



Approval of Gabon programs

Adopted by mail, on 30 March 2018

EB.2018.03.

Whereas CAFI signed a letter of intent with the Government of Gabon on June 27, 2017;

Whereas the Government of Gabon, together with the Agence Française de Développement, presented a program document for funding;

Whereas the program document was submitted to independent review as per the Terms of Reference of the CAFI Trust Fund;

Whereas the Executive Board reviewed the program document, the results of the independent review and the Government's responses to the independent review, it

Approves the program documents and requests the Secretariat to ensure that the comments below are addressed in a revised version of the program document before it is submitted to the MPTF-O for fund transfer:

1. Land use planning (LUP)

- a. Better explain:
 - how the program will support the translation of the land use plan into policy and law and how it is articulated at the subnational level (through subnational plans, policies and decrees) as well as institutional responsibilities;
 - more clarity on the links between the LUP and the sector plans, how the LUP will affect those plans i.e. how the land use plan will be implemented
- b. Better explain how integrated development planning will take place (i.e. mining sites connected by road and electricity infrastructure): either explain how it is done or mention that it is not the case (but may well be)
- c. Better explain how relevant experiences from other countries will be used (in the region for the planning of transboundary projects and infrastructures and outside the region in land use planning in general)
- d. Resolution of conflicting land uses:
 - Either have a budget and separate activity

- Or present how the resolution of overlapping rights and contracts will be done (what mechanism, the courts, the administration, arbitration, other?) – and include this in risk assessment (legal battles tend to take time – so how will this impact the workplans)
- e. Participation of private sector and civil society in the *Commission Nationale d’Affectation des Terres* (CNAT), especially for the resolution of conflicts (either through industry organizations or actual persons involved in conflicting land uses such as concessionaires etc.) – for the purposes of facilitating conflict resolution and ensuring representation of all land users
 - f. Participatory mapping should include effective conflict resolution elements:
 - Who has the final word on the maps if there is a conflict between administration and villages/communities
 - How possible conflicting claims between communities and/or villages will be resolved
 - Better use of existing work or examples of other countries (such as those produced by RFUK and FERN) on land tenure assessment and mapping for rights
 - How to ensure that land rights of local communities, including women and indigenous people, are respected
 - Clarify how Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) will be implemented
 - g. Socio-environmental impacts:
 - Revise the assessment that the program does not present any risk
 - Bring the development of SD impact assessment to earlier in the process, to identify risks that the underlying studies may not address
 - h. Include reference to the revision of the *Plan National d’Affectation des Terres* (every five years as mentioned in the *Cadre National d’Investissement* and make sure that CNAT has the mandate (currently not in the decree)
 - i. The development of the complaint mechanism requires more resources and time. If no funding is available for this under the projects, clarify that this may be done in the framework of another activity.
 - j. Budget:
 - Correct calculation errors and errors across lines and activities
 - Adjust budget if activities are reshuffled as per the recommendations of evaluators such as for conflict resolution (not just for the development of the manual of procedures)
 - k. Risk analysis - address risks of:
 - infringing on local populations’ rights
 - delay (as many activities are scheduled during Years 1&2)
 - delays or failures in conflict resolution
 - ADD not operational
 - Non-transmission of data by ministries
 - No decree to implement the law on Sustainable Development
 - l. Human Resources
 - Clarify how the human capacity of department level information and consultations centres will be adequate to have meaningful consultations (as opposed to one-way information flow)
 - m. M&E
 - Better clarify the responsibilities of the different actors in terms of reporting and reporting chains (UGP, AFD, CAFI)
- 2. Natural resource and forest monitoring system (SNORNF)**
- a. Reduce costs related to purchase of optical tools, and rely instead on free or non-optical tools (radar, drones etc.)
 - b. Budget:
 - Correct calculation errors and errors across lines and activities

- No co-funding
 - Adjust budget if activities are reshuffled as per recommendations of evaluators
 - Consider increasing line for non-optical tools and reduce purchase of photos
 - Add sub-activities to define methodologies
- c. Theory of Change
- How can sequestration be constant after large reductions in degradation (more degradation = more regrowth = more sequestration)
 - More information about current and future drivers, the importance of agro-industry, better maps with existing activities (most of this is already part of the NIF)
- d. Methodology
- Use new technologies for online image treatment (Google earth engine editor, Collect Earth, SEPAL) – electricity, internet connection and hardware
 - Free, open source tools (including Copernicus, Sentinel 2 as well as software)
 - More drones and other non-optical tools including experiences from other countries – especially for the alert system
 - Describe the natural resource inventory in annex
 - Describe interdependencies b/w tranche 1 & 2 activities (e.g. IRN & HCS zones in LUP) and in general differences between Work plan for activities and intermediate milestones in the LOI
 - Update of forest monitoring system every 5 years instead of annual
 - Add further activities (2.1.1 and 2.5.1) to clarify methodologies and in general add sub-activities to describe methodologies
 - Better integrate relevant initiative and ensure that the results are comparable (JICA on forest inventory, PréREDD, P3FAC, DACWFI2)
 - Consider & detail long term sustainability of program (activity 1.11)
- e. Risk analysis
- Add risks related to delays in implementation, lack of communication between the agencies, conflicts during mapping of villages (use of FPIC)
 - Adjust risk rating for some risks

3. Governance

CAFI representative be part of the Program Steering Committee.

Approves the transfer of US\$ 9,400,000 representing the 1st tranche of the commitment CAFI made in the Letter of Intent and the costs of the international technical assistance for the 1st two years of the program.