



ADAPTATION FUND

AFB/PPRC.21/32
26 September 2017

Adaptation Fund Board
Project and Programme Review Committee
Twenty-First Meeting
Bonn, Germany, 10-11 October 2017

Agenda Item 7 e)

PROPOSAL FOR (CÔTE D'IVOIRE, GUINEA)

Background

1. The strategic priorities, policies and guidelines of the Adaptation Fund (the Fund), as well as its operational policies and guidelines include provisions for funding projects and programmes at the regional, i.e. transnational level. However, the Fund has thus far not funded such projects and programmes.

2. The Adaptation Fund Board (the Board), as well as its Project and Programme Review Committee (PPRC) and Ethics and Finance Committee (EFC) considered issues related to regional projects and programmes on a number of occasions between the Board's fourteenth and twenty-first meetings but the Board did not make decisions for the purpose of inviting proposals for such projects. Indeed, in its fourteenth meeting, the Board decided to:

(c) Request the secretariat to send a letter to any accredited regional implementing entities informing them that they could present a country project/programme but not a regional project/programme until a decision had been taken by the Board, and that they would be provided with further information pursuant to that decision

(Decision B.14/25 (c))

3. In its eighth meeting in March 2012, the PPRC came up with recommendations on certain definitions related to regional projects and programmes. However, as the subsequent seventeenth Board meeting took a different strategic approach to the overall question of regional projects and programmes, these PPRC recommendations were not included in a Board decision.

4. In its twenty-fourth meeting, the Board heard a presentation from the coordinator of the working group set up by decision B.17/20 and tasked with following up on the issue of regional projects and programmes. She circulated a recommendation prepared by the working group, for the consideration by the Board, and the Board decided:

- a. To initiate steps to launch a pilot programme on regional projects and programmes, not to exceed US\$ 30 million;*
- b. That the pilot programme on regional projects and programmes will be outside of the consideration of the 50 per cent cap on multilateral implementing entities (MIEs) and the country cap;*
- c. That regional implementing entities (RIEs) and MIEs that partner with national implementing entities (NIEs) or other national institutions would be eligible for this pilot programme, and*
- d. To request the secretariat to prepare for the consideration of the Board, before the twenty-fifth meeting of the Board or intersessionally, under the guidance of the*

working group set up under decision B.17/20, a proposal for such a pilot programme based on consultations with contributors, MIEs, RIEs, the Adaptation Committee, the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), and other relevant bodies, as appropriate, and in that proposal make a recommendation on possible options on approaches, procedures and priority areas for the implementation of the pilot programme.

(Decision B.24/30)

5. The proposal requested under (d) of the decision above was prepared by the secretariat and submitted to the Board in its twenty-fifth meeting, and the Board decided to:

- a. Approve the pilot programme on regional projects and programmes, as contained in document AFB/B.25/6/Rev.2;*
- b. Set a cap of US\$ 30 million for the programme;*
- c. Request the secretariat to issue a call for regional project and programme proposals for consideration by the Board in its twenty-sixth meeting; and*
- d. Request the secretariat to continue discussions with the Climate Technology Center and Network (CTCN) towards operationalizing, during the implementation of the pilot programme on regional projects and programmes, the Synergy Option 2 on knowledge management proposed by CTCN and included in Annex III of the document AFB/B.25/6/Rev.2.*

(Decision B.25/28)

6. Based on the Board Decision B.25/28, the first call for regional project and programme proposals was issued and an invitation letter to eligible Parties to submit project and programme proposals to the Fund was sent out on 5 May 2015.

7. In its twenty-sixth meeting the Board decided *to request the secretariat to inform the Multilateral Implementing Entities and Regional Implementing Entities that the call for proposals under the Pilot Programme for Regional Projects and Programmes is still open and to encourage them to submit proposals to the Board at its 27th meeting, bearing in mind the cap established by Decision B.25/26.*

(Decision B.26/3)

8. In its twenty-seventh meeting the Board decided to:

- a. *Continue consideration of regional project and programme proposals under the pilot programme, while reminding the implementing entities that the amount set aside for the pilot programme is US\$ 30 million;*
- b. *Request the secretariat to prepare for consideration by the Project and Programme Review Committee at its nineteenth meeting, a proposal for prioritization among regional project/programme proposals, including for awarding project formulation grants, and for establishment of a pipeline; and*
- c. *Consider the matter of the pilot programme for regional projects and programmes at its twenty-eighth meeting.*

(Decision B.27/5)

9. The proposal requested in (b) above was presented to the nineteenth meeting of the PPRC as document AFB/PPRC.19/5. The Board subsequently decided:

a) *With regard to the pilot programme approved by decision B.25/28:*

(i) *To prioritize the four projects and 10 project formulation grants as follows:*

1. *If the proposals recommended to be funded in a given meeting of the PPRC do not exceed the available slots under the pilot programme, all those proposals would be submitted to the Board for funding;*

2. *If the proposals recommended to be funded in a given meeting of the PPRC do exceed the available slots under the pilot programme, the proposals to be funded under the pilot programme would be prioritized so that the total number of projects and project formulation grants (PFGs) under the programme maximizes the total diversity of projects/PFGs. This would be done using a three-tier prioritization system: so that the proposals in relatively less funded sectors would be prioritized as the first level of prioritization. If there are more than one proposal in the same sector: the proposals in relatively less funded regions are prioritized as the second level of prioritization. If there are more than one proposal in the same region, the proposals submitted by relatively less represented implementing entity would be prioritized as the third level of prioritization;*

(ii) *To request the secretariat to report on the progress and experiences of the pilot programme to the PPRC at its twenty-third meeting; and*

b) *With regard to financing regional proposals beyond the pilot programme referred to above:*

(i) *To continue considering regional proposals for funding, within the two categories originally described in document AFB/B.25/6/Rev.2: ones requesting up to US\$ 14 million, and others requesting up to US\$ 5 million, subject to review of the regional programme;*

(ii) *To establish two pipelines for technically cleared regional proposals: one for proposals up to US\$ 14 million and the other for proposals up to US\$ 5 million,*

and place any technically cleared regional proposals, in those pipelines, in the order described in decision B.17/19 (their date of recommendation by the PPRC, their submission date, their lower “net” cost); and

(iii) To fund projects from the two pipelines, using funds available for the respective types of implementing entities, so that the maximum number of or maximum total funding for projects and project formulation grants to be approved each fiscal year will be outlined at the time of approving the annual work plan of the Board.

(Decision B.28/1)

10. According to the Board Decision B.12/10, a project or programme proposal needs to be received by the secretariat no less than nine weeks before a Board meeting, in order to be considered by the Board in that meeting.

11. The following project pre-concept document titled “*Increasing local communities’ adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change through forest landscape restoration*” was submitted by *The African Development Bank (AfDB)*, which is a Multilateral Implementing Entity of the Adaptation Fund.

12. This is the first submission of the pre-concept project proposal, using the three-step approval process established for regional projects. The present submission was received by the secretariat in time to be considered in the thirtieth Board meeting. The secretariat carried out a technical review of the project proposal, assigned it the diary number AFR/MIE/Food/2017/1, and completed a review sheet.

13. The secretariat is submitting to the PPRC the summary the final technical review of the pre-concept for a regional project, both prepared by the secretariat, along with the final submission of the proposal in the following section. The proposal is also submitted with changes between the initial submission and the revised version highlighted.

14. Lastly, The African Development Bank has submitted a Project Formulation Grant Request, which is also available as an addendum to this document.

Project Summary

<u>Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea:</u>	Increasing local communities' adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change through forest landscape restoration
Implementing Entity:	African Development Bank (AfDB)
Project/Programme	USD 1,330,000
Execution Cost:	
Total Project/Programme Cost	USD 11,480,000
Project Management Fee	USD 1,190,000
Financing Requested	USD 14,000,000

Project Background and Context:

The project aims to contribute to rural development, poverty alleviation and resilient livelihoods, restoration of degraded areas, green jobs and forest resources conservation. The overall goal of the project is to improve livelihoods and the standard of living of rural poor forest-dependent households in the targeted countries, while reducing deforestation and strengthening regional collaboration in the development and use of forest products. The expected impact of the project includes improved rural communities' livelihoods from forest landscape restoration and increased forest cover.

Component 1: Planting trees of choice for increased resilience among communities to climate change effects (USD 7,380,000).

This component will ensure sustainable production and use of forest trees, products and services are supported in degraded areas for increased household resilience to climate change in Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea.

Component 2: Value addition and marketing of forest products for increased resilience to climate change effects on agricultural productivity (USD 2,000,000).

This component will support targeted households to engage in value addition and marketing of tree products. Participatory landscape restoration and new forest management approaches will ensure that simple value addition techniques are used in processing forest products, providing sustainable economic avenues for all beneficiaries.

Component 3: Institutional/policy strengthening and networking (USD 1,500,000).

Through this component, local, national and regional policies, laws, institutions and organizations support the promotion of forest landscape restoration. Institutions responsible for forest landscape restoration are strengthened, and land tenure impediments to forest landscape restoration will be identified and addressed.

Component 4: Capacity development and learning for up scaling lessons learnt (USD 600,000).

This component aims at reinforce the capacities of local, national and regional actors in forest landscape restoration. This will be achieved thorough the organization of exchange visits and sharing of experiences, the development of technical training of trainers (TOT) on sustainable

forest use alongside agricultural production, and by creating and supporting national and regional communication networks on forest landscape restoration.



ADAPTATION FUND

ADAPTATION FUND BOARD SECRETARIAT TECHNICAL REVIEW OF PROJECT/PROGRAMME PROPOSAL

PROJECT/PROGRAMME CATEGORY: Pre-Concept for a Regional Project

Countries/Region: **Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea / Africa**
 Project Title: **Increasing local communities' adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change through forest landscape restoration**
 Thematic focal area: **Food security**
 Implementing Entity: **African Development Bank (AfDB)**
 Executing Entities: **Côte d'Ivoire: Ministry of Urban Sanitation, Environment Sustainable Development, Ministry of Water Resources and Forests; and Guinea: Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests**
 AF Project ID: **AFR/MIE/Food/2017/1**
 IE Project ID: Requested Financing from Adaptation Fund (US Dollars): **14,000,000**
 Reviewer and contact person: **Martina Dorigo Aden** Co-reviewer(s): **Ming Yang** IE Contact Person(s): **Ayanleh Daher**

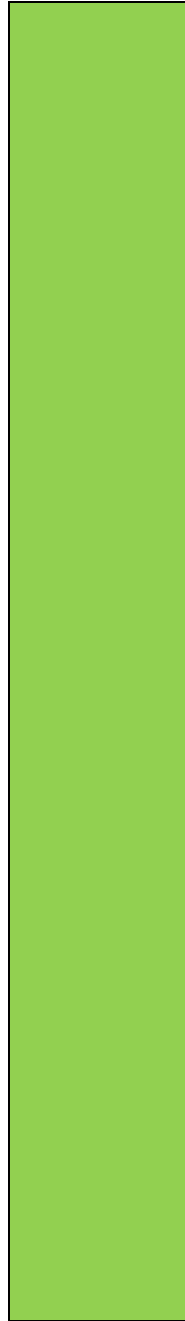
Review Criteria	Questions	Comments on 25 August 2017	Comments on 13 September 2017
Country Eligibility	1. Are all of the participating countries party to the Kyoto Protocol?	Yes, both Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea are parties of the KP.	
	2. Are all of the participating countries developing countries particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change?	Yes, both Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea are developing countries. Both are impacted by the negative effects of climate change, resulting in erratic rainfalls causing prolonged dry seasons, soil erosion and degradation of land grazing.	

<p>Project Eligibility</p>	<p>1. Have the designated government authorities for the Adaptation Fund from each of the participating countries endorsed the project/programme?</p>	<p>Yes, the governments of Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea endorsed the project. The signed letters have been received and filed.</p>	
	<p>2. Has the pre-concept provided necessary information on the problem the proposed project/programme is aiming to solve, including both the regional and the country perspective?</p>	<p>Yes, it provided sufficient description of how the project is aiming to solve the problem, nevertheless the regional impact needs to be better defined.</p> <p>Approximately 90% of rural households in West African countries depend on fuelwood for cooking. There is increasing scarcity of fuelwood due to increasing population and climate change impacts including erratic rainfall resulting in prolonged dry seasons, reduction in crop yields, scarcity of tree and non-tree products/services, disappearance of some species, and degradation of grazing lands. The complex nature of these recurrent and emerging challenges of environmental degradation implies that rather than a single solution approach, a multi-dimensional strategy with multiple country involvement should be used to enable local communities to adapt to and mitigate climate change effects.</p> <p>As two of the 18 African countries that made great commitments at the Bonn Challenge meeting to restore large degraded forest areas by 2020 and 2030, Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea have decided to develop and strengthen their coordinated and collaborative partnership between public and private stakeholders to the restoration of their degraded lands.</p> <p>CR 1: Please provide an analysis of why this problem can be better tackled through a regional approach.</p>	

	3. Have the project/programme objectives, components and financing been clearly explained?	Yes.	
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	<p>4. Has the project/programme been justified in terms of how:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - it supports concrete adaptation actions? - it builds added value through the regional approach? - it promotes new and innovative solutions to climate change adaptation? - it is cost-effective? - it is consistent with applicable strategies and plans? - it incorporates learning and knowledge management? - it will be developed through a consultative process with particular reference to vulnerable groups, including gender considerations, in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund? - it will take into account sustainability? 	<p><u>Concrete adaptation actions:</u> Yes, the objective of this project is to build and develop local communities' adaptive capacity and resilience that will contribute to rural development, poverty alleviation and resilient livelihoods, restoration of degraded areas and forest resources conservation.</p> <p><u>Builds values through regional approach:</u> this part is not well defined. It is stated that though reforestation activities, the project will support both countries in the targets committed in the Bonn Challenge (5%), nevertheless the regional added value is not explained.</p> <p>CR 1: Please see above comment.</p> <p><u>Innovation:</u> page 4 shows some project innovative solutions to climate change adaptation, nevertheless some do not constitute innovative practices. You may want to consider the following: (1) using agriculture forest technics to restore the land, which makes the land productive in both food and forest related goods and services; (2) reform ownership of land, or enhance documentation of land, or increase women's ownership on land will significantly increase responsibilities and investments from the private sector in land restoration.</p> <p>CR 2: This part should be better informed taking into account the above-mentioned recommendations.</p> <p><u>Cost-effectiveness:</u> in the proposal, the investment per ha needs to be checked. It is stated that the project with a budget of \$ of 6,380,000 will be able to restore at least 350,000 (5% of both countries' targets committed in the Bonn Challenge, equal to 7,000,000) hectares of degraded land. In other words, the project will be able to restore one hectare of degraded land with \$18.22 only, which seems to be too cost-effective.</p>	<p>CR 1: Addressed. However, activities such as "involvement of key national partners in the development of the proposal and in the subsequent implementation of project activities" are not considered innovative. Rather, they are key elements that should be taken into consideration in the project design. In the project design stage, please consider adding innovative activities or elements.</p> <p>CR 2: Addressed.</p>
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Sustainability: Yes, the project sustainability will be ensured through stakeholders' engagement and partnerships fostered from the beginning of the project, ensuring local ownership of project outcomes.

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	<p>5. Does the pre-concept briefly explain which organizations would be involved in the proposed regional project/programme at the regional and national/subnational level, and how coordination would be arranged? Does it explain how national institutions, and when possible, national implementing entities (NIEs) would be involved as partners in the project?</p>	<p>No, the pre-concept recognizes the importance and plans the involvement of key national partners in the development of the proposal and in the subsequent implementation of project activities, specifically with: the private sector, research and civil society organizations, transferring practices and experiences from one country to another. Furthermore, it is stated that “the sustainability of project activities beyond the grant period will be ensured also by project partners”.</p> <p>CR 4: Please inform about coordination strategy that will be put in place to facilitate the involvement of identified key stakeholders (and national institutions) in project activities at regional and national/sub-national levels.</p>	<p>CR 4: Addressed. Nevertheless, at concept note stage detailed information on involvement of organizations at national and subnational levels should be provided.</p>
<p>Resource Availability</p>	<p>6. Is the requested project / programme funding within the funding windows of the pilot programme for regional projects/programmes?</p>	<p>Yes, the project is requesting a funding of 14,000,000 USD.</p>	
	<p>7. Are the administrative costs (Implementing Entity Management Fee and Project/ Programme Execution Costs) at or below 20 per cent of the total project/programme budget?</p>	<p>Yes, the Implementing Entity fee and the Project Execution Costs together correspond to 2,520,000 USD or 18% of the total project’s budget.</p>	
<p>Eligibility of IE</p>	<p>8. Is the project/programme submitted through an eligible Implementing Entity that has been accredited by the Board?</p>	<p>Yes, it has been submitted through the African Development Bank Group (AfDB), that is a Multilateral Implementing Entity of the AF.</p>	

<p>Technical Summary</p>	<p>The objective of the proposed project is to contribute to rural development, poverty alleviation and resilient livelihoods. The primary interest of this project is in forest restoration for improved livelihoods in communities in Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea.</p> <p>The initial technical review finds that while the planned project activities are described relatively clearly, the justification and added value for implementing those as a regional project was not very strong. The following comments should be addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Apart from Component 4 and project execution, please clarify how the activities in the two countries would form one regional approach rather than two separate sets of activities, and how the project would be approaching the adaptation challenges at the regional level; - Please further clarify and if necessary, bolster the innovativeness of the proposed project, taking into account the proposed
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - suggestions; - The cost-effectiveness figures under the investment per ha of reforested land, should be revised. Additionally, the co-financing from the Government should be further informed; <p>The coordination strategy that will be put in place to facilitate the involvement of identified key stakeholders (and national institutions) in project activities at regional and national/sub-national levels, should be better informed.</p> <p>The initial technical review raised different comments to be addressed. The final technical review found that the revised pre-concept had adequately addressed all the issues raised. However, in the development of the concept proposal, innovations introduced thanks to this proposed project need to be better clarified and the project's coordination arrangements facilitating the involvement of stakeholders at national and sub-national levels need to be provided.</p>
<p>Date:</p>	<p>13 September, 2017</p>



ADAPTATION FUND

PRE-CONCEPT FOR A REGIONAL PROJECT/PROGRAMME

PART I: PROJECT/PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Title of Project/Programme: **Increasing local communities' adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change through forest landscape restoration**

Countries: Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea

Thematic Focal Area: Food security

Type of Implementing Entity: Multilateral Implementing Entity (MIE)

Implementing Entity: African Development Bank Group (AfDB)

Executing Entities: Côte d'Ivoire: Ministry of Urban Sanitation, Environment Sustainable Development, Ministry of Water Resources and Forests;
Guinea: Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests

Amount of Financing Requested: 14,000,000 (in U.S Dollars Equivalent)

Project / Programme Background and Context:

It is increasingly recognized that environmental degradation is impacting forest resources and livelihoods as well as other social and economic activities that depend on tree and forest products and services in West Africa. Bearing in mind that poverty is known to be more acute in rural areas than in urban areas, FAO (2015)¹ has estimated that 14% of the 217.8 million undernourished people in Sub-Saharan Africa live in Western Africa.

The proposed project is expected to be implemented in two target countries which are Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea, located in the Western part of the African continent. The dependence of rural households on fuelwood for cooking is generally over 90% but there is increasing scarcity associated with increasing population and other environmental exigencies. The major impacts of deforestation in these two countries include erratic rainfall resulting in prolonged dry seasons, reduction in crop yields as a result of serious soil erosion, scarcity of tree and non-tree products/services, disappearance of some species, and degradation of grazing lands. The complex nature of these recurrent and emerging challenges of environmental degradation implies that rather than a single solution approach, a multi-dimensional strategy should be used to enable local communities to adapt to and mitigate climate change effects.

To achieve long-term sustainable use of the environmental resources, Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea have recognized the need for increased coordinated and collaborative partnership between public and private stakeholders and are committed to the restoration of their degraded lands. Cognisant of forest degradation in many Africa countries, the governments of Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea were

¹ FAO, 2015, *Regional overview of food insecurity: African food security prospects brighter than ever*

among the 18 African countries that made great commitments at the Bonn Challenge² meeting to restore large degraded forest areas by 2020 and 2030.

The primary interest of this project is in forest restoration for improved livelihoods. Both the Government of Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea committed 5,000,000 and 2,000,000 hectares, respectively, of its degraded forest lands to be restored by 2030 as part of the Bonn Challenge meeting that took place in July 2016.

Project / Programme Objectives:

The project aims to contribute to rural development, poverty alleviation and resilient livelihoods, restoration of degraded areas, green jobs and forest resources conservation. The overall goal of the project is to improve livelihoods and the standard of living of rural poor forest-dependent households in the targeted countries, while reducing deforestation and strengthening regional collaboration in the development and use of forest products. The expected impact of the project include improved rural communities 'livelihoods from forest landscape restoration and increased forest cover.

Project / Programme Components and Financing³:

Project Components	Expected Outcomes	Expected Outputs	Amount \$) (US
1. Planting trees of choice for increased resilience among communities to climate change effects	Sustainable production and use of forest trees, products and services are supported in degraded areas for increased household resilience to climate change in Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea	1.1. Trees species of choice among different communities are determined for different ends 1.2. Innovative techniques to boost economic, social, cultural and environmental benefits of trees to local communities are determined. 1.3. The needs and challenges for tree planting in selected communities determined 1.4. At least 5% 7000 ha ⁴ of the committed areas in each project country supported for restoration with desirable trees species to meet different end uses	67,38 ¹ ,000
2. Value addition and marketing of forest products for increased resilience to climate change effects on agricultural productivity	Targeted households are successfully organised and supported to engage in value addition and marketing of tree products	2.1. The value chains of prioritized tree products are strengthened and promoted through capacity development of target groups 2.2. Value addition techniques are strengthened and disseminated 2.3. Best value addition techniques are made available to local pilot groups	32,00 ¹ ,000
3. Institutional/ policy strengthening and networking	Local, national and regional policies, laws, institutions and organizations support	3.1. Institutions responsible for forest landscape restoration are strengthened 3.2. Land tenure impediments to forest landscape restoration identified and solutions proposed	1,50 ¹ ,000

² The Bonn Challenge is a global effort to bring 150 million hectares of degraded and deforested land into restoration by 2020 and 350 million hectares by 2030. This initiative underpins Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) to restore degraded land to its ecological functionality as well as enhancing human well-being. ³ The components indicated in the table will target both Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea. ⁴ [This calculation is based on information obtained from the International Institute for Sustainability, 2014.](#)

the promotion forest landscape restoration

4. Capacity development and learning for deployment up scaling created, lessons learnt	The capacities of local, national and regional actors are reinforced in forest landscape restoration	4.1. Exchange visits and sharing of experiences are organised 4.2. Germplasm procurement and pathways and networks are identified, supported and shared in each country 4.3 Technical training of trainers (TOT) of staff (data collection, indicators of well-being, etc.) in charge of managing and protect the forest 4.4 Trainings (TOT) on sustainable forest use alongside agricultural production 4.5 National and regional communication networks on forest landscape restoration are put in place and supported	600,000
5. Project/Programme Execution cost (9.5%)		1,330,000	
6. Total Project/Programme Cost	11,480,000	7. Project Cycle Management Fee charged by the Implementing Entity (8.5%)	1,190,000
Amount of Financing Requested			14,000,000

Project Duration: 5 years or 60 months

PART II: PROJECT / PROGRAMME JUSTIFICATION²

In West Africa, the production, value addition and commercialization of non-timber forest products (NTFPs) from natural and agro ecological systems have been well documented, albeit poorly supported to enhance their contributions to the adaptive capacities and resilience of local communities to climate change and other global shocks. The technological, marketing, financing, legal and institutional arrangements that support tree planting systems and agroforestry have been, at best, weakly developed in most of Africa including in Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea. In all these countries, adaptation action plans and INDC strategic directions are geared at smart agriculture, zero deforestation cocoa agroforests, enhanced energy use and reforestation of degraded landscapes with a focus on helping communities adapt to the impacts for climate change. The emphasis on the environmental resilience of tree-based systems and agroecosystems associated with trees is still embryonic with limited or no financial supports for their concretization on the ground.

Thanks to funding from the Adaptation Fund (AF), this project ³aims at filling this above gap in Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea where forest is believed to sustain the health of the environment by mitigating climate change, conserving biodiversity, sustaining and enhancing land productivity, and providing timber, fuelwood, medicines and non-timber forest products. These products could serve as safety nets in crises or emergency situations such as when agricultural crops fail due to climate change-related droughts or floods. In times of crop failure, most people will rely on forest resources for their livelihoods to generate food and cash. This project will explore and promote the creation, management and utilization of forest stands, agroforestry and tree planting systems

² **Note to the reviewers:** It is important to note that this section will better be articulated into components after the consultation process during concept preparation. It is envisaged the full proposal preparation will employ a three steps process: 1. Consultations at regional level with the national partners to determine the scope and focus of the project, including target pilot area within the countries; detailed community level consultations in the pilot areas, including with men and women groups, vulnerable groups within the communities and key community informants, as well as, national consultations in each of the target countries to obtain stakeholder support and validation of the project design.

³ The project's mentioned activities are subject to field confirmation and consultations with stakeholders that are expected to be had as part of the concept note preparation.

for increased adaptive and resilient capacities of local community livelihoods in Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea. It will constitute pilot sites for lessons to be learnt and shared across West Africa and beyond on forest landscape restoration.

Given that Cote d'Ivoire and Guinea are neighboring countries and are part of the larger Upper Guinea Forest (UGF) ecosystem, the first added value of the regional approach to this problematic stems from the need to adopt a holistic treatment of environmental degradation, a problem that does not respect boundaries, while accounting for the particularities of each country. The forestry ecosystem (including transboundary water currents, biotic communities and wildlife) as well as the associated livelihoods (forest-based informal jobs, forestry derived products and small-scale trade) vulnerable to climate change effects tend to be transboundary. Secondly, given that the two countries are members of both the ECOWAS and the Mano River Union (MRU) and have officially endorsed the ECOWAS Convergence Plan for the Sustainable Management and Utilization of the Forest Ecosystems in West Africa, the other added value of the regional approach is in increasing cooperation between the two countries, informing a harmonization of forestry policies, providing opportunities for cost savings and economies of scale, and maximizing lessons sharing between concerned stakeholders at local, national and regional level. It is thus believed that a regional approach will more effectively benefit target communities rather than implementing two disjointed and separate national projects.

The project is **transformative and innovative** in a number of ways, by including the following:

- Involvement of key national partners in the development of the proposal and in the subsequent implementation of project activities. This will increase national partner ~~ownership of the project and partners' capacity to lead future efforts.~~
- Use of agro-forestry techniques that will simultaneously enhance soil productivity and contribute to forest restoration are envisaged to improve and consolidate the sustainable use of forest goods and services. The introduction of these techniques shall be ~~gender-sensitive and empower the vulnerable (including women) through the provision of a diversified livelihood base.~~
- Collaboration with the private sector, research and civil society organizations, transferring practices and experiences from one country to another. This regional-level exchange will allow best practices to be disseminated and will strengthen regional platforms.
- Development of innovative forest management approaches that include local communities' values and inputs. This process will raise the awareness of policy makers and small-scale forestry entrepreneurs on local values and provide them with tools to generate a new way of "doing business" in the forest sector.
- At the local level, the project will increase the participation of communities in decisions regarding the choice of tree species to plant and market outlets. This will increase their capacity to integrate their views and needs in the formal forest sector.

In terms of **cost-effectiveness**, participatory and gender sensitive landscape restoration approach that will be adopted by the project provides a low cost and sustainable adaptation option to ensure uptake by local actors far beyond the project life time. The involvement of women and men of all categories in planting trees and ensuring that simple value addition techniques are used in the processing forest products provide sustainable economic avenues

for all beneficiaries. At the operational level, the cost-effectiveness of the project concept is reflected through the use of AF funding in the most efficient manner following AfDB's rigorous financial and administrative procedures in the competitive procurement components to ensure best value for money. The bulk of project financing will be directed to community-level activities on restoration efforts, value

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addition to forest products and local capacity development with direct connections to local opportunities for the procurement of goods and services.

Consistency with national/regional development strategies: The project is in line with Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea's National Adaptation Plans of Action (NAPAs), Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs), Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs), Readiness Proposals and National REDD+ Strategies of the countries. Measures outlined in both countries are in support of adaptation efforts in rural communities for improved and sustainable productive systems through the diversification of agro-sylvo-pastoral systems the development of value added techniques for products within communities. The project is also in line with Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea's commitments at the Bonn Challenge meeting in 2016 on restoring 5 million and 2 million hectares of their degraded lands by 2030, respectively.

Project preparation and implementation will follow **a strong consultative process** with an approach to the project that shall be participatory, holistic, gender sensitive and integrated in nature and characterized by the use of local initiatives and knowledge to ensure that the outcomes are replicable and scalable. There will also be effective consultation of all relevant stakeholders (Government ministries, specialized agencies, NGOs, local groups, associations etc.). More importantly, using the free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) consultation approach, specific attention will be given to the most vulnerable people, women and children to ensure additional income generating opportunities and insertions of tree planting exercises in school curricula.

The **sustainability of project activities** beyond the grant period will be ensured by: (i) project partners; (ii) involvement of local beneficiaries; and (iii) the project's links with policy makers in the countries and region. Pathways envisioned to foster project sustainability include ensuring stakeholders' engagement and partnerships from the beginning of the project, local ownership of project outcomes by both women and men and through capacity development and recommendations for management and policy. Environmental sustainability will be enhanced through support to the planting of desirable economic tree species, training (TOT) on the creation and management of tree nurseries, thus contributing to conserving, protecting and enhancing forest resources community lands and production systems.

Economic, social and environmental benefits and mitigation strategies: The project is expected to benefit local communities, and especially vulnerable communities and groups, in terms of increased income from forestry products, increased employment of women and men associated with the support and development of small scale forest enterprises. The project will link sustainability activities to evolving concepts such as green economy, climate change adaptation and mitigation and the sustainable development goals (SDGs) as well as to southsouth cooperation. Compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund will be ensured by incorporating the risk and impact assessments' recommendations into the design of each pilot project, including appropriate mitigation strategies for implementation.

A preliminary review of on-going projects funded by development partners shows that there is **no duplication** of the proposed project with other funding sources at the national level. Throughout the preparation of the project, more detailed information on ongoing initiatives will be gathered to further ensure this.

The **justification for the funding requested** is linked to the main predicaments expressed by the Ivorian and Guinean governments in realizing the activities and outputs of their NAPAs, REDD+ Strategies and their restoration commitments at the Bonn Challenge Meeting in 2016. It includes: lack of financial resources, lack of technical capacities/expertise and poor public awareness on the wise use of forest resources for increased adaptive capacities of local communities. The Adaptation Fund (AF) thus provides for a great opportunity to address this financial predicament. The AF funding will be entirely used to implement the four components of the project as indicated above.

In terms of the relevant **environmental and social impacts and risks**, the present project is expected to be classified under category B in accordance with the Social and Environmental Policy of the Adaptation Fund. A social and environmental assessment will be conducted as a preliminary step to the submission of the project request.

PART III: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

This is a regional project that will be implemented by the AfDB office in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire in collaboration with the participating countries. AfDB will provide technical assistance and management support to the project; promote linkages between the project and similar initiatives elsewhere in and beyond the project areas; and assist with monitoring and evaluation. This will greatly enhance collaboration and synergies, as well as providing cost savings by sharing common facilities, expertise, staff and equipment (including using communication tools, equipment and office furniture).

~~Within participating countries, national project offices will be provided as part of their co-financing to the project. Staff will be recruited and supported by the project.~~

Concerning the coordination strategy, AfDB will provide technical assistance and management support to the project, promote linkages between the project and similar initiatives elsewhere in and beyond the region; and assist with monitoring and evaluation. At the national level in each project country; there will be a national counterpart agency responsible for project implementation and for providing office space and facilities; and which could be the agency responsible for Forestry or Forestry Department (FD) in the ministries in charge of Forestry and/or Environment of each country. Each counterpart agency will propose a National Focal Point (NFP), as the Government Representative in the project to provide overall guidance, supervision and coordination for the implementation of project activities in the country.


More detailed information regarding the implementation arrangements in relation to the coordination unit and implementation agency, executing partners and the role and responsibilities of partners shall be defined in the full project proposal document.

PART IV: ENDORSEMENT BY GOVERNMENTS AND CERTIFICATION BY THE IMPLEMENTING ENTITY

A. Record of endorsement on behalf of the government⁷ *Provide the name and position of the government official and indicate date of endorsement for each country participating in the proposed project/programme. Add more lines as necessary. The endorsement letters should be attached as annexes to the project/programme proposal.*

Mr. Jean Douglas Anaman Head of Adaptation Unit National Climate Change Programme <i>Ministry of Urban Sanitation, Environment, and Sustainable Development, Côte d'Ivoire</i>	Date: August, 02, 2017
Mr. Joseph SYLLA Climate Change Focal Point <i>Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests, Guinea</i>	Date: August, 04, 2017

B. Implementing Entity certification *Provide the name and signature of the Implementing Entity Coordinator and the date of signature. Provide also the project/programme contact person's name, telephone number and email address*

I certify that this proposal has been prepared in accordance with guidelines provided by the Adaptation Fund Board, and prevailing National Development and Adaptation Plans (Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea) and subject to the approval by the Adaptation Fund Board, <u>commit to implementing the project/programme in compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy of the Adaptation Fund</u> and on the understanding that the Implementing Entity will be fully (legally and financially) responsible for the implementation of this project/programme.	
Ayanleh DAHER ADEN 	
Implementing Entity Coordinator Date: August, 06, 2017	Tel. and email: (+225) 20 26 43 47; a.daheraden@afdb.org
Project Contact Person: Modibo TRAORE Tel. And Email: (+225) 20 26 33 08; m.traore@afdb.org	

⁷ Each Party shall designate and communicate to the secretariat the authority that will endorse on behalf of the national government the projects and programmes proposed by the implementing entities.



REPUBLIQUE DE GUINEE
Travail – Justice – Solidarité

MINISTERE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT
DES EAUX ET FORETS

DIRECTION NATIONALE
DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT

CONVENTION CADRE DES
NATIONS UNIES SUR LES
CHANGEMENTS CLIMATIQUES

N° 008/MEEF/DNE/CCNUCC/PF/20

Conakry, le 27.07./2017

Le Point Focal National

Letter of Endorsement by Government

République de Guinée

To: The Adaptation Fund Board
c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
Email: Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org
Fax: 202 522 3240/5

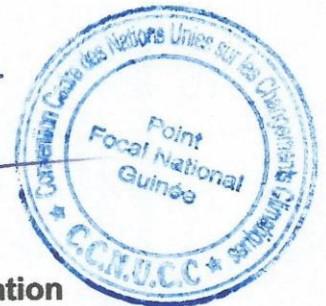
Subject: Endorsement for project title: "Increasing local communities' adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change through forest landscape restoration".

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in **Guinea**, I confirm that the above regional project proposal is in accordance with the government's regional priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in the region.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above project proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the project will be implemented by the **African Natural Resources Centre of the African Development Bank** and executed by a national or local executing entity.

Sincerely,

SYLLA Joseph
Point Focal National d'Adaptation



**MINISTRY OF URBAN SANITATION,
ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT**

**NATIONAL CLIMATE
CHANGE PROGRAMME**

REPUBLIQUE DE COTE D'IVOIRE
Union – Discipline – Travail



N° 221 /MINEDD/CAB1 /PNCC/jda

Abidjan, le

02 AOUT 2017

Letter of Endorsement by Government of Côte d'Ivoire

To: **The Adaptation Fund Board**
c/o Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat
Email: Secretariat@Adaptation-Fund.org
Fax: 202 522 3240/5

Subject: Endorsement for Increasing local communities' adaptive capacity and resilience to climate change through forest landscape restoration in Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea programme

In my capacity as designated authority for the Adaptation Fund in Côte d'Ivoire, I confirm that the above regional programme proposal is in accordance with the government's national priorities in implementing adaptation activities to reduce adverse impacts of, and risks, posed by climate change in the country.

Accordingly, I am pleased to endorse the above programme proposal with support from the Adaptation Fund. If approved, the programme will be implemented by African Development Bank (AfDB) and executed Ministry of Urban Sanitation, Environment and Sustainable Development and Ministry of Water Resources and Forests.

Sincerely,

Jean Douglas ANAMAN
Head of Adaptation Unit at
National Climate Change Programme