

REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
Paix – Travail – Patrie

MINISTRE 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 No. 04

DEVELOPMENT OF A GUIDE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY BIOCULTURAL PROTOCOLS AND PILOT INVENTORY OF TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE ASSOCIATED WITH THE SPECIES ACACIA NILOTICA, BALANITES AEGYPTIACA, IRVINGIA WOMBOLU AND MONODORA MYRISTICICA

Reference in the PTA 2024: activities, 20

I. CONTEXT

As part of the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol adopted on October 29, 2010 and ratified by Cameroon on November 30, 2016, the national legislative and regulatory framework on access to genetic resources and sharing of benefits arising from their utilization has been strengthened. The so-called ABS law was adopted by Parliament and promulgated by the President of the Republic in July 2021. A boost to the application of this new legislative tool was given with the signature by the Prime Minister of its implementation Decree on October 6, 2023, followed by regulatory texts relating to the establishment of management bodies of the ABS process in Cameroon.

One of the innovations of this new regulation is that it gives a prominent place to local and indigenous communities by making them co-contractors in the procedure for access to genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge and legal beneficiaries of the monetary and non-monetary benefits resulting from their use, in the same way as the State. For instance, the issuance of the ABS Permit for access to a genetic resource (GR) and associated traditional knowledge (aTK) is conditional on the issuance of Prior Informed Consent (PIC), the negotiation and conclusion of the Mutually Agreed Terms (MA) between the user and the community concerned by the GR (articles 5 and 17 of the ABS Law).

Indigenous Local communities (ILCs) benefit from co-ownership of relevant intellectual property rights attached to traditional knowledge associated with a genetic resource. (Article 27 of the ABS Law). To enable these ILCs to fully play their roles and take better advantage of the use of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, the Law has provided that the State must support them in the development of a certain number of basic tools for negotiations with Users on the conditions of access to traditional knowledge and the modalities for sharing the benefits resulting from their use (article 22 of the ABS law). One of these instruments is the community biocultural protocol (CBP) referred to in Article 20 of the ABS law. According to this law, this CBP is a participatory tool that articulates the lifestyles, values, procedures, and priorities of indigenous populations and local communities. It serves as the basis for negotiations of Mutually Agreed Terms. Article 10 (2) of the implementing decree of the ABS Law stipulates that the Community Biocultural Protocol must be established based on a framework developed and made available by the ABS Competent National Authority which is the Minister in charge of the environment.

It is in this regard that Cameroon, which benefited from support from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) for the implementation of the Project "Support to Nagoya Protocol implementation, research, and development, on Biodiversity value chain for smallholders in the South-West and Far North Regions of Cameroon", included the development of a guide for the development of community biocultural protocols in the 2024 Work Plan of the said project. So far, with the support of some partners including Natural Justice, the ABS Initiative COMIFAC, and GIZ BioInnovation Africa, an initiative has been piloted to develop a Community Biocultural Protocol for the village of Mintoum, in the Eastern Region of Cameroon. Lessons learned from this initiative and other experiences of the development of CBP in ABS context around the world can be captured to develop a guide document on the process of CBP development in the project selected sites in Cameroon.

It is within this framework that these terms of reference are developed.

II. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this assignment are as follows:

- consult communities that have already developed community bio-cultural protocols like the Mintoum village on the development processes and methodologies, analyze other relevant experiences, and existing guide documents on the process of CBP development around the world, and draw lessons learned;
- Develop a draft guide for the development of community biocultural protocols in Cameroon;
- test the draft guide in a community in Mayo Kani and a community in Kupe Manengoumba to develop a provisional guide for the development of community biocultural protocols in Cameroon to be validated by stakeholders;
- conduct a pilot inventory of traditional knowledge associated with the species *Acacia nilotica*, *Balanites aegyptiaca*, *Irvingia wombolu* and *Monodora myristica* in these communities.

III- EXPECTED RESULTS

- lessons learned from the development processes of CBP in the Mintoum village are recorded through stakeholders' consultation, and the experiences and other guide documents on CBP development around the world are analyzed;
- building on these lessons learned and other experiences of CBP development in ABS context around the world, a draft guide for the development of community biocultural protocols in Cameroon is developed;
- the draft guide is tested in a community in Mayo Kani and a community in Kupe Manengoumba and a provisional guide for the development of community biocultural protocols in Cameroon is elaborated;
- a pilot inventory of traditional knowledge associated with the species *Acacia nilotica*, *Balanites aegyptiaca*, *Irvingia wombolu* and *Monodora myristica* in these communities is carried out for incorporation in the TK national database.

IV- CONTENT SPECIFICATION OF THE GUIDE

The content of the guide must be designed to:

- enlighten indigenous local communities on the key terms used in the development of community bio-cultural protocols;
- define the structure and content elements of community bio-cultural protocols,
- determine local and external stakeholders and their roles in the development of community bio-cultural protocols;
- explain in simple language illustrated by a synoptic diagram the procedure for developing these protocols, including the costs associated with each step;
- indicate the methodology for collecting the biophysical, socio-anthropological and economic data necessary for the development of these protocols;
- propose the institutional and organizational system to be put in place at the local level as part of the development of these protocols;
- indicate to local and indigenous populations the potential technical and financial partners to solicit for the development of these protocols while avoiding possible conflicts of interest as in the context of forest logging;
- specify the physical and electronic bibliographic resources, as well as the resource people to consult;
- specify the conditions and methods for updating these protocols;
- specify the mechanisms to ensure the participation and involvement of ILCs such as the Mbororos and the Pygmies in the process of developing these protocols;
- specify the principles which must govern the development of these documents such as the principle of participation and dialogue, taking into account gender, the ethical and governance principle to be respected by members during the development of these protocols;
- include illustrations with photos, boxes, figures, graphs and diagrams.

V- METHODOLOGY

The consultant must provide a detailed methodology demonstrating how the results will be obtained.

The key steps for undertaking this work can be summarized in three phases as follows:

For phase 1 :

- meeting with the project team;
- review on the guidelines and principles/criteria for developing Community Bio-Cultural Protocols;
- development and validation of the methodology and work plan for the mission,

For phase 2 :

- Field trips to consult communities that have already developed community bio-cultural protocols like the Mintoum village on the development processes and methodologies and draw lessons from them,
- Development of a draft guide for the development of community organic cultural protocols in Cameroon,
- Field surveys in a community in Mayo Kani and a community in Kupe Manengoumba to test this draft guide;
- Production of the provisional guide for the development of community biocultural protocols in Cameroon,
- Facilitation of the rereading and validation workshop of the guide for developing community organic cultural protocols in Cameroon

For phase 3 :

- Pilot inventory of traditional knowledge associated with the species *Acacia nilotica* , *Balanites aegyptiaca* , *Irvingia wimbolu* And *Monodora myristica* in the project target communities in Mayokani and Kupe Manengoumba

VI-DELIVERABLES AND SCHEDULE

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

Deliverables	Deadline
Deliverable 1: bibliographic review on the national and international directives and principles/criteria for the development of community biocultural protocols, accompanied by a methodological note including the timetable for carrying out the mission. These documents will be submitted for proofreading and validation by the Project Management Unit.	No later than 2 weeks after signing the contract.
Deliverable 2 : a consultation report of the communities concerned on the processes and methodologies used for the development of existing organic cultural protocols in Cameroon, accompanied by proposals for improvement.	No later than 3 weeks after validation of the start-up report
Deliverable 3: the draft of a guide for developing community biocultural protocols in Cameroon. Deliverables No. 2 and 3 will be submitted at the same time for review and validation by the PMU	
Deliverable 4: a test report of the guide draft in a community in Mayokani and a community in Kupe Manengoumba	

Deliverable 5: a provisional guide for developing community biocultural protocols in Cameroon	No later than 3 weeks after validation of deliverables No. 2 and 3.
Deliverable 6 : a report from the proofreading workshop and a final guide to the development of community biocultural protocols in Cameroon	No later than 2 weeks after submission of the provisional guide
Deliverable 7 : a preliminary inventory report of traditional knowledge associated with <i>Irvingia species wombolu</i> , <i>Monodora myristica</i> , <i>Balanites aegyptiaca</i> and <i>Acacia nilotica</i> in the project's target communities	No later than 2 weeks after the proofreading workshop

VII. CONSULTANT PROFILE

Consultants interested in this service must:

- Proof of a minimum Msc degree in anthropology, social sciences for development, natural resources management;
- Demonstrate experience in scientific studies or field work related to the social aspects of the ABS process;
- Proof of experience in animation, facilitation, or communication with rural communities;
- have a command of written and spoken French and English. Knowledge of local languages (fulfulde, pidgin) will be an advantage.

VIII. APPLICATION FILE

The application file consists of:

- a detailed cover letter highlighting your specific abilities that will help the consultant succeed in the mission, as well as his interest in this mission;
- certified copies of the diploma(s) dating from less than three months;
- proof of previous experience;
- a technical proposal including the methodology for carrying out the mission;
- an updated and signed Curriculum Vitae (CV);
- an administrative file including a photocopy of the ID card, a Unique Identifier Number and Banking Information.
- a financial proposal.

IX. DURATION

The duration of the consultation is 20 days spread over 2 months.

Date **10 6 MAI 2024**

Approved by



*Dr. Dingom Aurélie
Baylor Patience*