

2019

Project Implementation Review (PIR)

**Integrated & Transboundary Conservation IWT**

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# Basic Data

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| **Project Information** | |
| UNDP PIMS ID | 5610 |
| GEF ID | 9155 |
| Title | Integrated and Transboundary Conservation of Biodiversity in the Basins of the Republic of Cameroon |
| Country(ies) | Cameroon, Cameroon |
| UNDP-GEF Technical Team | Ecosystems and Biodiversity |
| Project Implementing Partner | Government |
| Joint Agencies | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| Project Type | Full Size |

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| **Project Description** |
| Cameroon’s rich species abundance has made it one of the world’s biodiversity hotspots; it ranks fifth in Africa for fauna and fourth for flora diversity. Bush meat and ivory poaching significantly threaten the biodiversity of this ecoregion. The project will focus on the portion of the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area found in Cameroon, an area that is richly endowed with around 191 species of large mammals including elephants, gorillas, and chimpanzees. The landscape is one of Africa’s elephant poaching hotspots. Local ivory prices have increased tenfold since 2005 and provide huge incentives for well-established criminal networks and local poachers. The objective of this project is to strengthen the conservation of globally threatened species in Cameroon by improving biodiversity enforcement, resilience, and management with a key focus on the portion of the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area. The objective will be achieved through implementation of four interconnected components: (1) strengthening capacity for Protected Area (PA) governance and IWT control, (2) improving management of globally significant PAs by national and local institutions, (3) reducing poaching and illegal trafficking of threatened species at the project site, and (4) knowledge management. The project will be implemented over a period of six years. The total cost of investment in the project is estimated at 29,710,281 USD, of which 3,907,500 USD constitutes grant funding from GEF. This project forms part of the GEF Programmatic Approach to Prevent the Extinction of Known Threatened Species, and falls under the GEF Programme Global Partnership on Wildlife Conservation and Crime Prevention for Sustainable Development (9071). Under this programmatic framework, with the coordination through the programme steering committee, coordinated knowledge management and cross-fertilisation of the individual projects will be assured. |

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| **Project Contacts** | |
| UNDP-GEF Regional Technical Adviser | Ms. Penny Stock (penny.stock@undp.org) |
| Programme Associate | Ms. Lela Fikrou (lela.fikrou@undp.org) |
| Project Manager | Mr. Gilbert Ndzomo Abanda (gilbert.ndzomo@undp.org) |
| CO Focal Point | Mr. Martin Zeh-Nlo (martin.zeh-nlo@undp.org) |
| GEF Operational Focal Point | Mr. Unusa Haman (hunusa@geg-cameroon.org) |
| Project Implementing Partner | Mr. Jean Louis Parfait Ze (zejeanlouis@yahoo.fr) |
| Other Partners | *(not set or not applicable)* |

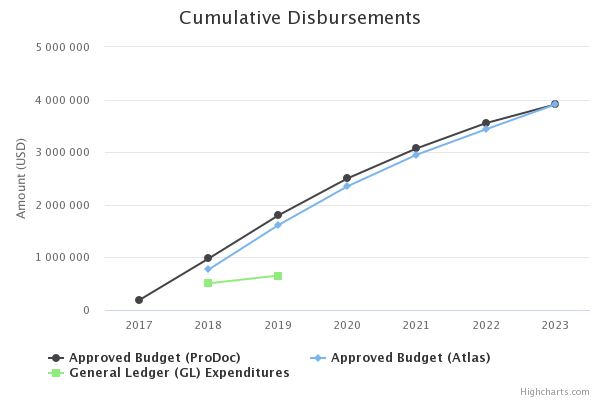
# Overall Ratings

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| Overall DO Rating | Moderately Unsatisfactory |
| Overall IP Rating | Moderately Unsatisfactory |
| Overall Risk Rating | High |

# Development Progress

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| **Description** | | | | | | |
| **Objective**  **To strengthen the conservation of globally threatened species in Cameroon by improving biodiversity enforcement, resilience and management** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 0.1: Effectiveness of IWT combat in Cameroon:  - annual number of inspections and patrols;  - annual number seizures;  - annual number of arrests;  - annual number of successful prosecutions on poaching and IWT | - 100  - 50  - 50  - 30 | - 150  - 125  - 125  - 65 | - 200  - 200  - 200  - 100 | *(not set or not applicable)* | Project on hold. |
| Number of individuals of IWT flagship species (elephant) killed by poachers annually in the project sites | ~50 elephants |  |  | *(not set or not applicable)* | Project on hold. |
| Number of local people (female/male) who improved their livelihood via benefits from CBWM, PES, SFM, SLM as a result of the project | 0 | 2,500 | 5,000 | *(not set or not applicable)* | Project on hold. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **Off track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 1**  **Component 1: Strengthening capacity for effective PA and IWT governance in Cameroon**    **Outcome 1.1: PA and IWT policy frameworks in place with implementation capacity.** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 1.1.1: Updated National IWT Strategy | 0 | Strategy developed and submitted to the Government for approval | Strategy officially approved and implemented | *(not set or not applicable)* | Project on hold. |
| 1.1.2: Improvements in capacity of IWT enforcement agencies as outlined in customized Capacity Development Scorecard (see projected score by UNDP Capacity Scorecard by the end of the project) | Score: 55 (from 93 possible) | Score: 70 (from 93 possible) | Score: 80 (from 93 possible) | *(not set or not applicable)* | Project on hold. |
| 1.1.3: International agreement about establishment and management of transboundary BR in the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe transboundary area | 0 | Draft agreement developed and discussed by countries | The agreement is signed and implemented | *(not set or not applicable)* | Project on hold. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **Off track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 2**  **Component 2: Improving the effective management of globally significant protected areas in the forest landscapes of Cameroon**    **Outcome 2.1: Improved management of globally significant protected areas in the forest landscapes of Cameroon** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 2.1.1: Improved management effectiveness as measured by the METT scorecard | Score: 55 (average for 5 PAs)  Dja: 72  B.Bek:61  Mangame: 52  Ngoyla: 21  Nki: 70 | Score: 70 (average for 5 PAs) | Score: 92(average for 5 PAs)  Dja: 100  B.Bek:90  Mangame: 90  Ngoyla: 70  Nki: 110 | *(not set or not applicable)* | Project on hold. |
| 2.1.2: Total area of PAs with improved management (have officially approved MPs and funding for their implementation) (the area does not include the inter-zone) | 526,00 ha (Dja Reserve) | 800,000 ha | 1,258,012 ha (Dja, Boumba Bek, Mangame, Ngoyla Wildlife Reserve and Nki PAs.) | *(not set or not applicable)* | Project on hold. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **Off track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 3**  **Component 3: Reducing wildlife crime in the Cameroon forest landscapes affecting threatened species. [site level]**    **Outcome 3.1: Wildlife crime is combated on the ground by strengthening enforcement operations across target PAs, interzones and key trafficking routes/hubs.** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 3.1.1: Total number of anti-poaching inspectors, brigades and posts functioning in the project area | - 9 posts  - 0 brigade  - 10 inspector | - 12 posts  - 1 brigade  - 25 inspectors | - 14 posts  - 2 brigades  -40 inspectors | *(not set or not applicable)* | Project on hold. |
| 3.1.2: IWT combat effectiveness in the project area (PAs and brigades):  - annual number seizures;  - annual number of arrests;  - annual number of successful prosecutions on poaching and IWT | - 100 tusks  - 3 to 5  - 0 | - 200 tusks  - 10  - 5 | - 300 tusks  - 15  - 10 | *(not set or not applicable)* | Project on hold. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **Off track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 4**  **Adoption of management practices and community centered initiatives in the forest interzone that support sustainable livelihoods, SLM and reduce wildlife crime** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 3.2.1: Total area of wildlife habitat under sustainable use (via official Integrated Management Plan) |  | >700,000 | 1.3 million ha | *(not set or not applicable)* | Project on hold. |
| 3.2.2: Total number of sustainable small businesses established by local communities in the project area | 5 | 25 | 50 | *(not set or not applicable)* | Project on hold. |
| 3.2.3: Annual number of proved wildlife crime cases reported by local people | 0 | 10 | 20 | *(not set or not applicable)* | Project on hold. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **Off track** | | | | |
| **Outcome 5**  **Component 4: Gender Mainstreaming, Knowledge Management and M&E**    **Outcome 4.1: Lessons learned by the project, including gender mainstreaming, through participatory M&E are used to fight poaching and IWT nationally and internationally** | | | | | | |
| **Description of Indicator** | **Baseline Level** | **Midterm target level** | **End of project target level** | **Level at 30 June 2018** | **Cumulative progress since project start** |
| 4.1.1: number of national and international organizations that participate in the project M&E and provide feedback to the Management Team | 0 | 20 | 20 | *(not set or not applicable)* | Project on hold. |
| 4.1.2: number of the project lessons used in development and implementation of other conservation projects | 0 | 2 | 10 | *(not set or not applicable)* | Project on hold. |
| **The progress of the objective can be described as:** | | **Off track** | | | | |

# Implementation Progress



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| Cumulative GL delivery against total approved amount (in prodoc): | 16.75% |
| Cumulative GL delivery against expected delivery as of this year: | 36.41% |
| Cumulative disbursement as of 30 June (note: amount to be updated in late August): | 654,424 |

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| **Key Financing Amounts** | |
| PPG Amount | 147,000 |
| GEF Grant Amount | 3,907,500 |
| Co-financing | 25,782,781 |

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| **Key Project Dates** | |
| PIF Approval Date | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| CEO Endorsement Date | Jun 15, 2017 |
| Project Document Signature Date (project start date): | Dec 1, 2017 |
| Date of Inception Workshop | Oct 28, 2016 |
| Expected Date of Mid-term Review | Dec 1, 2020 |
| Actual Date of Mid-term Review | *(not set or not applicable)* |
| Expected Date of Terminal Evaluation | Sep 1, 2023 |
| Original Planned Closing Date | Dec 1, 2023 |
| Revised Planned Closing Date | *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **Dates of Project Steering Committee/Board Meetings during reporting period (30 June 2018 to 1 July 2019)** |
| 2018-12-19 |
| 2018-12-20 |

# Critical Risk Management

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| Current Types of Critical Risks | Critical risk management measures undertaken this reporting period |
| Environmental | Poaching and Illegal Trade of Wildlife Products: poaching, which is seeing a significant rise, is accentuated in the TRIDOM space. Well-organized poachers enlist help from poor local populations who serve as guides in the forest.  Mitigation measures include involving the local populations in the project activities, while conducting awareness campaigns on sustainable management of biodiversity. Also, training eco-guards on techniques to monitor respect of people's rights. |
| Political | Some organizations have complained about mistreatment of indigenous populations, which has led to fears of a lack of respect of indigenous populations’ rights. Mitigation measures include: (1) the respect of MoU agreements signed by the indigenous populations and the Cameroon government on the respect of indigenous populations’ rights; (2) the involvement of vulnerable indigenous populations in making decisions about project activities; (3) the support initiatives for the Community Hunting Zones (ZICGC, French acronym) for vulnerable indigenous people; (4) the creation, which is in progress, of a complaint management mechanism for cases of abuse experienced by indigenous people; (5) the implementation of a skill strengthening plan for local NGOs working on the indigenous population issue. |
| Operational | The project was designed with several partners (UNESCO, ZSL, WWF, AWF, IUCN) who agreed to provide a portion of the financing to implement project activities. Consequently, metrics were determined based on this. Currently the mobilization of partner financing is not straightforward. Mitigation measures were: (1) operational planning of activities depending on available financing, (2) discussions with partners to consider results from activities that are already being conducted in the field with a view to achieving the desired results. |
| Organizational | Considering the complaints about WWF formulated on the mistreatment of vulnerable indigenous people of the Baka tribe, the operational team was requested to temporarily stop collaboration with WWF. The end of this collaboration impacts the achievement of some results because WWF was identified at the beginning as a strategic partner. The mitigation measure taken is redirecting the activities WWF was leading to other partners. |

# Adjustments

**Comments on delays in key project milestones**

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| **Project Manager: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| 1. The project operations team was setup in September 2018 (the project was slated to start in January 2018).    2. Complaints about mistreatment of vulnerable indigenous populations: An SECU team was on-site in Cameroon from February 13 to 19, 2019 with a view to investigating the alleged mistreatment of indigenous Baka populations in the TRIDOM project zone. This caused a slowdown in the project’s activities. The SECU’s report which will allow us to remove any ambiguity from the non-involvement of UNDP on the alleged mistreatment is still pending. |

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| **Country Office: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser: please provide comments on delays this reporting period in achieving any of the following key project milestones: inception workshop, mid-term review, terminal evaluation and/or project closure. If there are no delays please indicate not applicable.** |
| Field activities in the project have been on hold since the start of this project pending the outcome of the SECU Investigation into compliance with UNDP SES further to the complaint lodged by Survival International. The investigation is highly sensitive where it relates to additional allegations made against the envisaged project partner, WWF, alleging serious human rights abuses.    Evidence continues to emerge for consideration by the investigating team and at this stage, the Report has not yet been published. Continuing delays in publication of the Report will likely have consequences for project implementation and delivery over the course of the next year and possibly the MTR. In addition, once the Report is published, depending on the Recommendations and the Administrator's decision as to whether to continue the project or not, the project will require reorientation towards compliance with UNDP's SES and repositioning in terms of key partnerships to support future implementation. |

# Ratings and Overall Assessments

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| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Manager/Coordinator** | Moderately Satisfactory | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | In 2018, there was no annual budget draft (2018 PTA) for the project. However, some actions were taken, including: (1) signature of a MoU between UNDP and UICN (April 2018) to conduct certain activities; (2) acquisition of a large amount of equipment and rehabilitation of two cars for the project.    With the setup of the project operations team in September 2018, the activities continued with the official launch of the project (December 2018) and the holding of the first steering committee (December 2018). This steering committee specifically reviewed the 2019 activities and validation of the 2019 Budget Work Plan (2019 PTA, French acronym).    Beginning in January 2019, the team methodically began to implement the planned activities. In February 2019, UNDP Cameroon received (from February 13 to 19, 2019) a Social and Environmental Compliance Unit (SECU) to investigate the complaints submitted on behalf of several Baka populations living in Congo and Cameroon regarding the protected project zones implemented by UNDP and financed by FEM. The complaints alleged that they were illegally chased off their forest territories.    The SECU team in Cameroon met with: officials from: Ministry of Forests and Fauna; Ministry of Social Affairs; Ministry of the Economy, Planning, Territorial Development; Ministry of the Environment, Protection of Nature and Sustainable Development. Officials clearly informed the SECU team of the steps taken to safeguard the rights of indigenous populations specifically in the context of conservation of biodiversity. The SECU team then went to “Zoulabot Ancien” where the complaints originated. After fully investigating, a debriefing session was held on February 19, 2019 with the SECU team and UNDP Cameroon. During this session, it was clearly shown that the complaint was not about UNDP. The report for this mission has been pending since May 2019.    On March 7, 2019, the TRIDOM 2 project received instructions from UNDP to delay project activities while waiting for the SECU report and creation of an environmental and social management plan for mitigating some of the risks that had been classified as low during the project setup and that today may be high.    All of these issues prevented a large number of activities from being carried out that had been planned in the 2019 PTA. However, the project team has taken steps to quickly and efficiently relaunch the activities in the field. The steps taken include staying in contact with the other stakeholders and the Cameroon government, attending workshops, acquiring needed equipment, setting up the project base camp in Mintom.  No significant risk has been seen in the flow of activities. All of the planned activities will be carefully implemented. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP Country Office Programme Officer** | Moderately Unsatisfactory | Moderately Unsatisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | The project is in a critical phase due to the fact that a complaint initiated by the Bakas (Pygmies) communities through Survival International, the field activities are suspended since February 2019 pending the investigation report of the office still expected. This situation affects the implementation of this important project. In fact, it is not possible to provide an opinion on the various project evaluation rubrics. | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **GEF Operational Focal point** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Project Implementing Partner** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **Other Partners** | *(not set or not applicable)* | *- IP Rating provided by UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser and UNDP Country Office only -* |
| Overall Assessment | *(not set or not applicable)* | |
| **Role** | **2019 Development Objective Progress Rating** | **2019 Implementation Progress Rating** |
| **UNDP-GEF Technical Adviser** | Moderately Unsatisfactory | Moderately Unsatisfactory |
| Overall Assessment | On 4, 5 and 8 March 2019, the online news outlet BuzzFeed published a three-part investigative report on allegations of serious human rights abuses committed by park rangers funded by World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) in five countries—Nepal, India, Cameroon, Central African Republic (CAR), Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Republic of Congo (Brazzaville). The Kathmandu Post published its own investigation on 3 March 2019. The Guardian piece was published on 7 March 2019. On 8 March 2019, it was announced that Britain’s charity watchdog would launch an investigation into WWF UK, citing concerns that WWF had provided salaries, training and weapons to paramilitary forces implicated in atrocities against indigenous communities. This was picked up in the mainstream media (Guardian; Reuters) and other platforms in early April 2019. On 17 May 2019, a new article featured on a German news web site titled ‘Nature projects marred by human rights violations’ with a focus on WWF. On 11 July 2019, a new Buzzfeed article titled ‘WWF-backed Guards Raped Pregnant Women and Tortured Villagers at a Wildlife Park Funded by the US Government’ in DRC was released.    While none of the Buzzfeed articles mention UNDP or GEF, nor reference UNDP-supported projects, UNDP has programmed GEF biodiversity funds in these countries and has some active projects in collaboration with WWF. Two of these GEF-financed projects – in Republic of Congo and Cameroon – are currently being investigated by UNDP’s Social and Environmental Compliance Unit and the investigation reports are expected very soon. Once made public, these reports could be picked up by the press in connection with the WWF issues mentioned above, which could pose serious reputational risks to UNDP.    According to the second BuzzFeed article, an investigation report was submitted to WWF in April 2015, concerning its activities in Cameroon. This is therefore a source of significant concern to UNDP.    UNDP began developing the project “Integrated and Transboundary Conservation of Biodiversity in the Basins of the Republic of Cameroon” in early 2015, and received GEF CEO endorsement in June 2017. The UNDP Project Document was signed on 1 December 2017 and the project launched in December 2018. Project Components 2 and 3 (improving management of globally significant protected areas in the forest landscapes and Reducing wildlife crime in the Cameroon forest landscapes affecting threatened species [site level]) were designed with IUCN, ZSL and WWF as Responsible Parties for implementation of the project. WWF is also a co-financier ($5 million). Project activities are expected to take place in the interzone in forested landscapes, specifically: Dja, Boumba Bek, Mangame, NGoyla and Nki with a project unit based in Mintom. This area is the largest expanse of undisturbed tropical rainforest in Cameroon and is an important wildlife corridor within the TRIDOM PA complex. Lobéké National Park, mentioned in the Buzzfeed reports, is not one of the project’s targeted sites. No on-the-ground support has yet started under the project.    The project does not have an LOA or MOU with WWF. A partnership with IUCN has been formalized through an LOA to support preparatory baseline studies. The project team has just been recruited and the 2019 AWP has been validated. An Anti-Poaching/Anti-Wildlife Crime Strategy has been adopted and anti-poaching equipment purchased in line with the provisions of the PRODOC. Reports on the level of IWT/poaching in the TRIDOM project area with proposed solutions to reduce wildlife crime in the forested TRIDOM landscape have been completed. The site-level project team, which will be based in Mintom, is being deployed.    SECU Investigation:    In August 2018, before the project was launched, a complaint was filed with UNDP’s Accountability Mechanism that claimed human rights and other violations by this project. Survival International (SI), which is frequently mentioned in the first BuzzFeed article, filed the complaint on behalf of indigenous communities in the project area. UNDP’s Social and Environmental Compliance Unit (SECU) determined the complaint to be eligible, and undertook a mission in February 2019. The SECU investigation uncovered that a letter from the head of SI was sent to Helen Clark in 2015 alerting UNDP to abuses of Baka communities. The CO was requested to draft a Response through the current environmental focal point (EFP) and former RR/RC. A letter response on behalf of Helen Clark was sent by the RR/RC to SI.    Until the SECU Report is published, field activities are on hold, and discussions are underway regarding the initial suggestions of the SECU investigation team to reorient the project towards stricter compliance with UNDP's Social and Environment Safeguards. Specifically, to reposition the project as High Risk.    UNDP-GEF action taken so far:    • Temporary suspension of field activities in Cameroon with immediate effect until the SECU reports are finalized and the Administrator’s decisions are made. This has already been communicated to RRs and CO teams via official letter dated 26 March 2019 from HQ under Pradeep’s signature. Relevant correspondence can be found in Annex 2.b.  • At this stage, no action will be taken to engage WWF in the Cameroon project, which has yet to start field activities.  • A field mission has been undertaken to explain the reasons for the temporary suspension of field activities to key partners.  • Technical exchanges with IUCN to evaluate the implementation of the existing MOU to support baseline development and implementation of enabling activities have been held.  • Technical exchanges with project co-financing partners under the coordination of the Ministry of Forests and Wildlife have been held to identify options for solutions to catch up with expected delays.    This situation has clearly hindered the early stages of implementation of this project at every level. Initiation and implementation of all Components is delayed (field activities are on hold) and efforts to move towards key project milestones on time are off track at this stage. Delivery is also affected due to the suspension of field activities.    Once the outcome of the SECU investigation and the consequent recommendations are known, it is likely that the project will require major adaptive management to reorient towards compliance with UNDP’s SES. For this reason, a rating of Moderately Unsatisfactory is justified at this stage. | |

# Gender

**Progress in Advancing Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment**

This information is used in the UNDP-GEF Annual Performance Report, UNDP-GEF Annual Gender Report, reporting to the UNDP Gender Steering and Implementation Committee and for other internal and external communications and learning.  The Project Manager and/or Project Gender Officer should complete this section with support from the UNDP Country Office.

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| **Gender Analysis and Action Plan:** *not available* |
| **Please review the project's Gender Analysis and Action Plan. If the document is not attached or an updated Gender Analysis and/or Gender Action Plan is available please upload the document below or send to the Regional Programme Associate to upload in PIMS+. Please note that all projects approved since 1 July 2014 are required to carry out a gender analysis and all projects approved since 1 July 2018 are required to have a gender analysis and action plan.** |
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| **Please indicate in which results areas the project is contributing to gender equality (you may select more than one results area, or select not applicable):** |
| Contributing to closing gender gaps in access to and control over resources: No |
| Improving the participation and decision-making of women in natural resource governance: Yes |
| Targeting socio-economic benefits and services for women: Yes |
| Not applicable: No |

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| **Atlas Gender Marker Rating** |
| **GEN1:** some contribution to gender equality |

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| **Please describe any experiences or linkages (direct or indirect) between project activities and gender-based violence (GBV). This information is for UNDP use only and will not be shared with GEF Secretariat.** |
| Not applicable |

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| **Please specify results achieved this reporting period that focus on increasing gender equality and the empowerment of women.**    **Please explain how the results reported addressed the different needs of men or women, changed norms, values, and power structures, and/or contributed to transforming or challenging gender inequalities and discrimination.** |
| Cameroon has signed several international agreements on the protection of women’s rights, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). In application of this instrument, the Cameroon government created a national gender equality policy in 1997, which is a reference document for government action in the area of promoting male/female equality.    In the context of TRIDOM II, it has been seen that women are poorly represented in the decision-making bodies. The entities in charge of managing protected areas and other forms of occupation of space (forestry concessions, communal forests, community forests, community hunting zones).    The TRIDOM II project created a Plan for Involving Women in Project Activities (which still needs to be validated) by taking the following steps:  • Inclusion of women in work groups, committees and new positions linked to preservation of  biodiversity  • Inclusion of women in work groups and committees involved in examination of policies and  regulations  • Consideration of the gender specificities in the socio-economic aspects of using resources and  means of subsistence  • Ensure inclusion of a quota of women in the Protected Areas staff  • Involvement of women in training sessions  • Design of a communications strategy and an awareness campaign taking into account the  gender specificities in exploitation and commerce of wild species  • Identification, training and support of local women’s associations in the setup of farms and in  conventional and unconventional breeding practices |

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| **Please describe how work to advance gender equality and women's empowerment enhanced the project's environmental and/or resilience outcomes.** |
| Promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women has been carefully taken into account in the document “Plan for Involving Women in Project Activities” and the actions to take were described. These actions will be implemented throughout the project. |

# Social and Environmental Standards

**Social and Environmental Standards (Safeguards)**

The Project Manager and/or the project’s Safeguards Officer should complete this section of the PIR with support from the UNDP Country Office. The UNDP-GEF RTA should review to ensure it is complete and accurate.

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| **1) Have any new social and/or environmental risks been identified during project implementation?** |
| Yes |

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| **If any new social and/or environmental risks have been identified during project implementation please describe the new risk(s) and the response to it.** |
| The increase in poaching and illegal trading of animal products: To address this risk, the national anti-poaching brigade is reinforced with a donation of anti-poaching equipment and implementation of check points for surveillance    Risks related to likely project activities in areas inhabited by Indigenous Peoples: The project SES rating will be re-categorised as High and an ESMP put in place to ensure effective communication and interaction with communities in the project areas. |

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| **2) Have any existing social and/or environmental risks been escalated during the reporting period? For example, when a low risk increased to moderate, or a moderate risk increased to high.** |
| No |

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| **If any existing social and/or environmental risks have been escalated during implementation please describe the change(s) and the response to it.** |
| Following the publication of the SECU report (date for the final report is not yet known), the project will be repositioned / reoriented as High Risk in line with UNDP's Social and Environmental Policy. |

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| **SESP:** [PIMS 5610 Cameroon Social and Environmental Risk Assessment UNDP (signed).pdf](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/5610/215376/1695015/1695296/PIMS%205610%20Cameroon%20Social%20and%20Environmental%20Risk%20Assessment%20UNDP%20%28signed%29.pdf)  **Environmental and Social Management Plan/Framework:** *not available* |
| **For reference, please find below the project's safeguards screening (Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP) or the old ESSP tool); management plans (if any); and its SESP categorization above. Please note that the SESP categorization might have been corrected during a centralized review.** |
| *(not set or not applicable)* |

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| **3) Have any required social and environmental assessments and/or management plans been prepared in the reporting period? For example, an updated Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) or Indigenous Peoples Plan.** |
| No |

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| **If yes, please upload the document(s) above. If no, please explain when the required documents will be prepared.** |
| Discussion meetings with indigenous populations have been scheduled. This discussion will allow for advancement towards an indigenous population management plan, in collaboration with the Ministry of Social Affairs (MINAS, French acronym) following publication of the SECU report. |

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| **4) Has the project received complaints related to social and/or environmental impacts (actual or potential )?** |
| Yes |

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| **If yes, please describe the complaint(s) or grievance(s) in detail including the status, significance, who was involved and what action was taken.** |
| In August 2018, before the project was launched, a complaint was filed with UNDP’s Accountability Mechanism that claimed human rights and other violations by this project. Survival International (SI), which is frequently mentioned in the first BuzzFeed article, filed the complaint on behalf of indigenous communities in the project area. UNDP’s Social and Environmental Compliance Unit (SECU) determined the complaint to be eligible, and undertook a mission in February 2019. The SECU investigation uncovered that a letter from the head of SI was sent to Helen Clark in 2015 alerting UNDP to abuses of Baka communities. The CO was requested to draft a Response through the current environmental focal point (EFP) and former RR/RC. A letter response on behalf of Helen Clark was sent by the RR/RC to SI.    Until the SECU Report is published, field activities are on hold, and discussions are underway regarding the initial suggestions of the SECU investigation team to reorient the project towards stricter compliance with UNDP's Social and Environment Safeguards. Specifically, to reposition the project as High Risk. |

# Communicating Impact

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| **Tell us the story of the project focusing on how the project has helped to improve people’s lives.**  **(This text will be used for UNDP corporate communications, the UNDP-GEF website, and/or other internal and external knowledge and learning efforts.)** |
| At this stage of the project, there is not yet a storyline about the project contributing to improving people's lives. However, commitments have been made to extensively involve the people in all of the project activities in order to improve their living conditions. |

**Knowledge Management, Project Links and Social Media**

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| **Please describe knowledge activities / products as outlined in knowledge management approved at CEO Endorsement /Approval.**    **Please also include: project's website, project page on the UNDP website, blogs, photos stories (e.g. Exposure), Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, YouTube, as well as hyperlinks to any media coverage of the project, for example, stories written by an outside source. Please upload any supporting files, including photos, videos, stories, and other documents using the 'file lirbary' button in the top right of the PIR.** |
| Not applicable |

# Partnerships

**Partnerships & Stakeholder Engagment**

Please select yes or no whether the project is working with any of the following partners. Please also provide an update on stakeholder engagement. This information is used by the GEF and UNDP for reporting and is therefore very important!  All sections must be completed by the Project Manager and reviewed by the CO and RTA.

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| **Does the project work with any Civil Society Organisations and/or NGOs?** |
| Yes |

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| **Does the project work with any Indigenous Peoples?** |
| Yes |

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| **Does the project work with the Private Sector?** |
| No |
| No |

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| **Does the project work with the GEF Small Grants Programme?** |
| Yes |
| Yes |

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| **Does the project work with UN Volunteers?** |
| No |

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| **Did the project support South-South Cooperation and/or Triangular Cooperation efforts in the reporting year?** |
| No |

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| **CEO Endorsement Request:** [PIMS 5610 CEO ER Cameroon Wildlife Forests 9-06-17.docx](https://undpgefpims.org/attachments/5610/215376/1708741/1706074/PIMS%205610%20CEO%20ER%20Cameroon%20Wildlife%20Forests%20%209-06-17.docx) |
| **Provide an update on progress, challenges and outcomes related to stakeholder engagement based on the description of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan as documented at CEO endorsement/approval (see document below). If any surveys have been conducted please upload all survey documents to the PIR file library.** |
| Several meetings have already been held with the stakeholders (AWF, ZSL, WWF, UNESCO and the government) to clarify roles and responsibilities in the project, as well as financing commitments and reporting. |

# Annex - Ratings Definitions

**Development Objective Progress Ratings Definitions**

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Project is on track to exceed its end-of-project targets, and is likely to achieve transformational change by project closure. The project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Project is on track to fully achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. The project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Project is on track to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with minor shortcomings only.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is expected to partially achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure with significant shortcomings. Project results might be fully achieved by project closure if adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets by project closure. Project results might be partially achieved by project closure if major adaptive management is undertaken immediately.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Project is off track and is not expected to achieve its end-of-project targets without major restructuring.

**Implementation Progress Ratings Definitions**

(HS) Highly Satisfactory: Implementation is exceeding expectations. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are fully on track. The project is managed extremely efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'outstanding practice'.

(S) Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and risk management are on track. The project is managed efficiently and effectively. The implementation of the project can be presented as 'good practice'.

(MS) Moderately Satisfactory: Implementation is proceeding as planned with minor deviations. Cumulative financial delivery and management of risks are mostly on track, with minor delays. The project is managed well.

(MU) Moderately Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces significant implementation issues. Implementation progress could be improved if adaptive management is undertaken immediately. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are significantly off track. The project is not fully or well supported.

(U) Unsatisfactory: Implementation is not proceeding as planned and faces major implementation issues and restructuring may be necessary. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones, and/or management of critical risks are off track with major issues and/or concerns. The project is not fully or well supported.

(HU) Highly Unsatisfactory: Implementation is seriously under performing and major restructuring is required. Cumulative financial delivery, timing of key implementation milestones (e.g. start of activities), and management of critical risks are severely off track with severe issues and/or concerns. The project is not effectively or efficiently supported.