

Central Africa Regional Program for the Environment

CARPE

Technical Report

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Introduction

WWF-US is again privileged to receive from USAID through CARPE II a grant of \$1,101,420.06, which will enable its organization to focus on keystone strategies such as protected areas management at ecoregional level in Central Africa. This CARPE II support will provide WWF the opportunity to test new approaches to protected area management and to extrapolate the lessons learned at the project level, during CARPE I, to the landscape and ecoregional level. It will also enable WWF to test and assess innovative approaches related to:

- Partnerships with key business companies such as logging companies,
- Capacity building for improved management,
- Leadership development for sustainable conservation,
- Participatory mapping, and other tool for engaging local communities
- Studies

During this reporting period much has not been done with support from CARPE II due to continuing activities under CARPE I. Therefore, this report will outline the themes and major activities and tasks to be carried out in FY 01 (July 2001-June 2002).

THEME: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

I. DZANGA-SANGHA AND GAMBA BUSHMEAT CONTROL:

Results:

Comparative evaluation of the conservation payoffs and economic costs of curbing bushmeat hunting within logging concessions and within protected areas

Activity 1: Dzanga-Sangha

Work with “Société de Bois de Bayanga” in Dzanga-Sangha, CAR to establish and monitor controls on bushmeat hunting, trade and transportation in the logging concessions.

FY 01 Tasks

- Hire someone to work and liaise with the “Société de Bois de Bayanga”.
- Send this staff member in Gabon for an exchange visit with the wildlife trade project in Gabon and the work with Bordamur.

Activity 2: Gamba Project

Compile lessons learned on controlling bushmeat and environmental degradation with Oil Company in Gamba Complex.

FY 01 Tasks

- Provide programmatic assistance and expertise to this one-year project;
- Hire a local/Regional consultant to carry out the function of this activity for successful completion

II. SUPPORT TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT UNIT OF DZANGA-SANGHA PARK:

Result:

Test the assumption that level of threat is related to costs of management - 2 site analysis of actual recurring cost spending from all sources in relation to park size, market access, population density, threats, changes in large mammal populations, index of poaching pressure.

Activities:

Provide support for on-going management costs of Dzanga-Sangha law enforcement unit.

FY 01 Tasks

- Provide support to the Conservation activities in the project

III. SUPPORT TO KONGANA REGIONAL TRAINING CENTER:

Results:

Protected area managers with community relation skills, and able to develop landscape management and law enforcement plans.

Activities:

Provide curriculum support to the Kongana Regional Training Center in Dzanga-Sangha.

FY 01 Tasks

- Hire consultant to develop and test the training curriculum for the center during year 01.

IV. CONGO BASIN LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Results:

Progressive development of a cadre of future forest resource management and biodiversity conservation leaders.

Activities:

Provide on site, on the job mentoring for 5 senior level conservation counterparts (2 in Dzanga-Sangha, 2 in Minkebe, 1 in Gamba) in protected area management and biodiversity conservation

FY 01 Tasks

- Identify potential candidate
- Identify potential mentors to work closely with candidates
- Register candidates are WWF College
- Equip candidates with necessary tools to succeed in this distance learning program

V. GAMBA ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS:

Results:

Progressive development of a cadre of future forest resource management and biodiversity conservation leaders.

Activities:

Support Local NGO in Gamba Complex to carry out Environmental Awareness Programs

FY 01 Tasks

- Hire an educator and two assistants from one of the most dynamic local NGO to carry out this activity;
- Hire a consultant to assist this team of three persons in developing appropriate environmental education material and tools;
- Test the tools and material for their appropriateness during the first year.

THEME: COMMUNITY NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

I. MINKEBE – DJA COMMUNITY PARTICIPATORY MAPPING:

Result:

Assessment of the long-term impact of participatory mapping exercise as a tool for enhancing community capacity to negotiate greater control over forest resources, and for mobilizing community interest in resource conservation.

Activity:

Test Community participatory mapping in two villages in Cameroon north of Minkebe reserve in the Minkebe Dja Corridor.

This main activity is divided into two activities as follows:

Activity 1:

Work towards collaborative river-management using participatory mapping exercise with Mvadhi-Mayibouth communities in the Upper-Ivindo

Activity 2:

In collaboration with MINEF-Cameroon, WWF-Cameroon Program Office, and ECOFAC-Dja, execute socio-economic surveys in Mintm-Lélé-Mbalam-Ngoila-Zoulabot II to contribute to data needs for the development for a full GEF proposal for transborder conservation in Minkebe-Dja-Odzala interzone

FY 01 Tasks

Task 1: Liaise with IRM to start fieldwork in Upper Ivindo area. Once partners are ready start the first Participatory mapping exercise in Mvady-Mayibout villages and produce first results

Task 2: Liaise with transborder project coordinator, WWF-CPO, WWF-US, ECOFAC-Dja on the fundamental issues regarding the Minkebe-Dja Corridor and the organization and methodology of needed field work (socio-economic surveys linked to the development of a full GEF proposal for transborder conservation project).

September-December 2001: Start socio-economic surveys in the Mintom-Lele-Mbala-Ngoila-Zoulabot II area to collect data needed for the development of the full GEF proposal transborder project. Team members for this survey will be drawn in priority from ECOFAC-Dja, WWF-Southeast project, MINEF-Cameroon, and may be WWF-Minkebe project.

The results of this mission will orientate further work regarding the Minkebe-Dja-Nki Forest and evaluate the appropriateness to use the participatory mapping methodology for some villages in this sector.

II. GAMBIA SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT:

Result:

Evaluation of the costs, opportunities and challenges to using community resource management contracts as a tool for incorporating communities in forest resource management.

Activities:

Assess lessons learned in Gambia to identify community options for intervention points in sustainable natural resource management.

FY 01 Tasks

- Hire a consultant to provide expertise and technical assistance.

THEME: PROJECT COORDINATION

Result:

Enhanced collaboration with CARPE and partner activities, synthesis dissemination of WWF/CARPE Results

Activities:

Provide support for field activities, CARPE Meetings, travel for collaboration among field projects; Dedicate half time of WWF position to CARPE Coordination, Communication, and synthesis.

FY 01 Tasks

- Provide necessary guidance and expertise on conservation activities;
- Organize field visit to apprehend all the obstacles face by the field staff and provide appropriate advise to overcome these obstacles;
- Hire a consultant to provide technical assistance in coordination with the WWF Headquarters for an appropriate conservation activities;
- Travel to the region to provide assistance as well as necessary evaluation of on-going activities.

THEME: STUDIES

I. SURVEY TEAM TRAINING:

Result:

Assessment of the consequences of civil unrest on the conservation status and level of resource exploitation in previously intact, protected and non-protected, large blocks of forest.

Activities:

Train and support rapid survey team to survey biodiversity and conservation status of selected forest zones in areas of civil unrest.

FY 01 Tasks

- Hire Consultants locally or regionally to train successfully the survey team;
- Organize and coordinate roundtrips to three countries of civil unrest (DRC, CAR, Congo Brazzaville) and Cameroon

Conclusion:

WWF-Ug and his field staff and most importantly the central African stakeholders and elites are very grateful to USAID for their commitment to reverse the forest degradations in Central Africa whilst conserving the most remaining biological diversity in this region.