



DECISION OF THE CAFI EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Gabon – Letter of Intent, Country Allocation and Programmes

EB.2017.12

Adopted on 27 June 2017

1. The Executive Board (EB) of the Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI) approves an allocation of up to EIGHTEEN million¹ USD from the CAFI Fund to the implementation of the National Investment Framework of the Republic of Gabon for the period 2017-2022.
2. This decision is in accordance with the conclusions of the 7th EB meeting held in Paris on 27 June 2017; paragraph 2 of the Rules and Procedures of the CAFI Executive Board; and article 7 of section 6.1 of the CAFI Multi Partner Trust Fund [Terms of Reference](#).
3. The CAFI EB bases this allocation decision on
 - a. the National Investment Framework dated 13 June 2017 and discussed at the CAFI EB on 27 June 2017
 - b. the recommendations of the independent reviewers to “to accept the Investment Framework with proposed adjustments for full funding to be verified when programs are submitted”. Accordingly these adjustment will be made in the programmes that will be submitted to the CAFI EB for approval
 - c. the Letter of Intent (LoI) signed on 27 June 2017, annexed to this decision
4. The LoI is signed in English and French versions by the Gabon Minister of Prospective Economy and Sustainable Development Programming, on behalf of the government of Gabon; the Executive Coordinator of the Multi-Partner Trust Fund (MPTF) Office on behalf of the CAFI Fund Trustee; and the Norwegian Minister of Climate and Environment on behalf of the CAFI EB. The CAFI EB requests the Multi Partner Trust Fund Office and the Government of Norway as the EB Chair to co-sign the LoI on its behalf.

¹ corresponding to a maximum of 150 million Norwegian crowns (NOK)

5. The CAFE funding will be made available for programming in two main tranches, the first one of up to NINE million USD from the signing of the Letter of Intent, and a second one of up to a further NINE million USD dependent on independent verification in 2020 of the achievement of the 2017-2019 milestones of the Lol.
6. The allocation is subject to the fulfilment of the conditions in the CAFE Standard Administrative Arrangement including conditions relevant to the availability of funds. The release of tranches is subject to fulfilment of the conditions in the CAFE Standard Administrative Arrangement including conditions relevant to the availability of funds.
7. This CAFE funding is based on the respective obligations of the partnership as laid down in Article I of the Lol, in which:
 - a. Gabon is committed to reducing its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from forests. As stated in its National Investment Framework and as will be reflected in its forthcoming Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to the UNFCCC, Gabon aims to reduce gross emissions by 50% below 2005 level by 2025
 - b. CAFE is committed to mobilising and securing funding to support Gabon in implementing its National Investment Framework that will contribute to the achievement of the emission reductions.
8. The CAFE EB requests the Agence Française de Développement to take into account, upon developing programmes for the implementation of the Gabon NIF:
 - a. An analysis of relevant international bilateral and multilateral programmes, not limited to the forest and agricultural sectors
 - b. Gender issues, including the differentiated roles and needs of women gender-responsive participation in mapping, and measures to ensure that economic and social benefits are shared equitably between men and women
 - c. A risk analysis and management strategy, including measures to increase the capacity of civil society to participate and which existing measures for grievance and redress mechanisms can be applied or strengthened
 - d. A strengthened description on the governance framework of the programme, including related to inter-ministerial coordination
 - e. The way in which the safeguards of the implementing agency apply, and demonstrate consistency with the safeguards in the [Terms of Reference of the CAFE Fund](#).
9. The CAFE EB recommends that the programmes includes the following activities:
 - a. A strengthened analysis of the drivers of deforestation and degradation, that includes indirect causes
 - b. Considerations for a proposal for supporting the monitoring stipulated in Article X of the Lol.
10. The CAFE EB recognizes that
 - a. The future status of forests resulting of the reclassified concessions referred to in milestone Forest governance 2019.e will be defined in conformity with the purpose of the Lol (Article I) and Gabon's forthcoming NDC
 - b. Soil carbon of peatlands will be included in the National High Carbon Stocks guidelines and definition referred to in the Lol, as well as in the forthcoming NDC.

Annex : (LOI in English (added to pdf version))