

**Côte d'Ivoire - Status of issues raised in the Chair's Summary of the Carbon Fund meeting (CF19)**

Comments	Government Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Address and respond to the TAP recommendations in relation to carbon accounting, particularly the consideration and minimization of sources of uncertainties in the reference level activity data. This includes developing robust Quality Assurance/Quality Control procedures and/or Standard Operating Procedure for the visual interpretation of canopy cover as well as increasing the sampling intensity and improving the stratification, to the extent practical. Improvements should be consistent with “FMT Guidance Document on Methodological Framework 2: Guidance on Technical Corrections to GHG emissions and Removals Reported in the Reference Period”.</li> </ul>	<p>FAO has been hired to provide technical support to Côte d'Ivoire to help improve the process for estimating reference level activity data in accordance with “FMT Guidance Document on Methodological Framework 2: Guidance on Technical Corrections to GHG emissions and Removals Reported in the Reference Period” regarding (i) improvement of baseline data and standard operating procedures, and (ii) methodological improvements to assess degradation. This will be operational before the first planned reporting period ending in December 31, 2021.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide criteria to be applied to the planned reclassification of selected or portions of classified forest into agroforests, including rules and indicators for compensation areas, strategies to avoid degradation or conversion of remaining natural forest, and a definition of agroforests.</li> </ul>	<p>The Government also adopted a New Forest Code in July 2019, guided by the strategy. This new forest strategy outlines the country’s vision for managing forest reserves and works with the local population and industry to strengthen the enabling environment. It is founded on the completion of an up-to-date legislative and regulatory framework, introducing the concept of ‘agroforestry’ in the new Forest Code, and classifying the country’s 234 gazetted forests (GFs) into the following four categories: (a) Category 1: GFs preserved to more than 75 percent, dedicated to strict conservation (27); (b) Category 2: GFs with a degradation rate between 25 percent and 75 percent, dedicated to temporary agroforestry with the long-term objective to gradually restore the full forest cover (19); (c) Category 3: GFs with a degradation rate higher than 75 percent,</p>

	<p>where farmers will be supported to implement intensive agriculture and agroforestry in dedicated zones, and where agroforests concessions can be granted to interested cocoa firms (76); and (d) Category 4: GFs in the center and north of the country, dedicated to large-scale reforestation programs in partnership with the private sector and nongovernmental organizations (112). The Government also passed decrees and arrêtés in November 2019 aiming to support implementation of the Forest Code and the new forest strategy, including the compensation measures to be put in place for potential involuntary resettlement. Although, there is no involuntary resettlement planned under the ERP, the Government has prepared environmental and social safeguards instruments under the WB's new ESF. This will be closely monitored during implementation to ensure that compensation measures are put in place in the event of any unforeseen resettlement.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the ER Program and benefit-sharing plan provide access and participation options for women and all relevant stakeholders, including forest-dependent communities, in the ER Program Accounting Area.</li> </ul>	<p>In addition to the participation of local communities (living in the ERP area) as direct beneficiaries, the ERP facilitates the integration of individuals into cooperatives to take part in the benefits arising from the program. This will provide more access options for women and young people.</p> <p>Under the benefit sharing plan, communities including youth and women will directly benefit at least 44.5% of the payment.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that the ER Program has a strategy to promote women's empowerment, including the promotion of land title for women.</li> </ul>	<p>Point well taken. A strategy to promote women's empowerment and increase women's access and other vulnerable groups to land titles will be elaborated on the onset of the program. Additionally, throughout the preparation of the program, women have been fully involved in awareness raising and focus groups activities on land tenure. Furthermore, the rural land code is inclusive (both women and men have equal rights on land matters).</p>

- Publish or make accessible any relevant decrees related to the new Forest Code (pending parliamentary adoption).

The implementation provisions for the new Forest Code are published in the Official Journal of Ivory Coast and on the website of the Ministry of Water and Forests (MINEF).

Below is the publication link on the MINEF website:

<http://www.eauxetforets.gouv.ci/documentations>