

**Promoting zero-deforestation cocoa production for reducing emissions in
Côte d'Ivoire
(PROMIRE project)**

Annex 13 – Prefeasibility study

May 2020

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Acronyms

AFD	Agence Française pour le Développement
AMA	Accreditation Master Agreement
ANADER	National Agency for Rural Development Support
BAU	Business as usual
BUR	Biennial update report
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CCC	Cocoa-Coffee-Council
CCD	Convention to Combat Desertification
CFI	Cocoa and Forest Initiative
DRET	Decent Rural Employment team
EFI	European Forest Institute
ER	Emission reduction
ERPA	Emission Reductions Payment Agreement
ERPD	Emission Reduction Project Document
ERPIN	ER Project Idea Note
EU	European Union
EX-ACT	Ex-Ante Carbon-balance Tool
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FLEGT	Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade
FPRCI	Foundation for the Parks and Reserves for Côte d'Ivoire
FREL	Forest Reference Emission Level
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GCF-TF	Governors' Climate & Forests - Task Force
GEE	Google Earth Engine
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHG	Greenhouse gas
GIF	Green Impact Facility
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
ICF	Cocoa and Forests Initiative
IDH	Sustainable Trade Initiative
LEDs	Low Emissions Development Strategy
LDN	Land Degradation Neutrality
LTO	Lead Technical Officer
LULUCF	Land use, land-use change and forestry
MFI	Micro-finance institution
MINEDD	Ministry Environment and Sustainable Development
MINADER	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MINEF	Ministry of Water and Forest

NAMA	Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions
NAPA	National Adaption Programmes of Action
NAP	National Adaption Plan
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NFMS	National Forest Monitoring System
NIF	National Investment Framework
NPC	National Project Coordinator
OIG	Office of the Inspector General
PAMOFOR	Projet d'amélioration et de mise en œuvre de la politique foncière rurale
PAMs	Policies and Measures
PDL	Local Development Plans
PES	Payment for Ecosystems Services
PSC	Project Steering Committee
PMU	Project Management Unit
PTF	Technical and Financial Partners
RAF	FAO Regional Office for Africa
REDD+	Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, conservation of existing forest carbon stocks, sustainable forest management and enhancement of forest carbon stocks
REDD+ NS	REDD+ National Strategy
RBP	Results-based payments
RLMC	Rural Land Management Committee
SAP	Simplified Approvals Process
SCOLUR-CI	Scaling up Cocoa-based Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration Transformative Innovations in Côte d'Ivoire
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SEPAL	System for Earth Observation Data Access, Processing and Analysis for Land Monitoring
SEP-REDD+	Permanent Secretariat of the National REDD+ Commission
SIS	Safeguards Information System
SNAT	National Spatial Planning Scheme
SMO	small and medium-size organizations
SODEFOR	Forest Development Society
SRAT	Regional Spatial Planning Schemes
ToC	Theory of Change
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UN-REDD	United Nations Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation

UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
WB	World Bank
WCF	World Cocoa Foundation

1. Executive summary

Côte d'Ivoire is facing important challenges due to climate change and deforestation. Deforestation linked to cocoa production for the chocolate industry is a major driver of deforestation in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, the world's two largest producers. Despite deforestation-free cocoa commitments made during COP 23 in 2017 by leading chocolate companies and states¹ through programmes such as the Cocoa and Forests Initiative, the trend continues even inside protected areas and National parks. Studies show that deforestation contributes to climate change by emitting CO₂ and the resulting climatic disturbances (temperature increases and reduced precipitation) have a significant impact on cocoa production, whose yield can fall by 10 or even 20% (Dje K.B., 2007). To tackle these issues, Côte d'Ivoire has committed to reduce its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 28% compared to the business as usual scenario and is involved in a new agricultural policy known as 'zero-deforestation agriculture'.

The Ivorian government quickly expressed interest in REDD+ due to their awareness of the importance of forests for climate change, the well-being of the population but also for the development of the country. Several technical and financial partners have supported Côte d'Ivoire since the country joined the REDD+ mechanism in 2011. The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) and UN-REDD Programme for example supported the initial development of the readiness phase. In 2016, an Emission Reduction Project Document (ERPD) was also launched and a full-scale project proposal started in 2018. To support the implementation of the mechanism, the REDD+ National Strategy (REDD+ NS) was adopted in November 2017. However, support from technical and financial partners will end soon without completing the necessary elements for the implementation of REDD+, in particular the Warsaw Framework, without which the country can't access to results-based payments (RBPs).

In fact, the government has committed significant domestic resources and has worked closely with bilateral and multilateral donors to reach its current level of REDD+ readiness and ability to transform its forest and agricultural sectors. Unfortunately, the need for financial and technical assistance is still high in Côte d'Ivoire to fill technical gaps and implement the REDD+ mechanism. As part of the national REDD+ process, the Government of Côte d'Ivoire has designed an ER-PD under the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) Carbon Fund. It is currently in negotiations regarding the Emission Reductions Payment Agreement (ERPA), through which it is expected to generate results-based payment (RBP) for approximately 16.5 MtCO₂ between 2020 and 2027. The FCPF represents the most immediate and concrete source of REDD+ results-based payments, however, other sources may materialize in the future, especially through the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Warsaw Framework. In order to be able to receive this results-based financing, investment in the enabling environment, deforestation-free agriculture and sustainable forest landscape management is required. The PROMIRE project is fully aligned with this and explicitly supportive of programmes leading to results-based payments, such as FCPF Carbon Fund and potentially GCF RBP Programme. Based on lessons learned from past projects (e.g. AFD project in La Me, FCPF readiness fund, FIP and others) and seeking complementarity with ongoing initiatives (e.g. FOLUR project funded by GEF and implemented by FAO), the project is intended to remove financial,

¹ <https://www.worldcocoaoundation.org/initiative/cocoa-forests-initiative/>

technical and insitutional barriers to allow for additional resources (public, private and results-based payments) to flow and to scale-up sustainable and zero-deforestation agriculture and forestry approaches.

The project '*Promoting zero-deforestation cocoa production for reducing emissions in Côte d'Ivoire (PROMIRE)*' will support the country to finalise its REDD+ readiness activities and to implement its zero deforestation agricultural policy. The activities proposed in this project are structured around two components: firstly, to finalize the readiness phase through the operationalization of the Warsaw Framework. The REDD+ readiness phase prepares in fact the country for a successful implementation of the mechanism in order to access to results-based payments. Secondly, the project will support the transition to a more low carbon and resilient agricultural model in the targeted area and deliver concrete results in terms of emission reduction. The country plan to submit a RBP proposal to the GCF by 2021 for an approximate national estimate of 15M tCO₂eq for the period 2015-2017. To achieve this, fundamental elements must be operational, especially the Warsaw Framework with its National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS), Safeguards and Safeguards Information System (SIS) and a Forest Reference Emission Level (FREL).

The GCF resources (grants) will be used with this project to overcome the Government's constraints to use public funding to invest in measures needed to reduce deforestation and forest degradation currently observed in the country. Based on the financial analysis, different activities will lead to the generation of financial reflows. For example, the agroforestry model included in the second component is financially more attractive than the baseline agricultural practices, a GCF grant is still deemed the most efficient and effective financial instrument. Small-scale farmers in the targeted regions face very major barriers that prevent them from capitalizing on any financial returns from sustainable farming. In particular, farmers lack knowledge, capacities and expertise on agroforestry cultivation, and lack access to downstream markets for any crops other than conventional cocoa and cash crops. Technical assistance and capacity building funded by the GCF grant will address these crucial barriers.

Fully aligned with the NDC forest mitigation targets, the project will pursue a public good rated objective, with a highly intensive requirement of public resources. The financial structure of the project responds to the minimum needs to ensure success for public goods, such as forest conservation and GHG emissions reduction. Economic and financial analysis shows that all proposed investments are unlikely to be conducted without financial and technical assistance, since they require significant upfront costs and long pay-back periods for poor and resource-constrained beneficiaries. Indeed, from a private point of view (i.e. using costs and benefits borne by the individual beneficiaries and valued at market price) the net present value is negative for three of the four modelled agro-forestry interventions, while it is positive if seedlings are distributed by the project along with the provision of technical assistance. For restoration activities, the financial analysis conducted for the two modelled forest restoration interventions shows that the net present value would be positive even without subsidizing any activity (like free seedling distribution). This is because models are based on high value tropical timbers (i.e. teak) and also because during the first years of a timber plantation, it is expected that farmers will gain additional income by planting annual food crops (e.g. cassava, maize, etc.) in the same parcel where timber seedlings are planted. However, without project support, the initial

investment is too high to be conducted by poor smallholders on private land – reinforcing the needs for the beneficiaries to use a grant from the GCF.

This pre-feasibility study is considered complimentary to the funding proposal of the project submitted through the Simplified Approvals Process (SAP) process. It provides details about the context, baseline scenario, gaps, climate impacts on the country, climate rationale for the project, as well as project activities, transformational effects carried out by the projects, consultations and institutional arrangements. It is essential to read this document in addition to the funding proposal in order to complete the overall understanding of the project and its implementation.

2. Forests and climate change

2.1. General context and public policies

Côte d'Ivoire currently faces a forest crisis given its extremely important biodiversity and the human population dependence on forests (Myers *et al.*, 2000). With only 2.77 million hectares of remaining forest and almost no pristine forest outside the National parks, Côte d'Ivoire has currently one of the world's fastest rates of deforestation and forest degradation. In fact, based on the country's Forest Reduction Emission Level, the forest cover was 7.8 million hectares in 1990, 5.09 in 2000 and 3.4 in 2015 (FREL, 2017). Current estimates show that 250,000 hectares of annual forest were lost between 1990 and 2015 (BNEDT, Ecterra, 2016), with 4.32% loss p.a. for 1990- 2000 and 2.69% for 2000-2015 (FREL, 2017).

Expansion of cash crops is the main direct driver of deforestation due to its economic attractiveness. A 2016 report (BNEDT, Ecterra, 2016) provides an analysis of the deforestation drivers per main agro-ecological zone as follows: for the south-east agro-ecological zone which includes La Mé, Agnèby Tiassa and Sud-Comoe regions, the most important drivers of deforestation are agricultural expansion, especially cocoa, rubber, and palm oil, logging (mostly for charcoal production), urbanization and informal mining. The weight of these direct drivers of deforestation in this area is generally similar to national trends, with the exception of palm oil agriculture (20% instead of 7% at the national level) and charcoal production because of Abidjan's demand.

Indeed, agriculture accounts for 62% of deforestation, 38% of which is coming from cocoa (BNEDT, Ecterra, 2016). Côte d'Ivoire is one of the world's leading cocoa producing countries with an average production of 2,150,000 tons in 2018/2019 representing about 32% of global offer² (see section 2.2 for additional information on cocoa production). More than 75% of cocoa is produced in the south-west region where the most fertile forest areas are found. Only 30% of production is processed locally, the rest being exported. In the regions of the project, Agnèby-Tiassa, La Mé and Sud-Comoé, massive deforestation driven by cocoa in particular, is worsened by land clearing to produce full-sun cocoa rather than growing shaded cocoa – which is now possible. In fact, small producers with insecure land tenure often look for quick returns through limited time horizons, and practicing shaded cocoa often results in a delayed first yield, which limits its attractiveness for adoption by local communities. In this

² <http://www.fao.org/assets/infographics/FAO-Infographic-chocolate-en.pdf>

context, slash-and-burn agriculture is often perceived as the cheapest and easiest way to proceed, to the detriment of the forests (see section 3 for additional information on barriers).

The cocoa production remains, indeed, concentrated among vulnerable small producers which depend on it. Cocoa farming is in fact essential to the livelihoods of two million producers in Côte d'Ivoire (ca 1/3 of the international producer workforce and nearly 9% of the population of Côte d'Ivoire) and represents 70 to 100% of their annual income. These low income smallholder farmers remain mostly unorganized and with unsecure land rights. Women are particularly vulnerable as a result of weaker land tenure rights and less access to assets, inputs and services (see gender assessment). Additionally, smallholder farmers depend on rainfed agriculture for their livelihoods which increases their vulnerability to climate change.

It is important to note that cocoa production, and agriculture as a whole, in Côte d'Ivoire is indeed being impacted by climate change. Côte d'Ivoire is classified among the most vulnerable countries to climate change (145th out of 178 countries in the ND-GAIN) indicating that the country has both a great need for investment and innovations in readiness and a great urgency for action. Whether at national or local level, rainfall has decreased by 23 to 29% between 1940 and 2010 and temperatures have increased by 1,6 degrees between 1960 and 2010 (Yao *et al.*, 2013; MINEDD, 2019) – reduction in pluviometry being caused by the massive destruction of forest.³ Projections also indicate a mean temperature increase of 2°C for the whole country, with a peak of 3.5°C in January. Moreover, rainfall variations are expected to decrease by 9% for the April-May period, and increase by a similar amount in October (World Bank, 2018). The main impact of climate change in Côte d'Ivoire is increase water scarcity and more intense droughts. Other direct impacts of climate change on this sector are shorter periods of vegetative growth (lagging in the beginning of the growing season), low biomass growth and a reduction in productive potential of ecosystems (decrease of arable land due to increased land degradation, increased exposure of plants to water stress and dwindling surface water in most areas). Since average temperatures in Côte d'Ivoire are projected to increase because of climate change, evapotranspiration and thus plant water demand are also expected to increase, leading to increased drought stress of cocoa trees, especially during the dry season and in particularly dry (El Niño) years.

Progressive climate change increasingly affects the climatic suitability for cocoa in Côte d'Ivoire will have implications for global cocoa output as well as national economy and farmer livelihoods, with potential repercussions for forests and natural habitat as cocoa growing regions expand, shrink or shift. The Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) indicates that climate change will have a significant impact on cocoa production with financial losses estimated at USD 202 million and a 10% to 20% reduction in production by 2020,⁴ resulting from increased temperatures and decreased soil fertility.

The Government of Côte d'Ivoire recognizes the importance of addressing climate change adaptation and mitigation challenges within the country and internationally. Côte d'Ivoire signed the UNFCCC in 1992 and ratified it in 1995. Despite the political-military crisis, the country submitted its Initial National Communication to the UNFCCC in 2000⁵ and its Second National Communication in 2010.

³ K.E. Kouakou, T.A. Gouabi, A.M. Kouassi, 2012. Analyze of climate variability and change impacts on hydro-climate parameters: case study of Côte d'Ivoire. International Journal of Scientific & Engineering Research, Volume 3, Issue 2, February 2012.

⁴ NDCs and Dje K.B., 2007.

⁵ UNFCCC website shows this as 2001

Côte d'Ivoire is Party (Non-annex 1) to the Kyoto Protocol (by accession 23 April 2007, entry into force in July 2007) and the government signed Paris agreement in October 2016. The agreement's accession and entry into force occurred during Côte d'Ivoire's political-military crisis from 2002 to 2011 during which the government's key strategic considerations lay elsewhere. In December 2015, the country adopted its National Development Plan from 2016 to 2020 (*Ministère du Plan et du Développement*, 2016). This national framework aims to consolidate emerging economic pathways towards a more diverse economy and industrialization. To meet these developmental challenges, Côte d'Ivoire set up in 2012 the National Climate Change Programme for the country to coordinate, propose and promote measures and strategies to combat climate change. As a result, the National Strategy for Combating Climate Change for the 2015-2020 period was adopted at the end of 2014. The institutional structures to implement national climate change policy and action fall under the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MINEDD).

As of now Côte d'Ivoire does not have a National Adaption Programme of Action (NAPA), a Low Emissions Development Strategy (LEDS) and a Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA), but a National Adaption Plan (NAP) is under construction and the country has its NDCs. Through its NDCs, submitted in 2016, the country intends to demonstrate its commitment to low-emissions development by prioritising mitigation options with high co-benefits (section 2, mitigation), strengthening the country's resilience to climate change (section 3, adaptation), bringing its sectorial policies into closer coherence and strengthening its implementation mechanism and tools to facilitate the attainment of these objectives (section 4), and mobilizing all relevant means, including funding, both national and international (section 5). As part of its NDC, Côte d'Ivoire has committed to reduce its GHG emissions by 28% compared to the baseline scenario before 2030.⁶

The Government has steadily integrated climate change aspects, especially deforestation, degradation and land use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF), into policy designed to enhance the contribution of forest in the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, under the UNFCCC⁷ Even though the **LULUCF sector is recognized as the driver of historical and current GHG emissions**, this sector was not included in the NDC due to a lack of data availability at the time of submission. However, this has not prevented LULUCF being the main target of key GHG reduction initiatives such as REDD+ zero deforestation agriculture (see sections below for more information). Figures presented in the REDD+ NS highlight the fact that an intervention related to zero deforestation agriculture approaches could provide more than 50% of the GHG emission reduction targets presented in the NDC.⁸

2.2. Baseline conditions and gaps in Côte d'Ivoire

REDD+ mechanism

With regards to its REDD+ commitment, Côte d'Ivoire is currently finalizing its readiness phase, has already its REDD+ NS since November 2017, and has submitted its FREL in 2017. The Third National Communication and the second Biennial Update Report (BUR) are planned to be submitted in July 2020 but the country will assess first, in the framework of the project, potential ER results before the submission of this BUR. The submission of the next BUR and its potential REDD+ technical annex could be delayed to 2021.

⁶ <https://www.climatewatchdata.org/countries/CIV>

⁷ Initial National Communication UNFCCC 2001, Second National Communication UNFCCC 2010, National Environmental Policy 2011

⁸ See Section 2.2. for the objective of the REDD+ National Strategy.

FCPF and UN-REDD Programme supported the initial development of REDD+ readiness. Under the readiness phase, **direct drivers of deforestation and forest degradation** were identified at a national level as: (i) agricultural expansion, especially cash crops such as cocoa, (ii) fuelwood production, including charcoal, (iii) poorly controlled unsustainable logging, (iv) bush fires and (v) other factors such as extensive livestock farming, urbanization and informal mining. Further analysis found the six agricultural sectors that contributed the most to deforestation (cocoa, rubber, oil palm, cashews, rice and yam). The study on drivers of deforestation and forest degradation also identified underlying or indirect drivers which are: (i) poor policy steering and poor governance, (ii) lack of secure tenure, (iii) demographic pressure (migration and growth) and the political-military crisis of 2002-2010, (iv) climate change and (v) infrastructures (roads, housing, etc. - BNEDT, Ecterra, 2016). A local analysis of these drivers is given in section 3.3.

In late 2016, the development of an Emission Reduction Project Document (ERPD) was launched (subsequent to approval of the ER Project Idea Note – ERPIN) and the conception of a full-scale project proposal started in 2018. The seven-year investor-based project concept, financed by the Carbon Funds of World Bank, targets a 4.25 million hectare area in the humid rainforest in the South-West of the country, with an expectation of mitigating 16.5 million tCO₂ eq. Financing levels presented at the ERPIN stage highlighted commitments of ca. 48 million USD to enable the activity plan by several structures and generate the ERs target.⁹

Additional support from the EU REDD Facility led to the inclusion of a FLEGT process into a broader REDD+ framework and identified the agricultural sector as a threat to the permanent forest estate. The combination of this threat to forest, the volume of deforestation and degradation driven by agriculture and the need for agricultural areas to be reforested or restored led to the identification of a specific zero deforestation agriculture approach for Côte d'Ivoire.

To support the implementation of a successful REDD+ mechanism in Côte d'Ivoire, the REDD+ NS was adopted in November 2017 with the aim of *reducing deforestation and forest degradation by 80% compared to 2015 in order to conserve remaining forests and avoiding loss of forest cover area in protected areas* and another objective of *putting wood and forest cover back on the agenda through the promotion of sustainable agriculture and effective reforestation mechanism by restoring 5,000,000 hectares by 2030*. To achieve such objectives, the National Investment Framework (NIF) proposes a budget of USD 5.37 billion to undertake REDD+ NS activities from 2018 to 2040 (244 million USD per year). Lack of visibility in REDD+ NS implementation led, for most of the activities, to create first a budget at a national level. Then distribution of the investment at regional level was made according to the commitment and characteristics of each region according to the different activities (area, surface of gazetted forests, protected area, etc.) and their representation compared to the national total. Finally, 300 actions were identified for a total budget of USD 5.37 billion (excluding inflation) for the eight components of the REDD+ NS. Based on NIF projections, by 2040, the strategy is expected to generate ERs of 8.2 billion USD from more than 1.6 billion tCO₂ sequestered over the same period. By 2036, this strategy would become a net profit generating mechanism (global income exceeds implementation costs), although potential annual returns from sale of emission reductions would

⁹ For the project document, see: <https://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org/system/files/documents/190422-ERPD%20RCI%20FV.pdf>

exceed implementation costs as early as 2025 (UNDP, 2018). As such, the REDD+ NS and its NIF are the most important strategy for the country in terms of GHG reduction and climate response - REDD+ NS being a key for NDCs. Achievements of the Warsaw framework are listed below (see Table 1 below for achievements and gaps):

- REDD+ NS: the national strategy was approved in November 2017 and the NIF in July 2018,
- National Forest Monitoring System: the NFMS is in place, it will be operationalized, improved and adapted to subnational and local needs,
- Forest Reference Emission Level: a national FREL was submitted to the UNFCCC in 2017,¹⁰
- Safeguards and Safeguards Information System: the summary of safeguards information was submitted to UNFCCC in 2019.¹¹

Table 1: State of the Warsaw Framework in Côte d'Ivoire in 2019.

Warsaw REDD+ elements	In place	To be finalized
National Strategy or Action Plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A National REDD+ Strategy was formulated in 2016 with the goal to reduce deforestation by 80% compared to the 2015 baseline in classified forests and protected areas and the restoration of 5 million hectares of degraded land by 2030.		
National Forest Reference Emission Level/Forest Reference Level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A Forest Emission Reference Level was submitted to the UNFCCC in 2017. An updated version of the national FREL is planned by Jan 2022, with sub-national estimates.		
National Forest Monitoring System	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The NFMS is in place. It will be operationalized, improved and adapted to subnational/local needs.		
Safeguard Information System	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The safeguards information system is under development.		
Most Recent Summary of Safeguard Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The summary of safeguards information was submitted to the UNFCCC in 2019		

Investments in forestry and land use

The implementation of the REDD+ NS requires a financial mobilization of USD 5.37 billion between 2018 and 2040. This represents approximately USD 244 million to be invested each year. Yet, according to a study from the European Forest Institute, the current investments needed for this implementation are very limited. In 2015, only USD 28.1 million were used by the Government as well as the technical and financial partners to meet REDD+ objectives, which is far from the USD 244 million annual required each year. In addition, some financing, especially those related to the agricultural sector, needs to be further greened. More specifically, the results of this study indicate that in 2015, only 13% of donor funding (USD 17.5 million) was aligned with REDD+ objectives. These international investments were granted in the form of donations. At the national level, out of the USD 32.7 million of funding from domestic sources (e.g. 21% of the total annual budget, the remaining 79% come from international sources), only 33% were aligned with REDD+ objectives, which represents USD 10.6 million. Such conclusions demonstrate that there is a considerable potential to better integrate REDD+ objectives into future programmes (EFI, 2016).

¹⁰ https://redd.unfccc.int/files/rci_nrf_ccnucc_2017.10.15.pdf

¹¹ https://redd.unfccc.int/files/resume_d_informations_sur_le_sauvegards_sis_cote_d_ivoire_juin_2019_3.pdf

In 2015, USD 5.5 million was spent on securing land tenure, mostly by international partners. Securing land ownership is essential to attract investment and implement actions in the long-term. However, it requires significant funding to cover all the country. Since 2006, the European Union (EU) has provided financial support of over euros 40.9 million to implement land-tenure security law.¹² It also funds pilot projects on land-tenure by prioritizing a sectoral approach and cooperation between the public and private sectors and will provide support until at least 2020 through the **‘Programme to secure rural land-tenure’** (PAFR). This programme will be implemented by sectoral budget support under direct management with Côte d'Ivoire. In early 2017, the EU announced over EUR 5 million in funding to support the issuance of land-tenure certificates for 28,000 ha in five departments¹³. Another project funded by the World Bank for 54 million USD also deal with land-tenure: **‘Land Policy Improvement and Implementation Project’** (PAMOFOR).¹⁴

Projects such as *‘The REDD+ pilot project in la Mé’*, *‘The Forest restoration, reforestation and reduced deforestation through zero-deforestation agriculture’* (submitted to the GCF by UNDP) and the FAO *‘Scaling up Cocoa-based Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration Transformative Innovations in Côte d'Ivoire - SCOLUR-CI’* project resulting from the GEF FOLUR programme also contribute to achieving REDD+ targets in Côte d'Ivoire. Section 3.2 describes complementarities and synergies of the proposed project with the above mentioned intervention.

Some small-scale projects such as **‘Forest Friendly Cocoa’ pilot project**,¹⁵ the **‘Partnership For Forests’ project**,¹⁶ the **‘Sustainable agricultural chain values of Côte d'Ivoire (FADCI)’** programme under its sub-component "Support for National parks and reserves of Côte d'Ivoire",¹⁷ could also be aligned with REDD+ objectives as they contribute to the improvement of forest cover.

Table 2 and Figure 1 below give indications about budgets used and process on-going in the context of the REDD+ mechanism in Côte d'Ivoire since 2011 until today.

Table 2: Project and programme budgets in the context of REDD+ in Côte d'Ivoire (Source: SEP REDD+)

Project/programme/partner	Amount (USD)
<i>Readiness phase</i>	
FCPF	8,800,000
AFD (C2D)	2,800,000
UN-REDD	3,810,000
EU (EFI)	437,000
IRD	250,000
Total readiness	16,097,000
<i>Investment phase</i>	
FIP	24,000,000

¹² See <http://news.abidjan.net/h/613639.html>

¹³ See <http://afrique.latribune.fr/afrique-de-l-ouest/cote-d-ivoire/2017-01-04/cote-d-ivoire-l-ue-appuie-la-securisation-fonciere-rurale.html>

¹⁴ <https://aip.ci/cote-divoire-le-pamofor-presente-aux-populations-du-nzi/>

¹⁵ Pilot project bringing together a chocolate producer (Cémoi), Coffee and the Cocoa Council (CCC) with financing from the second Debt Relief and Development Contrat (C2D) of the French Development Agency of 1,5 million euros.

¹⁶ Project “Partnership For Forests – Palladium/Cemoi/Le Conseil du Café-Cacao”, Agboville, East of Ivory Coast, 850,000 USD for 3 years (2018-2020).

¹⁷ Project in South-Comoe region, with financing from the second Debt Relief and Development Contrat (C2D) of the French Development Agency of 380,000 euros

GCF - SAP REDD+	11,740,000
GEF-FOLUR	5,354,000
LA Mé - AFD (C2D)	3,200,000
Total investment	43,754,000
<i>RBP phase</i>	
ERPA	80,000,000
GCF - RFP RBP	75,000,000 ¹⁸
GCF - Full proposal - UNDP ¹⁹	245,000,000 ²⁰
Private sector	10,000,000
Others	To be determined
Total RBP	410,000,000

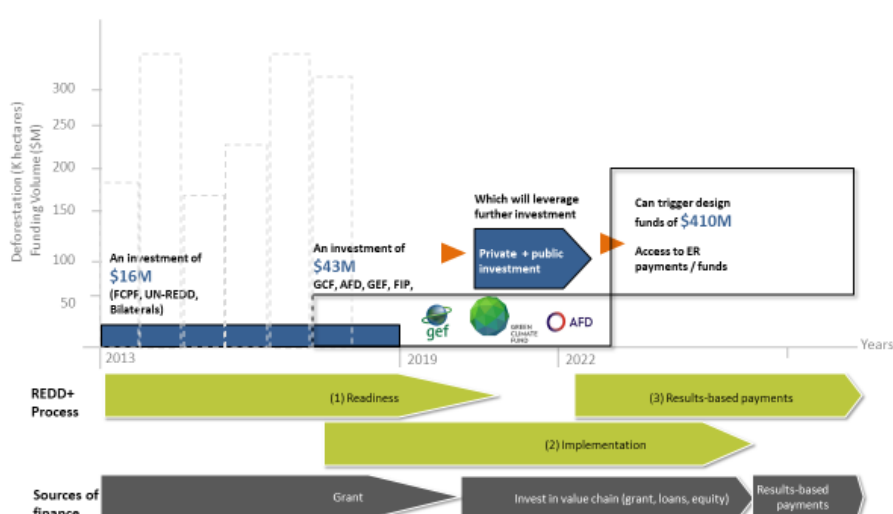


Figure 1: Budgets and process in the context of REDD+

Land-use planning and land tenure

Demographic growth, the political-military crisis from 2002 to 2010, a poor policy planning, poor law enforcement and poor governance converge to create an environment that is not enabling for sustainable land-use. Côte d'Ivoire's population has a significant rural component, 50% according to national statistics, and a high fertility rate (average 5 children per woman - *Office National de la Population*, 2015). The high population growth in rural areas of Côte d'Ivoire exerts pressure on forests resources. Expansion of slash-and-burn agriculture and unplanned land-use practices accelerate land degradation once vegetation is removed. Agricultural expansion is an indirect result of the economic attractiveness of cash crops and speculation in a boom and bust cycle that drives new land destruction.

¹⁸ Assuming that the price per ton is still 5USD.

¹⁹ Subject to modification during the project adjustment

²⁰ Following the official concept note document in GCF website: <https://www.greenclimate.fund/documents/20182/893456/15460 - REDD project in C te d Ivoire Forest restoration reforestation and reduced deforestation through zero-deforestation agriculture.pdf/c2261c66-1a5c-4b16-976f-5a153fadacac>

Lack of planning and zoning - population growth has further stimulated a land grab attitude, exacerbated by a lack of land-tenure security. By clearing forest, people aim to secure land ownership.

Law No 98-750, of 23 December 1998, governs land-tenure and local land-use planning with an amendment law of 28 July 2004 relating to rural land-tenure and its enabling instruments.²¹ The law defines the country's rural land-tenure policy, notably the recognition of rural customary land ownership rights and the possibility of official certification of ownership of the land by its current occupants. It also deals with the role of the association of village authorities and rural communities in the management of rural lands, especially in determining customary property rights and transforming such rights into official ownership. Associated with this law is the decree No 99-593 of 13 October 1999 to organize and define the attributions of the Rural Land Management Committee (RLMC) responsible, in theory, for land management, chaired by divisional officers. However, neither committee is currently operational. Its provisions allow for transfer of land ownership without any distinction between men and women, but in practice this is not applied, as according to customary land tenure system, women cannot exercise property rights over land and can only access land through male relatives.²²

According to the NIF, cross-cutting aspects of REDD+ (governance, land-use planning and land tenure) contribute directly to the objectives of the Vision 2040. Resolution of land conflicts and land management must be applied throughout the country to achieve such objectives and so REDD+ NS by 2030.

Territorial decentralization and planification, through local governance, has enabled local authorities to initiate development actions for the benefit of the populations and territories in which is exercised their authority. These initiatives contribute to the well-being of population and integrated development of the country's various localities. They are also vectors to fight poverty through several instruments that provide to local and regional authorities means of social and community mutual aid. Thus, since the last wave of significant decentralization legislation (2011-2014), the ongoing process has made significant gains despite the numerous shortcomings noted. Being in a post-crisis period, and requiring the government to regain the presence on the territory lost after ten years of crisis, they showed caution to the national decentralization mechanism. It has then retained two decentralized entities, namely the commune and the region, local authorities by which the government intends to lead and organize decentralization and by extension enable local development to become a reality in Côte d'Ivoire.

This decentralization policy is underpinned by the vision expressed by the President to transform regions into poles of economic development with a view to ensure harmonious and balanced development of the national territory. One of the major thrusts of this policy is the elaboration of a programme aiming at the emergence of competitive economic poles structured around regional metropolises. To this end, monographic studies have been initiated to meet this urgent need to establish territorial diagnoses, a prospective based on comparative advantages and in line with the national vision of the moment. In addition to this top-down planning, local authorities are seen as

²¹ Worth noting is Law No 2013-655 of 13 September 2013, relative to the deadline for establishing customary land rights and to amend Section 6 of Law No 98-750 of 23 December 1998 relating to rural land, as amended by law No. 2004-412 of 14 August 2004.

²² See FAO's "Gender and Land Rights Database" (http://www.fao.org/gender-landrights-database/country-profiles/countries-list/general-introduction/en/?country_iso3=CIV)

entities to ensure the planning of both economic and social development of their respective territories. The government has therefore drawn up guides for local and regional authorities for the preparation of Regional Spatial Planning Schemes (SRAT) and Local Development Plans (PDL) for regions and municipalities. These two instruments for local planification work together with the National Spatial Planning Scheme (SNAT). Planification is a double approach with guidance from the national level thanks to the SNAT and implementation at a local level through SRAT and PDL.

Past experiences have shown that an external investment in these planning processes contributes greatly to advance a process waiting for national support, which was not forthcoming. These progress concern planning methods, strengthening of decentralized organizations teams, involvement of these organizations in public debates and local projects that concern their territory. Previous experiences in building PDL also helped to develop stakeholder confidence in local government, openly participating in discussions and build consensus around sustainable local development. If territories want to implement public policies coming from the national level, it is very important for the regions and communes to have an efficient and up-to-date planification tool.

Agriculture and the Zero Deforestation policy

Expansion of cash crops is the main direct driver of deforestation due to its economic attractiveness. GHG emissions related to agriculture account for 32.2% of total GHG emissions for Côte d'Ivoire (MINEDD, 2019): soils (13.1%), enteric fermentation (9%), burnt agricultural residues (4.6%) and rice cultivation (3.5%). Agriculture accounts for 27% of GDP, provides 40% of export earnings and is the main source of household income (*Ministère de l'Agriculture*, 2010). Agriculture accounts for 62% of deforestation, 38% of which is coming from cocoa (BNEDT, Ecterra, 2016). Massive deforestation created by high revenues, from cocoa in particular, is worsened by land clearing to produce full-sun cocoa rather than growing shaded cocoa – which is now possible. Small producers with unsecure land tenure often look for quick returns through limited time horizons, and practicing shaded cocoa often results in a delayed first yield, which limits its attractiveness for adoption by local communities. In this context, slash-and-burn agriculture is often perceived as the cheapest and easiest way to proceed.

The **National Agriculture Investment Programme** (2017) intends to define development actions considered essential for poverty reduction. It was developed using the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper and the 1992-2015 Agricultural Development Master Plan, which were national reference documents when drafted. Sector strategy papers (forest sector and sub-sector strategies) were used to identify six key programmes: improvement of crop productivity and competitiveness, sector development; improvement of agriculture sector governance, capacity building for agriculture development stakeholders, sustainable management of fishery resources, and rehabilitation of forests and wood industry. Significant investments are necessary for a transition to more sustainable agricultural models in a context of high dependency. Initiatives are underway to support a transition to a zero-deforestation agricultural supply chain (see above).

In order to fast-track the implementation of low carbon investments in the forestry and land use sector, the Government is also engaged in an ambitious zero-deforestation agriculture policy (2016).²³

²³ <https://www.unredd.net/documents/redd-papers-and-publications-90/15642-politique-agriculture-zero-deforestation-en-cote-divoire.html?path=redd-papers-and-publications-90>

Zero deforestation agriculture has been defined in Côte d'Ivoire as **'an intensive agriculture in rural land, which preserves parks, reserves, gazetted and sacred forests, contributes to the restoration of forest cover through agroforestry, is resilient to climate change and respects communities' human rights while improving their livelihoods'** (*Ministère de l'Agriculture et al.*, 2015).

Zero deforestation agriculture in Côte d'Ivoire aims to stop the deforestation generated for the production of agricultural commodities by 2025, mainly in the permanent domain of the state (protected areas and classified forests) while improving agricultural productivity in rural areas, the conservation of biodiversity and improving the living conditions of producers, including by contributing to the national effort to replenishment of forest cover.

Specifically, it aims at: 1. Protecting the remaining primary or secondary forests by developing agriculture exclusively on non-forested land in the rural domain - through improving farm productivity agriculture through the sustainable intensification of production systems - and outside protected areas and classified forests (except in the specific case of plantings carried out by SODEFOR aimed at restoring these forests classified by the contractualization of illegal occupants); 2. Contributing to the national effort to restore forests in rural land - in order to partly compensate for historic deforestation - and for the restoration of classified forests and areas protected degraded following different infiltrations for agricultural purposes; 3. Guarantee the rights to the use of producers' land by clarifying and securing the land; 4. Improve the livelihoods of producers and their communities.

The cocoa value chain is particularly important in the context of this policy given the role of cocoa production in deforestation. As such, the policy identified main areas for interventions in this sector in order to achieve its zero deforestation targets:

- improve traceability of the entire supply chain;
- Increase in the national average yield of cocoa farms to reach 1 ton per hectare by: (i) replanting old cocoa plantations with improved plant material (hybrid, vitroplants), (ii) the rehabilitation of potentially productive cocoa orchard by facilitating access to producers with inputs, (iii) training producers each year in best practices production, through innovative extension approaches (including ICT);
- Promotion of agroforestry as part of the diversification of the activities of farms in to help increase producers' sources of income;
- Reforestation in rural areas with the contribution of rural communities and The Professional Agricultural Organizations (for choice of natural species);
- Establishment of a monitoring system aimed at controlling the extension of cocoa plantations on forest areas (monograph, monitoring, etc.).

In addition, seven African Governments, including Côte d'Ivoire, signed in November 2016 the Marrakesh Declaration for the sustainable development of the oil palm sector in Africa as part of the Tropical Forest Alliance 2020.²⁴ The country also signed the New York declaration on Forests in 2014.²⁵

²⁴ <https://www.weforum.org/press/2016/11/seven-african-governments-to-protect-over-70-of-africa-s-tropical-forests-from-unsustainable-palm-oil-development/>

²⁵ <http://www.un.org/climatechange/summit/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2014/07/New-York-Declaration-on-Forest-%E2%80%93-Action-Statement-and-Action-Plan.pdf>

Cocoa

Cocoa (*Theobroma cocoa*) production has historically been in Latin America, however West African countries are now major producers. Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire grow more than two-thirds of the global production; 1,450,000 tons for Côte d'Ivoire and 835,000 tons for Ghana (2015 figures). Cameroon, Nigeria and other Congo Basin countries are also important producers. Indonesia is the biggest producer in Asia (420,000 tons in 2015) while Ecuador leads production in Latin America (192,000 tons). The cocoa supply chain involves many steps from bean production to the final products e.g. chocolate, with different actors including smallholder farmers, buyers, retailers and finally consumers. Europe processes 40% of the world's cocoa and the other 60% of processing is shared between Africa, Asia and the Americas. Despite their essential role in the industry, farmers have little representation in global markets (e.g. in price-setting) and a small number of private companies control between 60 and 80% of the global market (Kroenger *et al.*, 2017). The cocoa sector in Côte d'Ivoire is facing several challenges such as climate change (as described below), a great responsibility in deforestation and forest degradation, ageing plantations, reduced income through productivity losses or even a reduction in areas suitable to cultivation.

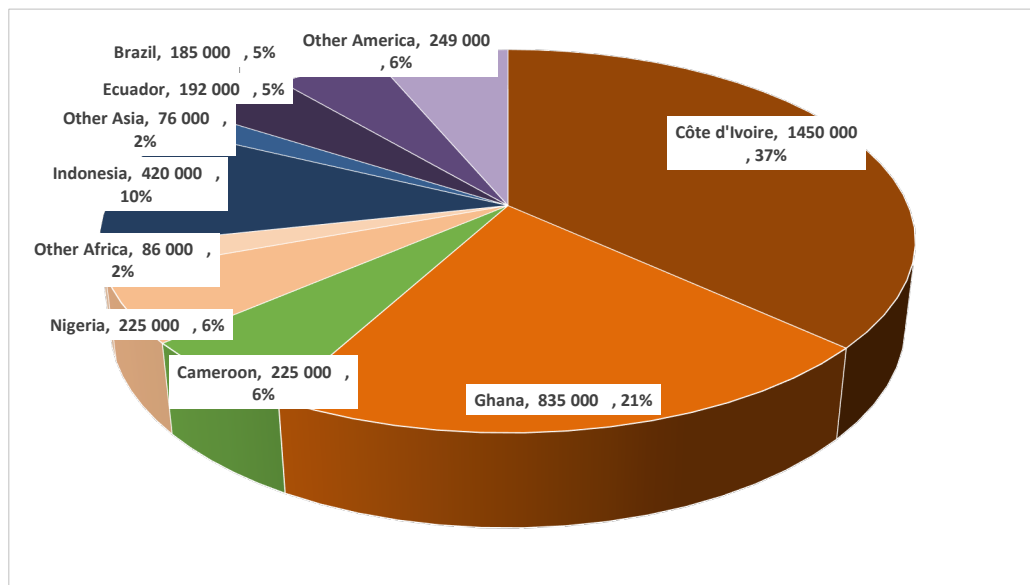


Figure 2: Côte d'Ivoire in global market for cocoa production (MINEDD, 2018)

When compared to other commodities, cocoa has a small impact on a global scale, however, at a more regional scale, **deforestation associated with cocoa production is extremely important in several countries** (Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Cameroon, Indonesia, etc.). This can be attributed to the fact that cocoa is grown in regions with high biodiversity and important tropical forest areas. In Côte d'Ivoire for example, the area covered by cocoa plantations expanded from 1.6 million hectares in 1990 to 2.5 million hectares in 2011. This implies that 60 to 97% of plantations were set up in tropical forest areas, with an associated loss or degradation of natural forests. Cocoa was traditionally planted after selective clearing of forests because smallholders did not have access to inputs for agricultural intensification. To compound matters, associated localised changes in climate conditions, considered as direct impacts of forest cover loss, now result in lower rainfall regimes, which increase pressure both on remaining forests and the cocoa plantations not adapted to drier conditions (Kroeger A. *et al.*, 2017). **The cocoa growing sector in Côte d'Ivoire is, therefore, facing the triple challenge of increasing**

its production within a limited area, reducing or eliminating associated deforestation and adapting to new climatic conditions. The production model based on extensive agriculture needs to evolve to a more sustainable approach and zero deforestation is the answer to this need.

Such policy focuses on smallholder farmers in countries where production is essential for the cocoa and it impacts significantly upon forest ecosystems. Global production relies on almost 5 to 6 million farmers (with an average size of 2 to 3 hectares per farmer), who remain mostly unorganized and do not usually have access to the latest technologies. Cocoa farming is, however, essential to the livelihoods of two million producers in Côte d'Ivoire and represents 70 to 100% of their annual income. Currently, competition in cocoa production is coming from Latin America where the sector is experiencing strong development thanks to technological advances and large-scale farming systems aimed at meeting a growing demand. **Improving agricultural performance requires the adoption of sustainable production methods that can both protect environment, especially remaining forests, and provide enough food for the population.** New methods and tools are needed to develop a zero-deforestation agriculture supply chain in Côte d'Ivoire, and to assess compliance and progress of companies and other stakeholders.

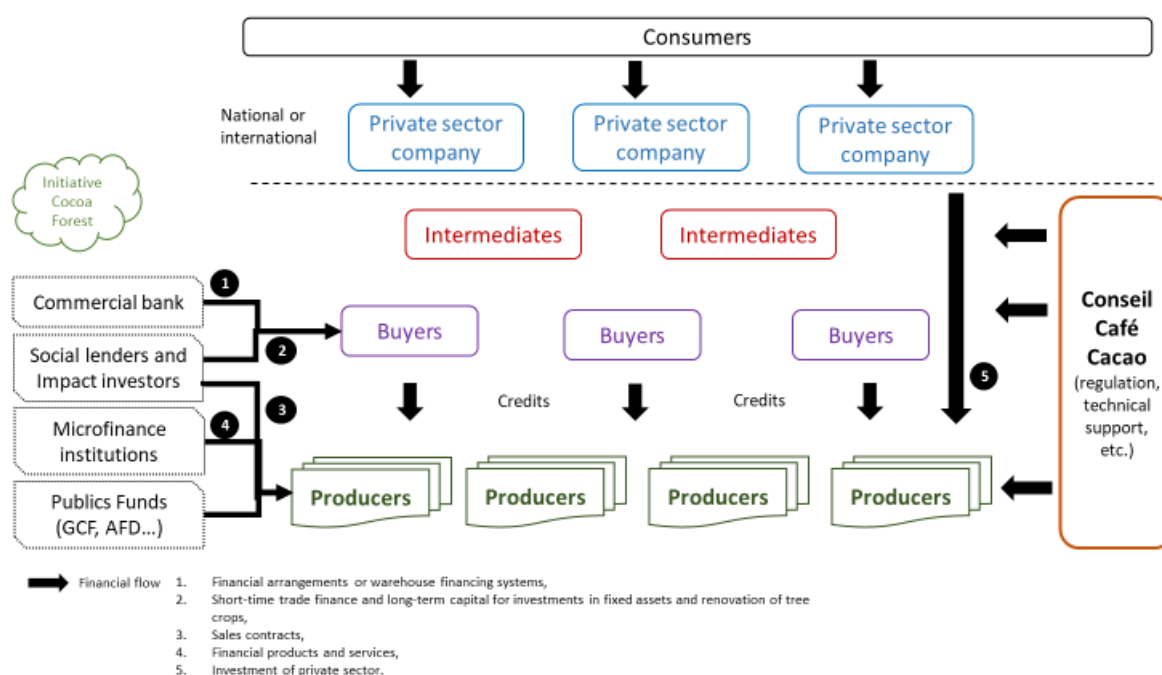


Figure 3: Current financial mechanism in cocoa value chain

Furthermore, government support in relation with cocoa agenda is provided through of **Coffee-Cocoa Council (CCC)**, producers benefiting from a guaranteed minimum price for conventional cocoa. Incentive systems are put in place to promote sustainable production models. Through the Cocoa and Forests Initiative, coordinated by the MINEF (Ministry of Water and Forests) in conjunction with the Coffee-Cocoa Council and the involvement of the private sector, a strategy has been developed to **lead the development of cocoa production and the forest cover reforestation strongly affected by cocoa farming using a zero-deforestation approach.** Significant changes could be brought with an increase

in the industrialization of production in the country. It is also appropriate, like in neighbouring Ghana, to develop a regionalized approach to production by promoting local qualities.

Private sector engagement in zero-deforestation cocoa

In March 2017, the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF), in partnership with the Prince of Wales Trust and Sustainable Trade Initiative, launched the **Cocoa and Forests Initiative**.²⁶ The CFI is an active commitment of top cocoa-producing countries part of the WCF **to end deforestation and restore forest areas through no further conversion of any forest land for cocoa production**. The agreement committed the participating companies, all present in Cote D'Ivoire, such as Mars Inc, Ferrero Group, Mondelez International, Meiji Co Ltd, Hershey Co, Nestlé SA, Lindt & Sprüngli AG, Ezaki Glico Co Ltd, Pladis and Kellogg Co. to develop and present a joint public-private framework of action named **Joint Framework of Action of the Cocoa & Forests Initiative**²⁷ to address deforestation.²⁸ This framework defines core commitments, verifiable actions and time bound targets required for a deforestation-free and forest-positive supply chain.²⁹

The “**Joint Framework of Action of the Cocoa & Forests Initiative of action**” was presented at the COP 23 meeting in Bonn in November 2017.³⁰ Signatories agreed to respect eight commitments under the Joint Framework:

- Prohibit and prevent activities in the cocoa sector that cause or contribute to any further deforestation or forest degradation in protected areas,
- Respect the rights of cocoa farmers,
- Promote the effective restoration and the long-term conservation of several protected areas,
- Strengthen supply chain mapping,
- Implement verifiable actions and time bound targets,
- Implement agreed actions in the context of a broader landscape-level approach,
- Work together to implement the Framework of actions, and mobilize the necessary financing, resources and technical support for implementation,
- Provide effective monitoring and reporting on progress.

This new public-private partnership includes Côte d'Ivoire Government and thirty-four companies, accounting for about 85% of global cocoa usage. The Government developed a detailed National Action Plan, as a participatory and inclusive process involving all stakeholders³¹ to implement the Joint Framework of Action of the Cocoa & Forests Initiative signed in November 2017.

Additionally, to deliver the commitments set out in the Joint Framework of Action of the Cocoa & Forests Initiative, the WCF³² companies agreed to develop a **detailed individual action plan** that spells out the specific actions to be taken during the 2018-2022 period. Each company will decide for itself how to best support the achievement of the framework objectives based on their role in the supply

²⁶ The project will be included in this initiative

²⁷ Available in French at <https://www.idhsustainabletrade.com/uploaded/2017/11/CDI-Framework-Final.pdf>

²⁸ <http://www.worldcocoaoundation.org/cocoa-forests-initiative/>

²⁹ https://www.worldcocoaoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Cote-dIvoire-Framework_English-052419.pdf

³⁰ <http://www.worldcocoaoundation.org/cocoa-forests-initiative/>

³¹ https://www.idhsustainabletrade.com/uploaded/2018/06/CFI_CDI_FR_070818_printversion_2.pdf

³² The companies working in Cote D'Ivoire are Arysta Callivoire, Barry Callebaut, Blommer Chocolate Company, Cargill Cocoa and Chocolate, Cémoi, Chocolats Halba, Cocoanect, Cococo Chocolatiers, ECOM Group, Fazer, Ferrero, General Mills Inc., Godiva Chocolatier Inc., Guittard Chocolate Company, The Hershey Company, Indcresa, Lindt & Sprüngli Group, Marks & Spencer Food, Mars Wrigley Confectionery, Meiji Co. Ltd., Mondelez International, Nestlé, Olam Cocoa, PBC Limited, Sainsbury's, SIAT, Tesco, Toms Group, Touton, Tree Global, Unilever, Valrhona, and J.H. Whittaker & Sons.

chain, their corporate strategic priorities and their cocoa sustainability goals. Almost all companies have now completed initial action plans. These plans will be updated and finalized in early 2020 after the government have completed the ongoing legal and operational policy changes, the mapping of protected areas, baseline data collection and other building blocks needed for full investment programming. Given their unique role in the cocoa supply chain, the three retailer companies collaborated on the development of a common action plan. They agreed on collective actions to deliver on their CFI commitments through their engagement with trading partners and suppliers. This initiative awaits, for a greater speed of application, the contributions and investments of international organizations and funds to help accompany and complement the private and public investments already made.

The CFI companies, the government of Côte d'Ivoire and national stakeholders, have also agreed to start planning the **second phase of the action plan covering the 2021-2030**.³³ As for now, private sector companies are reticent to invest in zero-deforestation cocoa production activities as they expect to be provided by evidence and concrete examples from the field and at local producers' level. **PROMIRE project will bring this experience and evidence and to serve as input for the second phase of the abovementioned action plan.**

Forests

Table 3 shows the trend in deforestation without the project being implemented in the three targeted regions (see section 3.3 for more information on forests in the three regions). This trend will be reduced thanks to the implementation of planned activities such as agroforestry, forest restoration for carbon enhancement, land security or development of local land-use plans for the mitigation of deforestation (see dedicated section).

Table 3: Estimates of the forest area loss without the projects (per region)

Region	Years				
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Mé	95,186	89,943	84,989	80,308	75,311
Agnéby-tiassa	38,418	36,028	33,787	31,685	29,713
Sud-Comoé	34,886	32,227	29,770	27,500	25,789
TOTAL	168,490	158,198	148,546	139,493	130,813

Source: SEP-REDD+, 2019 (National Forest Monitoring System)

Financial services and micro-finance in cocoa

There are several microfinance institutions (MFIs) in Côte d'Ivoire. These institutions mainly operate in agriculture, trade and services. According to the database published by the Directorate of Regulation and Supervision of Decentralized Financial Systems of the Ministry of Economy and Finance, there are 11 institutions operating in the project area (see details in the pre-feasibility study). While most of these MFIs cover only one or two regions, three institutions work across the three regions: Union

³³ Discussions on the second phase were expected to take place in April 2020 but have been postponed to June 2020 due to the current COVID-19 emergency.

Nationale Des Coopec De Côte d'Ivoire (UNACOOPEC); Réseau des Caisses Mutuelles d'Epargne et de Crédit (RCMEC); and CELPAID-Finances SA. All of these MFIs provide financial services for the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors, which require a sufficient level of cash to take into account operating cycles and climate shocks. **However, while MFIs provide financial services for the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors, these are not adapted to the specific conditions and constraints of the forestry and agroforestry sectors, in particular the cocoa subsector.** Financial products have to, as such, better match Ivorian cocoa farmers' needs, especially to help them manage irregular incomes.

As an example, CECKA (in La Mé region) is working in the following development areas: school loans, investment, plantations with reforestation, vegetable crop production, commercial solidarity, and agricultural loans. Conditions for loans are that (a) one has to be a member of the institution (have an account with it), and (b) one benefits from the first loan three months after joining the MFI. The credit provided depends on the formulas chosen: 15% and a duration of 12 months for agriculture, and 15 months for reforestation. The maximum amount is normally USD 8,250, but customers with a bank account can benefit from loans exceeding that amount if they are in the position to do so. Moreover, customers with a savings account can benefit from a loan equivalent to double their savings. It should be noted that loans are more easily obtained if the customer is a cooperative.

Advans supports the improvement of agricultural production through the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices. Credit starts from USD 300 and goes up to USD 300,000. The interest rate for loans is 1.6% per month, and is declining (interest is calculated on the remaining due amount, and not on the initial amount). For Advans cocoa credit, loans range from USD 8,000 to USD 170,000, with a maximum duration of 10 months. The interest rate is 1.33% per month on borrowed capital. There are some requirements to be met for a loan, such as a credit signature to fill the request, and information on the cooperative to assess farmers' requests and to identity documents to open the account (number of members wishing to benefit from the loan, past cocoa tonnages, cocoa tonnages planned for the year, banking history, number of hectares of desired inputs). Advans has also developed a product called "cocoa credit", which meets farmers' needs for production inputs and processing equipment. This product has not been tested nor implemented yet.

In the light of these observations, encouraging good financial practices, training to build capacities and enabling credits to cocoa producers will be a great asset to many of them to develop their activities and have a stable living situation.

Micro-finance can be one of them, it is a global financing offer for those excluded from the banking system. It allows them to have access to financial support such as micro-credit in the first place, but also micro-savings, micro-insurance, money transfer and other products matching their needs. As such, micro-finance aims not only to attribute micro credits but also to set up local institutions and structures making it possible to offer these services to the population. Its main goal is to fight poverty by offering financial products to people who cannot access the traditional banking sector which favors financial profitability. It is complicated to assess volume of credit micro-finance institution's disburse for agriculture. Some studies indicate micro-finance institutions around the world lend roughly USD 30 billion, but with great territorial differences (between countries and within the same country) in how these funds are allocated. Agriculture is often perceived as much riskier than any other sector, especially by financial institutions that have a little expertise on this topic. This lack of understanding leads many institutions in micro-finance to inflate the risk of farm micro-finance. Financing farmers

presents risks that vary in both likelihood and severity, but they are identifiable and possible to mitigate.

Gaps, barriers and opportunities for investment

European Forest Institute's report summarizes the key areas of Côte d'Ivoire's REDD+ strategy and implementation that need to be addressed:

- The financial and technical means available do not yet match ambition, current investments are a fraction of the expected needs for implementing the country's REDD+ strategy,
- Forests must become a national planning priority, their protection is not mainstreamed into national and sectoral development strategies and this must be addressed. Furthermore, forest protection is not among domestic and development partners' spending priorities,
- Côte d'Ivoire and its partners have an opportunity to green significant shares of existing finance. By doing so with agricultural finance from domestic, and especially international, sources, the country and its partners can deliver over five times more REDD+ aligned finance,
- Finally, increased finance for enabling environments is needed to drive investment in productive and resilient land use - sustainable land use planning in Côte d'Ivoire is not enough funded.

Despite political will and investments from different partners in progressing in REDD+, the country is still challenged by barriers for REDD+ implementation through zero-deforestation agriculture. In particular the barriers are as follows.

Social/Governance barriers

- Weak/nonexistent land tenure rights and plans: In Côte d'Ivoire, smallholder farmers (especially women smallholders) lack secure land tenure rights, and land-use plans are not developed. It is essential to ensure that plots are delimited and secured, as reforestation is a long-term process – species grow at different speeds and native species will need more time to grow. Moreover, securing land ownership is essential to attract investment and implement actions in the long-term.
- Lack of organization and association of productive activities.
- Weak enabling policies and legal framework.

Technical/knowledge barriers

- Insufficient skills and experience in agroforestry and restoration among smallholders.
- Unsustainable agricultural practices (i.e. slash-and-burn farming and agricultural expansion are widespread in forests).
- Weak financial skills.

Financial barriers

- Lack of access to income-generating, low-carbon activities: To generate income quickly, cocoa is usually cultivated using slash-and-burn farming.³⁴ Forest is cut down and burned before

³⁴ There is no political or regulatory provision at the agricultural production sector level that aims to avoid land clearing by fire during the installation of crops. Coaching services just focus on good cultivation practices. The new Forest Code approved in July 2019 provides specific regulations for the protection of forests requiring prior authorization for deforestation and land clearing in its articles 45 and 47, in the private

planting, and then, when the plot becomes infertile, the farmer moves to fresh forestland and repeats the production practice. This is mostly because, currently, smallholder farmers do not have alternative and sustainable livelihood options in the forestry and agroforestry sector.

- **Weak access to financial systems:** Despite the importance of cocoa production in the country, the supply of financial services to farmers is still limited and is not adapted to the specific conditions of the cocoa sector. In addition, farmers are usually paid in cash when receiving their payment during the harvest. Managing this cash flow can be a challenge and undoubtedly poses risks, as the income earned needs to cover all the year's expenses. Few farmers have access to banking institutions, making it difficult for them to save their earnings or to ask for a loan. Farmers may turn to friends and family for loans (Lonie et al., 2019)³⁵ when emergency cash is needed and when they are unable to save enough to cover the year's household expenses.
- **Costs:** Although NIF allocated half of the NS REDD+ total budget (USD 5.37 billion) to fulfil its REDD+ national strategy (NS REDD+) goal of reforestation by 2030 – which is about 5 million hectares – the country is in urgent need of additional funding support.

Opportunities exist to raise or align finance from new sources such as the private sector and to improve the effectiveness of spending. This requires for example the operationalization of the Warsaw framework aiming at the submission of RBP at country level, the development a benefit sharing mechanism and a National REDD+ Fund amongst other measures. GCF support will be instrumental in supporting this in order to unleash these opportunities.

3. Specific information on the project

3.1. Climate rationale

Tropical rainforests play an important role in the fight against climate change because of the high carbon densities stored in their vegetation and soil but also because of their potential to absorb CO₂ from the atmosphere. These ecosystems help to mitigate climate change's effects and are also great refuges for biodiversity, home to about 80% of the world's species (animals and plants). Forests also present important adaptation co-benefits as promote favourable microclimates, decrease soil erosion, increase the soil's ability to absorb and retain water, produce nutrients for plants, maintain high levels of organic matter in the soil, and moderate soil temperatures.³⁶ In particular, agroforestry has been widely recognized over time to contribute to climate change adaptation by improving soil quality and fertility and therefore increasing resilience to soil erosion and degradation caused by increasing climatic events. Agroforestry has also an important mitigation potential by sequestering and storing atmospheric CO₂ over long periods (Albrecht and Kandji 2003; Lorenz and Lal 2014) and can help to recover the original forest carbon stock lost due to slash and burn agriculture (Sanchez 2000). Agroforestry systems in Africa in fact constitute the third largest carbon sink after primary forests and long-term fallows and are one of the most conspicuous land use systems across landscapes and agroecological zones in Africa.

forest environment, and in article 46 in the public forest domain. The implementing decree developing article 47 is in the discussion phase within the government, as of the beginning of 2020 and will be approved in the first semester with binding measures for deforestation and clearing by slash and/or burn. Although it mentions activities likely to cause deforestation in these areas, there is nothing specific about slash and burn agriculture being restricted and/or punished if found.

³⁵ Lonie et al., 2019. Opportunities for Digital Financial Services in the Cocoa Value Chain, Côte d'Ivoire. Insights from new data.

³⁶ FAO Agroforestry for landscape restoration <http://www.fao.org/3/b-i7374e.pdf>

In Côte d'Ivoire, as in many developing countries, local communities extract raw products from these forests and are also highly dependent on climatic variations, particularly for family farming that supports them. Deforestation and forest degradation have negative consequences, both on quality of life of local communities but also on the climate. Smallholder farmers and crops in the three regions are affected by this lack of rainfall and water. They also host the last gazetted forests, more or less degraded, that should be protected to ensure a climate resilience (Figure 4 below gives a national picture of gazetted forests estate in the country).

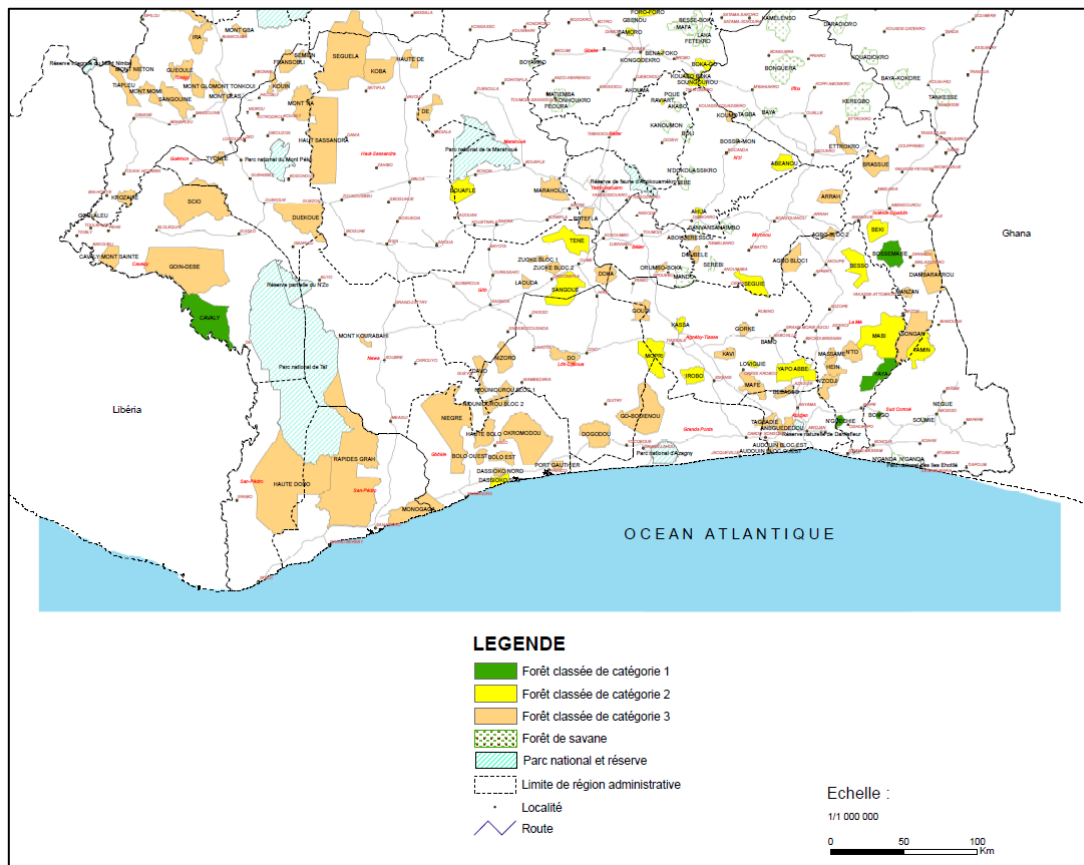


Figure 4: Gazetted forests in Côte d'Ivoire

Activities proposed in this project are aiming at two aspects: first, to finalize the readiness phase through the operationalization of the Warsaw Framework, and secondly to start or continue a transition to a more environmentally friendly and climate resilient agricultural model in the targeted area. Readiness phase prepares the country for a successful implementation of the mechanism in order to access to RBPs. To achieve this, fundamental elements must be operational, especially the Warsaw Framework with its NFMS, SIS and FREL. Technical and financial support coming from most of partners in Côte d'Ivoire will end in December 2019 but the country still needs additional assistance to finalize and operationalize these tools - GCF financing is therefore essential to enable the REDD+ mechanism to be operational.

Mitigation activities on agriculture will reduce crops pressure on forests and also optimize yields for small producers supported by the project. A crucial component to mitigate emissions is to stop slash-

and-burn agriculture which is the driving force of deforestation by creating a new agricultural model supported by a new agricultural policy. Even if the core activities are mitigation, adaptation co-benefits are also expected through this new approach of agriculture. The creation of a new agricultural model supported by the zero-deforestation agriculture policy, but also the transition to a biological model, will greatly help to increase yields, regenerate old plantations, diversify and increase communities' incomes. The project activities have been thought and designed to reduce the pressure on forests and to allow them to play their role of climate regulator.

According to the baseline scenario, expansion of cash crops and especially cocoa is the main direct driver of deforestation because of its economic attractiveness. The lack of enabling and legal framework, especially linked to land tenure security will make things even worse. Specifically on REDD+, finalization of the readiness process to access RBPs still faces several challenges but most of technical and financial supports end in 2019, and EFI pointed lack of funding to implement REDD+ NS. Côte d'Ivoire needs indeed 5.37 billion USD between 2018 and 2040 - approximately 244 million USD to be invested each year. With a budget of 11.2 million USD, the project activities will focus on addressing the following barriers which are financial, social and technical:

- Technical and financial gaps necessary for the update and strengthening of the Warsaw Framework, by updating and strengthening its elements,
- Low access to technical and financial support of small producers for sustainable engagement in the zero-deforestation agriculture or organic cocoa, by strengthen their technical, organizational and business skills and connect them with the private sector,
- Low level of public investment targeting forest restoration and rehabilitation,
- Communities with few livelihoods options, by adding agroforestry in their fields,
- Lack of land tenure security measures, by securing and delimiting villages in the three regions.

The project will help Côte d'Ivoire to leverage additional funding from different partners, through blended finance and RBP. Also, after the implementation of this project, the Government is foreseen to have the technical capacity to operationalize its Warsaw framework elements, including the NFMS necessary for the monitoring of all efforts developed at subnational level, once the nesting approach is also defined and operationalised.

As explained above, the question of maximum temperatures and water availability during the dry season will be key because of their capacity to limit the survival, growth and yield of cocoa trees in a future climate. Thus, the formulation of appropriate interventions must think and encourage design of climate resilient production systems **because an efficient – and the only practical – way of protecting cocoa trees from high temperatures and droughts is through overhead shade from appropriately selected, spaced, well managed species and certain crops** (especially bananas and plantains; Willey, 1975; Lin, 2007). In fact, shading can reduce leaf temperatures of cocoa by up to 4°C (Almeida and Valle, 2007).

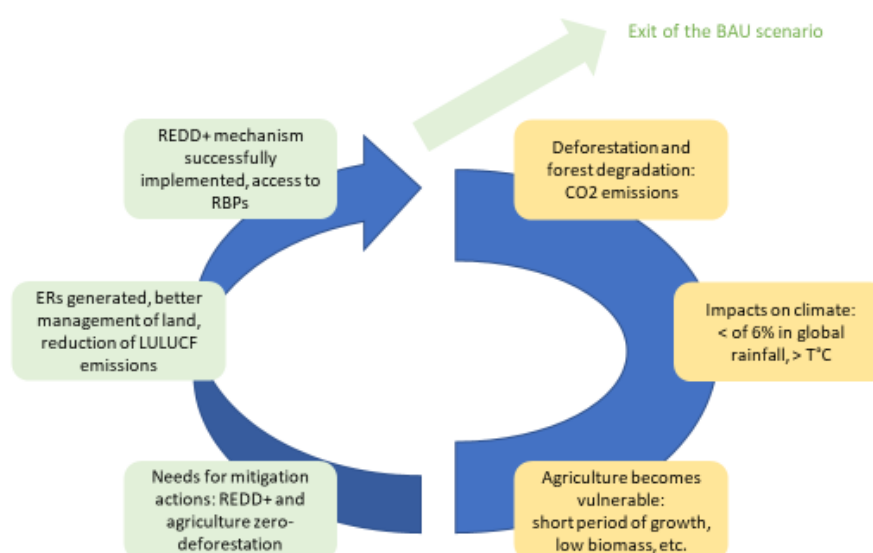
This project is targeting on mitigation and will focus on the main drivers of deforestation in the country: agriculture, especially cocoa. Interventions aim at supporting REDD+ at national and jurisdictional level by finalizing its architecture (Warsaw framework) and tackling deforestation in the cocoa value chain. But, following solid arguments detailed above, adaptation is also a requirement. Agriculture has indeed a great climatic and socio-economic vulnerability, more particularly food crops. Building the resilience

of smallholders which are the most vulnerable to climate change is a major challenge (MINEDD, 2019). Agroforestry, forest restoration and reforestation - by adding trees in the landscape – will reduce climate change impacts, by promoting favourable microclimates, decrease soil erosion, increase the soil's ability to absorb and retain water, produce nutrients for plants, maintain high levels of organic matter in the soil, and moderate soil temperatures.³⁷

Shade trees in cocoa farms have numerous other co-benefits, ranging from economic farm diversification with timber and non-timber products (Schroth and Ruf, 2014; Sonwa *et al.*, 2014), to biological pest control (Van Bael *et al.*, 2008), possibly increased pollination of cocoa trees (Groeneveld *et al.*, 2010), to other local and global ecosystem services such as soil, water and biodiversity conservation (Tscharntke *et al.*, 2011). Reducing the vulnerability of cocoa to excessive dry season temperatures with the systematic use of adaptation strategies like shade trees in cocoa farms will be necessary, in reversal of the current trend of shade reduction (Schroth *et al.*, 2016), and is one of the project assets.

Another key measure to reduce farming systems vulnerability to climate change is their diversification with crops and trees that differ somewhat in their environmental requirements and their sensitivity to environmental shocks (Schroth and Ruf, 2014). A number of studies has shown an ongoing trend towards diversification of tree crop-based systems in the tropics including West Africa responding to market and environmental pressures (Ruf and Schroth, 2015). Diversification can merely reduce the dependency of local communities on cocoa as their principal cash crop, or in the most negatively affected areas be a step in the progressive replacement of cocoa based systems by ones based on more heat and drought adapted crops and trees. Even in places where future climate projections are favourable to cocoa growing, a degree of diversification of farming systems is desirable since it reduces the vulnerability of communities to market risks as well as environmental risks (Schroth *et al.*, 2016).

Climate rationale is summarized in Figure 5 below.



³⁷ FAO Agroforestry for landscape restoration <http://www.fao.org/3/b-i7374e.pdf>

Figure 5: Climate rationale

3.2. Complementary projects and lessons learnt

The REDD+ pilot project in la Mé

The project ‘Promoting zero-deforestation cocoa production for reducing emissions in Côte d’Ivoire (PROMIRE)’ will build on successful initiatives coming from the REDD+ pilot project in la Mé. This 4-years project funded by AFD is implemented by Nitidae and will end in December 2019.³⁸ Overall, it aims to reduce GHG emissions from deforestation while improving the living conditions of people based near the forests targeted. It is focused in la Mé region (see Figure 6 – region in yellow) to protect Mabi-Yaya’s forests and is divided into three components:

1. Territorial development, with land-use planning and land tenure activities,
2. Sectorial development, zero-deforestation agriculture, sustainable management of forests, reforestation, energy,
3. Impact measurement and support to the REDD+ national mechanism.

The first component supports land-use updating key planning documents such as Regional Development Plan or Land Use Planning Plan. It also supports mapping of gazetted forests, village delimitation, especially those around Mabi-Yaya’s forest where deforestation is higher, and issuing of land certificates. Second component deals with agriculture, forest and energy. In term of agriculture, the project support small producers to increase added value per hectare of their fields, secure and improve their incomes, support sustainable sectors like organic certifications and develop Payment for Ecosystems Services (PES) on organic cocoa agroforestry in partnership with Alter Eco.³⁹ On forests and energy, there are specific actions to reforest plots (500 hectares), train people in charge of carbonization to improve yield or encourage local people to develop new techniques (biogas, etc.). REDD+ is supported through a subnational FREL as well as a socio-economic and environmental baseline – these are just a few examples of activities under the project.

Following its implementation, some **key lessons have been learnt** while results and impacts need to be underlined:

- For the support of land-use planning and land tenure actions, the development of a land use map has led to a better understanding of the territory, thus allowing to refine intervention strategy to reduce pressures on forests. Local Development Plans developed for seven villages helped local communities to better understand environmental issues in the region and facilitated a good project’s adoption. This must definitely encourage national and subnational policies to develop such documents and communicate on it. Furthermore, land tenure security achieved for four villages in Alépé department has led to the development of partnerships between logging managers and wood manufacturers to buy trees,
- Another essential aspect was the cost of mass land certification operations which is cheaper than individual ones. Involvement of both Rural Land Agency and the Regional Directorate of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development also reduced time to issue land certificates. Concerning agriculture, the project supported the creation of one cooperative in La Mé

³⁸ For more details, see: <https://www.nitidae.org/actions/projet-redd-de-la-me-lutte-contre-la-deforestation-et-la-degradation-des-forets-de-la-me>

³⁹ The price of the Organic cocoa is almost the double of the price of the conventional cocoa in the market.

(SCOOPS.PCBM for '*Société Coopérative Simplifiée des producteurs de cacao biologique de la Mé*') and rehabilitated old coffee plantations with food cropping in order to improve farmers' incomes,

- And finally, reforestation actions have been implemented for 246 hectares through three modalities (costs assumed by the project, costs shared between the project and beneficiaries, partnership with private companies). La Mé project also demonstrated that in agriculture, when combined with enabling activities, agroforestry can help to reduce pressure on forests and as such should be recognized as a priority. For example, when private sector and cocoa producers share the same interest, it could lead for example to a partnership to implement PES. Agrarian diagnosis carried out in villages demonstrated that every year a household destroys 0.25 hectares of forest for the production of food crops. This shows the importance of agroforestry and food-producing agriculture to support populations. Additionally, reforestation carried out in association with food-producing crops is regularly maintained by beneficiaries,
- In the process of formulating a project, especially in the forest sub-sector, it is also essential to involve local communities in the process as much as possible to increase chance of success. Moreover, involving all stakeholders in project implementation can lead to regulatory reforms in forest management which are strongly needed in the country today. Finally, a steering committee with all subnational stakeholders promotes a better involvement of local communities. Field visits also help populations to join activities. Project activities monitoring by SEP-REDD+ through specific staff for its three components has made it possible to reinforce its capacities and to capitalize on achievements. It will help to obtain sustainability for future actions at the end of the project.

PROMIRE project will build on/scale up some of these La Mé project such by expanding the targeted area in other villages in the same region and in Agneby Tiassa and Sud-Comoé regions.

Projects' complementarity on the field

Other important projects to link with this new initiative are the '**REDD+ project in the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire: Forest restoration, reforestation and reduced deforestation through zero-deforestation agriculture**' submitted by UNDP to the GCF⁴⁰ and '**Scaling up Cocoa-based Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration Transformative Innovations in Côte d'Ivoire - SCOLUR-CI**⁴¹' project resulting from the GEF FOLUR programme and implemented by FAO.

Forest restoration, reforestation and reduced deforestation through zero-deforestation agriculture project (UNDP): the project submitted by UNDP was designed to serve as a catalyst for a first iteration of implementation of the REDD+NS by targeting the main drivers of deforestation and degradation. Its outputs and activities propose concrete solutions to four key issues: developing enabling measures, creating a zero-deforestation agricultural supply chain in partnership with the private sector, forest restoration, conservation and sustainable energy supply in rural areas and implementing and operationalising national and subnational REDD+ systems. By addressing these drivers, it will protect

⁴⁰ For the concept-note of the project, see: https://www.greenclimate.fund/documents/20182/893456/15460_-_REDD_project_in_Cote_dIvoire_Forest_restoration_reforestation_and_reduced_deforestation_through_zero-deforestation_agriculture.pdf/c2261c66-1a5c-4b16-976f-5a153fadca

⁴¹ Total budget is USD 5 millions

remaining forested areas, support forest restoration efforts and secure access to land for small producers while improving their incomes.

A zero-deforestation agricultural supply chain based on stopping deforestation, in partnership with the private sector, is one of the key aspects of this project enabling a new vision for agriculture in a developing country. If this transformation is successful, Côte d'Ivoire will provide a development model for its African neighbours and the world. Targeted areas by the two projects are not in the same regions (see Figure 6) but obviously many links are possible as presented below. As such, both will contribute to a scaling-up approach of successful actions of the REDD+ mechanism, in the context of the phased-approach developed by the country (see Figure 7).

Scaling up Cocoa-based Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration Transformative Innovations in Côte d'Ivoire - SCOLUR-CI (GEF-FAO): The project aims to promote zero-deforestation cocoa value chains and restore degraded forests in cocoa landscapes in Côte d'Ivoire. With a vision of capitalization and scaling up of the achievements of FAO and other partners, coordination with ongoing and future efforts in the same areas and in geographical and thematic complementarity and synergies to be effective, the project will be developed in landscapes with a strong cocoa dominance, in buffers of protected areas (National Parks, Reserves and Classified Forests). And this while taking into account the initiatives underway in the implementation areas and Côte d'Ivoire's international commitments for sustainable agriculture. As this project will be launched almost at the same time as the PROMIRE project, and as this SCOLUR project and PROMIRE project have an overlapping region, this SCOLUR project will co-finance the PROMIRE project for the development and dissemination of a certification and traceability system, but also for the restoration of old cocoa plantation.

Projects submitted by UNDP and FAO to GCF are complementing each other thanks to their flagship themes, REDD+ and zero-deforestation agriculture, their activities and the fact that they are using a common financing tool, which means they are subject to the same requirements. Moreover, the projects are based on a future access to the RBP through the GCF, it is then logical that this financial tool has been chosen for their implementation - RBP is essential for REDD+ because of its contribution towards the REDD+ NS. An investment phase is nevertheless necessary to launch the mechanism and attract future investments. Moreover, a long-term goal that should be kept in mind is that these projects enable the implementation of PAMs by implementing the REDD+ NS in Côte d'Ivoire. There is a need to share approaches with, for example, reforms at the national level, that are necessary to apply forestry law, bring back forest in national discussions and, above all, make sure REDD+ is considered and seen as a transversal process; and on the other hand, measures that can only be implemented at the jurisdictional level.

Subnational action means zero deforestation in Côte d'Ivoire. Agriculture is one of the pillars of the REDD+ NS and is an integral part of these two projects. SCOLUR and GCF UNDP projects focus on the main driver of deforestation, cocoa as a cash crop. GCF funding is particularly suited to rural areas because it allows to generate a significant quantity of emission reductions and to support local communities by improving their livelihoods. Agriculture is often the main root for deforestation in developing countries (Côte d'Ivoire, Madagascar, Democratic Republic of Congo, etc.). In Côte d'Ivoire, transforming the agricultural model responsible for a systematic forest loss is an important source of ER, an opportunity to improve people's livelihoods and a key contribution to REDD+NS goals. However, **such vital approach can't be done through a single programme or a project, it is necessary to have**

several initiatives underway to cover the national territory. By serving a common goal and contributing to the same objectives, those of the national strategy, the complementarity of the projects '*Promoting zero-deforestation cocoa production for reducing emissions in Côte d'Ivoire (PROMIRE)*' submitted by FAO and '*REDD+ project in the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire: Forest restoration, reforestation and reduced deforestation through zero-deforestation agriculture*' submitted by UNDP will leverage actions and resources for REDD+ while implementing the new national agricultural policy which keep forests safe.

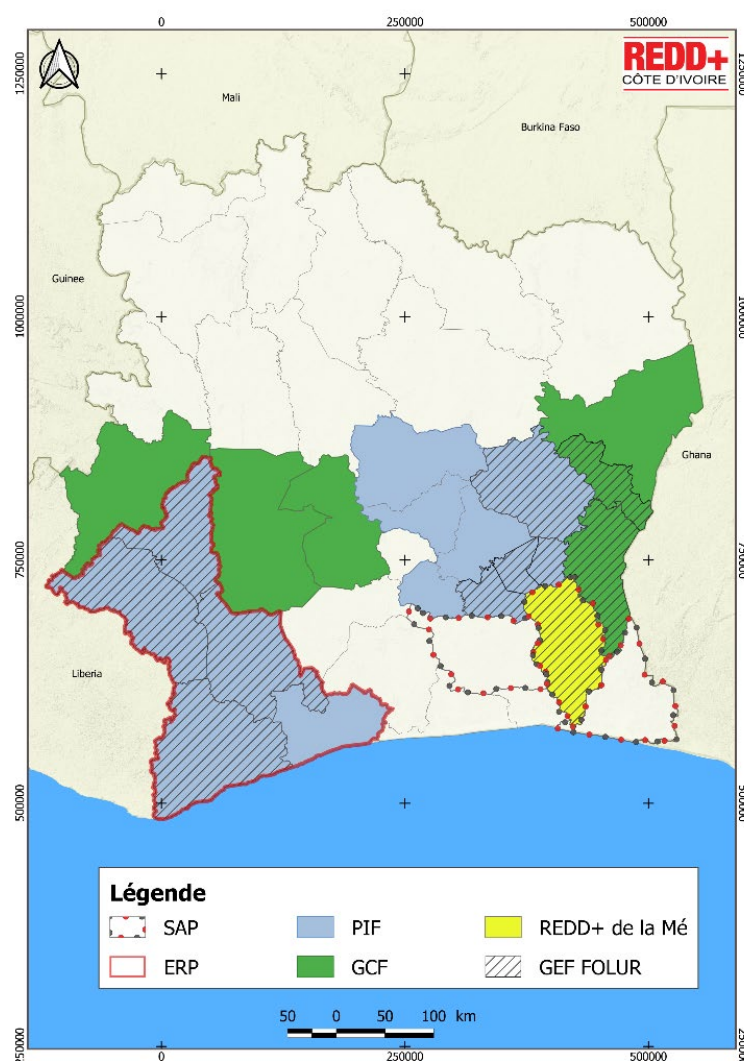


Figure 6: Regions targeted by others projects

REDD+ approach in Côte d'Ivoire

The country has adopted a phased approach to implement REDD+: following the implementation of pilot projects (including la Mé project funded by AFD), the country began to implement the first phase through this project but also through others actions implemented by partners such as the project *'Scaling up Cocoa-based Food Systems, Land Use and Restoration Transformative Innovations in Côte d'Ivoire - SCOLUR-CI'* from the GEF-FOLUR programme implemented by FAO. Currently being formulated, SCOLUR-CI project will target 9 regions in Eastern and Western part and will extend activities of this project in La Mé region contributing progressively to activities scaling up of successful lessons learnt.

The second phase will consist in further expanding REDD+ interventions in the country. It will include the project *'REDD+ project in the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire: Forest restoration, reforestation and reduced deforestation through zero-deforestation agriculture'* already submitted to the GCF by UNDP, the future RBP that the country will also submit to the GCF on 2021 (for a national rough estimates of 15M tCO₂eq for the period 2015-2017)⁴² ER-Program, other potential REDD+ projects under development developed by the partners, and future investments that will be mobilized as part of blended finance. What is sought through this second phase is the geographical complementarity of the projects to be able to implement the REDD+NS on the whole territory at a jurisdictional scale.

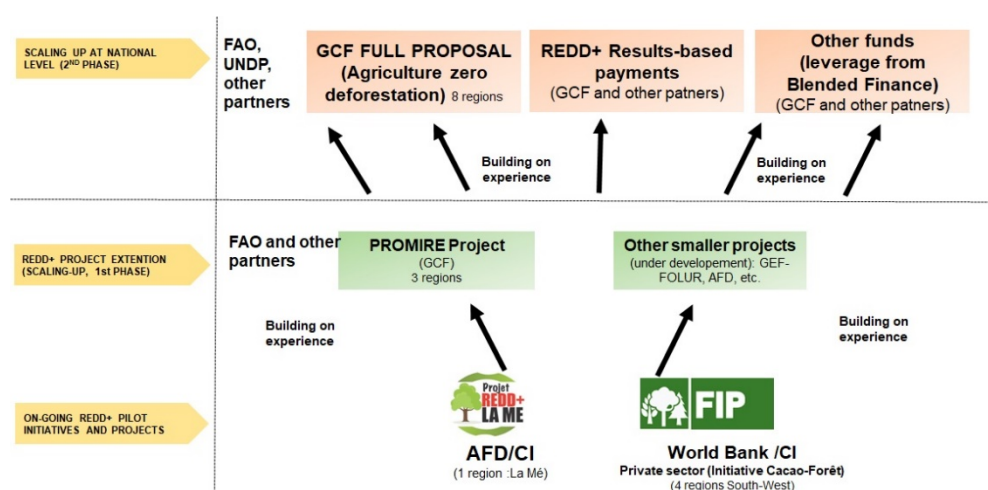


Figure 7: REDD+ phased-approach in Côte d'Ivoire

⁴² Forest change data produced by the NFMS of Côte d'Ivoire for the 2015-2017 period is not yet finalized and validated with a rigorous accuracy assessment: in order to compare the forest losses in the 2000-2014 and the 2015-2017 periods. As such, GFC tree cover annual loss data was used for the 2000-2017 period. This dataset is consistent throughout the period and can be used to produce preliminary estimations. Because the GFC product doesn't distinguish forest from non-forest land uses, only the 2000-2014 losses falling on the 2000 forest mask and the 2015-2017 losses falling on the 2015 forest mask have been considered, in order to filter out tree cover loss detected but not linked with forest disturbance (rural complex, orchard plantations, etc.). Both forest masks have been validated at national level and used for the FREL. The pixel count of the resulting tree cover loss was performed on the phytogeographic zones used for the FREL (Ombrophile, Mesophile, Sud-Sudanese and Sudanese). The reduction of annual tree cover loss for each phytogeographic zone was multiplied by the associated emission factors to produce a final annual reduction of emissions of tCO₂. These estimations should be taken with precaution as the accuracy assessment of the recent change cover map may lead to substantially different estimates, but still provide a comparable and robust first estimation of the potential for emission reduction

3.3. Project area

The project will target three regions (La Mé, Agnéby-Tiassa and Sud-Comoé) and 30 villages in these regions. A preliminary list is indicated in this study but it could be adjusted following the agrarian diagnosis and the local development plans that the project intends to undertake at the beginning of project implementation. Analysis of most updated data on the targeted regions and consultations conducted in these regions (see section 5.1) supported choices of villages according to the following criteria:

- Ongoing pre-existing initiatives related to the project objectives - continuity and complementarity of actions initiated by REDD+ project or REDD+ aligned projects such as the La Mé REDD+ Pilot Project, '*Partnership For Forests*' project, '*Sustainable agricultural chain values of Côte d'Ivoire* (FADCI)' programme under its sub-component '*Support for National Parks and reserves of Côte d'Ivoire*' implemented in Sud-Comoé,
- Intervention area of the PAMOFOR project, which will support rural certification activities as parallel financing,
- Environmental criteria:
 - o Location of well or moderately preserved forests,
 - o Proximity of protected areas and fragile ecosystems (mangroves) and priority of the Government for their conservation,
 - o Low environmental and social risks,
 - o Agricultural activities identified as the main drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, and potential expansion of agriculture using remaining forest area,
 - o Climate change impacts felt by local communities and influencing their activities (e.g. reduction and/or irregularity of rainfall),
 - o Vulnerability of areas to erosion,
- Social criteria:
 - o Demography (village size) and village formation,
 - o Household income level and household dependency on forest resources,
 - o Existence of local structures (associations, civil society organizations, etc., and especially women's associations) which can be enhanced and strengthened by the project to achieve its objectives. In the three regions, cooperatives or associations implemented by women range from cocoa production to food crop production, including Attié production and fish smoking. A few women's organizations, or those led by women, have been identified for each region,
 - o Vulnerability of local communities to the effects of climate change,
 - o Strong demand from local communities for mitigation activities given the observed effects of climate change,
- Geographic criteria:
 - o Easy access to the localities to be covered, facilitating the transport of the production,
 - o Land availability: degraded old plots which can be restored for agroforestry or forestry purposes.

For the choice of beneficiaries the following criteria will be used:

- Dependence to agriculture, natural resources and forest, and located close to forest area (potential actors for deforestation and forest degradation),

- Low income (up to 2 USD/day, as defined by the Ministry of Finance and Economy of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire),
- "Ownership" of degraded cocoa / coffee plantation, or ownership of degraded plot with high restoration potential
- Vulnerability of key livelihoods to climate change impacts⁴³
- No access / very limited access to public finance,
- None or limited access to micro-finance institution,

The beneficiaries (small farmers) of the project will be selected by the PMU and validated by FAO.

For La Mé activities targeting cooperative strengthening (and access to finance):

- Already part of the La Mé project (for the consistency of the activities planned in the project),
- Organic cocoa production,
- Member of the targeted cooperative,
- One cooperative or association implemented by women on from cocoa production to food crop production, including Attié production and fish smoking.

Identification of the potential MFI by PMU and in collaboration with stakeholders will be done through the following criteria:

- Presence of the MFI in the targeted area,
- Credits allocated to cooperative (not only individuals),
- Credits allocated for agriculture, forestry, fishery activities,
- Reasonable credit rate (the level of the "reasonable rate" will be defined before applying the criteria),
- Simplified process (with low or without financial guarantee).

Other criteria could be added during a deeper characterization of MFI which will be undertaken during the project implementation. For the selection process, score will be attributed to each criteria and MFI with higher score, and willing to work with the project, will be selected.

Drivers of deforestation and forest degradation

Direct drivers of deforestation in the project area are more and less identical to those in all forest areas in the country. There is no analysis per region but the main report describing the drivers (BNEDT, Ecterra, 2016) did an analysis per main agro-ecological zone. Thus, for the south-east agro-ecological zone which includes La Mé, Agneby Tiassa and Sud-Comoe regions, most important drivers are **agricultural expansion, especially rubber, cocoa and palm oil, logging** (mostly for charcoal production), urbanization and informal mining. The general hierarchy of direct drivers of deforestation for this zone is generally in line with the national one, but it is nevertheless important to underline weight of palm oil agriculture in the target areas (20% instead of 7% at the national level). This is mostly due because of important areas of palm oil in Sud-Comoé. Forests are always subject to intense pressure for firewood or charcoal used for cooking. Same approach is also true for indirect drivers of deforestation with a high similarity between national level and the south-east agro-ecological zone. Here the main factors are economic attractiveness, poor policy steering, poor governance, demography and lack of technology (low level of agricultural intensification for example).

⁴³ Please refer to pre-feasibility study for more details on the criteria.

It is interesting to see that the report makes the difference between drivers of deforestation and drivers of forest degradation. In this way results give timber exploitation, firewood, bush fires and illegal mining as the most important causes. South-east agro-ecological zone seems to be characterized by a greater importance for timber exploitation (61% against 46% at the national level) to the detriment of bush fires (6% against 23%). This seems logical given ecosystems' nature which are less sensitive to this phenomenon in these regions (humid climate). Exploitation of firewood also needs to be underlined because of its significant importance, collect intend to be for marketing (29% compared to 4.5% nationally). Finally, indirect drivers of forest degradation are political and institutional factors such as a wrong application of laws, economic attractiveness, demography and cultural factors (use of wood as building material, charcoal, etc.).

Micro-finance institutions

In Cote d'Ivoire, most of the production of cocoa is produced by poor rural farmers who do not usually have access to credit (only 11% have access to credit lines). Database of approved micro-finance institutions published by the Directorate of Regulation and Supervision of Decentralized Financial Systems of the Ministry of Economy and Finance indicates 11 institutions operational in the project area (see Table 04, and more details in Annex 5).

Table 4: Micro-finance institutions available in the project area.

Région	MFIs	Service points
Agnéby-Tiassa	ADEC (2 service points)	N'Douci ; Taabo
	CELPAID	Agboville
	RCMEC (2 service points)	Tiassalé ; N'Zianouan
	UNACOOPEC (7 service points)	Agboville ; Loviguié ; Azaguié ; Sikensi ; Tiassalé ; N'Douci ; Taabo
La Mé	CADES (1 point de service)	Yakassé-Attobrou
	CECKA (1 point de service)	Agou
	CELPAID (1 point de service)	Adzopé
	FIDRA (1 point de service)	Adzopé
	MICROCRED (1 point de service)	Adzopé
	RCMEC (1 point de service)	Bacon
	REMUCI (1 point de service)	Adzopé
	UNACOOPEC (7 service points)	Adzopé ; Grand-Akoudzin ; Yakassé-Mé ; Akoupé ; Afféry ; Alépé ; Bongo
Sud Comoé	CASUDCO	Bonoua
	CELPAID (2 service points)	Aboisso ; Grand-Bassam
	CMCI (2 service points)	Maféré ; Bonoua
	MICROCRED (2 service points)	Aboisso ; Grand-Bassam
	RCMEC (3 service points)	Aboisso-centre ; Aboisso-Koffikro ; Affiénou
	REMUCI (3 service points)	Aboisso ; Grand-Bassam ; Bonoua
	UNACOOPEC (7 service points)	Aboisso ; Bianouan ; Maféré ; Adiaké ; Edjambo ; Grand-Bassam ; Bonoua.

According to these datas, only three institutions (UNACOOPEC, RCMEC and CELPAID) are working in the three regions, others covering only one or two regions. All these MFIs are working in agriculture, forestry and fisheries, with a higher level of intervention for trade and services due to the lack of long-term resources to address sectors such as agriculture which require a sufficient level of cash to take

into account operating cycles and climate shocks⁴⁴. It is also possible for them to adapt their strategies as they are interested to partner with the PROMIRE project.

As an example, CECKA is working in the following areas: school loan, investment, maintaining plantation with reforestation), vegetable growing food crop, commercial solidarity and agricultural loan. Loan conditions are the following: be a member of the institution (have an account with it) and benefit from your first loan three months after joining the MFI. Credits change according to the formulas chosen, 15% and duration of 12 months for agriculture and 15 months for reforestation. Amount is normally maximum USD 8,250 but for customers with a bank account, they can benefit from loans up to what they can handle. Moreover, for customers with a saving account, they can benefit from a loan equivalent to the double of their savings. To be noted that loans are more easily obtained if the customer is a cooperative. The only thing raised about sustainable agriculture is climate risk (more information can be found in Annex 5 on MFIs).

Target regions

- Agnéby-Tiassa

In this region of 811,194.20 ha, many cash crops plantations (mainly cocoa, coffee, rubber and oil palm) are in place in both rural private land and gazetted forests. These plantations are one of the main drivers of deforestation in this region. This situation is thus conducive to the restoration of degraded forests (in the rural land and in gazetted forests' buffer zone) and to the promotion of sustainable production models such as agroforestry in rural private land (especially cocoa-based) which could provide also sustainable biofuel.

The development of non-timber forest products for which technologies are available encourage the protection and/or restoration of degraded areas. Given the risk of expansion of agriculture in forest areas, which may lead to more deforestation, the selected village are those close to protected forests but well protected by the Forest Development Society's (*Société de Développement des Forêts – SODEFOR*) forest management units, which will provide technical support during the implementation of the project. Villages surrounding Irobo, Kavi and Yapo-Abbé gazetted forest are selected for this purpose. The project will also enhance collaboration with '*Partnership For Forests*' project⁴⁵. In Agnéby-Tiassa, Aboud'cao is a cooperative, led by a woman, who has herself set up a unit for processing cocoa fermentation exudate into a sweetening cream (Annexe 5 gives details about this cooperative). Marie-Esther Foundation is a women's organization for the empowerment of women in terms of agricultural, economic and social development located in the Aboudé area.

Table 5 presents selected villages in the region while Figure 8 indicates change in forest cover.

⁴⁴ Less than 5% of the volume of loans are dedicated to agriculture sector.

⁴⁵ Project "Partnership For Forests – Palladium/Cemoi/Le Conseil du Café-Cacao", Agboville, East of Ivory Coast, 850,000 USD for 3 years (2018-2020). The project aims to preserve forests through the professionalization of producers. Its objectives are to:

- Reintroduce / preserve trees other than cocoa in and around cocoa plantation in order to help maintain biodiversity and mitigate climate change.
- Improve the resilience of cocoa systems to climate change through the dissemination of agroforestry.
- Increase producers' incomes through the rehabilitation and intensification of cocoa plantation. This stabilizes the cocoa plantation and reduces the pressure on the remaining forests.
- Professionalize cocoa producer cooperative societies so that they become more efficient, productive and respectful of the environment.

Table 5: Selected villages in Agnèby-Tiassa

Area	Village	Remarks
Sikensi area	Becedi Sikensi	Neighbourhood of Irobo gazetted forest Presence of SODEFOR management unit in the area
Agboville area	Oress-Krobou ; Aboudé-Mandéké ; Aboudé Kouassi-kro Boussoukro.	Neighbourhood of Kavi gazetted forest Strong leadership of a women organization in the targeted villages (Foundation Marie-Esther)
	Petit Yapo	Neighbourhood of Yapo Abbé gazetted forest, under intensive anthropic pressure, and which is 25% to 50% degraded
	Allany Ananguié Cechi	Neighbourhood of Seguié gazetted forest, Presence of SODEFOR management unit in the area

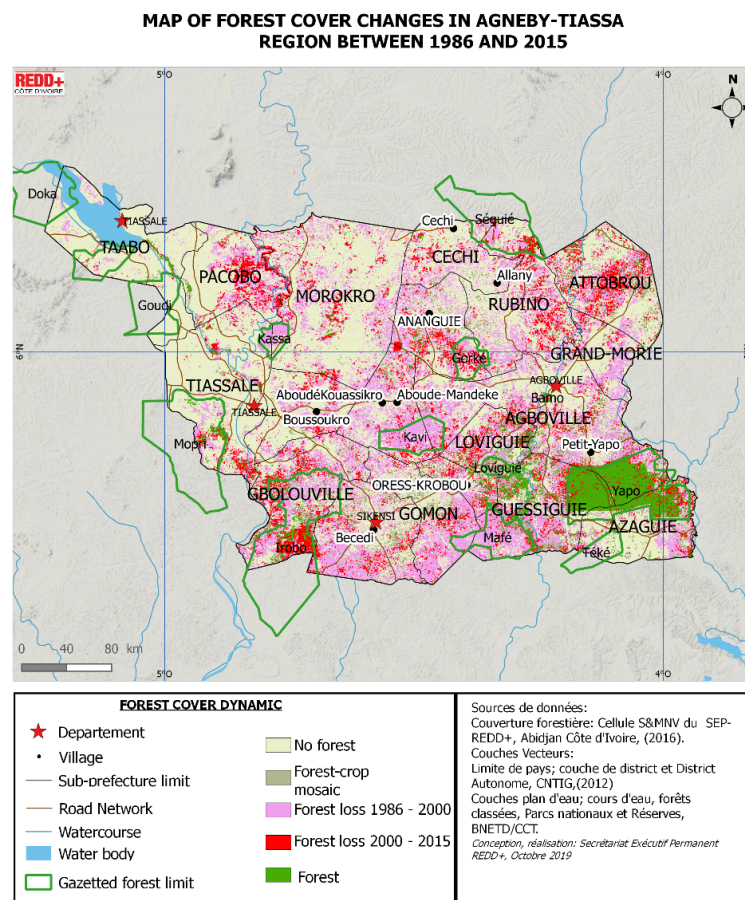


Figure 8: Map of forest cover change in Agnèby-Tiassa

- Sud-Comoé

Comparing to the two other regions, Sud Comoé, with a total area of 707,505.04 ha has less gazetted forests. Moreover, unavailability of land in the Maféré, Adjouan and Tiapoum areas (more than 12,000 ha of oil palm trees in place⁴⁶) does not allow large-scale restoration actions, apart from mangroves areas, which will be treated in a specific way. Indeed, mangrove restoration was stressed by

⁴⁶ A detailed mapping of land use for the implementation of the proposed development options has to be done to avoid industrial cultivation areas of oil palm and rubber.

stakeholders during the consultations process. Given the loss of the knowledge on mangrove restoration, it has been recognized that training and maintenance of this specific knowledge has to be done during the project implementation, as only the Aboisso Chief of the village is aware of it. The project will therefore aim to maintain it by setting up mangrove nurseries close to the restoration sites.

Agroforestry operations will also be planned in the Nouamou, Noe, Yaou and Bianouan areas that are the cocoa basin of the region. With an average of 30 years age for cocoa plots, a regeneration programme will be strengthened, in addition to the on-going programme '*Sustainable agricultural chain values of Côte d'Ivoire* (FADCI)' for which its sub-component is '*Support for National parks and reserves of Côte d'Ivoire*'.⁴⁷ The project will enable the agroforestry system to be integrated into a zero-deforestation approach, using sustainable cocoa agroforestry options such as organic cocoa. NGO Mamboue and COSADA are NGO's led by women in the region.

Table 6 presents selected villages in the region while Figure 9 indicates change in forest cover.

Table 6: Selected villages in Sud-Comoé

Area	Villages	Remarks
Adiaké and Gd-Bassam area	Akounougbe, Assomlan, Vitré 2	Important mangrove issue Priority of the region Impact on food security (in fishing productivity)
Cocoa basin, Eastern part of the region	Maféré, Affienou	Improvement of the productivity On-going cocoa regeneration programme
	Ketesso, Ebikro, Sanhoukro	High erosion risk due to the landscape relief
	Ehanian Tanoé	Complementary restoration of the Marais Ehi-Tanoé reserve (10,000 ha) on-going, and coordinated by the <i>Fédération des Associations Inter villages pour le Développement</i> (FAIVD) (active in 11 villages)

⁴⁷ Project in South-Comoé region, with financing from the second Debt Relief and Development Contrat (C2D) of the French Development Agency, for 380,000 euros.

**MAP OF FOREST COVER CHANGES IN SUD-COMOE
REGION BETWEEN 1986 AND 2015**

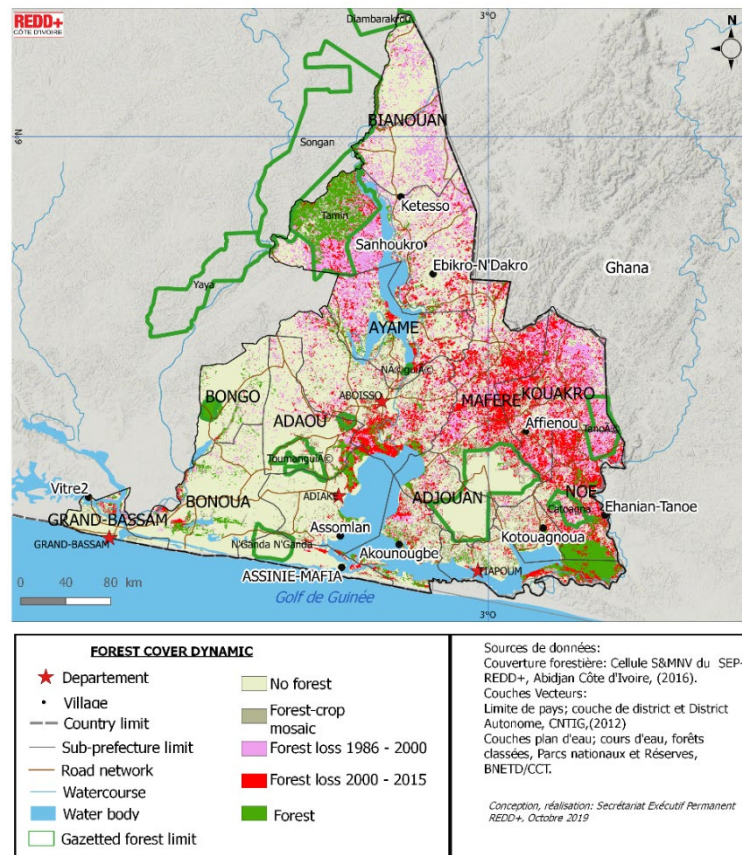


Figure 9: Map of forest cover change in Sud-Comoé

- La Mé

This region of 804,384.01 ha has benefited of the REDD+ pilot project from 2017 to 2019. Many activities on capacity building for local communities have been already undertaken during its implementation so as Regional Council's officials' technical capacities on REDD+ which have already been strengthened. The aim of the new project is to maintain and enhance the momentum generated during the implementation of the REDD+ pilot project, while extending activities to other additional villages. Women's NGO PDL-PE, Local Development and Employment Promotion Project (beneficiary of improved carbonization ovens for fish smoking) in the case of the REDD+ Project of La Mé.

Table 7 presents selected villages in the region while Figure 10 indicates change in forest cover.

Table 7: Selected villages in la Mé

Area	Village	Remarks
Adzopé area	Diasson	Beneficiary of the REDD+ pilot project in La Mé region
Yakasse-Attobrou area	Mebifon, Bieby	Beneficiary of the REDD+ pilot project in La Mé region
Akoupe area	Affery	Strong organization of local communities (existence of youth, women associations, NGOs involved in local REDD+ activities) Neighbourhood of Agbo 1 and 2 gazetted forests
Alépé area	Aboisso-Comoe, Alosso 1, Mopodji, Kossandji, N'Zodji	Beneficiary of the REDD+ pilot project in La Mé region Opportunity to develop in the undergrowth three species of rattan (<i>Calamus</i> , <i>Eremospatha</i> and <i>Lacosperma</i>) in partnership with the riparian villages of Hein, N'To and N'Zodji gazette forests during a management planning period of 25 years, during the rebuilding of timber stock until they could reach the exploitability threshold.
	Koutoukro	Neighbourhood of Yaya gazetted forest
	Akourêt, Ahoutoué	Neighbourhood of N'Guechié gazetted forest, threatened by illegal artisanal logging. High carbon sink potential for the N'Guechié gazetted forest. Ongoing restoration of 100 hectares of mangrove in partnership with the two village communities on the lagoon of the gazetted forest

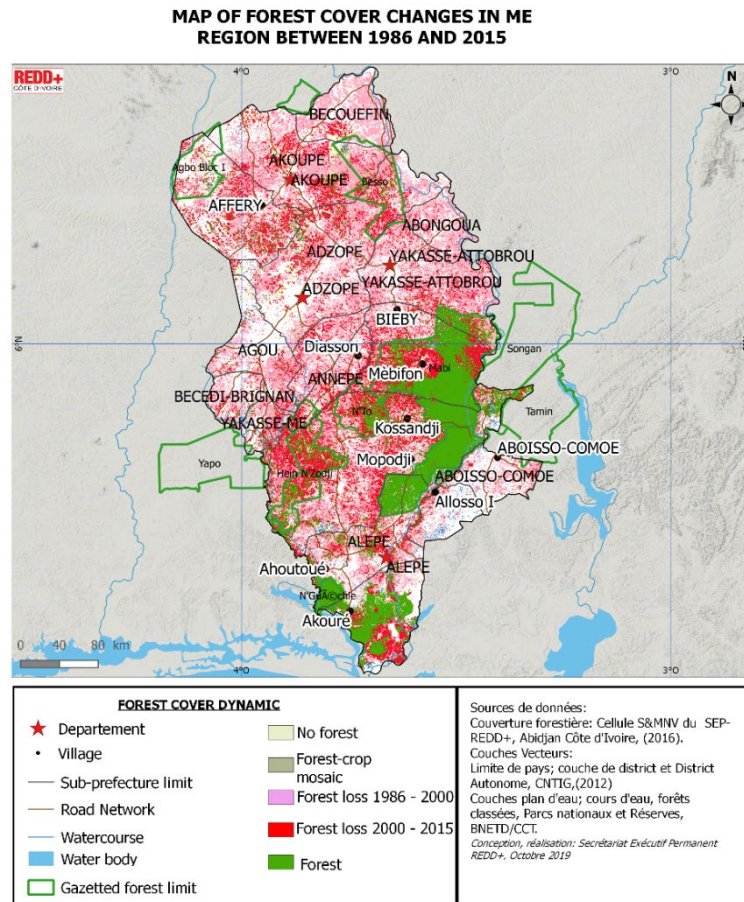


Figure 10: Map of forest cover change in La Mé

3.4. Project description

3.4.1. Objective

The project is divided into two components, first the finalization and operationalization of the national REDD+ architecture, secondly the implementation of evidence-based and innovative REDD+ activities with local communities. The main objectives of this REDD+ project are to strengthen the REDD+ implementation, to make it consistent with Côte d'Ivoire's mitigation objectives under its NDCs and voluntary report on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), especially coherent with the necessary requirements to access to future RBPs and to support local communities in their development.

As stated above, the country has committed to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 28% compared to the BAU. Tackling deforestation and forest degradation in Côte d'Ivoire through REDD+ is essential to achieve this target. However, this mechanism cannot work without operationalizing the Warsaw Framework components. To this end, activities will support the SEP-REDD+ to finalize and operationalize the REDD+ architecture by strengthening institutional capacities for an effective implementation of REDD+ at both national and subnational levels (Table 1). This aspect is fundamental to have a successful REDD+ mechanism in place in the country and can't be achieved without GCF support as there is no other funding partner willing to finance it.

This project will implement innovative models of low-carbon territory management by integrating land use planning and supporting land tenure security, agricultural intensification and forest restoration. REDD+NS and NIF both highlight the fact that activities on agriculture through the zero-deforestation agriculture policy could provide more than 50% of the GHG emission reduction targets presented in the NDC. Such concept of no net deforestation in the rural zone, increased agro-forestry and reforestation (aiming to reach 20% national forest cover) is exactly what the project intends to do. Activities will follow a jurisdictional and community-based approach. By supporting small producers to obtain technical and financial autonomy, this project will enable them to develop, fund and implement innovative agricultural projects with their own funding, thus reducing their dependence on development projects funded by technical and financial partners (PTFs).

This project will transform agricultural practices that cause deforestation and forest degradation in order to shift the trend of agriculture driven CO₂ emissions. Component 2 activities plan to **establish 3,650 hectares of resilient agroforestry systems and restore 1,500 hectares of forest in order to enhance carbon stocks. These interventions will generate emission reductions of 5.5 million tCO₂ eq over the project lifespan.** This subnational initiative provides a concrete opportunity to support one of the pillars of the REDD+ NS (agriculture) and to start the necessary transition towards a green and low-carbon economy. **Funds from the GCF will act as a catalyst by financing NIF actions at national and subnational levels, and build leverage to enable the government to optimize future partnerships with the private sector through leverage financing.** Small producers will be able to obtain sustainable financial tools for the purpose of ending dependence on public support, thus allowing the agricultural system to be implemented through its own investments. The grant is sought given the financial vulnerability of this rural population targeted by the project which has few resources and financial guarantees. Moreover, country development and support for public policies mainly rely on the support provided by the PTFs in the context of their development programmes and projects. Several financial instruments are used, including loans at higher or lower rates. As the country is already engaged in repayment processes for these loans, it is preferable to go through a grant for this project in order to support national policies and the REDD+ mechanism thus avoiding new financial constraints of the government.

3.4.2. Description and expected results

Component 1. Finalization and operationalization of the REDD+ architecture for REDD+ results-based payments (RBPs)

Outcome M5.0 Strengthened institutional and regulatory systems

Additional source of funding are requested for this purpose as the readiness funding for Côte d'Ivoire is already fully allocated to specific activities.

Output 1.1. REDD+ architecture finalized for REDD+ RBPs (GCF funding: USD 1,050,710)

Activity 1.1.1. Update of the National Investment Framework (NIF)

The National Investment Framework (NIF) is the implementation framework of the REDD+ NS as defined within the REDD+ mechanism in Côte d'Ivoire. This framework document is part of the strategy development by setting-up the programmatic framework for the investments required for its

implementation. It presents the funding required to carry out the REDD+ policies and measures of the eight components of the REDD+ NS at the national level for the 2018-2040 period in order to meet country needs. Therefore, the document objectives are to give an investment context, a global budget to indicate the necessary cost to achieve REDD+ goals, define the viability of a financial solution, highlight the best financial tools (GCF, FCPF, private sector, etc) most suited to a programme or project approach as well as the logical and chronological sequence of these investments in the national space. The current NIF proposes a budget of USD 5.37 billion to undertake REDD+NS activities from 2018 to 2040 (244 million USD per year). The NIF needs will need to be cross-sectoral and include public and private finance, as well as to better inform on the financial needs and gaps for including the forest and agricultural sector as part of the low emission and climate resilient development strategies of the country.

This document is not a new additional strategy but rather a ‘meta-strategy’ or “aggregator” building on, connecting and creating synergies across existing strategies and plans, identifying and addressing gaps, and representing an opportunity to help the various sectors to achieve their own objectives while preserving the remaining forests. Policies and measures can be seen as activities of this ‘REDD+ umbrella programme’⁴⁸ which will be implemented through dedicated projects of forestry, land-use, energy, research, agriculture, etc (see NIF report for more details). These projects are currently underway, about to start, or in the pipeline for implementation in the various regions of the country. One of the biggest challenges is to identify existing and future funding in order to align it with REDD+ NS policies and measures to identify the remaining gaps and mobilize future fundings to implement the proposed projects. The PROMIRE project through its component 2 contributes to the REDD+ NS implementation.

The National Investment Framework will be updated to better reflect actual needs. National Investment Framework (NIF) will be revised as a result of the adoption of a new forest code in July 2019, which stress forest preservation, rehabilitation and extension strategy as well as actions taken by the government to mobilize technical and financial partners to accompany its implementation. In this regards, the methodology and cost of the estimates of the funding needs of the NIF will be adjusted, to identify available funding and gaps to be mobilized for the achievement of the objectives of the National Strategy (NS) REDD +. Indeed, as it currently stands, NIF is fully adapted to the national context and not operational – the document has to be refined with a clear resource mobilization strategy.

Activity 1.1.2. Update of the Reference Emissions Level (FREL) with regional (sub-national) estimates

SEP-REDD+ (recipient of a Letter of Agreement) will lead the update fo the FREL, which will be submitted to UNFCCC for technical assessment by January 2022. The FREL of Côte d’Ivoire will be updated taking into account forest degradation as a REDD+ activity on top of the deforestation and enhancement of carbon stock which are already in the 2017 FREL submission. Analysis of dense time series will allow for a more refined detection of tree cover loss, making the distinction between deforestation and degradation. The following box indicates the recommendations from the FREL technical assessment; which will be considered for the update process.

⁴⁸ It is understood that REDD+ is not a programme but a process - the term ‘programme’ in this case is only used as an example to illustrate the REDD+ NS implementation through the NIF.

Area of improvement for the FREL considering the TA

Inclusion of degradation is the main element identified in the FREL for technical improvement. A consultation was carried out at the national level to adopt a definition of forest degradation, followed by a technical review to identify potential methodological approaches to measure and monitor degradation. This sets the necessary framework to include degradation in the National Forest Monitoring System of Côte d'Ivoire. It is also expected that most of the REDD+ results in Côte d'Ivoire would be more related to degradation than deforestation. The current proposal will support the test at national scale of the most relevant approaches identified in the technical overview and the set-up of methodological guidelines to measure and monitor degradation. The next BUR will include degradation data derived from this method applied at national level.

The use of dense time series to analyze trends in forest cover change is one of the different approaches to monitor degradation through remote sensing. This approach is computationally intensive and requires processing large volumes of data. The Breaks for Additive Seasonal and Trend (BFAST) method enables to analyze the dynamics of satellite dense time series and overcomes the major challenge to distinguish land-cover change from seasonal phenological variations. Verbesselt *et al.* (2010), Dutrieux *et al.* (2015) and DeVries *et al.* (2015) used this approach to demonstrate that time series can be decomposed into trend, seasonal, and remainder components and that the time and number of changes can be detected at high temporal resolution (i.e., 16 days), enabling detection of tree cover change and separation from phenology signal.

FAO has developed the System for Earth Observation Data Access, Processing and Analysis for Land Monitoring (SEPAL, available at <https://sepal.io>), a big-data processing platform that combines super-computing power, open-source geospatial data processing software and modern geospatial data infrastructures like Google's Earth Engine.

In collaboration with the University of Wageningen, FAO has adapted the bfastSpatial package into a functional processing chain that uses both Google Earth Engine (GEE) for the preparation of the time series and SEPAL for the processing of the algorithm itself.

Tree cover gains and forest recovery will also be detected with more confidence than implemented for the 2017 FREL and could be considered for the next iteration. This could allow (pending tests of the methodology) to monitor restoration activities in Côte d'Ivoire and open the possibility to include more activities in the REDD+ NS.

In addition, while the methodology will be consistent with that employed during the first FREL submission (stratified area estimation based on a change map), the intensified sampling scheme will allow for providing statistics and estimates for all of the regions (sub-national level) that add-up to the national level (nested approach at those scales).

Activity 1.1.3 Update and consolidation of the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS)

Considering the evolution of methodology used at global level for the monitoring of REDD+ activities, an update of the NFMS is a must. In this extent, NFMS will be improved with existing cloud-computing technologies to monitor changes in forest cover at regular intervals, at both national and sub-national levels. A near-real time alert system is being developed and will be fully integrated within the NFMS as a module inside SEPAL: the detected forest disturbances used a combination of SAR (Sentinel 1) and optical (Sentinel 2 and Landsat) data stacks which are merged based on the Bayes' theorem. The pilot near real-time alert system in the current NFMS will be translated into a transparent, open-source version implemented directly by the national coordination team inside the SEPAL platform. The validation process for the alerts will be further strengthened and translated into local level intervention protocol. The validated alerts will be regularly included in the bi-annual change detection.

The national level will produce a regular monitoring of deforestation and degradation events (bimonthly) as well as fire alerts (weekly update). This raw information will be channelled to the regional directions of forests. That administrative level will generate a pre-scan of the different types of alert detection, validating with all bottom-up information that may have reached from the sub-jurisdiction level and communicate the priority areas through standardized bulletins to:

- The fire watch committees against wildfires to identify areas of occurring fires and target prevention campaigns against further expansion of the uncontrolled wildfires,
- The local administration ("*cantonnements*") to identify areas of intervention to check the sustainability of forestry activities in rural areas,
- The local offices of SODEFOR ("*unités de gestion forestière*") for the monitoring of disturbances inside Classified Forests,
- The local offices of OIPR for the monitoring of disturbances inside National parks.

These local entities will carry out field-based checks and collect customized information on mobile applications (such as the Collect Mobile developed by FAO under the OpenForis initiative) that will be automatically ingested in a database, shared by the regional and national level. The regional directions will also be in a position to share the bulletins, where appropriate, with technical partners (civil society, independent verification organisms) to carry out complementary prevention work on deforestation and degradation.

These tools will be used for the assessment of ER results (by 2021), at first for the development of a future BUR REDD+ technical annex (by end 2021).

The tools, and thus the NFMS, will be operationalized through the capacity strengthening of the SEP-REDD+ technical team mainly, but also of technicians from the Ministry of Water and Forest and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development when requested. A regular assessment of the forest cover change will be undertaken, so that the country will be able to identify deforestation hotspots and to capture deforestation and degradation alerts. For this purpose, the system will also benefit from the most accurate data collected at local level through the community-based forest monitoring. These alerts will be shared with regional and local authorities for validation and potential actions.

Activity 1.1.4. Finalization of the safeguard information system (SIS) for its operationalization

Côte d'Ivoire has undertaken a study on the potential structure of the SIS but has no means for the development of the SIS itself. The project will support the development of the SIS, and once developed,

the platform will be shared to the stakeholders. The SIS is the tool which will support the country to report the status of the safeguards respects at national level through different indicators, aiming the submission of the Safeguards Summary of Results to UNFCCC, in order for the country to comply with the UNFCCC requirement. The SIS will gather transparent and consistent information that is accessible by all relevant stakeholders.⁴⁹ The link with the other REDD+ elements will be taken into consideration. Furthermore, the project will then support the production of the updated safeguards summary of information, linked to the other required submission of the country to UNFCCC.

Output 1.2. REDD+ Warsaw Framework operationalized for REDD+ RBPs (GCF funding: USD 1,008,196; Government co-financing: 630,000 USD)

Activity 1.2.1. Development and operationalization of the benefit-sharing mechanism

Benefit-sharing is generally understood as allocating, administering and providing benefits in an equitable manner to multiple actors for certain activities or results through some form of positive incentive, opportunity, payment, rent/profit, or other compensation – whether financial or non-monetary. Arrangements are typically structured through negotiated contracts—as it is often the case for PES and biodiversity initiatives—and/or centrally managed funds, as it is often the case in forestry.

Clear, inclusive and equitable benefit-sharing mechanisms are an essential element and a fundamental requirement to canalize financial REDD+ results-based payments at national, sub-national and local level, and to ensure that all relevant stakeholders, including vulnerable groups are duly rewarded for their contribution in generating such benefits. The definition of the beneficiaries and modes of payment distribution will therefore be essential before rewarding performance in reducing emissions. In general terms, mixed types of benefits and instruments might be considered in order to ensure that local stakeholders and investors are rewarded while in many cases, indirect and non-cash benefits are quite relevant. It has been mostly confirmed, that a combination between in-kind and in-cash are likely to generate optimum outcomes in the context of REDD+.

In terms of payment criteria to allocate percentage to each beneficiaries, based on the consultations currently ongoing, three options were identified based respectively on the (i) criteria of efficiency or performance-based “more efforts higher payments” where allocation of shares would depend on how the different stakeholders have contributed to: (1) forest conservation, (2) carbon sequestration, (3) activities avoiding deforestation and forest degradation, and (4) activities enhancing carbon stock (ii) balancing payments amongst different groups of stakeholders to ensure equitable benefit sharing amongst them (local communities, private sector, government, NGOs etc). (iii) the ability of stakeholders to reinvest in activities that can lead to emission reduction. Also, as land titling still need to be secured in most of the rural areas, for the time being it will be challenging to define carbon rights if in association or linked to tenure rights.

A country’s legal framework will influence the allocation of carbon rights or financial benefits attached to those rights. The government can decide the basis of payments based on services delivered, or the extent and effectiveness of actors’ participation in a service production value chain. In either case, the

⁴⁹ The Mexico SIS portal (<http://sis.cnf.gob.mx/>) is a good and interesting example of an operational SIS portal, which could be used as a model for the development of the Côte d’Ivoire SIS portal, linked to the REDD+ and NFMS portal.

basis for payment and the right to benefit need to be linked and clearly defined through different legal instruments. The Government of Côte d'Ivoire is currently developing secondary instruments (decrees) in order to implement the Forest Code.⁵⁰ A decree regulating the benefit-sharing plan is part of these decrees which has put on hold by the Government as the country needs more reflexion on the system.

In order to be able to implement a benefit-sharing plan, it is also essential to have an adequate level of clarity on **carbon ownership rights**, in particular to be able to answer the following questions:

- Who is the beneficiary and owner of the carbon or ERs?
- Under what conditions?
- Who is entitled to sell the carbon/ transfer ERs?
- Who has the right to claim ownership when carbon is stored in forests?
- How to shape the nature of property right in carbon sequestration?
- Who owns carbon in community managed forest and in private lands?

Presumably forest owners and right holders will be the direct beneficiaries of carbon rights generated by REDD+ activities, therefore clear land tenure rights should be ensured. However, carbon rights cannot be compared with a right embodied in a piece of land, in the sense that they are generated by an investment (or a payment for keeping or enhancing the carbon stock) that can be made either by the owner or by a tierce, and needs a specific regulatory framework.

The Government of Côte d'Ivoire is currently developing analytical studies and has identified options to implement the national benefit-sharing plan in the West region of the country in the context of the ERP, which will then be replicated and adapted to the South-East region where the SAP REDD+ will be implemented. Such analysis is done under the guidance of the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) involving relevant stakeholders, including the government, civil society representatives, and the private sector among others.⁵¹ In terms of channeling financial flows, it might be foreseen that the Foundation for the Parks and Reserves for Côte d'Ivoire (FPRCI) would be the most accountable option to channel ER payment reaching beneficiaries through financial agreements. A national workshop is expected in 2020 to validate results of the study describing options for the national benefit-sharing mechanism. Most preferred options will have to deepen and additional analysis will be foreseen for the finalization of the mechanism and its operationalization.

The approach is thus to ensure that the benefit sharing mechanism under development will consider inclusive and transparent principles as well as clear criteria for designating beneficiaries, and specify how the benefits and under which form will flow to the local stakeholders, in order to meet the expectations of all relevant actors. Having SEP-REDD initiating the reflection is a guarantee of the consistency of the intervention in the time.

⁵⁰ <http://www.droit-afrique.com/uploads/RCI-Code-2019-forestier.pdf>

⁵¹ In particular, it is contemplated that the benefit sharing mechanism should create incentives to encourage actors to address drivers of deforestation and degradation which are identify in the National REDD+ Strategy including: (i) agriculture production of cocoa, cashews, rubber, coffee, palm oil, and food crops such as mango, pineapple, banana, cotton, cola; (ii) forestry, timber and wood industry (promoting legality and tackling illegal logging); (iii) firewood in rural, charcoal in urban areas; (iv) extractive industries and gold washing; (v) insecure tenure and land use conflict, displacement, (vi) demographic factors (e.g. increasing population and migration from neighboring countries); and (vii) lack of incentives for people to protect, manage and restore forests and corresponding policies of measures.

In order to operationalize a benefit-sharing plan in pilot zones, it will be important to understand how for example the benefits generated by REDD+ will be distributed among the various stakeholders & what are the criteria to identify the beneficiaries, under what forms (monetary versus non-monetary) and to ensure fair and equitable sharing by focusing on vulnerable groups, with a clear institutional framework in place at national and sub-national level, in line with the REDD+ safeguards. This might imply the identification of the national entity responsible for the RBPs, the creation of a fund, and establish the channels to ensure that such benefits reach the local stakeholders.

The right to receive monetary and non-monetary benefits from RBPs might correspond to the owners, user rights, etc. and inhabitants of the regions having contributed directly or indirectly in reducing deforestation and degradation of forest lands, respecting their rights to fully and effectively participate in the design of benefit-sharing mechanisms. They might include: forest land owners, concessionaires, land user rights, users (without legal titles – including groups of women, etc.), rural communities, individuals or groups of owners involved in activities having an impact on forests (livestock, agriculture, cocoa plantations, tourism, etc.), and others.

The project will support the operationalization of the national benefit-sharing plan under construction and in the South-East region of the country, according to the element mentioned above and in respect of the REDD+ safeguards.

Activity 1.2.2. Development of the Fund management mechanism's legal aspects

The REDD+ fund is one of the financial mechanisms the Government expects to put in place in order to channel future REDD+ financing which will be triggered by the implementation of REDD+ interventions, including the RBPs. The fund management mechanism will be identified in a dedicated study and an operational manual will be developed. In the framework of the Emission Reduction Programme (covering the Western part of Côte d'Ivoire), FCPF and the Government has agreed that in the absence of an operational national REDD+ fund, the Foundation for Parks and Reserves of Côte d'Ivoire is going to channel the funds which will be generated by this programme. As this arrangement is not national and is temporary, the project will support the reflexion for the development of such REDD+ funds. The case of already existing funds will be taken into consideration and assess in order to avoid duplication and facilitate the operationalization. This will imply also the adoption of a legal instrument aiming to regulate its operationalization, including the definition of how those funds will be channelled at subnational and local level. Governance structure of the fund will also be one of the expected deliveries. In case of a new fund (depending on the result of the study and national decision), funds will be operationalized regarding these elements.

Activity 1.2.3. Operationalization of the grievance mechanism at national level

Documentation on structuring the REDD+ grievance mechanism is available at national level but it has not been operationalized. This will pass through information sharing from SEP-REDD+, capacity development of potential involved stakeholders. Every responsible of potential conflict will be clearly identified and receive specific information on the mechanism and REDD+ specificities. Same action will be undertaken for involved institutions. If conflicts emerge, the institution in charge of the grievance management should be capable to manage it. This activity will be co-funded by the Government.

Activity 1.2.4. Design and operationalization of the web portal/platform

Currently, Côte d'Ivoire has one web platform for REDD+ (<http://reddplus.ci/>) and another one for the NFMS (<https://www.geoportailsst.com/>). Both are currently independent from each other. Registry system and SIS platform will be annexed to the NFMS geoportal with emphasis given on the operationalization of the SIS platform and the REDD+ projects / programmes registry. The ultimate results will be the interconnectivity and interoperability of all necessary tools, which contribute to the accuracy of the data and ensure their transparency. Staff will be trained in the actual use and maintenance of the various tools developed, with particular emphasis on women's training.

Activity 1.2.5. Finalization and implementation of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) guidelines

Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) guidelines will be finalized and implemented to support the Warsaw Framework. For Côte d'Ivoire, this FPIC is more related to stakeholder engagement, before, during, and after the development of REDD+ activities. This activity will be co-financed by the Government.

Activity 1.2.6. Elaboration of mandatory reports for complying UNFCCC requirements

Emissions reduction will be evaluated at an early stage of the project and, in case of positive results, the technical annex of the second BUR will be developed by the country and submit to UNFCCC in 2021. To this aim, support will be provided for the development of the TA and the second BUR. Such action should ensure a timely submission and revision upon review by the UNFCCC Secretariat to speed up the process for Côte d'Ivoire to be able to proceed with RBPs by 2022. Upon submission of the TA, the project will support activities related to the preparation of a future REDD+ RBPs funding proposal, which is part of the country strategy for a more scaling-up of REDD+ activities implementation. Many official reports will be developed and nationally validated by the country, such as:

- Updated and strengthened FREL, planned to be submitted to UNFCCC in early 2022
- REDD+ technical annex of the BUR in 2nd semester of 2021

The consistency of all GHG inventory should be considered during the development of these reports, including the National Communication. These reports should contribute to the update of the NDC by providing information from REDD+ and on LULUCF sector. This activity will be led by the Government and is fully part of its co-financing, as the BUR is not part of the direct project objectives.

Activity 1.2.7. Development and implementation of the communications plan

A communication plan dedicated to the REDD+ mechanism in the country will be implemented, detailing the targets and the different adapted tools needed to enhance the stakeholder engagement at national but also at sub-national level, to spread information on REDD+, and communicate on its results. Advocacy actions linked to agriculture and forestry as main drivers of deforestation will be also done. The tools should take into consideration many aspects like gender equality, youth needs, etc. They will be used for national but also local level sensitization on REDD+. The content of the tools could be fed by the lessons learned of the activities implemented in the Component 2 amongst others. The civil society independent observatory will be strengthened in the framework of this activity to increase transparency in the framework of the REDD+ process. The observatory will receive training on different topics and funds for the monitoring they have to undertake for the national REDD+ process, including their role in the grievance mechanism.

Activity 1.2.8. Development of the methodology for nesting approach

A nesting approach will be designed to initiate discussion on the consistency between actions targeting carbon markets in the country. Mitigation efforts at multiple levels can potentially overlap but double counting emission reductions must be avoided to have clear vision and account at country level. To achieve this, the nested approach shall provide a means to clarify which claims competing projects and programmes can make. Often, this involves transferring emission reduction claims and carbon credits between administrative levels. Some studies have been done to support this process, and some activities on jurisdictional approach have been undertaken in Côte d'Ivoire in Cavally and Belier regions with the financial support of Governors' Climate & Forests - Task Force (GCF-TF).⁵² However, the development of a methodology of a nesting approach, which is more convenient for the country, is needed to adapt it to its specific context.

A trajectory towards REDD+ nesting

Building a nested System for REDD+ requires countries to work through a trajectory. A set of fundamental choices need to be taken early on. Countries then address the resulting technical, procedural, regulatory and institutional implications. The trajectory leads up to countries laying down the nested system legally and administratively.

The below figure details the potential trajectory which could be necessary for the development of the nested approach methodology. It will be adjusted with the context and once the exact objective of the country for this purpose will be well defined.

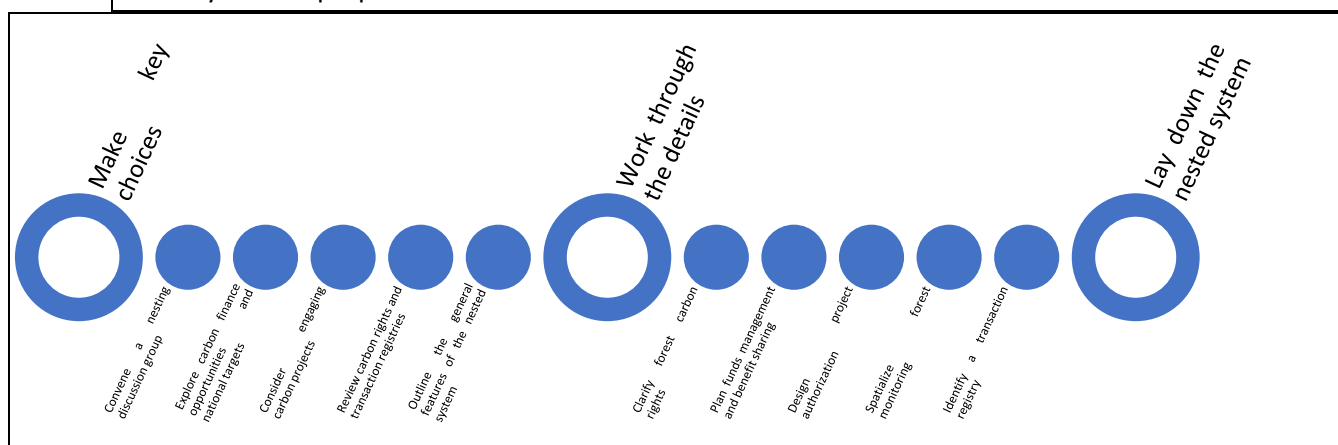


Figure 11: A potential trajectory for countries working towards REDD+ nesting

Côte d'Ivoire has not initiated the discussion on the nested approach. However, some elements and key decisions taken during the REDD+ readiness phase could be used for this purpose. For the example of the political choice, the country has already started to design the first version of the registry, which will be used to record potential REDD+ projects and initiative. For the details, options for the national benefit sharing mechanism have been identified through the work funded by FCPF but deeper reflexion should be undertaken and pursue, aiming a political decision for the mechanism.

⁵² See https://earthinnovation.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/profiles_led/SJS_Profiles_ENG/Cote_d_Ivoire/Profile_CAVALLY_Solano_2018_ENG.pdf and https://earthinnovation.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/profiles_led/SJS_Profiles_ENG/Cote_d_Ivoire/Profile_BELIER_Solano_2018_ENG.pdf

For global assessment, see: https://earthinnovation.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Stickler_et_al_2018_StateJS_Synthesis_small.pdf

Gathering and stock-taking the situation and existing elements usable for the design of the national nesting approach will be the first activity of this output. Will follow the brainstorming of technical elements and the design of the needed tools.

Component 2. Evidence-based and innovative jurisdictional REDD+ community-based activities

Outcome M9.0 Improved management of land or forest areas contributing to emissions reductions

Component 2 will implement innovative but validated models of low-carbon land management, as already experienced during the REDD+ pilot project in La Mé region. These activities, which target regions as per the national definition of the jurisdiction, integrate land-use planning and land tenure support, sustainable agricultural practices targeting productivity diversification and increase, forest restoration, under community-based approach to tackle deforestation and forest degradation in the cocoa value chain. The objective of this component is to reduce the country's GHG emissions through the implementation of innovative, low-carbon land use models in villages of Agnéby-Tiassa, La Mé and Sud-Comoé regions. These activities will directly benefit 7,550 direct beneficiaries (female-led associations will be preferred⁵³) and will impact 600,000 indirect beneficiaries. Through this component, the project will restore 1,500 ha of forest and implement 3,650 ha of agroforestry systems in order to stop and subsequently reverse the trend towards the loss of forest cover and to improve agricultural productivity, using a community approach in the targeted regions.

Output 2.1. Strengthened territorial planning and land security (GCF funding: USD 227,000)

Activity 2.1.1. Creation of Local Development Plans

First of all, project area must be secured in terms of land tenure to have a clear vision of territorial planning. The Ivorian government is implementing its land policy through the National Land Use Plan, Regional Land Use Plans and Local Development Plans (national to local).

The design process of a Local Development Plan is divided into 8 steps⁵⁴:

- i. Preparation of the planning process, institutional framework, areas identification, communities' information,
- ii. Participatory analysis on several topics such as population, economy, environment, education,
- iii. Results-based planning, development of the regional council vision, design of the plan,
- iv. Programming, design and validation of the multi-year investment programme of the local authority,
- v. Resources mobilization, identify available and needed financial resources,
- vi. Programme design, proposal and validation of the triennial programme of the local authority,
- vii. Plan implementation,
- viii. Monitoring.

⁵³ For example, Marie-Esther Foundation is a women's organization for the empowerment of women in terms of agricultural, economic and social development located in the Aboudé area (see section 3.3. of the prefeasibility study and Annex 4 on gender for other examples)

⁵⁴ Local Development Plan of Mopodji village 2018-2028

Project activities will support 21 local plans development (3 in la Mé region⁵⁵ 9 for Agneby-Tiassa and 9 for Sud-Comoé). Local plans will contribute to the identification of all potential area of development and improvement in the targeted area. These documents clearly highlight areas prohibited for the practice of agriculture (gazetted forests and protected areas for instance) and priority areas for restoration. Also, local plans will be used as a tool necessary to trigger potential future investment in the area, in order to reassure the investors in terms of sustainability of the location of the investment (in addition of land tenure security, investors rely on the existence of land-use plan especially at local level). Climate change is mainstreamed indirectly through it: 1/ without a good planning, no action can be sustainably achieved on the field, 2/ LULUCF sector contributes greatly to CO₂ emissions so it is very important to improve land-use planning.

Activity 2.1.2. Strengthening of land tenure security

Land tenure security is key to secure lands and investments on these lands. As such, the project will benefit from the implementation of the project '*Land Policy Improvement and Implementation's* activities funded by the World Bank (PAMOFOR⁵⁶). Its objective is to build the capacities and institutions necessary to support implementation of the national rural land tenure security programme and to register customary land rights in selected rural areas. The project comprises of three technical components:

- Strengthening rural land institutions to build capacity of the institutions charged with implementation of the land policy and the 1998 rural land law and to establish a viable land information system and geodetic network,
- Support implementation of the national rural land tenure security program to develop and test a streamlined, simplified, low-cost, and participatory systematic registration process that will provide each and every land owner and land user with a formal document that recognizes their customary land rights - whether a land certificate or a lease agreement,
- Training for land tenure professionals to help develop the human resources necessary for the implementation of land policy at the national level.

As many of the PAMOFOR targeted villages are overlapping project targeted villages, the project will build a strong collaboration with it, as land tenure security is one of the criteria necessary for the sustainability of the cocoa production and also requested by private sector for their potential future investment with the producers – especially land certificates which will be produced with PAMOFOR project. GCF funding will be dedicated to sensitization on land tenure aspects in complements to the PAMOFOR's intervention as the project is aware of the fact that securing land is one of the measure which could reduce deforestation and strengthen land-use management. Exchanges are already underway with the PAMOFOR project for the coordination of all our synergistic projects around cocoa and land tenure. Meetings will be organized at the start of the PROMIRE project between the PMU and the World Bank to specify ways of coordination between these two initiatives, aiming the strengthening of the complementarity between both projects.

Output 2.2. Reinforced local governance (GCF funding: USD 165,000)

⁵⁵ Seven villages have already their local development plan, thanks to the REDD+ Pilot project in La Mé

⁵⁶ 6 years project (2018-2023). For details, see: <https://projects.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/project-detail/P157206>

Activity 2.2.1. Establishment of 3 REDD+ regional committees

Strengthening of institutional and legal framework is also targeted to support REDD+ implementation at a subnational level. Investment phase will now start with policies and measures implementation and local authorities must fully understand REDD+ issues. For this purpose, local authorities will have their capacities reinforced to have a better understanding of the mechanism and capacities to develop project proposals to implement activities on the field.⁵⁷ The project will support three REDD+ regional committees in their functioning as they will have to monitor PAMs.

The National REDD+ Commission needs three bodies to be able to work properly: (i) the National REDD+ Committee, chaired by the Prime Minister's Office, (ii) the Interdepartmental REDD+ Technical Committee (composed of all key stakeholders, Ministries of Environment, Forests, Agriculture, Mines, key structures such as SODEFOR, OIPR, Cocoa Coffee Council, the private sector and civil society), (iii) the SEP-REDD+. Regional Committees are composed by the same actors as the Interministerial Technical Committee but at a regional level and chaired by prefects. Increasingly, Regional REDD+ Committees will be the real frameworks for dialogue at the regional level on forest preservation and sustainable agriculture.

Activity 2.2.2. Creation of 3 regional (sub-national) grievance management committees

Complaint management committees will be included in REDD+ regional committees to avoid multiple governance organizations and to gather all questions in a single instance. All of this will contribute to create an enabling environment conducive to a successful REDD+ mechanism: land-use planning and indirect land tenure (PAMOFOR), institutional and legal framework and governance. These regional committee will transfer information to the SIS. Governance structure of such committees will be equal to REDD+ committees.

Activity 2.2.3. Operationalization of subnational benefit-sharing systems

Once the benefit-sharing system identified at national level, a test at the subnational level or more local level will be undertaken in order to assess if the mechanism could work. The link with payment for environmental services (PES) will be done, and the contract in the framework of the PES will be adapted, considering the source of the fundings and the conditionalities which are the development of zero deforestation activities. Once funds from the RBP is obtained or other funds available for REDD+ investment, the system will perform its function in the 3 targeted regions.

Output 2.3. Zero-deforestation agricultural production and reforestation (GCF funding: USD 5,974,117; FAO-SCOLUR Project co-financing: 386,000 USD; Government co-financing: 510,000 USD)

Activity 2.3.1. Agricultural technical support to small producers and restoration of degraded lands and forests

⁵⁷ In the context of low public finance available from the Government, for the strengthening of decentralization, local and subnational administration responsables try to find other funding sources for the development of their region. For this purpose, emerging requests from them are capacity strengthening on project development: their objective is to liaise with other financial partners for funding request, not only for the forestry sector but for all priorities which will be identified during the development of the local development plan.

The overall strategy for this activity is to increase productivity and decrease carbon emissions with new agricultural practices and also to increase diversity for targeted smallholders in order for them to not only depend on a single market (cocoa or coffee for instance). The project will implement on mitigation measures with agroforestry and forest restoration to generate emission reductions and decrease pressure on surrounding forests. Agroforestry will bring this diversity with food cropping and fruit trees while bringing more resilience to the system thanks to trees added in the landscape. Particular attention will be paid to protected areas in order to avoid spillovers. This will be achieved through several aspects: (1) in order to claim benefits from project funds, beneficiaries must commit themselves to keep agricultural areas outside protected areas, (2) forest restoration will strengthen the buffer zone around protected areas acting as a boundary between rehabilitated forests and protected areas, monitoring of these buffer zones will be done and therefore ensure a better control to access to protected areas, (3) GEF-FAO project activities will also help to protected areas' protection and conservation. 3,650 small producers will develop agroforestry systems as well as food cropping to achieve 3,650 hectares of agrosystems in which organic and fair-trade cocoa production will be partly developed. Plenty of benefits will arise from these systems such as diversification of farmers' production, stabilization and even increase of their income,⁵⁸ food cropping bringing a better food security for local communities, having different crops in a single plot will also make producers more resilient to market fluctuations but also to climate change through the increase of forest cover. Agrarian diagnoses will identify each producer's needs thus helping to adapt agroforestry practices to these needs.

First, activity will focus on supporting small producers to increase their productivity and to produce organic certified cocoa, when the context is allowing it. The certification of cocoa in organic farming helps to optimize existing agroforestry systems and increase cocoa value per hectare with a higher price.⁵⁹ By supporting farmers in the regeneration of their plots and providing added value, the project will secure small producers' lands and thereby tackle deforestation and forest degradation coming from cocoa cash-crop. Following actions will be implemented:

- Technical guidance on good agricultural practices (sanitary harvesting, shading management, etc.),
- Support for the rehabilitation of the cocoa plot,
- Structuring small producers in cooperatives,
- Support for organic certification with the recruitment of a certification firm.

For the rehabilitation of cocoa plots and broadly for the improvement of agroforestry system, the project will support producers to set up nurseries with the distribution of bags and will provide all necessary technical assistance. An average of 300 cocoa plants are being replaced as part of the rehabilitation of the cocoa plots. It is important to keep in mind that in a cocoa field, there is an average of 1,200 plants per hectare. As part of the rehabilitation, it is not a question of replacing all cocoa plants, but replacing ¼ of them, which represents approximately 300 plants per hectare. In addition to these systematic replacements, producers will benefit from technical supervision for the plantation resumption.

⁵⁸ The price of organic and fair-trade cocoa at producers' level is 1400 FCFA/kg (the price of conventional cocoa is 750 FCFA/kg).

⁵⁹ Budgeted cost of the certification done by ECOCERT is 20K USD.

Another goal of this activity is to diversify farmers' incomes while reducing deforestation. Thus, the project will support rehabilitation of old coffee plantations by including food crops such as plantain or cassava. This enabling measure has the triple advantage of upgrading old coffee plantations, reducing food insecurity and vulnerability, reducing deforestation attributable to food crops and involving women in a specific activity. Indeed, agrarian diagnosis carried out during the first year of implementation of the REDD+ Project of La Mé, revealed that every year, around 0.25 hectare of forest is destroyed per household for the establishment of food crops. The project will be able to count on the expertise of National Agency for Rural Development Support (ANADER) and Forest Development Society (SODEFOR) to support activities on agroforestry - organizations on capacity building can also be found. Following actions will be implemented:

- Identification of interested small producers, visit of their fields,
- Ordering improved coffee plants and / or coppicing service from the CCC,
- Supporting nurseries' creation,
- Definition of a coffee-food crops system (for example, introduction of 200 plants of banana per hectare),
- Supporting plantations' improvement.

From a more financial perspective, activities being covered by the project are the following:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| - Clearing, | - Pruning trees, |
| - Cutting old trees, | - Fertilizer, |
| - Transport of seedlings, | - Plant protection, |
| - Marking, | - Harvest, |
| - Digging, | - Post-harvest processes, |
| - Planting, | - Beans transport, |
| - Weeding, | - And firewood cut. |

Agrosystems of coffee-rubber and cocoa-rubber will also improve families' incomes and increase the value per hectare by renewing old cocoa or coffee plantations. Model to be considered in this project has been successfully tested by several projects in Côte d'Ivoire. The double rubber lines are separated of 33 meters, between these coffee or cocoa is introduced. Thanks to this system, average of 1,000 coffee or cocoa plants can be grown with 200 plants of rubber for one hectare. Such association generate more incomes than a single crop based on coffee or rubber.

Finally, as part of production systems diversification, one of the flagship activities of this project is to support the rehabilitation of cocoa plantations by introducing trees: 35 plants for timber and fruit trees, 20 for firewood per hectare. Choice of species to be used will be left to small producers and will depend on the local ecosystem and needs, but a species list can be given for information (Table 8). The project will train people on the value chains of common species. The following activities will be implemented:

- Identification of interested producers, visit of their fields,
- Supporting cocoa nurseries' creation,
- Distribution of fruit trees / timber / firewood species,
- Supporting in setting up plantations,
- Technical supervision.

To ensure the availability of forest seedlings, nurseries will be created in different villages. The project plans to also train nurserymen who will be able to perpetuate this activity. Table 8 indicated species list selected for agroforestry according to specific criteria:

- Control of mass production by communities,
- Control of technical itineraries,
- Interest and multiple uses for communities,
- Economic profitability,
- Strategic positioning / market development,
- Adapted to phytogeographical zones.

The below list of species for agroforestry and forest resoration purpose is preliminary, species identification will take into account other parameters such as resilience to climate change and pressure, and will be discussed with all partners and can also be potentially assessed with agrarian diagnoses, in collaboration with national and international research center.

Table 8: Species list for agroforestry.

Common name	Latin name
Petit kola	<i>Garcinia kola</i>
Akpi	<i>Ricinodendron heudelotii</i>
Boborou ou Kplé	<i>Irvingia gabonensis</i>
Acacia	<i>Acacia spp</i>
Poivrier	<i>Piper nigrum</i>
Teck	<i>Tectona grandis</i>
Gmelina	<i>Gmelina arborea</i>
Cedrela	<i>Cedrela odorata</i>
Samba	<i>Triplochiton scleroxylon</i>
Fraké	<i>Terminalia superba</i>
Framiré	<i>Terminalia ivorensis</i>
Acajou Bassam	<i>Khaya ivorensis</i>
Niangon	<i>Heritiera utilis</i>
Tiama	<i>Entendophragma angolense</i>
Emien	<i>Alstonia boonei</i>
Makoré	<i>Thieghemella heckelii</i>
Kotibé	<i>Nesogordonia papaverifera</i>
Ako	<i>Antiaris africana</i>
Palétuvier	<i>Rhizophora racemosa</i>

Details on agroforestry technical itinerary

Many small-scale cocoa farmers in West Africa are facing difficulty continuing cocoa production due to the unsustainable system that is currently in place and the pressure from changing climate. However, there is increasing global demand for cocoa, and the way to meet this growing demand was expansion which has contributed to deforestation in countries such as Côte d'Ivoire. By shifting to a more sustainable and diversified system, the farmers can increase productivity for cocoa and improve their livelihoods.

The majority of the cocoa production in West Africa does not include enough shade trees that can provide optimal microclimate for the cocoa plant to withstand the increasing temperatures. In

addition, income from cocoa only has proven to be unstable for the small holder farmers. In order to overcome these issues, the foreseen agroforestry system incorporates timber and fruit trees that can provide appropriate shade for the cocoa to establish, and annual crops in between rows that can provide income for the farmers during the first several years for the cocoa and fruit trees to provide income. Timber species also need to be carefully selected based on the environment and economic benefits. The diversified system can also contribute to improved management of the soil, as well as avoid spreading of problematic pests and diseases.

Appropriate selection of plant species is key, from an environmental perspective as well as from an economic point of view. The farmers need to decide on the crops based on market opportunities and the climatic conditions (including soil profile) of the farm.

This technology can be assimilated to the SAFTA⁶⁰ (*Sistema Agroflorestal de Tomé-Açu*) denominated as a Social Technology by the Brazilian government.

Elements for a successful establishment:

1. Appropriate crop selection, agronomic knowledge and availability/access to quality seeds and seedlings

Farmers need timely access to planting materials and inputs necessary. Spacing, fertilization and irrigation potential need to be considered for optimal plant establishment.

2. Appropriate support for value chain development

To enhance market access and income generation, support for diversified crop marketing and value addition is needed. A cooperative can be established to process produce for better market access, creating opportunities for employment outside of the farm.

3. Improved agronomic practices and post-harvest management for cocoa

Cocoa productivity in West Africa can still be further increased through good agricultural practices. Appropriate spacing, pruning and timely fertilization are some basic elements. In order to optimize quality of cocoa, further improvement on post-harvest management can also be made.

Agroforestry is also a sustainable land management practice which can notably enrich soil organic carbon better than mono-cropping systems, improve soil nutrient availability, soil fertility and enhance soil microbial dynamics (Dollinger *et al.* 2018). Having the potential to improve soil fertility is notably based on the increase of soil organic matter (Lehmann *et al.*, 1998), for instance through root turnover (Schroth *et al.*, 1995) or litter addition (Sarvade *et al.*, 2014). Trees also improve soil structural properties (Mbow *et al.* 2014) and can help recover nutrients through water tapping and prevention of nutrient leaching (Bayala *et al.*, 2008), but also through nutrient pumping (Makumba *et al.*, 2009).

This is notably true for agroforestry systems with cocoa. Andres and al recorded for instance during an on-farm study in Côte d'Ivoire higher cocoa yields in agroforestry systems compared to monoculture and attributed this benefit to rehabilitation pruning. Tschardt *et al.* also highlighted that shade trees

⁶⁰ SAFTA has been disseminated throughout Brazil and the American tropics by the joint effort of EMBRAPA (*Empresa Brasileira de Pesquisa Agropecuária*), CEPLAC (*Comissão Executiva de Planejamento da Lavoura Cacaueira*), CAMTA (*Cooperativa Agrícola Mista de Tomé-Açu*), ACTA (*Associação Cultural e Fomento Agrícola de Tomé-Açu*), HANDS (Health and Development Service) and others.

have been shown to improve soil fertility and Isaac and al conducted a study in Ghana which found that “*cocoa tree nutrient uptake and cocoa biomass increased under shade tree canopy compared to a monoculture*”.

Finally, Andres *et al.* pointed out that the configuration of agroforestry systems like the ones intended to be created by the project (rubber and timber trees in higher strata, fruits trees in middle ones and cocoa or coffee trees in the lower ones for example) minimizes the competition and enhance the synergies between the trees and leads to benefits such as nutrient cycling and soil fertility maintenance and enhancement.

Restoration of degraded forests is also targeted on 1,500 ha with the technical partnership of SODEFOR and local communities. Finally, an additional 300 hectares of local communities degraded forest are expected to be leverage thanks to a future partnership with the private sector through this project (see output 2.4) and once the local communities received the land certification. The project will support the mobilization and involvement of logging company like *Tropical Bois*, in the framework of the development of partnership with private sector. Seeds will be provided thanks to SODEFOR Forest Seed Production Center which manages a network of more than 350 hectares of seed plots, seed orchards and stock plants with clones for around twenty species across the country. The Seed Center will organize the mobilization of seeds of several other local species thanks to SODEFOR network forest management units found in the various forest ecosystems of the country. Incentives are planned to be set up for the maintenance of the reforestation activities mainly, modality of implementation will be analysed during the project implementation, taking into consideration the context and potential risks. To be noted that according to the new forest regulation, the owner of the wood and incomes from its sale is normally the land owner, justifying a land title, in accordance with the Rural Land Code. However, the producer of a reforestation plot may be the owner therefore under the terms of an agreement concluded with the landowner within the framework of this action.

Reforestation objectives are ecological (enrichment in timber species), self-consumption (wood energy, fruit trees) and economic (diversification of production systems with the promotion of agroforestry; introduction of gasoline for lumber, fruit trees and wood energy-intensive species). Depending on the status of the land to be restored and soil conservation, approach may change. In gazetted forests, following actions are foreseen:

- Agroforestry, by planting perennial crops in production (10m x 10m) with local species of timber,
- Reforestation, in fallows and plantations but not in production (3m x 3m) with local or introduced species of timber or wood energy,
- Consolidation of the forest protection of forest being restored by permanent monitoring of operations in village areas in the rural land domain,
- Agroforestry, using wood-energy tree species or with local multi-use species (Australian Acaias, *Cassia sp*, Kplé, Akpi, petit kola, *Samanea saman*, etc.) either in separate blocks or on land annual cultivation (food or other),
- In many cases, this will involve restoring the natural fertility of the soil. The restoration will then call upon methods of improving fallows by the introduction of species whose effectiveness has been proven: *Gliricidia sepium*, *Cajanus sp*, etc.

From a more financial perspective, activities being covered by the project are the following:

- Nursery (seeds, bags, tools, self-protection equipment, agro-chemicals, clearing, shadow area, bag filling),
- Land preparation - plantation (survey, clearing, stump extraction, digging, seedlings transport, planting),
- Forest maintenance (weeding, compensatory planting, shape pruning, fire breaking, pruning).

Finally, free and open-source tools will be introduced at the community level for forest monitoring activities. The Collect Mobile application developed in the Open Foris suite will be tweaked for a specific survey integrating the different information collected on the ground. Information will be combined with spatially explicit alerts, and land use maps to guide decision making on forestry activities.

This activity will enable local communities to be part of the forest monitoring of Côte d'Ivoire. A strategy for a community-based forest monitoring has been developed and tested in La Mé region with the technical support of FAO. A community-based forest monitoring guideline will be developed and published, and this local forest monitoring will be deployed in the targeted villages of the project. Data produced by this community based forest monitoring will be transferred regularly to the NFMS (in component 1) in order to strengthen the accuracy of the data at national level.

Expected emission reductions following these mitigation actions are 5.5 MtCO₂ for 5,150 hectares. Such estimation has been done with the Ex-Ante Carbon-balance Tool (EX-ACT). It is an appraisal system developed by FAO providing ex-ante estimates of the impact of agriculture, forestry and fishery development projects, programmes and policies on the carbon-balance. The carbon-balance is defined as the net balance of all GHG, expressed in carbon dioxide equivalents, that were emitted, avoided or sequestered due to project implementation as compared to a BAU scenario (FAO, 2017).

Activity 2.3.2. Conservation and restoration of natural habitats

In all the target regions of the SCOLUR project funded by GEF and implemented by FAO, the following scenarios are expected:

- Production landscape that remains critical for Global Environmental Benefits but where remaining forests are threatened by expansion of commercial commodities,
- "Frontier" landscape where opportunity exists to pre-empt expansion and get ahead of commercial commodity-driven forest loss,
- Highly degraded landscape in need of restoration for the ecosystem services they provide to agricultural production.

This is the case of the region of La Mé, where there are protected areas (gazetted forests, sacred forests, nature reserves) but under threat; buffer zones from the previous ones where the opportunity exists to fix the farmers in time and/or space, or even extend the protection through more sustainable

agroforestry practices and assistance to natural regeneration; and degraded areas where restoration is necessary.⁶¹

Until a more precise definition of the action zones is defined (in progress), landscapes will include the three types of zones starting from the most well preserved to the most degraded. Conservation and restoration techniques adapted to each case will be used to eventually find a productive but resilient landscape aiming at a connection through biological corridors, where environmental services such as the maintenance of biodiversity, water and soil cycle, and carbon sequestration will have a major and complementary role with the economic sustainability of the farms. Farmers and local population will be involved in activities of conservation, restauration and monitoring to improve the awareness and demonstrate that other agriculture is possible and profitable. This activity will be funded by the GEF-FAO project.

Activity 2.3.3. Validation of the traceability system for the sustainable cocoa production

In a market that is increasingly demanding on the legal, sustainable and fair origin of products, traceability has become an unavoidable need for distant productions. A standard on sustainable cocoa has been developed by International Standard Organization - ISO.

Developed by stakeholders from all sectors of the cocoa industry, including representatives from both countries (Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana) where the cocoa is grown and markets where it is consumed. The ISO 34101 series aims to encourage the professionalization of cocoa farming, thus contributing to farmer livelihoods and better working conditions. It covers the organizational, economic, social and environmental aspects of cocoa farming as well as featuring strict requirements for traceability, offering greater clarity about the sustainability of the cocoa that is used.

Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire, led by their authorities responsible for cocoa production, Ghana Cocoa Board and the Coffee-Cocoa-Council, have objected to the subscription to International Standard Organization certification which they find to be one that will worsen the already challenged situation of cocoa farmers in the two major producing countries.

The two countries have therefore decided to put the ISO certification on hold and rather continue to develop their standard which they say will take into account the interest of all stakeholders in the cocoa value chain. Especially the interest of poor farmers in which the standards proposed by ISO would be an additional burden.

They have released a draft regional sustainability standard and launched a consultation process with industry and other stakeholders. The draft regional standard largely builds on the global ISO/CEN standard, but includes some changes related to definitions and institutional roles, particularly with regard to premium payments, implementation at the farm/coop level, traceability, audits, and data collection.

⁶¹ The project will generate the following Global Environmental Benefits in La Mé: 2.000 ha of land restored; 4.000 ha of landscapes under improved management practices; and 1,000,000 tCO₂e GHG emissions mitigated. This has to be adjusted during the project development.

GEF-FAO project will be useful to this process in the phase of dissemination and application of the standards finally adopted. There are still a few months left for the finalization and application of the regional standards, but SCOLUR project is closely following the process with Coffee-Cocoa-Council and Ghana Cocoa Board in order to be beneficial in the mentioned phase.

Around 3,000 farmers households in La Mé will be informed and involved in the application of standards by the project. This activity will be fully funded by the GEF-FAO project.

Activity 2.3.4. Monitoring of agriculture and restoration activities

All activities detailed previously will have to be monitored by SEP-REDD+, as co-financing, as per its mandate, to ensure consistency with rules, goals targeted by the project and gender aspects. SEP-REDD+ is responsible of the day-by-day monitoring of the activities in the field, including on the functioning of the regional REDD+ committee.

Output 2.4. Strengthened agricultural financing structures and business capacities for cocoa cooperatives and smallholders (**GCF funding: USD 688,796; FAO-SCOLUR project co-financing: 144,000 USD**)

Activity 2.4.1. Creation, strengthening and capacity building of cocoa cooperatives

Through this activity, project will support establishment and formalization of two new cooperatives of organic cocoa producers in Sud Comoé and Agneby Tiassa regions. Cooperatives (as well as the deployment of cooperative branches in targeted villages) are indeed the better vehicle for the purchase of the production in Côte d'Ivoire. This activity will also be strengthening the capacities of La Mé cooperative, which cooperative already exists thanks to activities implemented during the REDD+ pilot project of la Mé supported with AFD financial resources. The la Mé cooperative (see profile below in the box), which is the only one that produces organic and fair trade cocoa, has been created to reduce the risk of mixing with conventional cocoa and to better support producers engaged in organic farming. Strengthening capacities of the cooperatives means reinforce cooperatives' members capacities on internal organization, operational, administrative and financial management as well as governance structure to be able to grow properly. Capacity strengthening will be adapted to the specific needs of the cooperatives (i.e. new ones vs established ones). A strengthened cooperative will better fulfill its key functions, answer to the needs of its current members, incorporate newcomers and make their investment ready (i.e. capable of obtaining credit or private equity investment). Additionally, the activity will also support, at different levels depending on their specific needs, the three cooperatives to develop investment proposals to banks and to bequity investors/investment funds (such as impact funds). This will include capacity building on delivering investment pitches and supporting the match-making process.

Profile of the cooperative of la Mé (SCOOPS.PCBM)

The cooperative of la Mé has been recently created as part of the implementation of the REDD+ project in this region. In 2019, the cooperative benefited from grants to support acquisition of equipment, building of a store dedicated to the storage of organic and fair-trade cocoa and for the recruitment of a cabinet to organize specific training on cooperative life and financial management. Cooperative of la Mé operates in agriculture, especially in the coffee and cocoa sectors. Its main

objective is to carry out or facilitate all operations concerning collection, storage, processing and marketing of members' products. Today, this cooperative has 184 members spread over three villages, namely Bieby, Diasson and Mébifon. To be a member, one must own a plot of at least one hectare of cocoa crops in the territorial district of the cooperative. Statutes and internal regulations of SCOOPS.PCBM set the membership conditions which are described:

- Be resident in Côte d'Ivoire,
- Be the owner of a plot of at least one hectare of cocoa crops in the territorial division of the cooperative society,
- Not belong to a cooperative pursuing the same objective in the same territorial jurisdiction,
- Subscribe to at least one share of the capital in the amount of FCFA 10,000 or about USD 20 and the payment of FCFA 5,000.

This cooperative support its members by covering training costs, in particular those relating to cooperative life, the technical supervision of members, the recruitment of specialists for the promotion of good agricultural practices. It has a bank account in a bank in Adzopé and its financial resources come from share capital obtained by subscription and payment of every members, payment of membership fees or subsidies granted by any natural or legal person for its operation or necessary investments, capital borrowed and guaranteed by the joint guarantee and legal, statutory and optional reserves created by deduction from the accounting surpluses for the financial year created.

Activity 2.4.2. Development of business plans and financial literacy for cooperatives and producers

Improving financial literacy of SMEs and the three Cooperatives and developing an understanding of the needs of financial entities is key in order to be able to strengthen interactions between different stakeholder groups and improve legitimacy, transparency and mutual understanding.

This activity will, as such, provide trainings on financial literacy for smallholders in the three cooperatives. Trainings on financial literacy include funds management, bookkeeping and accounting, benefits of the adoption of sustainable production, investment, and negotiation with traders / trade. These trainings will focus on: (i) Being productive, generate an income, save and spend it wisely (ii) Understanding of key financial concepts, and (iii) be able to make decisions based on financial information, among others.

Additionally, this activity aims a strengthening business capacities of the three cooperatives by developing more robust business plans. This will increase their potential to establish off-taker purchase agreements as well as to receive investments from the private sector, like credits for instance (including from private company). The development of business plans will first target the cooperative in la Mé given its capacity. The two new cooperatives may also be supported in this regards depending on the progress made in terms of capacity during the implementation of the project.

This activity will support training in business plans development, optimization of operations, accounting as well as marketing.

These business plans will aim at the following (*depending on the specific needs of the cooperatives and the targeted region contexts*):

- (i) Establish purchase agreements with cocoa companies based on the experience of the premium prices established by the la Mé cooperative for the high-quality cocoa produced through project output 2.3;
- (ii) Be subject to receiving micro credits lines from MFIs through loan agreements;
- (iii) Extend sustainable agroforestry activities through investments from the cocoa companies (*investments in this regard will be guided by the land use planning and tenure right activities developed through project output 2.1).*

Indeed, by strengthening their business plan, the activity will enable the cooperatives to seek investment to either consolidate their model or expand their production by intensifying the organic production model on existing production land. By doing so, small producers will increase their financial independence. This activity will also help cooperatives and/or smallholders in submitting their business plan to potential investors (see following activity 2.4.3), micro-finance institutions and banks.

Activity 2.4.3. Development of partnerships with private sector and micro-finance institutions

Leveraging private sector new funding is essential for the exit strategy of the project and for the overall sustainability of the investment. The goal of this activity is to make sure that private sectors (including micro-finance institutions) and cocoa off-takers increasingly invest in this niche market carried out in the three regions in order to have a better quality cocoa. The project also plans to mobilize micro-finance institutions to support agricultural cooperatives in the expansion of the cocoa producers activities.

These two complementary approaches will contribute to a better investment capacity for cooperatives and enable them to develop their initiatives and gain financial autonomy. Through this activity, in order to properly guide the leverage of additional funds, an analysis of the potential for organic and fair-trade cocoa production and for deforestation-free cocoa production in the three regions, and the development of a well-documented and technically proven financial model will be carried out.

First, the activity will support establishment of fair off-taker purchase agreements between the cooperatives supported by this initiative and niche cocoa purchasing companies wishing to pay a premium price for fair-trade and organic and deforestation-free cocoa, as well as coffee for existing and future production through project output 2.3, in addition to the Alter Eco guaranteed demand in organic and fairtrade cocoa. The project will establish those market connections and assist the target cooperatives in their negotiations in order to guarantee a premium price for their production. This work will be done in Agneby-Tiassa, Sud-Comoé, and with the remaining villages of la Mé region.⁶² The activity will raise awareness of cocoa buyers on the importance of sourcing sustainable cocoa and to establish long-term partnerships, which could go beyond off-taker purchase agreements. For this purpose, the project will actively contribute to the national technical exchange and dialogue on the development of **deforestation-free cocoa production principles and criteria** (in line with future EU regulations amongst others) and to the advocacy for the adoption at national level of a **principle of a “premium price” for deforestation-free cocoa production**. The project will thus share experiences, evidence and results from the project in order to guide and support the private sector in their investments in zero-deforestation cocoa production. **Regular meetings (every 3 months) with Cocoa**

⁶² For the La Mé region only, AlterEco is ready to buy at least 25t of organic cocoa per year from the cooperative. The cooperative is not able to supply this annual demand, meaning that the market is existing. As the project is going to intensify the cocoa production, one of the project aim is to find a company which propose to buy the production with premium price. Following first exchanges with Modelez and CEMOI, these company are willing to buy higher cocoa production, with a premium price, as they have a demand of this high-quality products in international market.

and Forest Initiative and member cocoa companies will be undertaken in order to expand these companies' interest on forestry and agroforestry interventions and to seek additional opportunities based on national and international market development and dynamism. These elements will be explored with cocoa companies throughout the activities.

Secondly, the project will work with the three local banks and micro-finance institutions present in the three regions (UNACOOPEC, RCMEC and CELPAID) to strengthen their capacities and appetite to invest in organic cocoa cooperatives. Based on an in-depth analysis of these three micro-finance institutions and the barriers which influence the level of investment required on agroforestry and forestry sector, the project will identify additional MFIs (such as Advans) and local banks that could receive support from the PROMIRE project in order to link their services to the project beneficiaries. Indeed, the lack of sector knowledge of national credit institutions is a major impediment to an increase access to credit by cooperatives and producers. Therefore, the project will strengthen the capacities of the credit agents from key banks and micro-finance institutions in the target regions and contribute to clarify, build and strengthen potential financial mechanisms to channel private funding tailored for forestry and agroforestry system. Particular attention will be given to Advans as this MFI has already benefited in the past from technical assistance for the development of financial services for cocoa producers. Advans is willing to **launch a financial product addressing sustainable cocoa production and agroforestry (not tested yet)**. PROMIRE team is expected to participate in the inception phase, supporting Advans and strengthening technical aspects to better tailor financial instruments to cocoa producer's needs.

The activities under output 2.4 will provide technical assistance to the micro-finance institutions and local banks in the three targeted regions and will support the mobilization of the private sector (Figure 12 provides details on funds flows). Only technical assistance will be provided for this output as the objective of the intervention is to strengthen the capacity of the cooperative and financial institutions, development of business plan, technical support and blended finance (for public and private source). These activities will be carried out in close collaboration with Conseil Café Cacao⁶³ which is the national authority in charge of the promotion of the Ivorian cocoa and coffee production in the international trade, and in the framework of Cocoa and Forest Initiative. Many private company members of the World Cocoa Foundation, technical and financial partners of the country such as *Agence Française pour le Développement* (AFD), *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit* (GIZ), and additional foundations such as Livelihoods Funds or Ecotierra are interested to invest in organics and fair-trade cocoa production, deforestation-free cocoa production or more broadly to support a fair cocoa value-chain in Africa and mainly in Côte d'Ivoire. As such, the project will support the producers to attract them. **The PROMIRE project will therefore be the first project in Cote D'Ivoire, together with the FAO GEF SCOLUR project, that will be promoting and operationalising the commitment of this private sector zero-deforestation cocoa financing.** Thus, the result of this activity will clearly feed the objective of the Cocoa and Forest Initiative while reinforcing the project's exit strategy.

⁶³ <http://www.conseilcafecacao.ci/>

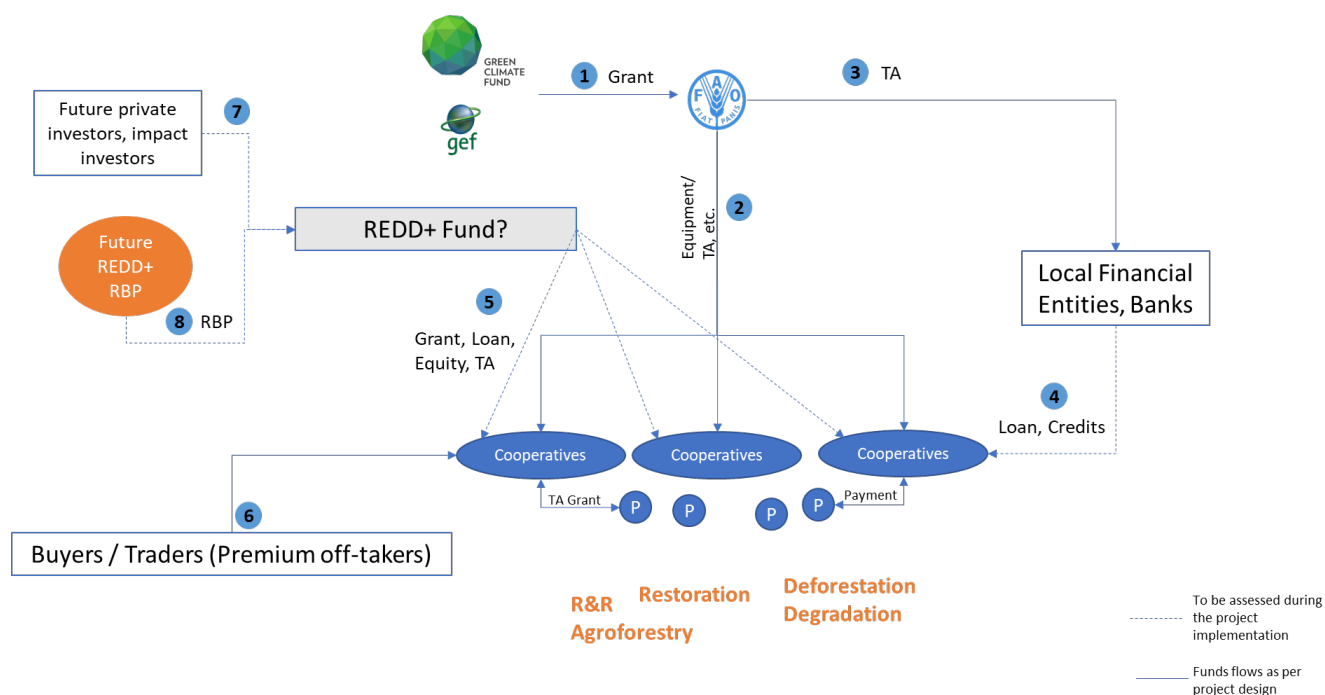


Figure 12: Structure and flow of funds.

The PROMIRE project with support from strategic technical partners will provide mainly equipment/material and technical assistance to the cooperatives and producers (2), but will only provide technical assistance (3) to micro-finance institutions and local banks for their capacity strengthening. The REDD+ fund and its funding mechanism, which is supposed to receive RBP from REDD+ process (8) amongst other potential financing (7), will be designed during the project implementation as stated in the component 1, output 1.2. In the future, this REDD+ funds is supposed to target directly cooperatives through grants, Loan, equity, or technical assistance (5) if its mandate will allow it, without other intermediaries, for the implementation of agriculture zero deforestation and potentially forest restoration. The modality of funds transfer will be defined and better aligned with the responsibility and obligations of each involved institution.

Additional technical assistance could be brought by others partners depending on the opportunities identified during the project implementation.

Activity 2.4.4. Strengthening of multi-stakeholder dialogue and cocoa innovation platforms

A key element in this component is the establishment of linkages and collaboration with relevant funds and sustainable trade and commodities production, such as parks and reserves fund, national forest preservation and rehabilitation fund being established under CFI, anticipated REDD+ fund (see Output 1.2), Tropical Forest Alliance 2020, 1 For 20 Partnership, UNDecade, FLR, AFR100 and others.

As part of a jurisdictional approach to natural resource development and management, a multi-stakeholder dialogue platform will create a space where stakeholders can exchange information, develop a common understanding of the problems, decide jointly on desired outcomes, and jointly design and implement action plans and catalyse investments aimed at sustainable natural resource management that ensure sustainable production of agricultural goods and improve the living conditions of local communities. The SCOLUR project will establish 3 multi-stakeholder platforms

(MSPs) which will be set up in 3 regions on a permanent basis. The MSPs will be piloted by the Regional Councils under the chairship of the Prefects of the regions. For this purpose, The project will provide (i) support to the Regional Council and help forge a common vision and facilitate constructive dialogue among all partners through methodologies that will be developed for the proper functioning of the framework for dialogue; (ii) the capacities of experts from the Regional Councils will be strengthened in terms of human and material resources. Capacity-building will focus on the systemic approach in order to strengthen the leadership of the Regional Council experts to lead this change process. The platform governance structure will comprise 3 governance bodies, namely: (i) a Steering Committee chaired by the Prefect of the Region; (ii) a Technical Committee; (iii) the Secretariat of the dialogue framework provided by the Regional Council. The Steering Committee, chaired by the Prefect, is a political body. Its role will be to validate the proposals of the Technical Committee, in particular the regional strategic plan for zero deforestation cocoa production and to ensure its monitoring and evaluation. The Technical Committee will be made up of thematic working groups according to the priorities defined by the stakeholders after analysis of the results of the studies. The Secretariat will be led by the Regional Council and its technical officers. Its role will be to organize the meetings of the various bodies, the minutes of meetings and communication on the results of the dialogue framework. The MSP will thus bring together officials from the Government's decentralized structures, representatives of producers, women's and youth organizations, civil society groups, the private sector of value chains and financial actors in order to ensure a participatory and inclusive process. The process will be conducted with a gender and youth perspective to ensure that women as well as young men and women participate equitably and actively and that their views are taken into account.

To contribute to establish an effective inter-agency and interministerial coordination mechanism and generate knowledge and innovations for transformation of the global cocoa supply chain, the project will share innovate tools and approaches through the global platform of SCOLUR project. Also important is the knowledge that the project will be able to access through this platform and share through the CFI global partners, increasing the potential for replication in other cocoa producing countries.

Expected activities will cover face-to-face and virtual meetings (twice a year each), attendance at international conferences (twice a year), and online visibility actions inside and outside the country, by the La Mé beneficiaries' representatives. This activity will be fully funded by the SCOLUR project but the content of the technical reflexion will be fed by the PROMIRE project amongst others⁶⁴

Output 2.5. Knowledge management and communication (GCF funding: USD 417,730)

Activity 2.5.1. Capitalization of experience and results dissemination

The project management unit will have to communicate the results using different media such as social networks or radios. She will also participate in national and international workshops to share REDD+ best practices. Moreover, the project will develop some guiding document, which could be shared to very broad stakeholders, outside the targeted area of the project. The project will prepare also info briefs and technical documents on best practices and lessons learned which will be used for the purpose of scaling-up and thus lay the ground for the REDD+ RBP proposal. According to the cropping calendar, exchange workshops between villages in each will be organised. The exchange workshops

⁶⁴ Total budget for the three activities is USD 554,000 as there only la Mé region targeted

will contribute to knowledge exchange and sharing of lessons learned by each of the villages. Finally, lessons learned will also serve to inform local banks and micro financial institutions about the most adequate packages, financial structures and vehicles according to the production systems to be in favoured with the project.

3.5. Theory of change

A Theory of Change (ToC) is a description and illustration (Figure 13) of a pathway proposed to transition from a business as usual development model to a “sustainable scenario”. This one is based on economic growth aligned with a social and environmental development through a specific project in Côte d’Ivoire that fights against climate change, reduce emissions, conserves the natural resource base, overcomes the barriers (see section 3.1) and helps achieve the Optimal Vision 2040 scenario where Côte d’Ivoire goes from an agricultural economy to a new industrialized country. It proposes a new paradigm that will support this long-term vision. It also lays out the necessary conditions and activities that will enable to achieve Côte d’Ivoire National REDD+ Strategy’s goals of *reducing deforestation and forest degradation to conserve remaining forests and avoiding loss of forest cover area in protected areas* as well as *putting wood and forest cover back on the agenda through the promotion of sustainable agriculture and effective reforestation mechanism* (Ministère de l’Environnement et du Développement Durable, 2017) and other long-term goals (outcomes or transformational effects, see Figure 11).

The country is facing today negatives effects of climate change which have impacts on population, agriculture and even forests whose degradation itself has an impact on the climate. Degradation of forests and land is, in turn, greatly contributing to CO₂ emissions. The transformational change depends on the country changing its model of natural resource exploitation, especially for cash crops such as cocoa, logging and firewood. There is an urgent need for more sustainable and low carbon agricultural models, better land-tenure processes, efficient financial vehicles and instruments from private and public sources as well as renewable sources of energy to support the needs of the population. Thus, to fight climate change, support the REDD+ mechanism in the country and achieve the Optimal Vision 2040 scenario, the project will initiate a paradigm shift focused on REDD+ across three transformational effects (outcomes):

- Strengthened institutional and regulatory systems,
- Improved management of land or forest areas contributing to emissions reductions,
- Reduction of land use and land use change and forestry emissions (LULUCF).

In making progress toward these outcomes, the project proposes concrete solutions based on the following key outputs:

- Finalization of the readiness through the national REDD+ architecture being operational,
- Transformation and greening of the agricultural model responsible for the CO₂ emissions,
- Implementation of innovative jurisdictional REDD+ community-based activities.

Extensive agriculture’s future is undoubtedly key for REDD+ in Côte d’Ivoire because of its impact on forests. The current model is based on slash-and-burn agricultural systems that are poorly or insufficiently productive, in addition to poorly organized cash crops. Together, these two approaches are responsible for the loss of forest cover because it requires to open new lands on a regular basis.

The agricultural sector is also the main source of household income, accounting for 27% of GDP and providing 40% of export earnings (*Ministère de l'Agriculture*, 2010). It is indeed important to remember that Côte d'Ivoire is the world's largest producer of cocoa and that a whole part of its economy depends on it - in addition to other key export crops such as cashew nut, rubber, coffee, palm oil, mango, pineapple, dessert banana, cotton and cola. The main difficulty here is to evolve and change this agricultural model without harming its dynamism and without preventing the population from cultivating its land. This could increase the already high unemployment rate in the country. In the long term, the development of agriculture according to its current model will only damage the Ivorian forest thus impacting micro-climates in the country. The country is willing to remain the first cocoa producer in the world and to provide a better cocoa production, produced in a sustainable way in the future, and shall, as such, be fully involved in the evolution of its agricultural model. In addition to the traditional trade in wood products, if possible, the project will also stimulate markets of non-wood forest products (rattans, edible mushrooms, seeds and plants, etc.).

Improved management of land or forest areas contributing to emissions reductions will be achieved through evidence-based and innovative jurisdictional REDD+ community-based activities in the three regions of the country. The project will implement actions directly aimed at reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation with the restoration of 1,500 hectares of degraded forests, the intensification of activities mainly related to cocoa production and, as far as possible, other perennial crops relevant in the targeted areas. The objective here is to establish a zero-deforestation commodity production approach to increase its value per hectare and support livelihoods diversification for local producers. Activities will for example support the rehabilitation and optimization of existing agroforestry systems in the rural area by working specifically to improve productivity, the sustainability of agroforestry systems and their diversification following a jurisdictional and community approach. Project will also create 3,650 hectares of new agroforestry systems. Small producers will be supported, organized in cooperatives and trained. The model to be replicated and adapted will focus on strengthening small producers' capacities to adopt organic and fair-trade cocoa production practices, with more attractive production costs and access to new markets (organic products make more profit compared to conventional cocoa). It will help them to increase their income.

The producers in the three regions identified experience varying level of technical capacity and access to the market, a differentiated approach taking into account level of progress will be implemented. Thus, beneficiaries will be supported in the development of robust and bankable projects, creation of business plans, access to financial vehicles and instruments necessary to strengthen their activities, including micro-credits and the constitution of revolving funds. The aim is to improve their financial independence so that they can develop their own activities without relying on public support. In addition, access to the market through the establishment of strategic partnerships and sales platforms with national and international organizations and companies with an interest in organic and fair-trade cocoa will also be supported.

However, land tenure and land use planning are essential for development and the absence of a national planning policy (at all administrative levels, national, subnational and local) leads to conflicts over use between sectors, for example between agriculture and forestry, or protected areas such as gazetted forests, but also between land users such as government, private sector and local communities. To negate this, management planning and land security will be strengthened to ensure

sustainable and rational management of natural resources, both temporally and spatially. Indeed, if agroforestry activities and other associated deforestation free practices are incentivized and supported separately from an efficient land use planning policy, then the demand for land is not necessarily reduced - result could be further deforestation or even increased deforestation as the cocoa could obtain a higher market value. To achieve this, PROMIRE project will support the development of 21 local development plans and ensure issuance of land certificate is done thanks to the PAMOFOR project implemented in the same regions.

Finally, a paradigm shift will result from *strengthened institutional and regulatory systems* when policy coherence, strong inter-sectoral coordination and socially inclusive and gender-responsive engagement with all stakeholders is facilitated. To achieve this, REDD+ mechanism must be ready to be implemented at both national and subnational levels. This is the case thanks to the long-term political will of the Government of Côte d'Ivoire to implement REDD+ by reducing deforestation and forest degradation at national level and more broadly to contribute to the fight against climate change. Indeed, Government wants to keep the lead of this process and provide evidence to international community that the country is contributing to the global goal. Then, finalization of the REDD+ architecture will consist of completing the development of Warsaw framework tools (National Investment Framework, NFMS and SIS – FREL has been submitted). If such actions are successful, REDD+ objectives will be mainstreamed into development projects, national policy and regulatory framework leading to a *reduction of land use and land use change emissions* as a final transformation effect.

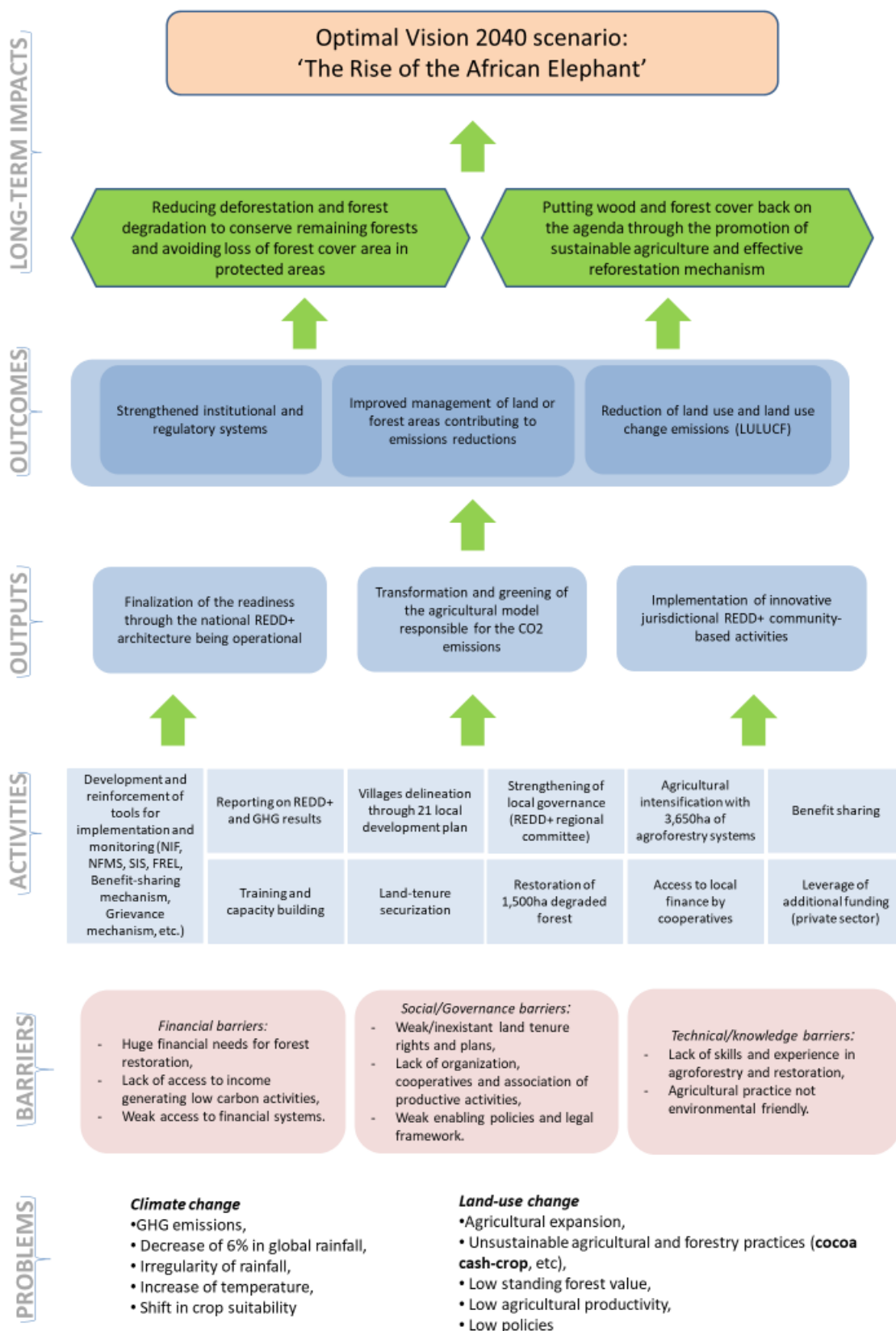


Figure 13: Theory of change

3.6. Monitoring and evaluation plan

Monitoring and evaluation is a comprehensive and a multi-method system which is based on the theory of change. This monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan consist of:

- A theory of change (see section 3.5), which articulates outputs and outcomes to achieve,
- A results framework, with indicators definition, baseline and target to meet after implementation helping to measure progress and achievements with a breakdown per fund-level impact, outcome and output,
- Means of verification, working as data sources to deliver on the indicators.

The M&E system will track project inputs, activities, outputs and impacts as well as associated financial flows across all outputs in all project regions. The following section resume the M&E plan for the project (see also Annex 2a for the logframe). Annual reports will be submitted to the Project Steering Committee (PSC) by the Project Management Unit to highlight results from implemented activities, M&E being the bases for the results included in the Annual report. A full-time M&E officer will be hired during the project implementation to collect and gather data but also to take into consideration gender aspects. He will work within the project implementation unit. Table below shows the results framework or logical framework for the project. The results framework and its indicators are the core of the overall M&E framework. They are needed to effectively monitor implementation progress and assess the achievements of the project towards GCF fund-level impacts, outcomes and outputs highlighted in the theory of change. This M&E plan enable disaggregation and analysis of outcomes and outputs according to a range of essential variables which reflect areas of priority and focus for implementation. Consistency of definition of these variables is vital to enable the aggregation of data required for annual reporting, contributions and for dissemination. However, this detail of analysis is not ready yet and can be done by the M&E team in case the Project Manager thinks it is necessary. The Project Manager maintains overall responsibility for coordinating the monitoring and reporting of the system but responsibility for monitoring individual outputs is indicated in Table below.

	Description	Indicators	Baseline	Targets (mid-term)	Targets (final)	Sources and means of verification ⁶⁵	Frequency	Responsibility
Fund-level impact	M4.0 Reduced emissions from land use, reforestation, reduced deforestation, and through sustainable forest management and conservation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks	M4.1. Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO ₂ eq) reduced or avoided (including increased removals) - forest and land use	2.65 M t CO ₂ eq of avoided emissions per year in the country for the 2000-2015 period ⁶⁶	550,000 t CO ₂ eq reduced	1.375 M t CO ₂ eq reduced ⁶⁷	BUR submitted to UNFCCC (government) and available in UNFCCC platform.	Annual	SEPREDD
	M5.0 Strengthened institutional and regulatory systems	M5.2 Number and level ⁶⁸ of effective coordination mechanisms	1 national coordination mechanism (National REDD+ committee) = Level 2 3 sub-national coordination mechanism (Regional REDD+ Committee) = Level 1	1 national coordination mechanism (National REDD+ committee) = Level 3 3 sub-national coordination mechanism (Regional REDD+ Committee) = Level 2	1 national coordination mechanism (National REDD+ committee) = Level 4 3 sub-national coordination mechanism (Regional REDD+ Committee) = Level 3	National forest monitoring system ⁶⁹ and REDD+ portal ⁷⁰ (including the REDD+ portal which will connect the full REDD+ platform) Minutes of meeting of the National REDD+ committee Minutes of meetings of the Regional REDD+ Committee	Annual	SEPREDD

⁶⁵ All GIS information related to the project (location of the restored plots, restored forest, etc.) will be available through the NFMS national portal and its registry (public).

⁶⁶ FREL, 2017

⁶⁷ the impact potential for the project lifetime (20 years) is 5.5 MtCO₂eq

⁶⁸ Level 1 = no coordination mechanism; Level 2 = coordination mechanism in place; Level 3 = coordination mechanism in place, meeting regularly with appropriate representation (gender and decision-making authorities); Level 4 = coordination mechanism in place, meeting regularly, with appropriate representation, with appropriate information flows and monitoring of action items/issues raised.

⁶⁹ <https://www.geoportalsst.com/>

⁷⁰ <http://reddplus.ci/>

	M9.0 Improved management of land or forest areas contributing to emissions reductions	0 hectares of forests restored 0 hectares of restored/rehabilitated agroforestry systems	500 ha of forest restored 1,200 ha of hectares of restored/rehabilitated agroforestry systems	1,500 ha of forest restored 3,650 ha of hectares of restored/rehabilitated agroforestry systems	National Forest Monitoring System and georeferenced data in REDD+ web-portal Evaluation of the implementation of the local development plan (report by the Government)	FAO and government staff (from MINEDD/SEP-REDD, MINEF, SODEFOR, ANADER) provide the technical support needed for the implementation of project interventions. Local communities are interested and involved in field activities about forest and agroforestry, including the land-use planning development process.	Annual	SEPREDD and FAO
Compoment 1								
	Interoperability of the Warsaw framework elements	Extent ⁷¹ of interoperability of the Warsaw Framework	Extent = 2	Extent = 3	Extent = 4	Manuals, reports and	Annual	SEPREDD FAO

⁷¹ Extent 1 = Systems elements are disconnected and not in place. They are insufficient to access REDD+ RBPs. Extent 2 = interoperability of the Warsaw elements allows for reporting on national deforestation. Mandatory documents have been submitted to UNFCCC. Extent 3 = interoperability of the Warsaw elements allows for reporting on national deforestation and degradation and is linked to the local (sub-national) level. Mandatory documents have been submitted to UNFCCC and the tools are strengthened by additional elements such as benefits sharing mechanism, management of REDD+ funds, grievance mechanism. Extent 4 = interoperability of the Warsaw elements allows for reporting on national deforestation, degradation and forest carbon stocks (restoration) and is linked to the local (sub-national level). All requested elements allowing the country to access REDD+ RBPs are in place, operational and connected. Data converge on the REDD+ webportal and are available for public consultation for a sake of transparency. The country reports regularly to UNFCCC and is ready to access to REDD+ RBPs. Extent 5 = interoperability of the Warsaw elements allows for reporting on national deforestation, degradation and forest carbon stocks (restoration), it is linked to the local (sub-national level) and is integrated into local development plans.

	which allow the monitoring of the national REDD+ process and the unlock of potential future REDD+ results based payments	elements (National Investment Framework, Forest Emission Reference Level, National Forest Monitoring System and Safeguard Information System)				data available in the REDD+ portal Documents submitted to UNFCCC and available in UNFCCC website (updated FREL using more accurate data, disaggregated to sub-national level, taking into account forest degradation and its technical assessment, REDD+ technical annex of the BUR, Safeguards summary of information)		
Component 2								
Outputs	Willingness of local farmers and smallholders, currently having customary land ownership rights to secure their land and respect local land-use plan.	Proportion of farmers and smallholders with land access investing in zero-deforestation agriculture	4150 farmers have only customary land ownership rights and are unwilling to invest in productive activities	50% of informed farmers apply for land certificates.	80% of informed farmers apply for land certificates 60% of the farmers applying for land certificates have received land certificates 80% of land owner with land certificates invest in agroforestry	Ministry of Land certificate record Local government land-use plan assessment Random survey on the level of investment	Annual	SEPREDD FAO

					and forest restoration			
	Adoption of zero-deforestation practices and models by farmers	% of farmers trained by the project who apply zero deforestation agriculture practices in their plots	0% ⁷²	At least 40% of the trained farmers are implementing zero deforestation practices for the restoration of the degraded plots.	80% of the trained farmers are implementing zero deforestation practices for the restoration of the degraded plots.	Georeferenced rehabilitated plots in the NFMS system and site visits to smallholders' activities by project monitoring specialists. Randomized sampling check of beneficiaries.	2 times (End Y2 and Y5)	SEPREDD FAO
		Survival rate of the planted tree species in the forest restoration activities	An average of 300 plants/ha are planted in the restored plots for zero-deforestation agroforestry ⁷³ , with a survival rate of 50% ⁷⁴	Maintenance of plots shows that at least 60% of planted trees for agroforestry system and forest restoration are surviving.	Maintenance of plots shows that at least 80% of planted trees for agroforestry system and forest restoration are surviving and additional seedlings are available in the tree nurseries. .	Georeferenced rehabilitated plots in the NFMS system and site visits to smallholders' activities by project monitoring specialists	Annual	SEPREDD FAO
		Change in farmers knowledge, awareness and perception of best practices / benefits of forestry and agroforestry activities for future scaling up	TBD ⁷⁵	Baseline + 25%	Baseline + 50%	Knowledge awareness / perception survey	2 times (End Y2 and Y5)	SEPREDD FAO

⁷² The project will provide training to at least 4,150 small farmers.

⁷³ This baseline will be updated through the agrarian diagnosis as many parameters have to be considered for the density of the plantation (level of plots degradation, age of cocoa tree, soil condition, etc.)

⁷⁴ Experience of Cocoa Life Programme – Mondelez (2018)

⁷⁵ Baseline survey to be conducted in Year 1 and reported in the first APR

		Level ⁷⁶ of technical capacity of the cooperatives to operate	1 cooperative = Level 3 2 cooperatives = Level 1	1 cooperative = Level 4 2 cooperatives = Level 2	1 cooperative = Level 5 2 cooperatives = Level 3	Cooperatives' official administrative status document and cooperatives registries,	2 times (End Y2 and Y5)	SEPREDD FAO
	Smallholders and cooperatives diversifying their financial means linked to cocoa value-chain	Extent ⁷⁷ of financial independence of cooperatives accessing private sector and micro-finance institutions resources for scaling up forestry and agroforestry activities to extend zero-deforestation cocoa production	2 cooperatives = Extent 1 1 cooperative = Extent 2	2 cooperatives = Extent 2 1 cooperative = Extent 3	2 cooperatives = Extent 3 1 cooperative = Extent 5	Contracts/credits with MFIs and private companies	2 times (End Y2 and Y5)	SEPREDD FAO

⁷⁶ Level 1= Cooperatives have to be created; Level 2= Cooperatives are legally constituted and are not well organized (fees are not paid regularly by the members; fees and cooperative's incomes cannot cover the cooperatives' charges); Level 3= Cooperatives are legally constituted and manage efficiently their accounts (members are paying regularly their membership fees; cooperatives receive economic benefits from the cocoa production and start implementing additional sustainable practices as agreed by the members); Level 4= Cooperatives have the capacity to develop strong business models necessary for negotiations with MFI and private sector; Level 5= Cooperatives are fully engaged in the sustainable cocoa supply change (i.e. at least half of the cooperative's annual production is traded in sustainable markets, which may be evidenced by the certification schemes, the sustainable practices of the trader, the niche market being served, and/or the price differentiation).

At least 30% of the project beneficiaries are expected to adhere to a cooperative.

⁷⁷ Extent 1= Smallholders and cooperatives have access to only public finance for the improvement their agri/forestry production; Extent 2= Cooperatives are legally constituted and memberships are growing to diversify income through membership fees. Extent 3= Cooperatives have designed business models to further diversify sources of finance; Extent 4: Cooperatives are negotiating with MFI and Private sector for additional funds; Extent 5: Funds from MFI and Private sector are available for the improvement on the cocoa production (minimum 200,000 FCFA – 400 USD - per member from MFI available) .

Independent interim review and final evaluation will be undertaken within six months prior to the project actual completion date (NTE date). It will aim at identifying project outcomes, their sustainability and actual or potential impacts. It will also have the purpose of indicating future actions needed to assure continuity of the process developed through the project. FAO Office of Evaluation, in consultation with project stakeholders, will be responsible for organizing and backstopping the final evaluation, including finalizing terms of references, selecting and backstopping the team and quality assurance of the final report. The evaluation will, inter alia:

- Assess relevance, efficiency and effectiveness of project design and implementation,
- Assess project actual outputs and potential outcomes, impacts and sustainability,
- Assess project performance in gender mainstreaming and achievements on gender equality,
- Identify lessons learned about project design, implementation and management,
- Highlight achievements and practices worth up-scaling and/or replication.

The expected cost of the evaluations is around USD 180 000 and has been included in the total project budget.

3.7. SWOT analysis

Weaknesses, strengths, opportunities and threats of the project are reported in the Table 9.

Table 9: SWOT analysis of the project.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Growing concern for forests through REDD+, ✓ Great feedbacks from the pilot project of la Mé, interest for a phase 2, ✓ Public and private engagement for cocoa, ✓ REDD+ NS and NIF are in place, ✓ Growing public pressure against illegal cutting of trees, ✓ Land tenure security activities, ✓ Mabi-yaya forest is home to a rich biodiversity, ✓ High ecotourism potential in the area, ✓ Reduction emissions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Lack of institutional, financial, human and technical capacities to implement actions on the field, ✓ Low consideration for forests, ✓ Lack of reliable data and publicly available information on forest resources and their actual use, ✓ Weak inter-sectoral coordination for REDD+, ✓ Warsaw Framework not finalized, ✓ Several carbon markets in place, ✓ Low education in villages.
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ New agricultural policy, zero-deforestation agriculture, ✓ NDC support countries climate policy, ✓ Ambition to reach 20% of national forest cover, ✓ Strong economic potential for organic cocoa, ✓ Great interest of cocoa small producers, ✓ Growing public interest for sustainable production at an international level, ✓ Climate, biodiversity loss and its impacts are more and more perceptible, willingness to change things, ✓ Good benefits from agro-systems for local communities, ✓ Nesting framework, ✓ GCF funding, ✓ Access to RBPs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Slash-and-burn agriculture, ✓ Fuelwood, ✓ Illegal logging, ✓ Illegal mining, ✓ Low governance, ✓ No land tenure security, ✓ High demography, ✓ Changes in species patterns and forest structure due to climate change.

3.8. Timeline

Table 10: Project timetable.

COMPONENTS/OUTPUTS	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3				Year 4				Year 5				Year 6	
	Q 1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q 2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Component 1: Finalization and operationalization of the REDD+ architecture for REDD+ results-based payments (RBPs)																						
Ouput 1.1 REDD+ architecture finalized for REDD+ RBPs																						
Activity 1.1.1 Update of the National Investment Framework (NIF)							Upda ted NIF				Imple mentatio n of the NIF and REDD+ Nationa l strategy monitor ing progres s report				Imple menta tion of the NIF and REDD+ Nation al strateg y monit oring progre ss report				Impleme ntation of the NIF and REDD+ National strategy monitori ng progress report			

Activity 1.1.2 Update of the Reference Emissions Level (FREL) with regional (sub-national) estimates		Activity data (including degradation) estimates available at sub-national level		Technical assessment of the FREL and potential data consolidation on			National activity data on deforestation and degradation updated and disaggregated with sub-national estimates available (per region)														
Activity 1.1.3 Update and consolidation of the National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS)		Equipment procured Test of the Near real time alert systemManual on the methodology for degradation	Near real time alert system tested at national level	2022 forest map available		Quarterly activity data update available	NFMS updated		Bottom-up process for provincial monitoring tested		2024 forest map available	Bottom-up process for provincial monitoring integrated at national level	NFMS updated						NFMS updated and fully operational		

		ation assessment and NRT alert system																			
Activity 1.1.4 Finalization of the safeguard information system (SIS) for its operationalization				SIS architecture			National data collected on safeguards				National data collected on safeguards				National data collected on safeguards				National data collected on safeguards		
Output 1.2 REDD+ Warsaw Framework operationalized for REDD+ RBPs																					
Activity 1.2.1 Development and operationalization of the benefit-sharing mechanism						Technical analyses on the national level BSM options	Options for a national benefit- sharing mechanism available				Manual of the benefit-sharing mechanism validated								Benefit-sharing mechanism operational		
Activity 1.2.2 Development of the Fund management mechanism's legal aspects							Operational manual of the fund available Legal text for														

							the fund management mechanism														
Activity 1.2.3 Operationalization of the grievance mechanism at national level				Grievance addressed			Grievance addressed (reports)				Grievance addressed (reports)				Grievance addressed (reports)				Grievance addressed (reports)		
Activity 1.2.4 Design and operationalization of the web portal/platform			Platform architecture developed	Platform created			Platform maintained, updated data regularly published				Platform maintained, updated data regularly published				Platform maintained, updated data regularly published				Platform maintained, updated data regularly published		
Activity 1.2.5 Finalization and implementation of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) guidelines				FPIC guidelines finalized and edited					FPIC guidelines shared Local communities consulted										Local communities consulted FPIC guidelines shared		

Activity 1.2.6 Elaboration of mandatory reports for complying UNFCCC requirements		National FREL updated including degradation with estimates available at sub-national level	Updated FREL, BUR and technical REDD+ annex submitted to the UNFCCC	Technical assessment of the FREL		Updated FREL, BUR and technical REDD+ annex published on the UNFCCC webpage		Second Safeguards summary of information submitted to UNFCCC			3rd BUR submitted to the UNFCCC			BUR published on the UNFCCC webpage				4th BUR submitted to the UNFCCC			
Activity 1.2.7 Development and implementation of the communications plan				Updated Communication plan Communication tools developed			Reporting of the Independent observatory Advocacy on-going on REDD+				Advocacy on-going on REDD+		Reporting of the Independent observatory	Communication tools updated				Reporting of the Independent observatory			
Activity 1.2.8 Development of the methodology for nesting approach							Gap analysis and assessment on nesting approach				Elements/technical decisions on nesting approach discussed amongst stakeholders			Methodology of the nesting approach developed and under implementation							

Component 2: Evidence-based and innovative jurisdictional REDD+ community-based activities																						
Output 2.1 Strengthened territorial planning and land security																						
Activity 2.1.1 Creation of Local Development Plans						Stakeholders consulted	Local development plans created															
Activity 2.1.2 Strengthening of land tenure security				Information sessions implemented			Information sessions implemented				Information sessions implemented				Information sessions implemented							
Output 2.2 Reinforced Local governance																						
Activity 2.2.1 Establishment of 3 REDD+ regional committees				Mandate of the 3 sub-national coordination mechanism (Regional REDD+ Committee) established and members			Regional REDD+ Committee meeting regularly				Regional REDD+ Committee meeting regularly				Regional REDD+ Committee meeting regularly				Regional REDD+ Committee meeting regularly			

				identif ied																	
Activity 2.2.2 Creation of 3 regional (sub- national) grievance manageme nt committee s				Grieva nce manag ement mecha nism at sub- nation al level develo ped and 3 region al grieve nce commi ttees create d																	
Activity 2.2.3 Operationa lization of subnationa l benefit- sharing systems															Subnat ional benefi t- sharin g system s identifi ed				Subnatio nal benefit- sharing systems operation al		
Output 2.3 Zero deforestation agricultural production and reforestation																					

Activity 2.3.1 Agricultural technical support to small producers and restoration of degraded lands and forests		Agrarian diagnosis finalized	Equipment procured	First series of training on zero deforestation practices for the restoration of the degraded plots conducted	Nurseries upgraded and/or established														500 ha of forest restored 1,200 ha of hectares of restored/rehabilitated agroforestry systems At least 40% of the trained farmers are implementing zero deforestation practices for the restoration of the degraded plots								1,500 ha of forest restored 3,650 ha of hectares of restored/rehabilitated agroforestry systems 80% of the trained farmers are implementing zero deforestation practices for the restoration of the degraded plots.		

Activity 2.3.2 Conservation and restoration of natural habitats				Conser vation and restau ration areas diagno sis finaliz ed	Nurseries upgrade d and/or establis hed Training on trainers for restaurat ion and conserva tion technics. Training of young and women potential workers in restaurat ion and conserva tion techniqu es.						300 ha of forest restored in La Me 8000 ha preserve d in La Me							800 ha of habitats restored in La Me 2000 ha preserve d in La Me		
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Activity 2.3.3 Validation/ promotion of the traceability system for the sustainable cocoa production and landscapes					Pilot zone selected in La Mé to test both systems Criteria and indicators as well as the system for verifying the sustainability of a cocoa landscapes developped Pomotion plan strategy on sustainable cocoa production traceability system developped	Traceability cocoa production systems among value chain promoted			First report on the system application	Traceability cocoa production systems among value chain promoted			Second report on the system application and systems	Sustainability cocoa landscapes and traceability cocoa production systems among value chain and donors promoted			Traceability cocoa production and sustainable cocoa landscapes systems adopted for targeted cooperatives				
Activity 2.3.4 Monitoring of agriculture and restoration activities				Regular monitoring performed			Regular monitoring performed				Regular monitoring performed			Regular monitoring performed			Agricultural and forest activities monitored				
Output 2.4 Strengthened agricultural financing structures and business capacities for cocoa cooperatives and smallholders																					

Activity 2.4.1 Creation, strengthening and capacity building of cocoa cooperatives				Smallholders identified (linked to the agrarian diagnosis)			2 cooperatives created, 1 cooperative technically strengthened				Technical assistance provided to the 3 cooperatives											
Activity 2.4.2 Development of business models and financial literacy for cooperatives and producers							La Mé cooperative trained for the development of the business plan		Strengthened business plan for La Mé cooperative	Business plan finalized and ready to submission to MFI and/or private sector for La Mé cooperative				Agneby Tiassa and Sud Comoe cooperatives trained for the development of the business plan					Business plan developed for Agneby Tiassa and Sud Comoe			
Activity 2.4.3 Development of partnerships with private sector and micro-finance institutions						Analysis and characterization of MFIs	Additional purchase agreements with traders for the cooperative in la Mé (depending on the increase			Business plan for La Mé cooperative submitted to MFI	Additional purchase agreements with traders for the cooperative in la Mé (depending on the increase of the productivity)				Purchase agreements for the cooperatives in Agneby Tiassa and Sud Comoe				Additional purchase agreements for the cooperatives in Agneby Tiassa and Sud Comoe (depending on the productivity)			

							ase of the prod uctivi ty)														
Activity 2.4.4 Strengthen ing of multi- stakeholder dialogue and cocoa innovation platforms					Platform constitut ed		Dialog ue betwe en differ ent stake holders fostered and repor ted				Dialogu e betwee n differen t stakehol ders foster ed and rep orted				Dialog ue betwe en differe nt stakeh olders foster ed and rep orted				Dialogue reinforce d between stakehold ers and reported		
Output 2.5 Knowledge management and communication																					
Activity 2.5.1 Capitalizati on of experi ence and Re sults dissem ination			Tech nical exc hange be tween re gions			Tec hni cal exc hange betwe en re gions	Docu ment on re sults publi shed			Technical exchange between regions	Results dissemi nated			Tec hni cal exc hange betwe en re gions	Resutl s dissem inated			Tec hnic al exc hange betwe en re gions	Documen t on re sults published		
Project Monitoring*		Incep tion wor kshop and Re port	Within 6 months after FAA effec tive date		APR				APR	Interim Evaluatio n	***		APR							Compl etion Re port ****	Final Evalu ation *****

- * Within 6 months after 3 years from FAA effective date
- ** Completion Report (CR) Within 3 months from the Completion Date
- *** Final Evaluation (FE) Within 6 months from the Completion Date

4. Project assessment

4.1. Environmental and social assessment

Following the screening procedure started during the concept note development, several risks have been identified. These risks are related to:

- Land tenure, linked to loss of access to natural resources,
- Pest and diseases management,
- Child Labor,
- Weak involvement of women during project implementation.

More elements related to the nature of the risks and the mitigation actions are detailed in the Annex 12.

Management of the risks related to land tenure and loss of access to natural resources

Project's target is private land ownership only for agroforestry activities. As it is impossible to delimit public forest in terms of ownership, the project will only promote private land through rural certification. This is one of the conditions mentioned by private sectors for their investment in the targeted regions.

Rural Land Code is the legal basis of private land use, which allows the right of resources use outside the permanent State forest domain and public land (gazetted forests and National parks). Rural certification is the recognition of the customary land and resource use rights, meaning that the certification won't dispossess and/or restrict access of land users but will rather strengthen their rights. It's not possible to proceed to land certification if there is any potential conflict in the targeted land, and the customary land rights will be the one prevailing. In La Mé region, there were no case of conflict of ownership and use of resources during the implementation of the REDD+ pilot project. As the situation is almost the same in the two other regions, and following the concertation with both regions, this won't be the case for them.

For public forest use rights (targeted area for forest restoration activities), the title IV of the new Forest Code mentions that:

- 'Forest use rights are exercised in the forests of the State and local authorities, but do not apply to the forests of natural persons and legal persons governed by private law' (Article 34);
- 'They may be exercised in the forests and agroforests of the State and local authorities that are the subject of a management concession without the concessionaire being able to claim any compensation' (Article 37).

It means that securing sustainable access to forest and land resources in the rural domain could only be truly guaranteed by using land tenure security within the meaning of the Rural Land Code, and outside the public domain. Thus, forest neighbouring populations will not lose their sources of livelihood as a result of the land certification/land delimitation process as it is not possible to request land certificates in these public areas. Risks for this element will be very low as the project will respect the country legislation for this purpose.

Furthermore, the project will pay a particular attention to ensure a meaningful stakeholder engagement throughout the needs of vulnerable populations (local communities around gazetted forests for instance) in terms of access to natural resources.

Management of the risks related to pest and diseases

The project will support the rehabilitation and optimization of existing agroforestry systems in rural areas by working to improve productivity, sustainability and diversification. Introduction of food crops and the valorisation of other promising cash crops must follow and respect very strict conditions for species choice (use of native, local species and variety is better). Organic production gives more space to biodiversity and insects, for example, allowing the system to self-regulate. Increased vegetation complexity in agroforests, will harbour greater abundance and diversity of insectivorous birds enhancing pest control services.

Also, natural and organic pests' management products (such as the neem) will be used in case of diseases, as well as authorized products by the certifying company (ECOCERT).

Management of the risks related to child labour

The project will pay attention in this risk through many measures, and different level. At national level, in addition to the Labour Code which take into consideration the case of child labour, the Government developed a new 2018–2020 National Action Plan of the Fight against Trafficking, Exploitation, and Child Labour, and drafted a National Labour Inspection Strategy.

The issue of child labour was highlighted during the project development phase and the project will ensure that any potential child labour won't be observed during the project implementation (for children under the age of 16 according the Côte d'Ivoire law - Article 23.2 of the Labour Code; Article 16 of the Constitution 35, 36). As the targeted market is also the niche of organic and fair trade, this criterion is one of amongst others the certifying company will look for. Other measures for the management of this risk is mentioned in Annex 12.

Management of the risks related to weak involvement of women during project implementation

Involvement of women during the development of the project proposal was strongly sought, the gender focal point of SEP-REDD+ was highly involved during the development of the project, in order to make sure that gender has been really taken into consideration throughout the project. A gender specialist has also undertaken a gender assessment during the formulation phase.

A gender action plan is also developed (see Annex 4) and the Monitoring and Evaluation officer of the PMU is foreseen to be also a gender specialist. Further details can be found in Annex 12.

Management of the risks related to illegal mining

Artisanal mining, identified as one of the direct factors of deforestation, is a line of intervention in the REDD+ NS. The project will capitalize on the efforts undertaken by the government to rationalize gold panning with the establishment of a special brigade to fight against clandestine gold panning and the opening of construction sites - training schools to reduce the impact of exploitation of artisanal mining. The development of rural land certification associated with the project will be also a measure to mitigate threat of informal and illegal mining on the success of the project achievements. Indeed, the project will be implemented in private lands which will be secured in terms of land tenure belonging to communities fully engaged in the project. These communities will have a complete understanding of the benefits of the actions they will be implementing and of the forest, and will be strongly aware of the risks associated to illegal mining. They will also be provided with the necessary information regarding contacts and process for filing grievances to the complaint management committees which will be created and supported by the project and which will be included in the REDD+ regional committees. Finally, activities will provide communities new income streams and secure the existing ones, decreasing consequently attractiveness of illegal mining.

Environmental and social Screening

Exclusion criteria	Yes	No
Will the activities involve associated facilities or generate cumulative impacts that would require further detailed due diligence and management planning?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
N/A		
Will the activities involve transboundary impacts including those that would require further due diligence and notification to affected states?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project will be implemented in the south eastern part of Côte d'Ivoire, with no potential transboundary impacts as the activities in the neighboring country (Ghana) are similar – also mainly cocoa production.		
Will the activities adversely affect working conditions and health and safety of workers or potentially employ vulnerable categories of workers including women and children?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Project's activities will rather improve working and health and safety of farmers, first by providing them with new income streams and facilitated access to credit, and second by requiring beneficiaries to meet health and safety GCF standards as a pre-condition to benefit from Project's facilitation. The Project will pay a specific attention to avoid employment of vulnerable categories of workers in producers' farms, and especially child work. This is also a requirement and a specification from the certification company (standard of ECOCERT), which will be regularly checked.		
Will the activities potentially generate hazardous waste and pollutants including pesticides and contaminate lands that would require further studies on management, minimization and control and compliance to the country and applicable international environmental quality standards?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
While pesticides may be used by farmers, the project will require beneficiaries to use only organic pesticides as the project target the development of organic and fair cocoa (like neem already largely used in the region, etc.) that meet GCF's environmental quality standards.		
Will the activities involve the construction, maintenance, and rehabilitation of critical infrastructure (like dams, water impoundments, coastal and river bank infrastructure) that would require further technical assessment and safety studies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No major infrastructure are going to be constructed during the project implementation.		
Will the proposed activities potentially involve resettlement and dispossession, land acquisition, and economic displacement of persons and communities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project will strengthen the land tenure of local communities and producers through rural certification. The certification campaign which will be conducted during the implementation of the project is going to take into consideration the right (including customary) of land owners and land users in rural area, especially as stated in rural land law / rural land policy. Communities using the resources in public land won't be affected by the project as the land certification can not be processed in this category of land. Following the new forest code (2019), local communities could remain the users of the resources in these public forests.		
Will the activities be located in protected areas and areas of ecological significance including critical habitats, key biodiversity areas, and internationally recognized conservation sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project will be implemented in rural domain, outside protected areas and national parks. The project will have a positive impact in terms of reduction of pressure on these protected areas and national parks and will even enhance the quality of the ecosystem in the protected areas buffer zone (through forest restoration, with indigenous species).		

Will the activities affect indigenous peoples that would require further due diligence, free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) and development of inclusion and development plans?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
N/A		
Will the activities be located in areas that are considered to have archaeological (prehistoric), paleontological, historical, cultural, artistic, and religious values or contains features considered as critical cultural heritage?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The project will be implemented in a region free of critical cultural heritage.		

4.2. Economic and financial analysis

See Annex 10.

4.3. Exit strategy and sustainability

Exit strategy and sustainability of the project after GCF funding are key points that need to be addressed through several aspects that are directly and indirectly related to the activities. At the activity level, potential for replication is key and fundamentally based on training and capacity building sessions of direct beneficiaries in new techniques and technologies in agroforestry and forest restoration. These trainings will help them to claim ownership for these new techniques so that they can use it by themselves without the project and more importantly train other people in villages. This will reinforce durability, sustainability and outcomes of activities implemented. Moreover, the jurisdictional implementation of REDD+ activities will also be replicated in other regions so as to gradually cover the national territory, thus reinforcing again replication possibilities and sustainable nature of the project as REDD+ mechanism is a long-term process. Finally, it will enable the country to access to REDD+ results-based payments (FCPF, GCF and other potential market approaches) with 15MtCO₂ for GCF and 16.5 MtCO₂ for FCPF.

The second point lies in the project's ability to override the funding cycle for the majority of projects in developing countries whose major risk is related to a stop of activities once funding is complete. To achieve this, output 2.4 will focus on the gradual financial empowerment of small producers and cooperatives through access to more profitable market niches and a wide range of available financial instruments/vehicles. Strengthening the technical and administrative capacities of cooperatives and small producers will help them setting up business plans, develop and submit project documents, apply for credit and micro-credit with guarantees, and invest in equipment or resources. The project will effectively link these farmers to cocoa buyers part of the World Cocoa Foundation and MFIs. This step is fundamental to enable them to no longer rely on external public investments such as grants and loans if they want to achieve independent and autonomous production models - this is the great innovation of this project together with the implementation of innovative models of low-carbon land management to support this independence. If cooperatives become financially independent, as it is the case in some countries, they will be able to support themselves and even train futures farmers in the next generations. Figure 14 illustrates this aspect.

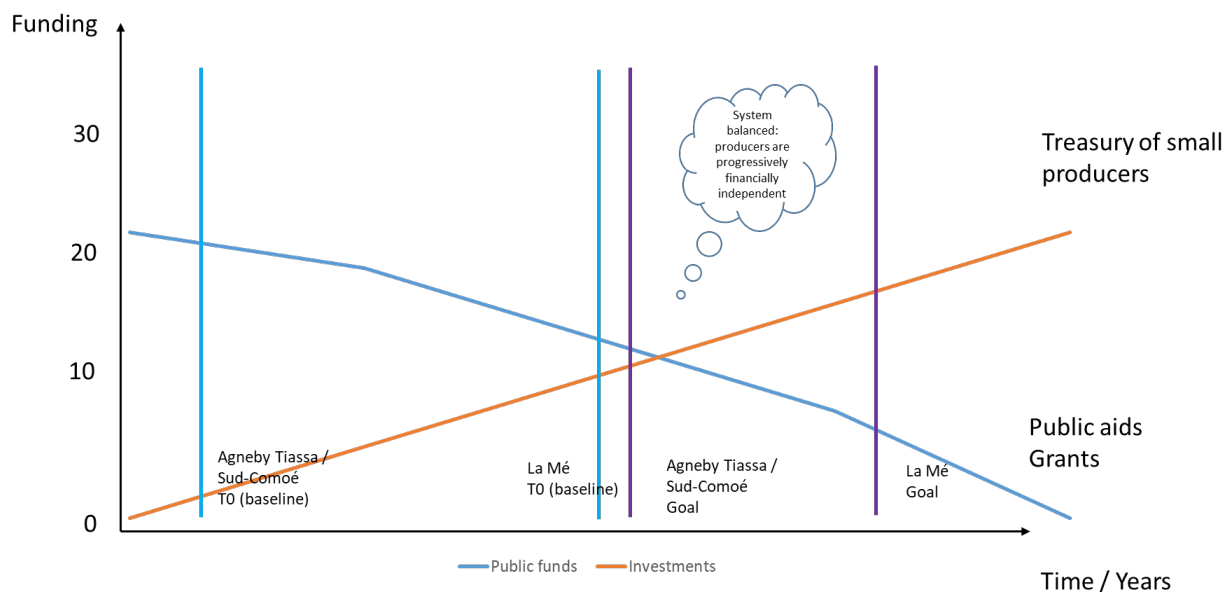


Figure 14: Financial exit strategy

The third aspect is strictly linked to the REDD+ mechanism and the vision of the government, through the SEP REDD. The need to move beyond a 5-years (or more) funding approach through projects has been well understood by the REDD+ secretariat, which is considering sustainable ways to implement the REDD+ mechanism. To be successful, REDD+ must be cross-cutting and have a long-term vision, as it is advocated in the National Investment Framework. The national monitoring unit of the process must therefore end this project-based concept that does not allow teams neither activities sustainability in the field, the risk being a stop in funding before reaching the RBPs (see Figure 15 for example of a financing approach through the REDD+ fund). Transversal actions, which is REDD+, is also a means of sustaining the project achievements by working, for example, on education or by identifying the leverage points of sectoral documents (agriculture, forestry, energy, demography, etc.). The approach should no longer be voluntary but mandatory in the light of the climate emergency.

National coordination has a role to play in adopting a more transversal position vis-à-vis other ministries to impose strict rules on REDD+. Gradually, its role will have to be more and more national rather than local in order to focus on the REDD+ M&E and respect of rules for national partners. The project, through its capacity building and technical support activities to SEP-REDD+, will enable it to strengthen its teams and techniques to implement this new approach. An institutional and organizational audit is currently underway to propose a new status and a modus operandi prone to cross-cutting and sustainability. Furthermore, the project is closely aligned with, and explicitly supportive of, government policies and plans, including those on forest rehabilitation and expansion. By aligning it with the REDD+ NS, the New Forest Code or even the NDC, the chances of impacts and activities' continuity after the GCF investment ends are very high.

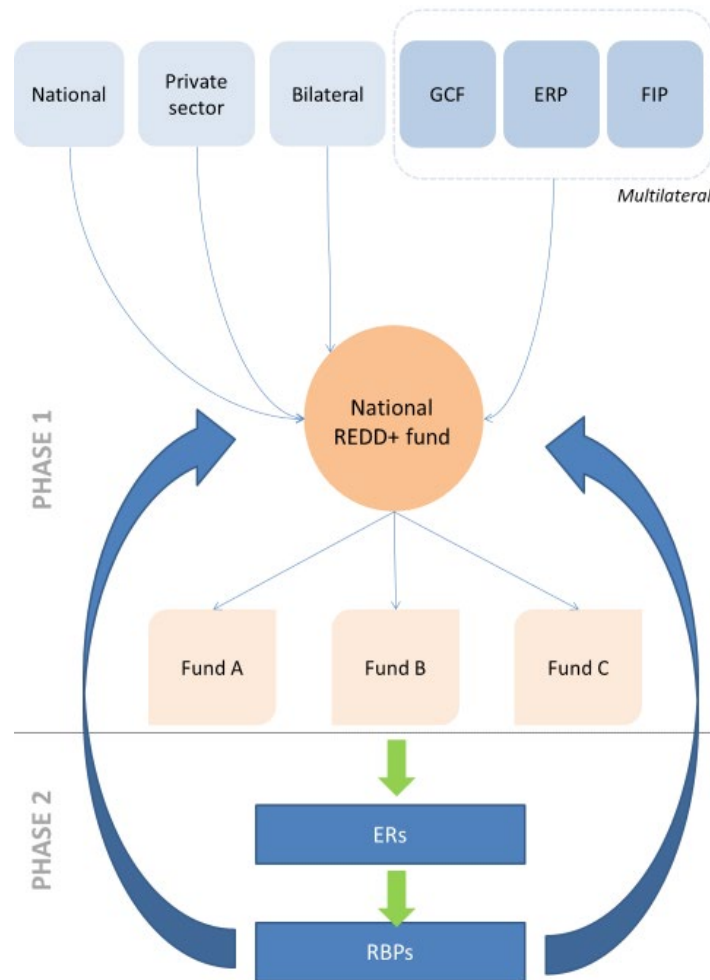


Figure 15: REDD+ funding approach

Finally, the rationale for GCF's support to this project is primarily based on the fight against climate change, which is the common point for all actors, needs and the benefits that the paradigm shift for a sustainable cocoa farming towards climate issues can generate in a short, medium and long-term effort. This project can be the first significant investment made by a donor (GCF) for a better sustainability of the cocoa sector on which other private and public investors will rely after a long phase of pilot projects (GiZ, ICRAF, AFD, cocoa manufacturers, etc.) and once the entire institutional, legal and partnership framework is ready to finally implement its commitments. Such investment will prevent to keep continuing practices under the BAU (see Figure 16). Partnership with the Cocoa and Forest Initiative and other programmes led by the private business sector will also allow to align PROMIRE activities with on-going initiatives in the targeted regions. At last, foreseen actions will validate, provide models and learning for the ongoing negotiation process related to international regulations (e.g. EU Parliament), enhancing traceability and governance to government agreements while improving advocacy for policy making.

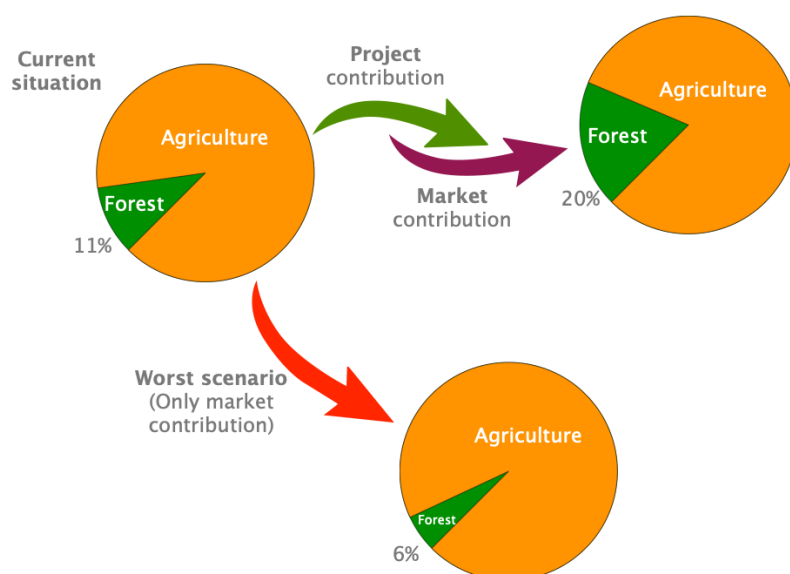


Figure 16: Project contribution to the greening of agriculture.

Moreover, models developed and applied during the project and by investors following it will be a good example and a strong signal for other stakeholders willing to invest in other areas to have, at the end, a national approach and finally access to RBPs. This project must act as a catalyst to launch a new dynamic that all actors are expected to follow afterwards. In conclusion, exit strategy is mainly based on RBPs access for Côte d'Ivoire once implementation phase is carried out. Such investment will be reinvested in REDD+ actions on the field. However, if the country can't access to RBPs then project's exit strategy is based on the leverage of additional funding during the project implementation. This will be done for example with discussing with the private sector, providing capacity building for cooperative to support them to get access to micro-finance institutions and sale of carbon credits on private market.

5. Implementation arrangements

5.1. Stakeholders analysis and evidence of consultations

Stakeholder consultations have been carried out at both national and subnational levels. A first set of consultation has been undertaken during the concept-note development phase. A second set of consultations has been done during the development of the funding proposal. Annex 1 and 2 give all details about consultations. All consultations were led by SEP-REDD+ and the NDA. Stakeholders consulted were local communities, regional councils through the Assembly of Regions and Districts of Côte d'Ivoire, decentralized ministries, ministries, local NGO and association, cooperatives, media, etc.

At a subnational level, sessions were organized from 22 to 24 of October 2019 to discuss about project's activities and goals as well as to refine activities when needed. Following these consultations, a national validation workshop of the project document with all stakeholders was organized on the 29 of October in Abidjan. One of the main discussions besides activities and goals was the targeted villages. On the basis of the land use maps of each region together with officials' experience invited to the consultation, a list of potential villages for carrying out project's activities was proposed. Chosen criteria for these propositions were to target villages where there is a high potential for restoration, availability of lands, dynamism of local communities

and protected areas issues (gazetted forests, natural reserves, national parks). As far as possible, consideration has been given to the proximity of these protected areas located around the villages in order for the project to contribute to their protection by decreasing deforestation. Indeed, in all three regions, forest has been decreasing over the past ten years, and in each case, main drivers of deforestation are agricultural expansion, logging, mining and infrastructure expansion thus contributing to CO₂ emissions.

Several recommendations have been made by participants:

- Keep going on land security process,
- Diversify cultures in agroforestry systems by adding banana in food crops, associating rubber with manioc, coffee with banana, cocoa and leguminous plants,
- Regenerate cocoa trees,
- Promotion of hedgerows in cocoa plantations,
- Promotion of improved stoves and biogas production from agricultural residues,
- Use of organic fertilizer and fertilizing plants,
- REDD+ activities should focus on the sustainability of existing value chains and the restoration of degraded forest areas,
- Associate the private sector in agroforestry activities,
- Promote green jobs related to intensive agriculture,
- Set-up private forest holders a limit of agricultural areas to exploit,
- Encourage the dynamics of private forest development in progress to boost the recovery forest cover,
- Encourage the allocation of rural land to reforestation activities, in return for basic social infrastructure,
- Need for more women's involvement in reforestation activities,
- Needs for training of young people in the creation of nurseries species encountered in mangrove areas for their restoration,
- Planting wood energy is good to reduce pressure on forest resources,
- Promoting butane gas in households will reduce pressure on forests,
- Valorize agricultural residues for fuel production,
- Etc.

See Annex 1 for the consultation process reports.

Also, many interactions has been done with national institutions such as Coffee Cocoa Council, ANADER and MINADER, IDH for the Forest and Cocoa Initiative, SODEFOR for the identification of future collaboration and for the enhancement of the consistency of interventions during the project implementation (some notes taken during the exchanges are in Annex 3 of the document).

Micro-finance institutions has been consulted also: a meeting has been carried out with the Professional Association of Decentralized Financial Systems of Côte d'Ivoire in January 2020 to share information and discuss the PROMIRE project. Following this first meeting, a short-list of MFI institutions present in the three targeted regions that could fund agricultural activities has been developed. With the administrative authorization of the association, consultations were conducted with each institution to collect further information on fields of intervention, loans' amounts, conditions to obtain a loan, rates, risks and advantages, politic and strategy of each organization. Details of these consultations are in the Annex 3 and the characterization of the MFI resulting from these consultations are detailed in Annex 5 of the document.

5.2. Implementation arrangements and governance of the project

The Project Steering Committee will be the highest decision-making body during all project's implementation. It will provide oversight and guidance, ensuring that links and appropriate coordination are maintained with all relevant programmes and projects, as well as with international conventions (UNFCCC, CBD and CCD). It will be jointly chaired by the Government and FAO, and members will be implementing entities, GCF focal point, ministries involved, head of the Project Management Unit (PMU). Strategic development partners (World Bank, African Development Bank, EU, UNDP, etc.), representatives of civil society and private sector will be independent observers of the PSC. The PSC will hold its meetings at least twice a year to oversee project's activities and make the necessary decisions for their implementation.

Table 11: PSC members.

Function	Entity
Co-chairing	Minister of the Environment and Sustainable Development (MINEDD)
	FAO
Secretary	Minister of the Environment and Sustainable Development (MINEDD)
Reporting	REDD+ Executive Permanent Secretary
Members	GCF Focal Point
	REDD+ Executive Permanent Secretary (SEP REDD+)
	Directorate General (DG) of the Ministry of Water and Forests
	DG of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
	DG of the Ministry of Land
	DG of the Ministry of Planning
	DG of the Ministry of Finance
	Head of the PMU
	Regional council of La Mé
	Regional council of Agneby Tiassa
	Regional council of Sud Comoé
Observers	Civil society
	Private sector
	Development partners (World Bank, African Development Bank, EU, UNDP, etc.)

FAO will serve as the Accredited Entity and Execution Agency for the project. As such, FAO will be responsible for the overall management of this project, including: (i) all aspects of project appraisal; (ii) administrative, financial and technical oversight and supervision throughout project implementation; (iii) ensuring funds are effectively managed to deliver results and achieve objectives; (iv) ensuring the quality of project monitoring, as well as the timeliness and quality of reporting to the GCF; and (v) project closure and evaluation. FAO will assume these responsibilities in accordance with the detailed provisions outlined in the Accreditation Master Agreement (AMA) between FAO and GCF. Accountability on the use of financial resources will be facilitated through the review of annual and bi-annual project reports, as well as through audit and monitoring reports.

The MINEDD, through SEP-REDD+, will play a key role in project management and monitoring-evaluation at PSC level, communication and dissemination of results and exchanges between the project and the GCF. SEP REDD, established by Decree N ° 2012-1049 of 24 October 2012 under the national REDD+ mechanism, has a great experience in REDD+ following its commitment in 2012. Its first achievement is related to the readiness when drafting the REDD+ Readiness Plan in 2013. The secretariat, with the support of its national and

international partners, designed the document by presenting activities, budgets, approaches and institutional arrangements. The document was validated in 2014. The secretariat also coordinated the development of the REDD+ NS with all associated stakeholders validated in November 2017 and participated in several regional REDD+ initiatives such as the REDD+ pilot project in La Mé region or the Forest Investment Plan with the World Bank. Furthermore, its Monitoring, Reporting and Verification unit has developed the FREL submitted to the UNFCCC in 2017. The work carried out has allowed the country to set up a national forest monitoring system including the very complex monitoring of deforestation linked to agriculture.

In general, SEP-REDD+ ensures that all stakeholders are involved in REDD+ activities and well engaged in the national process. It also ensures a good dissemination of information through national medias and raises awareness campaigns with radio or television broadcasts. SEP REDD+ is capable of conducting awareness campaigns, training and capacity building for resource staff. More recently, in partnership with the Cocoa-Coffee-Council, interprofessional organizations, the private sector and civil society, the secretariat was involved in the drafting of a policy note on zero-deforestation agriculture, thus laying foundations for future projects in agriculture. In addition, partnership agreements have been signed between the SEP-REDD+ and interprofessional organizations for its implementation.

FAO and MINEDD will set up a Project Management Unit based in the SEP-REDD+ premises and composed of FAO and SEP-REDD+ specialists. Other relevant staff from the FAO Country Office in Côte d'Ivoire, the FAO Regional Office for Africa, and FAO Headquarters could be involved in the project. Members of this team will perform the necessary supervision and oversight functions, including supervision and backstopping missions during the entire implementation period, as required. The project supervision team will remain independent of the Executing Entity functions also performed by FAO. In line with the GCF policy on fees adopted through GCF Board Decision B.19/09, the above-mentioned segregation of responsibilities within FAO will ensure that the Organization can independently and effectively perform the types of Accredited Entity functions listed in the GCF general principles and indicative list of eligible costs covered under GCF fees and project management costs. A Chief technical adviser and three technical experts will be hired and based in the country office for the project management unit – experts from government will also contribute to the activities. Annex 4 gives details about administrative staff missions which consists of an operation officer, a communication officer, an administrative and financial officer and a driver.

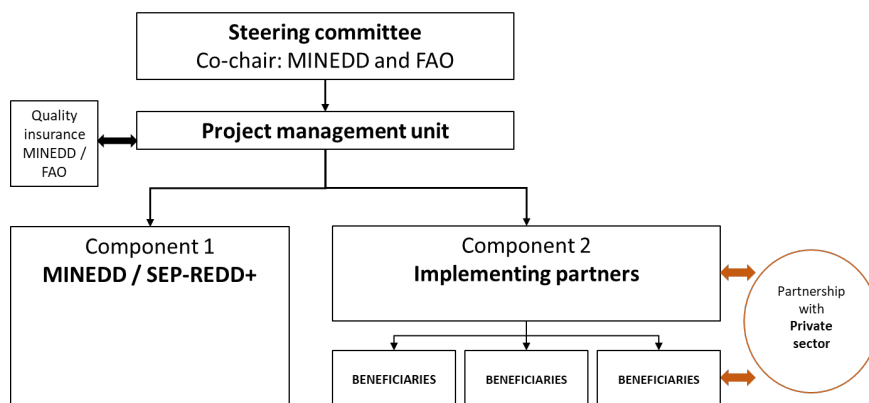


Figure 17: Institutional arrangements.

Project implementation will be divided as the following:

- Component 1, MINEDD through the SEP-REDD+ will be the implementing partner with regard to its mandate on managing the REDD+ mechanism in Côte d'Ivoire,

- Component 2, the project will develop partnerships with national, subnational and local entities to implement all activities on the field in the three targeted regions. SEP-REDD+ will also provide support for REDD+ local governance aspects, submission of the RBP project to the GCF, experts mobilization to support on-going initiatives, involvement of all stakeholders in the implementation of project activities and activities' monitoring.

Presence in the territories will be ensured by 1 technical assistant per region, and provided also by development structures (SODEFOR, ANADER), REDD+ committee at sub-national level, involvement of the decentralized office of the MINEF and possibly local partner organizations duly contracted for this purpose.

Table 12: Functions and responsibilities.

	Function	Project unit	Responsible entity
Governance and Project Execution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide policy makers and relevant stakeholders with the most advanced information on project progress, results and impacts, • Provide political and strategic direction, • Ensure good interinstitutional coordination, • Ensure transparency, accountability and participation, • Review the annual work plan and budget (PTA & B) prepared with the support of the PMU, • Monitor the implementation performance and ensure compliance with the mandate and technical competence of each agency, • Liaise with co-financing entities (technical and financial reports). 	Steering Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-Chairmanship: Minister of Environment & FAO Representative, • Secretariat: SEP REDD+, • Rapporteur: SEP REDD+, • Members: CTA; DG. Min. Forest, Agriculture, Land, Landscaping; SEP-REDD+; Civil society; World Bank ; AFD; PAM; IMF; Focal Point FVC; Coord. Nat. Project.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage project funds allocated by the GCF, • Ensure the implementation of activities related to the PTA and supported by the PMU, • Provide technical assistance to the Steering Committee. 	FAO	EE
Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage budgets for the achievement of project results, • Performs payments, • Transmits technical and financial reports to the GCF. 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare PTA & B for review by the Steering Committee and approval by FAO, • In accordance with FAO rules and procedures, prepares procurement documents (prequalification lists, terms of reference, draft contracts) of consultants and service providers (national and international, as appropriate), • Provide reports to FAO on implementation (physical and financial). 	Project management unit	Direction: Project manager and REDD+ Permanent Executive Secretariat Members: Focal point project/MINEDD ; Technical expert: MINEF and MINADER M&E: Officer in charge and SEP-REDD+
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide goods and services in accordance with contracts signed with FAO. 	Partners	Technical: MINEDD, MINEF, MINADER, NGO; cooperatives ; consultants, etc, Social: NGO; local facilitators, etc.

Financial flows

Funds transfer to the different partners involved in project implementation will be carried out according to the terms of the FAO and in accordance with the Accreditation Masters Agreement signed with the GCF. Specifically, FAO will transfer funds to the various partners involved in implementation through Letters of Agreement explaining the different modalities (activities, deliverables, schedule, payments, monitoring and evaluation) to be followed.

Goods and services will also be purchased from selected non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and local partners during implementation based on identified needs. These goods and services will be procured in a competitive process in accordance with FAO rules and procedures. Figure 18 shows financial flows to be considered during project implementation.

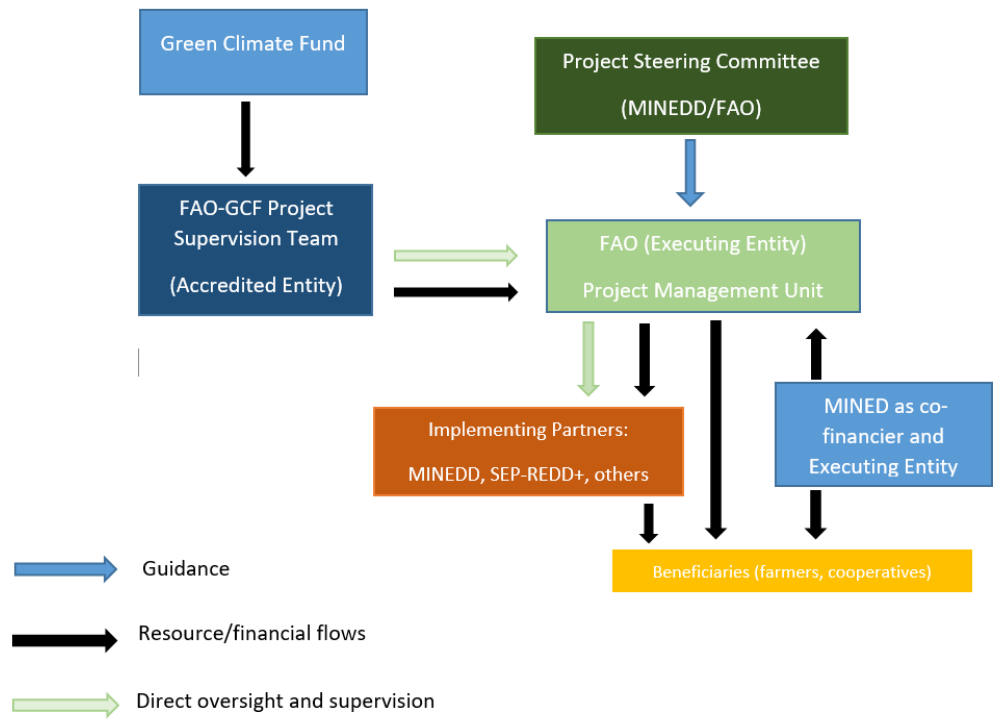


Figure 18: Project financial flows.

5.3. Institutional and project level grievance redress mechanism

FAO is committed to ensuring that its programs are implemented in accordance with the Organization’s environmental and social obligations. In order to better achieve these goals, and to ensure that beneficiaries of FAO programs have access to an effective and timely mechanism to address their concerns about non-compliance with these obligations, the Organization, in order to supplement measures for receiving, reviewing and acting as appropriate on these concerns at the program management level, has entrusted the Office of the Inspector-General with the mandate to independently review the complaints that cannot be resolved at that level.

FAO will facilitate the resolution of concerns of beneficiaries of FAO programs regarding alleged or potential violations of FAO’s social and environmental commitments. For this purpose, concerns may be communicated in accordance with the eligibility criteria of the Guidelines for Compliance Reviews Following Complaints Related to the Organization’s Environmental and Social Standards, which applies to all FAO programs and projects.

Concerns must be addressed at the closest appropriate level, i.e. at the project management/technical level, and if necessary, at the Regional Office level. If a concern or grievance cannot be resolved through consultations and measures at the project management level, a complaint requesting a Compliance Review may be filed with the Office of the Inspector-General (OIG) in accordance with the Guidelines. Program and project managers will have the responsibility to address concerns brought to the attention of the focal point.

The principles to be followed during the complaint resolution process include: impartiality, respect for labour and human rights, including those pertaining to indigenous peoples, compliance of national norms, and coherence with the norms, equality, transparency, honesty, and mutual respect.

Project-level grievance mechanism

The project will establish a grievance mechanism at field level to file complaints during project inception phase. Contact information and information on the process to file a complaint will be disclosed in all meetings, workshops and other related events throughout the life of the project. In addition, it is expected that all awareness raising material to be distributed will include the necessary information regarding the contacts and the process for filing grievances. The project will also be responsible for documenting and reporting as part of the safeguards performance monitoring on any grievances received and how they were addressed.

The mechanism includes the following stages:

1. In the instance in which the claimant has the means to directly file the claim, he/she has the right to do so, presenting it directly to the National Project Coordinator (NPC) or Focal point to be based in the FAO Country Office (FP) who informs the Lead Technical Officer (LTO) and international project coordinator (PC) based in the Decent Rural Employment team (DRET) in the Social Policies and Rural Institutions Division (ESP). The process of filing a complaint will duly consider anonymity as well as any existing traditional or indigenous dispute resolution mechanisms and it will not interfere with the community's self-governance system,
2. The complainant files a complaint through one of the channels of the grievance mechanism. This will be sent to the NPC or FP who will inform the LTO and PC based in the in DRET, ESP to assess whether the complaint is eligible. The confidentiality of the complaint must be preserved during the process,
3. Eligible complaints will be addressed by the NPC or FP, who will also inform the LTO and PC based in DRET, ESP. The NPC will be responsible for recording the grievance and how it has been addressed if a resolution was agreed,
4. If the situation is too complex, or the complainer does not accept the resolution, the complaint must be sent to a higher level, until a solution or acceptance is reached,
5. For every complaint received, a written proof will be sent within ten (10) working days; afterwards, a resolution proposal will be made within thirty (30) working days,
6. In compliance with the resolution, the person in charge of dealing with the complaint, may interact with the complainant, or may call for interviews and meetings, to better understand the reasons,
7. All complaint received, its response and resolutions, must be duly registered.

Internal process includes the following:

1. Project Task Force. The complaint could come in writing or orally to the PTF directly. At this level, received complaints will be registered, investigated and solved by the PTF,
2. If the complaint has not been solved and could not be solve in level 1, then it gets elevated to the LTO and PC,
3. FAO Representative. The assistance of the FAO Representative is requested if a resolution was not agreed in levels 1 and 2,

4. FAO Regional Office. FAO Representative will request if necessary, the advice of the relevant Regional Office to resolve a grievance, or will transfer the resolution of the grievance entirely to the regional office, if the problem is highly complex,
5. The FAO Regional Representative will request only on very specific situations or complex problems the assistance on the FAO Inspector General who pursues its own procedures to solve the problem.

Resolution is done upon acceptance a solution by the complainer, a document with the agreement should be signed with the agreement.

Table 13: Contact details.

Review Level	Contact Details
Project task force	Must respond within 5 working days.
Lead Technical Officer (LTO) and Project Coordinator (PC)	LTO and/or PC may receive a complaint and must provide proof of receipt. If the case is accepted, LTO must inform the PC and call a meeting with other project task force members to find a solution. The response must be sent within 5 working days after the meeting of the LTO, PC and the project task force.
FAO Representation in Country	Must respond within 5 working days in consultation with FAO's Representation. El Salvador FAO Representative: Samy Gaiji Email: FAO-CI@fao.org Phone: +225-22405920
FAO Regional Office for Africa (RAF)	Must respond within 5 working days in consultation with FAO's Representation. FAO Representative: Abebe Haile Gabriel FAO-RAF@fao.org ; Phone: +233-30-2610930
Office of the Inspector General (OIG)	To report possible fraud and bad behavior by fax, confidential: (+39) 06 570 55550 By e-mail: Investigations-hotline@fao.org By confidential hotline: (+ 39) 06 570 52333

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Annex 1: Consultations



RAPPORT GENERAL DES CONSULTATIONS DANS LE CADRE DU PROJET SAP REDD+ A SOUMETTRE AU FONDS VERT POUR LE CLIMAT

LIEUX : Agboville, Aboisso, Adzopé et Abidjan

Période : du 22 au 29 octobre 2019

RAPPORT



© Octobre 2019

1. Contexte et justification

La Côte d'Ivoire s'est engagée depuis juin 2011 dans le mécanisme international de Réduction des Émissions de gaz à effet de serre issues de la Déforestation et de la Dégradation des forêts (REDD+) avec pour principal objectif la lutte contre la déforestation. Le mécanisme REDD+ est piloté par le Ministère de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable (MINEDD) avec le soutien de plusieurs partenaires techniques et financiers, dont le Fond de Partenariat pour le Carbone Forestier (FCPF) et le Programme des Nations-Unies sur la REDD+ (ONU-REDD).

Dans le cadre de sa préparation au mécanisme de Réduction des Émissions de gaz à effet de serre dues à la Déforestation et à la Dégradation des forêts (REDD+), la Côte d'Ivoire a réalisé d'énormes progrès. Parmi ceux-ci, figurent, l'adoption de sa stratégie nationale REDD+, l'endossement du niveau de référence des forêts par la Convention Cadre des Nations Unies sur les Changements Climatiques, la mise en place d'un système national de surveillance des forêts et la conception d'un système d'information sur les sauvegardes.

Plusieurs initiatives et projets dont le projet d'investissement forestier dans huit régions du pays, le projet pilote REDD+ dans la région de la Mé, sont également en cours.

Ainsi, la Côte d'Ivoire se prépare à la deuxième phase du mécanisme qui est la mise en œuvre de la stratégie. Cela implique la mise à l'échelle des différentes initiatives et projets pilotes à fort potentiel d'impact.

La Côte d'Ivoire à travers le Secrétariat Exécutif Permanent REDD+ (SEP REDD+) et la Cellule Nationale de Coordination du Fond Vert pour le Climat (ou Green Climate Fund GCF), et en collaboration avec l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture (FAO) et les collectivités territoriales, a entrepris la formulation d'une proposition de projet à soumettre au GCF dans le cadre du Processus d'Approbation Simplifiée (ou Simplified Approval Process) pour l'initiative REDD+ (SAP REDD+).

Une consultation des parties prenantes au niveau régional, organisée du 22 au 24 octobre 2019, a permis d'affiner les activités dudit projet. A la suite de ces consultations, un atelier de validation du document du projet avec l'ensemble des parties prenantes a été organisé le mardi 29 octobre 2019 à l'Hôtel Belle Côte à Abidjan. Le présent rapport présente le déroulement de ces consultations à Agboville, Aboisso, Adzopé et Abidjan.

2. Participation

Cette rencontre a vu la participation de représentants des conseils régionaux de la zone du projet, de ministères et de structures techniques et du secteur privé. La liste de présence donne plus de détails sur les participants.

3. Déroulement

D'une manière générale, le déroulé des ateliers a été le suivant :

- Introduction par le SEP-REDD+
- Mot de bienvenue du Représentant du Conseil Régional
- Présentation des objectifs de la mission par le Consultant
- Présentation du projet par le représentant du SEP-REDD+ avec un focus sur la composante 2 « Les activités REDD+ juridictionnelles à la fois probantes et innovantes auprès des communautés locales sont mises en œuvre »

- Recueil des impressions globales des participants sur la pertinence du projet et de son intérêt pour le développement de la région.
- Echanges sur les principaux points du champ d'actions :
 - ✓ Planification territoriale/Elaboration de Schémas d'Aménagement du Territoire, de plans de développement locaux : Lien entre le projet et les priorités du développement régional/local ;
 - ✓ Sécurisation foncière ;
 - ✓ Impact sur l'investissement rural et du secteur privé ;
 - ✓ Intensification agricole ;
 - ✓ Restauration des paysages forestiers ;
 - ✓ Gestion durable des forêts ;
 - ✓ Restauration des mangroves (Sud Come et La Mé);
 - ✓ Développement de nouvelles sources d'énergie domestique durable ;
 - ✓ Surveillance communautaire des forêts ;
 - ✓ Agroforesterie.

Sur la base des cartes d'occupations du sol de chaque région et de l'expérience des délégués invités à la consultation, une liste de villages potentiels pour la réalisation des activités du projet a été retenue après les échanges. Le critère convenu a été de cibler des villages dans les territoires desquels un potentiel de restauration existe en termes de disponibilité de terres et de niveau de dégradation de la ressource forestière, et où un dynamisme existe pour soutenir les activités du projet. La proximité d'aires protégées (forêts classées, réserves de faune et de flore, etc.) situées dans les territoires dans lesquels les activités renforceraient la protection des forêts classées voisines a été prise en compte dans la mesure du possible.

4. Consultations réalisées

4.1 Consultation des parties prenantes de la Région Agnéby-Tiassa

Date : 22 octobre 2019

Lieu : Salle de réunion du Conseil Régional de l'Agnéby-Tiassa



L'étape d'Agnéby-Tiassa a été effectuée par OUATTARA Zana Inzan, Chargé de Programme au SEP-REDD+, de Christopher KONAN, stagiaire au SEP-REDD+, de KOFFI Konan, Consultant forestier en développement de projet et de Matteo BORZONI, Consultant en charge de l'analyse économique et financière.

L'atelier a rassemblé 22 participants, comprenant des représentants des ministères techniques déconcentrés, des ONG, des organisations de jeunes et de femmes et la Chefferie traditionnelle.

Outre les échanges avec les participants invités à l'atelier, Matteo a organisé de façon séparée, quelques échanges et enquêtes avec les personnes déterminées et rencontré les responsables de l'administration forestière (Eaux et Forêts et SODEFOR) en aparté à la fin de l'atelier.

L'atelier a été présidé par le Chef de cabinet, Monsieur OLOYE Dominique. Dans son mot d'ouverture, le Chef de cabinet a souhaité la cordiale bienvenue aux participants, à la suite duquel une présentation des différents participants a été faite à travers un tour de table.

Ont pris part à la rencontre, les consultants FAO, le Secrétariat exécutif permanent de la REDD+ (SEP-REDD+), le Conseil régional, la Direction régionale des Eaux et Forêts, la Direction régionale de l'Environnement, la SODEFOR et les ONGs et associations locales animées par des femmes et des jeunes.

Le Colonel KOFFI KONAN a présenté les objectifs de la mission en rappelant d'entame l'historique de la REDD+ en Côte d'Ivoire et les enjeux sur les questions de déforestation qui se présentent à la Côte d'Ivoire. Il a ensuite rappelé les objectifs de cette mission qui sont les suivants :

- Réaliser les consultations des parties-prenantes des régions visées par le projet et collecter les éléments qui peuvent alimenter le développement du document de projet qui sera soumise au Fond Vert Climat (FVC) avant le 8 novembre 2019.
- Proposer une liste argumentée et cartographiée des villages dans les trois régions où se dérouleront les activités du projet.

Le Capitaine OUATTARA Zana a apporté des compléments d'informations sur le mécanisme REDD+, puis a présenté le projet SAP REDD+ avec ses deux composantes, qui ambitionne de mettre à l'échelle le PRM dans les trois régions précitées, qui présentent des analogies.

Dans les trois régions, la forêt a enregistré un fort recul au cours des dix dernières années, et dans chacun des cas, le principal moteur de la déforestation est l'expansion agricole, avec un poids de 70%, loin devant l'exploitation forestière, l'exploitation minière et l'expansion des infrastructures, qui contribue ainsi aux changements climatiques.

L'atteinte de cet objectif se fera à travers un développement territorial ambitieux mais durable et inclusif, créateur d'emplois et de richesses, à faibles émissions et résilient face au changement climatique, un programme d'amélioration des conditions de vie des populations riveraines, assorti d'un bilan positif de fixation des GES issues de la déforestation et de la dégradation des forêts.

Le projet vise 7150 bénéficiaires directs que l'on veut toucher et sensibiliser et presque 600,000 bénéficiaires indirects à travers les différentes sensibilisations et communication.

Pour une mise en œuvre effective du projet, plusieurs champs d'actions ont été ciblés dans la composante 2 du projet :

- Planification territoriale (Elaboration de Schémas d'Aménagement du territoire, de Plans de Développement locaux) ;
- Sécurisation foncière ;
- Intensification agricole ;
- Restauration des paysages forestiers ;
- Gestion durable des forêts ;

- Restauration des mangroves ;
- Surveillance Communautaire des forêts (liée à la composante 1 du projet)

Les discussions ont permis de recueillir les avis et recommandations des parties-prenantes sur les différents champs d'intervention du projet (tableau ci-dessous).

Champ d'actions	Recommandations	Observations
Planification du territoire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elaborer un Plan de développement régional et des Plans de développement locaux. • Mettre à disposition la carte d'occupation du sol de la région. • Poursuivre la délimitation des territoires villageois • Elaborer des cartes thématiques de toutes les activités agricoles et économiques de la zone afin de bien cibler les zones et champs d'action. 	Besoin formulé par les hautes autorités régionales, Chef de Cabinet et DG du CR.
Sécurisation foncière	Renforcer les activités de sécurisation foncière.	
Agriculture zéro-déforestation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversifier les cultures • Pratiquer la saignée améliorée • Assurer la régénération des cacaoyères • Produire de la banane plantain (méthode PIF) • Développer des parcs à bois de manioc 	
Agroforesterie et restauration des paysages forestiers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culture par bande dans le cas d'un renouvellement de parcelle cacaoyère ; • Association hévéaculture et manioc ; • Promotion de l'Akpi en association avec le cacao bio ; • La promotion des haies vives dans les plantations cacaoyères ; • Système de co-plantation (Taungya) entre le teck et des cultures vivrières ou maraîchères ; • Association entre le Café, la banane et le petit cola ; • Association cacao et arbres fertilisants (exemple légumineuses) 	
Gestion durable des forêts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Développement de modèles de reboisement innovants avec les opérateurs privés. • 	Cas intéressant d'aménagement de la forêt classée de Bamo par la SODEFOR en partenariat avec SIFCA, à promouvoir.
Développement d'énergie domestique durable.	Assurer la promotion des foyers améliorés et la production de biogaz à partir des résidus agricoles.	Possibilités avec la Fondation Marie-Esther.
Intensification des systèmes de production	<p>Améliorer la fertilité des sols</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promouvoir le labour mécanique (tracteurs ou traction animale); • Recours à l'engrais biologique (fiente de poulet, fèces de lapin ; compostage) • Utilisation de plantes fertilisantes (exemple : association de cultures avec <i>Moringa oleifera</i>) <p>Utilisation de pesticide bio (exemple : à base de neem et piment).</p>	

Champ d'actions	Recommandations	Observations
Essences locales à encourager dans le reboisement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Espèces bois d'œuvre : Niangon / Acajou / Badi / Bété / Aniégré / Samba / Fromager. Espèces bois d'œuvre et/ou fruitières : Makoré, Akpi, Mirabel, Oranger. 	
Liste proposée des villages et forêts classées comme zone d'exécution du projet.		
FC Irobo	Villages : Becedi	Développement Garcinia kola
FC Kassa	Villages : Kassasso	Idem
FC Kavi	Villages : Oress-Krobou ; Offoumpo ; Copa ; Aboudé ; Aboudé-Mandéké ; Aboudé-Kouassikro ; Aboudé-Boa Vincent ; Aboudé-Dadié ; Boussoukro ; Offa.	Activités avec la Fondation Marie Esther
FC Yapo-Abbé	Villages : Azaguié ; Petit Yapo ; Grand Yapo ; Erymakoudjé 1 ; Erymakoudjé 2 ; Banguié ; Guessiguié 1 ; Guessiguié 2 ; Ehouédjé.	
FC Mafé	Villages : Anno.	
FC Séguié	Villages : Rubino	

Espèces forestières et agroforestières/arboricoles locales préconisées :

- Akpi (*Riciodendron Heudelotii*)
- Moringa (*Moringa oleifera*)
- Niangon (*Heritiera utilis*)
- Acajou (*Khaya ivorensis*)
- Badi (*Nauclea didierichii*)
- Bahia (*Alla ciliata*)
- Bété (*Mansonia altissima*)
- Aniégré (*Aningueria robusta*)
- Samba (*Triplochiton scleroxylon*)
- Fromager (*Ceiba pentandra*)
- Makoré (*Tieghemella heckelii*)
- Mirabel (*Spondias mombin*)
- Oranger (*Citrus sinensis*)

4.2 Consultation des parties prenantes de la Région du Sud-Comoé

Date : mercredi 23 Octobre 2019

Lieu : Salle de réunion du conseil régional du Sud-Comoé

L'étape du Sud-Comoé a été effectuée par ASSAMOI Abé Jonas, Chargé de programme au SEP-REDD+ et de Christopher KONAN, stagiaire au SEP-REDD+.

L'atelier a rassemblé 15 participants, comprenant les représentants des ministères techniques, des ONG, des organisations de jeunes et de femmes et la Chefferie traditionnelle.



Champ d'actions	Recommandations	Observations
Planification territoriale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Il existe un Plan Stratégique de développement Il y a un problème de disponibilité de terres dans la région pour la création de plantations ou de forêts supplémentaires. L'agriculture occupe plus de 70% des terrains. Les activités REDD+ devront être orientées vers la durabilité des filières existantes et la restauration des espaces forestiers dégradés. 	DR Eaux & Forêts Conseil Régional
Sécurisation foncière	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Délivrer les certificats de propriété pour tous les propriétaires de forêts privés pour la sécurisation du foncier et du patrimoine s'y trouvant S'associer pour la certification foncière (par groupe de famille) pour la prise en charge des frais du géomètre étant donné que ceux-ci sont les plus élevés de l'ensemble des frais de délivrance du certificat 	Direction régionale des Eaux et Forêts
Intensification agricole	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Associer le secteur privé dans les activités d'Agroforesterie (Ex : Société Africaine Kablan Jubin, spécialisée dans la production de banane-dessert, qui s'investit dans les activités d'agroforesterie. Promouvoir l'élevage de lapins, escargots, champignons comestibles, aulacodes, etc. Promouvoir les métiers verts liés à l'agriculture intensive (Ex : Renforcement d'un projet UE d'intensification en cours) 	DR Eaux & Forêts
Gestion durable des forêts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respecter les prévisions de coupe des plans d'aménagement des FC Fixer aux détenteurs de forêts privées une limite de superficies agricoles à exploiter Reconstituer les forêts classées dégradées de la région : FC Soumié, N'Ganda N'Ganda, Cotoagnoa, Songan, Tamin. Appuyer la gestion des Forêts sacrées 	
Restauration des paysages forestiers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourager la dynamique de création de forêts privées en cours pour booster la reconstitution du couvert forestier 	DR Eaux & Forêts Chefferie

Champ d'actions	Recommandations	Observations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourager l'affectation de terres rurales aux activités de reboisement, en contrepartie d'infrastructures sociales de base. Encourager la création de petits arboretums (0,25 ha et plus) auprès des paysans et des écoles Pratique de l'agroforesterie dans la restauration des vieilles cacaoyères dans les zones de projet choisies telles que la S/p de Noé, de Nouamou Maféré, Ayamé, Yaou, Bianoua Implication des femmes dans les activités de reboisement pour la création d'emplois Sensibiliser à la diversification des espèces pour les pépinières destinées au reboisement. 	Association MAMBOUE
Restauration des mangroves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Préservation de la lagune Aby considéré comme un puit de carbone du fait de la présence abondante de phytoplancton Restauration des mangroves pour améliorer la production de poissons <p>En raison de la dégradation des mangroves, le poisson se raréfie dans les lacs et la lagune Aby</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formation des jeunes à la création de pépinières d'espèces rencontrées dans les zones de mangrove pour leur restauration (notamment pépinière de N'dè dont le savoir-faire est menacé) Appui à l'action de protection et de gestion durable de la réserve naturelle volontaire EHI-Tanoe. 	<p>Ambition de la région :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restaurer les mangroves autour des îles, façades lagunaires, plans d'eau et lacs. Accroître la production intensive de poisson par la pisciculture.
Développement de nouvelles sources d'énergie domestiques durables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Il existe dans la région, une utilisation accrue du bois d'hévéa comme combustible avec les risques de toxicité. <p>Une unité de transformation de bois d'hévéa fabrique des balais (par tournage).</p> <p>Encourager cette initiative pour réorienter l'utilisation du bois d'hévéa vers des usages non alimentaires.</p> <p>En retour, promouvoir l'utilisation des essences à vocation bois énergie (comme Acacia et de Cassia).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renforcer la tendance à la création de forêts privées, en mettant l'accent sur la production de bois énergie. Plantation de bois énergie pour diminuer la pression sur les ressources forestières Promotion du gaz butane dans les ménages pour diminuer la pression sur les forêts Promouvoir l'association cacaoyer/ essences à vocation bois énergie Encouragement des foyers améliorés. Associer Mondelez qui met en œuvre des activités similaires dans le cadre d'un autre projet Valoriser les résidus agricoles pour la production de combustible 	

Espèces forestières et agroforestières/arboricoles locales préconisées :

- Akpi (*Ricinodendron Heudelotii*)
- Palétuviers (*Rhizophora racemosa*)
- Acacias australiens (*Acacia spp.*)
- Cassia (*Cassia siamea*).

4.3 Consultation des parties prenantes de la Région de la Mé

Date : jeudi 24 octobre 2019

Lieu : Salle de réunion du Conseil Régional de La Mé

La consultation des parties prenantes dans la région de la Mé a été effectuée le jeudi 24 octobre 2019. En vue de capitaliser l'expérience du projet REDD+ de la Mé (PRM), une démarche en deux temps a été retenue :

- Le matin, visite de quelques réalisations du PRM, conjointement avec la mission concomitante du projet GEF/FOLUR en cours de développement, dans le territoire villageois de Biéby, dans le département de Yakassé-Attobrou ;

Visite de quelques réalisations du PRM.

- ❖ Echanges avec la Société Coopérative simplifiée des producteurs de cacao biologique de la Mé.

Présentation de la coopérative et de ses réalisations effectuées dans le cadre du PRM et échanges avec Monsieur KASSIN Jérôme, Président de la structure.

Cette coopérative regroupe 63 producteurs ayant réalisé 123 hectares de parcelles de cacao certifié bio. Une parcelle de 3 hectares, appartenant à Monsieur KASSIN Jérôme a été visitée.

- ❖ Echanges avec l'ONG GREFOR en charge du suivi communautaire des forêts.

Une plantation forestière privée (2,5 hectares réalisés en 2009 et encadrés grâce au PRM) créé par Monsieur AMON Adja Jean-Renaud pour sensibiliser la population locale a été visitée. Le projet a octroyé une subvention au propriétaire pour renforcer la gestion de cette parcelle.

La subvention d'un montant de 6,5 millions de FCFA sur 18 mois a permis de couvrir les dépenses de production de plants, d'aménagement et de suivi par le projet.

Au total, sur 56 hectares de parcelles recensées par l'ONG, 20 hectares ont bénéficié de subvention du PRM.

Le bois de plantation, une fois mobilisé, permet d'alimenter le marché régional de bois de chauffe (petites industries locales telles que les boulangeries, dans les localités de Yakasse-Attobrou, Djangobo, etc.).

Un chargement de 3,5 tonnes de bois peut être vendu à 130 000 FCFA CFA.

Dans ce volet du projet, les parcelles prises en compte sont les reboisements, les parcelles d'agroforesterie et les jachères.

Un essai de création de parcelle agroforestière par plantation mixte de cacao et de Niangon a été présenté à la mission. De telles initiatives, timides au départ, pourraient réussir avec un encadrement adéquat, au regard de la forte demande des communautés locales pour les répliquer.

- ❖ Visite d'une installation des fours améliorés pour le fumage du poisson à Adzopé

Cette activité est menée par une coopérative de femmes. Les fours améliorés utilisent les résidus de transformation rejetés par les industries du bois concentrées à Adzopé (écorces, dosses et délignures) pour le fumage du poisson, réduisant ainsi les prélèvements directs de bois de chauffe en forêt.

- L'après-midi, la mission composée du Consultant KOFFI Konan J-C (FAO), de OUATTARA Zana Inzan (SEP-REDD+) a rencontré le Conseil Régional de la Mé, dont les capacités ont été renforcées en planification, organisation et suivi des activités forestières grâce au PRM.

Les personnes rencontrées par la mission sont :

- Le Directeur Général du Conseil Régional de la Mé
- Le Directeur Général Adjoint du Conseil Général.
- Mme ANGBO Nadège, Directrice de la Planification ;
- Mme DANTIE, Sous-Directeur des Etudes.



Après le mot de bienvenue du Directeur Général du Conseil Régional, Monsieur OUATTARA Zana Inzan a présenté les membres de la mission.

Le Consultant FAO a présenté les objectifs de la mission, suivi d'un exposé de OUATTARA Inzan sur le contenu du projet REDD+ / SAP REDD+. Il a annoncé la tenue d'un atelier de synthèse prévu le 29 octobre à Abidjan.

Suite à la présentation du projet SAP REDD+, les représentants du Conseil Régional de la Mé ont réitéré leur engagement dans la mise en œuvre de ce projet qui permettra de capitaliser les acquis du Projet REDD+ de la Mé. De plus, ce projet permettra de réduire la pression sur les deux forêts classées, les mieux conservées de la région, Mabi et Yaya. Ces deux forêts classées viennent d'être érigées en réserves naturelles. Elles comptent 27 villages riverains.

La Directrice de Planification du Conseil Régional a indiqué que les présidents des Conseils Régionaux de l'Agnéby-Tiassa, de la Mé et du Sud-Comoe (régions couvertes par le SAP REDD+) s'entendent parfaitement et travaillent dans la cohésion et la concertation. Cela constitue un atout important pour la réussite du projet SAP REDD+.

Champ d'actions	Recommandations	Observations
Planification territoriale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elaborer un plan de développement régional (PDR) pour canaliser les initiatives vers un objectif de développement économique, social et environnemental prenant en compte la réduction des émissions de carbone forestier. Grâce au PRM, 7 villages ont été dotés de plans de développement local, avec cartographie d'occupation du sol. <p>Leur mise en œuvre a besoin d'être appuyée. Dans les gros villages, l'impact attendu est important la jeunesse pour orienter la jeunesse vers des activités plus saines et éviter qu'ils ne s'enlisent dans l'orpaillage illégal, la culture de cannabis, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doter l'ensemble des villages sélectionnés par le projet de PDL. La liste des 12 villages les plus proches des FC de Mabi et Yaya sera fournie à la mission. Les PDL de ces villages auront un impact important sur la conservation de l'environnement (forêts, activités minières, agriculture 0-déforestation, etc.). <p>Quelques options énumérées :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Verdissement des établissements scolaires et sanitaires ; Délimitation des exploitations agricoles avec des arbres forestiers 	<p>L'établissement d'un PDL dure 6 mois pour un coût variant de 1,5 à 2 millions de FCFA.</p> <p>Le processus d'élaboration des PDL s'est révélé être un facteur de cohésion social, en facilitant le dialogue au sein de la population, (familles, communautés, etc.)</p>
Sécurisation foncière	Poursuivre les activités de sécurisation foncière, en s'appuyant sur le projet PROMAFOR.	
Intensification agricole	<p>Les principales cultures de la région sont le cacao, le café, l'hévéa, le palmier à huile. Les activités de diversification (poivre, l'élevage de gibier, etc.) encore isolées restent à développer.</p> <p>Des projets pour les femmes et les jeunes (vivrier, élevage d'escargot, production de champignons comestibles, apiculture, etc.) doivent être liés à la problématique mère-enfant.</p> <p>Pour arriver à une agriculture zéro-déforestation, il importe de réaliser un diagnostic agraire, de mieux connaître les dynamiques, les contraintes et les opportunités en vue de mieux cibler les actions.</p> <p>Les activités d'intensification doivent se poursuivre en matière de :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saignée améliorée Régénération des cacaoyères Production de banane plantain Parcs à bois de manioc Production de cacao certifié bio. <p>Appuyer plus de 1000 exploitations sur plus de 3000 hectares.</p>	
Gestion durable des forêts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dans les forêts classées de Hein, N'Zodji et N'To (département d'Alépé), la culture du rotin en partenariat avec les communautés est une bonne opportunité alimenter le cadre de cogestion avec la population riveraine. Des itinéraires techniques pour le développement de cette ressource ont été développés par la recherche. Les villages d'Ahoutoué, Grand-Alépé, Memni et Montezo ont été suggérés. 	
Restauration des paysages forestiers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Déterminer un prix du bois sur pied, suffisamment attractif pour inciter la population à la création de plantations forestières. Poursuivre le reboisement en partenariat avec les opérateurs du bois, en établissant un protocole d'accord entre l'opérateur et le producteur 	<p>Le CR a annoncé la signature d'un accord de financement de la BMZ (Coopération allemande) pour la production de plants dans la région de La Mé. Il s'agit de</p>

Champ d'actions	Recommandations	Observations
		trouver 100 hectares de terrain à cet effet.
Restauration des mangroves	A prendre en compte dans la zone d'Alépé, dans le pays Goua sur les berges de la lagune Potou (villages d'Oguédoumé et Akorêt). Il s'agit également de paysages d'intérêt touristique promus dans le cadre du Salon Ivoirien de Tourisme et de l'Hôtellerie (SITHA).	
Développement de nouvelles sources d'énergie domestiques durables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Développer le projet de production de biogaz à Diapé, pour les femmes productrices d'attiéké • Vulgariser les fours de fumage de poisson • Le problème des risques de toxicité lié l'utilisation du bois d'hévéa pour la combustion ne se pose pas encore en tant que tel dans la région de la Mé, en raison de la jeunesse du verger hévéicole. Cependant, la création de plantations forestières à vocation bois-énergie et le développement des sources d'énergies alternatives durables permettra d'anticiper les problèmes. 	

A la fin de la rencontre, la Directrice de la Planification du CR a promis transmettre à la mission un tableau de proposition comprenant les villages en rapport avec les activités.

Espèces forestières et agroforestières/arboricoles locales préconisées :

- Akpi (*Riciodendron Heudelotii*)
- Rotins (*Eremospatha* et *Calamus spp.*)

4.4 Recommandation de l'atelier général de Consultation tenu à Abidjan

Date : 29 octobre 2019

Lieu : Abidjan, Hôtel belle côte

L'atelier de consultation des parties prenantes pour la validation de la proposition de projet SAP REDD+ s'est tenue à Abidjan le 29 octobre 2019.

Les composantes du projet ont été simultanément présentées par le SEP REDD+ et la FAO.

Les participants ont souhaité que la proposition finale prenne en compte les éléments saillants suivants :

- Considérer à maximiser le nombre de villages à couvrir en se référant au projet REDD+ de la Mé (PRM) qui ne couvre que 7 villages, ainsi que l'intensité des actions au niveau local (à travers l'agroforesterie et la restauration forestière) ;
- Prendre en compte l'aspect 'chaîne de valeur' en s'inspirant du modèle du PRM ;
- Préciser la répartition du financement par composante et par région ;
- Prendre en compte l'engagement du Gouvernement de surclasser le complexe forestier Yaya-Mabi et concentrer les efforts autour de ce site en évitant la dispersion des efforts ;
- Renforcer l'implication du Secteur Privé et des Conseils Régionaux dans la planification territoriale, la gestion de l'orpaillage, la promotion des PSE ;
- Impliquer étroitement le Conseil Café Cacao dans les réflexions et approches en lien avec le cacao pour plus de synergie d'action ;
- Privilégier l'option animation de proximité à l'instar du PRM ;

- Elaborer les cartes d'occupation du sol des trois régions ;
- Proposer des partages d'expériences des collectivités et ONG ;
- Prendre en compte les autres types de plantations telles que l'hévéa et le palmier ;
- Prendre en compte le genre dans les activités du projet (exemple : formation des femmes à la bonne saignée de l'hévéa ; amélioration de la valeur ajoutée de la Cola ; etc.)
- Procéder à un diagnostic agraire et un plan de développement local avant toute intervention dans les villages ;
- Promouvoir la production d'énergie domestique à base de résidus agricoles ;
- Prévoir une étude sur la vulnérabilité des 3 régions aux changements climatiques ;
- Tenir compte de la forêt classée de Bamo d'environ 300 ha bien conservée et sous convention avec la société SIFCA dans la région de l'Agnéby-Tiassa.

Les participants ont félicité les organisateurs de l'atelier et les ont exhortés à faire en sorte que la Côte d'Ivoire soumette une proposition dans les délais.

Annexes : Listes de présence des participants aux consultations.

Liste de présence – Région Agneby Tiassa



MINISTÈRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT
ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE

RÉPUBLIQUE DE CÔTE D'IVOIRE
Union – Discipline – Travail

REDD+
CÔTE D'IVOIRE

CONSULTATION DES PARTIES PRENANTES DANS LE CADRE DE LA FORMATION DU PROJET SAP REDD+

LISTE DE PRESENCE

Date : 22/10/2019
Lieu : Conseil Régional de l'Agneby tiassa

N°	NOM ET PRENOMS	STRUCTURE	FONCTION	PROVENANCE	CONTACTS	EMARGEMENT
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N°	NOM ET PRENOMS	STRUCTURE	FONCTION	PROVENANCE	CONTACTS	EMARGEMENT
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Liste de présence – Sud Comoe



MINISTÈRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT
ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE

RÉPUBLIQUE DE CÔTE D'IVOIRE
Union – Discipline – Travail

REDD+
CÔTE D'IVOIRE

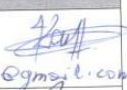
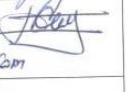
CONSULTATION DES PARTIES PRENANTES DANS LE CADRE DE LA FORMATION DU PROJET SAP REDD+

LISTE DE PRESENCE

Date : 23/10/2019
Lieu : Conseil Régional du Sud comoe

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20.					Cél. : Email :	
21.					Cél. : Email :	
22.					Cél. : Email :	

Liste de présence – Région de La Mé



MINISTÈRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT
ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE

RÉPUBLIQUE DE CÔTE D'IVOIRE
Union – Discipline – Travail

REDD+
CÔTE D'IVOIRE

CONSULTATION DES PARTIES PRENANTES DANS LE CADRE DE LA FORMATION DU PROJET SAP REDD+

LISTE DE PRESENCE

Date : 24/10/2019

Lieu : Conseil Régional de la Mé

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8.					Cél. : Email :	
9.					Cél. : Email :	
10.					Cél. : Email :	



Organisation des Nations Unies
pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture

REPUBLIQUE DE COTE D'IVOIRE

Union – Discipline – Travail



**ATELIER DE CONSULTATION DES PARTIES PRENANTES EN VUE DE LA VALIDATION DU DOCUMENT DU
PROJET SAP REDD+ A SOUMETTRE AU FONDS VERT POUR LE CLIMAT**

29 octobre 2019 à l'Hôtel Belle Côte

LISTE DE PRESENCE

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Annex 2: Consultation on the concept note



MINISTÈRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT
ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE

**ATELIER D'INFORMATION ET DE CONSULTATION DES PARTIES PRENANTES EN VUE DE LA
FORMULATION D'UNE PROPOSITION DE PROJET DANS LE CADRE DU PROCESSUS
D'APPROBATION SIMPLIFIÉ POUR LA REDD+ DU FONDS VERT POUR LE CLIMAT**

Lieu : Abidjan, Salle de réunion du SEP-REDD+

Date : 14 août 2019

RAPPORT



1. Contexte et justification

La Côte d'Ivoire s'est engagée depuis juin 2011 dans le mécanisme international de Réduction des Émissions de gaz à effet de serre issues de la Déforestation et de la Dégradation des forêts (REDD+) avec pour principal objectif la lutte contre la déforestation. Le mécanisme REDD+ est piloté par le Ministère de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable (MINEDD) avec le soutien de plusieurs partenaires techniques et financiers, dont le Fonds de Partenariat pour le Carbone Forestier (FCPF) et le Programme des Nations-Unies pour la REDD+ (ONU-REDD).

Dans le cadre de sa préparation au mécanisme de Réduction des Émissions de gaz à effet de serre dues à la Déforestation et à la Dégradation des forêts (REDD+), la Côte d'Ivoire a réalisé d'énormes progrès. Parmi ceux-ci, figurent, l'adoption de sa stratégie nationale REDD+, l'endossement du niveau de référence des forêts par la Convention Cadre des Nations Unies sur les Changements Climatiques, la mise en place d'un système national de surveillance des forêts et la conception du système d'information sur les sauvegardes.

Plusieurs initiatives et projets dont le projet d'investissement forestier dans huit régions du pays, le projet pilote REDD+ dans la région de la Mé sont également en cours.

Ainsi, la Côte d'Ivoire se prépare à la deuxième phase du mécanisme qui est la mise en œuvre de la stratégie. Cela implique la mise à l'échelle des différentes initiatives et projets pilotes à fort potentiel d'impact.

La Côte d'Ivoire à travers le Secrétariat Exécutif Permanent de la REDD+ (SEP REDD+) et la Cellule Nationale de Coordination du Fonds Vert pour le Climat (ou Green Climate Fund GCF), et en collaboration avec l'Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture (FAO), entend soumettre une proposition de projet au GCF dans le cadre du Processus d'Approbation Simplifiée (ou Simplified Approval Process) pour l'initiative REDD+ (SAP REDD+).

Afin de permettre une appropriation nationale de ce projet, le SEP REDD+ a organisé un atelier d'information et de consultation des parties prenantes nationales **le mercredi 14 août 2019**.

Cet atelier visait à informer et consulter les parties prenantes sur la proposition de projet SAP REDD+ à soumettre au Fonds Vert pour le Climat (GCF) dans le cadre du Processus d'Approbation Simplifiée pour l'initiative REDD+ (SAP REDD+).

2. Participation

Cette rencontre a vu la participation de représentants des conseils régionaux de la zone du projet, de ministères et structures techniques et du secteur privé. La liste de présence donne plus de détails sur les participants.

3. Déroulement

L'atelier de consultation des parties prenantes a connu trois temps forts : (i) les allocutions, (ii) les présentations et (iii) les échanges

3.1 Allocutions

L'atelier a enregistré les mots du Point Focal national GCF, du Représentant de la FAO et celui de la représentante du Secrétaire Exécutif Permanent de la REDD+.

3.2 Présentations

Deux principales présentations ont été faites au cours de cette rencontre. La première, sous la houlette du Point Focal National a informé les participants sur le Fonds Vert pour le Climat et insisté sur le Processus d'Approbation Simplifiée ou Simplified Approval Process pour l'initiative REDD+ (SAP REDD+).



La deuxième allocution, faite par le représentant de la FAO, a été l'occasion d'informer les participants les objectifs du projet, ses articulations, la zone envisagée, les partenaires potentiels.

A la suite de cette présentation, un passage en revue de la note conceptuelle de la proposition de projet a été fait afin de permettre aux parties prenantes de faire des commentaires et propositions d'amélioration du document. Une synthèse des discussions et des orientations pour le document est proposée ci-dessous :

- Les régions sont contentes de savoir que le projet réponde à leurs besoins et que les activités à développées sont alignées à leurs priorités
- Prendre en considération les documents stratégiques nationaux et aligner le projet sur ces documents stratégiques, dont notamment la nouvelle politique de réhabilitation et d'extension des forêts
- Développer des activités dans le domaine rural, qui réduiraient la pression sur les FC, et promouvoir des actions durables dans les forêts classées
- Identifier les synergies entre toutes les actions menées au niveau national et dans les régions ciblées comme les actions de planification, la mise en œuvre de projets ciblés et thématiques (comme le Projet d'Amélioration de la Politique Foncière PAMOFOR), et les projets dans les régions visées
- Voir dans quelles mesures la filière palmier à huile et la certification y relative peut être considérée parmi les filières à développer dans le cadre du projet
- Intégrer des activités de planification au niveau des villages pour que les activités à développer répondent réellement aux besoins des villages / régions ; aligner les activités avec les SRADT des 3 régions
- Mettre un accent sur le genre, et principalement l'autonomisation des femmes

3.3 Clôture de l'atelier

Le mot de clôture a été prononcé par la représentante du Secrétaire Exécutif Permanent REDD+. Elle a remercié les participants pour leurs contributions enrichissantes qui ont permis d'améliorer la proposition de projet, et a souhaité un bon retour à tous.



**ATELIER D'INFORMATION ET DE CONSULTATION DES PARTIES PRENANTES EN VUE DE LA FORMULATION D'UNE
PROPOSITION DE PROJET DANS LE CADRE DU PROCESSUS D'APPROBATION SIMPLIFIÉE POUR LA REDD+ DU FONDS
VERT POUR LE CLIMAT**

LISTE DE PRESENCE

Date : 14 AOUT 2019
Lieu : SEP-REDD+

N°	NOM ET PRENOMS	STRUCTURE	FONCTION	PROVENANCE	GENRE	CONTACT	EMARGEMENT
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Annex 3: Technical exchange with institutions

Date: 21 to 25 October 2019

Attendance

HQ: Vicario, Tommaso

SFW: Savadogo, Patrice

FAO-CI: Solano Grima, David

Consultant : Cosslett, Chris

Consultant SepREDD: Amon Aphely Auguste

Partners	Key Points
All	For all meetings a brief overview on GCF SAP REDD+ was provided
ANADER (L'Agence Nationale d'Appui au Développement Rural)	<p>ANADER's mission is "to contribute to the improvement of the living conditions of the rural people through direct support to farmers and professional agricultural organizations by designing and implementing appropriate tools and approaches, adapted programs to ensure sustainable development"</p> <p>ANADER covers the entire national territory (village, district, region and national level). It is based on a participatory approach putting the farmers at the center of its action. Currently ANADER deploy over 450 extension agents in the cocoa sector; they are supervised by 60 rural development engineers)</p> <p>ANADER works across thematic program on Agricultural Advisory for Farmers on Cocoa-Coffee sector, Cashew, Mango and Forestry sectors, Root, Tuber and Plantain sectors, Cereal sectors, Horticultural sector, Livestock and fisheries, Research and Development, Climate Change, Rural Engineering, Agricultural Mechanization, E-extension. It also works on crosscutting issues like gender.</p> <p><u>Focus areas where ANADER and SAP REDD+ project can collaborate</u></p> <p>ANADER focus area in connection with cocoa 1: increasing productivity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrated pest management (use only approved pesticide in case of force majeur) - Use farmer field school to build capacity on agro-ecological production practice - ANADER cooperates with CNRA (Centre National de Recherche Agronomique de Côte d'Ivoire (CNRA). Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER) and all other ministries dealing with rural development issues and other organization like ICRAf (World Agroforestry) - Access to finance to boost production - Linkage of farmers to finance and microfinance institution (YUPP, COPEC, Advance Bank - Support to Public Private Partnership with Cargill <p>ANADER focus area 2: agroforestry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Restoring land productive capacity through increasing tree cover - Fallow land improved with trees - Biodiversity recovery - Certification with Rainforest Alliance

	<p>ANADER focus area 3: child labor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sensitization and contribution to law enforcement on child labor in the cocoa sector (dangerous work prohibited to less than eighteen years, like the felling of trees; cocoa field cleaning; spreading of chemical fertilizers; pesticide application; chemical treatment of nurseries, the transport of heavy loads) - Training to workers on security measures at work - Getting closer school to cocoa producing communities - Work with local radio to air some sensitization message <p>Innovations and tools at ANADER to share with SAP REDD project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved dryer for cocoa - Promotion of Improved tool for Cocoa shelling (the tool cost 160 000FCFA per unit) - Promotion of biopesticide - Support to private and community nurseries with seed - Important database to share once they have permission from DG - Unit working in land-use planning
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER)	<p>In the cocoa sector MINADER work on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overcoming cocoa farming challenges: ageing cocoa trees produce fewer pods, directly impacting farmers' yields and profits, environmental issues, disparate agricultural practices. Re-planting is costly, and farmers may opt instead to deforest new areas to grow new plantations. - Improving farmers' livelihoods and preventing deforestation by investing in smallholder cooperatives and supporting initiatives to raise productivity, re-plant ageing plantations and promote crop diversification - Complementarity of the partners - Value chain and transformation - Consider working with other actors (GIZ, ProPlanteur) and other actors interested in the restoration and rehabilitation of old cocoa plantation - New National Action Plan with emphasis on the Elimination of Worst Forms of Child Labor - Work with the Ministry of Employment which has mandate on child labor - Seat in the inter-ministerial committee working on the Elimination of Child Labor under the first lady office - Work with professionals in the sector to establish together requirements for the traceability of sustainably produced cocoa - Work on gender issue in the cocoa sector with MINADER gender focal point - Potential suggested institutional arrangement to include MINADER in SAP REDD+ project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Work through Direction de la Planification et de la Programmation Financière (DPPF) of MINADER and establish there a project management / coordination unit o Explore possibility to engage FIRCA (Fond Interprofessionnel pour la Recherche et le Conseil Agricoles), o Explore the possibility to work with Conseil Café Cocoa that has undertaken a vast programme on profiling of all cocoa producers and farms o Importance of having a coordination unit led by someone who understand FAO procedures.

<p>Conseil Café-Cocoa http://www.conseilcafecocoa.ci/</p>	<p>Conseil Café-Cocoa works on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen good governance and transparency in the management of resources; - Develop a sustainable cocoa and coffee economy through the reorganization of production and the improvement of productivity; - To secure producers' income through the introduction of a guaranteed minimum price and the improvement of domestic and foreign consumption; - Establish a strong interprofessional organization based on credible producer organizations. <p>Key activities of CCC where SAP REDD+ project can deliver some inputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fight against Cocoa swollen shoot virus (CSSV) is a plant pathogenic virus of the family Caulimoviridae that primarily infects cocoa trees. The virus is transmitted from tree to tree by mealybug vectors. About 100,000ha have been cut over the last three years - Replanting and rejuvenation - The census of Cocoa farmers is a set of two surveys that allow the profiles of farmers and farms as well as cooperative. It includes the geolocation of the unit interviewed to with the aim of achieving increasing traceability efforts to farm boundaries - Supporting agroforestry: farmers will now own trees they plant - Increasing the resilience of the cocoa sector to climate change - Work with buyers to enable child centered community structures and supporting community action plans to tackle and prevent child labor - Improving productivity of the farmers through the implementation of Farmer Business Plans, diversification of income supporting women's empowerment, providing access to Farm Services, as well as increasing access to Farm Finance. - Current average yield is about 500kg per ha and CCC aim at keeping the production level at 2 million tonnes per year therefore no new plantation - A coffee variety created Arabusta created in CI has a good market potential - Continued driving impact while integrating a higher degree of environmental and ecological compliance - Support work on water buffering technologies for supplementary irrigation of cocoa farms in case of drought spell - Promotion of cocoa agroforestry practice: hedge planting, integration of other tree in cocoa plantation (standard is that in one ha 800 individuals cocoa tree are planted and the rest should other tree), choice of species to be introduced depending on the farmer context and needs - Fallow improvement with tree planting <p>Recommendation after the experts meeting in November 2018 on coco agroforestry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The promotion of improved fallow lands for the improvement of soil fertility - The promotion of hedgerows for the delimitation of farms and plantations - The installation of barriers around plantations as part of the fight against swollen shoot disease and for the delimitation of plantations - Tree associations in coffee and cocoa plantations provided that <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The density of cocoa trees and coffee shall not exceed 800 feet per hectare o Shade after establishment of the plantation should be 30-50% o Planted tree species should be compatible for farming cocoa and coffee (eg. <i>Ceiba pentadra</i> or <i>Cola</i> tree are host for the virus of Swollen shoot) o Tree species are chosen by the farmers based on their need
<p>ARDCI Assembly of</p>	<p>ARDCI is</p>

Regions and Districts of Côte d'Ivoire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is a forum for consultation and permanent dialogue for all the Regions and Districts to the public authorities and to all third parties at national and international level; - give opinions on legislation and regulations concerning local authorities; - propose to the Government the means to be implemented to promote the development and smooth functioning of local authorities; <p>Important issues to work together with SAP REDD+ project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Land is one of the first production capital - In the region there is a need of environmental friendly agricultural practice; cocoa farming need to consider biodiversity conservation and issues of sustainability - Each region elaborates its strategic development plan (5 to 10 year) which include land use map. A strategic plan could cost 50-60 million FCFA (100,000-120,000 USD) - Artisanal mining is contributing to degradation - In the 1950s, the central-eastern region alone produced about 28% of national production. It was called "the cocoa belt". Today this region is lagging behind. The number of farmers has been reduced with the accumulation of poor harvests, drought. The central-eastern region has lost its place as the largest cocoa producer since the 1970s - The old cocoa farms are now either abandoned or being colonized with cashew plantation - Some remaining sacred forest in the regions need to be protected as they are remaining refuge for biodiversity
Cocoa and Forest Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In the face of the alarming reduction in forest cover in Côte d'Ivoire, agroforestry is emerging as a solution that can effectively contribute to the sustainability of the cocoa sector and the national effort to restore Ivorian forest cover to about 20% by 2030. - Agroforestry is thus a major activity promoted by the Cocoa & Forests Initiative's Joint Framework for Action, a commitment signed in November 2017 by the Government of Côte d'Ivoire and companies from the cocoa and chocolate sector, which stipulates that "the Government will develop sustainable agroforestry models, in consultation with all stakeholders". A thematic group on "Agroforestry and sustainable production" was thus set up with the objective of identifying good practices and operational guidelines for mixed agroforestry systems that can be easily scaled up. - Opportunities related to agroforestry, some constraints remain, that can be addressed by SAP REDD+ project such as: (i) access to forest tree seeds and/or seedlings, (ii) the economic and financial viability of agro-forestry systems, (iii) the coordination of initiatives in the field, (iv) land tenure security, (v) tree ownership, as well as (vi) the dissemination of agro-forestry techniques. - The competing land use forest and agriculture has forced the Government to introduce the notion of "agrofrest". Of the 234 forest about 70% are degraded - 27 project concept note are drafted by government and stakeholders to address the rehabilitation, conservation and extension of forests, and 5 are related to Cocoa ans Forest Initiative. This projects need to be more elaborated and need to be funded for implementation. - SAP REDD+ project can partially address some of these projects, mainly in the region of La Me, that is the only region where CFI and SAP REDD+ match.

<p>IDH The sustainable Trade Initiative</p>	<p>IDH support cocoa sector with</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Innovative finance strategies - Market convening - Service delivery model to farmers and communities (through innovation platform in San-Pedro for instance) - Technologies dissemination for sustainable value chain - Promotion of green growth - Support to regional management plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o IDH work around Cavaly on 350,000ha o Establish innovation platforms with cooperative - promote agro-forestry techniques in cocoa farming following the guidance note after the workshop in Yamoussokro which helped progress on the following points: i) Stakeholders agreed on the categories of existing practices in agroforestry; ii) Common norms and standards, which were not known to all parties, were identified and validated. This note provides guidance on the cultivation techniques to be promoted in order to maintain sustainable ecological conditions for cocoa production. - Use UNEP tool to evaluate the performance of various agroforestry system - Work with ICRAF through MARS project - Work with OIPR (OFFICE IVOIRIEN DES PARCS ET RESERVES) in the Mont Peko - They work with CFI as co-secretary and could be interested in a collaboration with SAP REDD+ project, mainly in the Land Use planning components
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Additional consultations with the private sector and financial institutions have been developed as follows and have been included in the stakeholder engagement plan:

Several meetings and workshops have been conducted since August 2019 by FAO and SEP REDD+ to discuss with private partners their potential future implication in the PROMIRE project:

- FAO/ The sustainable Trade Initiative (IDH) bilateral meeting in October 2019,
- FAO/Cocoa Coffee Council bilateral meetings in October, 2019, March 2020
- FAO/World Cocoa Foundation (WCF) bilateral meetings in November, December 2019, February 2020, 2019,
- Private companies such as Mondelez (November 2019), Mars (February 2020), CEMOI (March 2020)

Private sector was also part of the consultation process undertaken during the project development (see Annex 1 of the pre-feasibility study) and technical exchanges has been done with some of them (See Annex 3 of the pre-feasibility study):

- Initial information workshop and discussion on the PROMIRE project with public and private stakeholders of the project in September 2019,
- Regional and national meetings for the preparation of the PROMIRE project in Agboville, Adzopé and Aboisso in October 2019,
- Technical exchanges with several institutions in October 2019,
- Final validation meeting of the PROMIRE project in November 2019,

Exchanges have been also undertaken with other financial institution as per the following:

- FAO/EU bilateral meeting in November 2019,
- FAO/ GIZ bilateral meeting in March 2020
- FAO/WB Bilateral Meeting to deal with PROMIRE and SCOLUR projects (April 2020),
- And FAO is always involved in meetings with financial and technical partners of the cocoa sector, such as:
 - o FAO participation in the Steering Committee of the Cocoa and Forest Initiative (CFI) in November 2019,
 - o FAO participation in the official launching ceremony of the Donor Roundtable process on cocoa sector in November 2019,
 - o Meeting of the Technical and Financial Partners Taskforce with the Government and the CFI for the organization of the Round Table in February 2020 (roundtable which has not taken place yet)
 - o Preparatory meeting for the 'Integrated development project of the cocoa sector' in March 2020,
 - o WCF Meeting - Climate Smart Cocoa Investment Opportunities - Ivory Coast Workshop in May 2020

Discussions and agreements with private companies in principle revolved around the following topics:

- World Cocoa Foundation: The foundation is very interested in helping companies to negotiate with FAO for co-financing actions in eligible regions with climate funds. It can engage companies by complementing their action plans within the Cocoa Forest Initiative (CFI). The GCF investment is expected to boost the companies' commitments, especially in the work area, which is a good thing for the foundation. The market demand for sustainable, responsible and climate-compatible cocoa is growing, and as such, any project like PROMIRE is aligned with these elements and will support expansion of raw material availability with these technical characteristics,
- IDH: As CFI (Cocoa and Forest Initiative) Secretariat, the organization is very interested to see the PROMIRE project build amongst others on the achievements of the CFI and the companies present in the eligible work area, such as the establishment of the purchase agreement between the La Mé cooperative and AlterEco for a cocoa production at preferential price. As IDH, PROMIRE project could also help in leveraging other investors, even in the western part of Côte d'Ivoire.
- Mondelez: This private company works in practically all production areas, including the PROMIRE project areas, and is a pioneer in testing of PES systems in cocoa in coordination with the SEP-REDD, within the Cocoa Life Programme. Mondelez has an ambitious action plan for CFI being finalized. On top of the purchase of potential cocoa production from PROMIRE targeted area, Mondelez is interested to expand its future investment in the project targeted area.
- CEMOI: This private company also works in practically all production areas, including the PROMIRE project areas, also pioneer in testing of PES systems in cocoa in coordination with the SEP-REDD, within the Cocoa Life Programme. CEMOI is developing the "Cocoa Transparency" programme, since 2015 with a planned duration of 20 years, part of which will be dedicated to the CFI. Their action plan will be in line with the CFI plan (from 2018 to 2020). The company is interested in working with the project in the pilot phase and beyond, in the framework of CFI.
- MARS: This private company works in practically all production areas, including the PROMIRE project areas. Their overall goal is to achieve a cocoa supply chain deforestation-free by 2025.

MARS is also Interested in working with PROMIRE in the pilot phase and beyond in the framework of CFI.

Annex 4: Responsibilities and mission of assigned staff to the PMU

FAO and MINEDD will set up a Project Management Unit based in the SEP-REDD+ premises and composed of FAO and SEP-REDD+ specialists. Members of this team will perform the necessary supervision and oversight functions, including supervision and backstopping missions during the entire implementation period. For administrative purposes, the project will hire:

- An operation officer,
- A communication officer,
- An administrative and financial officer,
- And a driver.

Operation officer

Under the direct supervision of the FAO Representative, and in collaboration with experts, project managers, and the Programme and Administration Units of the FAO Office, the Operation officer is responsible for supporting the FAO office in budget monitoring activities for the project implemented by the Office of the FAO Representation in Côte d'Ivoire. He or she will be particularly responsible for the following tasks, ensuring strict compliance with the operational rules and directives of the Organization relating to the management or execution of FAO project budgets:

- Contribute to the execution of budgets, in close collaboration with the Units in charge of the Programme and the Administration respectively, in accordance with the work plans, and regularly inform FAOR of the constraints and related progress,
- Develop periodic management dashboards of project activities and budgets, and inform of the level / degree of budget execution in relation to project activities,
- Contribute to the general planning and preparation of project activities (missions, workshops and training) in terms of budget aspects in collaboration with experts,
- Ensure reporting and sharing of information on the progress of implementation of project activities in relation to the rate of execution of the budgets,
- Monitor use of the project budget and the level of expenditure according to the work plan established by the technical team in charge of project implementation. If necessary, take action and support project experts in a possible budget review,
- Contribute in close collaboration with the project team in the preparation and implementation of purchasing plans in collaboration with the purchasing department,
- Ensure compliance with the deadlines for the execution of budgetary authorizations for projects,
- Assist the experts in the preparation, for the budgetary part, of the progress, periodic and final reports of the projects,
- Propose mechanisms and actions for strengthening coordination and synergy of actions between the Programme Unit and the Unit in charge of Administration in terms of budget monitoring,
- Share knowledge and good practices in budget monitoring of projects,
- Perform other related duties as required.

Communication officer

Under the direct supervision of the FAO Representative, he or she will be responsible for supporting the office in visibility activities, managing internal and external communication in order to promote FAO's image through FAO-Côte d'Ivoire office. He or she will have to perform the following tasks in

particular, ensuring consistency with the Organization's policy and operational guidelines for communication and information:

- Collect and keep up to date information on FAO through project and workshops carried out,
- Propose appropriate supports,
- Ensure the visibility of the office during events organized or supported by FAO, including media coverage (press, radio, TV, photo, internet, etc.) and communications via social networks and website,
- Review a communication strategy of the Office for the year and propose action plans for the implementation of the strategy at the level of major programmes and projects,
- Design and produce the office's quarterly information bulletin,
- Write articles, press releases and press kits in close collaboration with the experts and the office's editorial committee,
- Identify, encourage and monitor visibility activities for advocacy with national and international partners,
- Maintain close relations with the national and foreign press.

Administrative and financial officer

Under the direct supervision of the FAO Representative, and in collaboration with experts, project managers, and the Programme and Administration Units of the FAO Office, the Administrative and financial officer is responsible for supporting the FAO office in administrative and financial activities for the project implemented by the Office of the FAO Representation in Côte d'Ivoire. He or she will be particularly responsible for the following tasks, ensuring strict compliance with the operational rules and directives of the Organization relating to the management or execution of FAO project budgets:

- Assist the Operation officer in all aspects (administrative, logistics, financial) related to the implementation of the GCF project,
- Maintain a system for archiving documents in paper and electronic format, drafting correspondence projects, receiving and recording correspondence,
- Answering telephone calls and routine requests, making appointments, receiving and directing visitors to the colleagues concerned,
- Contribute to the preparation of monthly cash accounts by recording expenses and receipts (purchase orders, Excel table, etc.), monthly financial reports on the budget and expenses of current projects,
- In collaboration with the GCF project Côte d'Ivoire team, develop administrative documents (contracts, memoranda of understanding, terms of reference, tender documents, purchase orders, etc.),
- Assist in monitoring and evaluation of purchases and archiving relating to purchases of office supplies and equipment (including assistance for customs clearance), monitoring and control of inventories and ensuring reception, storage, preservation, correct use and transportation of purchased equipment and supplies,
- Check the conformity of invoices submitted by suppliers and submit them to the GCF project team leader for payment authorization,
- Supervise and update the inventory of office equipment and materials, ensure the supply of materials / equipment such as stationery, electricity, water, transport (if applicable),
- Maintain the directory of interlocutors and partners of government officials, and staff of services and organizations related to the activities,
- When authorized, make disbursements of petty cash funds and keep a record of these disbursements as necessary,

- Provide support in the collection and processing of financial and activity data,
- Assist in the organization of workshops, meetings and training, including the preparation of travel authorizations (TAs), request for air tickets, accommodation for participants, etc,
- Organize trips and hotel reservations, prepare travel authorization forms and gather all information relevant to the trip; make visa requests for security and at the end of the mission prepare the various TECs,
- Monitor the contracts of international and national staff involved in the GCF project,
- Provide information on general administrative matters to newly assigned staff,
- Perform other related duties as required.

Driver

Under the direct supervision of the FAO Representative and the person in charge of Administration, he or she will perform the following tasks:

- Provide driving services for country office staff and their official visitors during official trips and provide occasional driving services for the sub-regional office and its visitors as required,
- Welcome staff and official visitors to the airport; facilitate immigration and customs formalities, hotel registration and other local formalities,
- Keep the logbook up to date for official trips, daily mileage, fuel consumption, expenses related to the transportation and operation of the vehicle, vehicle maintenance, repairs, etc,
- Ensure the daily maintenance of the affected vehicle (s); check water and oil levels, battery, tires, etc.; repair minor faults and plan the other repairs necessary to guarantee the safety and good technical condition of the vehicle at all times; keep the vehicle clean,
- Take care of local and organizational formalities in the event of an accident; ensure, in this case, that all the rules, regulations and procedures of the country are correctly respected,
- Collect and distribute mail, diplomatic bag, documents, and other communications and items from or to the office, go to post offices, airports, government agencies, other UN agencies, institutions, project sites to collect and deliver items and documents; keep records as required,
- If necessary, assist officials of the Representation to carry out simple administrative tasks, such as telephone calls and responses, photocopies, procedures with customs, local institutions and services, filing, keeping and monitoring files,
- Perform any other task related to the function that may be assigned to it as required.

Annex 5: Description of micro-finance institutions

Name	Sectors of intervention	Regions of interventions in relation to PROMIRE	Credits amounts	Loan terms / Requirements	Interest rate/credit formula	Profile
CADES	Trade Agriculture	La Mé	50,000 to 3,000,000 FCFA (100 to 6,000 USD)	Membership for min 3 months. Pre-saving preference. Warranties: Deposit of 20% of the loan	4.5% over 3 months; 8.5% over 6 months; 17% over 12 months 20% - 12 months	Recent creation: 2017; No specific credit lines for agriculture and forestry activities.
CECKA	Maintenance of plantations (reforestation) Agriculture Trade	La Mé	Up to 5,000,000 FCFA (10,000 USD)	Membership for min 3 months Financial warranties: Downstream	15% per year, over 12 months for agriculture and 15 months for reforestation	No specific credit lines for agriculture and forestry activities.
CASUDCO	Trade Agriculture (70% rubber, 20% oil palm, 10% cocoa)	Sud Comoe	Up to 5,000,000 FCFA (10,000 USD)	Very short-term savings: 3 months Financial warranties: Downstream	14 to 17% per year over 10 to 12 months.	Local target with a good control of local context; No specific credit lines for agriculture and forestry activities.
ADVANS	Micro-entrepreneurs (trade, services, etc.), craftsmen and SMEs.	Not operating in any regions, but the project will determine under activity 2.4.3. their potential involvement as per financial instrument they could provide	150,000 FCFA to 100,000,000 FCFA (300 to 200,000 USD)	Credit without pre-savings obligation. Warranties: personal (minimum salary of 200,000 FCFA or solvent trader); materials (buildings, furniture) Technical and financial feasibility study	1.6% per month. Digressive rate, calculated on the remaining amount owed.	Lends large amounts. Can go up to 100 million FCFA; "Cocoa credit" loan developed but not yet tested nor implemented.
FIDRA SA	Agriculture Trade Breeding Life insurance, health insurance and education program products.	La Mé	Up to 5,000,000 FCFA (10,000 USD) Exceptionally 10,000,000 FCFA	Compulsory advance savings. Amount payable: 33% maximum of superannuation. On-site verification. Warranties: Personal (pension) or/and materials (buildings, furniture)	20% per year (12 to 36 months)	Targets mainly retirees and pre-retirees from all sectors of activity: good social inclusiveness; No specific credit lines for agriculture and forestry activities.
CMCI	Investment credit, Market Finance for Trade Transport Hotel Small processing industry Periurban breeding Construction Agribusiness	Sud Comoe	Up to 1,000,000 FCFA (2,000 USD)	Investment financing: Membership Subscription for 1 share at least Mandatory advance savings Savings Solidarity bond Gages Market financing or working capital:	16% per year over 36 months max 2% per month over 6 months max	Provides training in financial education for its members. No specific credit lines for agriculture and forestry activities.

	Short-cycle agriculture			Subscription 5 shares at least Direct debit to CMCI Guarantee deposit Insurance Credit Caution		
MICROCRED/Baobab	Traders Micro-entrepreneurs	Sud Comoe La Mé	100,000 to 30,000,000 FCFA (200 to 60,000 USD)	Warranty: depending on the credit amount	27% per year	New brand launched by the MICROCRED Group, dedicated to the distribution of innovative non-financial products (targeting low-income populations); No specific credit lines for agriculture and forestry activities.
ADEC SA	Open	Agneby Tiassa	Up to 1,000,000 FCFA (2,000 USD)	Warranty: depending on the credit amount		Female-dominated shareholders; No specific credit lines for agriculture and forestry activities.
UNACOOPEC-CI	Agriculture: microproject, solidarity loan, working capital need, campaign loan Forestry: hevea production Crafts Consumption Habitat/land tenure Investment Trade	Agneby Tiassa La Mé Sud Comoe	Variable, and linked to the deposit amount. Can reach large amounts (from 45K to 200 million euros)	Membership for min 3 months. Mandatory pre-season regular savings: at least 33% of the loan amount. For investment: present a project Warranty: Material or financial warranty.	18% per year (degressive). 0.8% per month 3 to 24 months max (exceptionally 36 months)	Pioneer and leader in the microfinance sector. Important proximity network; Experience: permanent presence in the MFI sector for more than 35 years; No specific credit line for agriculture and forestry activities but can consider repayment schedules adjusted to production cycle.
RCMEC-CI	Agriculture (11% of the total volume of credits) Trade Micro-entreprises	Agneby Tiassa La Mé Sud Comoe	Up to 10,000,000 FCFA (average loan: 2 M FCFA – 4,000 USD)	Warranty: financial or material (including land titles) Business plan	15 to 18% per year In the framework of a project: 10 to 12% per year (eg. Project supported by UN agencies)	Present in rural area; no specific credit line for agriculture but flexible for it. Interest rate negotiable if the beneficiary is in the framework of a project (case of a project supported by UNIDO).
CELPAID	Electronic currency Trade Catering Transportation SME/PMI pay management Funding for purchase orders. Agriculture	Agneby Tiassa La Mé Sud Comoe	Individual: Up to 5,000,000 FCFA (10,000 USD) Companies: up to 50,000,000 FCFA (100,000 USD)	Membership for 3 months min. Application fee: 2% of the loan amount. Warranties: Deposit or endorsement	1.5% per month (12 to 36 months)	Focus on NTIC tools: development of communication platforms for customers; No specific credit lines for agriculture and forestry activities.