

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMME

Country: Angola, Brasil, Cabo Verde, Guiné-Bissau, Moçambique, Portugal, São Tomé e Príncipe, and Timor Leste

Project title: Formulation of the CPLP South-South/North-South Cooperation Programme for the Implementation of UNCCD

Project symbol: TCP/INT/3201 (D)

Starting date: April 2008

Completion date: April 2009

Entity responsible for project execution: CPLP Executive Secretariat

Budget covering FAO contribution: US\$ 475 000

Signed:

(on behalf of the Governments)

Signed:

Jacques Diouf
Director-General

(on behalf of the Food and Agriculture
Organization of the United Nations - FAO)

Date of signature:

Date of signature:

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 General Context

The Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLP), created in 1996, is an international organization composed of Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal, São Tomé and Príncipe and East Timor – all signatories of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). The CPLP is a privileged space for multilateral consultation and cooperation, with a legal body and an Executive Secretariat based in Lisbon. As its main objectives, the organization promotes political and diplomatic consultation between member states and cooperation in all fields, including education, science and technology, agriculture and public administration. The Special Fund of the CPLP, founded in 1999, fosters the “sustainable development of the Member States, economic use of natural resources, equitable distribution of wealth generated and welfare of the population, protection and preservation of the environment, and the training of human resources.”

In 2006, at their Third Meeting, the CPLP Environment Ministers signed the Declaration of Brasilia, which establishes a platform for cooperation to help overcome growing challenges in the areas of environmental education, climate change, desertification and effects of drought, and to promote an integration of environment and development. In this framework, the Focal Points of the UNCCD looking for assistance expressed during COP 7 (Nairobi) their need for technical cooperation to the Global Mechanism. During the UNCCD COP 8 in Madrid, a high level side event chaired by the CPLP Executive Secretary endorsed a general framework of a CPLP Cooperation Programme prepared with FAO technical assistance, in line with the Decennial Strategic Programme for 2008-2018 approved at COP8 for the Convention to Combat Desertification.

1.2 Sectoral Context

1.2.1 CPLP Development priorities, World Food Summit objectives and MDGs

The 7th Millennium Development Goal (MDG-7) focuses on environmental sustainability, including, as its first core outcome, “to integrate the principles of sustainable development into country policies and programmes.” Addressing land degradation as a critical global environmental issue, particularly in view of worsening climate change factors, requires adequate and well-targeted national policies that will ground programmatic actions. The U.N. Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for the CPLP countries also highlights the environment-livelihoods linkages. In this sense, land degradation represents one of the major threats for sustainable and resilient livelihoods. The proposed Cooperation Programme to be developed with the present project will support the UNDAF objectives in the CPLP beneficiary countries.

As advocates the UNCCD, the signatory countries must develop and implement National Plans to Combat Desertification in line with the Decennial Strategy 2008-2018, acting along the axes of increasing productive capacity, reducing poverty, strengthening democratic management, environmental conservation, and participation and citizenship, in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

2. RATIONALE

2.1 Problems/Issues to be Addressed

As a result of soil degradation, food security decrease, levels of poverty increase, and human and social capital deteriorate, making it increasingly difficult to release involved populations from the cycle of poverty. Particularly in semi-arid regions, land degradation translates into economic losses that are significant

percentages of the Gross Domestic Product.¹ In order to contribute to the reversal of this situation, the UNCCD seeks to encourage signatory countries to formulate National Action Plans to combat desertification that promote social participation, build capacity in correlated themes, promote remedial and preventive measures in soil degradation processes, and promote activities aimed at sustainable development and poverty reduction.

The systematic integration of combating desertification into development policies and into the formulation of effective tools and measures for design and implementation of National Action Plans to combat land degradation requires the collaboration of the Ministries of Environment, Agriculture, and Agrarian Development, institutional interlocutors directly related with sustainable land management, and also Ministries of Planning, Finance, Economy, and Foreign Affairs. Therefore this project must launch institutional dialogue and capacity building processes and enable multi-sectoral working groups to foster the proposed activities and to remain a privileged institutional structure for designing and monitoring National Action Plans.

The CPLP countries are threaten by desertification at different levels of intensity and territorial distribution, but land degradation represents a real and significant risk to their populations. Only four of the eight CPLP countries have formulated a National Plan to Combat Desertification, with low levels of implementation². Some CPLP countries also faced long periods of conflict, deepening structural problems in the management and development of strategies, related to several factors including:

- Low level of development in governmental and non-governmental organizations for concerted action in Sustainable Land Management;
- Insufficient capabilities in environmental management, project design, securing resources to implement actions, working in networks, and knowledge management;
- Limited involvement of strategic partners in order to enlarge the impacts;
- Relative isolation from countries facing similar challenges, and that could be strategic partners in the development process and technology transfer;
- Low level of information and experience in international cooperation, especially South-South cooperation;
- Lack of capacity to establish synergies with regional and national rural development policies, including policies and strategies for combating poverty and improving efficiency in national financial resource management.

In 2007, a process of consultations³ with the concerned UNCCD Focal Points defined a general framework of their priority needs in terms of cooperation in light of the Paris Declaration, which highlighted: (a) training of human resources, (b) institutional capacity building, development of manuals, diagnostics and indicators, and (c) strategies for communication and building awareness; (d) partnerships and synergies.

2.2 Stakeholders and Target Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries of the CPLP Cooperation Programme to Combat Desertification will be the UNCCD stakeholders, that is the technical and executive staff of the Administration, at the central and local levels, primarily in the fields of Agriculture, Environment, Finance, Planning and Environmental Education; technicians from research and civil society institutions directly related to sustainable land management will also be involved. The ultimate and long term beneficiaries are the population living in areas affected by land degradation and drought, with particular attention to women headed households.

^{1/} Report on the International Workshop on the Cost of Inaction and Opportunities for Investment in Arid, Semi-arid and Dry Sub-humid Areas, 4-5 December 2006, FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy.

^{2/} For an overview of the context in each CPLP country regarding desertification and drought, as well as possible common approaches to problems, please see Annex.

^{3/} carried out within the GM/FAO Joint Work Plan 2007

2.3 Project Justification

The urgency of responding to the challenges of poverty in the affected areas, which are strongly related to the processes of desertification and land degradation and hampered by the growing need to adapt to climate change, requires the creation of favourable conditions (an enabling environment) for actions that have a lasting impact and efficiently take advantage of limited international and national financial resources.

The cultural proximity represented by the official language of the CPLP countries; the historical and socio-cultural factors that unite them; and the similarities in their problems and challenges related to sustainable land management makes cooperation highly relevant, in terms of technology exchange, sharing experiences, and joint policy and financial strategy design.

2.3.1 Brazilian Participation

Brazil has progressed well in the coordinated implementation of the UNCCD: from 2003 the Brazilian Ministry of Environment led the drafting of the National Action Plan to Combat Desertification and Mitigate the Effects of Drought, involving other ministries, federal and state bodies, and civil society in Areas Susceptible to Desertification (ASD). An important feature in Brazil is the existence of a network of social organizations, the Articulation for the Semi-Arid (ASA), which brings together more than one thousand civil society organisations from semi-arid areas in Brazil and contributes to the proposal and implementation of public policies.

Brazil has also devised a broadly participatory National Programme for Environmental Education, which emphasizes the creation of spaces for bilateral and multilateral dialogue, contributing to the dialogue between sectoral policies (environmental, educational, economic, social and infrastructure), in order to participate in the investment decisions of these sectors. With the National System for Environmental Education, social empowerment is strengthened by the generation and provision of information, enabling social participation in the discussion, formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of environmental policies. The main tools of this programme are educational communication, promotion of collective educators, and the creation of nearly 400 Green Rooms, spaces with communication infrastructure for local populations to build and implement their political-educational activities related to environmental/natural resources management.

Moreover, the project “Environmental Education in the CPLP in the Context of the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development,” proposed by the Brazilian Agency for Cooperation and the Department of Environmental Education, may allow synergies in the context of a programme of South-South and North-South cooperation for combating desertification. The project was implemented in Angola by the Department of Environmental Education in Brazil and has been expanded to include the other countries, with support from Portugal and the intention of the European Union to support the integration of this initiative with the objectives of the UNCCD.

2.3.2. Participation of Portugal and the European Union

In accordance with its 2005 Development Policy, the European Union has always supported the UNCCD. Its policy in this respect focuses on financial assistance to rural development policies, training, and research and development in developing countries.

Promoting the integration of sustainability in development, the environment, and natural resources into sectoral priorities, responding to needs to adapt to climate change, and combating the risks of desertification in the context of natural resources and the specific vulnerabilities of partner countries, the Portuguese Cooperation policy pursues the objective of strengthening the capacity for Community response to global environmental threats.

3. PROJECT FRAMEWORK

3.1 Impact

The CPLP Cooperation Programme to Combat Desertification, which this project will help formulate, is a key element in the fight against land degradation and improving the living conditions of people who inhabit the affected areas, as well as in natural resource management and conservation, which assist in mitigating climate change. Creating a national framework will allow greater investment in sustainable rural development initiatives, encouraged by training activities in the technical fields of use and conservation of soil and natural resources, communications and advocacy, and networking, among others.

This project will also create the necessary framework and institutional capacities, at the CPLP, national, and regional levels, for the design and implementation of the Cooperation Programme, contributing to sustainable rural development and reduce poverty in the CPLP African countries and in East Timor. It therefore has two specific objectives:

- 1) National capacity building for intersectoral and participatory planning to combat desertification
- 2) Designing a CPLP Cooperation Programme to Combat Desertification

3.2 Outcome and Outputs

At the end of the project, the CPLP countries will have a long-term programme of Community cooperation aimed at implementing the UNCCD. Additionally, they will define the methodology of work and have acquired the skills essential for the integrated planning of combating desertification and for a smooth implementation of the Programme.

- **Result 1:** Intergovernmental Management Committee created and operational.
- **Result 2:** CPLP Cooperation Programme to Combat Desertification prepared, endorsed by the technical and political actors of all member states, and widely communicated.
- **Result 3:** National institutions involved in the design and implementation of the Programme and trained for integrated planning to combat desertification.
- **Result 4:** Necessary resources to implement the Programme identified, and sources of financial and technical assistance committed.
- **Result 5:** Network of Green Rooms developed and operational in the communication and exchange of knowledge in the fields of development and combating desertification, ensuring gender balanced participation and benefits.

3.2.1 Activities

Result 1: Management Committee for CPLP Programme

Activity 1.1: Creation of the Management Committee

At the next meeting of CPLP Environment Ministers of the CPLP, to be held in April in Angola, the formation of the Management Committee for the CPLP Programme should be defined, which must include:

- a) UNCCD Focal Points;
- b) Environmental Education Focal Points;
- c) Ministries of Agriculture;
- d) TCP Focal Point in the CPLP.

The Secretariat of the Management Committee will be provided by the CPLP Executive Secretariat, which will designate a staff as Focal Point for the project.

Activity 1.2: Definition of the terms of reference of the Management Committee

The project will assist the intergovernmental Management Committee to set approved rules of operation, methodologies for monitoring and preliminary support for the development of the Program, including the following tasks:

- Approve the work plan of the project;
- Decide on the dynamics of the operation of the project technical team in conjunction with the Management Committee;
- Decide on the possible components of the Cooperation Programme, identify and convene national intersectoral Working Groups to develop each component of sectoral and regional technical training;
- Support, in partnership with the national focal points to the UNCCD, the Executive Secretariat, the national Consultants and the Green Rooms Network, processes of consultation with civil society and the private sector on the proposal for the Cooperation Programme;
- Consolidate the proposals of the Working Groups for a proposal for the CPLP Cooperation Programme, containing budgets for negotiation with donors and details of the terms of reference for the projects and initiatives identified.

Activity 1.3: Definition of the work plan of the Management Committee

The project will assist the Management Committee in the preparation of a work plan for the two planned meetings and the intersession period, which must include:

- Monitoring and support of the Working Groups for the design of the Cooperation Program, scheduling work and participating in meetings and discussions;
- Monitoring and support of National Consultancies in the specialized work and national training for the preparation of the Programme;
- Planning of the consultation processes and public debate of the Program, in conjunction with FAO, National Consultancies, and Network of Green Rooms;
- Adoption of the final version of the proposed programme and the terms of reference for the projects and initiatives identified;
- Support of the CPLP Executive Secretariat in identifying resources for the implementation of the Programme from multilateral and bilateral donors;

Result 2: CPLP Cooperation Programme to Combat Desertification

Activity 2.1: Formation of national Working Groups

The intergovernmental Management Committee will support the formation of national intersectoral Working Groups to prepare the CPLP Cooperation Programme, based on the expansion of the needs identified in the preliminary preparation phase of this project, while contributing to the consolidation of integrated planning processes to combat desertification and global environmental threats.

These Working Groups must incorporate the following technical training:

- a) National UNCCD Focal Point;
- b) National Consultants;
- c) National Environmental Education Focal Point;
- d) Ministry of Agriculture;
- e) Ministry of Planning;
- f) Ministry of Finance;
- g) Ministry of the Environment;
- h) Civil society and research institutions related to sustainable land management.

This structure will be trained at regional and local levels, according to the development of specific components of the Programme, and will continue to play a role in the implementation of the Programme after the completion of the project.

Activity 2.2: Programme Preparation

Based on the formation of the Working Groups, a dynamic formulation of the components of the Cooperation Programme will be developed in collaboration with the project technical team, using present and remote contacts and involving extensive consultations at national and regional levels, where appropriate. The project technical team, Portugal, or Brazil could provide expert consultants on issues identified by Working Groups to support the discussions and/or provide technical assistance for training involved technicians.

In the interval between meetings, a core coordination group of the TCP, composed of the technical coordinator, representatives of the Working Groups, FAO and the TCP Focal Point in the CPLP, should promote discussions, consultations and sharing of information on potential synergies and cooperation between all involved countries, particularly with the CPLP Environmental Education Project.

To support communication between countries, a web page will be created to disseminate up-to-date information on the preparation of the Cooperation Programme and the implementation of this TCP. A debate will be held monthly over the Internet to communicate the progress of the implementation of the TCP and to discuss the contributions of all stakeholders, especially the Working Groups.

Once all programming modules are completed, the intergovernmental Management Committee will consolidate the technical proposals, identifying and compiling common needs to the preparation of the CPLP Cooperation Program.

Activity 2.3: Disclosure and public participation

When the importance or the uniqueness of the issues warrant it, the preparation of the Programme will involve national and local consultations with civil society and the private sector, with the support of national UNCCD Focal Points, National Consultants, and Network of Green Rooms.

To conclude the programming work, the UNCCD Focal Points, with the support of the Management Committee, National Consultants, and the Network of Green Rooms, will consult with civil society and the private sector, by holding a workshop where the guidelines, components and proposals of the Cooperation Programme will be presented. The recommendations, comments and proposals of the workshop will be shared between countries and analyzed in the respective Working Groups.

The results of the Working Groups will be systematized and made available for consultation and public debate on the website designed to monitor the implementation of the TCP, which could be hosted by the platform of the Network of Green Rooms.

Activity 2.4: Development of a socio-environmental Atlas of vulnerability to desertification

To gain benefit from the National Consultancies and promote the knowledge of social and natural diversity in the CPLP countries, a socio-environmental Atlas will be produced to survey indicators of desertification, and which considers the natural resources of countries and the indicators and accurate mapping of vulnerability to desertification, in addition to identifying areas affected. Special attention will be given to social aspects specific to gender dynamics.

Result 3: Training of involved national institutions

Activity 3.1: Recruitment of the project technical team

National consultants to be recruited by the project and experts to be provided by Brazil and Portugal, forming the project technical team together with TCI Technical Officer, should develop their work in support of capacity building and technical assistance to the institutions comprise the national Working Groups, or others as indicated to them, but they should be among the Ministries of Planning, pursuing the mission of building capacity for integrated planning at the convergence of objectives for development, food security, combating desertification, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, and combating biodiversity loss.

National consultants should be recruited preferably in the country, without prejudice, to safeguard the technical capacity evident for the continuation of the mission in support of integrated planning, but can also be nationals of any State member of the CPLP.

Activity 3.2: Technical Training

Training of national institutions should include technical and executive staff and key sectors of public administration and civil society organizations, thus enabling:

- Understanding and participation in the processes of international cooperation, in the scope of South-South and North-South cooperation;
- Understanding and applying the concepts and principles of the UNCCD and Sustainable Land Management in connection with sectoral strategic planning of sustainable development.
- Understanding the interrelationship between global environmental threats (desertification, biodiversity loss and climate change) and the risks to achieving sustainable development and reducing poverty;
- Encouraging the systematic integration of global environmental risks into the definition and implementation of policies and sectoral measures, incorporating the knowledge of national vulnerabilities;
- Understanding and applying the concepts and principles of Environmental Education with the aim to strengthen public access to information, environmental justice, and participation in the processes of integrated planning.

Training by the project technical team will involve on the ground training and distance-training monitoring.

Result 4: Resources for implementation of the Programme

Activity 4.1: Identification of sources of assistance

The identification of sources of assistance has three aspects: Brazilian sources of assistance, North-South sources of assistance, and sources of cooperation between the CPLP African countries and East Timor. It will be up to the CPLP Executive Secretariat, with the support of the Management Committee of the Program, FAO and the Global Mechanism, to promote the distribution from donors, the raising and committing of necessary resources to implement the plan of activities.

The mapping of Brazilian sources of assistance will identify the institutions already providing bilateral and multilateral cooperation, and those with relevant experience and institutional capacity for cooperation: universities, research, civil society organisations and government will be considered in this survey. North-South assistance, in the technical and financial aspects, will be mobilized in consultation with the Government of Portugal, FAO, and the Global Mechanism. Potential cooperation between the CPLP African countries and East Timor will also be identified, giving value to the contributions of all countries in the implementation of the Cooperation Programme.

Result 5: Involved Network of Green Rooms

Activity 5.1: Education to combat desertification through the Network of Green Rooms

The Network of Green Rooms has the ability to enhance access to environmental information and to facilitate the participation of civil society in processes of public consultation. In this sense, it can support the debate on national and local needs and priorities in the preparation of the CPLP Programme to Combat Desertification, welcoming activities within this framework of educational projects that are being developed. An electronic newsletter prepared jointly will allow the systematization of progress and will motivate the debate, exploring other synergies between the two projects.

3.3 Sustainability

At the end of the project, it is expected that the eight countries of the CPLP jointly design a Cooperation Programme to support UNCCD implementation in their territories, with regional connectivity and enabling the efforts of each individual country.

During the process of formulating the Cooperation Programme, the Global Mechanism – which is intended to mobilise and channel financial resources to member countries of the UNCCD, including for technology transfer on the basis of donations and/or loans in conditions of concession or in other conditions – will make efforts to mobilize resources for the Programme so that there is no loss of continuity of the actions initiated by the project.

This project must generate not only a Cooperation Programme, but should also form a Management Committee for actions relevant to the promotion of sustainable development in the eight countries. It should also constitute a group of technicians articulated in a learning network that will remain active after the end of the project.

The strengthening of relations of cooperation between the CPLP countries and inclusion of civil society in the activities promoted should contribute to the sustainability of the actions after the completion of this project. The lessons learned during the implementation of the project will be systematized and disseminated in order to encourage and support similar projects.

3.4 Risks and Assumptions

As this is a project involving a significant number of actors, institutions and special interests, the anticipated risks are:

1. National bodies of the Cooperation Programme do not engage in the design of the Cooperation Programme
2. Potential donors for the Cooperation Programme do not allocate resources for the Cooperation Programme

Frequent communication with the national bodies and actors involved in the design of the Cooperation Programme will be the main tool to monitor the risks reported and to sustain the motivation of the Management Committee and the Focal Points of the CPLP.

The political agenda of the CPLP to coordinate strategic events of the project with their agendas will give visibility to the project and strengthen relations. Thus, seeking to initiate the project during the Meeting of Ministers of Environment of the CPLP, the CPLP will be informed on the progress of work and the participants of the Management Committee will receive periodic newsletters, which will aim to rotate countries in the role of designing the newsletters. The Global Mechanism will also be provided with relevant information for mobilizing donors and raising funds for the Cooperation Programme.

Considering the political agenda of the CPLP, the project must be started the third week of March, allowing the articulation of actors in order for the first meeting to happen on the sidelines of the Meeting of the Environment Ministers of CPLP in April 2008.

Table 1: Risk Matrix

| Risk | Impact | Probability | Mitigation |
|--|---|-------------|---|
| 1. National bodies of the Cooperation Programme does not engage in the design of the Cooperation Programme | Cooperation Programme without the countries in question taking ownership of the process | 20% | Ongoing mobilization of national bodies for the design of the Cooperation Programme |
| 2. Donors allocate resources for other purposes | Cooperation Programme paralyzed by lack of financial resources | 30% | TCP provides key information for mobilizing donors and obtaining resources |

SECTION 4. IMPLEMENTATION AND MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Institutional Framework and Coordination

The project headquarters will be located at the CPLP Executive Secretary as agreed by the countries of the Community. The Secretariat will appoint a Focal Point and will act as the implementing agency for the coordination and supervision of the project, with the assistance of the Management Committee, FAO Investment Centre, and the Training consultant.

In the CPLP African countries and in East Timor, national institutions of the UNCCD and of Environmental Education, in collaboration with the representative institutions at the Executive Secretariat, will be responsible for the implementation of project activities. They will provide administrative and logistical support for international missions to the project, including temporary office and communication facilities. The national focal points of the UNCCD, of Environmental Education and of the CPLP will ensure the permanent coordination between national actors and the implementation of the project work plan at the national level. They will participate in the CPLP regional consultations.

Brazil will support the implementation process of the Green Rooms, supported by the Environmental Education project as well as the meetings of the Project Management Committee with the appointment of an adviser from the Department of Environmental Education. Brazil will also support the linkage with other Brazilian institutions and the deployment of an Internet portal as well as the production of communication materials.

4.2 Strategy/Methodology

This project is a facilitation, with intermediary results aimed at designing and implementing a major Cooperation Programme involving the eight countries of the CPLP. The Project will set the preparatory stages of the Cooperation Programme, namely, the establishment of the Management Committee, the identification of the sources of Brazilian and Portuguese cooperation, the identification of potential synergies between existing initiatives, with the preparation of national actors to act effectively in the Cooperation Programme and the establishment of a network of training and synergistic actions based on the strengthening of the Green Rooms (see Methodological Annex).

The first strategic component of this project is to expand the Management Committee of the Environmental Education project, which today comprises the Environmental Education focal points, by integrating the UNCCD Focal Points, and having the Global Mechanism as a broker and the CPLP Focal Points as observers. The Committee will have an Executive Secretary Manager and will be assisted by a team composed of the Principal Consultant, Consultants and National Focal Point of CPLP.

The Committee will have two Management meetings in addition to teleconferences to be scheduled according to need. The first meeting will be held in Angola, taking advantage of the first meeting of the Committee of Project Managers of Environmental Education, which will be held just before the CPLP Environment Ministers Meeting in April 2008. This meeting will have as some of its objectives to present the proposal to enlarge the Management Committee of Environmental Education as indicated above, and to set and approve a Work Plan up to April 2009.

The last meeting will be held in March 2009 for the approval of the proposed Cooperation Programme, which should include the budget for negotiating with donors and the drafts of agreements for future cooperation. Between meetings, a dynamic interactive design of the Cooperation Programme will be promoted, based on the Communication Platform made available by the Green Rooms, with periodic Internet discussions and dissemination of information.

The preparation of the national bodies to the Cooperation Programme will encompass two perspectives: first, the promotion of synergies and complementarity with measures that are already in progress and, second, the training of national consultants, technicians, government and technical aspects of Green Rooms (see Methodological Annex). To support the process, a network of communication and collective learning will be established using the platform of the Green Rooms. The network will have an electronic newsletter, published monthly, with relevant information on the process and the various countries involved. Discussion groups will be created, with a moderator that encourages and systematizes the outcome of discussions for dissemination in the newsletter.

The interaction of the results presented herein will result in the drafting of the Cooperation Programme, which will have a team for systematization and reporting that will submit the results of the work periodically to the Management Committee. It is expected that at the end of the implementation of the project the following results will be achieved:

- Functioning Management Committee comprised of the 8 CPLP countries
- Functioning communication and training network set up
- 32 technicians of the 8 countries trained to provide support to systemic organizational development with a focus on international cooperation projects
- Cooperation Programme, designed with the active and qualified participation of the 8 countries

The implementation of the project strategy will be ensured by a Coordinator and national consultants hired for the six African countries (see Terms of Reference). The DEA, Department of Environmental Education, of the Ministry of Environment of Brazil will provide a team composed of three technicians and a trainee.

4.3 Government Inputs

Financial and/or contributions in kind

The Project headquarters will be located at the CPLP Executive Secretariat which will act as the implementing agency for the coordination and supervision of the implementation with the assistance of the Management Committee of the FAO Investment Centre and the main consultant PCT.

The Beneficiary governments will provide administrative, staffing and logistical support for national activities and international missions of the Project, including provisional office and communications facilities.

Brazil will provide for costs and make available ad-hoc specialists required for the formulation of the capacity building activities to be implemented by the future Programme, as identified in the project workplan. In addition a national expert in support of the south-south cooperation will identify and organize the Brazilian institutions which would provide the expertise required for the Cooperation Programme (ToRs in Annex 3)..

Portugal, through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and its network of Portuguese Development Assistance Institute Representations (IPAD), will provide expert and in-kind services for the activities identified in the workplan.

4.4 FAO Contribution

1. Personnel services

FAO Technical Support Services (TSS)

The Project will provide the services of an expert FAO / TCI, with experience in issues of UNCCD and the preparation of projects. The TL will provide overall guidance to the consultants and Project formulation teams, and participate in key events to guarantee a sound start, follow-up and accomplishment of the project.

National experts. The project will provide the services of a regional specialist in training (12 months, 5000\$/month), who will need to travel to the African countries - He/she will be also responsible for coordination with the Brazilian institutions. The project will cover up to US\$ 35000 for international travel.

In the African countries and Timor, six national consultants specialized in the analysis of environmental projects, studies and policies (5 months each, unit cost US\$ 3000/month) will support the strategy components of the Programme formulation process, and will also facilitate and contribute to the various activities of the project. The project will cover up to 2000\$ for each consultant for in-country travel.

A provision of US\$ 38,000 is also made for ad-hoc short term national specialists, the travels of these consultants will be covered by the project up to US\$ 17000.

TCDC Specialists will be provided free of charge to the project by the Portuguese and Brazilian governments (who will pay specialists' salaries) in support to activities in the concerned African countries and East-Timor. The project will contribute to agreed Brazilian TCDC specialists' travel costs up to US\$20,000 (travel and per diem).

2. Training. Training sessions will be carried out with the participation of the above mentioned consultants and the Brazilian and Portuguese specialists. The total cost of international workshops is estimated at 170,000, to which FAO will contribute up to the height of US\$ 37,000 (training costs) and US\$70,000 (international travel of participants from 6 countries). International workshops will take place, tentatively in Angola, Sao Tome & Principe and Brazil, under cost-sharing arrangements with Portugal and Brazil.

3. General operating expenses will not exceed 9585\$, including costs of communication for coordination between the 8 CPLP countries.

5. OVERSIGHT, MONITORING, MANAGEMENT INFORMATION, AND REPORTING

5.1 Monitoring and Knowledge Sharing

The workplan will be approved by all parties during the first meeting of the Management Committee and the implementation monitoring process agreed upon. The Committee and National Working Groups will have primary responsibility for monitoring which will include indicators such as a) degree of participation of

national bodies and actors in consultations, workshops; b) number of communications and meetings of the Working Groups and Management Committee; c) timeliness in workplan implementation.

5.2 Communication and Visibility

Communication is a central element of this project for a real involvement of the stakeholders in eight countries, which will be ensured by the development of a platform for communication, virtual monthly newsletters and mobilization of discussion groups.

The project will also be included in the political agenda of the CPLP, starting at the CPLP Forum of Ministers of Environment in April 2008.

5.3 Reporting Schedule

All consultants will prepare end-of-mission or periodic reports, in addition to the Project Communications. A final report will be formulated at the end of the project as per project workplan.

PROJECT BUDGET (FAO Contribution)

Country: CPLP Countries
Project title: Formulation of the CPLP South-South/North-South Cooperation Programme for the Implementation of UNCCD
Project symbol: TCP /INT / 3201 (D)

| Comp. | Component Description | Sub Comps. | Main Comp. |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 5013 | Consultants | | 188,000 |
| 5543 | Consultants - National | 188,000 | |
| 5021 | Travel | | 177,400 |
| 5685 | Consultants - National | 64,000 | |
| 5686 | Consultants - TCDC/TCCT | 20,000 | |
| 5694 | Travel - Training | 70,000 | |
| 5692 | Travel TSS | 23,400 | |
| 5023 | Training | | 37,000 |
| 5920 | Training Budget | 37,000 | |
| 5027 | Technical Support Services | | 31,940 |
| 6111 | Report Costs | 1,850 | |
| 6120 | Honorarium TSS | 30,090 | |
| 5028 | General Operating Expenses | | 9,585 |
| 6300 | General Operating Expenses Budget | 9,585 | |
| 5029 | Support Cost | | 31,075 |
| 6118 | Direct Operating Costs | 31,075 | |
| | Grand Total | | 475,000 |

WORK PLAN

| | | março | abril | maio | junho | julho | agosto | setembro | outubro | novembro | dezembro | janeiro | fevereiro | março | abril | Responsabilidade |
|------------------|---|-------|-------|------|-------|-------|--------|----------|---------|----------|----------|---------|-----------|-------|-------|------------------------------------|
| | Preparação para lançamento e implementação do projecto | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Activity 0.1 | Instalação da secretaria do projecto na CPLP | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | FAO TL/ Gov Portugal/CPLP Sec |
| Activity 0.2 | Seleção e contratação do consultor Training | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | FAO TL |
| Activity 0.3 | Seleção e contratação dos consultores nacionais | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | FAO |
| Activity 0.4 | Preparação do evento de lançamento do Projecto na ocasião da primeira reunião do Comitê em Angola | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Consultor Training/FAO/IPAD/DEA |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Output 1: | Comité de coordenação do Programa de Cooperação formado e em funcionamento | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Activity 1.1 | Preparação da reunião conjunta dos PF CPLP, EA, UNCCD | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Consultor Training/DEA/ |
| Activity 1.2 | Constituição do Comité de Coordenação | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Activity 1.3 | Definição dos termos de referência do Comité de coordenação | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Activity 1.4 | Apoio às acções do comité gestor (informar e secretariar reuniões) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Consultor Training/DEA/Secret CPLP |
| Activity 1.5 | Realização da primeira reunião do Comité Gestor em Angola | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Consultor Training/TCI/IPAD/DEA |
| Activity 1.6 | Relatoria e disseminação dos resultados das reuniões do Comité Gestor | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Consultor Training/Sec CPLP |

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Terms of Reference of the Regional Training Consultant

Under the technical supervision of the FAO Investment Centre and in collaboration with the Latin America and Caribbean Programme of the Global Mechanism, the consultant will work in close coordination with representatives in Brazil and Africa of FAO and Brazilian and Portuguese cooperation agencies. The consultant will maintain close collaboration with the Brazilian Department of Environmental Education of Brazil as well as the national UNCCD Focal Point.

Activities to be developed

The consultant who will assume the coordination of this TCP should maintain permanent communication and coordination of the activities of the TCP, considering the guidelines and recommendations of the institutional arrangement described above. In addition, the consultant will:

1. Assist the Management Committee of the PCT, ensuring the flow of communication between the members of Management Committee, the CPLP Secretariat, and Brazilian and Portuguese cooperation agencies;
2. Provide assistance to ensure the running and coordination of actions of national consultants in different countries;
3. Monitor the hiring, training and methodological preparation of national consultants;
4. Coordinate the process of designing the Cooperation Programme, identifying the demands of the Working Groups and providing required advice for their positive performance through the identification and recruitment of specialized consultants when needed;
5. Identify the sources of assistance in Brazil;
6. Support the identification of potential cooperation between the CPLP African countries and East Timor;
7. Advise the Department of Environmental Education of the Ministry of Environment for the organization of meetings of the Management Committee;
8. Support the preparation of the Terms of Cooperation with the identified sources of assistance;
9. Support the training of technicians from government and civil society;
10. Assist national authorities in the finalization of the proposal document for the Cooperation Programme, as well as drafting budgets for negotiating with donors and preparing Cooperation Agreements.

Expected Products

- Preparation of the report of the first meeting of the Management Committee of the TCP;
- Systematization of the results of the first meeting of the Management Committee;
- Mapping of potential sources of assistance in Brazil;
- Systematization of the mapping of the cooperation potential within the CPLP African countries and between these countries and East Timor;
- Preparation of report of the seminar of São Tomé and Príncipe;
- Systematization of the contributions of the Working Groups in the first semester of the TCP;
- Systematization of the contributions of the Working Groups in the tenth month of the TCP;
- Preparation of report of the last meeting of the Management Committee of the TCP;
- Proposed Cooperation Programme in the framework of the CPLP and Environmental Education.

Supplies

Resources will be available to the consultant(s) for travel necessary for the performance of tasks and for communication.

Professional Qualifications

The consultant should have the following qualifications:

- Training: Completion of higher education; expertise in the area of environment; minimum four years' experience in international cooperation; experience with formation and management of projects of technical and financial cooperation and analysis of public policies;
- Ability to lead teams and to relate with people and institutions from different cultures;
- Knowledge of English and French;
- Mastery of programs for editing text, spreadsheets and presentations.

Duration and Location

The consultancy will have a duration of 12 months.

Upon authorization from FAO/TCI, the consultant will travel, as necessary, within Brazil and to other countries to undertake his/her tasks.

The consultant will submit to TCI a monthly report of activities.

Terms of Reference for the National Consultants
Analysis of environmental projects, studies and policies
(African Countries and East Timor)

Under the technical supervision of the FAO Investment Centre and in collaboration with the Latin America and Caribbean Programme of the Global Mechanism, the consultant will work in close coordination with representatives in Brazil and Africa of FAO and Brazilian and Portuguese cooperation agencies.

Activities to be developed

The specific tasks to be undertaken by national consultants are:

- Carry out a review of socio-environmental information on the countries accessible in the literature, emphasizing social and environmental diversity, the presence of different ecosystems, and linguistic and cultural diversity;
- Carry out a review of information about bilateral and multilateral programs and projects related to sustainable land management of land, including strategic objectives, major actors, areas of geographic coverage, planned initiatives and results, implementation period and amount of resources involved;
- Systematize information into an organizational map, as guidance for coordination of the TCP;
- Based on the organizational map/survey prepared, analyze the potential for cooperation based on successful experiences of projects and programmes already developed;
- Support national consultation to the actors of the UNCCD and Environmental Education on the proposed Cooperation Programme.

Expected Products

- Work plan prepared from training and methodological guidance of national consultants;
- Report containing a synthesis of socio-environmental information as methodological guidance;
- Report and information on projects and programs of governmental and non-governmental organizations, and multilateral and bilateral agencies;
- Map of the actors, institutions, projects and programs with their goals and results proposed, resources involved, geographical scope and period of implementation related to the sustainable management of land;
- Report summary of the national consultation on the programme of cooperation within the CPLP.

Supplies

The consultant will receive methodological guidance through participation in a training event, for which it may be necessary to travel to one of the countries of the CPLP where the training will occur. The consultant will be provided with the communication structure of the Green Rooms established in the country where the consultant is working and, as needed, will have access to resources for communication.

Professional Qualifications

The consultant should have the following qualifications:

- Training: Completion of higher education; desirable expertise in the area of environment; minimum 4 years' experience in environmental projects, studies and policies
- Mastery of programs for editing text, spreadsheets and presentations;
- Ability to work in a team.

Duration and Location

The consultancy will last five months. The consultant(s) will maintain close cooperation with the focal points

of Environmental Education and the UNCCD in the country. Upon authorization from the coordination of the TCP and FAO/TCI, the consultant(s) will travel, as necessary, to undertake their tasks.

Terms of Reference for short-term consultancy in systemic organizational development

Under the technical supervision of the FAO Investment Centre and in collaboration with the Latin America and Caribbean Programme of the Global Mechanism, the consultant will work in close coordination with representatives in Brazil and Africa of FAO and Brazilian and Portuguese cooperation agencies.

Activities to be developed

The specific tasks to be undertaken by the consultant(s) are:

- Design a program to train technicians of the CPLP – government, civil society and even national consultants hired by the TCP – in Systemic Organizational Development, considering the need for mapping institutions; programs and projects that work within the framework of sustainable land management and the need for consultation in the design process of the proposed Cooperation Programme of this TCP;
- Implement the training program in two in-country modules, consisting of 32 hours each, and long-distance monitoring for a total of 40 hours.

Expected Products

- Design of the proposed training program;
- Proposed methodology for the mapping of institutions, projects and programs;
- Reports of in-country modules;
- Report of the systematization of long-distance discussions and guidelines;
- Final report with recommendations for continuing the training process.

Supplies

The consultant will receive information on the profile and background of actors participating in the training, and the strategy for implementation of the TCP. For the completion of the in-country modules, the consultant will be provided with daily travel arrangements.

Professional Qualifications

The consultant should have the following qualifications:

- Training: Completion of higher education; desirable expertise in the area of project management and participatory methodologies; minimum 4 years' experience in systemic organizational development, applied in the context of international cooperation projects;
- Ability to perform procedures for long-distance training and support of groups;
- Ability to systematize and communicate what was learned during group trainings;
- Availability to travel internationally to a country in the CPLP;
- Mastery of programs for editing text, spreadsheets and presentations.

Duration and Location

The consultant will be hired for 30 days of work distributed across the implementation of two in-country modules of 4 days each and the long-distance monitoring process for 5 and a half months, considered one day of work per week. The modules will be conducted in countries of the CPLP, yet to be selected.

Upon authorization from the coordination of the TCP and FAO/TCI, the consultant will travel, as necessary, to undertake their tasks.

Terms of reference
TCI Technical Officer

Duration: 6 weeks (including 3 high level missions)

In close collaboration with the CPLP Executive Secretariat and the national Focal Points for the CPLP and the UNCCD, and in coordination with the Portuguese and Brazilian authorities, the TCI Technical Officer will carry out the following tasks:

Support to the technical and administrative management of the project

- selection and recruitment of consultants
- technical support and general supervision of the consultants

First mission (Forum of CPLP Ministers and First Management Committee Meeting)

- support the Management Committee in the organisation of the first meeting
- define the project workplan and activity schedule in each country
- guarantee the coordination of the activities for an efficient use of human and financial resources made available to the project

Supervision and Technical Support Missions

- carry out one or more supervision missions according to the workplan approved at the First Meeting of the Management Committee.
- carry out, at the request of the Committee one or more technical missions^{4/}

Programme Finalisation Mission

- assist and participate in the preparation of the High level Round-up Meeting of the project
- ensure the finalisation of the Cooperation Programme document to be submitted for funding

^{4/} within the limits of available funds

The following summary provides an overview of the context in each country and, simultaneously, the problems and possible common approaches.

In **Angola**, the migration of people to forested areas during periods of war and the use of biomass arising from cutting trees, the only source of energy, has accelerated the deforestation process. The soil has suffered degradation processes from wind and rain effects. One of the most significant impediments to implementing the National Action Plan in Angola is a lack of human resources with technical capacity.

Cape Verde is inserted in the Sahel region, where lack of rain is one of the main causes of desertification and poor agricultural production. The resulting food insecurity, exacerbated by limited access to income, is a major vulnerability for the archipelago to climate change effects. Cape Verde was the second country to sign the Convention and has made progress, with support from several partners, to promote synergy between the Conventions on Biological Diversity, Climate Change, and Combating Desertification.

In **Guinea-Bissau**, more than half of the soils are exposed to processes of erosion and compaction, rapid fertility loss, and decrease in recharging shallow aquifers, or to salinization effects. As in most CPLP countries, agriculture is the basis of the economy, responsible for 50% of GDP, 80% of employment and more than 90% of exports. The limitations in implementing the National Action Plan are felt primarily at the level of institutional capacity, inadequate inter-institutional collaboration and coordination, and limited availability of information and research capacity.⁵

In **Mozambique**, 80% of the population lives in rural areas and has a high dependence on natural resources. The risk of desertification affects the southern districts, especially the districts of the province of Gaza, where drought coupled with excessive resource use have worsened the situation. The districts of the central region are less subject to drought, but have high incidence of fires and uncontrolled deforestation. The implementation of the National Action Plan depends on the training of officers and executives who could advance action along this theme.⁶

São Tomé and Príncipe does not have a National Action Plan. The country faces various problems of institutional instability that prevent the advancement of plan design, particularly in relation to the need to train officers and executives to coordinate and implement the process of social mobilization, and the diagnosis and proposed strategy to combat the risk of desertification.⁷

East Timor has not yet formulated a National Action Plan to Combat Desertification. Nevertheless, the occurrence of fragile soils with low fertility and the processes of erosion caused by periods of very intense rain require urgent measures to contain the phenomenon of land degradation. This degradation is exacerbated by deforestation, unsustainable agricultural practices, and forest fires. This range of problems is interrelated with issues of extreme poverty, fragile institutions and a weak State.⁸

In **Brazil**, desertification is related to the occurrence of areas with rain deficits and fragile ecosystems and that are highly threatened by economic activities with low environmental sustainability (overgrazing, intensive agricultural practices, mining, wood extraction, and other threats). Moreover, family farmers in

^{5/} Diombera, Kaoussou. Needs Assessment to Strengthen Capacity in the National Coordination Body in the Context of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Guinea-Bissau, March 2007.

^{6/} Fondo, Lolita H. Capacity Needs in Implementation of the Convention to Combat Drought and Desertification, in the Context of South-South Cooperation, March 2007.

^{7/} [ponto focal??]. Summary of the needs and priorities of São Tomé and Príncipe in the fight against desertification and soil degradation, March 2007.

^{8/} UNDP. Capacity Building and Mainstreaming of Sustainable Land Management in Timor-Leste (draft). December 2007.

Brazil have developed new ways to produce and to live with the ecosystem, enabling greater sustainability at all levels, including the recovery of biodiversity and cultural aspects. The harmonisation and decentralisation of policies to the local level are the major challenges that are presented.

In **Portugal**, in a common framework established for the countries of Annex IV of the Convention (North Mediterranean), the issues most relevant to combating desertification are linked to semi-arid weather conditions, affecting about 36% of its territory. Results of these conditions include periodic droughts; highly variable rain patterns and sudden heavy rains; poor soils that are highly sensitive to erosion or prone to the formation of surface crusts; rough land surfaces accented with slopes; large losses in forest cover due to frequent forest fires; crisis in traditional agriculture, linked to the abandonment of land and deterioration of structures for soil protection and water conservation; the unsustainable exploitation of water resources, which causes serious environmental damage, including chemical pollution, salinization, and aquifer depletion; and, finally, the concentration of economic activities on the coasts, as a result of urban growth, industry, tourism and irrigated agriculture.