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Rapport d'évaluation a posteriori

Enseignements pour une bonne collaboration dans les forêts africaines

Évaluation a posteriori de projets de l'OIBT exécutés en Afrique de l'Ouest et centrale dans le cadre du Plan d'action stratégique de l'OIBT et en lien avec la TICAD

Préparé pour l'OIBT
par Juergen Blaser et Olivier Ahimin

15 septembre 2022

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Évaluation a posteriori de projets de l'OIBT exécutés en Afrique de l'Ouest et centrale dans le cadre du Plan d'action stratégique de l'OIBT et en lien avec la TICAD

En haut à gauche: projet PD754/14; En haut à droite: projet PD 620/11
En bas à gauche: projet PD 456/07; En bas à droite: projet PD 725/13

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Résumé analytique

Lors de sa cinquante-septième session en 2021, le Conseil international des bois tropicaux (CIBT) avait demandé au Secrétariat de l'OIBT de procéder à une évaluation a posteriori de projets de l'OIBT exécutés en Afrique dans le but d'en tirer les principales conclusions et d'aider à éclairer les futures actions en matière de forêt susceptibles d'un financement par les donateurs, dont la TICAD[1]. Dans le cadre de cette évaluation ont été examinés dix projets de l'OIBT achevés qui, approuvés entre 2010 et 2020 et mis en œuvre dans le cadre du Plan stratégique de l'OIBT 2013-2021, ont été exécutés en Afrique de l'Ouest et centrale. Six de ces projets étaient situés en Afrique de l'Ouest (trois en Côte d'Ivoire, deux au Bénin et un au Ghana) et quatre ont couvert plusieurs pays, du bassin du Congo principalement. La présente évaluation a posteriori examine des projets de l'OIBT achevés qui ont été mis en œuvre en Afrique dans le cadre du Plan d'action stratégique de l'OIBT 2013-2021.

Tableau 1: Détail des dix projets de l'OIBT exécutés en Afrique de l'Ouest et centrale entre 2010 et 2020

Numéro de projet	**Intitulé abrégé**	**Pays**	**Durée**	**Contribution budgétaire de l'OIBT ($EU)**
Gestion des forêts, conservation, participation communautaire, restauration des paysages forestiers				
PD 456/07	Renforcement des capacités à la gestion durable des forêts tropicales ombrophiles et à la conservation de la biodiversité dans les pays du bassin du Congo membres de l'OIBT	Cameroun, Congo, Gabon, République centrafricaine, République démocratique du Congo	2012-2019	3 890 681
PD 754/14	Restauration et gestion durable des forêts sacrées des sites Ramsar 1017 et 1018 du Bénin	Bénin	2017-2020	541 031
PD 725/13	Réhabilitation des terres forestières dégradées de la forêt classée d'Ahua par les femmes de l'association MALEBI en compensation des ressources forestières prélevées pour les besoins en énergie-bois (charbon de bois et bois de feu)	Côte d'Ivoire	2016-2018	149 408
PD 419/06 (TICAD-5)	Gestion et conservation des semences forestières: remise en état et restauration de forêts dégradées avec la participation de communautés locales (réfugiés, personnes déplacées en interne et populations locales)	Côte d'Ivoire	2013-2018	1 800 000
PD 530/08	Gestion des forêts créées dans le cadre de la remise en état de forêts dégradées par des communautés locales au Ghana	Ghana	2012-2018	569 665
Systèmes nationaux d'information, statistiques, commerce du bois, traçabilité du bois				
PD 692/13	Mise en œuvre opérationnelle du système national d'information pour la gestion durable des ressources forestières	Côte d'Ivoire	2015-2019	290 541

[1] La Conférence internationale de Tokyo sur le développement de l'Afrique (TICAD) est une initiative japonaise ciblée qui a pour objet d'encourager le dialogue politique de haut niveau entre les dirigeants africains et les partenaires au développement. Certains des projets évalués ainsi que le processus d'évaluation a posteriori ont bénéficié du concours de la TICAD.

PD 124/01	Promotion de l'aménagement durable des forêts africaines (mise en œuvre par le Secrétariat de l'OIBT) – Phase III, Étapes 1 et 2	Bassin du Congo	2011-2016	1 100 000
PD 678/12	Mise en place d'un système national d'information et de gestion des statistiques forestières au Bénin	Bénin	2013–2016	398 704
PD 700/13	Développement du commerce des bois tropicaux et produits dérivés, et de leur valorisation industrielle dans un cadre intra-africain – Phase I, Étape 1	Cameroun, Côte d'Ivoire, République démocratique du Congo	2015-2016	1 399 989
PD 620/11	Élaboration et mise en oeuvre d'un système d'identification des essences et de traçabilité du bois en Afrique au moyen du génotypage et des isotopes stables	Cameroun, Congo, Gabon, Ghana, République centrafricaine, République démocratique du Congo	2012-2016	2 046 092

Cette évaluation a posteriori est destinée à la 58e session du CIBT qui va se tenir en novembre 2022 à Yokohama, au Japon. Elle a pour but premier d'évaluer les réalisations d'une sélection de projets achevés, ce dans le but d'en tirer les principales conclusions et d'en déterminer les acquis ayant des implications futures pour les pays donateurs en matière de foresterie en Afrique. L'évaluation analyse comment la mise en œuvre de ces projets a contribué aux progrès souhaités en Afrique, ce en accord avec les objectifs généraux mondiaux de l'OIBT.

Cet examen a été mené sur la base d'une répartition des tâches entre deux consultants, l'un engagé pour traiter le rôle général des projets dans l'élaboration des politiques et préparer un document d'orientation, et l'autre pour évaluer l'exécution des projets sur le terrain. Le consultant régional a mené entre juin et août 2022 plusieurs visites ciblées sur les sites des projets et eu des interviews en ligne avec certains responsables des projets et autres parties prenantes concernées. Divers documents relatifs à chacun des projets ont été examinés, comme suit: le descriptif d'avant-projet (proposition de projet), les rapports d'avancement de projet, le rapport d'achèvement de projet, l'ensemble des rapports techniques disponibles ainsi que des articles parus dans *Actualités des Forêts Tropicales* (TFU). Des précisions ont également été demandées au personnel de l'OIBT qui a supervisé la mise en œuvre du programme.

Tous les projets ont été examinés sur la base des objectifs respectifs de l'OIBT énoncés dans son Plan d'action stratégique et des cinq domaines prioritaires déterminés dans le processus de la TICAD. L'évaluation a porté principalement sur les termes des objectifs du projet et les produits prévus comparé à ses réalisations; leurs implications en termes de politique; leurs répercussions sur le bien-être des communautés locales; les améliorations sur le plan de la gestion forestière; la conservation de la biodiversité et le changement climatique; et la probabilité de leur durabilité à long terme. Dans le cas où un projet n'a pas été en mesure d'atteindre les objectifs prévus, les raisons de cette défaillance ont été déterminées dans la mesure du possible à partir des rapports et de dialogues avec les responsables du projet.

Les principaux résultats des analyses a posteriori sont récapitulés dans deux tableaux détaillés intégrés dans le rapport principal d'évaluation a posteriori:

- Tableau 2: Résumé des produits du projet, des répercussions en termes de politique, des acquis sociaux et de la durabilité
- Tableau 5: Résumé des enseignements tirés de chacun des dix projets.

La contribution budgétaire totale de l'OIBT aux dix projets, qui s'est élevée à environ 12,2 millions $EU, a été principalement alimentée par le Gouvernement du Japon, les autres donateurs étant les Gouvernements de l'Allemagne, de l'Australie, de la Belgique, de la Chine, des États-Unis d'Amérique, de la Suède et de la Suisse. Les pays bénéficiaires ont aussi apporté des contributions substantielles, d'ordre financier ou en nature.

Tous les pays où des projets ont été mis en œuvre sont confrontés à la déforestation, à un appauvrissement de leur biodiversité et à une progression de la dégradation de leurs forêts. Un grand nombre d'habitants y sont tributaires des produits forestiers et de l'exploitation des sols forestiers (souvent sur la base de cultures itinérantes en rotations courtes) pour assurer leurs moyens d'existence.

Évaluation des projets

Il ressort de cette évaluation a posteriori que, dans l'ensemble, les projets ont eu dans les pays d'importantes répercussions favorables sur le plan des forêts, de la gestion des forêts et des communautés locales, avec des résultats significatifs sur le plan de l'amélioration des moyens d'existence locaux et de la gestion des forêts, de surface de forêt restaurée et de conservation de la biodiversité. Deux projets phares de l'OIBT (PD 456/07 et PD 124/01) ont contribué de manière majeure à améliorer la gestion durable des forêts du bassin du Congo et de celles d'Afrique de l'Ouest. Tous les projets ont été pleinement en accord avec les objectifs stratégiques de l'OIBT et ont également contribué aux processus mondiaux relevant des forêts, dont les Objectifs de développement durable (ODD) et les Objectifs mondiaux relatifs aux forêts (OMF).

Eu égard à leur pertinence et à leurs réalisations, les dix projets ayant fait l'objet de cet examen ont été conçus avec succès de manière à réduire le pourcentage élevé de perte du couvert forestier, à restaurer des forêts et à améliorer les conditions propices. Quatre projets ont porté directement sur la remise en état et la gestion des forêts (au Bénin, en Côte d'Ivoire et au Ghana), deux ont été conçus pour améliorer directement les régimes de gestion durable au niveau régional, trois ont contribué à améliorer la capacité du personnel forestier, un a aidé plusieurs pays à doper la valeur des produits forestiers et le commerce régional, et un dernier a été élaboré pour faciliter la traçabilité du bois comme moyen d'améliorer la capacité d'application des réglementations. Dans tous les cas, les projets ont répondu à au moins deux Objectifs stratégiques de l'OIBT et à plusieurs des objectifs mondiaux, ce qui montre qu'il s'agit de travaux extrêmement pertinents dont bénéficient les pays, mais aussi, au sens large, les efforts menés à l'échelon international pour améliorer la gestion des forêts et réduire la déforestation et la dégradation des forêts.

Les projets se sont montrés très efficients dans la mesure où, moyennant un financement limité, leurs réalisations ont été, dans la plupart des cas, substantielles. Cette réussite tient aux principales raisons suivantes: un processus méticuleux de sélection des projets; une collaboration avec des partenaires volontaires et dévoués; une conception de projet appropriée; une gestion rigoureuse des projets sur site par les agences d'exécution; et un suivi annuel efficace de la part de l'OIBT.

Concernant l'efficacité, à savoir la mesure suivant laquelle les résultats réels ont été atteints pour obtenir les acquis souhaités, les projets ont pour la plupart affiché de bons résultats, y compris dans les cas où certaines activités n'ont pas pu être menées à terme. Dans l'ensemble, les projets ont contribué à faire progresser la mise en œuvre de la GDF dans l'ensemble de la région et, en conséquence, ont affiché un certain succès s'agissant d'améliorer la manière dont les forêts y sont gérées. Au nombre des aspects les plus efficaces de ces projets, on citera les formations dispensées à un grand nombre de personnes (>1 300 personnes) sur divers aspects de la gestion des forêts. Les personnes formées sont porteuses d'un héritage durable, en premier lieu parce que cela augmente la probabilité d'une gestion adéquate des forêts et en second lieu parce que ces personnes peuvent transmettre leurs connaissances, ce qui se traduit par une amélioration de la mise en œuvre de la GDF dans la durée.

Concernant la durabilité de ces projets, elle devrait s'inscrire dans le long terme, ce dans la mesure où les formations dispensées au personnel, notamment à travers les projets PD 465/07, PD 124/01 et PD 620/11 ainsi que le Réseau des institutions de formation forestière et environnementale d'Afrique centrale (RIFFEAC). Ces derniers projets ont accru la capacité du personnel des pouvoirs publics à mettre en œuvre la GDF, y compris par des formations spécifiques sur la GDF, le développement de processus se rapportant aux critères et indicateurs (C&I) ou encore une meilleure capacité à faire respecter les réglementations. Il subsiste toutefois une incertitude quant à la question de savoir si, en accord avec les informations tirées de ces projets, les pouvoirs publics donneront ou non la priorité à l'amélioration de leur gestion des forêts et au recueil de données servant à mesurer la performance. Eu égard au projet 6 (PD 692/13, Côte d'Ivoire), des travaux consécutifs considérables s'imposent dans la mesure où il n'a pas pu mener à bien sa mission consistant à mettre sur pied un système national d'information forestière. Le projet 9 (PD 700/13) a fourni une analyse très utile sur le commerce des produits bois issus de Côte d'Ivoire, du Cameroun, de la République démocratique du Congo et du Gabon à destination de pays voisins. Ce projet a été spécifiquement élaboré pour accompagner la filière par des formations et les pouvoirs publics par des analyses de leurs politiques. Suite à ces travaux préliminaires, les pouvoirs publics ont amélioré leur politique en vue d'encourager le commerce tandis que la filière a mieux saisi l'importance de valoriser ses produits, y compris par la transformation sur place. La probabilité que ce projet soit durable est donc élevée. Au niveau des communautés, dans les cas où des formations ont été dispensées et des surfaces restaurées ou reboisées, y compris en renforçant la capacité des habitants à mettre en œuvre l'agroforesterie et en incluant des dispositifs de petits crédits, on peut anticiper une durabilité des projets dans la durée, en particulier pour ceux dont les effets positifs ont d'ores et déjà commencé à se concrétiser (projets PD 530/08 Rev.3, PD 419/06 Rev.3 et PD 754/14). Il est certain que, dans le cas de PD725/13 (Côte d'Ivoire), les acquis seront très vraisemblablement durables en raison de la forte implication et de l'autonomisation des femmes qui ont formé une association et mis en œuvre le projet initial.

Enseignements dégagés

De la mise en œuvre des dix projets ont été tirés d'importants enseignements qui peuvent être appliqués au cadre élargi de la coopération entre l'OIBT et la TICAD en vue d'aider à améliorer les résultats de projets ultérieurs. Les dix projets peuvent être répartis en deux grands domaines de travail: 1) gestion des forêts, conservation, participation des communautés et restauration des paysages forestiers; et 2) systèmes nationaux d'information, statistiques, commerce du bois et traçabilité du bois (voir le Tableau 1). Les principaux enseignements tirés pour ces deux grandes catégories sont présentés ci-après.

(1) Gestion, conservation, participation des communautés et restauration des paysages forestiers

L'un des cinq projets exécutés dans ce domaine de travail – PD 456/07 –, mis en œuvre par le Réseau des institutions de formation forestière et environnementale en Afrique centrale (RIFFEAC) (voir l'encadré 2), était d'une envergure beaucoup plus importante que les autres, la part budgétaire de l'OIBT s'élevant à 3,89 millions $EU. Avec pour principal but de développer les capacités à gérer en mode durable les forêts du bassin du Congo, il a permis de dégager les enseignements majeurs suivants:

- Il est essentiel en Afrique de mettre à niveau l'enseignement et la formation dans le secteur forestier en vue d'assurer la gestion durable des forêts, une transformation efficace sur place et des chaînes d'approvisionnement durables.
- L'efficacité des plateformes pluripartites mises en place par le RIFFEAC seront valorisées lorsque des groupes d'acteurs clés émanant d'institutions dirigeantes défendront les actions prioritaires identifiées et assureront la continuité du flux d'information.

- Les groupes de travail thématiques ont joué un rôle crucial dans la mise en œuvre et l'appropriation des modules et du programme de formation élaborés dans le cadre du projet, et pour promulguer les méthodes pédagogiques connexes dans les établissements de formation membres du RIFFEAC.

- Avant de lancer un projet destiné à remanier ou à créer des bases de données, que ce soit au niveau national ou local, il est nécessaire d'évaluer la compatibilité des systèmes informatiques ainsi que l'existence d'infrastructures et les informations contextuelles, et de mener des évaluations des besoins.

Compte tenu de l'attention grandissante dont fait l'objet le bassin du Congo au sein de la communauté internationale, il est essentiel de développer la capacité locale à générer de la connaissance. Le RIFFEAC, qui est doté d'un réseau actif et d'un programme de travail en vigueur, est bien imbriqué dans le processus de la Commission des forêts d'Afrique centrale (COMIFAC). Les enseignements tirés pourraient être mieux valorisés au sein des grands partenariats collaboratifs en cours dans le bassin du Congo, dont l'Initiative pour la forêt de l'Afrique centrale (CAFI).

Les quatre autres projets ont été exécutés au Bénin, au Ghana et en Côte d'Ivoire. Ils ont porté sur la restauration des paysages forestiers au sens large et ont tous fait appel aux communautés locales et à de nombreuses autres parties prenantes. Les projets de l'OIBT qui ont été mis en œuvre ont essentiellement joué un rôle de catalyseur pour tester de nouveaux outils et approches en vue de leur amplification par les pays et leurs partenaires au développement. Leurs principaux enseignements, qui sont pléthore, peuvent toutefois être résumés, entre autres, comme suit:

- Une mise en œuvre réussie de projets portant sur la gestion durable des forêts et la restauration de paysages forestiers nécessite une planification à long terme des forêts et des utilisations des terres.
- La collaboration entre les parties prenantes contribue à la réussite d'une intervention de restauration forestière. Elle exige de s'engager sur le long terme et de nouer des relations et des liens de confiance.
- La foresterie communautaire représente un important mécanisme du régime foncier dans le cadre duquel des communautés locales peuvent obtenir des droits officiels d'accéder à des forêts, de les gérer et de les restaurer, ce qui peut, en retour, améliorer leurs moyens d'existence.
- Pour assurer la participation effective des parties prenantes locales, notamment celle des femmes, et garantir des avantages équitables, les communautés nécessitent de disposer de droits solides et de la sécurité de la tenure sur la base des pratiques coutumières.
- Permettre aux communautés locales de bénéficier de formations, de participer à des activités forestières et d'utiliser des produits issus de forêts plantées les aide à développer un sentiment d'appropriation pour les travaux de restauration.
- La perception d'une crise environnementale faisant suite à la disparition d'une forêt peut fortement peser sur la motivation d'une population à planter des arbres.
- Avant de tenter d'introduire tout nouveau système destiné à remplacer ou à complémenter ceux en place, il est nécessaire de soigneusement évaluer les procédures et les systèmes des pouvoirs publics.

L'expérience tirée de ces quatre projets peut être incorporée à des initiatives internationales de plus grande envergure, dont l'Initiative pour la restauration des paysages forestiers africains (AFR100), qui vise à restaurer 100 millions d'hectares de forêt en Afrique. L'OIBT a développé d'importants outils et une expertise majeure pour aider les pays dans ces efforts.

(2) Systèmes nationaux d'information, statistiques, commerce du bois et traçabilité du bois

Deux des cinq projets portaient sur des Systèmes nationaux d'information forestière en Côte d'Ivoire et au Bénin. Ils ont en partie porté leurs fruits et aidé à renforcer les capacités et à améliorer la transparence. Toutefois, compte tenu du développement rapide des technologies d'information, il est difficile d'assurer la durabilité de ce type de projet. Les projets forestiers impliquant des technologies d'information et de communication (TIC) doivent être gérés dans le développement au sens large des TIC dans le pays.

Dans cette catégorie, trois des cinq projets étaient d'échelle régionale. Cette dimension régionale, dans les deux régions d'Afrique de l'Ouest et d'Afrique centrale, est considérée avoir son importance. Les conclusions tirées de ces projets peuvent se résumer comme suit:

- Dans les projets et activités relevant du commerce et de l'industrie, il convient d'impliquer autant que possible dans leur mise en œuvre les communautés économiques régionales (par ex., la Communauté économique des États d'Afrique de l'Ouest (CEDEAO) ou la Communauté économique des États de l'Afrique centrale (CEEAC). Pour le bassin du Congo, la COMIFAC et le Partenariat pour les forêts du bassin du Congo (PFBC) sont d'importants homologues. Les nouveaux projets de l'OIBT dans le bassin du Congo devraient envisager d'avoir recours à la plateforme mise en place par la CAFI.
- La mise en place d'une équipe régionale de coordination, incluant un responsable régional pour l'OIBT, aidera à assurer une supervision adéquate de la mise en œuvre d'un projet entre les pays.
- Lorsqu'une approche régionale est employée, il est essentiel de veiller à ce que tous les pays participants parviennent à une compréhension commune des objectifs, de la portée et des cibles d'un projet.
- Les résultats techniques et scientifiques d'un projet devraient donner lieu à des préconisations pratiques à destination des décideurs, tous échelons confondus.
- Veiller à la diffusion, en anglais et en français, ainsi que dans d'autres langues d'usage courant, des principales constatations et réalisations d'un projet à l'intention de ses potentiels utilisateurs et de publics élargis, aidera à étendre le soutien de la collectivité. Le document d'orientation préparé conjointement au présent rapport d'évaluation a posteriori peut servir de base à cet effet.
- Compte tenu de l'augmentation de la consommation de bois en Afrique, il faut tirer parti des opportunités ainsi offertes pour développer le commerce intra-africain du bois et de ses produits dérivés, ce en éliminant les obstacles artificiels et en intensifiant le dialogue à cet égard au sein des organes économiques régionaux.

Le projet PD 124/01, mis en œuvre par le Secrétariat de l'OIBT en deux phases sur plusieurs années et qui portait sur le suivi de la gestion durable des forêts et la communication d'informations afférentes au moyen de la série de critères et indicateurs OIBT-Organisation africaine du bois (OAB) ainsi que l'aide à l'élaboration des politiques forestières, a joué un rôle dans la formulation de la politique de plusieurs pays participants. Au Mali en particulier, où le rapport sur les avancées réalisées dans le sens de la GDF a mis en lumière des insuffisances et faiblesses au niveau des dispositions d'ordre juridique et réglementaire ainsi que dans le budget institutionnel dans le secteur forestier. En réponse, le Mali a entrepris plusieurs réformes dans le pays afin de mettre la gestion des forêts sur la voie de la durabilité. Une politique forestière ainsi que plusieurs textes de réglementation y ont été adoptés. Les programmes de formation des agents forestiers ont été révisés et des sessions de formation continue dispensées à l'intention des professionnels. Le dialogue entre les acteurs s'y est considérablement amélioré. Au Gabon, des réformes de la réglementation ont été entreprises afin d'encourager les entreprises enregistrées sous le régime de la GDF par des dispositifs de certification en vigueur dans le pays. En République démocratique du Congo, le projet de politique forestière a enregistré des progrès considérables et pris en compte dans les principes, critères et indicateurs (PCI) les dispositions relatives à une durabilité permanente. En Côte d'Ivoire, les aspects de durabilité et de participation pluripartite à tous les niveaux des processus décisionnels et de la mise en œuvre ont été intégrés dans le nouveau code forestier adopté en 2019. Au Bénin, les normes de la GDF ont permis au pays de lancer le processus de certification de ses plantations forestières. Plusieurs pays membres de l'OIBT participant au processus du Plan d'action de l'Union européenne relatif à la réglementation forestière, à la gouvernance et aux échanges commerciaux (FLEGT) ont pleinement tiré parti des procédures et instruments mis en place dans le cadre du projet pour faire avancer leurs négociations portant sur un accord de partenariat volontaire (APV) avec l'Union européenne.

Le projet PD 620/11 a été particulier dans le cadre de l'OIBT dans le sens où il a formé du personnel de laboratoire aux méthodes avancées de traçabilité du bois. Au nombre des enseignements tirés de

ce projet, on citera la nécessité d'une formation suffisante à la mise en œuvre du contrôle de qualité pour le prélèvement d'échantillons de référence. La taille de l'échantillonnage devrait être en effet suffisamment importante pour assurer des résultats précis, et les travaux élargis pour y inclure toutes les principales essences marchandes. De manière générale, dans l'application des lois forestières et la gestion des forêts dans les pays africains, il est nécessaire d'avoir davantage recours aux outils d'identification génétique. Car, à terme, ces outils accroîtront l'accès des produits forestiers africains aux marchés en assurant leur légalité. Il s'agit un sujet qui demeure extrêmement pertinent pour l'OIBT.

Susciter le changement pour assurer l'avenir

À l'avenir, les travaux de projet et de politique destinés à promouvoir la foresterie durable en Afrique seront menés dans un contexte politique mondial en rapide évolution et sur fond de préoccupations concernant la sécurité humaine, les conflits, le changement climatique, la sécurité alimentaire et les maladies zoonotiques émergentes. Néanmoins, des opportunités sont aussi offertes au secteur forestier africain d'aider à «reconstruire en mieux», à accroître la résilience et la production économique et à réaliser les Objectifs de développement durable.

Les pouvoirs publics, la société civile, le secteur privé, les organisations scientifiques et la communauté mondiale des donateurs devront travailler de concert pour optimiser les retombées favorables des interventions et parer aux potentielles menaces. Au nombre des domaines de travail qui répondent aux objectifs de l'OIBT et à ceux de la TICAD pourraient figurer les suivants:

- Mettre fin à la dégradation et à l'amenuisement des forêts naturelles comme moyen de soutenir la sécurité alimentaire à l'échelle du paysage.
- Réduire le risque d'apparition de nouvelles maladies zoonotiques en réduisant au maximum l'ouverture de forêts isolées et en réglementant mieux le commerce de la faune et ses marchés.
- Protéger les investissements en matière de conservation face aux diverses pressions qui entraînent l'amenuisement des forêts et leur dégradation.
- Instaurer des politiques et stratégies visant à un redressement qui soit bénéfique pour la nature suite à la pandémie de Covid-19 et aille dans le sens d'une bio-économie circulaire.
- Encourager la restauration des paysages forestiers dans les surfaces faisant l'objet de fortes pressions en termes de dégradation des terres, telles que les points sensibles accueillant des réfugiés.

L'OIBT est axée sur la GDF et la valorisation du bois et son commerce. Ses projets sont en général exécutés sur une période d'une à quatre années (mais ils peuvent aussi être articulés en plusieurs phases et donc s'étendre sur des périodes beaucoup plus longues). Ses projets mettent l'accent sur les meilleures pratiques, le développement des capacités des communautés et institutions et leur amplification au niveau local, national et régional. L'OIBT a une expérience considérable de la mise en œuvre de projets suivant un processus bien développé accompagné de garanties, qui assure la transparence, la supervision, le suivi et la communication de rapports.

L'OIBT a le potentiel d'attirer des financements de la part d'autres donateurs et institutions de financement, compte tenu du vif intérêt commun que nombre de ces derniers partagent s'agissant d'encourager la conservation des forêts et la GDF en Afrique. Les propositions de projets pourraient aussi explorer des options de cofinancement en associant des projets OIBT-TICAD à des initiatives et programmes de plus grande envergure en Afrique de l'Ouest et dans le bassin du Congo, en particulier ceux du Fonds pour l'environnement mondial et de l'Initiative sur la forêt centrafricaine.

Pour optimiser les contributions des projets aux objectifs que partagent les partenaires d'appui, ainsi qu'aux buts nationaux et régionaux, les projets soumis par des pays africains à l'OIBT devraient:

- Être conçus par des pays membres de l'OIBT et des partenaires de la région et être axés sur des solutions fondées sur les paysages forestiers, en reconnaissant l'importance de restaurer un paysage à son état

d'origine, de conserver la biodiversité et de valoriser les services écosystémiques pour les générations actuelles et futures[2].

- Être conçus pour fonctionner à de multiples échelles sur la base d'une planification spatiale.
- Avoir des objectifs spécifiques en matière de conservation de la biodiversité et de fourniture de services écosystémiques autres.
- Prévoir des dispositifs robustes de suivi, d'évaluation et d'apprentissage associés à des indicateurs clairs et mesurables.
- Se traduire par de meilleures retombées économiques pour les communautés locales et au niveau national.
- Continuer d'impliquer les communautés locales dans la gestion de leurs propres forêts locales.

Le nouveau Plan d'action stratégique de l'OIBT 2022-2026, à travers ses quatre priorités qui sont: 1) Gouvernance et investissement; ii) Économies et commerce des bois tropicaux; iii) Résilience, restauration et conservation; et iv) Statistiques et information, constitue un cadre utile pour de futurs travaux de projets en Afrique.

[2] Les solutions fondées sur la restauration des forêts cherchent à valoriser le rôle des forêts dans la lutte contre le changement climatique (atténuation et adaptation) et à réaliser les Objectifs de développement durable, en se concentrant (par exemple) sur les rôles des chaînes d'approvisionnement vertes, la restauration de biocorridors, des projets REDD+ ancrés dans les communautés, des dispositifs novateurs de suivi des forêts et la recherche-développement. Consulter les *Lignes directrices pour la restauration des paysages forestiers en milieu tropical* de l'OIBT.

1 Introduction

The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) is an intergovernmental organization promoting the conservation and sustainable management, use and trade of tropical forest resources. ITTO develops internationally agreed policy documents to promote sustainable forest management (SFM) and forest conservation and assists tropical member countries to adapt such policies to local circumstances and to implement them in the field through projects.

The present ex-post evaluation assesses ITTO projects implemented and completed in Africa under the ITTO Strategic Action Plan 2013-2018/extended to 2021[3]. The assessment is addressed to the Fifty-eighth ITTC Session in Yokohama, Japan, scheduled for November 2022. Some initial results of the assessment and a policy brief were presented as a contribution of ITTO for the *8th session of the Tokyo International Conference for African Development* (TICAD), which met in August 2022 in Tunisia.
This assessment includes two major outputs:

- *Output 1:* An **ex-post evaluation report** with the findings and outcomes of the assessment of the completion reports (through desk review) of all the projects implemented and completed in Africa under the ITTO Strategic Plan. Emphasis has been placed on the perspective of cross-cutting policy issues (such as land tenure, forest governance, capacity building, or gender empowerment). The cross-cutting analysis clarifies achievements of projects and future challenges in each policy issue in Africa. In addition, field visits had been carried out by the regional consultant in Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, and Ghana between June and August 2022 for projects with on-the-ground achievements, and in Gabon to assess regional work on three Congo Basin countries with PAFC system endorsed by PEFC.
- *Output 2*: A **Policy Brief** summarizing the major benefits, outcomes of ITTO projects in Africa under the ITTO Strategic Plan, and key findings and recommendations of the ex-post evaluation.

Initial results of the assessment and the policy brief were presented as a contribution of ITTO for the *8th session of the Tokyo International Conference for African Development* (TICAD), which was held in August 2022 in Tunisia. This is to recognize the important contribution of Japan for the work of ITTO in West and Central Africa.

TICAD is a targeted Japanese initiative, launched in 1993, to promote high-level policy dialogue between African leaders and development partners. Since its inception, TICAD has provided fundamental and comprehensive policy and guidelines on African development. TICAD's goals are to mobilize knowledge and resources of the international community to assist in the further development of Africa.

TICAD places the focus of its policy work on the following key areas:

(1) Boosting economic growth
(2) Ensuring human security
(3) Consolidation of peace
(4) Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
(5) Addressing environmental issues such as climate change

The objectives of TICAD are at the core of the ITTO's work in tropical countries in general and in Africa in particular. ITTO has been assisting its member countries in Africa in addressing the issues mentioned above through the promotion of sustainable forest management, trade in tropical timber and timber products. Projects focus mainly on forest policy formulation, capacity building, promotion and support

[3] The full name of the ITTO Strategic Action Plan is *ITTO Strategic Action Plan 2013-2018/extended to 2021*. In the present document text, the short title "ITTO Strategic Action Plan" will be used. The ITTO Council adopted a new strategic action plan at its 57th session in December 2021 to guide the Organization over 5 years until end of 2026.

to field implementation of SFM with the involvement of local communities, further timber processing and trade in legally and sustainably produced timber and timber products.

It has always been of critical importance that ITTO, as an international organization based in Yokohama (Japan), to seize the opportunity of the holding of TICAD meetings to further strengthen forestry activities in Africa, with the view to contributing to achieve both TICAD's goals and the objectives of the ITTO.

2 Purpose and Focus of the review

The primary purpose of the Africa regional ex-post evaluation is to assess the achievements of selected completed projects, with the aim to identify the main relevant findings and outcomes for future forestry-related implications of donor countries in Africa. The assessment will analyse how the implementation of these projects contributed to desired progress in Africa in line with the ITTO's overall objectives correlated with some of TICAD's goals in relation to forestry and environmental issues.

The assessment focusses on analysing the overall role and achievements of the ITTO projects implemented and completed in Africa under the ITTO Strategic Action Plan, as a contribution for the Eighth Tokyo International Conference for African Development (TICAD-8), organized in August 2022, in Tunisia and to provide ITTO with recommendations for future actions and projects.

The report includes the result of cross-cutting analyses on completion reports of all of the projects implemented and completed in Africa under the ITTO Strategic Plan. The cross-cutting analysis clarifies achievements of projects and future challenges in each policy issue in Africa that is summarized in a separate policy brief.

3 Methods

The review was conducted through work-sharing by two consultants, one hired to address the overall role of the projects for policy development and sustainability, and one hired for assessing the implementation of the projects on the ground.

Due to the global Covid-19 pandemic, travel to the project sites was only possible for the regional consultant. Nevertheless, both consultants had been to several of the sites previously to observe the projects during their implementation. Besides selected visits of the regional consultant to the sites, interviews were conducted virtually with some project leads and other involved stakeholders to assess the sustainability of the project and to collect other relevant information, in cases where the reports were unclear. Documents reviewed in for each project included: the pre-project document (project proposal), interim project reports, final project report, all available technical reports, and "Tropical Forest Update" articles. Clarifying questions were also asked of ITTO staff who oversaw implementing the programme.

All projects were reviewed based on the respective objectives of the ITTO-Strategic Action Plan (Box 1) and the five focus areas as identified in the TICAD Process. The assessment relates mainly to terms of the project objectives and planned outputs vs. their achievements, their policy implications, their impact on improving the welfare of local communities, improvements for conservation of biodiversity climate change, and the likelihood of their long-term sustainability. In cases where projects could not meet their planned objectives, reasons for lack of these achievements were determined as far as possible from reports and dialogue with project leads.

BOX 1: ITTO Strategic Action Plan 2013-2018/extended to 2021

Strategic Priority 1. Promote Good Governance and Enabling Policy Frameworks for Strengthening SFM and Related Trade, and Enhancing SFM Financing and Investment

Strategic Priority 2. Increase the Contribution of Tropical Forests to National and Local Economies, Including through International Trade

Strategic Priority 3. Enhance the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Tropical Timber Producing Forests

Strategic Priority 4. Reduce Tropical Deforestation and Forest Degradation and Enhance the Provision of Environmental Services

Strategic Priority 5. Improve the Quality and Availability of Information on Tropical Forests, Forest Product Markets and Trade

Strategic Priority 6. Build and Develop Human Resource Capacity to Implement SFM and Increase Trade in Forest Goods and Services from Sustainably Managed Forests

During the period of 2011-2020, 10 projects (including one phased-project, were implemented within the framework of the ITTO Strategic Action Plan 2013-2018 in West Africa and the Congo Basin, covering the thematic areas of two ITTO Division, the Division of Forest Management and the Division of Trade and Forest Industry (Table 1).

ITTO maintains a rigorous process of project selection, requiring submission of projects in a particular format and discussion of how the project will address the specific programme. The projects are vetted by a panel of experts who recommend projects to be selected based on a suite of criteria related to the quality of the proposal, commitment among proposed stakeholders (including in-kind and monetary support) and the relevance of the proposed project to ITTO Strategic Plan, and the objectives of the programme to which the proposal was submitted. The suite of projects reviewed here had to additionally show a relationship to the focal areas of TICAD, as well as to the ITTO objectives.

Table 1: List of projects implemented and completed in Africa under the ITTO Strategic Action Plan*

1) Completed projects under the Division of Forest Management (DFM)

	Project No.	Title	Country	Executing Agency	ITTO Budget (USD) and source	Actual Starting Date	Completion Document
	A) Forest Management / Inventory						
1	PD 456/07 Rev.4 (F)	Building the capacities of forestry training institutions of 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"	Cameroon, Central African Rep., Congo Rep, DRC, Gabon	RIFFEAC Secretariat	$3,890,681 90% Japan 7% Switzerland 3% Belgium	March 2012	CRF(LIII)/2 2019
	B) Biodiversity Conservation / Conservation Areas						
2	PD 754/14 Rev.3 (F)	Rehabilitation and sustainable management of sacred forests on Ramsar sites 1017 and 1028 in Benin	Benin	CeSaReN NGO	$541,031 100% Japan	April 2017	CRF(LIV)/2 2020

	Project No.	Title	Country	Executing Agency	ITTO Budget (USD) and source	Actual Starting Date	Completion Document
	C) Community Participation in SFM						
3	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 fuelwood (charcoal and firewood).	Côte d'Ivoire	MALEBI	$149,408 31% Japan 69% USA	January 2016	CRF(LII)/3 2018
	F) Forest Rehabilitation / Landscape Restoration / Secondary Forest Management						
4	PD 419/06 Rev.3 (F)-Ext-TICAD5-Rev.1	Forest seeds management and conservation: rehabilitation and restoration of degraded forests with the involvement of local communities (refugees, internally displaced people and local populations)	Côte d'Ivoire	SODEFOR – Société de Développement des Forêts	$1,800,000 100% Japan	Oct 2013	CRF(LII)/3 2018
5	PD 530/08 Rev.3 (F)	Management of forests established through rehabilitation of degraded forests by local communities in Ghana (Phase 2 of PD530/97 Rev. 6)	Ghana	FORIG – Forestry Research Institute of Ghana	$569,665 100% Japan	March 2012	CRF(LII)/3 2018

2) Completed projects under the Division of Trade and Industry (DTI)

	A) National Information System for SFM						
6	PD 692/13 Rev.1 (M)	Implementation and operationalization of a national information system for the sustainable management of forest resources	Côte d'Ivoire	DISA – Dep- of Ministry. of Environment, Water and Forests	$290,541 71% Japan 29% USA	March 2015	CEM-CFI(LIII)/3 2019

	B) Criteria and Indicators (C&I) for SFM						
7a	PD 124/01 Rev.4 (M) Phase III Stage 2	Promotion of sustainable management of African forests (ITTO/ATO) - Stage 1 and 2	Congo Basin	ITTO Secretariat jointly	$600,000 100% Japan	May 2014	CEM-CFI(L)/2 2016
7b	PD 124/01 Rev.3 (M) Phase III Stage 1				$500,000 40% Japan 40% Switz. 20% China	July 2011	CEM-CFI(XLVII)/ 2/2013
	C) Statistics						
8	PD 678/12 Rev.1 (M)	Establishment of a National Forest Statistics Information Management System	Benin	Direction Générale des Forêts et des Ressources Naturelles (DGFRN)	$398,704 98% Japan 2% Sweden	July 2013	CEM-CFI(L)/ 2/2016
	D) Timber Trade, Processing and Tracking						
9	PD 700/13 Rev. 1 (I)	Development of intra-African Trade and further Processing in tropical timber and timber products – Phase 1, stage 1	ITTO	Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon	$1,399,989 100% Japan	April 2015	CEM-CFI(L)/2 2016
10	PD 620/11 Rev.1 (M)	Development and implementation of a species identification and timber tracking system in Africa with DNA fingerprints and stable isotopes	ITTO	Cameroon, Central African Republic, DRC, Republic of Congo, Gabon, Ghana and Kenya	$2,046,092 100% Germany	February 2012	CEM-CFI(L)/2 2016

A brief descriptive of each project is attached in Annex 8.4

4 The ten projects analysed under the ITTO strategic framework

4.1 Output and sustainability assessment of the completed projects

The 10 projects[4] implemented within the framework of the ITTO strategic action plan included three projects in Côte d'Ivoire, two projects in Benin, one project in Ghana, one with regional focus in the Congo Basin (RIFFEAC), and three projects implemented by the ITTO Secretariat to the benefit of multiple African countries (Figure 1).

Five projects were dealt with primarily by the Division of Forest Management, including production forestry, biodiversity conservation, community participation in SFM and forest restoration, with one major project having a focus on forest management education (RIFFEAC)

Five projects were projects under the Division of Trade and Industry, involved in national information system for SFM, the use of Criteria and Indicators for SFM (a project divided into 2 stages), Statistics and timber trade, processing and timber tracking (Table 1).

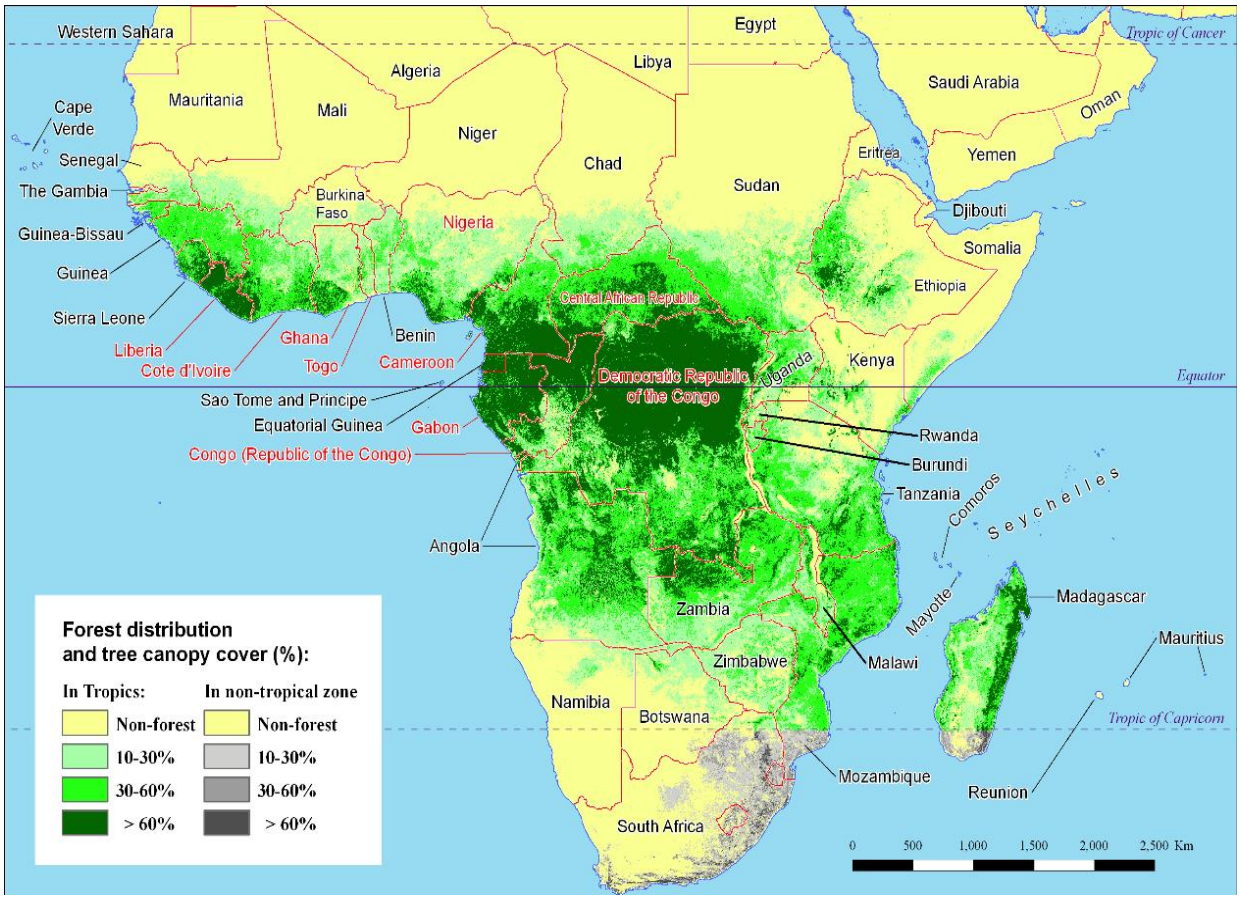
Projects were more or less successful but, while the large majority of projects have proven to be effective, the success rate was very much dependent on completion of their funding (Table 2).

[4] In the table, one major project (PD 124/1, implemented by ITTO and ATO was divided into 2 stages. The two stages are assessed separately in Table 3

In 2015, ITTO lost the majority of its project funding owing to some unfortunate internal accounting issues. The projects funded at that time suffered as a direct consequence and ITTO budgets needed to be adjusted and activities reduced. Nonetheless, all projects assessed in this report achieved most of their objectives in spite the needed revisions of budgets. Outcomes had to be reviewed and outputs have been adjusted to reflect the reduced funding available.

Two projects, one PD 456/07 (RIFFEAC) with a regional focus and PD 754/14 implemented in Benin were recently assessed in the framework of the ITTO/CBD Programme review of ITTO-CBD collaboration[5]. This evaluation has been taken into account in the present report.

Figure 1: Forest distribution in Africa



Note: The projects evaluated in this report were in West Africa (Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Benin) and the Congo Basin (Cameroon, the Central African Republic, the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Gabon).
Source: Blaser, J., Sarre, A., Poore, D. & Johnson, S. (2011). *Status of Tropical Forest Management 2011*. ITTO Technical Series No 38. ITTO, Yokohama, Japan.

Table 2 presents the objectives and outputs achieved and not achieved of each project individually. The policy effects and the overall social outcomes are described in summary form. The sustainability of the overall outcomes was assessed, using 4 categories: H for high achievement; M for medium achievement, L for low achievement and U for uncertain effect on sustainability at the moment of assessment. A special comment was added on the sustainability status of the respective projects in mid-2022 even that the great majority of the projects had been completed before 2019 . Each project was also assessed in respect to its contribution to Outcomes for Global processes (SDGs and Global Forest Goals), as well as to their alignment to TICAD focus areas.

[5] Programme review of the ITTO-CBD Collaborative Initiative for Tropical Forest Biodiversity. ITTO October 2020.

Table 2. Summary of project objectives vs. ITTO objectives, projects outputs achieved and not achieved, and policy effects.

Project	Planned outputs /objectives	Corresponding ITTO strategic plan*	Outputs achieved and not achieved; Policy effects; Social outcomes; Sustainability (H, M, L, and U = uncertain); and global process impacts**
(1) RIFFEAC Congo Basin **Gabon, Cameroon, Rep. of Congo, Democratic Rep. of Congo, Central African Republic** **PD 465/07 Rev.4 (F)** Capacity Building for Sustainable Management of Tropical Rain-forests and Biodiversity Conservation in the ITTO Congo Basin Countries **Focus: SFM education**	**Objective:** The main objective of RIFFEAC is to promote inter-institutional collaboration at sub-regional level between training institutions in order to improve training standards and address the needs of sustainable forest ecosystem management in the Congo Basin This includes to build the capacities of 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. **Outputs:** ▪ By 2016, each RIFFEAC training institution provides training in SFM and biodiversity conservation according to revised, harmonized and validated modules /programmes and related methodologies ▪ 2016, each training institution has appropriate training equipment and materials available to respond to the requirements of modern teaching/training modules and related methodologies and the need to improve professional competencies in SFM and biodiversity conservation. ▪ By 2016, at lead 120 trainers and other personnel trained or re-trained in SFM and biodiversity conservation.	1, 3, 5, 6	The project followed from an earlier start in 2008 **Achieved:** ▪ SFM teaching modules were developed by 12 thematic working groups featuring 144 teachers from the seven beneficiary RIFFEAC institutions. The working groups proposed a methodology for operationalizing the modules and drew up lists of the equipment needed for top-quality training ▪ Under the project, 110 full-time trainers and 170 temporary or part-time trainers in the seven RIFFEAC founding member institutions were trained or retrained in the use of equipment and hardware purchased for the implementation of the six teaching modules ▪ The six training modules were developed and implemented; one module was specifically based on the IUCN/ITTO guidelines for biodiversity conservation ▪ A considerable amount of equipment, including vehicles was provided to 7 training centres, as well as 6 buildings constructed ▪ As a result, more than 460 students graduated in 2017-18, including many at a master's degree level. ▪ There are now standardized education modules for all countries and biodiversity is mainstreamed into the curriculum. **Not achieved:** Not all targets were met for the number of trainers trained, and the manuals were very slow to be completed (it took 8 years), partly owing to the budget reduction of ITTO funding in 2015. **Policy effects (SFM and Biodiversity):** The completion report suggested no real impact on sub-regional (country) training policy, in part because of the many ministries involved and COMIFAC have not achieved full coordination. Nevertheless, sustainable forest management and biodiversity is now implicated in all training curricula for the 7 countries and foresters are much better trained. All new forestry technicians and foresters will have training on SFM and biodiversity conservation indicating considerable impact on-the-ground in relation to forest planning. This will undoubtedly translate into policy changes in the near future.

	Planned project duration: 60 months, not included an early start in 2009) **Effective duration**: 84 months **Starting date**: April 2012 **End date**: March 2019		**Social outcomes** The project did not involve local communities but focusses on training of local workforces in forestry, agriculture and business organisation. **Sustainability (H)** The results from this project will be highly sustainable because both infrastructure and training modules were provided to forester training centres to improve capacity among the graduate. Increased management and conservation knowledge will continue to build over time in all countries involved. **Status in 2022** The RIFFEAC Secretariat remains active in the framework of COMIFAC. The website is updated, and members remain active. Some outside support is performed through the current GIZ support to COMIFAC What can be concluded from the 2022 assessment is: ▪ The various modules developed during the implementation of this project have enabled substantial reforms in forestry training institutes ▪ Several new specialization modules in forestry and environmental professions have been opened to offer more opportunities to students and allow Administrations and other user structures to dispose of new skills on new themes. **Outcomes for Global Processes** GFGs: 1, 5 and 6 SDGs: 4 (quality education), 8 (Decent work and Economic Growth), 9, 15.5, 15.7 **Link to TICAD focus areas:** 1, 4 and 5
(2) Benin **PD 754/14 Rev.3 (F)** Restoration and sustainable management of the Ramsar Site sacred forests 1017 and 1018. **Focus: SFM and Protected areas**	**Objective:** 1. To ensure the sustainable management of sacred forests at Ramsar sites (1017 and 1018) by building the capacities of stakeholders to improve the living conditions of local populations. 2. To contribute more broadly to FM of humid tropical forests in south Benin. 3. To achieve better revenues from the forest resources	1, 3, 4, 6	**Achieved:** ▪ 42 sites of sacred forests have been legally recognized and demarcated ▪ Management plans are in place for the Ramsar sites, and a local management committee was established and about 160 ha of degraded sites were enriched with valuable and vulnerable tree species. ▪ Revenues from the forest have increased by 25% as a result of the project. Further, Local Community Protected Area status was applied for but not yet achieved, but this will help to meet the Benin NBSAP objective for PAs and contributing to the Aichi Target for area protected.

	4. To integrate the sacred forests into the community PA system. **Planned project duration**: 24 months **Effective duration**: 46 months **Starting date**: February 2015 **End date**: December 2018 **Summary** Ramsar sites 1017 and 1018 in Benin are dotted with pockets of sacred forests (SFs) which are rich with biodiversity, representing a natural heritage of great value due to their multiple biological, ecological, socio-cultural and economic functions. Currently these forest areas are subject to severe degradation that threatens the entire ecosystem of Ramsar sites and therefore the livelihoods of local people. This project intends to sustainably manage sacred forests within Ramsar sites 1017 and 1018 in Benin through the sustainable management of 40 sacred forests within these sites**.** It will contribute to achieve the building capacity of stakeholders and improving the living conditions of local communities.		▪ There is now much better cooperation among the communities for management of these forests. **Not achieved:** ▪ PA status is not yet assured at the end of the project, owing to the long process. ▪ Only about 50% of the reforestation was accomplished because of budget reductions. This result means that there is also less intactness among the forest stands than was planned. **Policy effects (SFM and Biodiversity):** Many local policy effects were achieved for community engagement and empowerment. At the national level, there were clear policy effects for protected areas management in Benin with respect to the lessons learned of importance of involving local communities in decisions and the strategies employed during the project. **Social outcomes** The project was implemented in a highly participatory way including mainly traditional authorities (village chiefs, communal heads, priests). The project achieved the joint development and implementation of Management Plans for 42 sacred forests, although the timeline and sustainability are not clear. In addition, 129 individuals were given revolving funds for sustainable forest management, improved agricultural practices and other income-generating activities. As the credit cycle is not yet finished, the actual impact on incomes is not clear yet. **Sustainability (M)** There is still uncertainty over the long-term PA status of these forests. Nevertheless, better management of the forests appears sustainable owing to formation of community-based management committees, the application of good practices, and the good results for the alternative livelihoods aspects of the project. As livelihoods improves, local people have less need to encroach on the sacred forests. Further, government has taken up the results with respect to providing information to management of the same forest types elsewhere in the country. The results could easily be more sustainable with a phase 2 project **Status in 2022**

			In 2022, the activities initiated by the NGO CESAREN within the framework of the project are still continuing. Three (3) decentralized financial systems are still in operation on the project sites through financial support for IGAs (Income Generating Activities), gas kits and reforestation activities. At the end of the project in 2020, 467 beneficiaries including 325 households for the gas kits were involved in the project activities. In 2022, the number of beneficiaries increased to 1,257, including 962 beneficiaries of gas kits. Recovery rates for loaned funds have increased from 88% in 2020 to 91% in 2022. Demands from community members are on the rise and other communities have expressed interest in benefiting of such schemes. The limits of sacred forests are identified and marked up and their protection is reinforced through the involvement of stakeholders. Reforestation through the taungya system and other activities such as beekeeping reinforce the protection of these forests **Outcomes for Global Processes:** GFGs: 1, 2, 3, 5 SDGs: 1.1, 6.6, 15.1, 15.2, 15.5, 15.9 **Link to TICAD focus areas:** 2, 4 and 5
(3) Côte d'Ivoire **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 fuelwood (charcoal and firewood).	Follow up project to PD419/06Rev.3(F) EXT-TICAD5 **Objectives:** ▪ Increase the forest cover of the Ahua Forest Reserve through the involvement of local communities surrounding the forest ▪ 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. **Summary:**	2, 3, 4, 6	**Achieved:** ▪ 84 people were trained, including 47 women, through 2 programmes for producing forest plant species ▪ 108 participants attended 2 workshops on techniques for establishing, maintaining and protection of agro-forest species ▪ 86,950 trees were planted including 33,330 teak and 63,620 cassia ▪ 100 ha was reforested, of which 50 ha were occupied by women's associations, a few families and individuals for taungya cultivation crops of cassava, maize, yams, peppers, tomato, maize, okra, bissap, beans and *Hibiscus senegalense*. ▪ Community awareness meetings held in the villages, by groups of women and young people in the public spaces, or by visits to family yards and courtesy visits to the chiefs. The local prefecture was regularly informed of all the activities carried out with the communities bordering on the Ahua classified forest ▪ Monitoring of agroforestry plantations by the communities made it possible to avoid theft of food crops, to raise awareness of bush fires and to correct

Focus: Community-based SFM	The Ahua forest reserve has deteriorated rapidly due to land clearing for the establishment of crops, illegal logging to meet the needs for fuelwood and timber to source mainly the informal market. To break this trend, women members of the MALEBI association engaged in rehabilitation activities involving agroforestry practices and other means. **Planned project duration:** 24 months **Effective duration:** 28 months **Starting date:** January 2016 **End date:** April 2018		the distance between the trees, which was 3x3 m in 2016, to 5x5 m in 2017, to allow for better growth of food crops ▪ Surveying and mapping of plots to be reforested ▪ Acquisition of a building for storage of agricultural products and equipment **Not achieved:** ▪ Limited purchase of simple equipment for the transformation of agricultural products due to budget cuts on the ITTO budget. ▪ High frequency of forest fire in the region of Dimbokro and in the classified forest of Ahua impede survival and growth of young trees and crops. ▪ Some interruption of work for security reasons due to a military uprising during the project implementation affected some project outcomes. **Policy effects (SFM):** With the involvement of several government agencies in implementing this project, there was a recognition of the importance of sustainable forest management and the protection of biodiversity. Government is now well aware of the need for reforestation as a mechanism to supply wood for energy to local communities and of the need to involve local communities in this kind of work. This project will assist the communities to manage their forest effectively with government support and advice, and their more regular presence in the forest will deter illegal activities. **Social outcomes** This project had a high level of social impact, especially by empowering women to be directly involved in activities including collection of seeds, production and distribution of seedlings, practicing taungya cultivation, maintenance of associated food crops, protection reforested areas, and supply of fuelwood. The processing and trade of agricultural products from food associated with reforestation constitute an additional source of income for the populations of rural areas and help alleviate poverty. **Sustainability (M)** This project was implemented by involving local people at all stages of implementation. These people benefitted from several capacity-building training sessions associated with project activities. Being based in the communities, the women are available for the continued collaboration and to ensure the protection of their forests against bush fires and illegal exploitation. These factors suggest a high probability of long-term sustainability.

			Status in 2022 After the end of the project, the resources obtained from joint activities and local funds collected are barely able to cover the costs of upkeep and maintenance of equipment and to assist the store management teams. Taungya plantations are being developed further away from the village, which causes problems of access and loss of interest to invest as the collection of products becomes difficult. Silvicultural work in forest plantations is lacking. The site of the Ahua Classified Forest was selected as being a part of the FIP (Forest Investment Programme) financed by the World Bank in the framework of REDD+ programme in 3 administrative regions of the country. The activities, particularly with the focus of inclusion of women in the protection of forests are of interest. The FIP-2 extension was granted in May 2022. Therefore it is expected that some core elements of the project will be continued and even reinforced through FIP2. **Outcomes for Global Processes:** GFGs: 1, 2, 5 SDGs: 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 2.1, 2.3, 5.5, 5.a, 12.2, 15.1, 15.2 **Link to TICAD focus areas:** 1**,** 4 and 5
(4) Côte d'Ivoire PD419/06Rev.3(F) EXT-TICAD5: Forest seeds management and conservation: Rehabilitation and restoration of degraded forests with the involvement of local communities (refugees, internally displaced people and local populations	Follow up project to PD419/06 Rev.3(F) EXT-TICAD5 **Objective :** 1. Contribute to the sustainable management of the gazetted forests of Côte d'Ivoire 2. Rehabilitating forest land degraded by displaced populations and refugees in the Duékoué and Scio forests **Planned project duration:** 48 months **Effective duration:** 54 months **Starting date:** October 2013	1, 3, 4, 6	**Achieved:** ▪ Common work planning between local communities and refugee groups for restoring heavily degraded classified forest areas that were being used for illicit shifting cultivation, firewood and fuelwood extraction (estimated area for restoration through taungya planting and other means: 2000 ha) ▪ Training and production for silvicultural work, including collecting and treatments of seeds of forest tree species, production of stumps, creation of community nurseries for tree species and agricultural crops; ▪ Support to the creation of user associations and distribution of « farming kits » (containing seeds of selected food crops, small equipment and tools, etc.) to selected households of local communities, refugees and displaced families to support agricultural activities including introduction of paddy rice and agroforestry (taungya) production systems. ▪ Establishment of 10 warehouses for storage and the installation of small food processing machines for producing food products from agroforestry plantations;

Focus: forest restoration	**End date:** April 2018 **Summary** The western part of Côte d'Ivoire was the scene of violent clashes during the successive crises of 2002-2011. This area took a heavy toll during the warfare, which has generated many internally and externally displaced populations and led to the establishment of refugee camps in the region. Some communities settled in the reserve forests (Duékoué and SCIO forests, 52,675 ha and 88,000 ha respectively), destroying the existing natural resource bases and assets. Local communities, displaced persons and refugees engaging in uncontrolled logging and wood harvesting. To reverse the trend the project embarked in restoration activities with the involvement of local populations, displaced persons and refugees, the production and dissemination of high-quality seeds and seedlings by local communities, the subcontracting of forest rehabilitation work with local communities and distribution of processing equipment for the marketing of food products to improve the living conditions of these communities.		▪ Organization of training on the different stages leading to the establishment of agroforestry plantations with taungya methods; ▪ Land preparation in the Classified Forests of Duékoué and Scio, with the local communities and establishment of agroforestry plantations in a collaborative effort between local associations and SODEFOR ▪ First maintenance and monitoring work of established Taungya plantations by local communities. **Not achieved:** The final reports are not clear to what extent local people can continue to use land in the classified forests, once trees (mainly teak) are established in the taungya fields and agricultural activities have to cease. A long-term plan of further rehabilitating degraded forests in the reserve forests has not been developed. It was also unclear to what extent the project was accepted by the local population, especially older people who feared for the loss of their lands. **Policy effects (SFM and Biodiversity):** Impact on policy from this project was related to the recognition by the forest agency (SODEFOR) that there is a need to encourage and involve local community participation in organizing forest improvement through reforestation and agro-forestry. In part this involved consulting the public on what species should be used for reforestation that would be most useful to the communities. The project also has influenced SODEFOR to consider the role that indigenous communities and local communities can play, with proper training, in managing their local forest and that SFM can only be accomplished through these means. For biodiversity, any increase in forest area will result in an increase in the local biodiversity. **Social outcomes** The project had a strong social impact by involving local people in implementation, and by resulting in increased incomes. The project, through implementing taungya systems has provided a workable system by which people can reforest and use the area also for food crops. People can also use the tools provided for paid local services. Projects, such as this, that provide training and assistance to local communities instill a level of provide among community members to better manage their forests. **Sustainability (M)**

			This project has solidified the mandate of SODEFOR, as directed by government, to reforest and manage plantations in this area. As a result, SODEFOR will take advantage of the project results to continue to manage the forests in this classified area. In addition, the local population has benefitted and will continue to benefit from both the plantations and the new agro-forest system instituted by the project. **Status 2022** In 2022, the need for cultivable land for the practice of the taungya system with local populations is still perceptible at the stakeholder level. However, the land already cultivated is in 2022 completely covered with planted forest species and by a heavy invasion of secondary natural growth of the light-demanding tree species, in particular *Ceiba pentandra* ("fromager"). The areas cultivated for 2-3 years cannot be cultivated again. Cultivable land is increasingly far from the villages and the access tracks are practically impassable by car, only motorcycles and tricycles can access. The transport of agricultural products out of the location is thus difficult. The stores built during the project implementation period are still used by the user groups set up. The processing equipment was supplemented by the offices of the groups to expand the service offer to their members and to the rest of the population of the villages. Maintenance and replacement of machines and tools are ensured by contributions from users, but at reduced rates for the transformation of their products. Most of the tricycles provided by the project are out of work (2 still functional out of 10). The reforested plots need to be thinned out to ensure better tree growth. The products of the thinning could be made available to the populations in return for their contribution to the performance of the silvicultural work. **Outcomes for Global Processes:** GFGs: 1, 2, 5 SDGs: 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 1.b, 2.1, 2.3, 2.4, 12.2, 15.1, 15.2 **Link to TICAD focus areas:** All: 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
(5) Ghana **PD530/08 Rev.3 (F):**	**Objective:** 1. Forests established by local communities by rehabilitating	1, 2, 4, 6	**Achieved:** ▪ The state of forest cover and land use types in the study area are determined ▪ Stakeholders are mobilized and indigenous knowledge on options and strategies are determined

Management of forests established through rehabi-litation of degraded forests by local communities in Ghana (Phase 2 of ITTO project PD30/97 Rev 6) **Focus: forest restoration**	degraded forests become one of the major sources of livelihood and improving landscapes 2. To collaboratively and sustainably manage with local communities' forests established by rehabilitating degraded forests. **Planned project duration:** 48 months **Effective duration:** 73 months **Starting date:** March 2012 **End date:** April 2018 **Summary** The project contributes to rural livelihood by improving benefits from forests established by local communities through rehabilitation of degraded forests. Specifically, it intends to participatively develop models and identify strategies and use them for the management of forests established by local communities through rehabilitation of degraded lands, provision of goods and services and also determine mechanisms for payment of the services to ensure improved livelihood of local communities. Outputs include elaborating of commonly agreed strategies for forest restoration; training of local communities in introducing indigenous timber species and non-timber forest products (NTFPs) in degraded forests and smallholder forest plantations. Also, the feasibility of designing and implementing PES scheme for degraded forests rehabilitated by local communities is explored		▪ Joint management plans are developed, and their options, strategies and monitoring mechanisms are implemented ▪ Indigenous timber species and NTFPs are selected, and suitable planting techniques are in place ▪ Capacities of local communities in the production of seedlings of NTFPs and indigenous timber trees are developed; Over 47 local timber species and one exotic timber species (teak) have used in the planting. Five different NTFP species have been integrated in portions of the planted forest. ▪ A plantation monitoring system is in place ▪ Key ecosystem services are identified and mapped ▪ Capacities of local communities in determination of forest carbon stocks and quantification of key ecosystem services are built ▪ Methodology for predicting the financial values timber trees before final rotation and economic valuation of key ecosystem services are in place ▪ Current and expected governance structures for PES and mechanisms for dealing with challenges are determined ▪ Over 180 farmers engaged in tree planting on the degraded forest reserves have their plots of plantation registered with the government. Over 224 ha of plantation have been established and distributed in three degraded forest reserves in the project sites. ▪ The benefit sharing documents are to be handed over to the relevant authorities including the farmers, the traditional authority and Forestry Commission of Ghana (Forest Services Division, farmers, the traditional authority and Forestry Commission of Ghana (Forest Services Division, Plantation development office in Accra and the plantation office at the RSMC in Kumasi). **Not achieved:** All activities were achieved, but project duration exceeded by many months the time span initially planned. Co-benefits arrangements have not yet been applied. **Policy effects (SFM and Biodiversity):** Collaborative efforts between local communities and forest services in restoring classified forests, including joint land-use and management planning and the formulation of benefit sharing schemes is new and innovative in Ghana and a major shift in forest policy. It is also useful in applying REDD+ in Ghana and will count towards their NDC. **Social outcomes:**

			This project had a very strong social impact through the involvement of local populations in restoring classified forests. This made it possible to provide additional income to the populations. Also, the practice of the taungya system during the creation of plantations has provided people with land for their food crops. The training received should enable them to continue this activity with the Forestry Commission or within the framework of other reforestation projects. **Sustainability (M)** The inventory and the registration of farmers and their trees planted in the degraded forest reserves have raised the interest of farmers. Farmers from outside the project area have been requesting for portions of the degraded forest reserves to plant food crops and timber trees on degraded forest sites. Farmers already engaged in the replanting of the degraded portions of the forest reserves are further requesting for additional portions of the degraded forest reserves to expand their plots of established plantation through additional planting. The FSD are to fill this gap by allocating portions of degraded forest reserves and supporting farmers with the tree seedlings. Support to this activity is given by the Forest Investment Programme (FIP) of the World Bank under the Forestry Commission of Ghana (FC) The results of the project will be consolidated by FORIG, which has received the mandate from the State for the creation and management of forest plantations in the classified area. It will therefore be able to transfer the reforestation created into its heritage and ensure its maintenance and silvicultural work. **Status 2022** Degraded land in forest reserves continued to be made available to operators as requested. The land suitable and available for this practice of the improved Taungya system however is increasingly far from the villages and difficult to access, as there are only limited means for transport and evacuation of agricultural products. Also, the access roads to forest restoration sites need repair as plantation sites and agricultural plots are increasingly difficult to reach to undertake needed maintenance. **Outcomes for Global Processes:** GFGs: 1, 2, and 5 SDGs: 1.1, 12.2, 15.1, 15.2, **Link to TICAD focus areas:** 2, 4 and 5

(6) Côte d'Ivoire **PD 692/13 Rev.1** (M): Implementation and operationalization of a national information system for the sustainable management of forest resources	**Objective:** 1.To contribute to the sustainable management of forest resources in Côte d'Ivoire through the development of a national information system on forest resources 2. To make the National Information System for the Sustainable Management of Forest Resources operational **Planned project duration:** 24 months **Effective duration:** 46 months **Starting date:** February 2015 **End date:** November 2018 **Summary** The project is based on a former ITTO pre-project that provided a diagnostic on the current status of forest statistics in Côte d'Ivoire and to develop a strategy to establish a national forest statistics management system. An Integrated Forestry Activities Management System (SIGAF) was designed within the Ministry of Water Forest Resources (SIGAF). Several computerized forest statistics management systems have been developed. The outcomes included (i) to effectively implementing the forest information system, testing and improving it to better address the expectations of users and better adapt to the requirements of the FLEGT mechanism; (ii) Building human capacities to collect and process forest statistics, both within MINEF and economic stakeholders of the timber	1, 5, 6	**Achieved:** ▪ Developed computerized information modules needed to track timber products (following the perspectives of the FLEGT system) ▪ Tested the computer module for collecting and processing statistics from users ▪ Installed computer equipment in testing centres and tested them ▪ Installed the required internet/computer cables at the pilot sites ▪ Drafted rules for the project operation and appointed project team members ▪ Definition, harmonization and validation of data collection procedures **Not achieved:** ▪ Training of users (MINEF staff and economic operators) in data processing ▪ Promotion of the developed applications ▪ Dissemination of the results from the data collected and processed ▪ Problems with internet resulted in not establishing a link between the different collection centers by intranet network ▪ Training of MINEF staff in data collection methods ▪ Supervision of data collection ▪ Difficult administrative procedures **Policy effects (SFM and Biodiversity):** The collection of data under the project will be used to generate reports on SFM and biodiversity. Policy impact resulted from the standardization of data collection methods and formats, thereby improving the national data available for forest management. This new data collection system displaced a number of independent systems and imposed a policy of uniformity in data collection, that was validated by field testing. **Social outcomes** The monitoring of local development contribution payments, as reported by the decentralized services, makes it possible to measure the positive impacts of forestry activities on local and rural development. **Sustainability (L)** The project encountered several difficulties during its implementation. Several prerequisites remain to be put in place to ensure the efficient operation of the automated collection systems, as was planned by the project.

	industry; and (iii) reach full computerization of the forest statistics data collection and processing system.		**Status 2022** As the IT sector is changing very rapidly, the basic elements used to plan the project were quickly overtaken by technological progress. Indeed, the transition from cable internet to WIFI had not been sufficiently anticipated. The IT equipment acquired was already obsolete at the time of the ex-post evaluation. In addition, the regulatory framework has evolved considerably in Côte d'Ivoire in terms of the dematerialization of administrative acts. This also included the ministry in charge of forests (MINEF). Documents relating to activities of the forest companies in are put in QR codes now. Further work on digitalization is underway. However, the procedures manual drawn up during the implementation of the project is regularly used in several process acts to supervise the activities even if the automatic transmissions and the real-time implementation of the information as initially planned by the project are not still effective. Reflections are continuing at the level of MINEF for the creation of the database. In addition, several private operators have set up mechanisms to make the majority of their legality documents available online. **Outcomes for Global Processes:** GFGs: 1 and 5 SDGs: 15.1, 15.2 **Link to TICAD focus areas:** 1**,** 4 and 5
(7a) ATO/ITTO **PD 124/01 Rev.2 (M) Phase 3 Stage 1:** Promotion of Sustainable Management of African Forests	**Objective:** 1. Promote the sustainable management of African forests through the application and implementation of the OAB/ITTO Principles, Criteria and Indicators, with the support and participation of all concerned parties. 2. Establish drivers to develop an adequate capacity for implementation of OAB/ITTO PCIs at national level for African Member Countries of ITTO, Principle 1 of PCI.	1, 2, 3, 5, 6	**Achieved:** ▪ Development of national PCIs for planted forests in Togo, Ghana, and Côte d'Ivoire ▪ Finalizing and validating national PCIs in natural forests in Nigeria, and Central African Republic ▪ Training 25 Togo foresters to conduct forest audits ▪ Organization of pilot audit missions in forest concessions in Gabon (8), Cameroon (3), and Côte d'Ivoire (4) ▪ Finalize the original text of NWG (National Working Groups) in the DRC ▪ Development of national reports on progress made towards SFM based on principle 1 of PCI, in Togo, Nigeria and DRC. ▪ Validation of the evaluation grid for the drafting of management plans in Cameroon, taking into account the PCI of OAB and ITTO

	3. Establish the drivers needed to enable efficient regional cooperation through the OAB, to support the individual members in their efforts to implement PCI of OAB/ITTO **Planned project duration:** 18 months **Effective duration:** 26 months **Starting date:** April 2011 **End date:** Mai 2013		▪ Organize joint workshops with OFAC/OAB/ITTO for the collection and validation of data for reporting on forest resources in DRC and Gabon ▪ Develop a webpage for the African Regional office on which the results of the project are displayed: www.oibt-afrique.org; ▪ Strengthening the capacity of the ITTO Africa Regional Office by setting up a Coordinator to implement the project. This person also facilitates communications between the OAB and its member countries participating in the project with a view to revitalizing its activities. **Not achieved:** Not all national coordinators were appointed so the project work with less capacities. **Policy effects (SFM and Biodiversity):** This project was primarily about SFM and provided management tools to member countries for use at the national and local levels. Principle 3 of the PCI of OAB/ITTO refers to indicators for biodiversity as a means to evaluate environmental effects and conservation in the forest. Principle 3 considers the legal, regulatory and institutional provisions to ensure consideration of biodiversity in policies and regulations. Policy impacts arise with the adoption of the OAB/ITTO guidelines requiring measurement of indicators to document the success of SFM systems. **Social outcomes** Principle 4 of the OAB/ITTO PCI guidelines ensures that provisions are in place to ensure that companies and government consider and show respect for the social impacts of forest management on local communities. The project, however, did not involve communities directly and so there were no direct social outcomes. **Sustainability (M)** Sustainability is addressed through the development of national reports assessing progress towards SFM based on principle 1 and forest auditing missions conducted in management units to assess the level of countries and FMU managers in relation to the implementation of sustainability issues at political and FMU levels **Status 2022** At the end of the implementation of the first stage of the project, a second stage to consolidate the activities was developed and financed. It is the activities of this second stage that have been the subject of this ex-post evaluation (see beneath).

			Outcomes for Global Processes: GFGs: 1, 2, 5 and 6 SDGs: 12.2, 15.1, 15.2, 15.5, 15.9 **TICAD focus areas: 1,** 2, 4 and 5
(7b) ATO/ITTO **PD 124/01 Rev.2 (M) Phase 3 Stage 2:** Promotion of Sustainable Management of African Forests	**Objective:** 1. Promote the sustainable management of African forests through the application and implementation of the OAB/ITTO Principles, Criteria and Indicators, with the support and participation of all concerned parties. 2. Establish drivers to develop an adequate capacity for implementation of OAB/ITTO PCIs at national level for African Member Countries of ITTO, Principle 1 of PCI. 3. Establish the drivers needed to enable efficient regional cooperation through the OAB, to support the individual members in their efforts to implement PCI of OAB/ITTO **Planned project duration:** 18 months **Effective duration:** 28 months **Starting date:** April 2014 **End date:** July 2016	1, 2, 3, 5, 6	**Achieved**; ▪ Established SFM systems in Mali and at the FMU level in Benin; ▪ Establish PCI for forest -plantations in Benin and for natural forests in Benin and Mali ▪ Training of 25 forest staff for forest audits in each of Benin and Mali ▪ Organize pilot forest audits in forest concessions in Gabon (4), Ghana (6), Congo Brazzaville (3), Togo (4), and Mali (2). Training was provided to auditors during each of the audit missions. ▪ Development of national SFM reports reporting progress based on principle 1 in Mali and Benin ▪ Organize joint workshops among OFAC/OAB/ITTO on the collection and validation of DRC and Cameroon ▪ Organize a joint workshop with FAO and COMIFAC to take stock of the processes for developing and using PCIs ▪ Strengthen the capacity of the ITTO Africa Regional Office by hiring a Coordinator to implements the project, and to facilitate communication between the OAB and its member countries participating in the project with a view to reactivating its activities. ▪ Participate in several international meetings relevant to C$I processes. **Not achieved:** There are no “not achieved activities” **Policy effects (SFM and Biodiversity):** This project was primarily about SFM and provided management tools to member countries for use at the national and local levels. Principle 3 of the PCI of OAB/ITTO refers to indicators for biodiversity as a means to evaluate environmental effects and conservation in the forest. Principle 3 considers the legal, regulatory and institutional provisions to ensure consideration of biodiversity in policies and regulations. Policy impacts arise with the adoption of the OAB/ITTO guidelines requiring measurement of indicators to document the success of SFM systems. **Social outcomes**

			Principle 4 of the OAB/ITTO PCI guidelines ensures that provisions are in place to ensure that companies and government consider and show respect for the social impacts of forest management on local communities. **Sustainability (M)** The project was able to assess advances in SFM through the development of national reports on progress towards SFM, based on principle 1 and forest audits at the FMU level to assess the level of countries and FMU managers with respect to the consideration and implementation of sustainability at both policy and FMU levels. Most countries now have a pool of well-trained auditors who can independently conduct forest audits for SFM using their national PCIs for all types of forests. In addition, with a little determination (considering that audit missions are not very expensive) several concessions or FMUs could be audited in each country. However, not all countries have benefitted from the conduct of pilot audit missions to complete the practical training of their national auditors. These trainings were planned in Stage 3 of Phase III of the project, which did not receive funding from ITTO. **Status 2022** 10 countries have been involved in this flagship project on promoting sustainable management of African forests. The result analysis by the regional evaluator in 2022 revealed that countries made quite different experiences on progress towards SFM. The status of sustainability in each participating country as assessed in mid-2022 is outlined in Annex 9.1 (in French). **Outcomes for Global Processes:** GFGs: 1, 2, 5 and 6 SDGs: 12.2, 15.1, 15.2, 15.5, 15.9 **Link to TICAD focus areas:** 1**,** 2, 4 and 5
(8) Benin **PD 678/12 Rev.1 (M):** Establishment of a National Forest Statistics	**Objectives** 1. To contribute to SFM in Benin by producing reliable data on forest resources 2. The specific objective is to establish a national information collection and management system for the	1, 5, 6	**Achieved:** Significant participation of stakeholders was obtained in the collection and management of forest data. Forest statistics management was institutionalized in compliance with the guidelines of the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD 2016). This was made possible by the establishment of the Standing Committee for Forest Statistics Coordination and Monitoring based on an inter-ministerial order. National forest statistics are now available online.

Information Management System	sustainable management of forest resources in Benin **Planned project duration:** 24 months **Effective duration:** 34 months **Starting date:** July 2013 **End date:** April 2016 **Summary:** The project contributed to building the capacity of the forest administration in data collection and statistics management and to improving the visibility of forest resource management. It is now possible to complete the Joint Forest Sector Questionnaire (an initiative of ITTO and other organizations) in a timely fashion, and stakeholders have greater access to reliable information through the online database.		The DGFRN website now provides the public—such as economic operators, users, students, researchers, non-governmental organizations and technical and financial partners—with downloadable background information on the forest sector. Forest statistics directories for 2013–2014 and 2014–2015 were developed and disseminated. National data and indicators on forest resources can now be updated in a timely fashion. **Not achieved:** Although SIGSTATFOR was operational at project completion, however, capacity-building measures are still needed to address skills gaps as well as concerns raised by grassroots stakeholders with a view to ensuring the system's stability and sustainability **Policy effects (SFM and Biodiversity):** This project established a modern and functional forest statistics management system to provide statistics on forest production and processed forest products enable improvement of long-term planning on the valuation/development of forest products. Forest statistics management was institutionalized in compliance with the guidelines of the United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD 2016). As a result, better information from the system will improve application of SFM. The information regularly collected and processed makes it possible to refine long-term planning operations and help in decision-making. Statistics on reforestation and logging operations will assist with SFM and provide information on biodiversity issues. Project implementation had an impact on the structure of the forest administration. The Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Division was established at the departmental level, and UFPSE was created, with the status of a directorate. **Social outcomes** En dehors du renforcement des capacités des agents de l'Administration publique et du secteur privé en charge des statistiques, il n'y a pas d'activités spécifiques en lien avec le social. There were no social objectives under this project. **Sustainability (M)**

			An increase in the forestry budget in Benin suggests the willingness of stakeholders to continue the project activities after the end of ITTO funding. Nevertheless, a second phase of this project was recommended by the stakeholders. **Status 2022** The procedures and protocols to be implemented for the collection and production of forest statistics on a regular basis are in place. However, the production of statistical yearbooks on forest resources has not continued over the past two years, even though activity reports using the framework created during the project are still being produced. Consideration should be given to the dissemination of the information collected online, in order to reduce the costs associated with printing documents and maintain the dynamics of data and information collection by grassroots actors. Indeed, the distribution of digital copies of forest statistics would be the beginning of a solution to the concerns raised by the actors. **Outcomes for Global Processes:** GFGs: 1, 5 SDGs: 12.2, 15.1, 15.2, 15.5, 15.9 **Link to TICAD focus areas:** 2, 4 and 5
(9) ITTO Secretariat with Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon, DRC, Gabon **PD 700/13 Rev.2 (I):** Development of intra-African trade and further processing in tropical timber and timber products – Phase i [Stage 1]	**Objectives:** 1. The development objective of the Project is to promote socio-economic development and sustainable management of African forests through value creation by expanding the further processing of wood products and enabling intra-African trade in tropical timber and timber products. 2. The specific objective is to initiate consolidated efforts to establish key elements in capacity to strengthen competitiveness of ITTO African producers in timber and timber products markets.	1, 2, 5, 6	**Achieved:** ▪ A document on the costs and benefits of tariff and non-tariff barriers in selected countries is produced and presented during the regional workshop which validated the recommendations of the study. The final version of the study is available. ▪ A new database on tariff barriers for TTPs for easy access by private sector enterprises was developed using tariff data from www.macmap.org of the International Trade Centre (ITC). The data base is a worldwide compendium of all timber and timber products for export from all the ITTO African producer countries. ▪ National strategies for development of further processing and TTP exports in pilot countries have been implemented. Several workshops had been organised in pilot countries ▪ A regional workshop to exchange experience on industrial and trade development to share lessons learned was organised in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, along with several intermediary workshops to validate some key documents produced during the project

	Planned project duration: 12 months **Effective duration:** 16 months **Starting date:** April 2015 **End date:** July 2016		▪ Baseline studies on domestic markets, cross-border trade and the role of the informal sector had been made in Côte d'Ivoire, DR Congo and Cameroun ▪ The market news service (MNS) was in place since July 2015 and has delivered monthly market news and a web-based database on African producers of tropical timber and timber producers and their products, for which directory is: http://africantimbercompaniesdirectory.com/. ▪ 14 timber industries of small, medium and large size benefitted from in-house training, with 257 workers and 30 employees attending training 2 sessions (December 2015 and February 2016). ▪ Training and support packages had been given to the heads of industry associations in Côte d'Ivoire and skills had been developed **Not achieved:** There are no "not achieved activities" identified in the reports **Policy effects (SFM):** During the implementation, the project team made efforts to ensure that the countries were willing to undertake policy reforms to enable further processing and trade of timber products. The project assessed national forest laws of the four participating countries (Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon, DR Congo, and Gabon) and found that there was room for improvement to encompass: i) processes to facilitate trade and arrangements in operation for timber and timber products exports; ii) national strategies for development of further processing and timber and timber products exports in-country; iii) taking measures to improve market transparency; iv) providing training in further processing and trade development; v) developing national industry/trade professional associations; and vi) providing technology transfer. As a result of this analysis, all countries are updating their forest laws – thereby indicating direct and large impact of this project on regional and national policies. In Côte d'Ivoire, the associations in the tertiary processing sector have increased their cooperation and have approached the Forestry Administration and timber manufacturers for better collaboration. However, administrative constraints related to the non-attachment of the tertiary artisanal and semi-industrial wood processing sector to the Ministry of Water and Forests are still major bottlenecks. **Social outcomes**

			Forest industry workers and timber processing associations were involved in the project through training and capacities-building. Ultimately, with revised policies and work towards increasing value-added to timber products, there will be a very positive impact on livelihoods of forest workers in the three countries. **Sustainability (M)** Sustainable trade of timber and timber products in the markets of southern countries in Africa through further processing of wood. Trade in timber and timber products within African countries will be improved. Better knowledge on formal and informal barriers in the wood market within Africa was developed and made available to member countries. **Status 2022 (assessed for Gabon only)** In particular in Gabon, the government has encouraged the drying of most wood processed by industries. Also, all products resulting from the third transformation of wood and intended for export are exempt from taxes. However, there are several constraints to the effective adoption by wood manufacturers of this level of processing (lack of qualified human resources, quality of transport infrastructure, etc.). Industrial wood zones have been created and are being operationalized (including Nkok). **Outcomes for Global Processes:** GFGs: 1, 2, 5 and 6 SDGs: 9.1, 9.b, 12.2, 12.a, 17.11 **Link to TICAD focus areas:** 1, 2, 4 and 5
(10) Germany with Cameroon, CAF, DRC, RC, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya **PD 620/11 Rev.1 (M):** Development and implementation of a species identification and timber tracking system with DNA	**Objective:** **1.** Improve the transparency and effective management of supply chains, and to increase domestic and international trade of legally produced tropical timber; **2.** Develop and implement a timber tracking system using DNA and stable isotope profiling for 3 important timber species in Africa: Iroko (*Milicia excelsa* and *M. regia*), Sapelli	1, 5, 6	**Achieved:** ▪ A timber tracking system with DNA and stable isotopes is set for the three species (Iroko (*Milicia excelsa* + *M. regia*), Sapelli (E*ntandrophragma cylindricum*) and Ayous (*Triplochiton scleroxylon)*. Reference maps are made for each species; ▪ Based on the wood anatomy and the DNA analyses, the CITES protected species identification of these tree species is now much more precise. Also, DNA technology helps to distinguish *Khaya anthotheca* from *K. ivoirensis*; ▪ Three genetic reference labs were equipped, three training workshops were organised and 11 trainees visited western laboratories for capacity building; ▪ 20 African tree species have been identified by wood anatomy and DNA barcoding;

fingerprints and isotopes in Africa	(*Entandrophragma cylindricum*) and Ayous (*Triplochiton scleroxylon*); **3.** improve the tools available for the identification of tree species with the emphasis on CITES protected species and species that could be confounded with them; **4.** Transfer knowledge and capacity building in producer countries. **Planned project duration:** 18 months **Effective duration:** 42 months **Starting date:** February 2012 **End date:** July 2016		▪ Blind testing of 50 samples from unknown origin belonging to 20 species based on wood anatomy and barcoding analysis was completed; ▪ Sampling of cambium or leaves from 4800 individual trees and wood samples from 720 trees belonging to 3 species (240 locations, 20 samples for the genetics and 3 samples for the isotopes) had been collected; ▪ DNA extraction protocols for wood had been optimised; ▪ Gene marker (chloroplast and nuclear microsatellites, SNPs) development and DNA fingerprinting for Ayous, Iroko and Sapelli had been completed; ▪ Blind testing of 60 samples from unknown origin belonging to 3 species and 50 samples from identified origins based on DNA fingerprinting were collected; ▪ Stable isotope fingerprinting for 420 Iroko, 209 Sapelli, 169 Sapelli trees had been identified; ▪ Blind testing of 60 samples from unknown origin belonging to 3 species based on stable isotopes fingerprinting had been completed; ▪ Endowment of DNA fingerprinting laboratory equipment were supplied to the participating countries; ▪ 11 trainees had a 3-month research and training in western laboratories and three training workshops were organised in the three respective reference laboratories in African countries; ▪ Ring tests were done to set up the same level of lab standards in 2 countries was completed; ▪ Samples of cambium were collected from 400 Khaya trees and wood of 200 Khaya; ▪ Development of markers and DNA fingerprinting was done for 400 Khaya trees; ▪ One week training in Ghana was provided to the FORIG team on genotyping. **Not achieved:** ▪ The laboratory from Libreville/Gabon did not complete the ring test, for technical reasons (an electricity blackout) **Policy effects (SFM and Biodiversity):** Tracking of wood with wood using DNA and stable isotopes is a part of the sustainability criteria in forest management and trade in wood products. Genetic diversity within the same species is an element of biodiversity to be taken into account. The availability of markers can contribute to enforcement actions against illegal logging and also to distinguish among tree species and their origins when

			marketing wood products. The genetic reference laboratories in Kenya and Ghana are able to amplify DNA from the study species, while in Gabon, there is still a need to improve the lab organisation. Nevertheless, the advances made influence enforcement policy by vastly improving the technical capacity to take increased action making it easier for governments to combat illegal wood trade. The project also imposes a higher level of learning and awareness within government of the technologies now at their disposal to combat forest crime. **Social outcomes** There were no social objectives in this project, except training of technical staff. **Sustainability (M)** Equipping the laboratories and increasing the technical capacity of the laboratory technicians will enable development and implementation of new programs beyond the 3 species for which information was developed during this project and the 20 others identified by wood anatomy and the DNA barcodes. **Status 2022** The data collection continued in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire after the end of the project. The results were shared during a workshop bringing together African producing countries and timber importers. There are no ongoing activities on this theme in the beneficiary countries anymore by mid 2022 **Outcomes for Global Processes:** GFGs: 1, 5 SDGs: 12.a, 15.1, 15.5, 15.7 **Link to TICAD focus areas:** 2, 5

4.2 Contribution of the completed projects to global processes

There are several sets of global goals, objectives, and targets that have been developed through various global processes, most of which overlap to some degree, and to which the assessed projects have contributed. Specifically, these relate to the ITTO Strategic Action Plan objectives, the Global Forest Goals, and the Sustainable Development Goals. The relevance of each of the projects to these processes is noted in Table 2 and summarized in the figures beneath. Projects such as the once assessed in this report are important nationally or locally, but together they contribute significantly to the global effort to increase forest cover, address climate change through mitigation, and to improve people's lives through better forest management.

4.2.1 ITTO Strategic Plan and links to TICAD Focus areas

Central are the objectives of the ITTO Strategic Plan. The ITTO Strategic Action Plan was originally scheduled from 2013-2018 but was extended until 2021. A new Action Plan has been re-written in late 2021. The ITTO Strategic Objectives are those stated in the ITTO Strategic Action Plan 2013–2021, under which the ten projects were implemented. All projects conformed directly to at least two of the ITTO Strategic Plan objectives (1 – governance of SFM, and 6 – developing capacity for SFM), and most were directly relevant to four or more of these objectives (Figure 2). For this report, it was also relevant to link the projects to TICAD's intervention areas (see Figure 3). TICAD has played an important role in funding projects related to African development, including a number of projects relating to forests. The main TICAD areas of interest addressed by this suite of projects included 'achieving the SDGs' and 'addressing environmental issues', specifically for forests.

Figure 2. The relationship of projects to the ITTO Strategic Objectives.

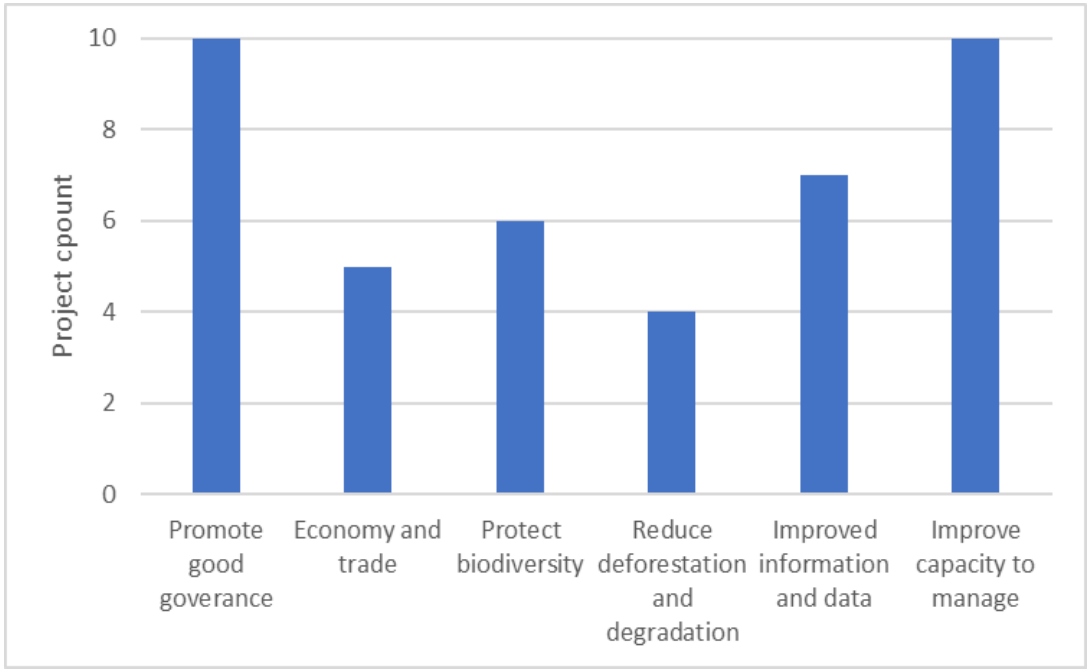
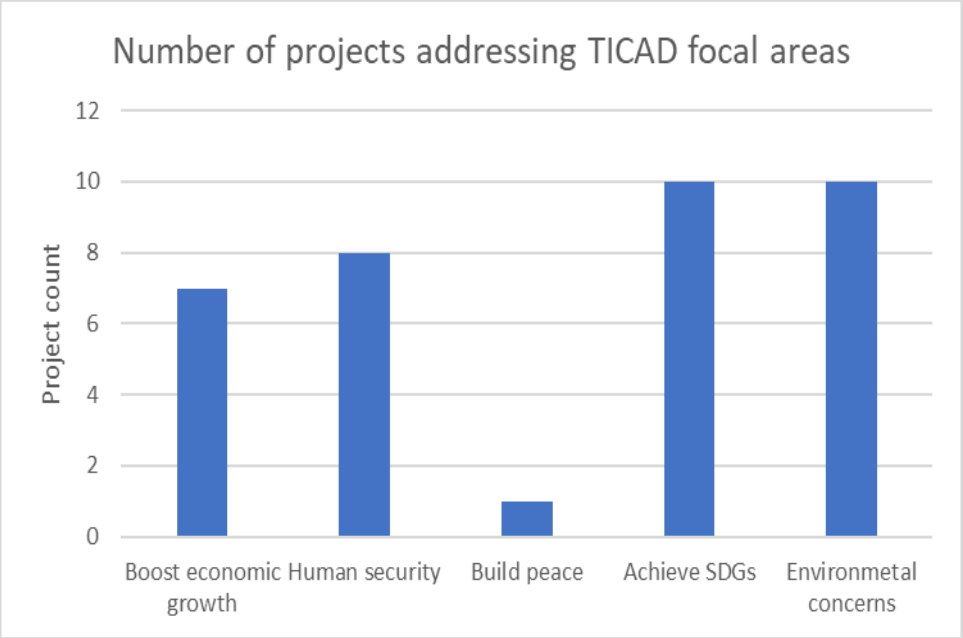


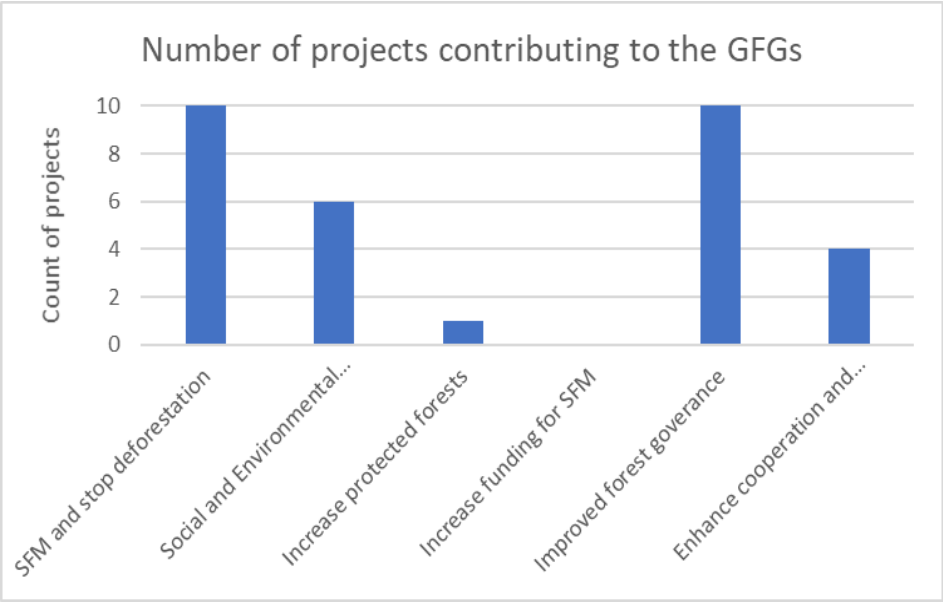
Figure 3. Number of projects that were related to the TICAD focal areas for work.



4.2.2 Global Forest Goals

The projects primarily contributed to GFGs 1, 2 and 5, referring respectively to reducing forest loss, enhancing benefits to people who rely on forests, and improving governance and policy for SFM. Given that the focus of ITTO is to generally improve the application of SFM, the main focus especially on goals 1 and 5 is not surprising (Figure 4).

Figure 4. The contribution of these 10 projects to the Global Forest Goals.

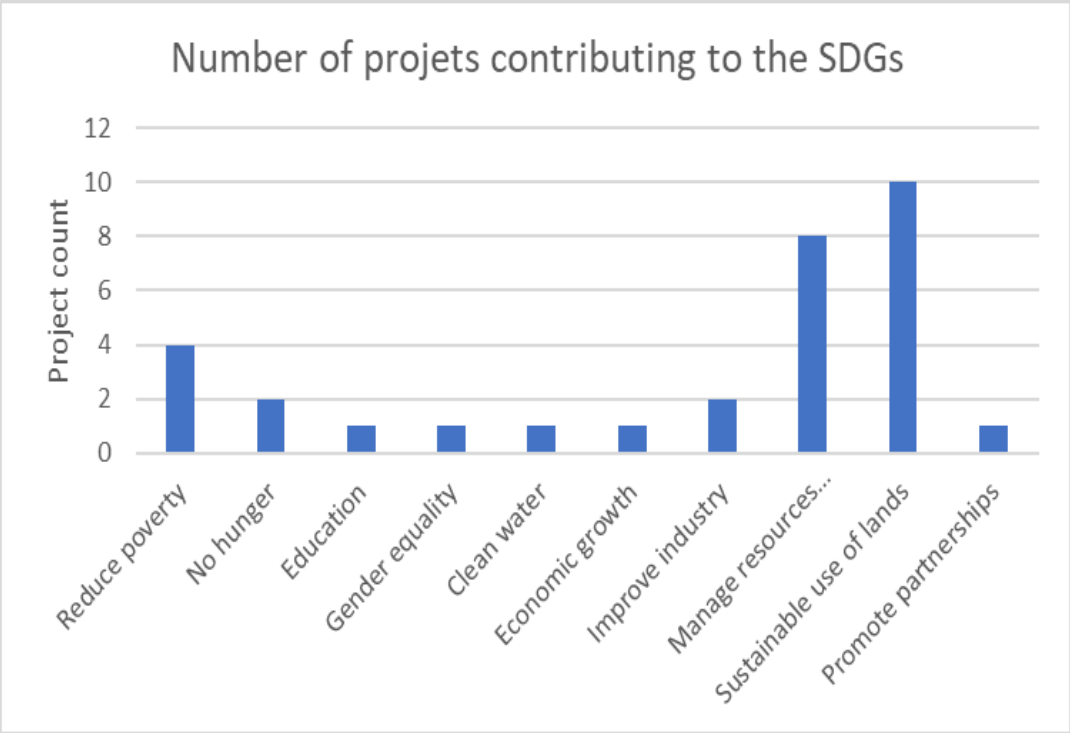


4.2.3 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The SDGs were adopted by UN member states in 2015 as a part of the "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", with the intention of improving global approaches to sustainable development. The projects together contributed to six of the SDGs (Figure 5). By definition, all of the projects contributed to SDG 15, with particular emphasis on Targets 1 and 2 with respect to SFM.

The main SDG to which these projects contributed to is Goal 15 referring to "Life on Land", towards the sustainable use of terrestrial resources. The other SDG influenced by the project was Goal 12, to ensure sustainable production and consumption. An example with considerable impact on the SDGs is project PDF 456/07 (RIFFEAC). It relates to a variety of SDGs, including SDG 4 (quality education), 8 (decent work and economic growth), 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure), 13 (climate action) and to a variety of objectives under SDG 15 (life on land).

Figure 5. The contribution of these 10 projects to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.



4.3 Relevance and Achievements

The importance of ITTO globally is the role that it plays in assisting countries to develop sustainable forest management systems, improving their forest governance, increasing the technical capacity of forestry staffs, assisting in forest product development and trade, and improving the livelihoods of forest dependent communities through better forest management.

Relevance and achievements of each of the ten projects are summarized in table 2. The ten projects were all intended to improve forest management in Africa, where deforestation and forest degradation has been an ongoing concern for several decades. For example, according to FRA (2020), between 1990 and 2020, Africa lost an average of 3.5 million ha of forest per year, or -0.5%. That rate has increased over the past 5 years. and more than 100 million ha of forest has been lost since 1990. While there are no estimates of the forest area degraded, it is generally accepted that degradation likely exceeds the rate of deforestation.

The 10 projects subject of this review were designed to work towards reducing this high rate of forest cover loss, by addressing the ITTO Strategic Plan objectives. The projects can be generally described as follows: four projects dealt directly with forest recovery and management (in Benin, Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana), two projects were designed to directly improve sustainable management systems, three projects improved forest staff capacity, one assisted several countries to bolster forest product value and regional trade, and one project was designed to assist with timber tracking as a means to improve enforcement capacity. In all cases, the projects addressed at least two of the ITTO Strategic Objectives

and several of the global goals, indicating highly relevant work benefitting both the countries and more broadly, the global efforts to improve forest management and reduce deforestation and degradation.

Table 3 illustrates some major outcomes and outputs from the 10 projects. Quantitative data were however difficult to extract from the projects' documentation. Achievements include 2384 ha of forest regenerated; more than 1300 people benefitting from advanced training; national forest databases developed in two countries (Côte d'Ivoire and Benin) and income was considerable improved for several forest communities. Not least among the important outcomes has been the implementation of various means to improve sustainable forest management in participating countries, either through implementing C&I process for forest monitoring, training auditors, or by developing national forest statistics and information technology.

Table 3. Examples of primary outcomes and outputs produced from the 10 projects (based on project reporting).

Outcomes	Outputs	Project*	Specific result
SFM improved	▪ Information system for forest data and national forest statistics	6, 8	▪ Data collection to improve SFM and collection of indicator data
	▪ PC&I process instituted	7a and b	▪ Improved assessment of SFM at the FMU level
	▪ Timber tracking method	10	▪ Improved enforcement tools
Increased capacities (Staff trained).	▪ 280 staff trained	1	▪ Training in SFM
	▪ 84 staff trained	3	▪ Training in nursery management
	▪ Unknown number	4	▪ Trained for agriculture cooperatives
	▪ Unknown number	6	▪ Trained for data entry
	▪ 242 foresters	7a	▪ Trained as forest auditors
	▪ 60 foresters	7b	▪ Trained as forest auditors
	▪ >400 staff	8	▪ Trained in database use and development
	▪ 287 staff	9	▪ Trained for product development and marketing
	▪ 11 staff	10	▪ Lab staff trained in wood identification
Forest regenerated	▪ 160 ha	2	▪ Increased revenues
	▪ 100 ha	3	▪ Empowered women in forest management, improved crops grown
	▪ 2000 ha	4	▪ Crop trees and food crops for communities
	▪ 224 ha	5	▪ Increased income to local community

*Project number 1-10, refer to table 1 and 2

Overall, this suite of projects has made sustainable forest management a more likely outcome among the 11 countries concerned as a direct result of training, forest regeneration, developing PCI systems

for auditing in 3 countries, improving enforcement techniques, involving communities in forest management, and improving product development and trade possibilities.

A central aspect of this overall effort was project PD 456/07 (RIFFEAC), boosting forest education in the Congo Basin for five countries. RIFFEAC is educational network among 7 training institutions in the Congo Basin. It could cement its reputation as the leading network for implementing Priority Area 1 and related strategic objectives of COMIFAC's revised Convergence Plan through training, research and communication, the harmonization of programmes, the specialization of institutions, and the strengthening of specialized institutions. As a result of its work, RIFFEAC helped secure funding from other development partners beyond ITTO to continue its efforts to improve forestry education and training the region. Additional funding was especially through Germany's Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture, for developing training programmes on legal and sustainable supply chains, and from the Japan Forestry Agency to implement further training modules.

Principles, criteria, and indicators (PCI) have become an important component in all SFM systems over the past 20 years. However, it is important that each country develop its own C&I process that is most relevant to the individual country, although making use of existing criteria and principles is a common approach, with development of locally relevant indicators. Under project PD 124/01 Rev.2, principles, criteria, and indicators were developed for various forest types (natural, plantation) and at various levels (FMU, national) in five countries. This effort represents a significant advance in the implementation of SFM for the several countries that succeeded because it provides a basis against which to measure the outcomes of forest practices as presently conducted.

Project PD 124/01 as a regional project was instrumental for policy development in several of the participating countries. In particular in Mali where the report on progress towards SFM has highlighted the insufficiencies and weaknesses of the legal, regulatory, institutional budgetary provisions in the forestry sector. This has led the country to undertake several reforms in the country in order to include forest management in the direction of sustainability. A forestry policy has been adopted as well as several regulatory texts. The curricula for the training of forest agents have been reviewed and continuous training sessions for professionals have been undertaken. The dialogue between the actors has improved considerably. In Gabon, regulatory reforms have been undertaken to encourage SFM-registered companies through forest certifications operating in the country. In the DRC, the draft forest policy has made considerable progress and has taken into account the provisions of continuous sustainability in the PCI. In Côte d'Ivoire, the new forest code adopted in 2019 has integrated issues of sustainability and multi-stakeholder participation at all levels of decision-making and implementation. In Benin, SFM standards have enabled the country to embark on a certification process for its forest plantations. In several ITTO member countries involved in the FLEGT process, they have taken full advantage of the procedures and instruments put in place within the framework of the project to advance in negotiations on voluntary partnership arrangements (VPAs) with the European Union.

Project 9 (PD 700/13) incorporated a much-needed analysis of trade barriers among countries and some individual studies of how wood is processed in Africa. A key result was illustrated under Project PD 700/13 Rev.2, with a finding that artisanal timber producers and traders produce a very large volume of wood product but fly largely under the radar in the region. Even when outlawed, as was the case in Côte d'Ivoire, these small operators continued to provide products owing the large local demand. As a result, there exists a need for policies and legal frameworks that incorporate their activities as a part of the larger forest product sector.

Building the capacity of government staff, farmers and other community members who manage forest areas, and industry personnel is an important mechanism to assist developing countries to improve their understanding of how sustainable forest management should function. Eight projects involved

major efforts towards training people, resulting in advanced understanding of many aspects of SFM, data management, or laboratory expertise. As mentioned above, more than 1300 people received some form of training. Further, some of this training was focused on training of trainers, which will, as time goes by, increase the number of staff ultimately trained as a result of these projects. Capacity-building is a cornerstone achievement of several of these projects as the ITTO works towards improved forest management in Africa.

In conclusion, the projects were all highly relevant to the development agenda of ITTO member countries in Africa, as well as and TICAD to manage forests more effectively, improve people's lives, and to develop forest resources in a more sustainable manner.

4.4 Efficiency and Effectiveness

For this aspect of the review, it should be mentioned that ten ITTO projects have only a small amount of funding, relative to some other global programmes, with a total allocation of just over US$12 million for the 10 projects over multiple years. By comparison, a single full-sized GEF forest project often have more than such amount for a single project. For restoration of tropical forests, usual cost estimates are between $1000 to $2500/ha, as an indication of the high costs for forestry work. Therefore, by comparison, given the funding levels with which these 10 projects worked, the high degree of success in completing projects and the impacts that they achieved are extraordinary. The results from some of the smaller projects in West Africa indicate that local communities are willing to work, even with small amounts of funding, to improve their livelihoods, build capacity and sustain biodiversity when possible.

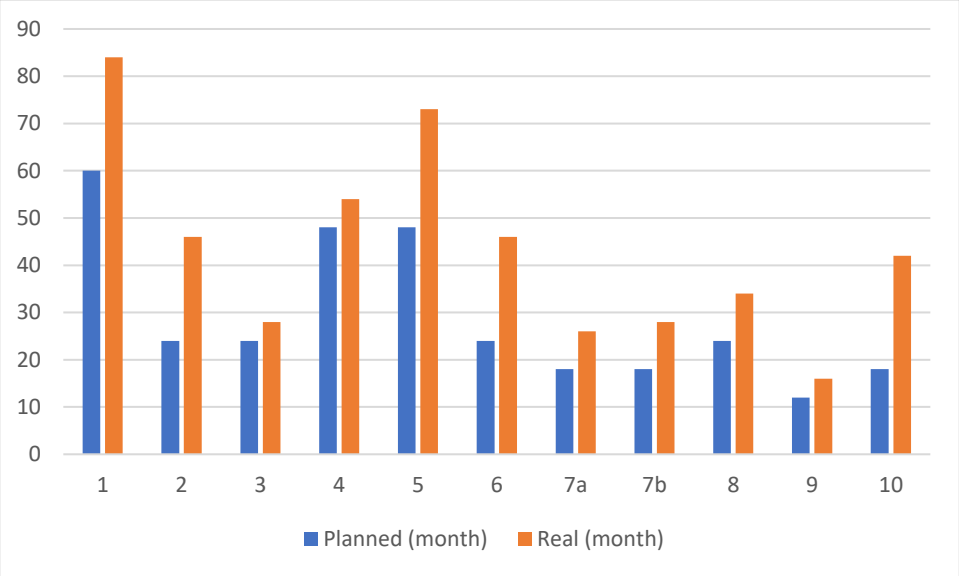
Most of the projects were highly efficient based on limited funding with, in most cases, substantial achievement. The key reasons for this success were: a careful project selection process, working with willing and dedicated partners, proper project design, strong on-site project management by the implementing agencies, and effective annual monitoring by ITTO. For example, project 3 in Côte d'Ivoire noticeably increased the forest cover of the Ahua Forest Reserve through the involvement of local communities surrounding the forest (table 2). Nevertheless, the inability to complete projects based on the initial project planning once ITTO funds were considerably withdrawn in 2015 has affected the overall outcomes of the projects.

Monitoring of all projects was undertaken through the ITTO requirement for a detailed annual progress report, which included a complete accounting for the years' funding. All projects complied and this obligatory monitoring component also enabled the local and ITTO project managers the opportunity to indicate where problems had occurred, to suggest corrective actions, and to indicate if any changes would be required. ITTO project management staff visited all project sites several times over the course of each project to ensure that they were performing as required and to assess outcomes. Overall, the monitoring protocol was effective and efficient. Monitoring would be a much easier task however, if clear numerical targets were pre-established where possible. Most of these projects have not specified the size of the area on which their activities were applied. The lack of clear numerical targets makes assessment difficult in some cases. On the other hand, a good example of target-setting was found for the RIFFEAC forester education project, where the targets were very clear and easily measurable.

Respecting the planned project duration is an important element by which efficiency can be assessed. Figure 6 summarizes the planned versus the real project implementation of the 10 assessed projects. Due most probably to the 2015 funding constraints in ITTO, the majority of the projects were not implemented within the initially planned time span f. Some projects had a slight delay of 4-6 months, e.g., projects 3 and 9 (PD725/13 Côte d'Ivoire and PD 700/14 ITTO regional.) Other projects, however, showed considerable delay in implementation, such as project 6 (PD693/13, Côte d'Ivoire) and project 10 (PD 620/11, Timber Tracking with DNA fingerprints). Both projects needed nearly the double of the time that was planned for their implementation. The time frame to reach the targets and probably the

underestimation of time needed to fulfil all administrative processes seem to be other reasons for such delay in implementation.

Figure 6. Planned and real project duration of the 10 projects.



Project numbers 1-10, refer to tables 1 and 2

The implementation of the 10 projects was effective based on technical achievements of many projects, including in particular capacity building, forest restoration, training manuals, policy dialog (PC&I), completed technical reports and new technologies (including in particular Project 10 on timber tracking systems based on DNA fingerprints). Some projects included applied research components, including promotion of agroforestry and indigenous tree species. All of the projects successfully produced technical reports that provide significant contribution to understanding local forests, their use and biodiversity.

In respect to effectiveness, i.e., the extent to which the actual results have been achieved to fulfil the desired outcomes, most of the projects have shown good results, including in cases where some activities could not be completed. Overall, the projects have advanced the application of SFM across the region and, as a result, have achieved some success in improving the way in which forests are managed. Among the most effective aspects of these projects was training provided to a large number of people (>1300 people) for various aspects of forest management. Trained people provide a lasting legacy, first because the outcome results in an increased likelihood of successful forest management, and second, because these people can pass their knowledge on to others, resulting in a long-term improvement in the application of SFM. Similarly, training people in local communities on agroforestry provides not only knowledge to these communities but instils a sense of pride in their ability to grow crop species and improve their livelihoods. In the area of advanced technology, the training and equipping of laboratories and staff to supply the needed service of tree identification to improve enforcement was an effective outcome because these labs can now provide a service within the region. Not all projects were fully effective; two projects (PD 124 and PD 692/13) were unable to fulfil their intended outcomes in all its extent, in part owing to budget constraints, but also because of less than adequate planning, and Project 419/06 had issues working with the local communities.

4.5 Impacts and effects (policy, social, forest management, and biodiversity)

As outlined in Table 2, impacts of the Initiative were assessed on four factors: policy, social, forest management, and biodiversity knowledge and management. An attempt was made to assess possible longer-term impacts by doing a special review on the status of the projects in the year 2022. Most of the projects have been terminated in the years 2018 and 2019 so that an assessment of the status in 2022 could be of interest to assess impact and sustainability of results. Overall, there were clear impacts from all of the completed projects, many with respect to social and policy changes (see section on Status in 2020 in Table 2).

Policy impact

A central policy outcome of the four projects dealing with forest landscape restoration was to create guarantees and trust among the various stakeholders involved, particularly to local communities. A good example is Project 5 (PD 530/08 Ghana). In this project that included local communities in restoring degraded sites in reserved forests, the official registration of these tree plantations to local communities were a central element for success. Local farmers were required to register established plantations to ensure that they obtained a share of the benefits at the time of harvest. Similarly, in Project 2 (Benin) and Côte d'Ivoire (projects 3 and 4), efforts were made to restore degraded scared forests and a reserve forest, respectively, that should become protected areas. These latter forests were partially restored with the ready assistance from the communities, using local tree species and with assistance to improve agro forestry resulting in community benefits. From these four projects, policy makers have now realized that forest conservation and reforestation success requires assistance and acceptance from the communities and also the recognition of their engagement and their rights.

The majority of the projects have influenced policymakers to at least reconsider efforts towards SFM, including the community efforts described above, as well as though the development of databases and national systems to measure and follow progress towards SFM (specially the two projects dealing with forest statistics (Projects 6 and 8) and Project PD 124/01, with 2 separate stages). In PD 124/01, considerable work, however, remains still to be done, especially in Cameroon, Congo and Gabon, where the national working groups for PCI systems did not complete their work. Other countries, in particular Mali and Ghana however advanced well. Further, project PD 692/13 failed to complete its objectives to install a national forest database in Cote d'Ivoire. Nevertheless, these projects along with the RIFFEAC training project, have highlighted to policymakers the need to re-design forest management systems in a quantifiable manner to achieve improved results. For example, a good outcome at the Institutional level can be reported from PD 678/12 (Benin). The project directly impacted on the structure of the forest administration. The Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Division was established at the departmental level (forest inspectorates), and UFPSE was created, with the status of a directorate. SIGSTATFOR served as a model at the level of the supervising ministry for establishing a similar system in the environment sector. However, as the 2022 Status assessment has shown, that in spite of the good establishment of SIGSTATFOR, the production of statistical yearbooks on forest resources has not continued over the past two years, even though activity reports using the framework created during the project are still being produced.

With respect to trade policies, Project PD 700/Rev.2 began important discussions among several countries about mechanisms and barriers to trade. The project assessed national forest laws of the four participating countries (Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon, DR Congo, and Gabon) and found that there was room for improvement. As a result, these counties are now revising their forest laws indicating that the project had impact at the highest level of policymaking.

Overall, the projects have influenced forest policy throughout the West African and Central African region. Incremental policy change towards improved forest management was a general result, in large

part because it highlights to local governments the important effects that improved forest management can have on people's lives by creating wealth and instilling pride in local management of forests.

Social impacts

Some of the projects clearly have strengthened attitudes and behavioral aspects in respect to gender by ensuring that women were directly implicated in training and implementing projects. Project 3 (725/13, Côte d'Ivoire) provided a good example. Women, organized in a community group, are restoring degraded forests, growing food, producing charcoal and shifting attitudes. This kind of project directly empowers women by involving them and encouraging leading roles in forest restoration and agro-forest production.

Involvement of communities is an important mechanism to undertake bottom-up rather than top-down project implementation. Community consultation on important issues such as locations for restoration, tree species of use to the communities, crop species, and training needs all introduce a sense of community pride and ownership of forest resources leading to improved livelihoods and better long-term management of forests. Further, there was a measurable increase in incomes to communities as a result of at least two of the forest restoration projects, clearly illustrating positive impacts on social conditions (Projects PD 530/08 Rev.3, PD 419/06 Rev 3, PD 754/14). Improved livelihoods is an ultimate achievement for projects such as these because it illustrates very clearly, at the local level, the power of properly managing landscapes. Nevertheless, Project PD419/06 was illustrative of the difficulties faced in project implementation when dealing with an older population of people, with established lifestyles, even though they are very poor and would benefit from assistance to improve their livelihoods. People are very cautious about undertaking new ideas, especially when they feel threatened with loss of their lands. In such cases, careful selection of communities with which to work and considerable pre-implementation discussions with communities are important for project success. These issues, however, result in major challenges for governments trying to improve land management practices to help local communities and projects require regular following-up to ensure sustainability.

Forest Management and Biodiversity Impact

None of the projects was focussed directly on biodiversity, with respect to planned outcomes. Nevertheless, restored and reforested areas do provide wildlife habitat so that the four projects dealing with restoration provide in principle also benefits for biodiversity.

The RIFFEAC training on SFM (project 1) included a module on biodiversity, and improved enforcement through lab analysis capability for some endangered tree species (Project 10) will help to maintain these species on the landscape. While there were no clear biodiversity objectives, better forest management per se has a positive impact on biodiversity. Regardless, forest restoration projects should always consider, a priori, some biodiversity objectives as a mechanism both to fully implement SFM (which includes environmental conservation as a pillar) and as a means to increase ecological services, such as pollination, soil retention, and pest control, while at the same time reducing forest fragmentation. Pollination services, for example, is particularly important in agroforestry systems, where intercropping is an objective. A better emphasis of all these projects on biodiversity considerations would most likely have improved outcomes, as well as raised community awareness of the importance of sustaining biodiversity.

On-the-ground forest management effects were primarily delivered through community assistance to recover degraded forests over some approximately 2500 ha over the concerned projects. Working with communities has a positive effect because providing people with knowledge, seeds and equipment is a mechanism by which their lives can be improved through better land management and improved incomes. For example, in Benin Project PD 754/14 resulted in 25% greater income derived from the forests that were associated with the project. These kinds of tangible results benefit more than just the

local people because of the wider understanding that certain techniques and better management can result in better livelihoods in areas other than those directly involved in projects. As already noted, improved training of staff as a result of the RIFFEAC project should both immediately and over the longer-term result in better forest management practices. Finally, implementation of a PCI systems in countries like Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Ghana and Togo will pay long-term dividends as policy-makers now have the capacity to quantitatively assess forest management outcomes. A next step, as was attempted in Côte d'Ivoire, will be to help establish national forest databases that can be used to determine programme effectiveness at a national scale and continue the development of PCI systems where the projects remained partly incomplete (Cameroon, Congo, DRC and Gabon).

4.6 Sustainability

Sustainability occurs at several levels, but importantly with respect to policies and communities and institutions where the projects are implemented. Overall, the ten completed projects in West Africa and the Congo Basin had significant effects that, in all cases, appear to have altered the way that communities and governments viewed their forests and landscapes, indicating a generally high level of sustainability. All projects succeeded in raising the awareness of government staff and/or community members of the importance of sustainable forest management and the role that biodiversity plays in providing ecosystem services.

Several of the projects should have long-term sustainability because of the training provided to staff, including PD 465/07 - RIFFEAC, PB 124/01- several countries, and PD 620/11- several countries. These latter projects increased the capacity of government staff for implementing SFM, including specific SFM training, the development of C&I processes, and improved enforcement capacity. Where the uncertainty lies, however, is in whether or not governments will assign priority to improving their forest management and in collecting data to measure performance, in line with the information accrued from these projects.

Specifically for Project 6 (PD 692/13, Côte d'Ivoire), there is a need for considerable follow-up work because the project was unable to complete its mission to implement a national forest information system. Project failure appears to have resulted from difficulties in adapting to the current system, lack of manuals codifying SFM and its measurement, and poor preparation that did not consider the pre-project results. In this case, unless there are follow-up carefully designed projects, it is likely that any advances made in this particular project will be lost.

Project 9 (PD 700/13) provided a much-needed analysis on trade in wood products among Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon, DR Congo and Gabon. This project was specifically designed to assist industry through training and government through the analyses of policies. As a result of the preliminary work done, governments have improved their policies to encourage trade and industry has developed a better understanding of value-added for their products, including local transformation and production zones. Hence the probability of sustainability is high for this project, especially if the planned follow-up work is done to improve the data used in analyses and to provide further training.

At the community level, in cases where training was provided and areas were restored or reforested, including enhancing the agroforestry capacity of people and inclusion of small credit schemes, the projects can be anticipated to have long-term sustainability, especially where benefits have already begun to accrue (e.g., Projects PD 530/08 Rev.3, PD 419/06 Rev 3, PD 754/14). Certainly, in the case of PD725/13 (Côte d'Ivoire), the project is likely sustainable because of the strong involvement and empowerment of women who formed an association and implemented the project. This was also recognized by the World Bank forest investment programme (FIP 2) that provides continuous support. Among the community-based projects, the highest level of uncertainty regarding sustainability is PD419/06 (Côte d'Ivoire), where community acceptance of the project was limited at best, related to concerns about changed management practices and loss of occupied lands among older people. In this case, there needs to be a much longer-term management plan with strong government support to

ensure that further forest restoration occurs and that the current work is sustained. On the other hand, a much more receptive community in Ghana took part in Project PD 530/08. There, farmers became readily involved in reforesting degraded forest areas and were provided lands also on which to grow crops. The project resulted in strong interest by both among those directly involved and others who wish also to take part, after seeing the successes achieved. Sustainability of community-based projects usually requires encouragement and advice from government and so is ultimately very much dependent on government support.

On aspects of sustainability, the two projects relating to ICT/Forest Statistics implemented in Benin (Project 8, PD 678/12) and Côte d'Ivoire (Project 6, PD 692/13) have experienced some difficulties. In particular for project 6 where the forest authorities did not anticipate the issues of technological development in the IT sector and the lack of integration of ICT technology at national level. In 2022, five years after the completion of the project, only the statistical data collection procedures are in place.

For project 8 (PD 700/13, Phase 1) on the development of inter-African trade and further processing in tropical timber and timber products, the activities were very popular in the member countries, but the cessation of funding for the continuation of the activities left a taste of unfinished business. Although countries like Gabon in particular, but also Cameroon have taken initiatives in the direction of more advanced wood processing and better performance of their local industries, trade and further processing have not changed much. ITTO has continued to publish regular information on the timber market but initiatives to boost intra-African trade in timber and its derivatives have remained very timid. The studies and work planned on the barriers related to intra-African trade have not all been carried out because of the non-continuation of funding. Despite the establishment of continental free trade areas which offer real opportunities to boost intra-African trade in timber and forest products. This project is still relevant at the level of ITTO member countries and even beyond.

Table 4 summarizes the rating of sustainability of project sustainability as assessed by the consultants

Achievement	Projects in this category
high	Project 1 Riffeac, forest management education in the Congo Basin
medium	Projects 2, 3, 4, 5, all dealing with forest management, restoration and communities Project 7 (regional SFM policy), Project 8 (Benin), 9 (regional trade) and 10 (tracking)
Low/uncertain	Project 6 on national forest information system in Côte d'Ivoire

5 Lessons learnt

5.1 Major lessons learnt from each of the 10 projects

While each project analyzed contributed in some particular measures to lessons learnt, many of the lessons were common to multiple projects. Table 5 lists the major lessons learnt from the 10 evaluated projects. They may help improve outcomes for future projects. The ten projects can be classified into two broad areas of work: (1) forest management, conservation, community participation, and forest landscape restoration; and (2) national information systems, statistics, timber trade, and timber tracking. The key lessons learnt are presented below in these two categories. The reader is referred to Table 5 for the more detailed lessons learned from each project.

Table 5: Summary of lessons learned from each of the 10 projects

Project Title of project	Lessons learned
(1) Congo Basin (RIFFEAC) PD 456/07 Rev.4 (F) Capacity Building for Sustainable Management of Tropical Rainforests and Biodiversity Conservation in the ITTO Congo Basin Countries	▪ Upgrading forest sector education and training in Africa is essential for ensuring sustainable forest management, efficient domestic processing, and sustainable supply chains ▪ The success of multistakeholder platforms such as the one of RIFFEAC will be enhanced when key groups of actors in leading institutions champion the identified priority actions and ensure the ongoing flow of information beyond platform meetings ▪ Thematic Working Groups had a crucial role for the operationalization /implementation and ownership of the training modules and programme, and for the associated teaching methods in all RIFFEAC training institutions ▪ The joint development of teaching modules have enabled substantial reforms in forestry training establishments ▪ Several new specialization courses in forestry and environmental professions have been opened to offer more opportunities to learners and allow Administrations and other user structures to have skills on new themes. Linking education to practice is crucial. As a consequence, a real national expertise is being set up in member countries on emerging themes ▪ The equipping of certain laboratories with technical materials has improved the quality of teaching in the sectors concerned. The need for technical equipment is still relevant to meet the challenges related to the technical skills to be deployed in the sector ▪ The shortage of teachers in several core themes leads to considering the establishment of a mobility system for actors trained in the sub-region and the establishment of a continuous training system to perpetuate the achievements within training institutions
(2) Benin PD 754/14 Rev.3 (F) Restoration and Sustainable Management of Sacred Forests on Ramsar Sites 1017 and 1018 in Benin	▪ The project's 36-month duration proved too short to implement the simplified management plans in many of the targeted sacred forests. ▪ Because there was a long gap between the two project phases (a pre-project pre-empted the current project), it was necessary, in the second phase, to remind beneficiaries of previous benefits; therefore, if there is a pre-project, the actual project must start soon after to save time and resources. ▪ The establishment of a green credit scheme to support local communities with income-generating activities was important to success.

Project Title of project	Lessons learned
	▪ Repayment rates for loans granted were high; which has made it possible to expand the number of beneficiaries even if the requests from actors for this type of initiative are increasing from year to year. ▪ Partnerships between civil society (NGOs) and Decentralized Financial Structures (green credit scheme) have made it possible to better target the needs of community actors and also to increase the turnover of the Credit Scheme. ▪ The establishment of community committees comprising members from various elements of communities helped in building mutual trust, and the establishment of committees at the level of municipalities enabled the strong involvement of local government. ▪ The success of the project and the enthusiasm of the populations for this type of initiative should encourage the replication of the project in other regions of the country or even in other countries of the sub-region.
(3) Côte d'Ivoire 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 fuelwood (charcoal and firewood).	▪ The project showed how forest restoration of a classified forests can be linked to livelihoods, profitable business ventures, climate-change mitigation, gender equality and the empowerment of women ▪ While implemented by a well-established women's association, to get sustainable results, endorsement and recognition of the outcomes of the entire communities in the project area were a key factor of success ▪ The rainy season is a major factor in the success of this project. It is therefore necessary to align forest restoration activities with the rainfall calendar of the region ▪ One of the most attractive incentives to undertake restoration work in forests is providing support for the establishment of agricultural crops and its transformation into a tradeable product. The project was instrumental in supporting producers' associations in this respect ▪ It is important to take into account respect for the mores and customs of the communities in the design and execution of the project ▪ There needs to be a good organization and a framework that allows flexible roles for realizing the activities, adapted to the local context. ▪ Restoration methods, and agroforestry (taungya) applied in the projects have been copied locally and can be promoted also at larger scale. These activities are continued beyond the initial project duration and uptake by the FIP programme between Côte d'Ivoire and World Bank.

Project Title of project	Lessons learned
(**4) Côte d'Ivoire** PD419/06 Rev.3 (F) EXT-TICAD5: Forest seeds management and conservation: Rehabilitation and restoration of degraded forests with the involvement of local communities (refugees, internally displaced people and local populations	▪ Good consultation process in a complex environment were local people and refugees and displaced people needed to interact and jointly exercised heavy pressure on the few remaining intact forest areas in reserved forests. ▪ Creditable work can be done with organized groups and cooperatives that hae been formed and capacitated. Important is that both forest restoration work and development of agricultural crops are considered ▪ Commendable examples micro-projects realized that can serve as model for other projects, including introduction of vegetable crops in wooden boxes after the first cycle of rice, purchase process of construction land, opening of a savings account, etc for the diversification of resources
(5) Ghana PD 530/08 Rev.3 (F): (phase 2 of PD 30/97) Management of forests established through rehabilitation of degraded forests by local communities in Ghana	▪ A major lesson learned for the type of project is the closely monitored participatory approach undertaken over several years, that included common work by local communities with scientific institutions and regional and national forest governmental institutions, including FSD of Forestry Commission of Ghana, District Forest Managers at the three different district forest offices. ▪ On technical ground, the following findings have been highlighted in the completing report: ▪ Create green fire break around established plantation ▪ Employ GIS to generate land cover change maps of established plantation to support monitoring ▪ Strong commitment from resources managers to control illegal logging and farming required ▪ Functional small holder nursery with water availability is required ▪ Sustain farmer interest and commitment to maintain and expand plantation through sale of carbon credit from plantations/ PES ▪ Support farmer group to acquire benefit share contracts with tree resource owners ▪ Communities on field activities associated with their livelihood and environment is a special exercise that requires special attention and understanding of the needs of these communities to be successful. ▪ Compromises between the partners were key, e.g., farmers preferred larger planting distances in Taungya system than the Forestry Commission and requested NWFPs species to be planted too (not used before in reserved forests) ▪ Opportunity costs for not converting degraded forest areas into agricultural lands need to be accounted for, for example through payments for ecosystem services, carbon credits, and alternative livelihoods.

Project Title of project	Lessons learned
	▪ The field monitoring by ITTO contributed significantly to the successful implementation. During those monitoring exercises, challenges associated with the implementation of the project were identified earlier and addressed. For instance, it was during these monitoring exercises that the activity on the registration of plantation established by local communities for benefit sharing was identified and carried out.
(6) Côte d'Ivoire PD 692/13 Rev.1 (M): Implementation and operationalization of a national information system for the sustainable management of forest resources	▪ Prior to establishing a project like this, it is necessary to evaluate the system IT system currently in place, at sectoral but also at broader national level to determine what can be used or if it requires replacement. ▪ A procedural guide for forest management is essential to design the national forest information system for SFM and to enable project effectiveness ▪ New Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) play a key role in the processing and dissemination of information ▪ Public administrations, the private sector and civil society must agree and adapt in terms of equipment, software and capacity building to face new challenges ▪ Work and reporting procedures and itineraries must be disseminated, well applied and regularly monitored and evaluated to ensure their implementation and carry out their regular review in order to adapt to the changing contexts in the sector
(7a) ATO/ITTO member countries PD 124/01 Rev.2 (M) Phase 3 Stage 1: Promotion of Sustainable Management of African Forests	*Lessons learned based on implementation* ▪ The replacement of the African Timber Organization (ATO) by the ITTO Regional Representation during this project made it possible to effectively carry out the planned activities. ▪ The NWGs (National working groups) established within the framework of the project, and the Forest Administrations were important to assist the Regional Coordinator to implementing activities in the countries. ▪ Cooperation with COMIFAC in Central Africa and ECOWAS in West Africa made it possible to initiate a sub-regional support for the Project. ▪ The development of a website for the ITTO Africa Regional Office was effective in making the achievements of the project more visible. ▪ Partnership with AFF (African Forest Forum) led to synergistic activities that have been beneficial to both organizations. Technical documents and guides at the regional and national level that are available on the ITTO Africa website.

Project Title of project	Lessons learned
	Steps taken to avoid problems: ▪ Most of the activities scheduled for the first stage of phase III of the project were completed. Careful management of the limited resources of this first stage made it possible to complete some of the unfinished activities of the previous stages, including the validation of the PCIVs of Nigeria, CAR, and the General Assembly of the GNT DRC. Funding was also used to support the participation of representatives from Gabon in an OFAC meeting in Yaoundé. Organizing activities in the countries in combination helped to minimize travel expenses. However, countries such as CAR and Liberia, could not benefit by attending meetings due to the irregularity of commercial flights from those countries. *Unanticipated external factors that influenced project results* ▪ The main external factor that affected the execution of the project and which was not anticipated was the inability to mobilize resources from donors for the second stage of this Phase III. This led to the cancellation of certain activities planned that were already experiencing implementation difficulties, in Liberia and the Republic of Congo in particular ▪ In addition, it is worth noting the disbandment of National Working Groups in some countries (Cameroon, Congo and Gabon) due to lack of funding. Indeed, the PCI development processes in the latter countries, through which the NWGs received subsidies, was terminated. ▪ On the other hand, the NWGs did not do any capacity building to develop fundraising strategies as a means to complete their missions. As a result, it would be necessary to reconstitute these 3 NWGs and to provide training on how to obtain funding to develop national PCI processes and to build internal capacity. However, the launch of new initiatives such as the VPA-FLEGT and their adoption at the national level, through participation and multi-actor collaboration initiated by the NWGs may have rendered the NWGs obsolete.
(7b) ATO/ITTO member countries PD 124/01 Rev.2 (M) Phase 3 Stage 2: Promotion of Sustainable Management of African Forests	*Factors likely to influence the sustainability of project achievements* ▪ All stakeholders in the management of African forests agree on the fact that the sustainable management of production forest concessions through the development and application of forest management plans has progressed significantly in the region. ▪ This has resulted in an increasing number of certified forest concessions. Such progress has made clear the potential contribution of the forest sector to the economies of the countries as well as to the social development of local communities. ▪ Forest certification and also the laws in several countries have enabled compliance with social specifications in certification schemes, thus guaranteeing a direct improvement in the living conditions and environment of local communities, through direct investments in education, infrastructure and health for example.

Project Title of project	Lessons learned
	▪ Further, five countries have signed Voluntary Partnership Agreements (VPAs) with the EU including: Liberia, Cameroon, CAR, Ghana, and the Republic of Congo. The ATO/ITTO PCIs served as the basis for the definition of legal verification grids in the latter countries. ▪ Thus, the interaction between the project and other initiatives related to the promoting legality (FLEGT, in particular) should be pursued in order to continue to strengthen the sustainability of the project's achievements. This especially the case because several other countries have also started negotiating VPAs with the EU. ▪ In the private sector, several forestry companies currently have certificates of legality of timber origin in Central Africa. Since the entry into force in March 2013 of the "Timber Regulation" of the EU, there has been a renewed interest in the PCIs of ATO/ITTO. ▪ Forestry Administrations request more training of their staff to conduct forest audits and from timber traceability. ▪ Forest companies are more willing to open their doors to multidisciplinary teams of auditors with the ATO/ITTO PCI as a reference. ▪ Because the certification systems operating in the region are private, the audit missions of the certified companies are however very often carried out without the knowledge of the Forest Administrations. The latter only have the PCIs of ATO/ITTO as a standard basis for assessing SFM for permits granted to private operators. ▪ In Central Africa, the Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP) and the Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC) continues to be an important consultation mechanism for the management and conservation of biodiversity resources. In 2015, an objective of the COMIFAC convergence plan committed to basing forest management on the harmonized ATO/ITTO PCIs. *Unanticipated external factors* In general terms, the Ebola outbreak in West Africa hampered a smooth implementation of the project in all activities during more than one year. What could not be foreseen was the sudden downturn of donor funding for the third stage of Phase III. This led to the cancellation of some major activities.
(8) Bénin PD 678/12 Rev.1 (M): Establishment of a National Forest Statistics Information Management System	▪ Appointing statistics focal points in the various institutions in the forest sector proved to be an efficient approach for ensuring the collection of data and the sustainability of actions. ▪ The appropriate definition of indicators facilitated data collection. ▪ The dissemination of reliable information on the forest sector strengthens the involvement of stakeholders and helps generate interest in government and among decision-makers in favour of the sustainable management of forest resources.

Project Title of project	Lessons learned
	▪ SIGSTATFOR can be reproduced and extended to other sectors (such as environment, water and fisheries) ▪ Given the complexity of the Forest Resources Information System, the strategy could initially be based on minimum requirements and entire systems built in phases through a modular approach; ▪ A proper forest information system can be modified to include requirements of other sectors as well. Experience gained and lessons learned can help build and operate other information systems (e.g., biodiversity or other aspects of the environment) for the country; *For the technical plan* • The results of the project have a major impact on visibility and readability about the management of forest resources. • The indicators provided in the Yearbook of Forest Statistics became an important reference source. • However, the production of statistical yearbooks on forest resources has not continued beyond the project duration, even though activity reports using the framework created during the project are still being produced i. • An online dissemination of the information collected should be considered in order to reduce the costs associated with printing documents and maintain the dynamics of data and information collection at local level • This project led to the restructuring of the Administration through the creation of new positions in charge of planning and for monitoring and evaluation at the level of the Forestry Inspectorates. • The forest statistics database model was used to build an environmental statistics database. *On the intended beneficiaries* • Stakeholders in the forest sector have begun using the new information and the information management system. • The results of the project were satisfactory to all stakeholders including forestry personnel, NGOs, the implicated National Institutions, Universities and High Schools, Forestry Training Centers, etc. • More than 400 forestry staff were trained, and more than 800 people informed about the database on forestry statistics and the DGFRN website.
(9) ITTO with Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroun and DRC and Gabon PD 700/13 Rev.2 (I)	*Formulation of project document* ▪ Artisanal timber producers and traders fly largely under the radar in the region, and there is a clear need for policies and legal frameworks that incorporate their activities

Project Title of project	Lessons learned
Development of intra-African trade and further processing in tropical timber and timber products – Phase i [Stage 1]	▪ Ensure that issues to be addressed by the project correspond to the policy settings of countries involved, and the planned project's interventions, outputs and outcome targeted to tackle the countries' underlying problems in tropical timber trade and further processing; ▪ Seeking business opportunities is the task of individual companies, and it is the duty of governments, ITTO and other international organizations to provide adequate statistical information on trade flows and the consequences of government actions to enable companies to analyze their business environments and invest with confidence. ▪ Adequate communication measures should be taken to ensure that relevant market information reaches potential users, including small and medium-sized enterprises *Project implementation* ▪ Involve, as far as possible, the regional economic communities and international technical partner in the implementation of relevant project activities; ▪ Set up within a country, a national coordination team to oversee the implementation of the project's activities in respective countries; ▪ The selection of national consultants/experts need to be carefully undertaken to meet the highly demands of the Project; ▪ The assignment of the ITTO Regional Officer as the project manager showed better management of the project implementation; and ▪ The project inception meeting with representatives of project host countries and involved countries must be well planned and organized to ensure all participating countries reach common understanding on project objectives, scope and targets. *Technical outputs* ▪ All technical and scientific findings of the projects must be translated into practical and operative recommendations for policy decision makers at national, sub-regional and regional levels; ▪ Ensure effective dissemination of main results and achievements of the project to potential users and wider audiences; and ▪ Ensure that all project reports are presented in French and English. ▪ The sharing of experience with other African countries at the end of the implementation of the project has boosted a number of initiatives: better organization of actors in the third transformation of wood and obligation to dry processed products intended for export to Côte d'Ivoire, creation of industrial wood estates in the Provinces of Gabon in addition to the special economic zone of Nkok in Libreville; exemption from taxes related to the export of products from third processing and obligation to dry processed products (Gabon)

Project Title of project	Lessons learned
(10) Germany **with partner countries in Africa** **PD 620/11 Rev.1 (M):** Field work in Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Kenya Development and implementation of a species identification and timber tracking system with DNA fingerprints and isotopes in Africa	Sampling ▪ For all species, ideal spatial distribution of sample points was not achieved. Some regions are underrepresented, while others have a high density of populations. ▪ It would be preferable to collect data from an increased number of geographic sampling points (transects) and to collect fewer individual samples per sampling point. The genetic variation of SNP gene markers with two different alleles is low. Thus, a lower number of individuals (n=10) per sample point could be taken while maintaining sufficient estimation of allele frequencies. ▪ For more precise results, it is necessary to collect more information per individual (more gene markers, more isotopes) ▪ In future projects, further training and implementation of quality controls for the collection of reference samples are required. Barcoding ▪ As has been demonstrated by use of a large set SNPs for the genus *Entandrophragma* sp., that the use of a combination of several gene regions provides a much more reliable DNA barcoding. ▪ It is important to pay closer attention to identification of "non-target species" and include them in the sampling (as predefined outliers). ▪ Cross-contamination of DNA during genetic analysis of timber must be completely avoided. ▪ Tools to control claims on geographic origin ▪ From the blind test results, we can conclude that both isotopic and genetic methods are very useful tools in the enforcement of declarations on geographical origin. Increase spatial resolution in the reference data: ▪ Add reference samples from the low coverage areas ▪ Collect more information per reference sample (more isotopes, more gene markers) ▪ Apply both methods in a combined manner ▪ Analyse the reference data and provide an objective recommendation for which methods would provide a more reliable geographic claim (e.g., from the results of self-assignment tests provided for countries and regions) ▪ Work on common statistical approaches for data analysis ▪ Work on and identify further available data and information to support interpretation of isotope results. African (genetic) reference laboratories

Project Title of project	Lessons learned
	A ring test showed that the genetic reference laboratories in Kenya and Ghana are able to amplify DNA from the study species. In Gabon, there is still a need to improve infrastructure (power supply) and the organisation. Further lessons learned: ▪ A better and more intensive dialog and coordination among the African countries to establishment genetic timber control services at national and regional levels ▪ The participation in future ring and blind tests ▪ To support further collaboration among western and African laboratories ▪ To involve African isotope specialists in future projects in order to increase and include existing knowledge and contact the isotope facility in Kenya to learn about its status and obstacles needed to overcome for better use of this lab. ▪ To include training for African isotope scientists.

5.2 Summary from lessons learnt from the projects

(1) Forest management, conservation, community participation, and forest landscape restoration

Under the five projects in forest management, one project dealt with capacity building for sustainable forest management (PD 456/07 RIFFEAC) and can be considered as an important stand-alone project with important outcomes at the level of formal forest education. The main lessons learned from the project include:

- Upgrading forest sector education and training in Africa is essential for ensuring sustainable forest management, efficient domestic processing, and sustainable supply chains
- The success of multistakeholder platforms such as the one of RIFFEAC will be enhanced when key groups of actors in leading institutions champion the identified priority actions and ensure the ongoing flow of information beyond platform meetings
- Thematic Working Groups had a crucial role for the operationalization /implementation and ownership of the training modules and programme, and for the associated teaching methods in all RIFFEAC training institutions.
- There is a need to carefully assess the compatibility of existing computer/informatic systems, availability of infrastructure, and availability of background information, and to conduct a needs assessment, prior to embarking on projects to revamp or create databases, at either national or local levels.
- Nevertheless, the COVID 19 pandemic (Annex 3) was an opportunity to experiment with distance learning courses in educational institutions. The impression of learners as well as teachers is that the level of assimilation of lessons was considered low compared to face-to-face learning. The digital divide in African countries and social classes to access to computer equipment and accessories such as internet connection have been a determining factor and need to be considered in capacity building work.

The four other projects implemented under the ITTO Strategic Action plan in Africa broadly dealt with SFM/forest landscape restoration. All four evaluated projects had involvement of local communities and a variety of other stakeholders. Some overall lessons learned from these projects can be summarized as follows:

- Long-term forest and land-use planning is required for the successful implementation of projects dealing with SFM and FLR. It needs to be done with good knowledge of the landscape and the identification of the key actors influencing land-use decision-making. ITTO projects in the field of forest management need to be considered catalysts that test new approaches and tools that can serve long-term implementation by countries and their main development partners.
- Collaboration and cooperation among stakeholders contribute to the success forest restoration activities. Among other things, this requires building relationships and trust and long-term commitments (example PD 530/08, Ghana).
- Community forestry is an important land-tenure mechanism through which local communities can gain formal rights to access, manage and restore forests, which, in turn, they can use to improve their livelihoods (PD654/14, Benin; PD725/13 and PD419/06, both Côte d'Ivoire; PD530/08, Ghana)
- To ensure the effective participation of local stakeholders and guarantee fair benefits, communities need to have strong rights and secured tenure based on customary practices (PD 530/08, Ghana).

- The engagement of local stakeholders and the provision of incentives for local communities are key factors in convincing concerned parties that local species, planted or as natural regeneration) can be used to restore forests (PD654/14, Benin; PD725/13 and PD419/06, both Côte d'Ivoire; PD530/08, Ghana)
- The re-colonization of cultivated areas by secondary forest tree species after several cycles of agricultural cultivation can lead people to restart shifting cultivation in more remote lands, where accessible. This is a factor to consider when valuating small-scale agricultural land, e.g. through agroforestry.
- Enabling local communities to participate in forest activities and use forest products produced in planted areas helps them develop a sense of ownership of surrounding forests. This improves not only forest production but also forest conservation (PD419/06, Côte d'Ivoire; PD530/08 Ghana).
- Perceptions of an environmental crisis due to forest loss can strongly influence people's motivation to plant trees (PD419/06, Côte d'Ivoire)
- Opportunity costs for not converting degraded forest areas into agricultural lands need to be accounted for, for example through payments for ecosystem services, carbon credits, and alternative livelihoods (PD 530/08, Ghana)
- Establishing an effective monitoring and evaluation system is key for the successful implementation of any of the projects. This will also particularly help efficiency and effectiveness of project implementation, a major uncertainty of all 10 projects.
- There is a need to carefully assess current government procedures and systems in use, prior to attempting to introduce new systems that will either replace or supplement an existing system (PD 692/13)

(2) National information systems, statistics, timber trade, and timber tracking

The projects dealing with trade and industry recommended the following, with respect to future such projects:

- Involve, as far as possible, the regional economic communities in the implementation of relevant project activities
- Establish a coordination team to oversee the implementation of the project's activities in respective countries and consider an ITTO regional manager to oversee the project
- Ensure all participating countries reach a common understanding on project objectives, scope and targets
- All technical and scientific findings of the projects should provide practical and operative recommendations for policy-makers at national, sub-regional and regional levels
- Ensure effective dissemination of main results and achievements of the project to potential users and wider audiences in both French and English.

The single project that trained laboratory staff on advanced timber-tracking methodologies, suggested the following would assist future such projects:

- Projects should focus on sufficient training and on the implementation of quality controls for the collection of reference samples.
- Future projects should increase sample sizes used and expand the wok to other tree species
- There is a need for increased discussions among African countries, including wider use of genetic identification tools in enforcement and management

6 Conclusion

6.1 Fostering change for the future

Future project and policy work of ITTO to promote sustainable forestry in Africa will be undertaken in a rapidly changing global political environment and amid concerns about human safety, conflict, climate change, food security and emerging zoonotic diseases. Nevertheless, there are also opportunities for the forest sector in Africa to help in "building back better", increasing resilience and economic output, and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Governments, civil society, the private sector, scientific organizations and the global donor community will need to work together to optimize the positive impacts of interventions and counter potential threats. Areas of work that address the objectives of ITTO might include:

- Halting the degradation and loss of natural forests as a means for supporting food security at the landscape level.
- Reducing the risk of emergence of new zoonotic diseases by minimizing the opening up of remote forests and better regulating wildlife trade and markets.
- Protecting conservation investments in the face of diverse pressures causing forest loss and degradation.
- Enacting policies and strategies for a nature-positive recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and towards a more circular bioeconomy.
- Encouraging forest landscape restoration in areas with high land-degradation pressures, such as refugee hotspots.

It is essential to seize the opportunities generated by the present insecurity to highlight the importance of sustainable forest management and forest restoration for human health, achieving the SDGs, climate mitigation and adaptation, and being better prepared for the future. The forest sector is critically important in ""rebuilding resiliently", building resilience to sudden events, and responding to possible other future pandemics or other crises, in both the short- and long-terms.

6.2 Policy guidance for future project work

A framework for collaboration between ITTO and TICAD can be identified that responds to the challenges and needs of African people in the pursuit of sustainable development and which is in line with the objectives of the two institutions. ITTO's focus is on sustainable forest management and timber value-adding and trade from sustainable sources. Its projects are usually implemented over 1–4 years (but can also be phased and thus span much longer periods); they emphasize best practices, capacity development in communities and institutions, and scaling up at the local, national and international levels. ITTO has considerable experience in project implementation and a well-developed process, with safeguards, that provides transparency, oversight, monitoring and reporting.

Collaboration between ITTO and TICAD, with seed funding from the Japanese government, has the potential to attract funding from other donors and financing institutions due to the strong interest amongst many such donors in promoting SFM in Africa and to use the potential that ITTO offers with its project facility. Project proposals could also explore co-funding options by associating ITTO/TICAD projects with broader initiatives and programmes in West Africa and the Congo Basin (e.g. those of the Global Environment Facility, EU FLEGT, and the Central African Forest Initiative).

To maximize the contributions of projects to the shared objectives of ITTO and TICAD, as well as national and regional goals, projects submitted by African countries to ITTO should:

- Be designed in the region and focus on forest landscape-based solutions, recognizing the importance of restoring landscape intactness and increase resilience, conserving biodiversity, and enhancing ecosystem services for present and future generations.[6]
- Be designed to function at multiple scales based on spatial planning that include possible future threats to forests and landscapes
- Have specific objectives on biodiversity conservation and the delivery of other ecosystem services, particularly in regions with high value to forest and people
- Have robust monitoring, evaluation and learning systems with clear, measurable indicators.
- Lead to improved economic outcomes in local communities and at the national level.

For the ITTO member countries in Africa, the following policy guidance can be made from the present ex-post evaluation:

For governments, field practitioners, and academic and research institutions

- Projects should support the sustainable management of forests in locations where a long-term commitment to project objectives can be made.
- Capacity development in institutions and communities should be integral to all projects.
- Projects should use appropriate information and communication technologies (and support training and education) in the application of these in the forest sector in Africa.

For governments and field practitioners

- Projects must include local communities, Indigenous Peoples (where applicable), women and youth in project development, implementation and outcomes and ensure that free, prior and informed consent is always obtained.
- Project development should include wide consultation with communities to enable (for example) an understanding of local needs, favoured tree species, and the level of training and infrastructure required.
- Livelihood programmes should establish sustainable and green supply chains and have a formal plan for monitoring livelihood outcomes for an adequate period (e.g. three years) after project completion.
- Regional and transboundary projects should be underpinned by work-sharing and planning agreements, high-level participation, and formal signed agreements between the governments involved.

6.3 ITTO's strategic priorities 2022-2026 as the framework for project work in Africa

ITTO recently adopted a new strategic action plan,[7] which sets out the following four priorities for the Organization in a five years' time span, 2022 and 2026:

1) **Governance and investment**—Promote good governance and policy frameworks to enhance financing and investment in sustainable tropical forest management and legal and sustainable

[6] Forest landscape-based solutions seek to enhance the role of forests in combating climate change (mitigation and adaptation) and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, focusing on (for example) the roles of green supply chains, biocorridor restoration, community-based REDD+ projects, innovative forest monitoring systems, and research and development. See ITTO's *Guidelines for Forest Landscape Restoration in the Tropics* at www.itto.int/guidelines.
[7] ITTO 2022. *ITTO Strategic Action Plan 2022–2026.* Policy Development Series No. 25. Yokohama, Japan. Available at www.itto.int/council_committees/action_plans

forest product supply chains and related trade.

2) **Economies and tropical timber trade**—Increase the contribution of the tropical forest sector to national and local economies and resilient livelihoods, including through the further processing and trade of tropical timber and other forest products and services.

3) **Resilience, restoration and conservation**—Reduce tropical deforestation and forest degradation, enhance forest landscape restoration and the resilience of forest ecosystems to climate change, and conserve forest biodiversity and ecosystem services.

4) **Statistics and information**—Improve the quality, availability and timeliness of information on tropical forest product markets, supply chains and international trade, including challenges and opportunities related to market access, expansion and diversification.

The four priorities set by the new Action Plan 2022-26 address well the issues and challenges that ITTO could address to contribute to sustainable development and the management and conservation of African forests. The achievements and lessons learnt can inform the identification, formulation and implementation of projects in the framework of this new Action Plan. Lessons learnt from the present ex-post evaluation can be taken into account, e.g.:

- Priority 1 (Governance and investment), take into account lessons learnt from PD PD 124/01on regional SFM monitoring in its various stages (Mali, Gabon, Ghana, Togo) and PD 456/07
- Priority 2 (Economies and tropical timber trade), lessons learnt from PD 700/13 (Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon) on inter-African trade in forest products and PD 620/11 (Tracing system)
- Priority 3 (Resilience, restoration and conservation), lessons learnt from PD 754/14 (Benin), PD 725/13 and 419/06 (Côte d'Ivoire), and PD 530/08 (Ghana), all dealing with forest restoration, reforestation and locally based forest management
- Priority 4 (Statistics and information), lessons learnt from PD 692/13 (Côte d'Ivoire) and PD 678/12 (Benin).

Overall, expectations must be realistic on what can be done in the timeframe and limited budget of an ITTO stand-alone project, particularly regarding wider forest development policies and changes in community behaviour. Thus, an alignment of ITTO projects with larger programmes can allow upscaling of project results at a broader level and achieving sustainable outcomes.

Based on the findings of the 10 assessed forestry projects implemented in Africa under the ITTO strategic action plan, a policy framework for further project work can be identified that responds to the new challenges and needs in the framework of sustainable development in the West African and Congo Basin countries. This requires adapting an overall approach that takes into account more recent development in the international forest regime.

In this regard it is important to reconfirm ITTO's particular niche that is well-established with its focus on SFM, and trade and further valuation of forest products derived from sustainably managed forests. Also, the international community investing in forests and forestry should be reminded that ITTO has an effective and functional project implementation facility that allows speedy and effective implementation of small to medium size grant projects. ITTO projects are designed for short-to-midterm implementation (1-4 years), they are well focused, and "push" orientated that allow to emphasis on developing best practices, creating capacity and permitting replication and upscaling, at local, national and international level.

7 Document References

ITTO 2013. ITTO Strategic Actions Plan 2013-2018.
topics_id=6980&no=1&disp=inline (itto.int)

ITTO 2020. Guidelines for forest landscape restoration in the tropics. ITTO Policy Development Series No. 24. International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), Yokohama, Japan

Assessed 10 projects and link to ITTO Projects' Data Bank:

- PD 456/07 Rev.4 (F): **https://www.itto.int/project/id/PD456_07-Rev.4-F**
- PD 754/14 Rev.3 (F): **https://www.itto.int/project/id/PD754_14-Rev.3-F**
- PD 725/13 Rev.2 (F): **https://www.itto.int/project/id/PD725_13-Rev.2-F**
- PD 419/06 Rev.3 (F) EXT-TICAD5 Rev.1: **https://www.itto.int/project/id/PD419_06-Rev.3-F-EXT**
- PD 530/08 Rev.3 (F): **https://www.itto.int/project/id/PD530_08-Rev.3-F**
- PD 692/13 Rev.1 (M): **https://www.itto.int/project/id/PD692_13-Rev.1-M**
- PD 124/01 Rev.3 (M) - Phase III Stage 1: **https://www.itto.int/project/id/PD124_01-Rev.3-M-III-1**
- PD 124/01 Rev.3 (M) - Phase III Stage 2: **https://www.itto.int/project/id/PD124_01-Rev.4-M-III-2**
- PD 678/12 Rev.1 (M): **https://www.itto.int/project/id/PD678_12-Rev.1-M**
- PD 700/13 Rev.2 (I) Phase I – Stage 1: **https://www.itto.int/project/id/PD700_13-Rev.2-I-Phase-I-Stage-1**
- PD 620/11 Rev.1 (M): **https://www.itto.int/project/id/PD620_11-Rev.1-M**

8 Annexes

8.1 Status assessment 2022 of outcomes of project 124/01 Phase 3 stage 2

Gabon	A decision was taken by the Government that by 2022 (or shortly beyond) all forest concessions should be managed under certification criteria. - La signature d'une convention avec le FSC en vue de promouvoir le bois certifié issu du Gabon, encourager les pratiques de gestion forestière responsable sur le terrain, assurer la traçabilité des produits bois à travers un meilleur contrôle et la lutte contre l'exploitation illégale; - Plusieurs sociétés forestières ayant bénéficié des audits pilotes avec les PCI OAB/OIBT ont été certifiées soit pour la légalité soit pour la durabilité ou les deux ; - L'institution du paiement dégressif de la taxe annuelle de superficie pour 3 catégories d'opérateurs du bois : Non certifiés, certifiés pour la légalité et certifiés pour la durabilité ; les superficies certifiées payant les moins chers ;
Côte d'Ivoire :	Un nouveau code forestier a été adopté en 2019 prenant en compte les principes de durabilité et mettant en exergue l'agroforesterie comme approche pour la restauration des espaces forestiers dégradés par l'agriculture avec la participation de tous les acteurs. Les nouvelles dispositions portant ouverture de la gestion des forêts classées à d'autres acteurs font obligation à ces derniers de les doter de plans d'aménagement prenant en compte les principes de durabilité, de participation et de valorisation de l'ensemble des produits de la forêt y compris le carbone. - Elaboration et adoption en 2019 de la Stratégie de Préservation, de Réhabilitation et d'Extension des Forêts ; - Adoption d'un nouveau code forestier en 2019; - Politique et stratégie arrimées aux normes nationales et donc aux PCI OIBT/OAB et normes de GDF.
Ghana	Le Ghana a poursuivi les missions d'audit à l'aide des PCIV dans les concessions forestières. Il a surtout participé à plusieurs initiatives et réunions internationales relatives à la GDF, aux SDGs et aux initiatives de restauration des paysages forestiers dégradés
Togo	Les règles d'exploitation des bois de plantation ont été révisées pour y intégrer les principes de durabilité
Benin	Le projet de certification des plantations de l'ONAB se poursuit. Plusieurs mesures ont été prises pour corriger les non-conformités identifiées lors des évaluations précédentes. Les questions HSSE au travail font partie des priorités des gestionnnaires
Mali	Après l'achèvement des activités du projet, le Mali a réalisé un certain nombre d'activités basées sur les recommandations de 2 études : Evaluation des progrès vers la GDF sur la base du principe 1 des PCIV nationaux et audit de 4 forêts de l'Etat avec les principes 2, 3, et 4 : Il s'agit de : - Audit de deux autres forêts à l'aide des PCIV nationaux du Mali dans le cadre du Programme GEDEFOR 2016; - Production d'un Recueil des textes forestiers nationaux sous forme d'imprimé ; - Elaboration et adoption de la Politique Forestière Nationale et son Plan d'Actions par Décret N°2017-0845/P-RM du 09 octobre 2017 ;

	- Production du Document de Politique Forestière Nationale, son Plan d'Actions et son Décret d'adoption en novembre 2017 ; - Adoption du Décret N°2018-0079/P-RM du 29 janvier 2018 fixant le détail des compétences transférées de l'Etat aux Collectivités Territoriales en matière de Gestion des ressources forestières et fauniques ; - Adoption du Décret N°2018-0662/P-RM du 08 Août 2018 Portant Règlementation de l'Exploitation des Produits Forestiers dans le Domaine Forestier National ; - Adoption du Décret N°2018-0991/P-RM du 31 Décembre 2018 relatif à l'Etude et à la Notice d'Impacts Environnemental et Social ; - Adoption de l'arrêté N° 2021-0079/MEAD-MEF-MICPI-SG du 01 février 2021 déterminant les modalités d'exportation et de Réexportation du Bois Transformé ; - Adoption de l'Arrêté N°2021-0071/MEADD-SG du 29 Janvier 2021 fixant les modèles de Plans d'Aménagement Forestier ; - Information et sensibilisation sur Les PCI de 2015 à nos jours par le GNT, la DNEF; - Réalisation de l'Etude des filières plantes médicinales et fourragères dans les villes de Bamako et Koulikoro par le GNT/GDF-CF;
Congo	- Adoption d'une nouvelle loi en 2020 portant code forestier ; - Institution en 2020, d'**Unités Pilotes Aménagement et de Reboisement et Agroforesterie (UPARA)**, en vue de veiller à la durabilité des écosystèmes forestiers - Prises de diverses mesures administratives encourageant la GDF
Cameroun	Cameroun : Le Cameroun a poursuivi ses réformes pour inscrire l'aménagement et l'exploitation de ses forêts dans la durabilité.
RCA	RCA : A la fin des activités du projet, plusieurs actions ont été conduites pour assurer la GDF : - Cinq (5) missions d'audits utilisant les PCIV nationaux ont été conduites par l'Administration forestière avec le soutien du WWF - Amélioration du système de rapportage sur les forêts à l'endroit des organisations internationales et régionales
RDC	Two pilot audits in 2 concessions done with the PCI OAB/OIBT

8.2 Global process goals and objectives referred to by numbers in Table 2 for each project.

Process	Relevant goals or targets
ITTO Strategic Plan (2012-2018, ext. 2021	1: Promote good governance and enabling policy frameworks for strengthening SFM and related trade and enhancing SFM financing and investment. 2: Increase the contribution of tropical forests to national and local economies, including through international trade. 3: Enhance the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in tropical timber producing forests. 4: Reduce tropical deforestation and forest degradation and enhance the provision of environmental services. 5: Improve the quality and availability of information on tropical forests, forest product markets and trade 6: Build and develop human resource capacity to implement SFM and increase trade in forest goods and services from sustainably managed forests.
Global Forest Goals	1. Reverse the loss of forest cover through SFM, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and prevent forest degradation. 2. Enhance forest based economic, social and environmental benefits. 3. Increase significantly the area of protected forests and other areas of SFM, and products from sustainably managed forests. 4. Mobilize increased financial resources from all sources for SFM and strengthen scientific and technical cooperation and partnerships. 5. Promote governance frameworks to implement SFM 6. Enhance cooperation, coordination, coherence, and synergies on forest-related issues.
SDGs	SDG 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss. 15.1. By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests. 15.2 By 2020, promote the implementation of SFM, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation. 15.5 Reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and protect threatened species. 15.7 Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products. 15.9 By 2020, integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts Other SDGs: 1.1 By 2030, eradicate extreme poverty for all people everywhere. 6.6 By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including mountains, forests, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes 5.5 Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership and decision-making.

	8.5 By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men. 12.2 By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources. 13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries. 17.9 Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the sustainable development goals. 17.14 Enhance policy coherence for sustainable development.

8.3 Experiences from forest project work for post-COVID-19 recovery

When relating the assessed projects to global development goals, it is worth to give consideration of the post-COVID recovery approach. As largely debated in the World Forestry Congress in Seoul in May 2022, forests constitute a significant part of the post COVID-19 recovery globally as an essential element of nature-based solutions. The contributions of forests to the post COVID-19 recovery, considering that the root causes of the pandemic is a coronavirus disease of zoonotic origin, are common to the root causes faced in climate change crisis and biodiversity loss. Loss of forest cover has resulted in increased human contact with wild animals, resulting in numerous outbreaks of diseases such as lyme disease, west Nile virus, several corona viruses, rabies, leptospirosis, and probably Ebola. Further, increased zoonoses are being predicted by the WHO, if forest loss and degradation continues.

A recent study by the UNFF[8] reviewed the situation of forests after the pandemic outbreak that are worth to shortly analyse in the framework of ITTO's project work in Africa.

Due to the Corona-virus crisis since 2020, forest management and related activities were often postponed or cancelled, particularly projects dealing with forest development through international technical and financial support. In contrast, many private sector operations in production forestry in the Congo Basin operated continuously over the past 2 years, although transport, shipment and legal control were often hampered. Some countries reported increased illegal timber harvesting, particularly for rosewood (*Dalbergia* spp.) – a CITES listed species - in West Africa, because of lack of control. Forestry and wildlife institutions had trouble covering their operational costs and paying worker salaries, in the absence of foreign aid and income, thereby limiting their ability to manage protected areas. Nature-based tourism, particularly in West, East and Southern Africa ceased because of the restrictions on movement.

In forest development activities, non-essential risk reduction activities (such as training) were reduced due to social distancing policies, and virtual meetings were used to support training and related activities. Communities dependent on forest products and in certain cases, forest-based tourism for jobs and livelihoods experienced declines in their income or lost their employment. Loss of employment forces people in these communities to engage in the informal sector, such as illegal logging, because alternative employment is often rare.

The forest industry, including harvesting and primary transformation, experienced in the first year of pandemic outbreak increased costs in labour, production, logistics (e.g., availability of spare parts for machinery) and transportation (especially due to skyrocketing freight rates). Additionally, the industry suffered from a sharp decline in capital investments in the forest sector. The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on tropical wood product production, consumption and trade varied depending on the severity of the pandemic in individual countries and the steps taken to control and mitigate the spread of the virus. Demand in major tropical wood product markets also differed among countries, depending on the underlying economic conditions before the pandemic and the success of policy responses to the virus[9].

With respect to institutional capacities, governments have shifted resources to the health sector as a priority, which then created short-term budget cut for forest and environment budgets. This put on hold national development programmes, such as forest restoration programmes in some countries, including importantly those dealing with mitigating climate change.
Technology was leveraged for communication, training, and virtual events. Convening virtual meetings has enabled some cooperation on forest development work in Africa. However, some stakeholders,

[8] https://www.un.org/esa/forests/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Covid-19-SFM-impact-Africa.pdf
[9] ITTO August 2021: Review and Assessment of the World Timber Situation | ITTO | The International Tropical Timber Organization

particularly at community level, but also in decentralized forest services, were left behind due to technological limitations and internet connectivity in their areas. Thus, projects submitted in a new ITTO Strategic Action Plan in the African context should take into consideration the new realm that we face today globally.

8.4 Baseline information on the ten analyzed projects

PD 456/07 Rev.4 (F)

Titre du projet : Renforcement des capacités des membres du réseau des institutions de formation forestière et environnementale d'Afrique centrale (RIFFEAC) pour la formation en gestion durable des concessions forestières

« Renforcement des capacités à la gestion durable des forêts tropicales ombrophiles et à la conservation de la biodiversité dans les pays du Bassin du Congo membres de l'OIBT»

AGENCE D'EXECUTION Secrétariat (Coordination Régionale) du RIFFEAC

GOUVERNEMENTS (coopérants) : Cameroun, Gabon, République Centrafricaine, République du Congo et République Démocratique du Congo

DATE DE LANCEMENT 23 mars 2012

COUT DU PROJET ($EU)

- Total: 3.963.210,69$US
- JICA: 3.297.355,00$US (1.750.713$US Transferés au Secrétariat- RIFFEAC)
- Autres: 555.555,69$US
- RIFFEAC: 110.300,00$US

Objectif de développement : contribuer au développement des capacités en ressources humaines nécessaires pour atteindre la gestion durable des écosystèmes forestiers du Bassin du Congo, tout en conciliant les exigences socio-économiques et le maintien des équilibres écologiques.

Objectif spécifique : Renforcer la capacité des institutions de formation forestière et environnementale d'Afrique centrale afin qu'elles soient en mesure de former un personnel qualifié pour la mise en œuvre de la gestion durable des concessions forestières tout en assurant la conservation de la biodiversité dans le Bassin du Congo.

Produit 1 :

Six (6) modules ou programmes de formation de référence harmonisés en gestion durable des forêts, élaborés, revus, adaptés et mis en œuvre, en prenant en compte la conservation de la biodiversité dans le cadre du programme de travail de la CDB sur la biodiversité forestière. L'un des six modules/programmes sera axé sur la conservation de biodiversité.

Produit 2 :

Cent dix (110) formateurs à plein temps et cent soixante-dix (170) formateurs vacataires ou à temps partiel dans sept (7) institutions membres fondatrices du RIFFEAC formés ou recyclés à l'utilisation des équipements et matériels acquis pour le renforcement des capacités, en relation avec les six (6) programmes ou modules d'enseignement devant être finalisés dans le cadre du Produit 1.

Produit 3

Équipements et matériels de formation et d'enseignement acquis et fournis à chaque institution de formation, et amélioration des infrastructures (salles de classe, laboratoires et autres installations), en accord avec les besoins de chaque institution de formation, en vue de combler progressivement le déficit annuel de cent quatre-vingt (180) ingénieurs et quatre cent quarante (440) techniciens supérieurs forestiers requis pour les actions de gestion durable des forêts et de conservation de la biodiversité dans les pays du Bassin du Congo.

PD 754/14 Rev.3 (F)

Intitulé du Projet : Restauration et Gestion Durable des Forêts Sacrées des sites RAMSAR 1017 et 1018 du Bénin

GOUVERNEMENT HOTE : gouvernement de la République du Bénin

AGENCE D'EXÉCUTION : Cercle pour la Sauvegarde des Ressources Naturelles (CeSaReN-ONG)

DATE DE LANCEMENT : 04 Avril 2017

DURÉE : Trente-six (36) mois

BUDGET PROPOSÉ ET AUTRES SOURCES DE FINANCEMENT

Source Contribution (en $EU)

OIBT 541 218

(CeSaReN-ONG) 118 100

Total 659 318

Objectif de développement : Contribuer à la gestion durable des ressources forestières des zones humides au Sud Bénin.

Objectif spécifique : Assurer la gestion durable des forêts sacrées des sites Ramsar 1017 et 1018 du Bénin par le renforcement des capacités des acteurs pour améliorer les conditions de vie des populations locales

L'objectif spécifique du Projet est d'assurer la gestion durable des forêts sacrées des sites Ramsar 1017 et 1018 du Bénin par le renforcement des capacités des acteurs pour améliorer les conditions de vie des populations locales à travers :

- La dotation de 40 FS d'outils de gestion durables opérationnels,

- La réalisation de 60 ha de plantation

- L'accroissement de 25% des revenus tirés des FS,

- L'intégration de 40 FS dans le Système des Aires Protégées des Communes (dotation des FS de titre de reconnaissance légale)

Produit 1 : Les ressources des Forêts sacrées sont mieux exploitées

Au total, 42 PSG de 42 FS sur 40 FS prévues ont été élaborés et validés au niveau national avec l'administration forestière et toutes les autres parties prenantes. Leur opérationnalité est effective puisque certaines activités y planifiées connaissent leur mise en œuvre.

Environ 68,5 ha sont reboisés sur 60 ha prévus avec 101287 plants d'espèces à buts multiples dans les terroirs riverains de 41 FS sur 40 FS prévues.

Produit 2 : Les revenus tirés des FS sont améliorés

en attendant les revenus que vont générer les AGR et les SAP pour lesquels 67077 $US ont été alloués aux populations riveraines, les activités de production de plants, d'enrichissement des FS et de reboisement dans les terroirs ont rapporté aux populations riveraines des revenus monétaires de plus de 85 000 $US contre rien avant le projet

Produit 3 : Les FS sont intégrées dans le Système des Aires Protégées des Communes (Actes de reconnaissance légale)

40 Arrêtés de reconnaissance légale de 40 FS sur 40 prévus sont signés et disponibles

PD 725/13 Rev.2 (F)

INTITULE DU PROJET : « Réhabilitation des terres forestières dégradées de la forêt classée d'Ahua par les femmes de l'association « MALEBI » en compensation des ressources forestières prélevées pour les besoins en énergie-bois (charbon de bois et bois de feu) »

GOUVERNEMENT HÔTE : CÔTE D'IVOIRE

NOM DE L'AGENCE D'EXECUTION : MALEBI

NOM DE L'AGENCE DE COLLABORATION : SODEFOR

DATE DE LANCEMENT : 26 Janvier 2016

DUREE DU PROJET : 24 mois + prorogation de 3 mois jusqu'en avril 2018

BUDGET DU PROJET ($EU) : 216,162

- OIBT : 149,408

- CONTREPARTIE : 66,754

Objectif de développement

Contribuer à accroitre le couvert forestier de la Forêt Classée d'Ahua avec l'implication des communautés locales riveraines.

Objectif spécifique

Réaliser la réhabilitation progressive de la Forêt Classée d'AHUA avec les femmes membres de l'association MALEBI, comme compensation au bois qu'elles utilisent pour la fabrication du charbon de bois et bois de chauffe sur une superficie de 100 ha.

Produit 1 : une structure de production et de distribution de semences et plants de qualités est opérationnelle.

Produit 2 : La plantation agro-forestière d'une superficie de 100 ha de *Cassia siamea* et de *Tectona grandis* en association avec les cultures vivrières (riz, maïs, igname et manioc), est établie.

PD419/06 Rev.3 (F) EXT-TICAD5

Title: FOREST SEEDS MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION / Project for Rehabilitation and Restoration of Degraded Forests in Cote d'Ivoire with the involvement of Local communities

Starting date of the project: 16/10/2013
Project Duration: 54 months
Executing Agency's full name: SOCIETE DE DEVELOPPEMENT DES FORETS

DATE DE DEMARRAGE : 16 octobre 2013
DUREE INITIALE : 48 mois
DUREE REELLE : 57 mois PROROGATION : 16 Octobre 2017 au 15 Juillet 2018
COUT DU PROJET TOTAL : 2 318 280 $ US
PART OIBT/JAPON : 1 800 000 $ US
PART CÔTE DIVOIRE : 518 280 $ US

2.1 Objectif de développement

L'objectif de développement du projet est de Contribuer à la gestion durable des forêts classées en Côte d'ivoire.

Objectif spécifique

Le principal objectif visé est de Réhabiliter les terres forestières dégradées par les populations déplacées et les réfugiés

Produit 1 : Les semences et plants forestiers de haute qualité produits et distribués aux communautés locales.

Avant la mise en œuvre du projet, les communautés locales utilisaient des techniques culturales traditionnelles à faible rendement. Grâce au projet, les communautés ont adoptées de meilleures techniques culturales dont :
- Le remplacement du riz pluvial par le riz irrigué ;
- La constitution de stock de semences à partir de la récolte de l'année ;
- La mise en place de pépinières en planche ;
- Les semis en ligne du riz dans les casiers ;
- L'utilisation des intrants (herbicide, engrais) ; Elles ont aussi réalisé des reboisements à partir des semences et plants forestiers fournis en dehors des forêts classées.

Produit 2 : Les moyens d'existence des communautés locales améliorés Le projet a permis d'améliorer les moyens d'existence des communautés à travers :

- L'augmentation de la productivité des cultures vivrières notamment le riz (en moyenne de 2T/ha à 4,5 T/ha).
- La conservation des récoltes sur une longue durée par leur stockage dans les magasins et leur transformation par les décortiqueuses et broyeuses ;
- La maitrise de l'agroforesterie.

Produit 3 : 2000 ha de terres dégradées réhabilitées avec les plants de qualité et à travers le système Taungya.

Les terres réhabilitées contribuent à l'augmentation de la couverture forestière et du potentiel ligneux des forêts classées.

Project PD 530/08 Rev. 6 (F):

Project title: Phase 2 of ITTO project PD30/97 rev. 6 (f): management of forests established through rehabilitation of degraded forests by local communities in Ghana

Starting date: March 2012
Duration of project: 48 months
Project cost:
Total US$ 642,534
ITTO US$569,665
Government of Ghana: US$72,869

Executing agency: CSIR-Forestry Research Institute of Ghana (FORIG)

Development objective Forests established by local communities by rehabilitating degraded forests become one of the major sources of livelihood and improving landscapes.

Output 1: Management options and strategies identified and implemented
- Determination of the state of forest cover and land use types in the study area
- Mobilization of stakeholders
- Determination of indigenous knowledge on options and strategies
- Determination of management options and strategies
- Building the capacity of local communities in available options and strategies
- Development of management plans
- Implementation of management options, strategies and monitoring mechanism

Output 2: The diversity and density of indigenous timber species and NTFPs in plantations increased
- Selection of timber species and NTFPs for plantation establishment
- Development of capacity of local communities in the production of NTFPs and indigenous timber trees
- Identification of suitable planting techniques for timber trees and NTFPs
- Assessment of survival and monitoring growth rate of planted timber trees and NTFPs

Output 3: Financial value of timber species before final rotation and environmental services including carbon stocks determined 26
- Identification and mapping of key ecosystem services
- Building the capacity of local communities in determination of forest carbon stocks
- Quantification of key ecosystem services including forest carbon
- Economic valuation of key ecosystem services
- Identification of methodology for predicting the financial values of trees before final rotation

Output 4: Feasibility of designing and implementing PES scheme for communities in planted forests areas
- Determination of current and expected governance structures
- Determination of opportunities and challenges for PES and mechanisms for dealing with challenges
- Determination of equitable benefit sharing mechanism
- Validation of results and compilation of report

PD 692/13 Rev.1 (M)

Intitulé : Mise en œuvre opérationnelle du système national d'information pour la gestion durable des ressources forestières

AGENCE D'EXECUTION : Direction de l'Informatique et de la Gouvernance Electronique (DIGE ex SIESIA)
GOUVERNEMENT HOTE : Côte d'Ivoire
DATE DE LANCEMENT DU PROJET : 11 Février 2015
DUREE DU PROJET : 24 mois
COUT DU PROJET : 670,998 $ US
OIBT : 290,541 $ US
CI : 380,457 $ US
Objectif de développement : Contribuer à la gestion durable des ressources forestières de la Côte d'Ivoire par le développement d'un système national d'information sur les ressources forestières.

Objectif spécifique : Rendre opérationnel le système national d'information pour la gestion durable des ressources forestières

Produit 1 : Le système de gestion des statistiques forestières est opérationnel et amélioré
Automatisation de la collecte des données

Produit 2 : Les méthodes de collecte sont adaptées et organisées par centre
la mise en réseau de tous les acteurs

Produit 3 : Le cadre institutionnel du projet existe et est validé
Harmoniser les procédures et méthodes de collecte de données au niveau de tous les acteurs directement concernés.

PD 124/01 Rev.2 (M)

Intitulé du projet : Promotion de l'aménagement durable des forêts africaines

a. Intitulé : Promotion de l'aménagement durable des forêts africaines Phase III Etape 2

b. Numéro d'ordre : PD 124/01 Rev.4 (M)

c. Agence d'exécution : OIBT /Représentation Régionale pour l'Afrique

d. Gouvernements hôtes : Bénin, Gabon, Ghana, Cameroun, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, RCA, RDC, Rep. du Congo, Libéria, Nigeria, Togo

e. Date de démarrage : 1er avril 2014

f. Durée réelle (mois) : 27 mois

g. Coût réel du projet : USD 600 000

Objectifs du projet Objectif de développement Promouvoir l'aménagement durable des forêts africaines par l'application et la mise en œuvre des Principes, Critères et Indicateurs OAB/OIBT, avec le soutien et la participation de tous les intéressés.

Objectifs spécifiques Objectif spécifique 1 Etablir des éléments moteurs d'une capacité adéquate pour la mise en œuvre des PCI OAB/OIBT au niveau national dans les Pays membres africains de l'OIBT.

Produit 1.1 Un forum/mécanisme de consultation ouvert, participatif et représentatif (par ex. organe national) sur l'AFD créé/identifié dans les pays participants pour le suivi des progrès accomplis vers l'AFD et la consultation sur les questions de politique. Le règlement intérieur de ce forum sera documenté et le forum sera soutenu par un organisme national responsable identifié qui agira également en tant qu'organisme coordonnateur. Le produit 1.1 ne sera pas réalisé par le projet dans les pays où un forum consultatif national forestier existe déjà sous d'autres initiatives (par ex. Programme national forestier ou autre processus), mais le projet leur fournira un appui.

Produit 1.2 Critères nationaux PCI/certification élaborés grâce à un processus de grande envergure dans le cadre des PCI OIBT/OAB au niveau national et au niveau des UFA, ainsi qu'à d'autres initiatives forestières pertinentes. L'élaboration des PCI nationaux est effectuée par des Groupes nationaux de travail (GNT) ayant une représentation ouverte et équilibrée de tous les groupes d'intervenants pertinents, chargés d'élaborer des PCI/normes de certification pour l'AFD dans tous les pays participants. Les GNT ont des procédures démocratiques de prise de décision et de résolution des différends, et leurs travaux sont indépendants de toute influence injustifiée (par ex. de la part de la source de financement). Ce produit ne s'applique pas au Cameroun, au Gabon ou au Ghana, où des PCI/normes de certification existent déjà ou sont en cours d'élaboration sous un autre programme. Cependant, le projet fournit certains apports aux fins d'assurer la compatibilité avec les PCI OAB/OIBT.

Produit 1.3 Meilleure information grâce à des rapports périodiques au niveau national sur les progrès accomplis vers le but d'AFD, en appliquant un format général commun aux PCI. Meilleures dispositions ou cadres nationaux de surveillance/audit (interne/externe) conçus, institués et mis en application, et amélioration des conditions réglementaires prescrites pour l'aménagement forestier (exprimées sous forme de règlements, codes de conduite révisés, etc.) dans les pays participants.

Produit 1.5 Personnel forestier et spécialistes formés en matière de mise en œuvre des PCI et d'audit de l'aménagement forestier durable dans chaque pays, et d'essais de terrain des PCI OAB/OIBT dans deux pays sélectionnés.

Objectif spécifique 2 Etablir des éléments moteurs d'une capacité adéquate pour la coopération efficace au niveau régional par l'intermédiaire de l'Organisation africaine du bois, pour soutenir individuellement les pays membres dans leurs efforts de mise en œuvre des PCI OAB/OIBT.

Produit 2.1 PCI OAB/OIBT provisoires harmonisés officiellement présentés à la Conférence ministérielle de l'OAB 27

Produit 2.2 Forum consultatif au niveau régional pour la promotion de l'AFD institué de concert avec les principaux groupements d'intéressés, représentés par leurs organisations régionales compétentes.

Produit 2.3 Cadre d'audit des forêts africaines développé et mis à l'essai, y compris directives et vérification pour les PCIV, système d'aménagement forestier au niveau des UFA et définition de dispositions institutionnelles et organisationnelles adéquates. Les éléments du système d'aménagement forestier couvrent des aspects tels que les inventaires, les placettes d'échantillonnage permanentes (PEP), les plans d'aménagement, la réglementation de l'exploitation, les directives d'exploitation à faible impact, les directives sylvicoles, les méthodes de conservation de la biodiversité, les questions sociales, le suivi et le contrôle, et la recherche.

Produit 2.4 Minimum de 60 instructeurs formés au niveau régional en matière d'élaboration, d'application de mise en œuvre et d'audit des PCI OAB/OIBT au niveau des UFA.

Produit 2.5 Capacité consultative et de diffusion de l'OAB renforcée en tant qu'instrument de coopération et de consultation entre ses pays membres pour la promotion et la mise en œuvre des PCI OAB/OIBT.

PD 678/12 Rev.1 (M)

Intitule du projet : Mise en place d'un système national d'information et de gestion des statistiques forestières au Bénin

Agence d'exécution : DIRECTION GENERALE DES FORETS ET DES RESSOURCES NATURELLES (DGFRN) BP. 393 COTONOU (R. BENIN)

Date de lancement du Projet : 18 Juillet 2013

Durée du Projet : 33 mois

Budget proposé et autres sources de financement :

Source Contribution (en $EU) :

OIBT 398 704

BENIN 119 129 + 120 000

Total 517 833 + 120 000

Objectif de développement du projet : Contribuer à la gestion durable des ressources forestières du Bénin par la production d'informations fiables sur ces ressources.

Objectif spécifique : Mettre en place un système national de collecte et de gestion des informations pour une gestion durable des ressources forestières au Bénin.

Produit 1 : Les structures de collette et de gestion des statistiques forestières sont coordonnées

Un mécanisme de coordination des structures de collette et de gestion des statistiques forestières est mis en place et fonctionnel

Les Points Focaux utilisent le nouveau canevas, mais certains agents au niveau communal peinent à l'utiliser.

La majorité des acteurs ayant reçus l'annuaire sont satisfaits et l'ont bien apprécié

Produit 2 : Les méthodes fiables de collecte des données sont développées et appliquées

Les méthodes de collecte adéquates des informations sur les principaux produits forestiers sont élaborées, validées et mises en œuvre.

Le Manuel de procédures de suiviévaluation des statistiques élaboré et disponible

Produit 3: Un système de gestion des statistiques forestières est créé et fonctionnel

Bases de données informatisées sur les statistiques forestières sont disponibles

A la fin du projet les informations fiables sur le secteur forestier sont diffusées à temps

PD 700/13 Rev.2 (I)

Title: Development of intra-african trade and further processing in tropical timber and timber products – phase i [stage 1]

Executing Agency: ITTO Secretariat

Pilot Countries: Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo

Started on: April 2015

Duration: 12 months

Project cost: USD1,399,989 for Phase 1

[Stage 1] funded by the Government of Japan

The development objective of the Project is to promote socio-economic development and sustainable management of African forests through value creation by expanded further processing and intra-African trade in tropical timber and timber products.

The specific objective is to initiate consolidated efforts with the establishment of key elements in capacity to strengthen competitiveness of ITTO African producers in timber and timber products markets.

Output 1: Process to facilitate trade is in place and facilitated arrangements in operation for TTP exports in the region

Output 2 : National strategies for development of further processing and TTP exports in pilot countries have been implemented

Output 4 : Measures to improve market transparency have been undertaken

Output 6 : 250 trained persons are using the acquired skills in further processing and trade development

Output 7 : National industry/trade associations are capable for advocacy and providing adequate services to members

Output 9 : Technology transfer in specific priority areas has taken place

PD 620/11 Rev.1 (M):

Project title: Development & implementation of a species identification and timber tracking system with DNA fingerprints and s isotope in Africa

Starting date of the project: February 1st, 2012

Duration of the project: 42 months

Project cost: US$ 2,046,092.54

Executing agency: Thünen Institute of Forest Genetics
Sieker Landstraße 2; 22927 Grosshansdorf/Germany

Main objective: improve the transparency and effective management of supply chains, and to increase domestic and international trade of legally produced tropical timber

Specific objectives:

• to develop and implement a timber tracking system using DNA and stable isotope profiling for 3 important timber species in Africa: Iroko (Milicia excelsa + M. regia), Sapelli (Entandrophragma cylindricum) and Ayous (Triplochiton scleroxylon),

Output 1: 20 African tree species have been identified by wood anatomy and DNA barcode

Output 2: Genetic and stable isotopes reference data to control the country of origin for three important timber species

• to improve the tools available for the identification of tree species with the emphasis on CITES protected species and species that could be confounded with them,

Output 3: African timber producer countries equipped & their personal trained for timber species identification & control of origin

Output 4: Demonstration of control of chain of custody have been done with 1 tree species and the stakeholders have been involved

• to transfer knowledge and capacity building in producer countries.

Output 5: Project co-ordination