

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
Paix – Travail – Patrie

MINISTERE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT,
DE LA PROTECTION DE LA NATURE
ET DU DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE

CONVENTION SUR LA DIVERSITE BIOLOGIQUE

PROTOCOLE DE NAGOYA SUR APA

DIRECTION NATIONALE DU PROJET APA



REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON
Peace – Work – Fatherland

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT,
PROTECTION OF NATURE AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

CONVENTION ON BIODIVERSITY

NAGOYA PROTOCOL ON ABS

NATIONAL DIRECTORATE OF ABS PROJECT



Projet " Appui à la mise en œuvre du Protocole de Nagoya et à la recherche-développement sur la chaîne de valeur de la biodiversité pour les petits exploitants dans les Régions du Sud-Ouest et de l'Extrême-Nord, du Cameroun."

TERMS OF REFERENCE CONSULTATION N°1

Inventory of genetic resources of the species *Irvingia wombolu* , *Monodora myristica* , *Balanites aegyptiaca* and *Acacia nilotica* and updating of the pilot catalog of Genetic Resources of Cameroon

Reference in the annual workplan 2024: activity 7

I. CONTEXT

In Africa, Cameroon's biodiversity is outstanding in terms of species, ecosystems and genetic resources. The genetic resources (GR) which constitute this biodiversity as well as the associated traditional knowledge (CTA) are important for the economic development of the country. However, insufficient information on their existing potential still limits demand from investors and the development of real value chains based on these resources.

At the sub-regional level in central Africa, the need to carry out national inventories of GR and aTK has been identified among the priority actions of the strategy of COMIFAC member countries on ABS.

At the national level, the Government of the Republic of Cameroon is resolutely committed to developing its potential in GR and aTK from a perspective of sustainable development aligned with SND20-30, respecting the requirements of the convention on biological diversity and more specifically the Nagoya Protocol on Access, Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization (ABS). The Ministry of the Environment, Protection of Nature and Sustainable Development (MINEPDED) is the ABS Competent National Authority and therefore, entitled to coordinate and promote the inventory, conservation, and valorization of GR and aTK of the country. The promulgation of Law N° 2021/014 of July 9, 2021 governing access to GR, their derivatives, aTK and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits resulting from their use is one of the concrete expressions of this political will. Articles 14 and 20 of this law require the Competent National

Authority (1) to carry out an inventory of GRs at the national level and (2) to establish a non-exhaustive list of species containing GRs of particular interest in the framework of the ABS.

To make this desire a reality, the Ministry of the Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development (MINEPDED) has developed in a participatory manner with all stakeholders a methodological guide for the inventory of GR and aTK. This guide, published in 2022, aims to provide the scientific community and Indigenous Local Communities with a tool containing a simple approach, that will contribute to the establishment of a database or a national register. on RG and aTK. A pilot GR catalog was also produced in 2022 and needs to be updated.

As part of the efforts to sustain the ABS framework in Cameroon, the project entitled " Support to Nagoya Protocol implementation, research, and development, on Biodiversity value chain for smallholders in the South-West and Far North Regions of Cameroon ", has been approved by the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The project aims to support the operationalization of the ABS national framework, by enabling access to genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge that accrue tangible national and local economic benefits from their commercial utilization in a fair, equitable, and sustainable manner.

This objective will be achieved through three components, namely: the implementation of the legislative, regulatory, political and institutional framework on ABS (component 1); capacity building and awareness raising among key stakeholders for the application of the national ABS framework (component 2), piloting ABS contracts demonstrating the potential benefits of GR and aTK for four plant species (component 3): *Acacia nilotica*, *Balanites aegyptiaca*, *Irvingia wombolu*, and *Monodora myristica*. The project is implemented in two sites: the Mayo Kani Division in the Far North Region and the Meme, Manyu and Kupe Muanenguba Divisions in the South-West Region of Cameroon. The choice of these species was based on their potential value for use in the perfumery, flavoring and pharmaceutical sectors.

The project plans, among other activities, to develop an inventory of GR with a view to developing a centralized database on these resources.

This context which justifies the formulation of these terms of reference. The Project is looking for a consultant to carry out this mission.

II. OBJECTIVES

Through this assignment, the project aims to carry out an inventory of GR.

More precisely, the consultant's mission will consist of:

- carry out an inventory of GR of the species *Acacia nilotica*, *Balanites aegyptiaca*, *Irvingia wombolu* and *Monodora myristica* ;
- carry out an inventory of the genetic resources of species currently enrolled in the ABS procedure in Cameroon, and
- update / enrich the existing catalog of GR;

III. METHODOLOGY

The consultant will work under the supervision of the project management team, and in close collaboration with the MINEPDED ABS Task Force. The methodology to carry out this task will include:

- a first scoping meeting with the consultant, the Project Management Unit and the MINEPDED ABS Taskforce;
- the development and submission of the methodology by the consultant for validation;
- research and consultation of scientific publishers and specialized scientific databases such as Pubmed, Pubchem, Web of science, ScienceDirect, Wiley Online Library, Springer, Taylor and Francis, BMC, The open archives HAL, TEL, MEdiHAL, These. fr, ... etc ,
- consultation of experts ;
- the drafting of the report;
- a meeting to present the summary of the results obtained.

IV. DELIVERABLES AND SCHEDULE

At the end of the consultation, the following deliverables are expected:

- a GR inventory report or updated catalog of GR;
- A report of the validation workshop

All documents, whether drafts or final versions, must be submitted, in paper and electronic versions, to the Project Management Unit and must not be distributed to any third party.

The submission of the various deliverables is sequenced over time as follows:

Deliverables	Deadline
Deliverable 1 : Based on the documentation provided by the Project Management Unit (PMU), the consultant will propose a methodological note and a schedule for carrying out the tasks. These documents will be submitted for amendment and validation by the PMU.	No later than 1 week after signing the contract.
Deliverable 2 : an inventory report of genetic resources of the project's target species and other species included in the ABS procedure	No later than 3 weeks after validation of the methodology
Deliverable 3 : Presentation and validation report of the inventory report	No later than 02 weeks after submission of the inventory report

V. CONSULTANT PROFILE

The consultant must :

- hold at least a PhD in biochemistry, phytochemistry, pharmacology, or any related discipline;
- have at least 5 years of research experience crowned by convincing publications;
- have a good command of the ABS mechanism in Cameroon;

VI. APPLICATION FILE

The application file consists of:

- a cover letter indicating your interest in this mission;
- a Curriculum Vitae (CV);
- a technical proposal that must include the methodology to carry out the mission;
- a financial proposal.

VII. CONSULTATION DURATION

The duration of the consultation is 20 days spread over 1,5 months.

Date : 10 6 MAI 2024

Approved by:



*Dr. Dingom Aurélie
Taylor Patience*