LOW-EMISSION RURAL DEVELOPMENT (LED-R) AT A GLANCE

- Part of former “cocoa belt” productive area in central Côte d’Ivoire, exploited & overused to the point of decimation & loss of agricultural productivity
- Land cover comprised of non-native savanna, secondary semi-deciduous forests, & agricultural lands with high reforestation potential
- Emergence of cashew nut cultivation encourages landowners to actively prevent & fight fires – the main driver of forest degradation
- Various small & medium-scale projects under development target local communities (LC), especially youth & women
- Pilot region for national Forest Investment Program (FIP) project to implement the new National Forest Policy, selected for high deforestation rate & emigration of cocoa producers
- Member of the Assembly of Regions & Districts of Côte d’Ivoire (ARDCI) – multi-level collaboration forum for representation of regions & districts in national & international contexts

SPOTLIGHT ON INNOVATION

Financed by the African Development Bank and Côte d’Ivoire Government, the Agro-Industrial Development Project in the Bélier Region (2 PAI-Bélier) aims to develop Bélier as an agricultural hub, reviving promising industries (eg. rice, maize, cassava, vegetables, pork and fish) and advancing sustainable agricultural and agro-industrial development. Established in 2017, the project works across multiple areas, including agriculture and stockbreeding, transportation and socio-economic infrastructure, representing an integrated approach. Covering the entire Bélier region and Yamoussoukro autonomous district, an area with a 30+ year history of economic decline despite significant agricultural and economic potential, the project uses a diversified rather than sector-based approach to foster sustainable economic development at the grassroots level. The project will benefit 64% of the project area population — with direct benefits reaching women, young graduates, processors, traders, and small/medium enterprises — and is expected to increase agricultural production from 232,000 (2016) to 687,400 tons by 2021. Project activities and foci include capacity building for farmers, building infrastructure to support development, technical and financial support for private initiatives, improved land tenure security and production techniques and factors, nutrition and food security, mechanization, youth employment, and increasing resilience for climate change. The project will be active until 2021, operating in synergy and concurrently with FIP interventions, with the goals of reducing emissions and environmental impacts while increasing carbon sequestration and resilience of production systems.

TIMELINE OF IMPORTANT EVENTS

- Creation of Bélier region
- Bélier Regional Council (CRB) elected
- Joined Governors’ Climate and Forests Task Force (GCF)
- ARDCI adopted Yamoussoukro Declaration, creating Climate & Regions of Africa Fund to support regional climate change strategies
- Bélier selected along with 9 other regions to implement the FIP interventions
- Agro-Industrial Development Project in the Bélier Region (2PAI-Bélier) began
- Signed Letter of Intent (LOI) with Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region, France to strengthen economic partnership
- Oct 2018 – Local level elections

PLEDS & COMMITMENTS

1. Reduce deforestation 80% below baseline.
2. Limit emissions 80-95% from 1990 levels.
3. End deforestation.
4. Contribute to national goal: reduce GHG emissions 28% from 2012 levels, achieve 42% renewable energy, reduce emissions from deforestation & forest degradation.
5. Increase forest cover nationally from 11% to at least 20%.
KEY INTERVENTIONS

FUNDING

INTERNATIONAL 1,2

NATIONAL PUBLIC 1,2

INTERNATIONAL
NATIONAL PUBLIC 3

INTERNATIONAL PRIVATE PROFIT 4

REGIONAL PUBLIC, BILATERAL PUBLIC, NATIONAL PUBLIC, INTERNATIONAL OTHER 5

INTERVENTION & FOCUS

Forest Investment Plan
- Forest restoration, resettlement of Bélier emigrants, sustainable agriculture

Agro-Industrial Development Project in the Bélier Region (2 PAI-Bélier)
- Improve food & nutrition security & alleviate poverty

Arboretum Project
- Creation of a 4 ha arboretum to encourage ecological tourism, environmental education, & sustainable development

Automated Management System for Surface Water & Groundwater
- Pilot project under Bélier LOI with Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes to improve water resource management

ORGANIZATION(S) IMPLEMENTING

NATIONAL PUBLIC 1,2

NATIONAL PUBLIC 1,2

NATIONAL PUBLIC 3

REGIONAL PUBLIC 3

REGIONAL PUBLIC 3, MATERIALS NATIONAL PUBLIC, NATIONAL PUBLIC, INTERNATIONAL OTHER 5

DISINCENTIVES

Lack of financial support for LED-R, particularly at sub-national level

Weak land tenure security & prevalent land conflicts

National Benefit Sharing System under development

LC included in FIP consultations

Regional policies lack alignment & coordination across sectors

National MRV system in place

National FREL is established & jurisdictional FREL will be developed in alignment

Regional level policies generally insufficient for advancing jurisdictional LED-R

National policies lack alignment & coordination across sectors

General lack of relevant policies, due in part to recent formation of the regional level of government

Multi-stakeholder governance

2 PAI & FIP designed through participatory processes

Sustainable agriculture

FIP supports development of agro-forestry initiatives – in addition to teak, rubber & cashew plantations – aiming to resettle indigenous migrant populations in the region

Indigenous peoples & local communities

LC included in FIP consultations

National Benefit Sharing System under development

Weak land tenure security & prevalent land conflicts

LED-R finance

Lack of financial support for LED-R, particularly at sub-national level

ENABLING MEASURES

INCENTIVES

BENEFICIARIES

LC

LC

LC

1 World Bank. 2 African Development Bank (AFDB). 3 Permanent Executive REDD+ Secretary (SEP-REDD). 4 Forestry Development Authority (SODEFOR). 5 Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development (MINADER); 6 National Rural Development Agency (ANADER), National Office of Rice Development (ONDR), National Center for Agronomic Research (CNRA), Office for the Marketing of Food Products (OCPV), Center for San Francisco, CA: EII; Bogor, Indonesia: CIFOR; Boulder, CO: GCF-TF.

PROGRESS TO JURISDICTIONAL SUSTAINABILITY

EARLY

INTERMEDIATE

ADVANCED

Integrated LED-R Strategy

Elements of a LED-R strategy under development through initiatives including 2PAI-Bélier & Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes LOI pilot project

Spatial plan

CRB seeking funding for development of its Regional Spatial Planning Scheme (SRADT), mandated by national legislation

Performance targets

Signatory to international agreements to reduce emissions & deforestation

Monitoring, reporting & verification (MRV)

National MRV system in place

Policies & incentives

Regional level policies generally insufficient for advancing jurisdictional LED-R

Multi-stakeholder governance

2 PAI & FIP designed through participatory processes

Sustainable agriculture

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CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

CHALLENGES

- Traditional practices (e.g. bushfires for hunting) continue to threaten reforestation efforts
- Increase in illegal exploitation of gold by foreigners
- Lack of financial & technical capacity at regional level
- Administrative structure of Côte d’Ivoire & national approach to REDD+ activity implementation → lack of sub-national autonomy
- Lack of resources for national government to finance CRB, leaving CRB to seek external support
- Political crises, high interest in agricultural development, & population growth threaten LED-R progress

OPPORTUNITIES

- Educational campaigns & visible impacts of climate change → increasing awareness of deforestation & climate-related issues within the region
- Availability of land for reforestation
- Growing interest in the government & LC/farmers to protect the savannah from forest fires in cashew orchards
- Decentralization initiatives since the end of civil conflict in 2011 → increasing support for developing sub-national capacities & authority
- Increasing efficiency & diversity of agricultural sector – in line with national sustainable development principles & commitments – could allow coordination with private sector & international funders

CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

CITATION


COMPLETE REFERENCES & DATA SOURCES PROVIDED AT www.earthinnovation.org/state-of-jurisdictional-sustainability

TECHNICAL TEAM

SUPPORTED BY

Norad

Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

CGIAR

Forest, Trees and Agroforestry

Based on a decision of the German Bundestag