Extension of FAO regional trends and drivers study

[Circulated to EB on 19 October 2022]

Adopted by email on 4 November 2022

EB.2022.25

Considering:

- Decision EB.2020.07 that approved, on 23 June 2020, the project titled “Assessment of deforestation and forest degradation and related direct drivers” with a total budget of USD 1.2 million for implementation by FAO.
- Decision EB.2022.01 that approved, on 10 January 2022, a no-cost extension of the project until 31 August 2022.
- The letter from FAO dated 8 August 2022, requesting a 12 months’ extension of the project until 31 August 2023, and an additional budget allocation of USD 1,242,000 to finance additional activities from September 2022 to August 2023, according to the revised workplan, log frame and budget annexed to the letter.
- The project compliance to the reporting requirements set out in CAFI’s Manual of Operations.

The Executive Board:

1. Thanks the FAO for this submission and the results thus far obtained.
2. Agrees to the extension of the project until 31 October 2023;
3. Approves the additional budget allocation of USD 1,242,000 and instructs the MPTF to transfer this amount to FAO.
4. Requests FAO to:
   a. Ensure that the conduct of socio-economic surveys is led by academic researchers, and explore and propose ways to ensure that the conduct of economic surveys trains graduate students from local universities and report on this progress to the CAFI Executive Board at its next meeting.
b. Ensure publication of the final study of the household surveys in a peer-reviewed journal, referencing previous academic research in related fields and methodologies used, with the overall objective that the study sheds light on the CAFI theory of change.

c. Submit by end 2022 a proposal to complement this project with a biodiversity component including data collection on specific species habitats, corridors, and the modelling of future risks on biodiversity assets.

5. **Recalls** that, while respecting its rules and regulations, the executing agency undertakes to apply zero tolerance towards fraud, corruption, sexual exploitation and abuse; to protect whistleblowers; to inform the public; to promote gender equality and social inclusion; and to use appropriate complaint mechanisms. In addition, the FAO commits to carefully managing all other contextual and programmatic risks identified by the Board and should act proactively in reporting these risks to CAFI’s Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office, in accordance with the Terms of Reference of CAFI’s Trust Fund.

6. **Reminds** FAO of its reporting obligations under CAFI’s Manual of Operations, both in terms of narrative and financial reporting.