



DECISION OF THE CAFI EXECUTIVE BOARD

Gabon – Approval of TNC forestry program (CAFI 2)

EB.2021.28

Adopted on at EB 19 on 24 November 2021

Considering that:

- CAFI signed a Letter of Intent with the Government of Gabon on 27 June 2017, and an addendum in 2019 and 2020, whose main objective is to prevent the conversion and degradation of high carbon stock and high conservation value forests;
- According to the Executive Board (EB) decision [EB.2019.19](#), the Government of Gabon, together with the French Development Agency (AFD), presented a program document for funding of a forest certification program (CAFI 2) entitled “Improved Forestry Management: Implementation of a National Scale Certification Process in Gabon”, which was approved by the EB in its decision [EB.2020.02](#);
- Due to significant delays in program operationalization and since the program document had not been signed more than one year following the above EB decision, the Executive Board decided to replace AFD as implementing agency with The Nature Conservancy (TNC). On 21 October, the Executive Board thus transferred the CAFI 2 program to TNC in its decision [EB.2021.15](#);
- EB decision EB.2021.27 adopted on 24 November, that approves TNC as a Recipient Non-UN organization (NUNO) eligible for direct access to the Trust Fund, based on the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT) global micro assessment undertaken in October 2018, which overall assessed the organization as a low risk implementing partner.

The Executive Board:

1. Thanks TNC for submitting a program proposal pre-approved by the Gabonese Ministry of Water and Forests, the Sea, and the Environment
2. Approves a total of 7,000,000 USD for TNC’s program entitled “Reducing Emissions Through Improved Forestry Management: Implementation of a National Scale Certification Process in Gabon” to be used over a 5-year implementation period;
3. Recalls that, while respecting their rules and regulations, TNC commits to zero tolerance for fraud, corruption and sexual exploitation and abuse; protection of whistleblowers, public disclosure, gender and social inclusion and use of adequate complaints mechanisms. In addition, TNC commits to

managing all other contextual and programmatic risks identified by the Executive Board with utmost care. TNC is also expected to be proactive in reporting those risks to the CAFI MPTF in respect to CAFI Trust Fund's Terms of Reference.

4. Recalls that TNC will have to report on progress towards both the objectives and milestones of the Letter of Intent and CAFI's results framework in accordance with CAFI's guidelines and templates. In addition, it will have to provide information on how its activities are addressing and respecting CAFI's social and environmental safeguards requirements.
5. Requests TNC to report back to the programme steering committee on the project management arrangements (PMU) and propose changes to the program document if necessary to ensure the optimal operation of the program.
6. Approves the above TNC program document and requests the CAFI Secretariat to submit it to the MPTF-O for fund transfer of 4,473,391,80 USD to cover provisional budgets for the first 2 years of implementation, as per the program's work plan.
7. Asks the CAFI Secretariat to sign the program document on behalf of the Executive Board.