

FAO/GOVERNMENT COOPERATIVE PROGRAMME



**ENHANCING FOOD SECURITY THROUGH
THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT AND USE
OF NON-WOOD FOREST PRODUCTS (NWFPs)
IN CENTRAL AFRICA
GCP/RAF/398/GER**

CENTRAL AFRICA REGION

PROJECT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

ROME, 2010

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Terminal Report

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AFRICA REGION:
CAMEROON, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC,
EQUATORIAL GUINEA, GABON, THE CONGO
THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

PROJECT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Report prepared for
the participating governments
by
the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Rome, 2010

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ACRONYMS

CAR	-	Central African Republic
CENAREST	-	National Scientific Research Centre
CIFOR	-	Centre for International Forestry Research
COMIFAC	-	Central African Forests Commission
CTA	-	Chief Technical Adviser
DRC	-	Democratic Republic of Congo
EC	-	European Community
FAO	-	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FOPP	-	Forest Products Service
FONP	-	Forestry Policy and Institutions Service Backstopping Officer
GTZ	-	German Technical Cooperation, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit
HIV/AIDS	-	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ICRAF	-	World Agroforestry Centre
IFAD	-	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFOAM	-	International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements
INDEFOR	-	National Institute for Forest Development and Protected Areas Management
ITTO	-	International Tropical Timber Organization
IUCN	-	International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
NGO	-	Non-governmental Organization
NWFP	-	Non-Wood Forest Products
WWF	-	World Wide Fund for Nature

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

The Government of Germany provided funds to FAO to implement a three years project on “Enhancing food security through non-wood forest products (NWFP) in Central Africa” (GCP/RAF/398/GER). The project covered six Central African countries: the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the Republic of Congo, Cameroon, Gabon, Central African Republic (CAR) and Equatorial Guinea. It was designed to facilitate the actions of the governments, the non-governmental organizations (NGO) and the private sector of these six countries to strengthen food security in the region by the progressive realization of the full potential of NWFPs of the humid forests and the agroforestry systems. The project had to contribute to the conservation of forest resources through an active participation of the local populations by improving their knowledge for a sustainable and socially fair use of a large variety of forest products.

The beneficiaries of the project were governmental agencies and extension services charged with the conservation and sustainable use of forest resources, local populations, regional cooperation structures (COMIFAC) and other non sub-regional countries that were interested in the project experience to improve their own programmes.

Indeed, tropical rainforests of Central Africa cover 140 million hectares and constitute a huge biological heritage for Cameroon, the Central African Republic (CAR), Equatorial Guinea, Congo, Gabon and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Over the last decades, these countries, with the support of bilateral and multilateral partners, embarked on policy and institutional reforms at national and regional levels to improve the conservation and sustainable management of their forest resources, in line with international commitments.

To date, efforts deployed as part of these reforms have focused on woody and wildlife resources, whereas Central Africa’s tropical rainforests and the agroforestry production systems of these countries represent a rich source of non-wood forest products (NWFPs) such as fruit, almonds, leaves, bark, stems and lianas, sap, resin, tubers, mushrooms and caterpillars. These products are used by a steadily growing population, estimated today at 75 million persons who live in poverty and face food insecurity. These people have a predominantly traditional agricultural production system. The hardest hit of the vulnerable segments are forest dwellers like the Pygmies, the rural population, small-scale farmers, low-income urban families and others. Among them, women and children in particular are the most affected.

To achieve food security and roll back poverty in Central Africa, FAO has included NWFPs in its activities as one of its main thrusts.

1.2 Outline of official arrangements

Project GCP/RAF/398/GER, *Enhancing food security through the sustainable management and use of non-wood forest products in Central Africa*, was approved by FAO and the Central African Forests Commission (COMIFAC) on 9 February 2005 and implemented from 22 August 2005 to 22 September 2008 with a financial contribution of USD 913 702 from the Federal Republic of Germany.

The project was based in Cameroon and implemented in association with a host of technical partners: the Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), the National Institute for Forest Development and Protected Areas Management (INDEFOR, Equatorial Guinea) and the forestry ministries of the six Central African countries (DRC, Congo, Cameroon, Gabon, CAR and Equatorial Guinea); each country designated a focal point.

The project complements FAO's Regular Programme project "*Promotion and development of NWFPs*" aimed at increasing the contribution of these products to food security, improving income generation and promoting sustainable forest management in Central Africa. The project plugs into FAO's action strategy on "*Forestry Development in Congo Basin countries*", especially pursuant to the COMIFAC Convergence Plan.

The project design took into account past and ongoing experience garnered in the NWFP sector by FAO and other bodies such as CIFOR, ICRAF, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and the forestry ministries of the various countries.

The institutional set-up was done and comprised the following:

- the recruitment of a lead technical adviser, a secretary assigned to administrative and financial duties and a driver. After the first two phases of the project, the first lead technical adviser was replaced by a Regional Project Coordinator/Consultant;
- administrative arrangements (offices, purchase of a vehicle and other non-expendable materials); the list of non-expendable materials purchased by the project features in Appendix 3;
- project focal points were identified and contacts established;

Financial resources were mobilized, which facilitated the signing of Letters of Agreement with the following partners: National Scientific Research Centre (CENAREST, Gabon), CIFOR, ICRAF, INDEFOR, IUCN and WWF. The accounts and financial management statement prepared at the end of the project by FAO services, incorporating all related statistics, was forwarded to the proper authority.

The Government of the Netherlands funded an Associate Professional Officer (APO) position to the project. The APO was selected by FAO HQ and he started his assignment in October 2006, after a two week briefing at FAO HQ (Rome) and FAORAF (Accra).

The project has been implemented according to the project document and its results are indicated in the project logframe. But after one year, the project organized in Kribi-Cameroon from 25-27/6/2006 a regional workshop “to discuss preliminary results and to identify field sites and partners for field activities”. All National Focal Points and selected contracted partners participated in this internal planning workshop. During the workshop, all regional studies carried out were discussed and validated and project activities to be carried out during the second year of the project were identified. The participants of the workshop recommended that the future activities of the project should focus on the legal and institutional frame work. Training activities related to entrepreneurial development, domestication and sustainable harvesting of NWFP were transferred to project GCP/RAF/408/EC “Mobilization and capacity-building for small and medium-scale enterprises involved in the NWFP value chains in Central Africa” funded by European Union for four years (2007-2010).

A no-cost extension was requested for three months in June 2008, extending the project until 22th September 2008. This allowed the project team to finalise a number of publications, and the final reports.

1.3 Objectives of the project

1.3.1 Development objective

The general objective of the project was to strengthen food security in Central Africa by achieving the full potential of forest foods in the Central African tropical rainforests and agro-forestry production systems.

This objective was incorporated in country and regional food security programmes and helped in achieving the sustainable management and conservation of the tropical rainforests of this region.

1.3.2 Immediate objectives

There were three immediate objectives:

- raise awareness and knowledge of the role of NWFPs in ensuring food security;
- lay the foundations for the systematic integration of NWFPs in relevant programmes and policies; and
- contribute to the implementation of the COMIFAC Convergence Plan.

2. METHODOLOGY ADOPTED BY THE PROJECT

The methodology adopted by the project was to: i) define the activities according to the immediate objectives of the project; ii) plan these activities according to the three years of the project distributed in three phases; iii) elaborate the budget to carry out these activities; iv) set up a system of reporting, monitoring and assessment.

2.1 Identification of activities according to the immediate objectives of the project

For the first objective, the following activities were scheduled:

- organize the project management unit by identifying the chief technical adviser, partners and national consultants as well as activities and field study sites in order to determine the most effective contribution of forest foods to food security;
- assess current and potential contributions of forest foods to food security in Central Africa;
- document, assess and recommend the production of forest species and other major NWFPs, including resource management, biological aspects and the risk of extinction/over-harvesting;
- document and analyse national information on the production and use and the legal framework governing the use of NWFPs in Central Africa;
- document, appraise and make recommendations on the socio-economic context of the use of forest foods, including their use for subsistence purposes, gender considerations, the impact of HIV/AIDS, local, national and international trade and the nutritive and medicinal value of NWFPs;
- document and assess current policy and legislation on the use of NWFPs in Central Africa;
- organize a regional workshop to review preliminary results and identify field study sites and partners for field work.

To assess the impacts of forest management on forest foods, the following activities were planned:

- document and assess the impact of forest management, limited-impact forest exploitation and agroforestry systems on the production of edible NWFPs, and identify and enhance best practices (two case studies: in Equatorial Guinea and Gabon);
- design training materials on sustainable harvesting methods of NWFPs;

To appraise the commercial contribution of edible NWFPs as a means of livelihood for local communities (e.g.: production, processing, sale), the following activities were planned:

- carry out a market and value chain survey for selected edible NWFPs and assess their current and potential contribution to improved livelihoods thanks to the development of small plantations (two case studies);
- design concepts for building national and regional capacities to market NWFPs and develop small plantations;

To publish the project outputs, the following activities were programmed:

- prepare synthesis reports;
- publish documents and disseminate them to producers, local communities, policymakers and other stakeholders concerned.

With regard to the second short-term objective, it was important to devise and develop appropriate approaches for the systematic assessment and documentation of edible NWFPs at national level within the context of soil end-use units. To achieve this result, the following activities were programmed:

- develop approaches to improve the contribution of forest foods to food security among rural families;
- develop approaches to promote the sustainable management of resources that produce edible NWFPs;
- contemplate an appropriate legal, institutional and policy framework governing the use of edible forest species;
- formulate global policy recommendations to step up the contribution of forest foods to food security;
- support and facilitate a participatory consultation process involving interested parties in a given country;

To design, discuss and validate a series of activities and monitoring at regional level, the following activities were scheduled:

- organize a regional workshop to examine and validate project outputs and commission monitoring activities at regional level to ensure the most effective contribution of forest foods to the improvement of food security in Central Africa;
- publish and disseminate project and workshop outputs, including therein policy recommendations, investment proposals and project monitoring.

With regard to the project's third short-term objective, one output was expected:

- contribute to the implementation of the COMIFAC Convergence Plan.

2.2 Planification of the activities according to three years of the project distributed in three phases

The project prepared an implementation timetable and received support from the partners of the sub-region (CIFOR, COMIFAC, ICRAF, INDEFOR, IUCN) and FAO. Three one-year phases were planned.

i. Phase One

- institutional set-up, information gathering and partner validation;
- conduct of three regional technical surveys, namely: (a) the production, biology and risk of extinction of edible forest species, (b) the socio-economic context, and (c) the legal framework governing the use of edible NWFPs;
- workshop to discuss preliminary project outputs.

ii. Phase Two

- implementation of field activities and capacity building, notably:
- analysis of the impact of NWFP forest exploitation activities;
- analysis of NWFP trade in support of small-scale plantations;
- development of a pilot approach in a target country, to support and facilitate stakeholder participatory processes to ensure the incorporation of forest foods in forestry policies;
- design of training materials on sustainable methods of harvesting NWFPs;
- design of a regional concept for improving the contribution of trade in edible NWFPs as a means of livelihood for local communities.

iii. Phase Three

- consolidation and dissemination, namely:
- organization of a regional workshop to discuss and validate project findings;
- publication and dissemination of workshop and project findings.

2.3 Elaboration of the budget to lead activities

The project received financial assistance of USD 913 702 from the Federal Republic of Germany to fund the scheduled activities, notably:

- staff expenses (chief technical adviser and policy analyst, administrative support personnel and driver);
- recruitment of six national consultants for expert valuation of the use of edible NWFPs;
- hiring of two national consultants to carry out an in-depth analysis of priority sectors and open up avenues for further research;
- hiring a national consultant for institutional aspects of the use of NWFPs.

Seven contracts were covered by this funding via Letters of Agreement (LoA), broken down as follows: three LoAs for the conduct of studies on the socio-economic context of the use of edible NWFPs, the management of natural resources that provide edible NWFPs, and on policies and the normative and legal frameworks governing the use of forest species and other NWFPs in Central Africa; two LoAs for two case studies to assess the impact of forest management on edible NWFPs in Central Africa; and two LoAs for two case studies to assess the contribution of the edible NWFP trade as a means of livelihood for local communities in Central Africa.

The financing also covered missions and travel, consisting in organizing the regional technical workshop (year 1), regional policy workshop (year 3), and six national one-day seminars to build capacities for NWFP trade, develop small-scale plantations and support the participatory process.

The budget was also used to buy expendable and non expendable equipment and to defray general recurrent costs and expenses for the technical support service.

2.4 Reporting, monitoring and assessment

A six-monthly report on progress made in implementing the project and the production of a final project report were among the tasks to be performed by the project team. The activities of consultants and the technical support staff at the head office were to be detailed in specific reports. Although no appraisal was contemplated, a planning and appraisal matrix was appended to the project document.

3. RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

3.1 Development objective

The project's development objective (enhance food security in Central Africa through the sustainable use of forest foods) is very broad and entails a long-term perspective. The project has made significant contributions to the development objective through the following achievements:

- analysis of the NWFP sector at regional and national levels;
- increased awareness regarding the importance of NWFP sector;
- validation of a sub-regional action plan/strategy for the development of the NWFP sector in Central Africa;
- elaboration of the proposals for an appropriate fiscal policy related to NWFP (The definition of the NWFP's tax based of their economic importance and their status of vulnerability, the not payment of taxes on the domesticated products);
- elaboration of a national strategy to develop the NWFP sector in the Republic of Congo ;
- facilitation of the set up of the sub-regional guidelines to improve the management, utilization and commercialisation of the NWFP in Central Africa;
- assessment of the impact of forest concessions on the availability of NWFP;
- development of a national strategy/action plan to improve the collection and analysis of statistical data on NWFP;
- elaboration of an inventory approach to be used by private sector companies involved in the trade of NWFP;
- elaboration of the recommendations for the establishment and maintenance of a sub-regional NWFP network in Central Africa;
- development of sub-regional project proposals contributing to the implementation of the COMIFAC Action Plan (Plan de Convergence).

The results and implementation strategy for each immediate objective are detailed below.

3.1.1 Immediate objective 1

With regard to the immediate objective 1 "Awareness of and knowledge about the role of NWFP for food security at production and local community level and of state agencies

involved in the above-mentioned policy sectors enhanced”, the project raised awareness at the policy level through the

- compilation and dissemination of information on the contribution of NWFP to food security; and
- organization and participation in various sub-regional workshops.

About the compilation and dissemination of information, the project commissioned ten thematic studies carried out at sub-regional level in order to improve the knowledge on the role of NWFP. Five studies have been funded by the project while for the remaining .

In addition to the sub-regional studies, the project carried out a national analysis of the legal framework and compiled an annotated bibliography relevant to NWFP in all participating countries. In addition, two specific studies on the contribution of NWFP to food security have been carried out in Equatorial Guinea and Democratic Republic of Congo.

All reports are available in the project website and as hard copies. In addition, the project team produced several policy briefs (so-called ‘notes d’information’) in order to summarize and disseminate the main results, conclusions and recommendations.

The activities related to the immediate objective 1 are described according to its four outputs as described below:

3.1.1.1 Assessment of the current and potential future contributions of forest-gathered foods to food security in Central Africa (output 1.1)

The following activities allowed to reach this output:

At regional level

- analysis of the legal and institutional framework guiding the use of edible NWFPs in Central Africa; report (Bonannée, A. Asseng and S. Walter) available. The results of this analysis showed that the development of the NWFP sector in Central Africa faces the following legal constraints: several shortcomings in the law,, a lack of inventory of NWFP, a contradiction between traditional user rights and modern right, an inadequate perception of the notion of property, a problem of access and management of the resource supplying NWFPs, difficulties in obtaining permits and in marketing NWFPs, and institutional constraints ;
- a study on the policy and institutional framework governing NWFPs in Central Africa; report (Ngome Tata) available.

- review of the socio-economic context of NWFP utilization, including aspects on gender, impact of Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and the nutritive and medicinal value of NWFPs; report (CIFOR) available. This study showed that there are 13 species of NWFPs of a high economic value in Central Africa. Sales of NWFPs provide an income higher than the minimum wage to many forest dwellers. The study recommended that an effort should be made to develop small and medium enterprises.
- management of natural resources from which NWFPs are derived; report (ICRAF) available.
- level of knowledge on the nutritional value of NWFPs; report (Evelyn Pene). This report is only a draft and need further informations.

An annotated bibliography on available literature with regard to NWFPs was compiled. This review showed that the revenues of forests are calculated based on timber harvesting, while the value of NWFPs is generally not accounted for in national statistics. Furthermore, NWFPs have an important socio-economic value for local people in term of food security, income generation and health.

At national level

Studies carried out at country level focused on the:

- legal framework of NWFPs in each of the six countries (Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Republic of Congo, Cameroon, Gabon, Central African Republic (CAR) and Equatorial Guinea.). These studies allowed to make the synthesis of the legal and institutional framework of the NWFPs at regional level (see above);
- inventory of the NWFP sector,
- assessment of the contribution of NWFPs to food security in the DRC (IUCN report). The report showed that 166 species in Democratic Republic of Congo are used in traditional medicine and 95 species are used for food;
- contribution of NWFPs to food security in Equatorial Guinea (INDEFOR report). For this study, NWFPs are part of natural resources that local populations in this country use to diversify their productive activities and improve their incomes.

3.1.1.2 Assessment of the impact of forest management on food from forest (output 1.2)

The project carried out a study on the certification of NWFPs in Central Africa. It should be noted that the project had planned to analyse the impact of logging on the availability of NWFPs through four activities, namely:

- the impact of logging on the availability of NWFPs in the Congo Basin (Letter of Agreement signed with CIFOR);
- the impact of forest concessions on the availability of NWFPs in Gabon (Letter of Agreement signed with CENAREST);
- the impact of forest concessions on the availability of NWFPs in Equatorial Guinea;
- project MTF/CMR/025/MSC for *Sustainable management of NWFPs in forest concessions of Cameroon*;

However, only the first and fourth activities were implemented at regional and national level.

At regional level

- the impact of forest concessions on the availability of NWFPs; report (CIFOR), study scheduled for Phase Two. With regard to this impact, the study found that the greatest impacts have been on tree species with NWFP values that are extracted by the timber companies. Timber exploitation also leads to the destruction of secondary trees and understorey species that furnish NWFPs. Damage is associated with tree falls and the passage of heavy machines that also destroy NWFPs. Apart from a few NWFPs that benefit from logging-induced microclimate changes at the forest floor, most plant-based NWFPs decrease in availability following logging. With regard to the availability of animal-based NWFPs, the overall trend is also one of decline after logging. With the drive towards sustainable forest management, it would be ethical to take into consideration all stakeholders in designing policy, management and control tools that minimize the negative impacts of logging and encourage multiple benefits from a greater array of forest products;
- prospects of NWFP Certification in Central Africa; report (Mbolo and A. Asseng). In Central Africa, there are no certified NWFPs. The study made recommendations for the certification of these products and defined the criteria of eligibility of the NWFPs to the certification;

At national level

During the first phase (year 1), the CTA and WWF partners and the company Pallisco prepared the project document for MTF/CMR/025/MSC, Sustainable management of NWFPs in forest concessions of Cameroon, an experience of partnership between FAO and the private sector/economic operator (Pallisco). This project has been implemented during phase Three using the same methodology of CIFOR's study.

3.1.1.3 Assessment of the contribution of trade inedible NWFP to the livelihood of local communities (output 1.3)

A study on regional and international trade in NWFPs was carried out through a Letter of Agreement; this study is available in both hard and soft copies and via Internet. It identified 14 NWFPs at regional and international levels. The most exported NWFPs are okok or fumbua (*Gnetum* spp.) fresh and dry, njansang (*Ricinodendron heudelotii*), safou (*Dacryodes edulis*) and andok or odika (*Irvingia* spp.).

A study on the consumption of *Irvingia* spp. (wild mango) and *Ricinodendron Heudelotii* (njansang) in Yaounde and Libreville was conducted through a Letter of Agreement signed with CIFOR. According to this study, the NWFPs are consumed by the majority of the population in the urban cities of the Central Africa countries.

3.1.1.4 Publication and dissemination of the project outputs (output 1.4)

Project document and summary reports have been published and disseminated. Indeed, six information notes have been produced and disseminated, mostly via Internet, also twenty-four documents produced and posted online at: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/43715/en/>.

3.1.2 Immediate objective 2

Based on the awareness and knowledge raised on the importance of NWFP, the project laid “foundations for a systematic integration of information on food from forests in land use, forest, nutrition, poverty reduction and other relevant policies and programmes”. The project facilitated the development of concrete proposals for appropriate policies and programmes based on its studies, working-group outputs and workshops.

The challenge of the project was to facilitate the development and implementation of policies related to NWFP and to expand the interest on the issue from the forestry to other relevant sectors (e.g. agriculture, finance, economy).

The activities related to the immediate objective 2 are described according to its two outputs in a following way.

3.1.2.1 Development and proposition of the appropriate approaches for the systematic assessment and documentation of edible NWFP on the national level in the context of suitable land use units (output 2.1)

At regional level

Given the importance that the Kribi workshop gave to the legal framework governing NWFP management in Central Africa, the second phase of the project started with the holding of a workshop on this theme in Limbe (Cameroon), from 28 June to 1 July 2006. This workshop and the fourth ordinary session of the COMIFAC Council of Ministers, which convened in Malabo (Equatorial Guinea) from 19 to 21 September 2006, recommended that a multidisciplinary working group be set up, charged with formulating a subregional norm for NWFP management in Central Africa. This activity was integrated into the implementation of the COMIFAC Convergence Plan, related to the thrust on the harmonization of forestry fiscal policies.

After several meetings and discussions with the project team, partners and the head office, the working group designed a draft standard initially referred to as the "model law"; this subregional draft standard was discussed and validated under the appellation "Sub-regional guidelines on the sustainable management of NWFPs of plant origin in Central Africa", during a subregional workshop organized by COMIFAC in Douala (Cameroon), with support from FAO and financial assistance from the German Technical Cooperation, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ).

Also at regional level, the project make recommendations for an appropriate tax system promoting trade and sustainable management of NWFPs in Central Africa .

At national level

The project has elaborated the national strategies for the development and promotion of the NWFP sector in Congo and the strategy/action plan for better collection of statistical data on NWFPs in Cameroon and recommendation for COMIFAC countries.

3.1.2.2 Compilation, discussion and validation of set of actions and follow-up at regional level (output 2.2)

This part is focused on workshops and study tours. Four workshops were organized (Kribi, Limbe, Douala) with the financial support of GTZ; these workshops brought together the focal points of the project and COMIFAC, as well as project partners and the civil society.

Kribi and Limbe workshops

The regional technical workshop to assess Year One of the project and to plan for Phases Two and Three were held in Kribi, Cameroon, from 25 to 26 June 2006. Outputs were commensurate to forecasts. The workshop also served to better incorporate project activities in the guidelines laid down by COMIFAC through the Convergence Plan. Participants put forward 11 recommendations on policy considerations, sustainable management, trade in NWFPs and cross-cutting aspects (publication and dissemination of studies and results of the project, strengthening of information exchange).

Points on the definition of technical modules, design of practical materials for the training of producers in sustainable methods of harvesting NWFPs and aspects on marketing were no longer maintained as initially programmed for Phase Two. These issues were included in a new project, *Mobilization and capacity-building for small and medium-scale enterprises involved in the NWFP value chains in Central Africa*, prepared by the Chief Technical Adviser (CTA) and his team. Real collaboration existed between the two projects, which were hosted on the same premises.

Activities implemented after the Kribi and Limbe workshops and the outputs obtained are presented in the following table.

Table 1. POLICY ASPECTS

Recommendations	Indicators	Study/activity	Country or subregion	Outputs achieved
1. Craft policy strategies to facilitate the development of the NWFP sector	A national strategy is adopted in at least four countries	Support the facilitation of a national strategy in one country	Republic of Congo	A strategy was crafted in the Republic of Congo based on a participatory process
2. Supplement and enhance the application of statutory instruments in a harmonized manner by taking into account NWFPs	Statutory instruments are improved in at least four countries	Elaborate a sub-regional model of a sample regional standard regulating NWFP utilization	Subregion	Subregional guidelines on the sustainable management of NWFPs of plant origin in Central Africa are available
3. Apply a sound and harmonized fiscal policy for NWFPs	A sound fiscal policy is adopted in at least four countries	Formulate concrete proposals at regional level for a sound fiscal policy	Subregion	A study comprising proposals was conducted by a consultant; the report is available

Table 2. SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT

Recommendations	Indicators	Study/activity	Country	Outputs achieved
4. Quantify the natural resource potential in relation to the production of major NWFPs	An inventory of two main NWFPs is made in two countries	Work done as part of project MTF/CMR/025/MSC	Cameroon	Qualitative and quantitative inventory made in the Forest Management Units of Pallisco
5. Craft and implement forest management plans with greater consideration for NWFPs	Implementation of management plans assessed and monitored in 2 concessions in 4 countries of the subregion	Analyse the impact of forest concessions on the availability of NWFPs in two countries	Gabon and Equatorial Guinea	Analysis not done; an LOA was signed with CENAREST; difficulties encountered in its implementation could not be overcome
6. Devise common approaches to the management of NWFPs pursuant to biodiversity framework convention	A technical guide for joint management is prepared and experimented in one country	Support the monitoring of the project MINFOF/FAO TCP/CMR/2905	Cameroon	Monitoring was done; however, recommendations have not yet been implemented by MINFOF

Table 3. TRADE

Recommendations	Indicators	Study/activity	Country	Outputs achieved
7. Encourage and support the organization of professional structures dealing with major NWFP value chains	A concerted action framework is created for the various major NWFP value chains in at least 4 countries	Support implementation of the project funded by the EC: GCP/RAF/408/EC	Cameroon DRC	Project under way
8. Gather and disseminate information on economic operators of the NWFP sector	A document comprising the various economic operators and major NWFPs marketed is prepared in all the countries	Compile a directory of economic operators involved in the NWFP sector in 2 countries	DRC CAR	The directory of economic operators of the DRC was compiled and the consultant's report is available
9. Collect and disseminate statistical data on trade in NWFPs	A system for collecting and disseminating statistical data is developed	Formulate a strategy/ action plan to improve collection of statistical data on NWFPs	Cameroon	The study was carried out by a consultant and the report is available

Table 4. OUTPUTS ACHIEVED

Recommendations	Indicators	Study/activity	Country	Outputs achieved
10. Publish periodic information on the NWFP sector	NWFPs are included in the report on the state of Congo Basin forests	Disseminate and publish project studies and outputs	Sub-region Others	Project studies and outputs are published, notably on the project Web site
11. Step up exchange of information and data on NWFP research	A regional network for exchange of information on NWFPs is operational	Analyse the feasibility of creating and facilitating an NWFP network in Central Africa	Sub-region	This analysis has been done and is contained in a report that is available
12. Workshop to discuss and validate project outputs	A report accompanied by monitoring recommendations, is available	Organize the project's closing workshop	Cameroon	Workshop organized in Douala, Cameroon, from 3 to 4 June 2008; project recommendations are presented in point 3

Douala's workshop: validation of "Sub-regional guidelines on the sustainable management of NWFPs of plant origin in Central Africa"

Following the validation of “Sub-regional guidelines on the sustainable management of NWFPs of plant origin in Central Africa”, The participants’ workshop identified the following points: i) presentation of the Guidelines during the next CEFDHAC; ii) presentation of the Guidelines to the next Council of Ministers of the COMIFAC for adoption; iii) organization of the information meetings of the actors at the national level; iv) Set-up a regional NWFP Experts Sub-Working Group within COMIFAC; v) elaboration of the Guidelines on the management of the other NWFPs not taken into account by the present Guidelines.

Study tours on Building the capacities of small and medium-scale enterprises in the honey value chain.

At the end of the Douala workshop for validation of Guidelines, a study tour for project focal points was organized to the Northwest Region, on the theme: “*Building the capacities of small and medium-scale enterprises in the honey value chain*”. The study tour allowed to develop synergies with the project GCP/RAF/408/EC financed by the European Union, to describe the role of the Ministry of small and medium-scale enterprises (SMEs), to discuss the environment of the business of SMEs and to enable participants to learn from the development of the honey chain in Zambia.

Workshops to validate project ideas

Pursuant to the second objective, the project financed the organization of meetings/workshops to validate project ideas for the development of the NWFP sector, to be submitted for funding to the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) in three countries, namely: Congo, Gabon, and Central African Republic. Draft projects are available in these countries, to be finalized and forwarded to the ITTO.

Douala's workshop: Discuss and validate project outputs

The end-of-project workshop was held in Douala in the first week of June 2008; it centred on the discussion and validation of the project outputs, achievements and shortcomings observed.

3.2 Reports

The project team produced six half-yearly reports, one quarterly progress report, four workshop reports, one study trip report, this terminal report and a project implementation report. Six of the seven Letters of Agreement previewed in the project document were signed with partner agencies as shown in the following table. Twenty-nine consultants were recruited (some of them under Letters of Agreement signed with partner Agencies). They drafted 24 reports, which are listed in Appendix 2.

Lastly, the project team summarized these reports and compiled them in a single document.

3.3 Project monitoring/evaluation

Members of the project undertook a mission to monitor project activities in countries of the subregion and participated in meetings on NWFPs at country and international levels.

The project received seven support missions from headquarters, two of which were to prepare projects GCP/RAF/408/EC and MTF/CMR/025/MSC. (table 5)

These missions were useful for FAO Headquarters and Central Africa :

Head Quarter (HQ)

- identify synergies between FOPP's Regular Programme activities and the regional project GCP/RAF/398/GER and discuss project activities with FAO HQ based members of the virtual task force and other resource persons;
- discuss with FOPP staff the ongoing activities of the NWFP programme and provide technical advice on various key issues. Areas of common interest between the GCP project and FOPP's regular programme/project activities have been identified and proposals for action have been elaborated;
- finalize, in collaboration with FONP, a project document for submission to the European Commission, up-date the budget taking into account FAO and EC's requirements, discuss operational aspects of project implementation, discuss the possibilities of collaboration with IFAD in Central Africa.

Central Africa

- inform the FAO Representatives and National Focal Points on the status of the project, analyse the non-wood forest products (NWFPs) sector in the countries, identify

priority themes for the national complementary studies to be carried out in the context of the project.

- identify the similarities and differences of the NWFP sector in the countries in the sub-region. Based on this assessment, recommendations have been formulated for future project activities in Central Africa.
- inform the national focal points and the FAO Representatives on the activities of GCP/RAF/398/GER, make working contacts with governmental, non governmental and civil society organizations in the countries, analyse the non-wood forest products (NWFPs) sector in the countries, identify priority themes for the national complementary studies to be carried out in the context of the project, collect data for the policy and institutional study, identify and photocopy some key documents within the NTFP domain in the countries, elaborate in collaboration with the National Focal Points the terms of reference on the legal and regulatory framework impacting on the management and use of NWFP.
- provide supervision and technical assistance to CIFOR, which carried out a study on behalf of FAO on the impact of timber harvesting in forest concessions on the availability of NWFP, prepare the terms of reference for a potential collaboration with PALLISCO, WWF, CIFOR and IRAD on the impact of timber harvesting on the availability of NWFP in PALLISCO forest concessions in Cameroon.
- participate in the Ordinary and extraordinary Ministerial Meeting of the Central African Forestry Commission (COMIFAC).

The monitoring/evaluation matrix for assessing project outputs is attached as Appendix 5,

Table 5. INTERNATIONAL TRIPS

Name	Country	Dates	Reason for the trip
Sven Walter Technical Adviser	Ghana	9 - 13 Oct. 2005	Briefing for recruitment of a technical adviser
	Italy	12 - 19 Dec. 2005	To identify synergies between the regular programme and the project. Discuss project activities with members of the virtual task force. Discuss technical and administrative project-related aspects.
	Gabon, Equatorial Guinea	30 Jan. - 8 Feb. 2006	To inform FAO Representatives and the focal points of the project status. Conduct a preliminary analysis of the NWFP sector and identify priority themes for national studies
	Central African Republic	18 - 23 Feb. 2006	To inform the FAOR and the focal point about the project status. Conduct a preliminary analysis of the NWFP sector. Identify priority themes for national studies. Prepare the study of the legal framework governing the use of NWFPs in Central Africa
	Bosnia Herzegovina	27 April - 6 May 2006	To participate, on behalf of the project, in the 1st international conference of the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM)
	Equatorial Guinea	16 - 22 Sept. 2006	Participate in the 4th ordinary session of the COMIFAC Council of Ministers during which the project's progress and preliminary outputs were presented along with approved NWFP policy recommendations
	Gabon	20 - 24 Nov. 2006	Participate in the workshop to validate project ideas for developing the NWFP sector in Gabon with IUCN's technical & financial support

Name	Country	Dates	Reason for the trip
	Italy	6 - 15 Nov. 2006	Finalize the project document for GCP/RAF/408/EC. Update the budget, taking into account the requirements of FAO and the EC
	Italy, Congo	12 - 24 March 2007	Participate in the 18th session of the FAO Forest Committee and monitor project activities in Brazzaville
Precillia Ngome Tata Volunteer	Congo, DRC	27 Feb. - 13 March 2006	Discuss the 1st phase of the project with focal points
Daniel Knoop Associate Senior Staff	CAR	29 Nov. – 4 Dec.2006	Participate in workshop to validate project ideas for developing the NWFP sector in CAR, with the technical and financial support of FAO and IUCN
	Congo, DRC, financed by project GCP/RAF/408/EC	29 Nov. – 17 Dec. 2007	Monitor project activities (design of a country NWFP development strategy in Congo and a study on the inventory of NWFP sector operators in DRC)
Samuel Ebamane Regional Coordinator	Gabon	19 - 23 Nov. 2007	Participate in the conference on Central African Rain Forest Ecosystems and monitor project with CENAREST
	Equatorial Guinea	13 - 16 Jan. 2008	Participate in the COMIFAC Council of Ministers meeting and experts' adoption of the subregional guidelines on the sustainable management of NWFPs of plant origin in Central Africa
	CAR	9 - 11 Sept. 2008	Participate in the 5th session of COMIFAC devoted to the adoption of the guidelines by ministers
Armand Asseng Zé Consultant	Congo	31 March - 4 April 2008	Participate in the workshop for the design and adoption of the country NWFP development action plan in Congo

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1. To the COMIFAC Executive Secretariat

It is recommended that, in allocating financial resources (British funds, autonomous funding mechanisms, others), priority be given to developing the NWFP value chains.

4.2. To Governments

It is recommended that:

- the Subregional Guidelines be applied, depending on the context of each country (improve and prepare the enabling instruments of the law, create specific NWFP services in government departments responsible for forest management) ;
- NWFP sector development strategies be elaborated and substantial budgets earmarked for their implementation;
- forest foods be mainstreamed in national food security programmes, cognisant that food security is a cross-cutting theme that requires a multisectoral approach;
- NWFP statistics be collected and published, using a tool in place.

4.3 To Donors Agencies

It is recommended that COMIFAC countries be funded to enable them to carry through programmes that give enduring added value to the NWFP sector as a means of alleviating poverty and strengthening food security among the poor populations of these countries.

4.4 Implementation of recommendations

To allow the recommendations to be implemented before the project came to an end, its duration was extended to 22 September 2008 in order to:

- prepare documents summarizing project outputs. These documents show the main results of the project as highlighted above and allow to sensitize the actors involved in the management of the NWFPs more exactly the forest administration on the socioeconomic importance of these products.
- prepare their presentation at the next COMIFAC Council of Ministers;
- ensure the project coordinator's participation in the COMIFAC Council of Ministers;
- finalize the last project documents.

During that time, this terminal report and the final project implementation report were finalized. Reports produced by the project were also summarized; Congo's strategy was finalized and placed online, as well as the report on the *Sustainable Management of NWFPs in the Pallisco concessions* project.

The project outputs, especially the Guidelines on the sustainable management of NWFPs of plant origin, were presented at the COMIFAC Council of Ministers held in Bangui (CAR) from 9 to 12 September 2008. However, the Council put off their adoption to its extraordinary session in Brazzaville (Congo) from 26 to 27 October 2008.

5. Difficulties encountered

The project had difficulties not only in identifying and recruiting partners, which led to the cancellation of the forest concessions impact assessment on the availability of NWFPs in Equatorial Guinea and Gabon, but also in drawing up a list of NWFP traders in CAR.

Furthermore, reports were of poor quality and the team had to improve upon them. Administrative red-tape also made it impossible to carry out planned activities in Gabon.

6. PROJECT IMPACT

The project had a positive impact in terms of raising awareness on the role of NWFPs in food security and poverty reduction. Political authorities as well as governmental agencies and civil society experts involved in organized activities and workshops realized the role and importance of NWFPs. Also, the Congolese Minister for Forest Economy was involved in the process of designing Congo's national NWFP sector development strategy.

However, the authorities and experts in the subregion noticed shortcomings in the legal frameworks in force. Some already embarked on institutional reforms to make them compliant with Guidelines designed consensually by the project.

The adoption and implementation of these Guidelines will not only lift obstacles still hampering the development of the NWFP sector but also boost the incomes of the rural populations, still confined to forest rights limited to home consumption.

Finally, this will be a milestone in the implementation of the COMIFAC Convergence Plan.

The project had an impact on the management of the NWFPs in the forest concessions. Indeed, the project observed that many NWFPs are appreciated by logging companies and by local populations. Sixty-six percent of trees exploited by logging companies are used as medicinal plants by local communities. So, the project recommended the importance of a tripartite dialogue between the forest concessions, the administration (government) and the local populations for a sustainable use of NWFPs in the Forest Management Unit (FMU).

Concerning the contribution of NWFPs to food security, the project showed the contributions of these products in terms of proteins, calcium and zinc of an individual could be improved by a good consumption of vegetable soups and seeds of the various NWFPs;

In Libreville-Gabon, 100 percent of people interviewed consumed bush mango (*Irvingia* spp.) and only 0,08 percent consumed njansang (*Ricinodendron heudelotii*). In Yaoundé 100 percent of the investigated persons consumed njansang and only 38 percent consumed bush mango.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1. List of project staff

PROJECT COORDINATION

NAME	POSITION
Sven Walter	Chief Technical Adviser
Samuel Ebamane	Consultant – Regional Coordinator
Clarisse Nguimfack	Administrative Assistant

CONSULTANTS IN CHARGE OF THEMATIC STUDIES

NAME	TITLE OF REPORT PRODUCED
Robinson M. Djeukam Njinga	Legislation and regulatory framework governing the use of non-wood forest products in Cameroon Moderation/participation of the interdisciplinary Working Group on the laws and regulatory framework governing non-wood forest products in Central Africa (Model Law Proposal) Subregional Guidelines on the sustainable management of non-wood forest products of plant origin in Central Africa
Crisantos Obama Ondo	Legislation and regulatory framework governing the use of non-wood forest products in Equatorial Guinea
Vundu Dia Massamba	Legislation and regulatory framework governing the use of non-wood forest products in the Democratic Republic of Congo
Dominique M. Nsosso	Legislation and regulatory framework governing the use of non-wood forest products in Congo
Nathalie Nyare	Legislation and regulatory framework governing the use of non-wood forest products in Gabon Member of the interdisciplinary Working Group on the legislative and regulatory framework governing non-wood forest products in Central Africa
Michel Bonannée Regional Consultant	Legislation and regulatory framework governing the use of non-wood forest products in CAR Legislative and regulatory framework governing the use of non-wood forest products in Central Africa Member of Interdisciplinary Working Group on legislation and regulatory framework governing the use of non-wood forest products in Central Africa (Model Law Proposal)
Joseph Nkefor	Design of project on Gnetum : TCP/CMR/2905 project monitoring
Precillia Ngome Tata	Policy and institutional framework governing the use of non-wood forest products in Central Africa

NAME	TITLE OF REPORT PRODUCED
Evelyn Pene	State of knowledge on the nutritional value of non-wood forest products in Central Africa
François-Xavier Tchamango	Support to <i>Promote 2005</i> . Support in reviewing the available national bibliography on the management and use of non-wood forest products in Cameroon
Diosdado Obiang Mbomio	Support in reviewing the available national bibliography on the management and use of non-wood forest products in Equatorial Guinea
Héritier Koy Kondio	Support in reviewing the available national bibliography on the management and use of non-wood forest products in the Democratic Republic of Congo
Solange Ayandho	Support in reviewing the available national bibliography on the management and use of non-wood forest products in CAR
Eléonore Ada Ndoutoume	Support in reviewing the available national bibliography on the management and use of non-wood forest products in Gabon
Adolphe Louzinga	Support in reviewing the available national bibliography on the management and use of non-wood forest products in Congo
Marie Mbolo	Prospects for non-wood forest product certification in Central Africa
Victor Kimpouni	Preparation of national workshop in Congo and drafting of project proposal to be submitted to the Government
Jean Lagarde Betti	Prospects for an appropriate tax system fostering trade and the sustainable management of non-wood forest products in Central Africa Design of a strategy/action plan for better collection of statistical data on non-wood forest products in Cameroon
Elise Touko	Identification and analysis of stakeholders of the NWFP value chains by the Working Group Finalization of the analysis of socio-economic aspects of non-wood forest products in Central Africa
Blaise Teicheugang	Bibliographic summary of standards for inventorying non-wood forest products in Central Africa within the Working Group
André Ndouga	Member of Interdisciplinary Working Group on the legislation and regulatory framework governing non-wood forest products in Central Africa (Model Law Proposal)
Hervé Ayissi Mendouga	Support in implementing project GCP/RAF/398/GER (revising reports of studies conducted by the project with a view to their publication online)
Guy Merlin Nguenang	Drafting of country summaries on non-wood forest products
Armand Asseng Zé	Support to <i>Promote 2005</i> . Support in implementing project GCP/RAF/398/GER Support in preparing a discussion note on non-wood forest products certification in Central Africa

NAME	TITLE OF REPORT PRODUCED
	<p>Legislation and regulatory framework governing the use of non-wood forest products in Central Africa</p> <p>Member of the Interdisciplinary Working Group on legislation and the regulatory framework governing non-wood forest products in Central Africa (Model Law Proposal)</p> <p>Necessity and possibility of creating and maintaining a collaborative platform for developing non-wood forest products in Central Africa</p>
Justin Fotsing	IT, page-setting of technical reports
Valentine Achancho	Member of Interdisciplinary Working Group on legislation and regulatory framework governing non-wood forest products in Central Africa
Félix Koubouana	Design of national strategy for the development of the non-wood forest products sector in Congo
Célestin Nyimi Mbumba	Inventory of traders in non-wood forest products in the DRC
Jeanot Minla	Support to the project's final workshop
Ignace de Loy Fokou Sakam	Participation in project MTF/CMR/025/MSC. Drafting of a paper entitled: <i>Evaluation of some NWFPs in a forest concession in Lomié region</i>

Appendix 2. List of Workshops, training and study tour organized by the project

Cameroun	Title of Workshops/Study tour	Participants /Organization	Duration	Date
Residence Jully Hotel Kribi	Planning workshop (financial support of GTZ)	04 from FAO, 06 Focal point of the project, CIFOR, ICRAF,UICN, COMIFAC	3 days	June 25-27 2006
Limbe Botanic Garden	Legal framework workshop governing the use of NWFP (financial support of GTZ)	FAO, 06 Focal point of the project, COMIFAC, CEMAC, OIBT, SNV,UICN, ICRAF, IRAD, KFW, GTZ, Private sectors 04 of the six project countries	4 days	28 June-1 st July 2006
Hotel Azur Yaoundé	First working group meeting on legal framework	07 from FAO, CIFOR, Private sector	3 days	January 24-26 2007
Hotel Azur Yaoundé	Second working group meeting on legal framework	08 from FAO,CIFOR, COMIFAC, private sector	3 days	April 11-13 2007
Hotel la Falaise Douala	Workshop on validation of the proposed law governing the use of NWFP (financial support of GTZ)	Experts from the central Africa sub region, CEEAC, SNV, ICRAF, FAO, CEMAC,COMIFAC, GTZ,WWF, CIFOR, , Private sector, 06 focal points of the project	3 days	November 05-07 2007
Study tour Bamenda	Building the capacities of small and medium-scale enterprises in the honey value chain	Focal points of the project, FAO, SNV, CIFOR, ICRAF	3 days	November 08-10 2007
Hotel la Falaise	End-of-project workshop (inputs validation of the project) financial support of GTZ	FAO, COMIFAC, GTZ, 06 Focal points of the project, ICRAF, SNV, WWF, UICN, private sector	2 days	June 03-04 2008

Appendix 3. List of equipment provided by the project

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Cost (USD)</u>
1	Printer, Hewlett Packard Laserjet 1320	502
1	Printer, Hewlett Packard Deskjet 450	512
1	Computer, Dell Optiplex desktop, with Hewlett Packard 4070 scanner	1 623
1	Computer, Dell	1 534
1	Computer, Compaq	766
1	Photocopier, Canon	2 231
1	Computer, Dell laptop	2 037
1	Computer, Dell laptop	1 961
1	Projector, Hewlett Packard	2 236
1	Projector, Infocus	1 560
1	Vehicle, Toyota Land Cruiser	21 171
1	Transmitter-receiver, Motorola	890

Appendix 4. List of documents prepared during the project

1. Documents of phase 1 (Diagnostic phase)

Titles of Documents	Authors	Hard copy	Online	No. of pages
Legislation and regulatory framework governing the use of non-wood forest products (NWFPs) in Central Africa	Michel Bonannée, Armand Asseng Zé Sven Walter	Yes	Yes	59
Management of natural resources producing non-wood forest products in Central Africa (LoA with ICRAF)	Carolle Bikoué Ann de Grande Honoré Tabuna	Yes	Yes	103
Prospects for non-wood forest products certification in Central Africa	Marie Mbolo Armand Asseng Zé	Yes	Yes	32
Impact of logging in forest concessions on the availability of non-wood forest products in the Congo Basin (LoA with CIFOR)	Julius Tieguhong Ousseynou Ndoye	Yes	Yes	38
Subregional and international trade in non-wood forest food products and traditional agricultural products in Central Africa: Assessment and development strategy (LoA with ICRAF)	Honoré Tabuna	Yes	No	139
Study on the consumption of <i>Irvingia</i> spp (bush mango) and <i>Ricinodendron heudelotii</i> (njansang) in Yaounde and Libreville (LoA CIFOR)	Diomède Manirakiza	Yes	Yes	29
Annotated bibliography	National consultants	Yes	Yes	55
Legislation and regulatory framework on the use of non-wood forest products in Cameroon	Robinson Djeukam	Yes	Yes	47
National study on legislation and regulatory framework governing the use of non-wood forest products (NWFPs) in Congo	Dominique Nsooso	Yes	Yes	43
National study on legislation and regulatory framework governing the use of non-wood forest products (NWFPs) in Gabon	Nathalie Nyare Essima	Yes	Yes	26
National study on legislation and regulatory framework governing the use of non-wood forest products (NWFPs) in DR Congo	Victor Vundu dia Massamba	Yes	Yes	27
National study on legislation and regulatory framework governing the use of non wood forest products (NWFPs) in Equatorial Guinea	Crisantos Obama Ondo	Yes	Yes	33

Titles of Documents	Authors	Hard copy	Online	No. of pages
National study on legislation and regulatory framework governing the use of non-wood forest products (NWFPs) in the Central African Republic	Michel Bonannée	Yes	Yes	31
Analysis of the current situation of the NWFP sector and appraisal of the contribution of NWFPs to food security in the Democratic Republic of Congo (LoA with IUCN)	Benjamin Toirambe B.	Yes	Yes	88
The contribution of non-wood forest products to food security in Equatorial Guinea (LoA with INDEFOR)	Crisantos Obama Ondo	Yes	Yes	59
Inventory of active operators in the trade of key non-wood forest products in the DRC	Célestin Nyimi Mbumba	Yes	Yes	30
Analysis of the socio-economic aspects of non-wood forest products in Central Africa (LoA with CIFOR)	Elise Noubissié Julius Tieguhong Ousseynou Ndoye	Yes	Yes	58

2. Documents of phase 2 (Recommendations/priorities identified during the evaluation workshop in Kribi)

Titles of Documents	Authors	Hard copy	Online	No. of pages
1. Design of a subregional standard (guidelines) on the sustainable management of NWFPs in Central Africa : adoption in Council of Ministers strongly recommended by experts' meeting in Mongomo (Equatorial Guinea, January 2008)	Experts of the subregion	Yes	Yes	24
2. Prospects of an appropriate tax system fostering trade and the sustainable management of non-wood forest products in Central Africa	Jean Lagarde Betti	Yes	Yes	59
3. Design of a strategy/action plan for better collection of statistical data on NWFPs in Cameroon	Jean Lagarde Betti	Yes	Yes	170
4. Necessity and possibility of creating and maintaining a collaborative platform for developing non-wood forest products in Central Africa	Armand Asseng Zé	Yes	Yes	26
5. National strategy and action plan for the development of the NWFP sector in the Republic of Congo	Félix Koubouana	No	Yes	31

Appendix 5. Monitoring and evaluation matrix

PROJECT ELEMENTS/COMPONENTS (Narrative Summary)	SUCCESS INDICATORS (Objectively Verifiable Indicators)	ACHIEVEMENTS
Development Objectives: Food security in Africa enhanced thanks to forest foods	More forest foods used in the diet of the rural populations in Central Africa. Improved food security for forest-dependent peoples.	
Immediate Objective 1: Awareness and knowledge of the role of NWFPs in food security strengthened at the level of production, local communities and governmental agencies involved in the above-mentioned policy sectors.	Technical documents available (6 country and 3 regional/thematic reports). Greater interest in forest foods by interested parties e.g. governments, partner agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the private sector	
Output 1.1: Current and potential contributions of forest foods to food security in Central Africa assessed	Assessment made and documented. Three regional and 8 country reports available and published.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislation and the regulatory framework governing the use of NWFPs in Central Africa (Bonannée, Asseng). • Policy and institutional framework for the use of NWFPs in Central Africa. • Analysis of socio-economic aspects of NWFPs in Central Africa (CIFOR Report). • Management of natural resources that bear NWFP foods in Central Africa. (ICRAF Report). • Analysis of the current situation of the non-wood forest products sector and assessment of their contribution to food security in the Democratic Republic of Congo (IUCN Report). • Contribution of NWFPs to food security in Equatorial Guinea (INDEFOR Report). • Six national studies on the legislation and regulatory framework governing the use of

PROJECT ELEMENTS/COMPONENTS (Narrative Summary)	SUCCESS INDICATORS (Objectively Verifiable Indicators)	ACHIEVEMENTS
		<p>NWFPs (in the Republic of Congo, DRC, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Cameroon and the Central African Republic).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of available bibliography on NWFPs in Central Africa. • Level of knowledge on the nutritional value of edible NWFPs
Output 1.2 Impact of forest management on forest foods assessed	<p>Two case studies conducted. One appraisal report available and widely disseminated. Training materials on the sustainable methods of harvesting NWFPs available</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The impact of logging in forest concessions on the availability of NWFPs in the Congo Basin (CIFOR Report)- Pilot study on forest exploitation techniques. • Report of project MTF/CMR/025/CMR (being drafted). • The two other studies programmed in Gabon and Equatorial Guinea did not take place. • Prospects for NWFP certification in Central Africa. • Training activities were transferred to project GCP/RAF/408/EC.
Output 1.3 Commercial contribution of food NWFPs as a means of livelihood of local communities assessed	<p>Two case studies conducted. Appraisal report available and widely disseminated. Concept of building national and regional NWFP trade/marketing capacities and the development of small-size enterprises developed and supported by at least two countries.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subregional and international trade in non-wood forest food products and traditional agricultural products in Central Africa. • Assessment and development strategy (ICRAF Report). • Study on consumption of <i>Irvingia</i> spp (bush mango) and <i>Ricinodendron heudelotii</i> (ndjansang) in Yaounde and Libreville (CIFOR Report). • Training activities were transferred to project GCP/RAF/408/EC.
Output 1.4 Project outputs published and disseminated	Project document and summary reports available and widely disseminated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six information notes produced and disseminated, mostly via Internet • Twenty-four documents produced and posted online at: http://www.fao.org/forestry/43715/en/
Immediate Objective 2: Bases established for systematic	Availability of policy recommen-	

PROJECT ELEMENTS/COMPONENTS (Narrative Summary)	SUCCESS INDICATORS (Objectively Verifiable Indicators)	ACHIEVEMENTS
incorporation of information on forest foods in terms of land use types, forest, nutrition, poverty and other relevant policy programmes.	dations to be implemented at country and regional levels. Greater interest of parties concerned by forest foods e.g. governments, partner agencies, NGOs and the private sector.	
Output 2.1 Adequate approaches proposed and developed for systematic appraisal and documentation of edible NWFPs at country level in a context of appropriate soil end-use units	Summaries of NWFP, food security, sustainable forest management policies, management of available information and global policy recommendations available.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategy in Congo (report being finalized). • Subregional guidelines on sustainable management of NWFPs of plant origin in Central Africa. • Strategy/Action plan for better collection of statistical data on NWFPs in Cameroon and recommendation for COMIFAC countries. • Prospects for an appropriate tax system promoting trade and sustainable management of NWFPs in Central Africa.
Output 2.2 A series of nationwide monitoring activities compiled, discussed and validated	Series of monitoring activities agreed upon during regional workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report of Kribi workshop (appraisal of Phase I and planning of activities of the other phases). • Report of Limbe workshop on the legal framework. • Report of Douala workshop on the validation of Guidelines. • Necessity and possibility of creating and maintaining a collaborative platform for developing NWFPs in Central Africa. • Report of regional end-of-project workshop held from 3 to 4 June and recommendations available.