



Policy Dialogue and Investments for a Central African Republic and CAFI partnership

Adopted by email on February 9, 2024

EB.2024.02

Considering:

- Central African Republic REDD+ Investment Framework submitted in March 2020 by his Excellency, the Prime Minister of Central African Republic to CAFI
- [Decision EB.2020.17](#) approving a preparatory grant in the Central African Republic to support the policy dialogue between CAFI and the government of the Central African Republic and conduct pre-feasibility studies for the pilot projects identified in the REDD+ National Investment Framework;
- Deliverables of the preparatory grant submitted by the French Development Agency in September 2023;
- Request made by this Excellency, the Minister of Environment, to the UNDP to support the dialogue between CAR and CAFI on September 1st, 2023 and his Excellency, the Prime Minister on December 29, 2023;
- The conclusions of the meeting held on February 5, 2024 between the Government of CAR represented by the Prime Minister, the Ministers in charge of Economy & Planning, Finance & Budget, and Environment, and the CAFI Executive Board represented by the UK Ambassador, the NICFI Deputy Director (NOR), the Director for Global Affairs from the french Ministry for Europe and foreign Affairs (FR) and the Deputy Ambassador of the Embassy of Netherlands.

The CAFI Executive Board (EB):

1. Congratulates the Government of the Central African Republic and in particular the Prime Minister for their leadership in establishing the partnership with CAFI;
2. Seeks to pursue policy dialogue with the Prime Minister on the implementation of National

Investment Framework and the National Development Plan;

3. Encourages the establishment of an interim high-level coordination mechanisms which would report to the Prime Minister for the effective and inclusive development of the partnership's first investment projects including the Council of Ministers as the high-level decision body together with a Steering Committee headed by the Prime Minister, the Task Force established to support the NIF implementation as a technical body, and a governmental entity to be designated by the Government as per the CAFI Declaration and which would act as a focal point for the partnership.
4. Instructs the Administrative Agent to transfer 600,000 US\$ to the United Nations Development Programme to support the Government with the above-mentioned tasks and the CAFI secretariat to verify beforehand that the preparatory grant request includes the integration of the following comments :
 - i. add the identification of few policies and measures to support the success of the investments on the ground;
 - ii. add, as a deliverable of the project, a detailed mapping of the interventions funded by partners (including MDBs, private sector, INGO, etc) in the land use sectors and in the priority areas identified by the National Investment Framework, capitalizing on the work already undertaken by the AFD under a CAFI preparatory grant on the three prefeasibility studies ;
 - iii. Add as a deliverable of the project, a risk assessment presenting evidence on the level of security and access to the priority areas;
5. Asks UNDP to share a calendar for the development and validation of the National Development Plan and to ensure that the CAFI Board can review an advanced version of the PND with a possibility to comment the latter ;
6. Recalls that, while respecting its rules and regulations, the executing agency undertakes to apply zero tolerance towards fraud, corruption, sexual exploitation and abuse; to protect whistleblowers; to inform the public; to promote gender equality and social inclusion; and to use appropriate complaint mechanisms. In addition, UNDP commits to carefully managing all other contextual and programmatic risks identified by the Board and should act proactively in reporting these risks to CAFI's Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office, in accordance with the Terms of Reference of CAFI's Trust Fund.
7. Reminds UNDP of its reporting obligations under CAFI's Manual of Operations, both in terms of narrative and financial reporting
8. Instructs the CAFI Secretariat to review the integration of comments made by the Board (under point 5) and sign the Project document on its behalf.
9. Requests the CAFI Secretariat to develop a call for expression of interest (EoI) jointly with the task force to implement one or several pilot projects in line with the National Investment Framework for an amount of up to 10 MUSD (extendable) over 5 years. Projects will be results-based and focus on key deforestation drivers (in particular agriculture and cooking energy). The Secretariat will revert to the EB with proposed terms of reference for the call. As part of this process, the Secretariat is requested to work together with the Government, and the EB to map potential partners, in particular NGOs, social enterprises and private sector. The ToRs of the future call for EoI will be

informed by the conclusions and recommendations of the final report of the CAFI preparatory grant « Appui à la préparation de la mise en œuvre du cadre national d'investissement REDD+ en RCA et à la mobilisation de fonds auprès du CAFI » managed by AFD to ensure consistency with the results of the prefeasibility studies.

10. Indicates, to better inform the development of the ToR of the call for EoI, a preference for pilot investments to be concentrated and focused in a secured area with a potential to deliver effective results on the ground and better demonstrate a potential for scaling up ; in light of these criteria, the surroundings of Bangui could be considered as a pilot area for CAFI investments in CAR.