in charge of forestry, had got tools for the allotment and management of community forests in Gabon. An administrative unit called "*Direction de la Foresterie Communautaire*" (DFCOM) was created for the implementation of this project and should continue to operate as a specialized unit in community forestry within the ministry of forestry of Gabon. It is important to note that the project implementation contributed to the transfer of skills on community forestry to the ministry in charge of forestry in Gabon through its agents who had been involved in its implementation and had been selected to work in DFCOM (for instance, the project coordinator Charles NDOUTOUME-OBAME was nominated as first head of DFCOM).

#### **V. Lessons Learnt and sustainability**

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. This problem was solved by the creation of the *Direction de la Foresterie Communautaire* (DFCOM) which was fully in charge of the project implementation. The DFCOM, a specialized unit in charge of community forestry in Gabon, should continue to provide appropriate technical supports to the three communities involved in the project implementation as follows:

- Nkang Community: for the smooth implementation of the simplified management plan;
- Ongam Community: for the follow-up to get the signature of the ministerial decision for the allotment of a community forest to them, as well as the ministerial management convention; and

- Oyenano Community: for the finalization and validation of the simplified management plan required for the signing of the ministerial decision for the allotment of a community forest to them.

The implementation of the project PD 383/05 Rev.2 (F) led to the creation of the *Direction des Forêts Communautaires (DFCOM)*, dealing with community forestry, in July 2011, as an expression of the Gabonese Government's interest in capitalizing on the project's achievements which were used for the implementation of DACEFI (*Développement d'Alternatives Communautaires à l'Exploitation Forestière Illégale*) project funded by European Union for the promotion of community forestry in Gabon. DFCOM has to play a key role for the sustainability of main achievements of the project PD 383/05 Rev.2 (F) by internalizing them in national legislation procedures dealing with community forestry through the development of regulatory texts, technical documents promoting the management of community forests in Gabon.

## VI. Concluding Remarks

As the ITTO Secretariat received the Project Completion Report, Technical Reports, as well an acceptable Final Financial Audit Report, the Committee may wish to declare the Project PD 383/05 Rev.2 (F) as completed. Soft copies of the project-related reports can be made available, upon request, by the Secretariat.

### (2) **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
ITTO Budget:		US\$	435,187
Government of Japan:	US\$	435,187	
Government of Indonesia:		US\$	128,850

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

Period of Approval: Spring 2013

Starting Date and Duration: February 2016 / Planned: 36 months Actual: 58 months

Approved Revised Date of Project Completion: Extension until 31 December 2020 (NOLF.20-0028)

## I. Introduction

This project was approved under Spring 2013 Project Cycle and financed at ITTC 50 in November 2014. The project agreement regulating the implementation of the project was finalized in June 2015. After the completion of all administrative arrangements including the appointment of project personnel and preparation of an inception report with detailed yearly plans of operation, the Executing Agency commenced the project in February 2016. The implementation of the project has been delayed due to the replacement of the project coordinator. The project duration was extended until the end of December 2020, without additional ITTO funds. In December 2020, the Implementing Agency submitted the project completion and financial audit reports and other documents for the completion procedures.

## II. Project Objective

In North Sulawesi, Indonesia, there is an increasing demand for Cempaka wood (*Elmerrillia ovalis*) 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 a declined supply of Cempaka wood. In light of the importance of improving sustainable development of Cempaka wood, the project aimed to promote sustainable forest management of Cempaka trees in North Sulawesi by addressing the social, environmental

and economic sustainability. The specific objective of the project was to facilitate the conservation and plantations of Cempaka trees with the involvement of local communities in North Sulawesi.

### **III. Project Achievements and Outputs**

The specific objective of the project had been achieved through the implementation of three outputs to address very slow progress in Cempaka species plantation development due to weak capacity and lack of participation of local communities in Cempaka plantation development in addition to weak government policy on Cempaka resource management. The three outputs were achieved through the implementation of the following activities/ actions:

Output 1: Enhanced community capacity in Cempaka plantation development

- Cempaka stands for seed sources were identified at six sites in North Sulawesi (4 sites) and South Sulawesi (2 sites), and experiments on appropriate techniques for Cempaka seed collection, storage and germination were conducted.
- A total of 18 ha of Cempaka plantations at 3 sites were established with 3 small-scale nurseries for demonstration, training and long-term R & D.
- A technical manual for seed collection, storage and germination produced, three small scale nurseries established in Bahasa while Cempaka silvicultural information produced in English.

Output 2: Increased participatory planting of Cempaka by the local community

- Intensive dialogues improved understanding on long-term benefits of growing Cempaka by local communities.
- 52 local people trained on nursery development techniques and a technical manual produced.
- 45 community leaders trained on Cempaka planting techniques and a technical manual produced.
- Appropriate incentives for local communities to grow Cempaka species collaboratively identified, and a sound Cempaka extension program developed and distributed.

Output 3: Formulation of an integrated policy on Cempaka conservation

- Data on Cempaka growing stock collected, a study on economic of Cempaka wood utilization published
- A sustainable annual allowable cut of Cempaka wood calculated.
- A provincial Cempaka standard operational manuals established and run-tested with procured equipment for monitoring of forest operations; and an integrated strategic management plan for Cempaka resource conservation and development produced.

### **IV. Outcomes and Impacts**

Through implementation of a series of activities to promote the sustainable management of Cempaka resources in North Sulawesi, the project had contributed to sectoral development in one form or another as follows:

- The identification of incentives for local communities to grow Cempaka had convinced the governments at different levels that different forms of incentive are required to ignite and strengthen interest in the conservation and development of Cempaka resource.
- The study on economics of Cempaka timber processing convinced the government and private sector that efficiency of operation and quality of products required improving in order to enhance competitiveness of the traditional Minahasa Wooden house industries.
- The formulation of standard operational manuals for monitoring of forest operation would ease task of the government in forest law enforcement.
- The policy on level of annual allowable cut could serve as an effective instrument for sustaining Cempaka forest resource.
- Development of an Integrated Strategic Management Plan – Cempaka Resource Conservation Development in North Sulawesi contributed to Cempaka's long-term development paths.
- Formation of a provincial Cempaka stakeholder forum with a mid-term operational plan and appointment of its regular members will serve as a platform to continuously discuss the sustainable development of Cempaka in North Sulawesi

## V. Lessons Learnt and sustainability

In terms of achieving the objectives of the project and implementing the project activities, key lessons can be summarized as follows:

- The key problem addressed by the project had strong rationale as it was based on observed problems surrounding Cempaka resource conservation and development and it was affirmed by the primary stakeholders.
- Establishment of a stakeholders forum was accomplished effectively due to the support and involvement of high-rank decision makers and influential stakeholders.
- Feasible incentives for local communities to grow Cempaka would undergo a long institutional process that their effect would take some time to materialize.
- Organizing a workshop or seminar under a semi-virtual fashion proved effective in achieving planned objectives and accommodated wide participation thus worth considering for initiating.
- The key success factors of the project were primarily leadership of the Project Coordinator and working relation with internal as well as external partners.
- The high compliance of a small project management unit to rules and procedures applying to ITTO project as well as to the project agreement had facilitated completion of the project.
- Weakly defined indicators of achievement during the project formulation stage need updating during the operational stage, taking progress in implementation into account, to ensure measurability and usefulness of the indicators in the final assessment of project achievement.

Sustainability of the project after its completion is expected to last through the prevailing conditions that had been developed under the project:

- The growing interest and participation of local communities in Cempaka plantation development.
- Available sources of Cempaka seed to support planting of Cempaka on large area.
- The intention of Manado Environment and Forestry Research Development and Innovation Agency to conduct a long-term R&D on growth and yield on Cempaka species at existing demo plots with support of the North Sulawesi Provincial Forestry Agency.
- Strengthened future government policy on sustainable Cempaka resource management through utilization of the relevant data and information generated by the project.
- Operation of the provincial Cempaka stakeholder forum in North Sulawesi will contribute to the long-term development of Cempaka resources.

## VI. Concluding Remarks

Overall, the project has been successful in the conservation and plantations of Cempaka with the improved capacity of local communities and increased government policy support for Cempaka plantation development in North Sulawesi, Indonesia.

As the ITTO Secretariat received the Project Completion Report, Technical Reports, as well an acceptable Final Financial Audit Report, the Committee may wish to declare the Project 646/12 Rev.3 (F) as completed. Soft copies of the project-related reports can be made available, upon request, by the Secretariat.

### (3) **PD 741/14 Rev.3 (F) Capacity Building for Sustainable Management of Tropical Dry Forests on the North Coast of Peru**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	988,886
ITTO Budget:		US\$	437,478
Government of Japan:	US\$	437,478	
AIDER:		US\$	551,408

Implementing Agency: ASOCIACION PARA LA INVESTIGACION Y DESARROLLO INTEGRAL (AIDER)

Period of Approval: Rev.2: approved in Autumn 2014  
Rev.3: approved in Spring 2016

Starting Date and Duration: May 2017 / Planned: 30 months Actual: 46 months

## **I. Introduction**

This project was approved under the Spring 2016 Project Cycle, and full financing for its implementation was pledged in March 2016. The agreement regulating the implementation of the project was finalized in April 2017 after release of project funds by the donor following resolution of the financial impairment. The Executing Agency completed submission of all required documentation in May 2017 to allow the first disbursement of funds to be sent and project implementation to commence.

## **II. Project objective**

This project's objective was to improve the limited capacities of key stakeholders to slow and/or reverse the degradation of tropical dry forests on the north coast of Peru, covering the 3 departments of the country in which this ecosystem occurs: Tumbes, Piura and Lambayeque.

## **III. Project achievements and outputs**

The project improved the living standards of rural communities through the conservation and sustainable use of tropical dry forests. Specifically, it strengthened the capacities of key stakeholders in the region to establish policies for the sustainable management of degraded dry forests. Project outcomes included: improved forest management at the regional forest administration level; promotion of active public sector and civil society involvement in dialogue and consensus-building with a view to improving decision making on regional forest management; and strengthened technical and operational capacities for community forest management on the north coast of Peru.

## **IV. Outcomes and impacts**

The following outcomes and impacts were achieved under relevant project activities:

### **Activity 1.1 Development of training events on administrative and technical issues for regional public management for SFM**

With the support of the project and in conjunction with JICA, several training workshops on the Forest Map Methodology for the North coast of Peru were held. These workshops improved capacities for using GIS and remote sensing amongst many officials and specialists of SERFOR and the regional governments of the north (Piura, Tumbes and Chiclayo). Free software was used to develop regional thematic maps in each region.

### **Activity 2.1: Strengthening of coordination, dialogue and coordination spaces at the regional level with the participation of civil society**

The project convened a meeting of the Dry Forest Researchers Network in conjunction with ATFFS-SERFOR in Piura, which achieved the following:

- Strengthened the dry forest research network, to improve articulation of dry forest issues by the public, private and civil society sectors
- Strengthen research capacities
- Promoted research, development and innovation in forest and wildlife conservation
- Strengthened communication mechanisms and traditional knowledge of the dry forest
- Developed funding strategies for scientific activities
- Adopted a system for monitoring the current status of investigations.

The Macro-Regional Platform of Forests of the North Coast was supported throughout the project, including by arranging/participating in meetings and strengthening the capacities of regional governments. The project also promoted three strategic alliances relevant to the development of projects for sustainable management of dry forests and restoration:

- Alliance with SERFOR for the elaboration of a project of forest plantations in dry forests, in border areas with Ecuador
- Alliance with an international private fund for the design of a project on ecosystem services and deforestation-free value chains
- Coordination with the Ministry of Environment on a proposal presented to GEF 7 on sustainable management of dry forests.

Activity 2.2: Design and implementation of a plan to disseminate the benefits of SFM for the public sector and civil society

The project undertook extensive data collection and consultations to produce the Diffusion Plan on Forest Management in Dry Forest in Piura, Tumbes and Lambayeque regions.

Within the framework of the project, two teaching and dissemination learning packages on dry forests were developed. These materials are:

- Story: "El Algarrobito"
- Comic: "Shinamp"

Both learning packages were presented to forestry and regional authorities in the three regions: Piura, Tumbes and Lambayeque. In addition, schools in the region were sent copies to promote greater knowledge among children about the resources and importance of the dry forest.

A video aimed at the general population was also produced, with the aim of raising awareness about dry forests. Informative radio segments have been produced on the importance of dry forests, which were broadcast on local radio stations in Piura (Radio Cutivalu), Lambayeque (Radio Zone 5) and Tumbes (Radio Hechizera). A photographic contest "Knowing the Dry Forests of the North Coast of Peru" was also organized.

Activity 2.3: Development of awareness events aimed at the authorities, officials, forest users and the general public, at local and regional level, on the conservation of dry tropical forests of the north coast

The project carried out various awareness raising activities, including one in collaboration with SERFOR to coincide with the international day of biological diversity called "Conversation of the biological diversity of seasonally dry forests of northern Peru". The experiences of sustainable management of dry forests gained through the project were presented at strategic international events, taking advantage of inter-institutional alliances with key actors. Such events included the NAP Expo of the UNFCCC in Songdo, Korea and Annual Meeting 20x20 in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Activity 2.4: Development of social skills in community members for their proactive participation in dialogue

A large meeting was convened by the project at AIDER's office in Lima to facilitate the development of a rural development strategy taking account of climate change. The meeting took place with a group of women selected from rural and urban areas, and the following points were discussed:

- The role that women play in society
- Experiences in situations of climate change
- Consulting women about climate change.

With the support of the project and under the leadership of the National Forest and Wildlife Service (SERFOR) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, the Association for Integral Research and Development (AIDER) and the Central of Rural Communities of the Dry Forest (CECOBOSQUE), the First Community Forum on the topic "Organized communities, sustainable forests" was convened by the project in Piura. The Forum analyzed the problem of community organization, and developed a guide to involve community leaders and partners in the sustainable use and conservation of forests.

Activity 3.1: Training events in techniques and practices for the development and implementation of forest management plans

The project team participated and contributed in several training events and workshops on the development and implementation of forest management plans for dry forests. These included meetings on "Good practices and regulations in the production of forest seeds" (carried out in collaboration with the National Institute of Agrarian Innovation in the city of Chiclayo) and a training event for stakeholders involved in the forest zoning process of the Tumbes region. The project team co-organized and participated in the third Regional Congress of Dry Forest (III COREFOR) in Chiclayo.

**V. Lessons learnt and sustainability**

The project implementation process and outcomes highlighted the crucial importance of working closely with regional governments and local communities to achieve meaningful progress in dealing with challenges of forest management and climate change relating to dry forests in Peru.

The regional governments involved in the project have developed a related UN REDD+ project in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment, who is funding a consultancy to identify further capacity building needs and opportunities for partnerships; The project team continues to collaborate with this follow-up project and consultancy.

The project also promoted three strategic alliances to develop follow-up projects for sustainable management of dry forests and restoration:

- Alliance with SERFOR on a project to establish forest plantations of suitable species in dry forest zones in border areas with Ecuador
- Alliance with an international private fund for the design of a project on ecosystem services and deforestation-free value chains
- Coordination with the Ministry of Environment on a proposal presented to GEF 7 on sustainable management of dry forests.

The project team continues its involvement in all of these initiatives, ensuring that local governments and other stakeholders are kept informed and involved as appropriate, thereby further contributing to the sustainability of the ITTO project's outputs.

## **VI. Concluding remarks**

The project has achieved its objectives and has improved capacities of regional governments for the management of dry forests. The synergy of actions on dry forests at the regional level with other initiatives related to the sustainable management of forests is being improved, with direct intervention of SERFOR and civil society organizations.

All project outputs including the completion report are available (in original Spanish) through the Project Search feature of the ITTO website. A satisfactory final audit of project funds provided by ITTO has been submitted to and approved by the ITTO Secretariat. The Committee may therefore declare this project complete.

## **(B) COMPLETED PRE-PROJECTS**

### **(1) PPD 191/18 Rev.1 (F) Support to the Local Communities of the Mono Plain for the Promotion and Sustainable Management of Community Forests in Togo**

Budget and Funding Sources:

Total Budget:		US\$	102,983
ITTO Budget:		US\$	71,211
Government of USA:	US\$	71,211	
Government of Togo:		US\$	31,772

Implementing Agency: *"LES AMIS DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT" ASSOCIATION (AMEN, civil society organisation) in collaboration with DIRECTORATE OF FOREST RESOURCES (DIRECTION DES RESSOURCES FORESTIÈRES-DRF)*

Period of Approval: September 2018

Starting Date and Duration: May 2019 / Planned: 10 months Actual: 16 months

## **I. Introduction**

This 10-month pre-project was approved in September 2018 through the electronic approval system and it was fully funded during the 54<sup>th</sup> ITTC Session in November 2018, thanks to the generous contribution of the Government of USA. The Pre-project Agreement had been duly signed by all parties in March 2019. The Executing Agency initiated the pre-project implementation after the disbursement of the first installment of ITTO funds on 28 May 2019.

The pre-project execution was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic restriction measures (on travel and meetings) implemented in by the Government of Togo during the first semester of 2020. Thus, as an acceptable version of the pre-project completion report was received in September 2020, the pre-project operation period had lasted 16 months instead of 10 initially designed by the implementing agency (AMEN). The pre-project final financial audit report, which was submitted in January 2021, had been reviewed by the Division of operations and considered as acceptable for this pre-project to be documented for the completion and closure procedures.

## II. Project Objective

The development objective of this pre-project was to contribute to the conservation and sustainable management of forest ecosystems in the Mono plain in Togo. The specific objective was to support local authorities to design a full project proposal for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in the Mono plain in Togo.

## III. Project Achievements and Outputs

This pre-project intended to draw a baseline study of Ecological Zone III in Togo in order to prepare a Project Document for the conservation and sustainable management of natural forest formations in the Mono Plain, Togo. For the development of a future project, the implementation of this pre-project was justified by the lack of data due to the outdated nature of existing studies on the area coupled with the non-availability of national expertise and the lack of material and financial resources. These shortcomings were considered as major constraints for any direct formulation of a full project proposal.

The pre-project achievements and outputs, which contributed to the formulation of a full project proposal, can be summarized as follows:

Expected Outputs	Main Achievements and Results
<p><u>Output 1:</u> Data from forest, socio-economic, legal and environmental surveys on the project are available</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sensitization campaigns had been carried out by the pre-project implementing agency, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, in order to raise the awareness of local communities living in the area to be covered by the future project. It was an opportunity to exchange ideas on the objective of that future project to be developed through the implementation of this pre-project;</li> <li>Data from forestry, socio-economic, legal and environmental studies had been made available through the submission of four technical reports prepared by consultants/sub-contractors for the preparation of a full project proposal to be submitted in due time in the ITTO Regular Project Cycle. These four technical studies had covered selected villages/townships located in the following prefectures of Togo: Agou (Avétonou), Amou (Amou-oblo), Anié (Pallakoko), Bliitta (Welly and Assoukoko), Est-Mono (Morétan), Haho (Wahala), Kpélé (Kpélé-Toutou), Moyen Mono (Tado), Ogou (Gléi and Akparè), Sotouboua (Aouda and Kazaboua), and Tchamba (Koussountou and Bago).</li> </ul>
<p><u>Output 2:</u> A support strategy and project for promoting community forests and forest sustainable management among local communities in Togo are developed for submission to the ITTO</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A local structure for the coordination of the actions of the main stakeholders, in each of those villages/townships located in the abovementioned prefectures, included the landowners and local traditional Chiefs that have a hold over forest lands to be used for the implementation of the future project in the Mono Plain.</li> <li>A full project proposal was developed, with the inputs provided by technical reports, and it was subject to the technical appraisal by the 55<sup>th</sup> Expert Panel. The reference number and title of the project proposal are as follows: PD 911/20 (F): “<i>Support for Strengthening the Consultation Framework for the Participatory and Sustainable Management of the Aou-Mono Gazetted Forest</i>”.</li> </ul>

## IV. Outcomes and Impacts

The main pre-project outcomes and impacts, in and around the implementation areas of the future project, in relation to the expected outputs and associated activities, can be summarized as follows:

- Contribution to increasing awareness of relevant stakeholders on the need to get their involvement to ensure a smooth collaboration among them for the implementation of the future project with local communities in the Mono Plain, Togo; and
- Sensitization on the potential of the activities of the future project for improving the livelihood and food security with the aim of reducing poverty for local communities to be involved in the implementation of the future project in the Mono Plain, Togo.

The holding of a workshop to report the findings of four technical reports to relevant stakeholders was delayed because of the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic in Togo, with its related travel and meeting restriction measures. The aim of the workshop was to discuss on the appropriate strategy for the future project proposal.

**V. Lessons Learnt and Sustainability**

One of the main lessons learned during the implementation of this pre-project is in relation to the reluctance of landowners of the forest areas to be covered by the future project with the involvement of local communities. For the smooth implementation of the future project, it could be important to start with an appropriate stakeholder consultation process contributing to ensure the participation and involvement of landowners of forest lands, as well as local traditional Chieftain of communities in the Plain Mono. The sustainability of the future project will rely on the capacity of stakeholders to address this issue of reluctance of most landowners to share their lands for forestry operations/actions involving local communities.

**VI. Concluding Remarks**

As the ITTO Secretariat received the Completion Report, Technical Reports, full Project Proposal referenced as PD 911/20 (F), as well as a satisfactory Final Financial Audit Report, the Committee may wish to declare the pre-project PPD 191/18 Rev.1 (F) as completed. This pre-project will be subject to the completion and closure process in accordance with appropriate ITTO rules and procedures. Soft copies of the pre-project-related reports can be made available, upon request, by the Secretariat

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