

# Strengthening the Transparency System for Enhanced Climate Action in Côte d'Ivoire

## GEF Medium-Sized Project

PIMS 6128 – GEF ID 9828

Atlas ID 00100009/Quantum ID: 00103171

<b>Country:</b>	<b>Côte d'Ivoire</b>
<b>Region:</b>	<b>Africa</b>
<b>Focal Area:</b>	<b>GEF-6 Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT)</b>
<b>GEF Implementing Agency:</b>	<b>UNDP</b>
<b>Implementing Partner:</b>	<b>Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development</b>
<b>Implementation Modality :</b>	<b>National Implementation Modality (NIM)</b>

Picture taken from the 2021-2025 UNDP Cooperation Framework with Côte d'Ivoire

## Terminal Evaluation Final Report, November, 2023



Elena Laura Ferretti – International Independent Consultant

## **Acknowledgements**

The Terminal Evaluation for the GEF CBIT Project - Strengthening the Transparency System for Enhanced Climate Action in Côte d'Ivoire was started first by an international consultant at the end of 2022 but later assigned for completion to Consultant Elena Laura Ferretti in the period of September-November 2023. The Consultants would like to express their appreciation and gratitude to all those in government and non-government institutions who gave their time and provided invaluable information during the review; their thoughts and opinions have informed the evaluation and contributed to its successful conclusion.

Reasons outside management control have impeded that the Terminal Evaluation could be accomplished in the period in which it was scheduled. In this sense, special thanks go to the two Project Coordinators and UNDP staff, at both Country Office and Regional level who made themselves available for additional interviews, timely providing information and logistical support and flexibly accommodating unexpected situations.

May all those who have contributed to the completion of this work find the assurance of our gratitude.

### **DISCLAIMER**

This report has been prepared by independent consultant evaluators and is a product of the Independent Evaluation Office of UNDP. The findings and conclusions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of UNDP Country Office or the UNDP Senior Management.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	1
I Project Description .....	2
II Project Progress Summary .....	2
II Concise Summary of Conclusions .....	4
IV Lessons Learnt and Recommendations Summary .....	5
2. INTRODUCTION .....	7
2.1 Evaluation Purpose .....	7
2.2 Scope of the Evaluation .....	7
2.3 Methodology .....	7
2.4 Data collection and analysis .....	8
2.5 Ethics .....	8
2.6 Limitations to the Evaluation .....	8
2.7 Structure of the Report .....	9
3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION .....	10
3.1 Development context .....	10
3.2 Problems that the project sought to address: threats and barriers targeted .....	10
3.3 Objectives, Outcomes, Results and Project's Strategy .....	11
3.4 Project Key Partners and Implementation Arrangements .....	12
3.5 Project timing and milestones .....	13
3.6 Main stakeholders: summary list .....	14
4. FINDINGS .....	15
4.1 Project Design/Formulation .....	15
4.1.1 Results Framework Analysis: project logic and strategy, indicators .....	16
4.1.2 Assumptions and Risks .....	18
4.1.3 Planned stakeholder participation and Gender responsiveness of Project design .....	21
4.1.4 Linkages between project and other interventions within the sector .....	21
4.2 Project Implementation .....	22
4.2.1 Adaptive Management .....	22
4.2.2 Actual stakeholder participation and partnership arrangements .....	23
4.2.3 Project Finance and Co-Finance .....	24
4.2.4 M&E: design at entry, implementation, overall assessment of M&E .....	25
4.2.5 UNDP implementation/oversight; Implementing Partner execution and overall assessment of implementation/oversight and execution. ....	26
4.2.6 Risk Management and Social and Environmental Standards .....	27
4.4 Project Results and Impacts .....	27
4.4.1 Progress towards objective and expected outcome .....	27
4.4.2 Sustainability .....	34
4.4.3 Country Ownership .....	36
4.4.4 Gender equality and women's empowerment .....	36
4.4.5 Cross-cutting issues .....	37
4.4.6 GEF additionality .....	37
4.4.7 Catalytic/Replication Effect .....	38
4.4.7 Progress to Impact .....	38
5. CONCLUSIONS, LESSONS LEARNT AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	40
5.1 Conclusions .....	40
5.2 Lessons Learnt .....	41

5.2 Recommendations.....	41
<b>Annex A – Terms of Reference, .....</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Annex B – Documents consulted/available for consultation.....</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>Annex C – Itinerary, and Institutions/People interviewed: October 2022 and October-November 2023 .....</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>Annex D – UNEG Evaluation Consultant Agreement Form .....</b>	<b>46</b>
<b>Annex E – PRF Matrix with rating and comments .....</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Annex F – TE Ratings Table .....</b>	<b>53</b>

*Annexed in a separate file: TE Audit Trail*

<b>Table N. 1</b>	<b>Project Information Table</b>
<b>Table N.2</b>	<b>TE Evaluation Ratings Table</b>
<b>Table N.3</b>	<b>Recommendations Summary Table</b>
<b>Table N.4</b>	<b>Stakeholders and Partners</b>
<b>Table N.5</b>	<b>Project Risks and Management Measures</b>
<b>Table N.6</b>	<b>Linked projects and initiatives</b>
<b>Table N.7</b>	<b>GEF Budget allocations and expenditures per component (USD)</b>
<b>Table N.8</b>	<b>Co-Financing Table</b>
<b>Table N.9</b>	<b>Co-financing in FCFA</b>
<b>Table N.10</b>	<b>Confirmed sources of co-financing at TE stage (August 2022)</b>
<b>Table N.11</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>

## Acronyms

AFOLU	Agriculture, Forestry and other Land Use
ARDCI	Assembly of Regions and Districts of Côte d'Ivoire
AWP	Annual Work Plan
BAU	Business as Usual
BUR	Biannual Update Report
CBIT	Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CO	Country Office
ECOWAS	Economic Community of Western African Sates
EF	Emission Factors
EOp	End of Project
ETF	Enhanced Transparency Framework
EU	European Union
FCPF	The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
GCECI	General Confederation of Enterprises of Côte d'Ivoire
GEB	Global Environmental Benefits
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GENEC	National Working Group on Climate Change (GENEC for the French acronym),
GHG	Green House Gases
GoCdi	Government of Côte d'Ivoire
IA/IP	Implementation Agency - Implementation Partner
INC	Initial National Communication
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MESD	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
MoMs	Minutes of Meetings
MSP	Medium Sized Project
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MRV	Measurement, Reporting and Verification
NAP	National Adaptation Plan
NCCP	National Climate Change Program
NCCS	National Climate Change Strategy
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NDP	National Development Program
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NIM	National Implementation Modality
PA	Paris Agreement
PC	Project Coordinator
PD	Project Director
PIF	Project Identification Form
PIR	Project Implementation Report
PMU	Project Management Unit
POPP	Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures
PPG	Project Preparation Grant
PRF	Project Results Framework
PPC	Project and Programs Coordination
PSC	Project Steering Committee
QA/QC	Quality Assurance/Quality Control
RTA	Regional Technical Advisor
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SESP	Social and Environment Screening Procedure
SMART	Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic and Time-bound
SNC	Second National Communication
SODEXAM	Société d'Exploitation et de Développement Aéroportuaire, Aéronautique and Météorologue
TE	Terminal Evaluation
TNC	Third National Communication
ToR	Terms of Reference
UNDP/CO	United Nations Development Programme /Country Office
UNSDCF	United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

## 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The present Report constitutes the Terminal Evaluation (TE) of the Strengthening the Transparency System for Enhanced Climate Action in Côte d'Ivoire, an initiative financed by Global Environment Facility (GEF), executed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as Implementing Agency (IA), under the National Implementation Modality (NIM), with the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MESD) which has taken the overall responsibility for execution.

The purpose of the review was to assess the achievement of project results against expectations and draw lessons that can both improve the sustainability of benefits from this project, and aid in the overall enhancement of UNDP/GEF programming. The evaluation took place in two phases: at the end of 2022 with a consultant who could not complete reporting and at the end of 2023 when the task was assigned to another international consultant, working remotely on the basis of consultations previously conducted but integrating them with a new round of interviews as necessary. Although this cannot be considered an ex-post evaluation, the occasion was taken to update some key information to the current period, well beyond the expected project closure (operationally in August 2022 and financially in February 2023).

The Consultant believes that findings are relatively well substantiated, based on a comprehensive documental review and interviews with stakeholders. The possibility that some judgements are misled exists; yet, this should be minimal considering the UNDP supervision at local and regional level and the careful triangulation of the information, which is satisfactory and provide a substantial picture of achievements.

**Table N.1 Project Information Table**

Project Title:		CBIT- Strengthening the Transparency System for Enhanced Climate Action in Ivory Coast	
UNDP Project ID (PIMS #):	6128	PIF Approval Date:	Oct 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2017
GEF Project ID (PMIS #):	9828	CEO Endorsement Date:	March 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2019
ATLAS Award ID: Quantum Award ID:	00100009 00103171.2	Project Document Signature Date (date project began):	August, 05 <sup>th</sup> , 2019
ATLAS Output ID: Quantum Project ID:	00103171 001303171	Planned Start Date (as in Pro Doc) Date Project Coordinator hired:	April 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2019 -
Country(ies):	Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)	Inception Workshop date:	Nov 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2019
Region:	Africa	Midterm Review date:	N/A
Focal Area:	Climate Change -	Planned closing date:	Aug., 5 <sup>th</sup> 2022
GEF 6 Focal Area Strategic Objectives and Programs:	GEF-6 Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT)	If revised, proposed closing date:	N/A
Trust Fund:	GEF-CBIT		
Implementing Partner (GEF Executing Agency):	UNDP Country Office – National Implementation Modality (NIM), with the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development		
Other execution partners:	N/A		
Financial Information			
PDF/PPG	At Approval (USD)	At PDF/PPG completion (USD)	
GEF PDF/PPG grants for project preparation	30,000	30,000	
Co-financing for project preparation	N/A	N/A	
Project Financing:	Expected at CEO endorsement (USD)	At TE (USD)	
[1] GEF financing:	1,160,000	1,160,000	
[2] UNDP contribution (TRAC resources):	100,000 (Cash)	-	
[3] Government: DGE-SSE	110,000 (Cash)	About 430,000 (Cash)	
[4] Other Partners: -	-	-	
[5] Total co-financing [2 + 3+ 4]:	210,000	430,000 (rounded)	
PROJECT TOTAL COSTS [1 + 5]	1,370,000	1,590,000 (rounded)	

## I Project Description

The **GEF Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Project** is designed with the **objective** to strengthen national capacities in the area of transparency, according to the decisions of the Paris Agreement (PA) on Climate Change and thereby to achieve its goals related to low carbon emissions development. The Project document was signed on August 05<sup>th</sup>, 2019 which is the starting date; consequently, Project's operations concluded on August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022; financial closure is pending and will be done soon after the conclusion of this Terminal Evaluation. The Project budget totals US\$ 1.370,000 of which US\$ 1,160,000 provided by GEF (excluding USD 30,000 for the project preparation grant) and the remaining US\$ 210,000 (co-financing) from UNDP and the Government of Côte d'Ivoire (GoCdi). Activities fulfill real and identified needs and barriers at Project design and within the 2015-2020 National Climate Change Strategy (NCCS), being totally aligned with national and international requirements to fight climate change and in particular with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and of the PA.

## II Project Progress Summary

The Project has achieved most of its targets by End of Project (EoP); given the particular nature of this TE conducted in two phases, it is possible to assess, at least for the most important products, the state of the art of some key results which were not fully achieved at Project closure; the level of effectiveness is moderately satisfactory given the COVID-19 pandemic which delayed some activities but even more important the lengthy elaboration of the country's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) which were a pre-condition for the development of other activities and which were submitted to the UNFCCC only in May 2022 instead than December 2021 as originally envisaged; although both hindrances were outside management control, financial management weakness also lead to a **Moderately Satisfactory rating**.

**Table N.2 Evaluation Ratings Table**

1. Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E)	Rating <sup>1</sup>	Comment
<b>M&amp;E design at entry</b>	<b>S</b>	The M&E plan is standardly designed, as per GEF and UNDP requirements under the NIM modality; M&E tools are set and a budget estimated. Assumptions and risks with mitigation/management measures are identified. The SESP was provided indicating a low risk for implementation.
<b>M&amp;E Plan Implementation</b>	<b>S</b>	M&E is standardly implemented. It benefitted from the presence of a dedicated M&E resource person, who commendably remains in post beyond Project's closure, assuring continued oversight. Monitoring tools used are traditional but adequate for tracking implementation and the Project Results Framework's (PRF) indicators. Reporting is essential in Project Implementation Reports' tables, exhausting but not taking a critical thinking approach. Benefits are monitored using the PRF and Tracking Tools system. A gender analysis and Gender Action Plan were included in the ProDoc; monitoring happens under the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) project which took responsibility to establish a Gender Climate Platform and initiate a Structured Gender and Climate National Dialogue. Management still keeps track of the Project's gender mandatory indicators. Difficulties emerged with the implementation of the TE which aborted at the end of 2022 after the field visit and resumed at the end of 2023, with the task assigned to a different consultant.
<b>Overall Quality of M&amp;E</b>	<b>S</b>	The Project adapted to external and outside of its control difficulties, mainly the COVID-19 pandemic and the delay in the production of the NDCs, a pre-requisite for the development of key deliverables, such as the Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system and the development of a long-term climate change strategy. Under the guidance of the Project Steering Committee (PSC), activities accelerated soon after the submission of the NDCs to UNFCCC, in May 2022; the request for support to UNDP CO for directly recruiting consultant and/or purchasing goods was validated during one of

<sup>1</sup> Rating is provided according to the TE Guidance for UNDP-supported GEF-financed Projects, version 2020. The rating scale for monitoring and implementation includes: HS: Highly Satisfactory; S: Satisfactory; MS: Moderately Satisfactory; MU: Moderately Unsatisfactory; U: Unsatisfactory; HU: Highly Unsatisfactory. The rating scale for Sustainability includes: L: Likely; ML: Moderately likely; MU: Moderately Unlikely; U: Unlikely.

		the PSC but arbitrarily without following a written procedure request for permission to the UNDP regional/headquarters. Overall, adaptive management is well implemented.
<b>2. Implementing Agency (IA) Implementation &amp; Executing Agency (EA) Execution</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Quality of UNDP Execution/ Implementation/Oversight</b>	<b>S</b>	The NIM modality was adopted, as frequent in the country for GEF projects. As the MESD/NPCC unit was used for the first time, a micro-assessment of capacities was carried out, scoring low risk; yet, it turned out that financial management required substantial UNDP CO support to speed recruiting and procurement processes, with an effort for the UNDP environmental unit well beyond what originally envisaged. Except for the inappropriate way in which UNDP supported the Ministry with the recruitment of some consultancies, not formally requested and endorsed by GEF (this would be an exception to the NIM Modality, requiring a formal request to GEF for approval), the support provided by UNDP both at local and regional level was outstanding and relationships with MESD/NPCC characterized by mutual appreciation and trust.
<b>Quality of Implementing Partner Execution</b>	<b>MS</b>	The quality of implementation is moderately satisfactory. Management has provided technical leadership and a sound oversight but financial management was quite weak, overall delaying activities; in addition, drawbacks came from the pandemic, the lack of national expertise which led some tenders to undergo multiple launches and the delay in the submission of the NDCs, which was the responsibility of another project but still under MESD. Optimal guidance from the PSC provided required support and a key link with two other related projects, which were jointly steered. Technically, management has been able to provide a sound leadership for stakeholders' participation, especially but not only for line ministries.
<b>Overall Quality of Implementation/Execution</b>	<b>MS</b>	Management, with UNDP support, has been able to overcome difficulties and delays and apply adaptive management in a way to finally produce all deliverables, with good quality but without achieving the required institutionalization, adoption and operationalization which are still undergoing political and bureaucratic checks.
<b>3. Assessment of Outcomes</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Relevance</b>	<b>HS</b>	Project design was relevant and appropriated at design, aligned with strategies and objectives of the GEF-CBIT, UNDP, UNFCCC and PA. The strategy was aligned with national economic/environmental policies at design, eventually reinforced in the 2021-2025 National Development Plan (NDP) which recognizes climate change as a challenge and as a cross-cutting factor. Relevance is maintained throughout implementation and interviews generally confirm that the fight against climate change ranks high in the country's priorities. The CBIT represented the suitable mean to remove barriers to set up a transparent framework, update the methodologies with which GHG emissions were calculated, adopting updated methodologies, establish an institutional and legal framework on climate change and disaster risk reduction and integrate climate change into sectoral planning and policies.
<b>Effectiveness</b>	<b>S</b>	By EoP, management had achieved most results; however, and this is confirmed also one year after Project's closure, most products are not yet institutionalized (i.e. the National Group of Experts on Climate Change - GENEC) or still require that political will translates into signatures of Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) and adoption (draft Law on Climate Change). When these processes will be completed, the country will have a conducive legal and institutional environment for transparency on climate change. The most important technical obstacle to reach increased effectiveness was the lengthy process to revise the NDCs (under a different project but in strict collaboration), a pre-condition for elaborating the MRV and for designing a long-term climate strategy. However, management can be rewarded for its leadership in bringing together stakeholders, particularly but not exclusively at government level; for having prepared the ground for the creation of the inter-ministerial commission on climate change -GENEC; for having completed the process of drafting a Climate Change Law. Training was conducted to the satisfaction of participants, except for the online modality, limiting interactions; finally, a number of events contributed to raise awareness and to exchange experiences. Worth noting for its impact on the urban population, is the work of the artist Pat Saco, with a song and videoclip sustaining the cause to fight climate change.
<b>Efficiency</b>	<b>MS</b>	Management is rated as moderately satisfactory. Certainly, most inefficiencies are due to externalities (the pandemic and the lengthy elaboration of NDCs; yet, management is responsible for planning and financial weaknesses. Although the NIM is the common modality in Côte d'Ivoire for GEF projects, this was the first time for the NPCC unit which required UNDP CO support for speeding up the procurement of goods and recruitment



		of experts; the disbursement rate boosted up only in the last year of implementation but in the end most of the budget was spent, with a good quality of envisaged deliverables. The intervention of UNDP CO was arbitrarily approved during a PSC meeting but not formally requested and not formally granted by headquarters as required. Officials were trained in UNDP financial procedures. The Project Coordinator changed towards the end of the project but without major disruption as an official knowledgeable with project content took over and the former one remained connected, covering a UNDP global post on climate transparency. A clear sign of commitment and ownership comes from the government co-financing, which is the double with respect to pledges, while UNDP did not honor its co-financing commitment.
<b>Overall Project Outcome Rating</b>	<b>S</b>	Overall, with limited resources, the Project created the conditions for a future significant impact on the transparency actions for climate change, having delivered according to planning but still lacking the institutionalization and formal adoption of many of its products.
<b>4. Sustainability</b>	<b>Rating</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Financial sustainability</b>	<b>ML</b>	The political will exists to create an enabling legal and institutional framework and adopt technical and methodological tools to implement required climate actions. While various donors are investing in the sector, an adequate financial analysis and plan are still lacking to ensure phasing out from international to national financing of recurrent expenditures and operationalization of the MRV. Expectantly, as the legal and institutional context improve and as local capacities are built, awareness increased and a larger number of civil servants and also citizens understand climate change challenges, the need for external support may reduce.
<b>Socio-political sustainability</b>	<b>L</b>	The socio-political risk to sustainability is minimal. Awareness raising and training activities contribute to increase the awareness of institutional stakeholders and citizens of the cross-cutting importance of the fight against climate change as a key factor for the country's social and economic development. Support and training to artists and in particular to Pat Saco, a renowned representative of Zouglou music, proved to be a creative and appreciated way to increase awareness.
<b>Institutional framework and governance sustainability</b>	<b>L</b>	Institutional sustainability is likely. Risks are minimized by the constitution of GENECE and the involvement of a large number of government and academia stakeholders in consultations and trainings; more needs to be done to involve consistently the private sector and civil society. Commitment manifests from interviews conducted but the institutionalization of GENECE, the signature of MoUs and the adoption of the Climate Change Law are still ongoing processes, even one year after Project's closure. Commendably, some of the training conducted online, which impeded the interaction of participants, will be repeated now that the COVID 19 situation has normalized.
<b>Environmental sustainability</b>	<b>L</b>	Environmental and climate sustainability are at the heart of the Project's action, in line with international commitments and increasingly recognized in national development plans as a key cross-cutting social and economic development factor. During implementation, the NDCs were revised, increasing the country's ambitious to a reduction target of its GHGs emissions from 28% to 30,41%, corresponding to a reduction of 37 million tons CO2 equivalent, with a horizon to 2030.
<b>Overall Likelihood of Sustainability</b>	<b>ML</b>	Sustainability is partly built in project design and partly integrated in the decision to steer three climate related projects under the same PSC, creating synergies and ensuring mutual support. Sustainability is likely at all levels, except the financial level which should be further analyzed to ensure a smooth transition from international support to the government's assumption of recurrent expenditures and functioning of the MRV. The involvement of the private sector and of civil society is incipient. Women's participation remains below objectives; as women are those most at risk from the adverse effects of climate change, gender disaggregated data collection should be at the highest level of interest.

## II Concise Summary of Conclusions

The Project is a direct answer to needs identified in the NCCS and certainly responds to national and international requirements. With delay for certain activities, due to both financial management weaknesses and elements outside of management control, all envisaged products have been delivered (i.e. the creation of an inter-institutional commission, the drafting of a national climate change law, the recalculation of GHGs, according to the 2006 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) new methodologies and including the key forestry sector (previously not considered), the design and set up of the MRV among others; all together, they contribute to the improvement of the country's capacity to respond to national and

international climate change requirements to express more ambitious NDCs, collect climate related data, especially for GHGs, manage and report data; the drafting of the [Climate Change Law](#) and the constitution of [GENEC](#) as an interinstitutional commission on climate change start to create a more enabling legal and institutional framework for climate change transparency.

The manifestation of [Impact](#) is incipient; the political will exists and the lead and line ministries express commitments and take responsibility to ensure the meaningful participation of those appointed officers who in the near future will have the task to feed the MRV with data; yet, the process is not yet been translated into institutionalization of GENEC, signature of MoUs and formal adoption by Parliament of the Climate Change Law. Also, the design of a long-term strategy for climate change is not yet a reality. MESD has effectively played its role in involving sectoral ministries and research centres which appear to be fully cooperative, empowered and committed. More needs to be done to ensure the larger participation of the NGOs, civil society and the private sector – which is however considered under the multiple funders project for the elaboration of the NDCs, strongly linked to the CBIT project. The participation of women in trainings and consultations could be improved but it is noteworthy that GENEC envisages a 30% gender participation.

Overall, the Project created the possibilities for impact on the transparency actions for climate change, having i) adopted updated methodologies for the calculations of GHGs, fully considering the key forestry sector, ii) designed a MRV with its guidelines and Manual of Procedures for quality assurance, iii) reinforced national capacities that may with time reduce the need to involve external consultants, and iv) created a more enabling legal and institutional environment for climate transparency. Barriers are still present and stakeholders openly call for a second CBIT given the limited resources available with this first one but it is likely that complementary and synergetic projects can take the responsibility for the sustainability of the actions implemented and the results achieved.

#### **IV Lessons Learnt and Recommendations Summary**

The CBIT Project has generated in Côte d'Ivoire a number of useful lessons in the country for MESD - which remains in charge of climate change related activities - but also for the region, especially for those countries sharing similar objectives for their climate change transparency systems.

##### **Lessons Learnt**

**L.1 The use of the NIM modality with a new government unit requires training.** NIM is the usual modality for GEF projects in Côte d'Ivoire; this does not automatically mean that any government unit charged with management will have the capacity to follow UNDP/GEF financial procedures, as it happened for the PNCC which was involved for the first time. A previous micro-assessment of capacities was done but training in POPP and HACH as well as harmonization with government procurement procedures were done at a later stage and not before project start.

**L.2 Changing approaches, attitudes and mindset takes time.** The Project starts manifesting impact because activities are implemented around a more favorable regulatory and institutional context and in parallel to other internationally financed activities, which share the same PSC; yet, adopting and institutionalizing the climate change law and the institutional set up takes the time that the political and bureaucratic processes normally require and many activities involve constant updating to evolving situations; therefore, it takes time, even more when the context becomes unexpectedly difficult (as with the occurrence of COVID 19) and local expertise is not available (requiring multiple launches of tenders for recruiting consultants to undertake envisaged studies).

**L3. The fight against climate change is a cross-cutting issue for which transparency is paramount and requires a large consultative process at government but also at non-government level, with an effective leadership.** Impact is manifesting because MESD-PNCC are fully appropriate of the actions proposed and effectively promote a national dialogue across sectors. Yet, a holistic analysis and approach can only manifest if all stakeholders are involved and much remains to be done to have the private sector and civil society as full actors of these processes.

**L4. Information and awareness raising are key activities, the effect of which is amplified when creativity is used so to reach all sectors of society.** Training and support given to artists and the involvement of a renowned representative of

the nationally developed Zouglou music have been quite appreciated and effective in raising awareness among the population, especially the youth.

**L.5 Collaboration with other projects is not only important for the synergies created but it is part of the strategy to face hindrances.** Experience shows that the sharing of information through the PSC's meetings leads to effective collaboration, synergies and amplification of processes; i.e. the monitoring of the gender component, included in the three projects, is mostly taken care by the NAP project which established the Gender and Climate Platform; the involvement of the private sector – less effective in the CBIT project – is well addressed in the NDCs project activities.

**L.6 The link between gender and climate challenges remains not widely understood.** It is not enough to establish targets in the PRF to ensure gender equity; in climate change related projects, all parties should be well aware that climate data needs to be gender-disaggregated as the consequences of climate change are worse on women than on men and this aspect should be at the centre of the decision-making process. The establishment of a Gender and Climate Platform and the promotion of a Structured National Gender and Climate Dialogue under the NAP project is a point of reference for other climate-related projects as the CBIT.

## Recommendations

Project's activities are closed and recommendations should be tailored to improve the sustainability of its actions and to share experiences to inform the design of similar projects. It is noted that a number of stakeholders call for a CBIT second phase. The rationale for an eventual CBIT II lies in the fact that the Project has operated with minimal financial means and it has evidently created a process. A second CBIT is not envisaged at UN level and the Consultant does not consider this to be made a recommendation as the institutionalization and adoption of certain processes/products follow a political and bureaucratic process to which the investment of financial resources will not make the difference; yet, technically there are still barriers and a few recommendations are included in the table below.

**Table N.3 Recommendations Summary Table**

N.	Recommendation	Responsible entity	Timeframe
<b>A</b>	<b>Design – Management - Monitoring &amp; Evaluation</b>		
<b>A.1</b>	<b>Ensure that projects adopting NIM, with a government unit used for the first time have received training previous to implementation.</b> NIM is the usual modality for GEF projects in the country but when a new unit is involved, training for financial/procurement management should be provided prior to implementation to ensure respect of UNDP/GEF procedures and harmonization with national rules.	GEF and UNDP CO	For future projects
<b>B</b>	<b>Sustainability</b>		
<b>B.1</b>	<b>Continue training and awareness activities.</b> The repetition of some training is envisaged to counteract the unsatisfaction of trainees who had to adapt to the online modality due to the pandemic, without the opportunity for interacting. This is welcomed and should be pursued together with additional training for the management of the MRV - which will be initially challenging and will probably lead to new requirements for involving less emitting but also important sectors, for correcting discrepancies emerging using new and updated methodologies and last but not least for the ways data are collected and not only shared to feed the MRV system. Gender and climate change training should also be considered.	MESD/PNCC and if funding available also UNDP CO	Under other ongoing climate-related projects
<b>B.2</b>	<b>Consolidate the national dialogue on climate change, increasingly opening to NGOs, civil society and the private sector.</b> Although the NDCs project has made efforts to involve the private sector and civil society, more could be done for a more inclusive participation, beyond the government institutional level.	MESD/PNCC	Under other ongoing climate-related projects
<b>B.3</b>	<b>Develop a financial analysis and financial plan for the financing of the MRV.</b> The design of the MRV has not envisaged a structured financial analysis for the operationalization of the MRV; this is urgent and should be conceived as a phased out approach, with probable initial international support to be slowly substituted by a government budget for recurrent expenditures and operationalization.	MESD/PNCC	Under other ongoing climate-related projects

## 2. INTRODUCTION

### **2.1 Evaluation Purpose**

This document is the Terminal Evaluation (TE) report of the Project [Strengthening the Transparency System for Enhanced Climate Action in Côte d'Ivoire](#). Financing is provided by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), under the [Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency \(CBIT\)](#), with co-financing by the Government of Côte d'Ivoire (GoCdi) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). UNDP Country Office (CO) is the GEF Implementing Agency (IA), and through a [National Implementation Modality \(NIM\)](#), the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MESD) is the Implementing Partner (IP). As a Medium-Sized Project (MSP), it is subject to a TE under the GEF Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) policies and procedures.

### **2.2 Scope of the Evaluation**

The purpose of the TE is to assess the achievement of results against the expected objectives and outcomes, establish the project's success or failure in meeting its goal and draw lessons that can both improve the sustainability of benefits from this project, and aid in the overall enhancement of GEF and UNDP programming. The Project started operations on August 5<sup>th</sup> 2019, date of ProDoc signature and was expected to end in August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

### **2.3 Methodology**

The review has been conducted in two periods: at the end of 2022 by an independent consultant who – for personal reasons - was unable to complete the mission and prepare a solid TE Report. The TE resumed in September 2023 when the international consultant Elena Laura Ferretti took over the assignment for completion. Overall, the TE included both on site and long-distance interviews. The TE report was elaborated in accordance with UNDP and GEF guidance, rules and procedures, in particular the Guidance for Conducting Terminal Evaluations of UNDP-Supported, GEF-financed Projects (version 2020) and the TORs ([Annex A](#)).

The TE aimed at collecting and analyzing data in, as much as possible, a systematic manner so as to ensure that findings, conclusions and recommendations are substantiated by evidence. A TE Inception Report was produced in August 2022. The approach below describes actions developed by both consultants, many of which were necessarily undertaken twice. Overall the approach developed in four phases: Preparation Phase; "Virtual/Onsite-Interviews-Field Visit" and Analysis Phase; Draft Reporting Phase; and Final Reporting Phase. The rationale of the Consultants' approach included:

- i) A qualitative evaluation based on the analysis of primarily secondary data, documents and information collected ([Annex B](#)), including the Project Results Framework (PRF), the M&E system, and interviews with stakeholders (the schedule & people/institutions interviewed is [Annex C](#));
- ii) An analysis based on the evaluation criteria described in the ToRs, in accordance with UNDP-GEF guidance and policies, and Evaluation Questions ([Annex H of the ToRs](#)) with findings articulated under: Project Design/Formulation; Progress Implementation; Project Results and Impacts; Conclusions, Recommendations and Lessons Learnt, and with consideration for gender inclusion;
- iii) An evaluation based on in-presence and long-distance interviews with stakeholders, including visits to key ministries and beneficiaries; the number of interviews and focus groups discussions allowed stakeholders to express their perspective on how activities answer real needs and their perceptions about the long-term possibility for impact; an online demonstration of the functioning of the Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system set up was provided during the final phase of the TE;

- iv) A well-prepared desk phase by the consultant who took over the TE with sufficient days devoted to the preparation of complementary interviews and study of documents to allow smoother interactions with stakeholders.

## 2.4 Data collection and analysis

---

As described above in the methodology, the TE is an evidence-based assessment, relying on data collected mainly through documents and information ([Annex B](#)) which were analyzed and triangulated with feedback obtained through interviews with people involved in the design and implementation of the Project; given the nature of this evaluation conducted in two different moments, some elements have been updated to the situation present one year after Project's closure. Evaluation Questions ([Annex H of ToR](#)) and the Inception Report refer sources of information and the methodology of analysis used. An Inception Report for the last phase of the TE was not requested.

## 2.5 Ethics

---

The evaluation is based on the UNEG Ethical Guidelines for Evaluators: Integrity, Accountability, Respect, and Beneficence; [Annex D](#) is the Evaluation Consultant Code of Conduct Agreement form duly signed by the elaborator of this final report. All information provided by stakeholders is kept confidential (i.e., not citing without their permission, UNDP staff not present during the interviews), engaging with the interviewees in a way that honors their dignity, well-being, personal agency and characteristics, honesty, truthfulness, impartiality and professionalism in communication.

## 2.6 Limitations to the Evaluation

---

The process has been participatory, with a large number of people interviewed, both individually or as a focus group, and including representatives of key partners and government institutions, UNDP staff and government and non-government key informants involved in the development of specific Project's items as well as a few representatives of the private sector and civil society. The Project Coordinator (PC) and UNDP staff facilitated contacts for meetings and interviews which developed without major constraints. Some critical elements to be considered in reading this report:

- one year elapsed from the mission of the first evaluator who carried out interviews in the field and the work developed by the second evaluator who undertook a completely new desk documental review to confirm or revise the analysis, and conducted complementary interviews with key actors; clearly, the subtle interactions between stakeholders are definitely less easy to appreciate from a distance and when some of the findings are based on the notes of another consultant; it would have been inappropriate to contact all relevant stakeholders in line ministries who had made themselves available already at the end of 2022. Notwithstanding, the support of UNDP CO and the Regional Technical Advisor (RTA) enabled a quick understanding of the context, the conduction of interviews with management in MESD and the possibility to update key findings to the current on-the-ground situation (end of 2023). The possibility that some judgements are misled exists but all considered should be minimal and the number of stakeholders contacted, either individually or through focus groups, and the triangulation of the information are satisfactory and provide a substantial picture of achievements;
- as usual in development projects, the extent to which impact is manifesting requires time; however, due to the particular conditions of this evaluation, happening one year after Project's closure, a sense of impact can be provided for the most important products achieved; yet, this cannot in any way be considered an ex-post evaluation;
- on the other hand, the general difficulties of "attribution" during the analysis of effects/impact remains; different donors and partners contribute to the same objective, either in mere co-financing or for implementation and this Project was managed in strict synergy with other internationally financed and

climate-related projects, two of which were even steered by the same Project Board; yet, this turns out to be more a way to create complementarities and mutual support than a shortcoming.

Overall, the collection and triangulation of data and information can be considered appropriate to sustain findings, thus providing reasonable evidence of progress towards objectives; stakeholders were collaborative and able to contribute to the analysis of the context, confirm data and information and discuss outcomes achieved. Focus groups discussions and open sessions served also as exchanges of opportunities for stakeholders to interact and learn from reciprocal experiences.

## 2.7 Structure of the Report

The TE draft report was submitted on October, 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023, following the format suggested by the UNDP-GEF TE guidelines, with a description of the methodology, a description of the Project and findings organized around: i) Project Design/Formulation; ii) Project Implementation; iii) Project Results and Impact. Conclusions, Recommendations and Lessons Learnt complete the report. Consistently with requirements, certain aspects of the Project are rated, according to the rating scale of the Guidelines. Co-financing information is presented in the chapter under financial management; and the updated Tracking Tools file is in a separate annex. Based on comments received on 10<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2023, the final report was completed and delivered on November 23rd, 2023. Comments addressed have been documented in an Audit Trail, prepared as a separate annex to the TE Report.



*Jeudi 16 Septembre 2021, à Seen Hotel, sis au Plateau.*

@ Septembre 2021



### 3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

#### **3.1 Development context**

---

Following the post-electoral crises of 2010-2011, Côte d'Ivoire shows a robust economic development which is however strongly challenged by massive social and climate change related risks. With a World Bank projected population of over 25 million inhabitants for 2018, Côte d'Ivoire is classified as a weak human development country, ranking 159<sup>th</sup> out of the 191 countries. Although poverty rates improved from 48,9% in 2008 to 39,4% in 2018, regional disparities are important and the occurrence of the COVID-19 pandemic further aggravated socio-economic and sustainable development vulnerability.

The country's significant environmental vulnerability obliged the Government to take climate change extremely seriously into its national and sectoral planning, so as to make it a national priority while adopting related strategies, plans and policies. Côte D'Ivoire ratified the [UNFCCC](#) in 1994, the [Kyoto Protocol](#) in 2007, and the [Paris Agreement](#) on October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016. In 2012, the [National Climate Change Program \(NCCP\)](#) was adopted and in 2014 the [National Climate Change Strategy \(NCCS\) 2015-2020](#) was developed. Climate change concerns were integrated into the [National Development Program \(NDP\) 2016-2020](#) and further reinforced in the [NDP 2021-2025](#) with climate change identified among the main challenges and as a cross-cutting factor (section VII 7). The NDP, which is the central planning document in the country, aligns with the PA as well as with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular [SDG N. 13 "Fight against climate change"](#).

In terms of its international engagements towards transparency, Côte d'Ivoire has presented three national communications: the [Initial National Communication \(INC\)](#) in 2001, the [Second National Communication \(SNC\)](#) in 2010 and the [Third National Communication \(TNC\)](#) in 2017. A [Biannual Updated Report \(BUR\)](#) to UNFCCC followed. With a horizon to 2030, the country submitted a [National Determined Contribution \(NDC\)](#) in line with the PA, committing to a reduction of Green House Gases (GHGs) of 28% and it included the relative reduction measures into various economic sectors (electricity, agriculture, transport, industry, waste among others). This was to be refined and made more ambitious as it was based on the 2012 GHGs Inventory, prepared according to the 1996 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPPC) old methodology. In addition, with a level of degradation of about 171,000 hectares of forestry each year, the forestry sector which is crucial for the reduction of GHGs in the country as the REDD+ Program indicated was not integrated into the NDC and it is instead a key requirement.

Notwithstanding a number of measures taken to strengthen the national institutions to implement climate change related initiatives, the conditions to establish a [Reinforced Transparency Framework \(RTF\)](#), envisaged at Art. 13 of the PA, were not yet in place at Project start; i.e. a solid MRV system was absent, which is instead indispensable to monitor the NDCs progress, provide information to the UNFCCC and contribute to the countries' collective efforts to reinforce transparency.

#### **3.2 Problems that the project sought to address: threats and barriers targeted**

---

The Côte d'Ivoire CBIT Project aims at strengthening its transparency framework by putting in place the necessary foundations for monitoring the progress of the NDC implementation. Although the political will to reduce institutional, technical, and organizational constraints is manifest and efforts have been made in this sense, the country still faces different barriers, which were largely identified in the different National Communications, since the first one which was submitted in 2001; among others:

- i) **Institutionally**: lack of an appropriate framework for the transparency measures to be taken, for keeping stakeholders' engagement and for coordinating efforts and activities, in line with national priorities and with commitments taken in the framework of the NDCs;
- ii) **Technically**: strengthening capacities for a domestic MRV system remains key both at the level of the public institutions (particularly MESD and sectoral institutions) and of the national expertise to ensure the maximum appropriation of the methodologies and instruments for the transparency. Evidently, MESD, as the national

focal point of the UNFCCC, needs to be well prepared and able to conceive, communicate, implement and coordinate a global process for the national MRV as well as to centralize and manage all information and relative indicators coming from different institutions and sources. It requires the development of specific methodologies as well as the adaptation of the existing instrument to national conditions.

While institutional and technical barriers are the most important, additional barriers exist, such as insufficient financial resources and absence of material capacities and adequate platforms that overall slowdown the process to establish a global and intersectoral framework for transparency. The Côte d'Ivoire CBIT Project is conceived as the right instrument to reduce or eliminate these barriers, accompanying and consolidating the activities already taken by the country to establish the conditions of a reinforced transparency framework, creating favorable conditions for the optimal monitoring of the NDC progress.

### 3.3 Objectives, Outcomes, Results and Project's Strategy

---

The Côte d'Ivoire CBIT Project is implemented over a period of 36 months from August 2019 to August 2022; its original budget totals US\$ 1,370,000 out of which US\$ 1,160,000 from GEF, and US\$ 100,000 and 110,000 respectively from the GoCI and from UNDP as cash contributions.

The **CBIT Project Purpose** is to *"Strengthen Côte D'Ivoire's capacity in terms of transparency, in accordance with the decisions of the Paris Agreement on climate change, and thus achieve its objectives in terms of low-carbon development"*. **Three Components and four Outcomes** are envisaged, expected to jointly deliver **17 Outputs** (described in the Project Results Framework (PRF) matrix, reporting progress of implementation):

#### **Component 1 Strengthening of national institutions for transparency related activities**

##### **Outcome 1.1: Institutional arrangements for climate transparency are in place and effective.**

Focused on establishing formal institutional arrangements, it is paramount for the successful implementation of the NDC. Organizational structures, processes, and rules are to be established to enable climate change issues to be effectively integrated across different socio-economic sectors, while involving a wide range of stakeholders, including policy makers, public institutions, the private sector, academia, and NGOs.

#### **Component N. 2 Provision of tools, training and assistance for meeting the transparency provisions established in the Paris Agreement**

##### **Outcome N. 2.1: Enhancement of greenhouse gas inventories, including improved methodological guidance.**

It focuses on strengthening Côte d'Ivoire's national GHG system through recalculation of the previously submitted GHG inventories using the IPCC 2006 guidelines as well as development of a coherent time series; developing country specific Emission Factors (EF) and activity data, with a special focus on energy and (Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use) AFOLU; developing and implementing a protocol for Quality Assurance and Quality Control (QA/QC) for GHG inventories; and training relevant entities on GHG inventories and on the use of the IPCC 2006 guidelines.

#### **Component 2 Provision of tools, training and assistance for meeting the transparency provisions established in the Paris Agreement**

##### **Outcome 2.2: Design of a domestic MRV system.**

It focuses on ensuring monitoring the progress of mitigation actions by establishing, as a complement or an integration to the envisaged REDD+ M&E system, a MRV system as an indispensable tool for informing governments on the status of their NDCs and provide the necessary means for compliance with the PA ETF.

#### **Component N.3 Improvement of transparency over time**

##### **Outcome 3.1: Progress tracking tool on NDC and transparency in place.**

It focuses on ensuring tracking the progress of climate-related policies and in particular of the NDC and of the transparency framework, including choosing the NDC monitoring tool as a national policy instrument within the institutional framework established by Component 1.



The **Theory of Change** is well developed in the ProDoc, with a strategy well delineated to support the country to reinforce its transparency framework to track progress of the NDC so to produce changes at various levels:

i) **Institutionally**: an update mapping of the institutions involved in implementing the NDC as well as the creation of an adequate institutional framework to support the process of emissions reduction and resilience improvement; this requires coordination and management of various stakeholders within an appropriate institutional framework operating both at international and national level;

ii) **Technically**: a sustained increase of the local expertise and of the awareness level by reinforcing technical human capacities, developing adequate tools, methodologies and platforms and equipment availability to implement a transparency framework, involving different sectors for implementing the NDC;

iii) **Financially**: improving access to financial resources linked to climate change, which has long been impeded by the social and economic difficulties arising from a decade of political and military conflicts. Transparency remains the key element for accessing climate change related international financing and this project is to bring about an important change in this sense.

Overall the **Theory of Change** assumes that the reinforcement of the key national institutions and stakeholders and the provision of tools, methodologies and training will contribute to improve the transparency framework and consequently the modalities to collect, store, manage, and monitor climate change related data, thus ensuring the respect of international commitments, including the provision of information as required at the UN international level.

### **3.4 Project Key Partners and Implementation Arrangements**

---

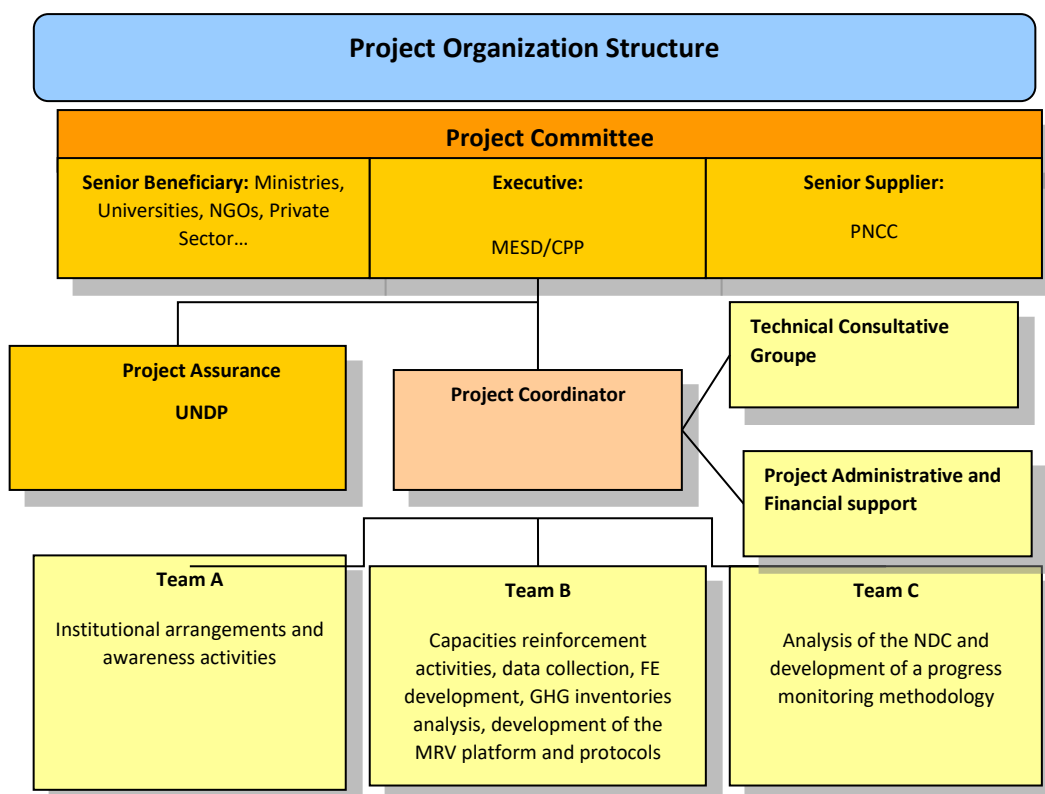
The Project is delivered through the **UNDP CO of Côte d'Ivoire** adopting the UNDP **NIM** implementation modality, with **MESD** being the **IP** through the **NCCP** and representing the GEF and UNFCCC Focal Points in the country. The IP is responsible and accountable for managing this Project, including the M&E of project interventions, achieving project outcomes, and for the effective use of UNDP resources. Supported by the UNDP CO, the IP is responsible for: approving and signing the multiyear workplan; approving and signing the combined delivery report at the end of the year; and, signing the financial report or the funding authorization and certificate of expenditures.

**UNDP** is the **GEF IA** and is responsible for project oversight, including the achievement of project results, financial execution and the submission of reports according to UNDP and GEF requirements. The UNDP CO takes responsibility for standard GEF project cycle management services and oversight of project design and negotiation, for ensuring monitoring, periodic evaluations, troubleshooting, and proper use of UNDP/GEF funds and reporting to the GEF. UNDP provides high-level technical and managerial guidance and Quality Assurance through the **UNDP RTA**, as needed and completely independently from the Project Management function. Financial transactions, reporting and auditing are carried out in compliance with established UNDP rules and procedures for NIM.

Strategic guidance is provided by the **Project Steering Committee (PSC)** or **Project Board**, which is jointly chaired by MESD and UNDP and comprised of key ministries and relevant agencies; it regularly meets once a year or more if required and is responsible for approving strategic interventions, policy guidance, controlling the use of resources and approving reports and annual operational and financial plans. It includes:

- Co-President, Representative of the Ministry in charge of the Environment;
- Co-Chair, UNDP Representative;
- Representative, Ministry in charge of Planning and Development;
- Representative, Ministry in charge of Energy;
- Representative, Ministry in charge of Agriculture;
- Representative, Ministry in charge of Transport;
- Representative, Ministry in charge of Industry;
- Representative, Ministry in charge of Forests;

- Representative, Ministry in charge of animal resources;
- Representative, Ministry in charge of Finance;
- Representative, Ministry in charge of Budget;
- Representative of the UVICOCI (Union of municipalities and communes);
- Representative of ARDCI (Assembly of Sub-Regions of Côte d'Ivoire);
- Representative, Technical and Financial Partners (FAO, UNEP);
- Representative, Civil Society;
- Representative, Private Sector.



The Project was located at the office of the NCCP and a **Management Unit (PMU)** was established for daily management of project activities, administered by a full time **Project Coordinator (PC)**; the **Projects and Programmes Coordination (PPC)** unit is the place where other climate change related initiatives are hosted, thus ensuring alignment and coordination with ongoing activities. The PC was assisted by an Administrative and Finance Officer and a M&E Officer. A **Technical Advisory Group (TAG)**, chaired by the Director of the PPC of MESD, also acting as Project Director, provided support for technical and strategic advice, to approve ToRs of project activities and examined project deliverables; the TAG was composed of representatives from Government Ministry, UNDP and other relevant agencies, research and education centers, NGOs, and technical experts for specific issues.

### 3.5 Project timing and milestones

The Project Identification Form (PIF) was approved on 26 October, 2017; the Project document received the GEF Chief Executive Officer (CEO) official endorsement on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and was signed on August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 which is the Project starting date. The Inception Workshop took place on November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019, within the three months period since project's start, as required. The planned closing date was August 5<sup>th</sup> 2022, after a 36-months period; this has been respected operationally; yet, financial closure is still pending and will be done soon after the completion of the TE. Two PIRs and a Final Report have been prepared. Most planned activities are covered and the Project expected to complete operations within the deadline. A Mid-Term Review (MTR) was not required under GEF rules for medium-sized projects. The TE was initiated

at the end of 2022 but for reasons outside management control was not accomplished; it resumed in November 2023 and completed with the present TE Report, after almost one year since its original start.

### 3.6 Main stakeholders: summary list

In recognition of the cross-cutting importance of climate change, the Project supports the meaningful participation and inclusion of a large number of institutions, research centres, private sector and also civil society during design, implementation and M&E of activities; key stakeholders are involved early and throughout execution as partners for development, so as to capitalize on stakeholders' comparative advantages, create synergies, strengthen an holistic, and resilient construct of policy interventions, and improve legitimacy. The main stakeholders and partners are summarized in the table below:

**Table N.4 Project Stakeholders and Partners**

Type of Stakeholder	Role/Type of Collaboration
<b>Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (MESD)</b>	MESD has significant experience in the design and implementation of projects related to climate change; it is also the GEF focal point. It represents the lead implementing agency for the Project, co-chairing the PSC together with UNDP. For its leading role in waste management, MESD, through a dedicated general directorate, actively participates by providing the sector related data and expertise, necessary to GHG emissions inventory, mitigation measures and MRV.
<b>Coordination of Programs and Projects (CPP)</b>	The CPP is the entity of the Office of the Minister of MESD responsible for the administrative coordination of the five national programs and projects implemented under MESD. The CPP assumes the functions of project director and is the representative of the cabinet of the Minister of MESD within the PSC.
<b>National Climate Change Programme (NCCP)</b>	The project is implemented through the coordination unit of the NCCP, which is directly linked to the office of the Minister of MESD. The NCCP is in charge of the development of most climate change related activities, including the national GHG system, the national MRV system, the climate finance portfolio, and collaborates with different donor agencies, which is essential to ensure adequate synergies and coordination with other initiatives in the country.
<b>Ministry of Petroleum, Energy and Renewable Energy Development</b>	Responsible for the management of all energy data and forward planning for the sector. It actively participates in all components of the project, including the establishment of institutional arrangements, providing key data and the expertise needed to improve the quality of GHG inventories and to put in place robust GHG systems and MRV as well as the review of NDCs and the associated tracking policy.
<b>Ministry of Transportation</b>	In terms of energy consumption, the transport sector is considered a sub-sector of the energy sector and should also contribute to the national mitigation effort proposed in the NDCs (5.73% compared to the overall reduction target of 28.25% with reference to the BAU). It benefits from the Project's capacity building activities and participate in MRV and NDCs related activities.
<b>Ministry of Construction, Housing and Urban Planning</b>	The construction and housing sector is also considered a sub-sector of the energy sector and should also contribute to the national mitigation effort proposed in the NDCs (1.50 % compared to the overall reduction target of 28.25% in reference to the BAU). The Ministry benefits from the capacity building activities of the Project and participate in activities related to MRV and monitoring NDCs.
<b>Ministry of Waters and Forests</b>	The forestry sector is a key sector in Côte d'Ivoire and is actively involved in the fight against climate change through the REDD+ program. The Ministry actively participates in all Project's components, including the establishment of institutional arrangements, providing key data and expertise needed to improve the quality of GHG inventories, to set up robust GHG and MRV systems and to review and track the NDCs.
<b>Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development</b>	Also considered a key sector of the AFOLU module in Côte d'Ivoire, the agricultural sector is the largest emitter of GHGs with a significant share of mitigation effort, as indicated in the NDCs (6.82% compared to the overall reduction target of 28.25% with reference to the Business as Usual -BAU). The Ministry actively participates in all Project's components, including the establishment of institutional arrangements, providing key data and the expertise needed to improve the quality of GHG inventories and to put in place robust GHG and MRV systems as well as NDCs review and monitoring policy.
<b>Ministry of Animal and Fishery Resources</b>	Also part of the AFOLU sector, this sector presents a set of mitigation measures proposed by the NDC of Côte d'Ivoire concerning animal and fishery resources. The Ministry actively participates in all Project's components, including the establishment of institutional arrangements, providing key data and the expertise needed to improve the quality of GHG inventories and to put in place robust GHG and MRV systems as well as the NDC review and monitoring policy.
<b>Ministry of Trade, Industry and Promotion of SMEs</b>	As a GHG emitting sector with a mitigation effort as indicated in NDC (2.40% compared to the global reduction objective of 28.25% in reference to the BAU), the industrial sector is key in the fight against climate change. The Ministry actively participates in all Project's components, including the establishment

	of institutional arrangements, providing key data and expertise needed to improve the quality of GHG inventories and implement robust GHG and MRV systems as well as NDC review and monitoring policy.
<b>Ministry of Interior and Security</b>	Responsible for local authorities, this ministry actively participates in awareness-raising activities to ensure that local authorities are made aware and committed to actions in favour of the climate.
<b>Union of Cities and Municipalities (UCM)</b>	UCM is the union of cities and towns of Côte d'Ivoire. Among its missions, the development of solidarity links between the country's municipalities, with a view to harmonizing their actions, contributing to the improvement of local administration and the harmonious development of municipal life, exchanges of experience and good practices, and to promote the development of urban and municipal action. Given the importance of non-state actors in advancing climate actions, UCM will participate in the Project's awareness-raising activities, the design of institutional arrangements and the capacity building.
<b>Assembly of Regions and Districts of Côte d'Ivoire (ARDCI)</b>	ARDCI is a framework for consultation and permanent dialogue and represents all regions and districts with public authorities and all third parties at the national and international levels. As the main territorial actor, ARDCI will participate in the Project's awareness-raising activities, in the design of institutional arrangements and capacity building.
<b>Ministry of Planning and Development</b>	Responsible for coordinating the preparation of national development plans as well as their monitoring and evaluation, given this cross-cutting nature, this ministry is involved in activities related to Results 1.1, 2.2 and 3.1.
<b>National Institute of Statistics</b>	Responsible for the production, analysis and publication of official statistics in Côte d'Ivoire, which are essential to the GHG inventory and the MRV system, it benefits from the capacity building activities of the Project and participates in activities related to MRV and NDC.
<b>Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research</b>	It develops and implements government policy in the field of higher education and scientific research. It is involved in identifying and establishing partnerships with universities and research and development institutes in order to develop emission factors specific to each country (Result 2.1.2).
<b>Ministry of Economy and Finance</b>	Prepare the national budget and actively participates in various activities related to climate change such as the establishment of the national designated authority of the GCF. As climate finance assistance is expected to be part of the MRV system, it participates in activities related to results 1.1, 2.2 and 3.1.
<b>Ministry of Women Family and Children</b>	It coordinates public policies on social equality and the promotion of the rights of women and children. It participates in the Project to ensure that gender-related climate change data and indicators are taken into account in the MRV system (output 2.2).
<b>General Confederation of Enterprises of Côte d'Ivoire (GCECI)</b>	The GCECI is a union bringing together professional groups, unions and professional associations of industry, commerce, services and agriculture, governed by the Labor Code. It promotes freedom of enterprise and the market economy, expresses its opinion on questions of an economic and social nature, strengthens social dialogue with social, government and development partners, represents and defends member companies before public authorities. As a key representative of the private sector, it participates in design of institutional arrangements (output 1.1), capacity building and design of GHG and MRV (outputs 2.1 and 2.2) to ensure engagement of private sector for sharing data and deployment of mitigation actions.
<b>Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Côte d'Ivoire (CCI-CI)</b>	Under the supervision of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, the CCI-CI is a public institution with legal personality and financial autonomy, responsible for representing the interests of commercial, industrial and service companies, training entrepreneurs and providing support to companies. As a key representative of the private sector, it participates mainly in the design of institutional arrangements (output 1.1), capacity building and design of GHG and MRV frameworks (outputs 2.1 and 2.2) to ensure better engagement of the private sector in terms of sharing data and deploying mitigation actions.
<b>National Chamber of Agriculture of Côte d'Ivoire (NCACI)</b>	The NCACI defends and represents the interests of farmers and promotes the Ivorian agricultural sector. Given the importance of the agricultural sector in the NDC of Côte d'Ivoire, it participates mainly in the design of institutional arrangements (outcome 1.1), capacity building and design of GHG frameworks and MRV (Results 2.1 and 2.2) to ensure greater involvement of the private sector in terms of data sharing and deployment of mitigation actions.
<b>Civil Society and NGOs</b>	National and local NGOs are to be widely consulted and involved in the implementation of the Project. They play a crucial role in sensitizing the population to ensure the sustainability of the Project. The main NGOs will be involved such as the Ivorian Observatory for the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources (IOSMNR), which will participate in project activities.

## 4. FINDINGS

### 4.1 Project Design/Formulation

**Project design is relevant and appropriate**; originally conceived during COP 22 in Marrakesh in 2016, it focuses on strengthening capacities by tackling various levers, such as the institutional arrangements, legal framework, organizational structures, policy adoption and technical capacities in the area of transparency, according to the decisions of the Paris Agreement on climate change to achieve its goals related to low carbon emissions development.

The CBIT Project represents a great opportunity for the country to modernize and update its methodologies to account for GHG emissions, increase capacities and build the necessary institutional and legal framework to support the accurate and transparent monitoring and reporting of emissions factors in key identified sectors. Chapter 4.4.1.1. Relevance below documents the alignment of the Project with GEF, UNDP as well as with Government priorities and strategies. Building upon and linking with other initiatives, activities defined contribute to achieving the SDGs.

Financial incentives are designed and targeted in such a way as to optimize the generation of **Global Environmental Benefits (GEB)**, by responding specifically to the nature and magnitude of current flows of costs and benefits. Through improved institutional arrangements, reinforced technical and organization MRV capacities and better policy planning, the implementation of the CBIT Project importantly contributes to the global fight against climate change. Activities leads the Government of the country to develop more ambitious and reliable NDCs for Côte d'Ivoire; positively impacts in the areas of mitigation, capacity building and finance due to the effective implementation and monitoring of the NDCs; and adopts a tracking system for NDCs as a national policy in line with Art. 13 of the Paris Agreement for transparency.

#### **4.1.1 Results Framework Analysis: project logic and strategy, indicators**

The CBIT Project lays out the drivers of the weaknesses in the climate change transparency system, the problem to be addressed and its root causes. The approach is solid and has maintained relevance over the years through the envisaged establishment of a RTF and the implementation of a domestic MRV system to track the progress of NDCs. The strategy is well aligned with national priorities, considering that the cross-cutting nature of climate change is being increasingly recognized and taken into account in national development plans. It is fully aligned with the CBIT objectives of the GEF.

The **PRF (see Annex E)** is clearly designed; it comprises **four outcomes** corresponding to **three components** (component two has two outcomes), all contributing to the objective and purpose of the CBIT Project, overall expecting to deliver **17 outputs**, reasonably well connected through logical linkages and designed to help the country take a coordinated approach to strengthen its climate related transparency system.

#### **Component 1 Strengthening of national institutions for transparency related activities**

**Outcome 1.1: Institutional arrangements for climate transparency are in place and effective** aims at establishing formal institutional arrangements, that is organizational structures, processes and rules, for the successful implementation of the NDC so to enable climate change issues to be properly and effectively integrated across different socio-economic sectors; this requires involving a wide range of stakeholders, including policy makers, public institutions, the private sector, academia, and NGOs. It is paramount to move out from the *ad hoc* manner in which committees/commissions have been operating since the ratification of the UNFCCC to a more sustainable and formal structure for the continuing preparation, updates and revision of national communication, GHG inventories, plans, policies and strategies. An institutional and legal framework on climate change and disaster risk reduction is required and climate change must be integrated into sectoral planning and policies. This Outcome includes well defined **Outputs** to: Map stakeholders, assess awareness needs and identify transparency roles; elaborate a communication and awareness plan, with relative tools; conduct communication and awareness events (**output 1.1.1**); Develop, validate and adopt a National Transparency Strategy to identify gaps and barriers and develop a shared vision among key stakeholders (**output 1.1.2**); Institutionalize a climate transparency mechanism/unit with defined roles and missions and a legal/regulatory framework (**output 1.1.3**); Establish an inter-ministerial coordination mechanism involving key stakeholders from private, public, civil society and academia sectors to consult and prepare a draft regulation for the establishment of a National Climate Change Commission (**output 1.1.4**); Develop long-term partnerships to ensure



sustainability of activities through Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) for transparency to be signed between MESD and the stakeholders (**output 1.1.5**).

This component operates across outcomes and set solid basis for the institutional and legal framework.

## **Component N. 2 Provision of tools, training and assistance for meeting the transparency provisions established in the Paris Agreement**

**Outcome N. 2.1: Enhancement of greenhouse gas inventories, including improved methodological guidance** focuses on strengthening Côte d'Ivoire's national GHG system. **Outputs** are well defined and include: Recalculation of the previously submitted GHG inventories using the IPCC 2006 guidelines as well as development of a coherent time series (4 modules: energy, industry, waste and AFOLU); validation of data and compilation of the GHG inventories according to UNFCCC requirements (**output 2.1.1**); Development of country specific emission factors and activity data by selected institutions, with a special focus on energy and AFOLU and according to validated methodologies and protocols (**output 2.1.2**); Development and implementation of a protocol for QA/QC for GHG inventories, indicating the procedures to be followed, the roles and responsibilities of the various institutions involved in the development of national GHG inventories; (**output 2.1.3**); Training relevant institutions on GHG inventories and on the use of the IPCC 2006 guidelines to ensure an effective implementation of the QA/QC protocol; (**output 2.1.4**).

**Outcome 2.2: Design of a domestic MRV system** focuses on ensuring monitoring of the progress of mitigation actions which plays a valuable role in identifying GHG trends, data gaps, and emission reduction opportunities by implementing a domestic MRV system that can track progress of NDC's related climate actions and goals, sustainable development co-benefits and their link with NDPs, and support required and received (finance, technology transfer and capacity building). This will add/complement the REDD+ envisaged M&E system; specifically: Developing and adopting data management sharing protocols, following identification of the types of data to be considered under the national MRV to include information on GHG emissions, mitigation actions and support required and received (**output 2.2.1**); Improving and widening data collection (identification of data collection mechanism and strengthening the information system developed during the FBUR project), including the design and establishment of an online MRV platform for stocking and reporting of GHG data (taking into account data disaggregated by sex) (**output 2.2.2**); Design of sectorial interfaces for the domestic MRV system, assessing existing data management platforms required for the national MRV, identifying gaps and needs for coordination; design the domestic MRV system, and training (**output 2.2.3**); undertake peer exchange programs at regional level, collaborating with the South-South ECOWAS network on MRV, capitalizing on lessons learned and good practices and participating in regional exchange events (**output 2.2.4**); Share feedback information on implementation and on results and lessons learned, into the Global Coordination Platform, in order to make such information available to other Parties and initiatives (**output 2.2.5**).

This component provides the necessary tools and trainings to strengthen the country's capacity for collecting, managing and monitoring GHGs and climate change related data supporting decision-making and reporting towards its international commitments.

## **Component N.3 Improvement of Transparency over time**

**Outcome 3.1 Progress tracking tool on NDC and transparency in place** focuses on tracking the progress of climate-related policies and in particular of the NDC and of the transparency framework, including a quality revision of the information of the NDC (**output 3.1**); developing methodologies to track the NDC and the transparency framework progress (**output 3.2**); implementing a progress tracking tools among institutions (**output 3.3**).

This component focuses on establishing a NDC monitoring tool as a national policy instrument within the institutional framework established by Component 1.

The Project objective and the four outcomes are clearly formulated. Outputs generally flow logically. Overall, 17 Indicators are identified: three at objective level and the rest divided among the three outcomes; mid-term and final targets have been identified for almost all indicators. Targets are expressed both as quantitative and qualitative measures. The interest focuses on the involvement of institutions and beneficiaries in project activities and on how the construction of a solid institutional and legal framework set the basis for the successive activities of collecting GHGs data and setting up integrated monitoring tools to track progress of the NDCs and related climate actions. The Inception Workshop validated design and during project implementation no indicator has been discussed or revised. The SMART analysis (whether indicators are sufficiently Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-bound) reveals that:

- **Objective level: Indicator 1** attempts to monitor how the implementation of plans, strategies and policies, including budgets are contributing to lower emissions and achieve a more climate-resilient development. The indicator is a major contributor to the objective but it is very broad and may embrace any action implemented in the country to fight climate change; therefore various projects may contribute to it. **Indicator 2** refers to the direct number of beneficiaries, disaggregated by gender. The indicator is also very broad and could have been more specific to account separately for beneficiaries of trainings implemented as well as those participating in consultative processes and awareness raising events. The gender target is set on a full equity basis, as half of the overall target. **Indicator 3** focalizes on capacities built for institutions; it is key to understand the extent of the involvement of line ministries and non-government stakeholders in trainings and consultations; to specify the number and type of training at objective level is not necessary and could have been integrated in the indicators of Outcome 1.
- **Outcome 1: The three indicators of Outcome 1** also contain Indicator 3; all together could have been formulated in a way to reduce its number.
- **Outcome 2.1: The three indicators of Outcome 2.1** are well tailored to assess trainings implemented for the collection of GHGs and the sectors that improved their capacities and use of methodologies to prepare inventories according to the updated IPCC methodologies compared to those used in 2006. The first indicator should have envisaged the gender component; yet, management still correctly records the gender representativity. Considering the importance of the agricultural and forestry sectors as emitters and the evidence that climate change has even worse consequences on women than on men, it is paramount to ensure that climate data are collected on a sex-disaggregated basis; this should be reflected on the PRF.
- **Outcome 2.2: the three indicators** of this outcome are SMART but should be clearer on the effective functioning, IT maintenance and financial/institutional sustainability of the MRV.
- **Outcome 3:** the first indicator refers to the number of methodologies developed for keeping track of progress in the implementation of NDCs and transparency: evidently it is not the number of methodologies developed which make the difference but their efficacy, soundness and user-friendliness.

Overall, Project construction is solid and remained unaltered during implementation. Minor adjustments to the indicators could have made the M&E framework more straightforward but it is overall SMART enough.

#### 4.1.2 Assumptions and Risks

The [Risk Management section](#) of the ProDoc well identifies risks, four of which are of an institutional nature; measures to minimize them are identified. As per standard UNDP requirements, risks have been updated and systematically recorded in the UNDP Atlas (the Atlas system is recently being substituted with the new Oracle Cloud Platform). [Assumptions within the PRF are identified](#): they are related with risks, are all pertinent but could have been defined in further detail to better serve as a guide to evaluate the capacity of the Project to produce effects and impacts.

A [Social and Environmental Screening Process \(SESP\)](#) has been prepared; given the institutional and capacity building nature of the Project, no environmental risks are identified and the ProDoc on its first page indicates a low scoring for the social and environmental risks. The preparation of the UNDP safeguard policy, assessments and management plans has not been requested. Although the risk table has never been updated, during project implementation some additional risks materialized, that is the COVID-19 situation, the difficulties in recruiting national experts for certain tasks as not available in the country; the delay in producing the NDCs which was a pre-condition for different project activities and which also delayed the launch of the TE. Overall, the risk rating was Moderate. For the purpose of this TE, some of these risks are included below in the [Summarized Risk Table N.5](#), with TE comment.

**Table N.5 Project Risks and Management Measures**

PROJECT RISKS					
Description	Type	Impact & Probability	Management Measures	Owner	Status & Comments from the TE
Insufficient institutional engagement	Institutional	P=2 I=2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Consistent leadership of MESD and NCCP to seek political support at highest level of Government since the step-up of a climate change institutional framework is part of the NDP (2016-2020);</li> <li>-Involve all stakeholders through an inclusive consultative approach and in decision making;</li> <li>-Ensure a proactive communication;</li> <li>-Build on existing working groups established under ongoing climate activities (NCs, BURs, GCF NDA...)</li> <li>-Benefits stakeholders from project awareness and capacity buildings activities.</li> </ul>	MESD/NCCP Project Manager	-Identified at Project start, the risk was minimized by the commitment expressed and maintained at highest political levels and effective involvement of line ministries.
Difficulties in accessing and improving the quality of data.	Institutional	P=3 I: 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Involvement of key institutions in charge of statistics and development planning;</li> <li>-Involvement of the private sector;</li> <li>-Specify roles/missions when defining institutional arrangements to ensure a swift exchange of data;</li> <li>-Build on existing IS to facilitate data exchange/access;</li> <li>-Advocate a "win-win" approach by building the IS capacities of needy institutions to ensure that their data is easily archived and accessed.</li> </ul>	MESD/NCCP Project Manager	Identified at Project start, the risk was minimized by an effective involvement of line ministries, especially those considered the most important for the Emitting Factor (EF)
GHG inventories relying heavily on external consultants	Operational	P=3 I=2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Focal points will be designated at key line ministries and institutions and their capacities built to master the IPCC methodologies;</li> <li>-Improve data collection and assessment through the dedicated GHG IS;</li> <li>-Limit the role of external consultants in conducting specific tasks, such as quality controls.</li> </ul>	MESD/NCCP Project Manager	Training conducted should ensure an increasingly minor dependency from external consultants. However, the Project experienced difficulties in recruiting local consultants for specific tasks as not available in the country with some tenders obliged to be re-launched several times.
Non-adoption of transparency strategy, data management sharing protocols and QA/AC plans	Institutional	P=2 I=2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-All procedures, guidelines, strategies, and modalities will be prepared through a participatory and transparent approach;</li> <li>-National circumstances will be considered in developing such tools with a perspective of adopting a continuous improvement in the future as new capacities are built;</li> <li>-A learning by doing approach will be considered through trainings to ensure that the developed tools are effectively implemented.</li> </ul>	MESD/NCCP Project Manager	<p>Risk has been minimized by an effective engagement of stakeholders, line ministries and the implementation of specific training.</p> <p>-However, the late elaboration of the NDCs proved to be a major obstacle for the swift implementation of key activities linked to this (elaboration of MRV system and of a long-term strategy to track progress); and delays materialized. Risks were minimized by an effective guidance of the PSC, able to push activities and implement accelerate public procurement procedures as soon as the NDC was presented to the UNFCCC in May 2022. Overall, also the start of TE was delayed.</p>
Lack of national capacities to develop country specific emissions factors and later to undertake envisaged studies which could not be undertaken by	Technical	P=5 I: 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Involve reputable universities and research &amp; development institutions</li> <li>-Replanning of activities</li> </ul>	MESD/NCCP Project Manager	The risk impacted on the timely presentation of certain studies due to the impossibility to recruit international experts, the lack of expertise among national experts which obliged to relaunch various tenders and increased



PROJECT RISKS					
Description	Type	Impact & Probability	Management Measures	Owner	Status & Comments from the TE
international consultants due to the occurrence of the COVID-19			-Ensure an adequate selection of such institutions in consultations with the line ministries of the key sectors (energy and AFOLU); -Build on international best practices; Capitalize on the peer-to-peer exchanges with the ECOWAS network on MRV and the shared lessons with the Global Coordination Platform		financial and operational challenges to organize meetings considering sanitation measures.
Lack of maintenance of IT systems dedicated to GHG inventories and MRV	Financial	P=2 I=2	-Include maintenance contracts in national budgets	MESD/NCCP Project Manager	The risk is minimized by involving line ministries in actions and having their commitments through the MoU. The Climate Change Law, when adopted, provide the relative and appropriate legal framework.
The <b>Coronavirus</b> was not identified as a critical health risk in PIR. Delays of implementation were likely. The final report of the Project evidences this risk.	Operational/ Health	P=5 I=5	Social isolation measures implemented by the Government, repercussing on meetings to be organized and slowing down procurement of goods and services.	MESD/NCCP Project Manager	-COVID 19 pandemic was not identified as a risk in PIRs but it is present in the final report. Operational drawbacks were minimized by the use of video-conferences, virtual meetings and also the implementation of online training. Yet, frustration raised among trainees for the difficulties of interacting among them by the virtual modality.
<b>Limited access of women</b> to Project's benefits and opportunities.	Social		The risk is managed through specialized events and actions to ensure women participation on an equal basis.	MESD/NCCP Project Manager	A Gender Action Plan has been prepared at Project start; in synergy with other climate-related projects, a Gender Platform was prepared and managed for various climate-related projects all together.

#### 4.1.3 Planned stakeholder participation and Gender responsiveness of Project design

Project design promotes a significant [participation of diverse stakeholders](#) in all phases of the project's cycle, including capacity development activities, training, design of outputs as well as in validating proposed actions, encouraging an enabling environment for active engagement in the management of climate change related data. The Pro Doc well documents in Annex F the number of stakeholders consulted in various meetings and validation workshops at the planning stage to ensure an adequate understanding as well as identification of the required partnerships for the successful implementation and sustainability of proposed actions. As usual in this phase of projects, most meetings were held with the IP representatives (MESD) and a few other ministries but not necessarily with all stakeholders identified in Table 5 above, although many of them are included in the PSC. Yet, ministries and other agencies' roles and participation in the Project are well identified; the long list of institutions involved clearly shows the transversality of actions meant to address climate change issues and how different sectors contribute to GHG emissions. This is reconfirmed at Project start with a long list of participants in the inception workshop. Interviews with MESD confirms this institution takes responsibility for ensuring that appointed officers meaningfully participate. Decision-making is structured in a way to ensure inclusiveness and that all stakeholders receive satisfactory levels of benefits and equity, which is not only respectful of human rights but also a critical element of sustainability.

GEF-financed projects require [gender equality](#) to be integrated in project design and implementation (2014 report on Gender Mainstreaming in GEF). UNDP has translated the GEF commitment on gender integration and mainstreaming in its own UNDP Gender Strategy 2014-2017, which provides guidance on how to integrate gender in all UNDP supported activities. The UNDP Gender Marker for this Project was originally rated as GEN2: *Gender equality as a significant objective*. Parties to the UNFCCC also recognize the importance of gender-responsiveness and equality in climate related policies; a dedicated agenda item is included in the Convention and has been included also in the Paris Agreement. At design, to ensure gender mainstreaming, the ProDoc, at Annex G, includes a Gender Analysis and Plan, with specific requirements for annual monitoring and reporting; Mandatory Indicator N.2 of the PRF requires 50% women/50% men as beneficiaries. Project management was requested to ensure the participation and benefits of both men and women on an equality basis, without compromising the technical quality of results; specifically:

- i) make efforts to promote the participation of women in training activities;
- ii) practice gender-sensitive recruitment wherever possible, especially in the selection of project staff;
- iii) consider the gender dimension in all decision-making processes, including the Project Board, inviting observers to ensure the representation of the gender dimensions and make efforts to consult with stakeholders focusing on gender equality and women's empowerment issues;
- iv) when data-collection or assessments are conducted as part of project implementation, sex-disaggregated data will be collected, for instance sustainable development co-benefits data related to male and female;
- v) in collaboration with the Ministry of Women, Children and Family, the project will evaluate the feasibility of considering the design of a gender sensitive MRV system, and
- vi) gender-sensitive language will be used in all communication and awareness activities.

#### 4.1.4 Linkages between project and other interventions within the sector

Linkages with other projects and activities implemented in Côte d'Ivoire on climate change is a main objective of the CBIT Project and play an important role in ensuring inter-ministerial collaboration for data sharing and management; all these programs and projects contribute to the same objective of improving institutional arrangements, data management, transparency and the reduction of GHG emissions as well as help in raising awareness of sustainable development and climate change and strengthen the commitment of all stakeholders and partners. Established collaborative links have strongly reinforced interinstitutional collaboration, especially for the three projects being jointly guided under the same PSC, which are the CBIT Project, the UNDP NDC project and the National Adaptation Plan. This has also helped in overcoming some of the difficulties posed by the COVID-19 pandemic's restrictions.

An active and fruitful partnership dynamic has been forged with the stakeholders involved in climate change issues and has involved the most strategic departments to which these issues are addressed (ministry of agriculture and rural development, ministry of animals and fisheries, ministry of water and forestry, ministry of sanitation, ministry of energy, ministry of transportation, ministry of industry, ministry of construction as well as public institutions such as SODEXAM – (*Société d'Exploitation et de Développement Aéroportuaire, Aéronautique and Météorologue*), the private sector, the academia and research centres and NGOs. This helps to leverage the comparative advantages of stakeholders, as well as create synergies, strengthen a more precise, holistic and resilient structure of policy interventions and improve legitimacy. These partnerships help to ensure an equitable distribution of benefits and wide access to environmental information. This approach is compatible with participation and the inclusion of the principle of human rights.

**Table N.6 Linked projects and initiatives**

Project Title	Status	Source/Partners	Project Summary
<b>REDD +</b>	Ongoing	World Bank; REDD; FCPF; French Gov. (C2D); SODEFOR	Development of a national REDD+ strategy; Development of a Forest Invest Plan; Planning; Capacity Building and awareness raising; Evaluation of the baseline; M&E system, including National Forest Monitoring System, which is still under construction; National REDD+ Registry and Safeguards Information System.
<b>2BUR/National Communication</b>	Ongoing	GEF/UNDP	2BUR/National Communication. GHG inventories. Final stage of preparation, expecting to be presented to UNFCCC in December 2023.
<b>LED Partnership</b>	Ongoing	USAID; DFID; World Bank; European Commission	Peer learning; technical cooperation and information exchange to support LEDS training and implementation
<b>NDC Partnership</b>	Closed	Multiple funders (9)	Assessment of gaps in the implementation of the NDC. NDC partnership plan and roadmap. Elaboration of the new NDCs. Activities are completed.
<b>NDC Support Programme UNDP</b>	Ongoing	UNDP	Support to the implementation of the NDC. Strong collaboration and synergies, even promoted by the PSC. Share the same PSC as the CBIT. Final stage of implementation.
<b>Partnership of Market Readiness (PMR)</b>	Ongoing	World Bank	-Assessment of carbon pricing alternatives in accordance with the NDC -Capacity Building
<b>GCF Preparation</b>	Ongoing	GCF/FVC	-Institutional arrangements -Update of the priorities of the Government in terms of mitigation and adaptation compared to the initial results framework of the GCF -Capacity building in climate finance
<b>National Adaptation Plan (NAP)</b>	Closed	UNDP & GCFVC	-Institutional arrangements and NAP vulnerability assessment. Strong collaboration and synergies, even promoted through the joint PSC. NAP is ready. It is expected to be soon submitted to UNFCCC
<b>Climate Finance</b>	Ongoing	AFDB	GCF accreditation of national entities. Development of bankable projects. Credited to the Adaptation Fund. Will be credited also to GCF and OIPR.

## 4.2 Project Implementation

### 4.2.1 Adaptive Management

The Project was originally envisaged to start in April 2019 but the ProDoc was signed in August 2019 and the Inception workshop was conducted in November of the same year, therefore within the three months allowed since Project start. Implementation has suffered some drawbacks, mostly due to:

- the **occurrence of the COVID-19 pandemic** and its associated restrictions in international and national travels and in holding face-to-face meetings, workshops and trainings (social distancing) which became a disruptive factor in the planning and use of the projected budget; in addition, to overcome the difficulties of recruiting international consultants, tenders were launched for local consultants who however lacked the required expertise and language skills and some tenders have gone through multiple launches;
- as a consequence, **online training** was conducted but often not to the satisfaction of the participants which felt the limitation of not being able to interact as would have been possible in face-to-face meetings; as an

adaptive management measure, some training will be repeated in-presence now that the COVID 19 situation normalized, even if the Project is already closed;

- slowness in procurement and financial management** which motivated MESD to request and UNDP CO to grant a type of support which would have required the formal request and approval by GEF being an exception to the NIM modality; although formally inappropriate, this was a strategic and adaptive management measure to speed up payments and recruitment of consultants and increase the delivery rate; similarly, a number of government management staff have been trained/reinforced in the UNDP financial management and procurement procedures as recommended by the financial audit (use of FACE sheets and its annexes; preparation of budgets and workplans, procurement procedures, among others);

- **the late start in revising the 2015 NDCs** which was not validated until 2022, overall delaying all project activities, but in particular the entire MRV component;

- late start and completion of the TE**, originally due to the preparation of COP15 of the UNCCD which took place in Côte d'Ivoire from 9 to 20 May 2022, and then because the first evaluator recruited could not complete his mission.

A request for extending the Project was considered at a certain point but judged not viable as formulated too late in implementation. Six PSC meetings were held, effectively providing strategic guidance and recommendations for technical issues and mostly arriving at project's end having implemented all activities and reached most of its targets. However, the decision to adopt a "CO Support to NIM" instead than a "full NIM" during one of the PSC was arbitrary as taken without properly informing and obtaining permission from the UNDP and GEF Headquarters. Following a call to clarify the situation with representatives from the UNDP Headquarters, Regional and CO level, a "note to the file" was produced to document a decision which was not within the approved procedures.

#### 4.2.2 Actual stakeholder participation and partnership arrangements

The Project has been well managed by MESD which has been quite effective in involving a large number of stakeholders, playing an important institutional and interinstitutional coordination role and creating an enabling environment for promoting effective actions to combat climate change and for sustaining commitments. [Interviews confirm](#) strong relationships built at inter-ministerial level, keen interest and even enthusiasm raised, and recognition of the importance of strengthening capacities for improving the overall process of collecting, managing, monitoring and reporting climate change related data and information. The Inception Workshop Report documents the presence of 45 participants (7 women), from different institutions but with a prevalence of representatives from MESD and the NPCC. As evident in this type of projects, government representation is outstanding, even at local level with the participation of local authorities through the association of regions and districts of Côte d'Ivoire as well as the involvement of the Union of Cities of Côte d'Ivoire (i.e. the April 2022 Yamoussoukro workshop, with 39 participants of whom 8 women, from the MESD Cabinet, the National Assembly, the Economic, Social, Environmental and Cultural Council, UNDP/GEF, Yamoussoukro Regional Department of Environment; and the legal service, the PPC and PNCC of MESD. Of relevance, the collaboration with SODEXAM which is the national focal point of IPCC. Instead, the non-government sector as well as civil society are underrepresented and comments that trainings have well reached civil servants but not enough research centres, NGOs and CSO representatives is emerging. In addition, women are definitely underrepresented in institutional forums and efforts to involve them in training and consultations are not fully satisfactory; yet, an important achievement was the consideration of gender equality in the setting up of the [National Working Group on Climate Change \(GENEC](#) for the French acronym), with a quota of 30% of women among the members.

As [Table 6](#) above indicates, partnerships have been created with different international donors (i.e. such as World Bank, the French Government, the European Union (EU), the ILO among others.

### 4.2.3 Project Finance and Co-Finance

The Project budget totals US\$ 1,370,000 of which US\$ 1,160,000 was provided by GEF and the remaining US\$ 210,000 is co-financing from the Government and UNDP. UNDP-CO is responsible for ensuring quality assurance for the execution of GEF resources; through the NIM implementation, direct payment and direct cash transfer are the modalities used to transfer funds to the IP according to UNDP policies on GEF funded projects; associated operational and administrative costs are covered in the budget as Project Management Costs. The GEF amount approved by the GEF Council is fixed and management cannot exceed it. As per UNDP requirements outlined in the UNDP Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP), the **PSC** may allow expenditures up to the tolerance level beyond the approved budget amount for the year, without requiring a revision. Budget revisions are allowed within a tolerance level which: i) should not exceed a budget re-allocation among component of 10% or more of the total project grant; and ii) should not introduce new budget items/components exceeding 5% of the original GEF allocation; if this happens, UNDP/GEF approval is required as these are considered major amendments. Any over expenditure incurred beyond the available GEF grant amount has to be absorbed by non-GEF resources (e.g., UNDP TRAC or cash co-financing). Budget revisions occurred, all within allowed limits, and obtained required approvals and signatures.

The Project was endorsed by CEO in March 2019, officially started in August 2019 with the signature of the Project but expenditures started with the implementation of the Inception Workshop, in November within the three months after Project's start. Project implementation and expenditures are done in accordance with the annual workplan; financial reporting is done utilizing UNDP templates and procedures under the UNDP's NIM. From November 2019 to February 2021, the Direct Payment Modality was used and all procurement processes were carried out by MESD, with UNDP making direct payment after receiving the signed FACE forms. As mentioned above, due to financial and recruitment management challenges, the PSC arbitrarily decided that UNDP CO would support the recruitment of some consultancies for speeding up payments and procurement. Inappropriately this was done without informing and obtaining the formal permission of GEF which led to discussion and the production of a "note to the file" to document and clarify the situation.

The budget is managed by Outcome, with Project management listed under a separate budget line. Table 5 below provides summaries of expenditures per outcome:

**Table N.7 GEF Budget allocations and expenditures per Component/Outcome (USD)**

Budget line/Amounts	GEF allocation	GEF Expenses June 2019	GEF Expenses June 2020	GEF expenses June 2021	GEF expenses June 2022	Cumulative expenses	Balance
Outcome 1.1	140,000	1.641	52.402	30.959	57.703	142.705	
Outcome 2.1	295,000	18.356	164.599	25.648	63.985	272.588	
Outcome 2.2	306,000	-	62.696	25.678	210.557	298.931	
Outcome 3.1	314,000	4.933	10.665	29.170	345.412	390.180	
Project Management	105,000	-	17.386	-	31.846	49.232	
Total (% of annual approved budget)	1,160,000.00	24.930 2,15%	307.748 26,53%	111.455 9,60%	709.503 61,16%	1.153.636	6.364
Total cumulative %		2,15%	28,68%	38,28	99,44		

Financial information collected indicates that the disbursement rate has been moderately satisfactory until the last year of implementation, as a consequence of both the pandemic which considerably slowed down activities but also of management difficulties in planning and managing the budget. UNDP CO support in the final phase of the Project greatly speeded up recruitment and procurement, with an overall strong oversight over the budget. At Project end, a minor saving is present which is been used to cover the TE extra costs.

The ProDoc indicates a cash Government co-financing commitment of USD 110.000; and USD 100.000 in cash by the UNDP CO. The pledged co-financing contribution of UNDP which would have used track funds has not materialized; in the initial stages of implementation, about USD 30,000 were made available to the Project; however the initial difficulties of management in planning and spending financial resources obliged UNDP to withdraw the transfer; finally, no UNDP co-financing has been provided. [Table 8 and 10](#) reports confirmed sources of co-financing as of December 2022.

**Table N.8 Co-Financing Table**

Co-financing (type/source)	UNDP financing (USD m)		Government (USD m)		Total (USD m)	
	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual
In-Kind			-	-		
Cash	100.000	-	110.000	About 430.000	210.000	About 430.000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>110.000</b>	<b>About 430.000</b>	<b>210.000</b>	<b>About 430.000</b>

The **Government co-financing** contribution is fully honored, and even higher than the original pledges as **Table N. 9** below show for the Government planned and expended resources for the Project in French CFA.

**Table N.9 Co-Financing Table in FCFA**

Government Co-financing Budget	2020 (FCFA)		2021 (FCFA)		2022 (FCFA)	
	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual	Planned	Actual
In-Kind	124.500.000	124.500.000	91.100.000	91.100.000	51.580.000	50.261.966
<b>Percentage</b>		<b>100%</b>		<b>100%</b>		<b>97%</b>

**Table N.10 Confirmed sources of co-financing at TE stage (Jan 2023)**

Sources of Co-Financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-Financing	Investment Mobilized	Amount (US\$ m)
GEF Agency	UNDP	Grants	Investment mobilized	-
Recipient Country Government	Government	Grants	Recurrent expenditure	About 430.000
<b>Total Co-Financing</b>				<b>About 430.000</b>

#### 4.2.4 M&E: design at entry, implementation, overall assessment of M&E

Monitoring & Evaluation	Rating
M&E design at entry	Satisfactory
M&E Plan Implementation	Satisfactory
Overall Quality of M&E	Satisfactory

For the purpose of design, the monitoring plan is satisfactory. The ProDoc includes a detailed standard M&E Plan with an estimated total cost of USD 30,000 as GEF budget; no co-financing budget is envisaged except for in-kind contributions for certain tasks. Items to be monitored are identified, individually costed and with proper identification of responsibilities and timeframe; the cost of the TE is included and makes up the largest majority of the envisaged cash budget.

Monitoring is undertaken in compliance with UNDP and GEF policies and procedures requirements. The UNDP CO ensures that UNDP M&E and GEF requirements meet high quality standards in a timely fashion (PIRs, Evaluations); supports management as needed; provides Quality Assurance Assessments (completely independent from management, given the NIM modality); and ensures compilation of the ATLAS risk log. The UNDP RTA provides administrative support, troubleshooting and quality assurance. The GEF Operational Focal Point is located in the Ministry of Economy and the UNFCCC focal point is located in MESD and ensure consistency with GEF and UNFCCC policies, synergies with other GEF projects in the country and utilization of the GEF Tracking Tools. A NIM audit has been implemented as well as one global UNDP CO audit, thus also including the CBIT project.



The Inception Report did not propose any change to the design of the Project, including to the M&E plan. Daily management was the responsibility of the PC, assisted by the PD, and with the supervision of the UNDP CO and the RTA; strategic guidance has been effectively provided by the PSC as can be appreciated from both the interviews and the Minutes of the Meetings (MoMs) of the regular consultations held. MoMs are well drafted and informative, and summarize the main commitments taken which are later regularly monitored; participation is optimal from interested parties. Remarkably, these meetings are not only conducted for the CBIT project but also for the NAP and the NDC projects, therefore ensuring synergies and complementarities. Additional financial and technical support was provided by staff belonging to the PPC team as a whole. A dedicated M&E resource person supported implementation. Monitoring concerns the overall performance as well as technical and organizational aspects of the implementation and uses simple tools to track results which are later reported but not in a very structured way on a PPC platform to track records at programme level focusing on indicators, the PRF, the Monitoring Plan, the GEF Tracking Tools, the Risk Management log, the preparation of PIRs. PIRs are the main tools to inform higher management and key inputs for external evaluations. Two PIRs (2021 and 2022) have been prepared as well as a Project Final Report. Reporting is sufficiently informative in the PIR's table but limited to the indicator and does not further expand on the significance of the results achieved. Commendably, the M&E resource person remains in his post, beyond Project's closure and assures continued oversight. The first phase of the TE was conducted at the end of 2022 but the consultant could not complete the task; this TE report is elaborated in October/November 2023.

At Project design [Tracking Tools](#) were used by the GEF to monitor [Global Environmental Benefits \(GEBs\)](#); currently the system is replaced by the Core Indicators. The first Tracking Tool was attached to the ProDoc; the Project has prepared the Final tracking Tool, reporting mid-term value in the same file (here as a separate annex). Management informs that during the years of Project implementation, an MRV online platform has been set up but it is still not fully operational and indicates the number and quality of capacity building activities conducted, including 938 direct beneficiaries (336 women), 30 institutions representing various ministries, research centres, private sector and civils society). During the implementation of the Project, the country's NDCs have been revised, increasing its ambitions from 28% to 30,41%, corresponding to a reduction of 37 million tons CO2 equivalent of GHG, considering the different sectors with a horizon to 2030.

[Overall, the monitoring system established is satisfactory](#): it utilizes usual and mandatory tools correctly mostly utilizing UNDP procedures without any major efforts to reports links and synergies with other climate related activities or to develop critical thinking on the fight against climate change.

#### **4.2.5 UNDP implementation/oversight; Implementing Partner execution and overall assessment of implementation/oversight and execution.**

UNDP Execution/Oversight & Implementing Partner collaboration	Rating
Quality of UNDP Implementation /Oversight	Satisfactory
Quality of Implementing Partner Execution	Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Quality of Implementation /Oversight and Execution	Moderately Satisfactory

As part of UNDP's institutional capacity development strategy for the country, the Project is implemented through the [UNDP's NIM](#); [UNDP acts as the IA](#), providing technical guidance and support to management, which is entirely composed of Côte d'Ivoire professional officials. [MESD](#) is the [IP](#), hosting the GEF and UNFCCC focal point within the NPCC; it facilitates active stakeholder engagement and implementation of project activities and provide an appreciated leadership. The participation of the PC/PD is documented in MoMs. The PC changed towards the last year of project implementation but both of them are still involved in activities linked with increasing the country's transparency for climate change.

The adoption of the NIM modality was to facilitate the recruitment and appointment of the entire PMU team as well as conduct procurement according to national procedures. As mentioned in other sections of this report, the task was challenging for MESD/NPCC; a request for UNDP CO support in directly recruiting envisaged consultants and/or in purchasing certain goods was validated during one of the PSC; as NIM envisages the Direct Payments option and the change was not requested in writing to the UNDP regional/headquarter level, the passage is considered arbitrary. The NIM modality is the correct one and the one usually adopted for GEF projects; however, in this case, a new unit of Government was involved without proper assessment of capacities, leading the UNDP CO environmental unit to provide an effort beyond what originally envisaged. Reportedly, the risk log in ATLAS has been systematically updated. Budget revisions were prepared under the guidance of the RTA who was consulted to reallocate savings from training conducted online instead than in-presence. Synergy and collaboration prevail between UNDP and management, with reciprocal appreciation.

The PSC has regularly met – six times during project implementation – providing guidance and strategic recommendations for catching up delays, facing financial, budgetary and procurement challenges; to this end, weekly meetings were envisaged between the Project team and UNDP CO to follow up on the accelerated public procurement mechanism to purchase the MRV equipment and expedite the recruitment of consultants. Commendably, these were the occasions to liaise with the coordinators of the NAP and the NDCs projects, with mutual support and synergies.

#### **4.2.6 Risk Management and Social and Environmental Standards**

A SESP was developed at Project design, identifying no or low risk. The PIR 2022 indicates that no new social and environmental risks were identified and SESP was not a major requirement, considering the nature of this project where climate change and environmental sustainability lies at the heart of the action.

Table N. 6 above reports risks identified and the way these have been managed; risks ranked from low to moderate and reportedly have been properly registered in ATLAS by UNDP. PIR 2022 indicates a moderate risk rating at the time for the delay with which the TE was being recruited; the situation worsened when the consultant was finally recruited but could not complete his mission/report; the TE resumed one year after and this document represents the TE final report. Delays materialized primarily because of the late submission of the revised NDC which were delivered to UNFCCC only in May 2022 and was a pre-condition for the development of certain deliverables. In addition the United Nations Conference to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) COP 15 was held in Côte d'Ivoire and absorbed the time of many officials. The most important risk remained that of not being able to complete planned activities and deliverables, for which the use of accelerated public procurement mechanisms to purchase MRV equipment and expedite the recruitment of experts has been implemented.

## **4.4 Project Results and Impacts**

---

### **4.4.1 Progress towards objective and expected outcome**

The Project has achieved most of its targets; the contribution towards the outcomes and the objective is undeniable although many of the products are not yet institutionalized or still require that political will translates into signature and adoption. The analysis of PIRs and of the Project's final report provide exhaustive and valuable information which is generally confirmed through interviews with relevant stakeholders (Project management team at MESD/NPCC, UNDP staff, government and non-government representatives, experts). Results are generally appreciated and considered relevant to enable a conducive legal environment and institutional framework to enhance climate transparency; yet, interviews reveal that various stakeholders called for a more ambitious project, with wider financing given the capacity building needs of the country. Progress towards outcomes is registered in [Annex E, in the results framework matrix, with achievements, comments and rating](#). Implementation challenges have been well faced; the [Moderately Satisfactory rating](#) which characterizes implementation finds justification in the following chapters.



Assessment of Outcomes	Rating
Relevance	Highly Satisfactory
Effectiveness	Satisfactory
Efficiency	Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Project Outcome Rating	Satisfactory

#### 4.4.1.1 Relevance

The relevance of the Project is **Highly Satisfactory**. Undoubted relevance at design is maintained throughout execution, with changes in the policies to fight climate change towards enabling a political and legal environment for transparency and for monitoring and reporting about the country's emissions. The CBIT Project is therefore fully aligned to the national policy context as well as to the UNFCCC and the PA requirements and commitments. Consultations were conducted during project design, and at inception with full involvement of diverse groups of stakeholders, especially at institutional level, including local governments; the purpose was to validate Project design and its indicators of performance and further reinforce the awareness and understanding of the importance of creating a transparency framework and to set up monitoring tools to track the country's progress towards setting more ambitious NDCs. Interviews generally confirm that the fight against climate change ranks high in the country's priorities.

Côte d'Ivoire has signed and ratified the UNFCCC on November 1994; the Kyoto Protocol on September 2002; the Paris Agreement on October 2016. The Project was and remains consistent with the **national legal and policy framework, with development priorities and international commitments**, and specifically:

- ✓ **The National Development Plan (2016-2020)**, later updated into the 2021-2025 NDP, representing Côte d'Ivoire leading strategy in economic, social and political terms; the new NDP includes at VII.7 the specific challenge of the fight against climate change and environmental protection
- ✓ **The mainstreaming of climate change in national and sectoral planning**, with several strategies, plans and policies effectively responding to climate change and concrete actions plans intended to reduce the risks of harmful effects that can slow down the country's development
- ✓ **The 2012 National Climate Change Programme** which acts as the operational arm of MESD in charge of coordinating all mitigation and adaptation activities, through a Coordination Unit for daily management and a Scientific Committee in charge of providing strategic and scientific advice
- ✓ **The 2015-2020 National Climate Change Strategy** which assessed among the main challenges the improvement of the institutional and legal framework of climate change, with the need to create an environment for all contributing stakeholders to be involved through protocols and MoU to collect, manage and share climate change related data
- ✓ **According to Articles 4 and 12 of the UNFCCC, the publication and submission every four years of national communications** (INC in 2001, including a national GHG emissions inventory of the year 1994; SNC in 2010, including a national GHG emissions inventory of the year 2000; TNC in 2017, including an estimation of national GHG emissions for the period 1990-2012) and of the **First Biennial Updated Report (FBUR) in July 2018 (due every two years)**, which included several studies (energy, AFOLU, waste and industry) carried out in 2016, with national GHG emissions estimates covering the 1990-2014 period but mostly developed according to the 1996 IPCC guidelines; the next BUR is under elaboration with the new 2006 guidelines
- ✓ **The submission of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) in 2016** with a GHG emissions reduction target of 28% by 2030 below a BAU scenario; GHG reduction efforts are contained in strategic sectoral development plans with the support of technical partners and financiers; mitigations actions were considered in different economic sectors, depending on their contribution to the overall national effort; Government was already aware of the need to prepare future NDCs with greater ambitions and calculating GHG with updated IPCC methodologies, relying on improved activity data through standardized QA/QC procedures;
- ✓ **The NDCs submission in 2022**, with an increased ambition of GHG emissions reduction target of 30.41% by 2030
- ✓ **The creation of the Directorate for the fight against climate change in 2017**, within MESD, charged with the responsibility to monitor and implement policies and strategies; and later **the creation of the NPCC**

with a Permanent Technical Secretariat and thematic working groups covering different issues (e.g., Mitigation, Adaptation, Development and Transfer of Technologies, MRV, Financing Strategies)

- ✓ [The National REDD+ Programme and Strategy](#), given the importance of the forestry sector for GHG mitigation in the country; at Project start, a M&E system was under creation and required to be later integrated into a wider and comprehensive MRV; at the time, the forestry sector was not integrated in the NDCs which is instead now considered
- ✓ [The Gender and Climate Change National Strategy \(2020-2024\)](#) developed in 2019 as a result of a national dialogue promoted on this subject, in collaboration with the Ministry of Women, Children and Family and relevant stakeholders.

The CBIT represented the suitable mean to remove barriers identified in the NCCS in order to set up a transparent framework for Côte d'Ivoire, update the methodologies with which GHG emissions were calculated, adopting updated IPPC methodologies (from the old 1996 to the new 2006 guidelines), establish an institutional and legal framework on climate change and disaster risk reduction and integrate climate change into sectoral planning and policies.

Côte d'Ivoire adopted the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) and the [SDGs](#) in September 2015. The CBIT programme directly contributes to the achievement of SDG N. 13 "Climate Action". The Project objective is [closely aligned](#) with the programming directions and underlying mission of the [GEF Climate Change Focal Area](#), specifically the [CBIT Trust Fund](#). It directly responds to the requirements of the UNFCCC and the PA.

The Project was linked to the [UNDP Strategic Plan: Outcome 2](#) Accelerate structural transformations for sustainable development, and to [Output 1.4](#) for cross-cutting actions to adapt and mitigate climate change; it was well aligned with the [UNDAF/Country Program Document, Res. 3](#); "Public authorities implements policies ensuring sustainable production and consumption methodologies, the generation of revenues and resilience for climate change for the most vulnerable populations. Relevance is maintained under 2021-2025 UNDAF for Côte d'Ivoire where one of the five strategic priorities is the reduction of the vulnerability to climate change and to environmental issues.

#### [4.4.1.2 Effectiveness](#)

[The Project's effectiveness is Satisfactory](#). At the time of the first TE mission, the Project was still struggling to reach some of its targets and objective; the TE is being completed one year after Project's closure. Although this is not an ex-post evaluation, key results have been analyzed against their progress to date; while it is possible to confirm that the political will to adopt a climate transparency framework exist, the processes to adopt and institutionalize the legal and institutional framework are still ongoing.

The CBIT Project seeks to strengthen the capacities of Côte d'Ivoire in the area of transparency, according to the decisions of the Paris Agreement on climate change and thereby to achieve its goals related to low carbon emission development. Recognizing that any action to track progress in terms of GHG emissions requires an update and a new submission to the UNFCCC of the NDCs, activities have been organized - and unfortunately also delayed - around this milestone that could only be reached in May 2022. Therefore, various planned actions had to be postponed, even if at that moment the inter-ministerial commission on climate change was nearly established and MoUs between MESD and various line ministries were almost ready for signature. The legal framework was still pending with a draft Climate Change Law still undergoing political check and parliamentary approval. [Annex E](#) is the PRF which details results, achievement of indicators/targets and provides a summarized comment by the TE Consultant; complementary information is provided below on each outcome and for some key products.

#### [C. 1/O. 1. Institutional arrangements for climate transparency are in place and effective.](#)

As the UNFCCC National Focal Point, MESD, is responsible of ensuring inter-ministerial coordination and leadership on climate change issues. Through its organizational Decree of 2012, MESD created the NPCC to

act as the operational arm of the ministry in charge of coordinating all mitigation and adaptation activities. The NPCC operates through a Coordination Unit set at MESD, which is responsible for the daily management of the program. The NPCC has also a Scientific Committee in charge of providing strategic and scientific advice. The 2015-2020 NCCS identified among the main challenges the need to improve the institutional and legal framework for climate change, signaling that governmental departments and agencies would not be able to face climate challenges without the support of a large number of local, national, regional and international partners, including the municipal sector, the private sector, the industrial and economic sector as well as civil society and local communities. Given the importance of deforestation and forest degradation in the country, at Project's start, the most relevant dedicated institutional framework existing was the one created in 2011 for the REDD+ process, consisting of the National REDD+ Commission, reporting directly to the Prime Minister, an Inter-ministerial Technical Committee and a Permanent Executive Secretariat.

Under the CBIT Project, MESD has played an effective role in bringing together national stakeholders with the objective of establishing an institutional and legal framework on climate change and disaster risk reduction and to integrate climate change into sectoral planning and policies. A broad range of stakeholders have been outreached, evidently mostly at governmental level but also including the participation of representatives from parliament, local authorities and of research centres. The participation of the private sector – which is vital for the reduction of GHG, of NGOs and civil society require further support. The mentioned [GENEC](#) has been set up, with the support of a consultant, the collaboration of SODEXAM as IPCC focal point and with a similar structure to the IPCC but at the national level; commendably, the selection panel is established to be composed of a 30% of women and its attributions and functions have been defined. Consultations have led to draft the [Law on Climate Change](#); and the effective involvement and commitment of the key contributing sectors to produce and share data related to GHG emissions can be appreciated by the [8 MoUs](#) prepared and ready for signature between MESD and the ministries of: energy, agriculture, water and forests, animals and fisheries, transport, industry, sanitation and construction.

Overall, the implementation of this first component is overarching as these are key steps to establish a national legal and institutional framework on climate change, engaging partners in a transparency and improved process of data exchange, sharing of information on GHG emissions and scientific reporting. However, the [Climate Transparency Mechanism](#) is not yet institutionalized as: i) the draft Law on Climate Change is still undergoing the political and bureaucratic process for its adoption but also revision to include elements of the MRV which were not evident at the time of drafting the law when the MRV was still not designed; the Law envisages also the creation of the Climate Change Agency; ii) GENEC is still not institutionalized and at the moment meetings among its members are suspended; yet, the decree for its adoption is ready; and iii) the MoUs were originally designed for data management (collection and sharing) of GHG emission inventories but were later expanded to include the MRV system for the same key sectors; as the operationalization of the MRV is still ongoing, MoUs are still object of possible revision and integration.

#### **C.2/O2.1. Greenhouse gas inventories, including improved methodological guidance are enhanced.**

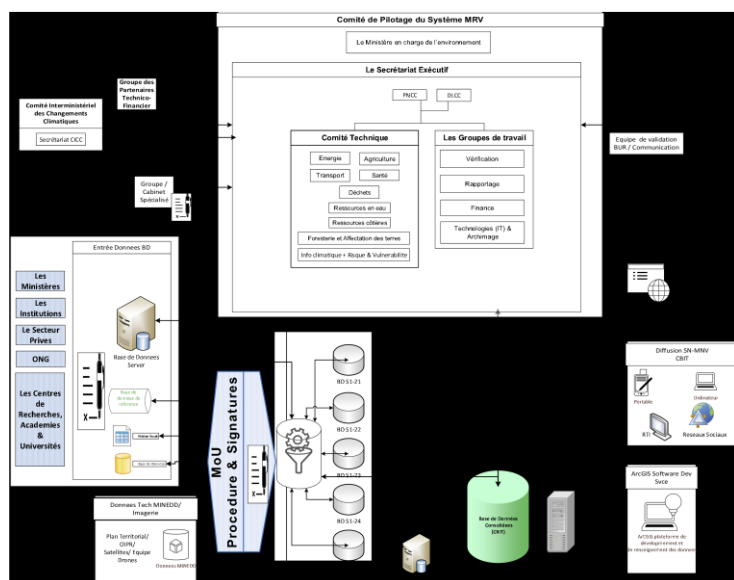
At Project start, the available national GHG inventories series concerned the whole IPCC recommended modules (energy, industry, AFOLU and waste) but the methodology used was the old 1996 IPCC guidelines, with only national inventories carried out under the FBUR conducted according to the 2006 IPCC guidelines. Therefore, Côte d'Ivoire did not have quality and accurate specific emissions data, prepared according to the most updated methodologies. In addition, these tasks were heavily conducted by external consultants, with a consequent paramount need to strengthen the institutional technical capacities of public servants. Under this component, the Project was able to: i) train 59 beneficiaries (only 6 women) in two different sessions on the 2006 IPCC methodologies and the inventories for the three most emitting sectors, that is Agriculture, Forestry and Energy; the training included mostly ministries' public servants but also 3 persons from the national statistic institution, 5 from public research centres and 8 from the academia, and only one person from CSO; this represents an exceeded results with relation to the target. Trainings were generally appreciated in content but those conducted online left participants unsatisfied for the lack of opportunities to meet and interact; commendably, it is envisaged to repeat some of the trainings now that the COVID 19

situation normalized and in-presence meetings can be done; ii) GHG emission inventories were recalculated using the 2006 IPCC methodologies for the Energy, Agriculture and Forestry sectors – the key emitting sectors in the country – while the waste and industry sectors, which account for a minimal share of emissions, were not calculated. The exercise led to the identification and reporting of the inconsistencies found with respect to the previous calculations which used outdated methodologies, a key element for the future improvement of national climate change communications; iii) an analytical study of the level 2 EF was developed for the three concerned sectors, a QA/QC Manual of Procedures was prepared and data management improved, overall allowing to improve activity data, transparency and country specific EF for the new GHG inventories.

### C.2/O.2. A domestic MRV system designed.

The design of a MRV system is an indispensable tool for tracking the progress of mitigation actions' policies towards a country NDCs and the commitments taken during the PA in terms of reducing GHG emissions every five years. The *conditio sine qua non* to design this system were i) the revision of the information of Côte d'Ivoire's NDCs to align them with the PA new commitments; ii) the establishment of an appropriate institutional and legal framework, with relative protocols and commitments taken for data management; iii) the establishment of an Information System (IS), with purchase and installation of IT software and hardware tools and evidently iv) capacity building/strengthening.

The revision of the NDCs – under a multiple partners financing project involving the French Agency for Development (ADF); the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the German GTZ; the International Labor Organization (ILO); the EU; UNDP; the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), and the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) - has been a lengthy process; as NDCs were submitted to UNFCCC



in May 2022 after having been validated in a national workshop, it was only after that data that the activity for the design of the MRV could be started; even if the ground had already been prepared under Component 1 - preparing a more enabling legal and institutional framework - and partly under component 2.1 with some of the trainings implemented and the recalculations of the GHGs inventories, most of the work for this component has been conducted in 2022, the last year of Project implementation. Various training activities were organized for national actors to understand the steps and procedures of this system and then validate it. The importance of setting up protocols with all sectors

involved for the proper functioning of the system was clearly manifested and the MoUs already prepared under Component 1 were revisited to include the sharing and management of the national MRV, identifying the types of data to be considered for GHG emissions, mitigation and other actions. The process cannot be considered complete as protocols can be set up for each type of data needed and the setting up of the MRV is still ongoing; this means that the MoUs have not yet been signed and can still be object of revision.

The establishment of the MRV online platform is well advanced (IT equipment purchased and functioning of the system designed) but not yet completed as it was possible to appreciate from a demo done by the technicians to the TE evaluator; MoUs for the protocols have to be validated and signed before any testing of the system can be done. The system – which will be hosted in MESD and managed through the NPCC - is conceived with four modules: i) National Context, looking at population, economy and energy needs; ii) GHG based on the NDCs; iii) Mitigation Measures (by region and by sector); and iv) Financial resources, including

those received and those needed. The system has the potentiality of integrating other existing M&E system (i.e. the REDD+); it is set to be gender sensitive and includes a feature as well for the youth and for the private sector; yet, the three features are still to be well defined.

Clearly, the system will be as effective as users will be willing to share and therefore to feed it with data (at present no resistance is envisaged in the ministries with which the MoU are going to be signed) and according to the quality of the data available. The process will certainly lead to evidence the need for more quantity and quality data, including technical collection methods challenges. A focal point is being nominated in each involved ministry, responsible for feeding the system with data, which will be centrally revised and validated, according to the QA/QC processes. The effective functioning of the system is contained in the Procedures Manual which has been specifically elaborated.

This component/output also included lessons learned sessions and peer exchange programs at the regional and international level which have been successfully organized, as documented below in the Communication section and in Annex E, with the PRF matrix. Mid-term achievements on this component were presented at international level during the COP 26 in Glasgow, receiving positive feedback and interest.

### **C.3/O.1. Progress tracking tool on NDCs and transparency in place.**

Advancement under this component has been particularly slow as the development of a long-term climate strategy and methodologies to monitor progress in the implementation of NDCs could only be developed after the submission of the NDCs to the UNFCCC which – as mentioned - occurred only in May 2022.

The NDCs are updated every 5 years to reflect commitments taken within the PA. The information contained in the NDCs has been revised, including the revision of the quality of the baseline projections for GHG emissions and mitigation targets for each sector, based on the new data collected; these activities were not conducted primarily under the CBIT Project but under the NDC project, with an effective reciprocal support and collaboration between different partners and financiers, where the CBIT Project provided support for the creation of a more conducive legal (draft Climate Change Law) and institutional (creation of GENECC and preparation of MoUs) to ensure an inclusive and participatory process and inter-ministerial collaboration; the development of a NDC methodological approach; the support structure through a joint PSC and the coordination unit at MESD/NPCC. The 2022 NDCs express a more ambitious reduction target which moved from the previous 28% to 30,48% up to 2030.

Overall although half of the outcomes were dependent on the revision process of the NDCs and its submission to the UNFCCC, *conditio sine qua non* for the MRV system and for tracking the progress on NDCs implementation, management was able to have the key stakeholders engaged through the organization of technical workshops, trainings and validation sessions, defining roles and responsibilities and sustaining a capacity building and commitment process.

### **Communication and knowledge management.**

Knowledge management has been continuous, with a number of events and face-to-face meetings held to share best practices and lessons learnt. The Covid-19 pandemic restricted the in-person modality and prevented many events to be organized; yet, it also provided the opportunity to share Project results outside of the region through an online modality. The Project participated in a wide variety of workshops and conferences, transmitting knowledge and lessons learnt in national, regional and even outside the West African ECOWAS region. Meetings, workshops and validation sessions are well documented:

- participation in the COP 26 in Glasgow, in November 2021 presenting mid-term project achievements in order to benefit from new partnerships;
- a working session held with GIZ and the MRV Community of Practice in February 2022, to share Côte d'Ivoire's approach to establishing a robust national MRV system.;
- a meeting with GGGI to share the experience of designing a sectoral MRV;



- two working sessions with the NAP project on a climate change adaptation MRV in April and June 2022;
- the African Day of Ecology and Climate Change, in October 2021 which allowed to share experiences and results on QA/QC on the conduct of GHG emission inventories for Côte d'Ivoire;
- the National Seminar on Adaptation to Climate Change, in May 2022 which provided the opportunity to disseminate Project's good practices in terms of institutional arrangements which may sustain climate adaptation and mitigation actions;
- COP 15 on the fight against desertification held in Abidjan in May 2022 which was an opportunity to share experiences and best practices on GHG inventories and the results of studies undertaken in the CBIT Project;.

Importantly, in September 2022, a national structured dialogue on transparency has been organized by the Project. In addition, a large public has been reached in awareness raising activities and events organized by various partners involving the CBIT Project (regional forum of youth on waste management in climate change approach organized by Magic System Foundation and IFDD in Nov 2020 and May 2021; Africa Green Days organized by Green Invest Africa in May 2021; "Quinzaine Nationale de l'Environnement", organized by MESD in June 2020 and June 2021). A discographic work (audio and video clip) on climate change initiated by the Project has been a powerful tool/mean to raise awareness on climate change issue. The author of the music "Il Faut Agir" - is [Pat Saco](#), performing the well-known [Zouglou](#) urban style. 15 artists, active in the fight against climate change, have also been trained.

#### Social media site:

- <https://www.facebook.com/PnccCi/posts/306927674417663>
- <https://www.facebook.com/PnccCi/posts/285522623224835>
- <https://www.facebook.com/PnccCi/posts/190656046044827>
- <https://www.facebook.com/events/2126329654168378/?ti=ls>

#### Media coverage sites:

- [https://www.aipci.net/cote-divoire-aip-des-experts-formes-sur-la-methodologie-et-loutil-de-calcul-des-emissions-de-gaz-a-effet-de-serre/?fbclid=IwAR3YZOcalBf7n8pwmYuwf4xhJkNxpVpbzO6wtPNZRLZ-j\\_oLp3fSEI2iyJ7M](https://www.aipci.net/cote-divoire-aip-des-experts-formes-sur-la-methodologie-et-loutil-de-calcul-des-emissions-de-gaz-a-effet-de-serre/?fbclid=IwAR3YZOcalBf7n8pwmYuwf4xhJkNxpVpbzO6wtPNZRLZ-j_oLp3fSEI2iyJ7M)
- <https://www.afriquegreenside.com/lutte-contre-les-changements-climatiques-la-cote-divoire-realise-des-avancees-notables/>
- <https://www.afriquegreenside.com/changement-climatique-un-systeme-de-transparence-pour-renforcer-laction-climatique-en-cote-divoire/>
- <https://news.abidjan.net/galleries/49106/changements-climatiques-atelier-de-validation-des-etudes-rapportage-et-verification-de-la-cote-divoire>
- <https://www.facebook.com/102661524844280/posts/pfbid0oh3u25RZ6hfurRMVY6e6PgJ5G6KVSPAHvYuA7BFAsDj1NuF2o1H288uDaW77mfjCl/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/102661524844280/posts/pfbid0u8EPEDEEDP92CCYyBrN3EVbBomHMk1GNNmiZ71j44cJnGfYXhMNMU Gnqbt9sQsWGI/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/102661524844280/posts/pfbid0nMqdNnpkt4j3Rhxag4HZnv1Sq6XL1maMRccUZcm94DzaAMZgKJhBG8RougQRMu3Xl/>
- <https://www.facebook.com/102661524844280/posts/pfbid02vtT6dT81u3Mfe19unEvcW8gwQwmV3HKOXYCSxv6s6aWp1TyvkgYW5ASEATwJ5Jpol/>
- <https://climat-civ.org/Publication/Atelier%20de%20validation%20du%20rapport%20d%E2%80%99%C3%A9tude%20de%20faisabilit%C3%A9%20du%20syst%C3%A8me%20des%20MRV%20en%20mati%C3%A8re%20de%20l%E2%80%99adaptation%20et%20d%E2%80%99att%C3%A9nuation%20aux%20changements%20climatiques>
- <https://news.abidjan.net/galleries/48659/atelier-de-sensibilisation-et-dechanges-relatif-a-lavant-projet-de-loi-sur-les-changements-climatiques-en-cote-divoire>

#### 4.4.1.3 Efficiency

Management is rated as [Moderately Satisfactory](#), in line with the rating given in PIRs by both the RTA and UNDP CO. Originally conceived during the 2016 COP in Marrakesh, the CBIT project was endorsed by CEO in March 2019, signed in August and effectively started in November of the same year, with an acceptable delay for the implementation of the Inception Workshop, within the three allowed months from commencement.

The [disbursement rate](#) showed a difficult curve during most of the implementation. Management was effective in achieving the products of outcome 1.1 and 2.1. and less effective with those outcomes strictly

linked to the availability of the revised NDCs. If most inefficiencies can be imputed to externalities such as the COVID 19 situation - which has impacted the efficiency of most international projects in the world - and the late elaboration of the NDCs - which was the responsibility of another project - , the coordination team is responsible for planning and financial weaknesses. Although the NIM is the common modality in Côte d'Ivoire for GEF projects, this was the first time for the PNCC specific unit, which was therefore challenged with evident repercussions over the efficiency with which procurement of goods and recruitment of experts was done. In the final phase of the Project, the support of the UNDP CO greatly speeded up recruitment and procurement, boosting the disbursement rate to a cumulative final 99,44%, with a minor saving of USD 6.364; yet, this happened through a procedure approved internally to the PSC, not formally requested and not formally granted by headquarters as it should have been done. Trainings in the UNDP POPP procedures were implemented, involving 20 technicians (7 women) on the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfer (HACT) and 22 technicians (11 women) on public procurements. Savings resulting from the implementation of online trainings required a reallocation of funds. A NIM audit has been implemented.

The PC changed towards the end of implementation but was substituted by one of his assistants, therefore a person already knowledgeable with project activities and content; in addition, the first PC was appointed by UNDP at global level for a Climate Transparency post and working home-based, therefore still able to contribute to the Côte d'Ivoire transparency system. [Cost-effectiveness](#) results by the steering of three climate change related projects under the same PSC, with appreciable synergies and mutual support.

Overall, it is fair to say that under UNDP CO financial support and quality assurance and the strategic guidance of the PSC, the CBIT Project was able to achieve most end products and to create the conditions for a future significant impact on the transparency actions for climate change, with quite limited financial resources.

#### 4.4.2 Sustainability

Sustainability is partly built into Project design, adopting an integrated approach to fight climate change by linking up this small but instrumental project with two other projects, respectively for revising the NDCs and for elaborating the NAP. The MoMs of the PSC well document the way in which the teams of the three projects have constantly shared information, created complementarities and synergies and provided mutual support. The basis of sustainability in CBIT projects are the efforts to create a conducive legal and institutional framework which in this case translates into the drafting of the Climate Change Law, the creation of GENEC and the adoption of MoUs to ensure the appropriate sharing and management of climate change related data; these efforts are a recognition of climate change as a cross-cutting impact factor for the country's economic and social development and commitment taken at inter-ministerial level to face the challenges. Partners have been fully integrated in the consultative process since Project start and interviews confirm interest and appreciation for the trainings and technical assistance received; notwithstanding, there is a general call for a second phase of support given the limited means put at the disposal of this Project and the strong need to sustain achievements, with a requirement for more training and a more effective involvement of the private sector and civil society in the fight for climate change.

Sustainability	Rating
Financial Resources	Moderately Likely
Socio-Political	Likely
Institutional Framework and governance	Likely
Environmental	Likely
Overall Likelihood of Sustainability	Likely

##### 4.4.2.1 Financial risks to sustainability

The fight against climate change is increasingly being recognized in the country as a cross-cutting contributing factor to the economic and social development of the country. The political will exists to create an enabling legal and institutional framework to seriously consider all climate actions necessary to sustain the country's development as well as responding to international requirements and commitments. In addition to GEF and

UNDP, various donors are contributing complementary investments, among others the recently started EU low carbon project and it is likely that advantage will be taken of all opportunities for international support; yet, there is clearly the need to sustain processes started and continue training and awareness raising; therefore, a financial analysis and plan are necessary to ensure that at a certain moment national financing will be available to support the instruments created for the collection, sharing and managing of climate data and for feeding and managing the MRV system.

Expectantly, as the legal and institutional context improve and as local capacities are built and developed, awareness increased and a larger number of civil servants and also citizens understand the challenges of climate change, the need for external support and services may reduce.

#### **4.4.2.2 Socio-political risks to sustainability**

The socio-political risk to sustainability can be considered minimal as institutional stakeholders and citizens are increasingly becoming aware of the cross cutting importance of the fight against climate change as a key factor for social and economic development in Côte d'Ivoire.

A large number of awareness raising and achievements sharing activities have been implemented at national, regional and also international level, some of which with a certain degree of creativity and greatly appreciated such as the training provided to a number of artists involved in climate protection, and especially to Pat Saco who produced a song and video clip, based on the national Zouglou, a dance oriented style of music, originated in urban environments in the country during the mid-1990s, reporting the youth's experiences and carries humorous/political messages; Pat Saco is a recognized exponent of this movement.

#### **4.4.2.3 Institutional framework and governance risks to sustainability**

The involvement of stakeholders in project activities, the commitments taken, roles and missions defined for GENECE bring about chances of institutional sustainability. Actors have correctly and synergistically been protagonist, reaching important results such as, the draft Law on Climate Change, the creation of GENECE, the design of a number of MoUs with line ministries to define roles and commitments regarding the collection of GHGs data to further extend them to the activities for the functioning of the MRV, starting the elaboration of a long-term climate change strategy. As the MRV system is still being operationalized, MoUs can be still object of revision and are not yet signed. GENECE is also in the process of being institutionalized but the process is uncomplete as the Law on Climate Change is still following its political and bureaucratic process of political and parliamentary approval.

These are key elements of institutional sustainability; the political will is reconfirmed from various stakeholders and signs are there that processes can be sustainable although at present are all mostly ongoing, incomplete and in evolution. SODEXAM represents an important reference being the IPCC focal point and having strongly participated in the baseline study for the GENECE which is structured similarly to the IPCC but at the national level for the data distribution protocols. The institutional and technical sustainability and ownership of the MRV system is a function of: i) the commitments to collect, share and manage data; ii) the commitments to ensure the IT functioning of the online platform; iii) the training received by officials; iv) its being hosted within MESD and managed through the NPCC.

Trainings implemented and the institutional framework set up are conducive, as are the innovative or updated technical and scientific means to produce GHG reporting. The tools developed have made it possible to strengthen skills and allow transfer of knowledge. Yet, all these elements require further consolidation at all levels, including further training, further involvement of actors (private sector and civil society *in primis*) even at territorial level, further awareness raising activities. Commendably, some of the training which was done online without satisfaction for the participants will be repeated now that the situation with the pandemic has normalized. No MoU has been reached with the private sector and many stakeholders point to the need for the involvement of both the private sector and civil society for an effective governance of



climate change and climate justice in Côte d'Ivoire. Noteworthy that the NDCs and NAP projects, which are complementary and implemented in strict collaboration with the CBIT Project, have included various activities to involve and reinforce the capacities of the private sector and civil society, as it is possible to appreciate from the MoMs of the PSC. Finally, the NIM approach has reinforced capacities but for the MESD/NPCC to be fully in charge of this modality further training and support may be needed.

#### **4.4.2.4 Environmental risks to sustainability**

Project's activities are tailored towards environmental and climate sustainability. It is unlikely that the Project produces effects challenging the environment. During the implementation of the Project, the Government has revised its NDCs increasing its ambitions, from the previous 28% to 30,41%, corresponding to a reduction of 37 million tons CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent of GHG, considering the different sectors with a horizon to 2030.

Awareness raising activities are key for environmental sustainability and some creative activities are contributing to raise awareness among the population. Further efforts should be made to target the private sector, civil society and women in training and awareness raising activities.

#### **4.4.3 Country Ownership**

Country ownership has been extensively reported above, describing alignment of activities with national development policies and plans. The Project is in line with the requirements of and the commitments taken with the UNFCCC, the Paris Agreement and CBIT-GEF objectives; it is as well a direct answer to the needs identified by the NSCC in terms of transparency for climate change. MESD and NPCC have taken the lead for successfully setting up a legal and institutional enabling environment, establishing technical tools for the collection of GHGs data and for managing the MRV, and implementing awareness raising and training activities related, fully involving civil servants as well as the non-government sector. A solid collaboration is emerging between MESD and line ministries, especially those identified as belonging to key emitting sectors. Government co-financing, which is more than doubled of original pledges, and the joint steering of three climate change related projects under the same PSC are clear signs of interest and commitment.

The involvement of the private sector and of civil society is still incipient and more should be done to ensure ownership at this level. As women are those most at risk from the adverse effects of climate change, gender disaggregated data collection should be at the highest level of interest and appear in all related activities.

#### **4.4.4 Gender equality and women's empowerment**

The Project is rated as GEN 2 or gender equality being as a significant objective, with activities tailored to improving the participation of men and women on an equality basis to training activities and in consultative and decision-making forums and practice gender-sensitive recruitment whenever possible. The Gender Analysis and Gender Action Plan included in the Pro Doc were of a satisfactory quality, with a request to consider women's contribution to the development of a climate change transparency framework in line with the PA and to assess how their participation in project activities would create opportunities so that women could contribute their knowledge and experience to strengthen the national transparency framework and create an enabling environment for a better climate change policy planning.

The CBIT Project has not directly monitored indicators of its Gender Action Plan; it was through the NAP project that the CBIT and the NDCs projects have considered the gender sensitivity of their activities. Effectively, under the NAP and still under the responsibility of the NPCC, a Structured Gender and Climate National Dialogue has been promoted as a forum of discussion and exchange of experiences and strengthening of capacities; a MoU has been signed between MESD and the Ministry of Women, Children and Family in October 2021. In 2019, a Gender and Climate Change National Strategy (2020-2024) was elaborated. These activities aim at analyzing the different roles and responsibilities of women and men in the mechanisms of emissions and/or reduction of GHG in terms of mitigation and adaptation. Interviews and documental reviews confirm that the CBIT efforts, with an encouraging quota of 30% of women envisaged

among the members of GENECE. The Project contributed to the establishment of the Climate Change Gender Platform, under the NAP project through studies tailored to mainstream gender and social inclusion aspects in climate change mitigation actions and ensure their empowerment through increased knowledge and capacities. Nonetheless, women participation remains below objectives and unsatisfactory: the number of participating women is well below the involvement of man and the gender-sensitivity of the MRV is still not completely defined.

#### 4.4.5 Cross-cutting issues

The fight against climate change is a cross-cutting factor for the economic and social development of the country; this is widely and increasingly being recognized by institutional stakeholders and even beyond. The CBIT Project directly contributes towards the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development. During Project implementation, a number of legal and regulatory measures have been taken towards the fight against climate change such as drafting the Climate Change Law, setting up an inter-ministerial group of experts to discuss and agree the ways to share and manage climate change related data and setting up an integrated MRV system; the Project directly contributes towards SDG N. 13 Fight against Climate Change.

Involving a large number of institutions at national and local level, including the academia is paramount; to further respond to the specific human right of wide and equitable delivery of information and benefits, further efforts are needed to better involve NGOs, CSOs, the private sector and end beneficiaries; attention to women participation is registered but the effective involvement of women is still below equity. Activities with the artists and the production of video clips such as the one produced by the Ivorian singer Pat Saco – *We need to Act: let's save the planet (Il faut agir: sauvons la planète)* proved to have an important impact in raising awareness of end beneficiaries; Pat Saco is a recognized representative of the Zouglou, which is an Ivorian urban and popular musical genre, which texts report the reality of the young Ivorian people, providing - often with an humoristic style – peace and justice messages.

The Project is well integrated in the UNDP environment portfolio, generating added value to other projects and contributing to the national policy discussion on climate change mitigation and adaptation.

The implementation of a transparency system is innovative for Côte d'Ivoire and the joint steering of three climate change related projects, finding synergies and mutual reinforcement, is an asset; the experience of implementing a transparency framework for climate change - of paramount importance for environmental but also for socio-economic governance and therefore in poverty alleviation – has been shared at regional level, as it is certainly relevant for other countries in the region, sharing similar priority needs; interestingly, the former PC has been appointed for a UNDP global post overlooking transparency issue, therefore well placed to share and collect experiences.

Sharing of experience, leveraging knowledge and skills for replication and upscaling is in line with the UNDP's approach to support South-South and Triangular Cooperation to maximize the impact of development, hasten poverty eradication, and accelerate the achievement of SDGs. Management has participated in a number of events in the region and also at international level, sharing experiences, partnering and looking for additional support as it is documented above in the section on communication. Peer exchange programs at the regional level through the collaboration with the South-South ECOWAS network allowed to capitalize on lessons learned and good practices in the form of newsletter, brochure, and articles.

#### 4.4.6 GEF additionality

In terms of [GEF's additionality](#), the CBIT Project definitely helps institutional stakeholders to approach a transformational change for climate change through an integrated approach in partnership with linked projects, making transparency on climate change a shared objective and an important element of the Government's planning and policies. Sustainable environmental and climate change management results from increasing the capacities of diverse stakeholders to understand the importance of producing meaningful data, sharing and managing them as well as reporting in a way to answer international requirements and

commitments. Efforts to create a conducive legal and institutional environment promote critical thinking at institutional level, informing decision-making.

Working on transparency is innovative for Côte d'Ivoire and it is quite blessing that the first PC has been assigned to a UNDP global post on climate transparency. Much more can be done with an effective involvement of stakeholders outside the government, especially the private sector which plays a key role in climate change and may become an important partner in development instead than an obstacle as well as civil society for equity reasons and for socially sustaining the actions promoted.

#### 4.4.7 Catalytic/Replication Effect

Project results have been documented and shared through a number of national, regional and international events and also web-based platforms, providing access to the knowledge generated. Aiming at sharing best practices and lessons learned to other countries facing similar challenges under the reinforced transparency framework, the catalytic and replication potential of the activities are likely:

- as development partners and other projects join efforts and continue collaborating and sharing opportunities, i.e. other GEF-UNDP projects in Côte d'Ivoire such as the NAP, the closing multiple funders NDCs project, and the recently started Low Carbon project financed by the EU;
- as national institutions continue to collaborate and reinforce ties and collaborative agreements;
- as knowledge management, awareness raising and training activities reach out to other partners and beneficiaries, especially local authorities and research centers but also the private sector and civil society;
- as information is shared outside of Côte d'Ivoire through the GEF and UNDP channels to increase the possibilities for South-South cooperation, i.e. ECOWAS member countries through the CBIT Global Coordination Platform.

#### 4.4.7 Progress to Impact

**Impact is slowly manifesting.** The main objective of the Project is to increase the capacities of Côte d'Ivoire in the area of transparency, according to the decisions of the PA on Climate Change and thereby to achieve its goals related to low carbon emissions development. Undoubtedly, the PA marked a new era in climate policy and a new imperative to accelerate climate action with an ultimate goal to hold the increase in global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to ensure that efforts are pursued to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C. All countries were called to review their NDCs to reducing GHGs emissions every five years, adopting more ambitious commitments. The revision of the NDCs in Côte d'Ivoire was completed only in May 2022, delaying the development of the MRV system which is a key support for decision-making as a platform for permanent exchanges and monitoring NDCs in the country. As mentioned, the revised NDCs establish an increase from the previous 28% emission reduction target to 30,41%, which includes the forestry sector, previously not considered and instead being one of the most emitting sectors; this is estimated to cost about 22 million USD and to produce a reduction of 37 million tons CO<sub>2</sub>, with a horizon to 2030.

As the previous sections of this document and interviews confirm, formally most targets and products have been achieved but – one year after Project's closure - without the signatures, institutionalization and adoption that would account for impact. The assumption that a strong leadership of MESD, through the NPCC, could lead to an effective engagement and commitment of sectoral ministries proved effective although this is and remains a process.

Concrete results are appreciable and encouraging; yet, political and bureaucratic processes are slowing down: i) the adoption of the new legal framework which signals the political willingness to fulfill the country's obligations towards the UNFCCC and the PA; ii) the institutionalization of GENECE, as a required interinstitutional mechanism for the sustainability and functioning of the all system; and iii) the signature of the 8 MoUs which seal the partnership between MESD and line ministries, with protocols for collecting,

sharing and managing climate data. The MoUs, originally envisaged only for the collection of GHG data, have been expanded to include collaboration and guidance for the MRV system and the revision is still ongoing.

Evidently policies will be successful only if fully implemented and tracking their progress is paramount. The MRV system is an indispensable supporting tool for decision-making with regard to mitigation actions and strategies, informing governments on the status of their NDCs and on compliance with the PA Enhanced Transparency Framework; it allows for accountability, documenting: 1) reductions in GHG emissions, 2) co-benefits of sustainable development such as job creation, wealth creation, among others, and 3) support (received or provided). The MRV is conceived as a system possibly integrating other sector specific M&E systems, i.e. the one created for the REDD+ in the forestry sector, with tasks decentralized to line ministries to ensure long-term sustainability and ownership and with provision of continuous training of dedicated team members.

Interviews reveal enthusiasm, commitment and an increasing recognition of the importance of a climate transparency framework and of the significance of fighting climate change as a cross-cutting factor for the country's social and economic development. Trainings allowed to build/increase institutional capacities for data collection and management, overall contributing to reduce the dependency on external consultants; nonetheless, various stakeholders point to the need for further training, especially for the management of the MRV. In addition, the system is designed to be gender-sensitive but efforts to involve women in climate change related activities are still below equity and requirements. The collection of sex-disaggregated data is paramount considering that climate change tends to have worse impact on women than on men due to their specific roles in agriculture and forestry.

## 5. CONCLUSIONS, LESSONS LEARNT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

### **5.1 Conclusions**

---

The Project is **relevant** in relation to the GEF CBIT strategies, aligned with UNDP policies and plans and instrumental for implementing national policies and legislation to fight climate change and to reach the necessary transparency. The Project develops in parallel to other internationally and nationally financed actions to which it is a complement and an integration. It certainly responds to the national context and needs to acquire the necessary tools and skills to respond to the UNFCCC and PA requirements but also to the needs of end women and men beneficiaries who suffer the nefarious consequences of climate change.

The Project construction is solid and has kept relevance and validity throughout the various implementation phases. Project design has never been challenged and even the system of indicators remained validated as outlined in the request for approval endorsed by CEO. The Project is a direct answer to some of the barriers identified in the NCCS 2015-2020. Over implementation, it remained coherent with the programmatic axes and priorities of the government.

Within the UNDP policy to strengthen Government capacities, the NIM modality chosen is appropriate but it requires substantial support from the UNDP CO and appropriate training, especially when the management unit is new to the process as it was for the NPCC. As most projects implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic era, **management had to adapt** and found virtual alternatives to the face-to-face meetings. **Management is rated moderately satisfactory** due to delays in the recruitment of consultants and in procurement which are only in part attributable to the pandemic and more to financial management weaknesses; nonetheless, under the guidance of the PSC, activities resumed and accelerated during the last year of implementation, overall allowing a **satisfactory performance**. The greatest obstacle was the late preparation of the revised NDCs which were submitted to UNFCCC only in May 2022 and were a pre-condition for the preparation of key deliverables such as the MRV; this delay is not attributable to the CBIT management team.

Capacities have increased, a MRV system is under construction and a solid interinstitutional collaboration is set up; yet, political and bureaucratic barriers are still impeding that these results are adopted and institutionalized. **Management is effective** in obtaining results, leading the strategies, bringing at the same table sectoral ministries and institutions while other efforts are required to fully involve the private sector, the academia and civil society. The Project has reached most of the targets of the indicators; reporting could have included the analysis of the significance of achievements instead than limiting to a plain reporting against the major indicators.

Much remains to be done to consolidate achievements. **Institutionally**: the setup is sound but the institutionalization of GENE, the signature of the MoUs and the adoption of the Climate Change Law are not yet a reality; **financially**: management counts on external support, at least for the time being; as the political will is there, it is expected that financial resources will be allocated to make the operationalization of the system sustainable but to date a proper financial analysis to develop a system of self-financing is lacking; **socio-economically**: awareness raising activities have been effective to show the importance of the processes started to fight climate change and to reach transparency. Overall, chances for **sustainability** are fragile but likely as interviews reveal a keen interest of stakeholders and even enthusiasm to ensure that results are effectively integrated in long-term strategies and plans, with the transparency required, widely recognizing that climate change has evident consequences over the life of men and women and on the economic and social development of the country.

**Impact** cannot be fully appreciated until the adoption and formalization of the legal and institutional framework is completed but the process is started and the political willingness confirmed; theoretically, this has only to follow the normal political and bureaucratic course.

## 5.2 Lessons Learnt

---

The CBIT Project has generated in Côte d'Ivoire a number of useful lessons in the country for MESD - which remains in charge of climate change related activities - but also for the region, especially for those countries sharing similar objectives for their climate change transparency systems.

**L.1 The use of the NIM modality with a new government unit requires training.** NIM is the usual modality for GEF projects in Côte d'Ivoire; this does not automatically mean that any government unit charged with management will have the capacity to follow UNDP/GEF financial procedures, as it happened for the PNCC which was involved for the first time. A previous micro-assessment of capacities was done but training in POPP and HACH as well as harmonization with government procurement procedures were done at a later stage and not before project start.

**L.2 Changing approaches, attitudes and mindset takes time.** The Project starts manifesting impact because activities are implemented around a more favorable regulatory and institutional context and in parallel to other internationally financed activities, which share the same PSC; yet, adopting and institutionalizing the climate change law and the institutional set up takes the time that the political and bureaucratic processes normally require and many activities involve constant updating to evolving situations; therefore, it takes time, even more when the context becomes unexpectedly difficult (as with the occurrence of COVID 19) and local expertise is not available (requiring multiple launches of tenders for recruiting consultants to undertake envisaged studies).

**L.3. The fight against climate change is a cross-cutting issue for which transparency is paramount and requires a large consultative process at government but also at non-government level, with an effective leadership.** Impact is manifesting because MESD-PNCC are fully appropriate of the actions proposed and effectively promote a national dialogue across sectors. Yet, a holistic analysis and approach can only manifest if all stakeholders are involved and much remains to be done to have the private sector and civil society as full actors of these processes.

**L.4. Information and awareness raising are key activities, the effect of which is amplified when creativity is used so to reach all sectors of society.** Training and support given to artists and the involvement of a renowned representative of the nationally developed Zouglou music have been quite appreciated and effective in raising awareness among the population, especially the youth.

**L.5 Collaboration with other projects is not only important for the synergies created but it is part of the strategy to face hindrances.** Experience shows that the sharing of information through the PSC's meetings leads to effective collaboration, synergies and amplification of processes; i.e. the monitoring of the gender component, included in the three projects, is mostly taken care by the NAP project which established the Gender and Climate Platform; the involvement of the private sector – less effective in the CBIT project – is well addressed in the NDCs project activities.

**L.6 The link between gender and climate challenges remains not widely understood.** It is not enough to establish targets in the PRF to ensure gender equity; in climate change related projects, all parties should be well aware that climate data needs to be gender-disaggregated as the consequences of climate change are worse on women than on men and this aspect should be at the centre of the decision-making process. The establishment of a Gender and Climate Platform and the promotion of a Structured National Gender and Climate Dialogue under the NAP project is a point of reference for other climate-related projects as the CBIT.

## 5.2 Recommendations

---

The Project is closed and recommendations should be tailored to improve the sustainability of its actions and to share experiences to inform the design of similar projects. It is noted that a number of stakeholders call for a CBIT second phase. The rationale for an eventual CBIT II lies in the fact that the Project has operated with minimal financial means and it has evidently created a process. A second CBIT is not envisaged at UN level and the Consultant does not consider this to be made a recommendation as the institutionalization and adoption of certain processes/products follow a political and bureaucratic process to which the investment of financial resources will not make the difference; yet, technically there are still barriers and a few recommendations are included in the table below.



Table N.11 Recommendations

N.	Recommendation	Responsible entity	Timeframe
<b>A</b>	<b>Design – Management - Monitoring &amp; Evaluation</b>		
<b>A.1</b>	<b>Ensure that projects adopting NIM, with a government unit used for the first time have received training previous to implementation.</b> NIM is the usual modality for GEF projects in the country but when a new unit is involved, training for financial/procurement management should be provided prior to implementation to ensure respect of UNDP/GEF procedures and harmonization with national rules.	GEF and UNDP CO	For future projects
<b>B</b>	<b>Sustainability</b>		
<b>B.1</b>	<b>Continue training and awareness activities.</b> The repetition of some training is envisaged to counteract the unsatisfaction of trainees who had to adapt to the online modality due to the pandemic, without the opportunity for interacting. This is welcomed and should be pursued together with additional training for the management of the MRV - which will be initially challenging and will probably lead to new requirements for involving less emitting but also important sectors, for correcting discrepancies emerging using new and updated methodologies and last but not least for the ways data are collected and not only shared to feed the MRV system. Gender and climate change training should also be considered.	MESD/PNCC and if funding available also UNDP CO	Under other ongoing climate-related projects
<b>B.2</b>	<b>Consolidate the national dialogue on climate change, increasingly opening to NGOs, civil society and the private sector.</b> Although the NDCs project has made efforts to involve the private sector and civil society, more could be done for a more inclusive participation, beyond the government institutional level.	MESD/PNCC	Under other ongoing climate-related projects
<b>B.3</b>	<b>Develop a financial analysis and financial plan for the financing of the MRV.</b> The design of the MRV has not envisaged a structured financial analysis for the operationalization of the MRV; this is urgent and should be conceived as a phased out approach, with probable initial international support to be slowly substituted by a government budget for recurrent expenditures and operationalization.	MESD/PNCC	Under other ongoing climate-related projects

## **Annex A – Terms of Reference.**

## **Annex B – Documents consulted/available for consultation**

### **General documents**

- TORs for the Terminal Evaluation
- UNDP Guidance for Conducting Terminal Evaluation of UNDP-Supported, GEF-Financed Projects (2020 revision)
- Cadre de Coopération des Nations Unis pour le développement durable Côte d'Ivoire 2021-2025
- Côte d'Ivoire National Development Plan 2016-2020 and 2021-2025
- First Nationally Determined Contribution
- UNDP Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP)
- Inception Report of the first TE Consultant, (August 2022) together with Interviews Guidelines

### **Project documents**

- Project Document: Strengthening the transparency system for enhanced climate action in Côte d'Ivoire
- GEF Project Identification Form (PIF)
- Project Inception Workshop Report, November 2019
- CEO Endorsement Request and Letter
- Initial SESP
- Project Steering Committee MoMs: September 2021; January 2022, and December 2022
- Various national and UNDP reports, including ???
- Project, Project Implementation Reports, UNDP/GEF 2021 and 2022???
- Annual Work Plans
- Note to the File (relative to the passage from “NIM” to “supported NIM”
- Project Tracking Tools (Initial and Final)
- Original Gender Action Plan
- Co-financing letters: from MESD and from UNDP, both of August 2018
- Audit report
- Co-financing report
- Communication and Knowledge Management material
- List of related projects/initiatives contributing to project objectives
- Final Report of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), March 2022
- Excell file of NDC Adaption Indicators
- Excell file of NDC Mitigation Indicators
- Final Study for the elaboration of the MRV
- Procedure Manual for the MRV
- Final Report for the study to establish GENECE
- Musical Production Pat Saco Artist <https://youtu.be/hBN4D6i-da0?si=7Y6Qk5mrMsyxuNTt>

## **Annex C – Itinerary, and Institutions/People interviewed: October 2022 and October-November 2023**

<b>Task/Interview</b>	<b>Date – Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Contact</b>
<b>Interviews with the Implementing Agency UNDP and GEF staff in October 2023 by Elena Laura Ferretti</b>			
<b>-Bernard Brou</b> , Programme Analyst, UNDP CO	10/10/2023	Virtual	<a href="mailto:bernard.brou@undp.org">bernard.brou@undp.org</a>
<b>-Thania Eloina Felix Canedo</b> , UNDP RTA	10/10/2023	Virtual	<a href="mailto:thania.eloina.felix.canedo@undp.org">thania.eloina.felix.canedo@undp.org</a>
<b>Interviews with key stakeholders in October 2023 by Elena Laura Ferretti</b>			
<b>-Emmanuel Kouakou</b> , Consultant, PC, CBIT Project			kkemmanuel25@gmail.com
<b>-Richemond Assie</b> , former CBIT PC, MESD			richemond.assie@undp.org
<b>-Franck Anvou</b> , M&E Officer, MESD			franck.anvou@undp.org
Thierry Kouame, Officer responsible for the MRV, CBIT Project			thierry.kouame10@gmail.com
<b>Interviews conducted by the first TE consultant in August-September 2022</b>			
<b>-Yvette Adie</b> , Administrative and Financial Assistant, UNDP CO			yvette.adie@undp.org
<b>- Bernard Brou</b> , Programme Analyst, UNDP CO			<a href="mailto:bernard.brou@undp.org">bernard.brou@undp.org</a>
<b>-Richemond Assie</b> , former CBIT PC, now UNDP, Climate Transparency post			richemond.assie@undp.org
<b>-Frederick Zakpa</b> , NDC Project manager, Fight against Climate Change Sub-Direction, MESD			zakpafredericks@gmail.com
<b>-Irie</b> , Sub-Director Decentralized Programme Cooperation, MIS			iriejoed79@gmail.com
<b>-Mme Konne Maman and Mme Gnon</b> , Financial Management			konemam@hotmail.fr
<b>-Claude Koutoua</b> , General Confederation of Enterprises of Côte d'Ivoire (CGECI), member of PSC			kamonclaud@hotmai.fr
<b>-Loukou Benjamin</b> , Sub-Director M&E, Ministry of Planning and Development <b>-Adam Yebouah Nkrumah</b> , Sub-Director Studies and Programmes			loukou_benjamin@yahoo.fr
<b>-Mrs. Tanoh Florence</b> , Director Equity and Gender			tanohflorence5@gmail.com
<b>-Dje Kouakou Bernard</b> , National Focal Point, GIEC			dkouakou_b@yahoo.fr
<b>-Delpeche</b> , M&E Sub-Direction			tmdelpe@yahoo.fr
<b>-Bouadie</b> , Ministry of Agriculture, Direction for the promotion of the modernization of agricultural land			bouadi999@gmail.com
<b>-Ehui Temele-Raphael</b> , National Observatory of Equity and Gender			ehuit.raphael@gmail.com
<b>-Pat Saco</b> , Singer artist			zougloumag@yahoo.fr
-Tanoh Servais Antoine			servtano@yahoo.fr
-Dr. N'Guettia René			nguettiarene@yahoo.fr
-Keita Sekou, Consultant			sekkeith@gmail.com
-Mr. Coulibaly, Service Chief, Management of Project and Programmes, Ministry of Economy and Finances			
<b>Debriefing and final interviews</b>			
-Debriefing end of interview phase			

## **Annex D – UNEG Evaluation Consultant Agreement Form**

### **Evaluator 1:**

1. Must present information that is complete and fair in its assessment of strengths and weaknesses so that decisions or actions taken are well founded.
2. Must disclose the full set of evaluation findings along with information on their limitations and have this accessible to all affected by the evaluation with expressed legal rights to receive results.
3. Should protect the anonymity and confidentiality of individual informants. They should provide maximum notice, minimize demands on time, and respect people's right not to engage. Evaluators must respect people's right to provide information in confidence, and must ensure that sensitive information cannot be traced to its source. Evaluators are not expected to evaluate individuals, and must balance an evaluation of management functions with this general principle.
4. Sometimes uncover evidence of wrongdoing while conducting evaluations. Such cases must be reported discreetly to the appropriate investigative body. Evaluators should consult with other relevant oversight entities when there is any doubt about if and how issues should be reported.
5. Should be sensitive to beliefs, manners and customs and act with integrity and honesty in their relations with all stakeholders. In line with the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, evaluators must be sensitive to and address issues of discrimination and gender equality. They should avoid offending the dignity and self-respect of those persons with whom they come in contact in the course of the evaluation. Knowing that evaluation might negatively affect the interests of some stakeholders, evaluators should conduct the evaluation and communicate its purpose and results in a way that clearly respects the stakeholders' dignity and self-worth.
6. Are responsible for their performance and their product(s). They are responsible for the clear, accurate and fair written and/or oral presentation of study imitations, findings and recommendations.
7. Should reflect sound accounting procedures and be prudent in using the resources of the evaluation.
8. Must ensure that independence of judgement is maintained, and that evaluation findings and recommendations are independently presented.
9. Must confirm that they have not been involved in designing, executing or advising on the project being evaluated and did not carry out the project's Mid-Term Review.

### **Evaluation Consultant Agreement Form<sup>2</sup>**

#### **Agreement to abide by the Code of Conduct for Evaluation in the UN System**

**Name of Consultant:** Elena Laura Ferretti

**Name of Consultancy Organization** (where relevant): \_\_\_\_\_

**I confirm that I have received and understood and will abide by the United Nations Code of Conduct for Evaluation.**



Signed in Florence, Italy on November 2023

<sup>2</sup> [www.unevaluation.org/uneqcodeofconduct](http://www.unevaluation.org/uneqcodeofconduct)

## Annex E – PRF Matrix with rating and comments

### Coloring Legend

Green: Completed, indicator shows successful achievements	Yellow: Indicator shows expected completion by the EOP	Red: Indicator shows poor achievement – unlikely to be completed by project closure
---	--	---

Objective: Strengthen the capacities of Côte d'Ivoire in the area of transparency, according to the decisions of Paris Agreement on Climate Change and thereby to achieve its goals related to low carbon emission development.				
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	End of project target	Progress as of Nov 2023	Rating & Comment:
<b>01. IRRF</b> 1.4.2 – Extent to which implementation of comprehensive measures-plans, strategies, policies, programmes and budgets to achieve low emissions and climate resilient development objectives has improved 1. Not adequately 2. Very partially 3. Partially 4. Largely	-3	4 (with a Mid-Term target of 3)	-By EoP, the <a href="#">Law on Climate Change</a> to improve the transparency legislation was finalized, discussed in a workshop with elected representatives of the National Assembly in April 2022 in Yamoussoukro for strategic guidance and submitted to the Government General Secretariat; results and comments were discussed and consolidated in a technical meeting with participants from MESD and PNCC; -The <a href="#">National Group of Expert on Climate Change (GENEC)</a> - similar in structure to IPCC - is designed and a roadmap for implementation designed; in March 2022, in collaboration with (SODEXAM) - focal point of the national IPCC -, a workshop in Grand-Bassam helped define criteria and composition of the selection panel; a proportion of 30% women is indicated; -A <a href="#">Manual of procedures on QA/QC</a> and a guideline to improve calculations of GHG emissions for better transparency reports is elaborated and validated and training conducted accordingly -8 MoU between MESD and key sectoral ministries (energy, agriculture, water and forestry, animal and fisheries resources, sanitation, transportation, industry and construction) are ready for signature and tailored not only to GHG emissions	<b>-3. Partially achieved.</b> -Although much remains to be done to fully integrate all climate related measures-plans, programmes, strategies and policies in the new 2021-2025 NDP and the development of the long-term climate strategy is still under way, climate change is recognized as a challenge and as a cross-cutting factor. -Stakeholders' engagement is sound; interviews reveal commitment and even enthusiasm but GENEC is not yet institutionalized; the MoUs are drafted and comprehensive (include not only the GHG commitment but also tasks under the new MRV) but one year after project's completion are yet to be signed; and the draft Climate Change Law is still not adopted by Parliament. -The new Law represents the national binding legal framework for all climate related issues, including the legal basis for the MRV and NDC; it comes to fill an important legislative gap by governing actions in sectors that are both the most GHG emitters and vulnerable to CC effects; it indicates Government's will to fulfill PA and



			<p>activities but are also further improved to consider the MRV system which was developed later;</p> <p>-The prerequisite for the development of the <a href="#">long-term strategy on climate change</a> was the submission of the NDCs that however were sent to the UNFCCC only in May 2022 instead of December 2022;</p> <p>-Updated GHGs inventories prepared;</p> <p>-MRV designed but not operational.</p>	<p>UNFCCC commitments and to enhance climate transparency.</p> <p>-The training Manual on QA/QC defines the rules and different methodological approaches to develop accurate GHG emission inventories; it will ensure the reliability of methods used for GHG inventories</p>
02. Direct project beneficiaries disaggregated by gender	50 direct beneficiaries (25 are women)	100 direct beneficiaries (50 are women) (75 of whom 37 are women at Mid-Term)	<p>-938 persons benefitted from activities and trainings, out of whom 336 women (about 36%):</p> <p>i) 39 participants (8 women) from various government bodies, including local authorities, in the April 2022 workshop in Yamoussoukro to discuss the Law on Climate Change) and 15 participants from MESD and PNCC (7 women) in the subsequent technical meeting to consolidate comments</p> <p>ii) over 100 beneficiaries (only 14 women) on GHG emission inventory trainings with participation from key emitting sectors</p> <p>iii) a 30% of women is proposed to integrate the GENECE</p> <p>iv) training on the Manual of Procedures on QA/QC to improve calculations of GHG emissions included 41 actors (7 women) from ministerial departments, private sector, academia, focal points of UNFCCC and of the NCCP</p> <p>iv) 47 actors (7 women) participated in the first workshop and 67 actors (16 women) in a second training on MRV system from ministerial departments, local authorities, academia, private sector, technical and financial partners, UNFCCC focal points as well as members of PNCC</p> <p>-A large public has been reached in awareness raising activities and events organized by various partners involving the CBIT Project; a very successful</p>	<p>-Target overachieved, including both participation in consultative workshops and groups and training provided, under the leadership of MESD and NPCC</p> <p>-Training conducted contributed to raise awareness among national stakeholders and engage them on the importance of transparency in collecting GHG emission data, preparing inventories and reports and on the MRV system.</p> <p>-Training on the QA/QC methodologies for GHG emission inventories have increased capacities and ownership.</p> <p>-Although the end target is fulfilled, women remain underrepresented in relation to men, requiring further efforts, especially in decision-making but also in GHG inventories.</p>

			event was a song on climate change transparency, utilized as a call to action and for awareness raising in public.	
03. Institutions that built their capacities to meet the PA ETR	10	20 (15 at Mid-Term)	-Training sessions involved about 30 institutions, representing ministries (partly also at regional level), universities, research centres, the private sector and civil society organizations therefore strengthening capacities on GHG data collection and inventories according to various emitting sectors (energy, waste, transport, IPPU, AFOLU, agriculture), on use of the MRV system and the elaboration of NDCs	-Target largely achieved, with an effective involvement of a large number of institutions in both consultative processes and trainings. -Impact starts to manifest with an evident increasing commitment and keen interest of stakeholders who requested access to the MRV platform for all actors, encouraging the inclusion of NGOs and CSO, at least for specific actions.
<b>Component N.1 Strengthening of national institutions for transparency related activities</b> <b>/Outcome N. 1.1: Institutional arrangements for climate transparency are in place and effective.</b> <b>Total GEF budget: US\$ 140.000</b>				
<b>Output 1.1.1</b> Stakeholders sensibilization, including policy makers, on the importance of climate transparency implemented. <b>Output 1.1.2</b> Design and adoption of a long term strategy on climate transparency realized. <b>Output 1.1.3</b> Climate transparency mechanism/unit institutionalized. <b>Output 1.1.4</b> Establishment of an inter-ministerial coordination mechanism or a national committee with all stakeholders (public sector, private sector, civil society, academia, etc.) <b>Output 1.1.5</b> Develop long-term partnerships to ensure sustainability of project activities/results beyond project completion.				
Description of Indicator	Baseline Level	End of project target level	Progress as of Nov 2023	Comment & Rating:
4. Rate of stakeholders outreached about climate change transparency	0	80% (40% at Mid-Term)	<b>-EoP target fully reached</b> , with all relevant stakeholders (80% of ministries, 1% from Parliament, 10% from the private sector, 7% from academia and 2% from CSO) having been engaged and reached out through consultations and discussions during: - preparation of Law on Climate Change, - operationalization of GENECEC - draft of 08 MoUs with key ministries (ministry of energy, ministry of agriculture, ministry of water and forests, ministry of animals and fisheries resources, ministry of sanitation, ministry of transportation, ministry of industry and ministry of construction) -design of a MRV system -production of audiovisual "Il faut agir" to raise awareness on climate change.	-Relevant stakeholders effectively engaged in the various consultations and key activities, contributing to raise awareness about the need for transparency for climate change issues, establish a national transparency framework, foster data exchange, information sharing on GHG emissions within sectors, preparing scientific reports. -Awareness raising largely benefitted from communication instruments, allowing project results to be disseminated not only nationally but also at sub-regional and in some cases international level. -Evidence of achievements provided in PIRs and final reports through links

5. The Climate transparency mechanism/unit is institutionalized	-0	Yes	-The Project was able to ensure the deliverables of physical documents, i.e. - i) draft Law on Climate Change, enhancing legislation on transparency submitted to Gov. General Secretariat; ii) study for the creation of GENECE ready iii) manual of procedures on QA/QC finalized, with a guideline to improve GHG emissions calculations and consequently transparency reports -08 MOUs ready, involving line ministries -development of MRV system, with acquisition of computer tools/software	- <b>The target is partially achieved:</b> studies contributing to the sustainable framework are still not completed, the Law on CC not yet adopted; GENECE not yet institutionalized; the MRV system not yet operational
6. The inter-ministerial coordination mechanism or national committee is institutionalized	-0	Yes	-The text for the creation of the national commission on climate change or GENECE is finalized but not adopted	- <b>The target is partially achieved:</b> as per the Law on Climate Change, the text is ready but signature and adoption are still under way
<b>Component 2 Provision of tools, training and assistance for meeting the transparency provisions established in the Paris Agreement</b> <b>/Outcome N.2.1 Greenhouse gas inventories, including improved methodological guidance are enhanced.</b> <b>Total GEF budget US\$ 295,000</b>				
<b>Output 2.1.1</b> Recalculation of the previously submitted GHG inventories using the IPCC 2006 guidelines as well as development of a coherent time series. <b>Output 2.1.2</b> Development of country specific emission factors and activity data, with a special focus on energy and AFOLU. <b>Output 2.1.3</b> Development and implementation of a protocol for QA/QC for GHG inventories.				
7. Number of beneficiaries trained on the 2006 IPCC methodologies	-0	-30 (10 at Mid-Term)	-59 beneficiaries (only 5 women) were trained through a face to face session and an online session (including ministries and government institutions, from the national statistic institution, from public research center, from academia, one person from CSO)	-Target largely exceeded; yet, the number of women trained on the IPCC 2006 methodologies remains low. - Evidence of achievements provided in PIRs and final reports through links
8. Number of sectors of the GHG inventories calculated with 2006 IPCC methodologies	-1	-5 (2 at Mid-Term)	-GHG emission inventories were recalculated in the agriculture, forestry and energy sectors; recalculations identified inconsistencies with relation to methodologies previously used, which were documented in a report and contribute to improve the calculation of emissions for future national Climate Change communications.	-Overall achieved even if it includes the three most emitting sectors in Côte d'Ivoire and did not consider the waste and industry sectors, which account for a minimal share of emissions. -Of relevance is the inclusion of the forestry sector, not considered in previous inventories and which is instead a key emitting sector and

				paramount due to rate with which forests are annually being degraded.
9. Number of sectors with improved activity data and country specific Emission Factors (EF)	-0	-3 (1 at Mid-Term)	- An analytical study of Level 2 Emissions Factors (EF) developed for 3 sectors (Energy, Agriculture and Forestry); data identification and collection through the QA/QC manual of procedures, including improvement of data management.	-Target substantially but not fully achieved; the study of level 2 EF allowed to improve activity data and country specific EF but the validation process was still ongoing at Project's end, with difficulties in reaching consensus on the way forward.
<b>Component 2 Provision of tools, training and assistance for meeting the transparency provisions established in the Paris Agreement</b> <b>Outcome N. 2.2 A domestic MRV system is designed.</b> <b>Total GEF budget US\$ 306,000</b>				
<b>Output 2.2.1</b> Data management sharing protocols developed and adopted. <b>Output 2.2.2</b> Data collection widened and improved, including the design and establishment of an online MRV platform for stocking and reporting of GHG data (taking into account data disaggregated by sex). <b>Output 2.2.3</b> Design of sectorial interfaces for the domestic MRV system. <b>Output 2.2.4</b> Peer exchange program at the regional level through the collaboration with the South-South ECOWAS network on MRV. <b>Output 2.2.5</b> Share feedback information on the project implementation and on results and lessons learned, into the Global Coordination Platform, in order to make such information available to other Parties and initiatives.				
10. Number of protocols developed and adopted for data management sharing among different sectors (energy, AFOLU, Waste Industry...)	-0	-3 (1 at Mid-Term)	-Protocols relate to the MoUs under Outcome 1, awaiting political signature. -MRV study was delayed because the first draft of revised NDCs was amended to be more aligned with Côte d'Ivoire's new engagement for the PA. -The first draft or the revised NDCs of Côte d'Ivoire was submitted to UNFCCC in May 2022 and only after that the design of MRV system initiated.	- <b>Partially achieved.</b> The validation session of the feasibility study of the MRV system discussed the importance of setting up protocols with all the sectors involved in the MRV system. -The decision to include MRV system protocols within the MoUs originally thought only for the GHG inventories is sound but MoU are not yet signed and still subject of revision.
11. Number of sectors integrating the online MRV platform for stocking and reporting GHG data.	-1	-5 (2 at Mid-Term)	-As hardware/software tools were purchased with delay and EoP, the MRV online platform was still under construction as it could be based only on the NDCs revised which were lately submitted in May 2022.	- <b>Not yet achieved.</b> The MRV online platform is still under construction; evidently, the need to design it on the basis of the revised NDCs which were submitted only in May 2022 delayed the all process; however, one year from Project's end, the process is still ongoing: no testing has yet been done and it lacks a financing plan for its operationalization.
12. Number of lessons learned or feedbacks	-0	-3 (1 at Mid-Term)	- 7 lessons learned sessions organized: i) In collaboration with the UNDP/UNEP GSP for NC & BUR, OECD and IEA, to discuss issues of common reporting table & format;	-Achieved beyond targets. -Sharing events and awareness raise activities were quite successful.

shared on the regional or international level.			ii) On GHG inventories on EXA-ACT and IPCC software, in collaboration with FAO and UNDP/UNEP GSP for NC & BUR. iii) Two sessions with the West African MRV communities of practices, to share Côte d'Ivoire's approach to establish a robust national MRV system. iv) The Project participated in COP 26 in Glasgow, presenting mid-term results to benefit from new partnerships. v) A working session was held with GIZ and the MRV Community of Practice, to share Côte d'Ivoire's approach to establishing a robust national MRV system. As a result GIZ is eager to implementing an MRV specific to the energy sector in Côte d'Ivoire. vi) A working session was held with the GGGI on the design of a sectoral MRV similar to the one carried out by GIZ.	
<b>Component 3</b> Improvement of transparency over time <b>/Outcome N.3.1 Progress tracking tool on NDC and transparency in place.</b> <b>Total GEF budget US\$ 314,000</b>				
<b>Output 3.1.1</b> Review of information provided in the NDC, including quality review of baseline projections. <b>Output 3.1.2</b> Develop methodologies to keep track of progress in the implementation of NDCs and transparency in place. <b>Output 3.1.3</b> Implement adoption of progress tracking tool among key national institutions.				
13. Number of methodologies developed to keep track of progress in the implementation of NDCs and transparency	-0	-1	- The development of methodologies to monitor progress in the implementation of NDCs could only take place after the submission of NDCs to the UNFCCC, in May 2022. Therefore, the recruitment of an international firm to develop a long-term climate strategy and methodologies to track progress was ongoing at EoP.	- <b>Partially achieved.</b> The elaboration of the long-term climate strategy and methodologies to track progress are still ongoing. -In any case what is important is the effectiveness of the methodologies and not its number.
14. Rate of sectors adopting the NDC tracking methodology as a national climate change policy	-0	-100% (20% at Mid-Term)	-The elaboration of the methodology is still underway but the national dialogue on Climate Change transparency has allowed sectors to familiarize and adopt the methodology to track NDC progress.	- <b>Partially achieved.</b>

## **Annex F – TE Ratings Table**

**Table 9. TE Rating Scales**

Ratings for Outcomes, Effectiveness, Efficiency, M&E, Implementation/Oversight, Execution, Relevance

6 = Highly Satisfactory (HS): exceeds expectations and/or no shortcomings

5 = Satisfactory (S): meets expectations and/or no or minor shortcomings

4 = Moderately Satisfactory (MS): more or less meets expectations and/or some shortcomings

3 = Moderately Unsatisfactory (MU): somewhat below expectations and/or significant shortcomings

2 = Unsatisfactory (U): substantially below expectations and/or major shortcomings

1 = Highly Unsatisfactory (HU): severe shortcomings

Unable to Assess (U/A): available information does not allow an assessment

Sustainability ratings:

4 = Likely (L): negligible risks to sustainability

3 = Moderately Likely (ML): moderate risks to sustainability

2 = Moderately Unlikely (MU): significant risks to sustainability

1 = Unlikely (U): severe risks to sustainability

Unable to Assess (U/A): Unable to assess the expected incidence and magnitude of risks to sustainability



**Signed TE Report Clearance form**

**Terminal Evaluation Report for (Project Title & UNDP PIMS ID) Reviewed and Cleared  
by:**

**Commissioning Unit (M&E Focal Point)**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Regional Technical Advisor (Climate Hub)**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:**  
\_\_\_\_\_