

**Summary for Policy  
Makers**

**REDD+ Côte D'IVOIRE  
National Strategy**



**Foreword: Mr. Prime Minister, Minister of budget and of State Portfolio, Head of Government**

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The landscapes and ecosystems of Cote d'ivoire, which is among the richest in the world, contain a large number of endemic animal and plant species. Forests play an important role in the well-being of populations and their socio-economic development. They contribute to the mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions and to the strengthening of the resilience to climate change. However, the advanced state of deterioration of the forest which has lost about 90 % of its initial area since the year 1900, is heavily weigh heavy threatening this biological diversity in a context of climate change.

Cote d'ivoire committed itself to the international REDD+ mechanism in 2011 in order to contribute to the global fight against climate change and to restore its plant cover strongly degraded. This commitment was reaffirmed at the highest State summit in 2012 through the Decree No. 2012-1049 of 24 October 2012 relating to the establishment, organization and functioning of the National CREDD+ commission. The objective of the Ivorian Government is to achieve a rate of plant cover of at least 20% of the national territory by 2030. This ambition is supported by a strong political will of the President of the Republic through his various speeches at the United Nations Assemblies on climate change. Therefore, initiatives such as the Code of the Forest, the orientation law on sustainable development, the orientation law for agriculture, and the New York Declaration on forests have been taken.

In the framework of its commitment, the Government of Cote d'Ivoire has developed the REDD+ National Strategy with all the stakeholders. This document is the fruit of a rich collaboration between public organizations, the private sector and civil society organizations. It is aligned with the international requirements defined by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). With its systemic vision, this strategy commits all countries in a transformational approach through an integrated approach, which combines economic development, social welfare and preservation of natural resources. The development of National REDD+ Strategy marks an important step in the management of the natural resources of the Côte d'Ivoire.

That is why, I congratulate the ministry of Food Safety, the Environment and Sustainable Development, as well as the members of the REDD+ National Commission. I also forward my acknowledgements to the technical and financial partners who supported the REDD+ process. Finally, I would like to reaffirm the commitment of the government to work towards a sustainable management of forest, foundation of the development of the Côte d'Ivoire.

**Amadou Gon Coulibaly**

**FOREWORD: Honorable Minister of safety, Environment and Sustainable  
Development, deputy spokesperson of the Government**

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In most tropical countries, forests are the main environmental asset for mitigation of climate change effects. However, these forests are also at the core of numerous economic covetousness for agriculture, forestry, energy, construction of infrastructure, mining with the involvement of many players, often with conflicting interests. This plurality of issues, interests and actors raises the issue of the coordination of multisectoral policies in a context of sustainable development.

In light of this observation, my ministerial department in collaboration with all departments and institutions active in the sustainable management of forests initiated the elaboration of the document of the National REDD+ Strategy, with all stakeholders. The REDD+ process being folded into three phases: preparation, implementation and payment, I am glad that we were able to finalize this first step of the process marked by the approval of the preparation Plan to REDD+ (R-PP) and especially about the adoption of the National REDD+ Strategy. During this phase, several consultations were carried out at the local, regional, national and international level with the involvement of all stakeholders: national house of kings and traditional leaders, local communities, administration, civil society, media, locally elected representatives, universities and research centers, territorial communities, the private sector including the large agricultural Inter-trade bodies, and the technical and financial partners.

The document is aligned with the National Development Plan and consistent with the international commitments of the Côte d'Ivoire. It is folded into priority actions to be carried out in an integrated manner in order to address the major causes of deforestation and forest degradation.

The challenge is to strengthen the synergies of actions between the various stakeholders in the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy for a greener Côte d'Ivoire. The Ministry of Environment will continue to play its catalytic role for achieving the objectives of sustainable development in all sectors and mitigate the effects of climate change.

I would like to acknowledge the technical and financial partners and all the experts who have contributed to the drafting of this strategy.

**ANNE Desiree OULOTO**

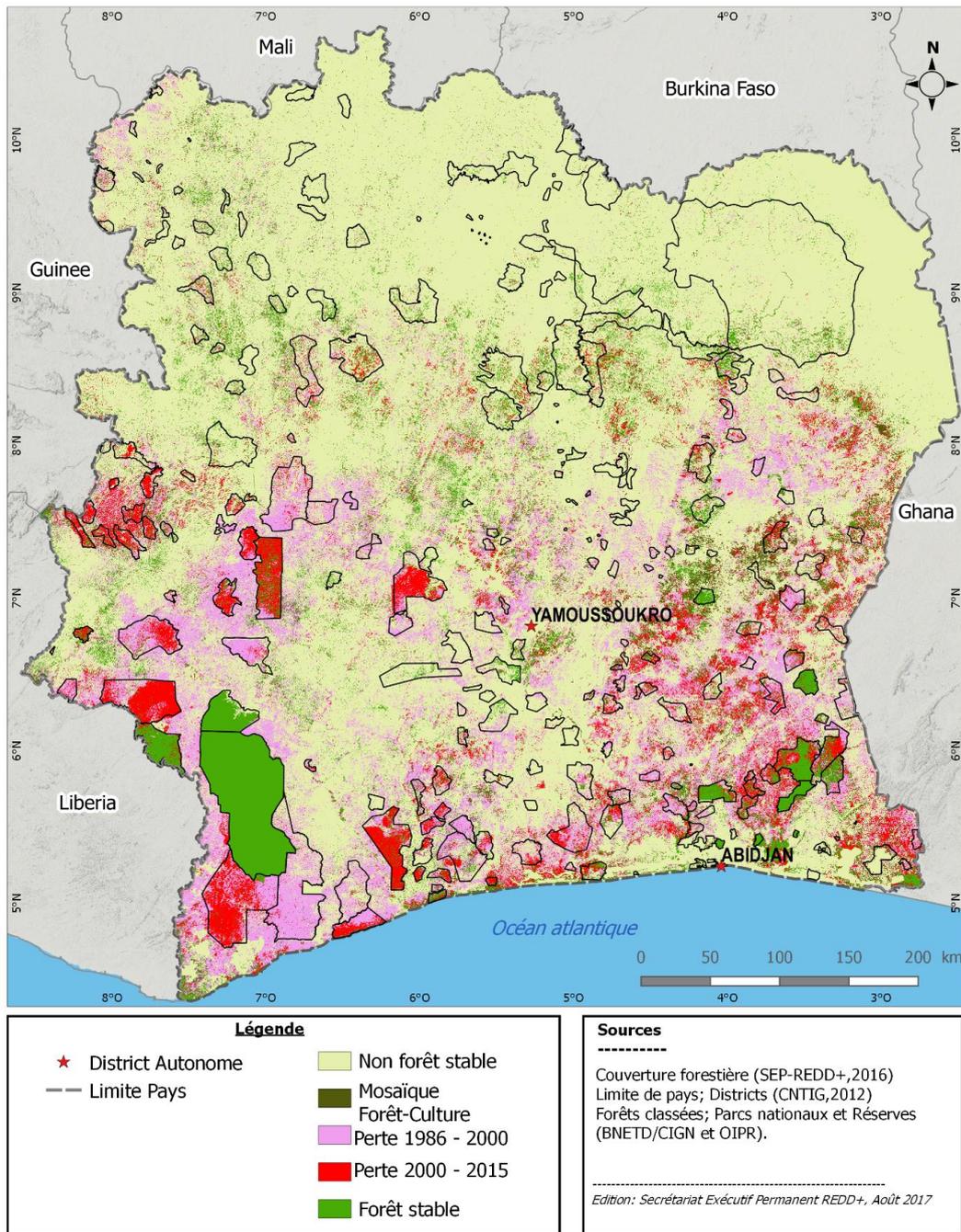
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## **1. Cote d'Ivoire, between poverty reduction, economic development and preservation of the last forest massifs**

The area of forest in Cote d'Ivoire is part of the most extensive area of the forest of High Guinea (FHG) in West Africa, which goes from Guinea to Togo. These forests are home to an exceptional variety of habitats rich in plant species - there are 2 800 vascular forest plants, of which 23% are endemic, and they are home to one of the most large varieties of mammals in the world. However, since the year 2000 the region of the FHG is formally part of the sensitive areas in the world for the conservation of the biodiversity due to the high rate of deforestation it has suffered (80% of its original size). In less than a century, Cote d'Ivoire has lost almost 90% of its natural forests under the pressure of several factors, including uncontrolled extension of agricultural lands, gold washing, etc. This rapid disappearance of forests in Côte d'Ivoire is one of the manifestations of the most spectacular tropical deforestation in Africa. The primary forest of Côte d'Ivoire has been largely turned into a mosaic of secondary forests, commodity and wood farms, food crops and fallow lands.

This pressure is related in part, to the sources of income of the Ivorian population, mostly rural and making a living from agricultural production. The increase in production is carried out through the slash-and-burn practices, thus contributing to the deforestation and the degradation of forests. In this context, only national parks and reserves still have large forest massifs. However these latter ones, as well as the protected forests, are subject to intense pressures from the part of thousands of households already settled in some of these areas. In addition to the impacts of deforestation on the increase in the emissions of CO<sub>2</sub>, the link between deforestation and rainfall, and, therefore, between forest and agricultural productivity is more and more scientifically obvious. Thus, in a global context of climate change, the disappearance of the last forest blocks is likely to primarily compromise the development objectives in the agricultural sector. The Ivorian population, mainly the producers today are unanimous on the reality of climate change and the consequences of deforestation on the quality of their soils and on the rainfall.



**Picture 1 : deforestation Map in Cote d'Ivoire between 1990 and 2015**

The international REDD+ mechanism aims at reducing emissions of greenhouse gases from deforestation and forest degradation.

The long political-military crisis (2002-2011) had a very negative economic and social impact on the country. Since 2012, Côte d'Ivoire had initiated a new economic impetus, with an average annual GDP growth rate of 9% until 2015. The country is experiencing a rapid population growth as a result of a high birth rate, but also a high immigration from neighboring countries. The poverty rate of 46% in 2015 (INS 2015) against 48% in 2008, the country ranking then at 172<sup>rd</sup> (out of 188) of the Human Development Index (HDI) 2015 of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). With a gross domestic product (GDP) of approximately 31 billion US dollars, the Ivory Coast is the second largest economy in West Africa after Nigeria, and the largest economy in the West Africa Economic and Monetary

Union<sup>1</sup> . The exploitation of natural resources is directly or indirectly the major part of export products (raw or processed materials, equipment of extraction and treatment). The Ivorian export thus relies on three main sectors: agriculture, forestry and the extractive industries. The secondary sector, which represents 26% of GDP, grew by 4%.

**2. The direct and indirect drivers of deforestation and degradation of forest**

The direct and indirect drivers of deforestation and degradation of forests in the Côte d'Ivoire are summarized in Tables 1 and 2.

Table 1 : Direct drivers of deforestation and degradation of forest

Direct Drivers	Characteristics
<b>Agriculture</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Main driver of the Economy [Cocoa (first world producer), cashews (first producer and exporter in the world), rubber (7<sup>th</sup> World producer), coffee, palm oil, mango, pineapple, banana, Cotton, Cola, etc.]</li> <li>- Main factor of deforestation for 25 years;</li> </ul>
<b>Forestry and industrial sawing Services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Depletion of the resource causing the recourse to the exploitation of timber with non authorized diameter;</li> <li>- Illegal traditional exploitation in rising trend.</li> </ul>
<b>Firewood, charcoal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The main source of domestic energy for cooking in Cote d'Ivoire (firewood dominant in rural areas; charcoal dominant in the urban area);</li> <li>- Important Economic sector mainly informal.</li> </ul>
<b>Extractive Industries and gold washing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Extractive industries in expansion;</li> <li>- Overlap of Exploration License and protected forests;</li> <li>- Traditional gold and diamonds mining in expansion</li> <li>- Infiltration of national parks, protected forests and rural area by illegal gold diggers;</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> World Bank. (2011). The country Highlights: Côte d'Ivoire. World Bank: Washington, D.C.

<p><b>Economic factors: the opportunity costs of deforestation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Main factor of indirect deforestation;</li> <li>- Absence of sufficient economic incentives that encourage local communities to opt for reforestation or forest conservation;</li> <li>- Economic value of ecosystem services not included in the economy.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Issues related to rural land tenure</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Competition for access to the land between the different users and recurrence of land disputes leading to</li> <li>- The displacement of populations and persons;</li> <li>- Prohibitive cost of land title.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Land Use Policy</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Absence of harmonized Land Use policy that can ensure a sustainable development of the various sectors related to land use;</li> </ul>
<p><b>Political and institutional factors</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Weakness of governance in forestry sector;</li> <li>- Institutional instability;</li> <li>- Low synergy of sectoral policies.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Demographic factors</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Demographic pressure on the forest resources;</li> <li>- Migration movements from neighboring countries;</li> </ul>
<p><b>Agricultural productivity and climate change</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Low level of agricultural intensification</li> <li>- Decrease of the rainfall and temperature rise;</li> <li>- Disturbance of cropping calendars</li> </ul>

### 3. The objectives of the National REDD+ Strategy

*The country committed itself in June 2011 to REDD+, becoming a member of two international platforms of technical and financial support to the REDD+: the UN-REDD Program (which is a partnership FAO/UNDP/UNEP) and the FCPF (World Bank). Cote d'Ivoire has, since 2013, with the support of several technical and financial partners, including the French Agency for Development (AFD) through the contract of debt reduction and development (C2D) and the European Union REDD+ relief. The first step toward the national REDD+ strategy was formalized by the R-PP, which identifies all preparation activities for REDD+ mechanism. On the basis of the preliminary options, the national consultations and studies such as the one which focused on "drivers of deforestation and degradation of forests in Côte d'Ivoire", have allowed to structure and consolidate the strategic options. From 2015, for the sake of a greater commitment of stakeholders in the management of forest resources and land use, consultations of various stakeholders in REDD+ mechanism helped to develop tools and instruments for the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy .*

The REDD+ mechanism aims at reducing emissions of greenhouse gases from deforestation and forest degradation. It is an opportunity to sustainably preserve the last natural forests and to restore the plant cover, in the framework of an integrated vision of development and transition to a green economy. It mainly represents a new opportunity to strengthen the national dialog and the necessary convergence of public policies and sectoral investment for a real transformation of the economy and the Ivorian society. The commitment of Côte d'Ivoire in REDD+ is aligned with the objectives of major benchmarks for the development of the country, and in particular with PND 2016-2020, the Prospective Vision 2040, the PNIA, the National Program on Climate Change and the contributions determined at the national level (CDN). They are setting the priorities in the fight against deforestation, the preservation of natural resources and the restoration of the forest cover.

The National Strategy is one of the four structuring elements that was agreed upon at the international level as a prerequisite for the implementation of REDD+ and access to payments based on results. It is based on a thorough analysis of the direct drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and, takes into account the environmental, economic and social aspirations. The orientations declined with the assistance of all stakeholders in the framework of the process of development of the national strategy are highly compliant with the objectives of the environmental integrity, and take into account the multiple functions of forests and other ecosystems. They support the participation of all stakeholders for a concerted development around the forests. They aimed at reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG) from forests and increasing the resilience of the populations to climate change. With a goal of reducing deforestation by 80% in the protected forests and protected areas and replenishing 5 million hectares of degraded land, the National REDD+ Strategy is an essential tool for the rehabilitation of CDN reduction objectives (reduction by 28% in GHG emissions compared to the level in 2012, or 24.5 MtCO<sub>2</sub>eq not including forestry).

	Objectives 2030
1. Reduction of deforestation and degradation of protected forests and areas	<b>80% compared to 2015</b>
2. Restoration of forest cover in introducing trees in agricultural and Rural landscapes	<b>5 000 000 ha</b>

The achievement of these quantitative objectives is attached with qualitative objectives in terms of the development co-benefits:

- Reduce poverty by increase in productivity of rural cocoa, rubber, oil palm and cashew farms, in order to increase the income and livelihood of producers;
- Improve food security through the promotion of food crops in association with reforestation and cash crops;
- Protect the remaining natural forests and the biodiversity in the areas of production;
- Strengthen the competitiveness of Ivorians agricultural products on the global market;
- Strengthen the resilience of production systems in the face of climate change through the

restoration of the forest cover in areas of production;

- Create jobs for young people and women by the development of new jobs connected to sustainable energy solutions as well as intensive labor jobs in the reforestation and the wood processing activities;
- Strengthen the rights of local communities in the management of natural resources by securing land and building their capacities to take an active role in the management of forests.

The first period of implementation of the SNREDD+ covers the period from 2017 to 2030. In this context, before the overall assessment (in 2030), the achievement of the overall objective, a mid-term iterative evaluation will be carried out every five years. These quinquennial evaluations will help to integrate the objectives of REDD+ in the sectoral development policies. The National REDD+ Strategy of Côte d'Ivoire will remain flexible so that it can be revised, adapted and even rewritten as and when the conditions, experiences and circumstances change and new opportunities emerge.

#### 4. The eight strategic options of REDD+ in Côte d'Ivoire

The proposed eight (08) policy options enables to treat all drivers of deforestation and degradation of forests in Côte d'Ivoire on the basis of the realities of the regions and complement for the achievement of the overall objective of the REDD+ mechanism. Each strategic option is structured around specific objectives that it targets and a series of policies and measures. The identified axes of intervention incorporate provisions for the prevention and management of environmental and social aspects. These efforts will benefit the whole of the communities, including vulnerable groups such as women and young people.

**Table 3 : Strategic Options REDD+ anchored in the drivers of deforestation**

Facteurs de la Déforestation	Facteurs directs de la déforestation					Facteurs indirectes et Barrières		
	Expansion de l'agriculture (cacaoculture, Hévéaculture, Culture de palmier, Cultures vivrières, etc.) ; Exploitation forestière (coupe à blanc >1000 m2), Production de bois de feu et charbon ; Extension des infrastructures (Habitat et Transport) ; Exploitation minière (Orpaillage artisanal, industriel) ; Propagation des feux de brousse					Prix des commodités agricole ; Croissances démographiques ; Crises politiques ; Faiblesse de la gouvernance ; Volonté politique basée sur la valorisation agricole des forêts ; Insécurité foncière ; Méconnaissance des alternatives ; Absence d'un schéma d'aménagement du territoire ; Retour sur investissement long pour le bois d'œuvre		
Options stratégiques	option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4	Option 5	Option 6	Option 7	Option 8
	Agriculture zéro déforestation en partenariat Public-Privé	énergie domestique durable avec valorisation de la biomasse agricole	Gestion durable des forêts classées et conservation des aires protégées et des forêts sacrées	Boisement/ Reboisement, restauration des forêts et des terres dégradées	Exploitation minière respectueuse de l'environnement	système d'incitation de type paiement pour services environnementaux (PSE)	Aménagement du territoire et sécurisation foncière	Planification nationale et réformes structurelles pour la transition vers une économie verte

Cote d'vore opted for an implementation of REDD+ based on a national approach, in order to avoid the phenomenon of displacement of drivers of deforestation and the associated emissions from one area of the country to another, which would negate in part the reductions of emissions or absorption generated. The Strategic Options are however implemented based on a landscape approach, because the drivers of deforestation are also numerous and interconnected. The national results of REDD+ will be achieved through the implementation of various policies and measures of the National REDD+ Strategy in various priority areas. This prioritization is made on the basis of mapping analysis of the drivers of deforestation.

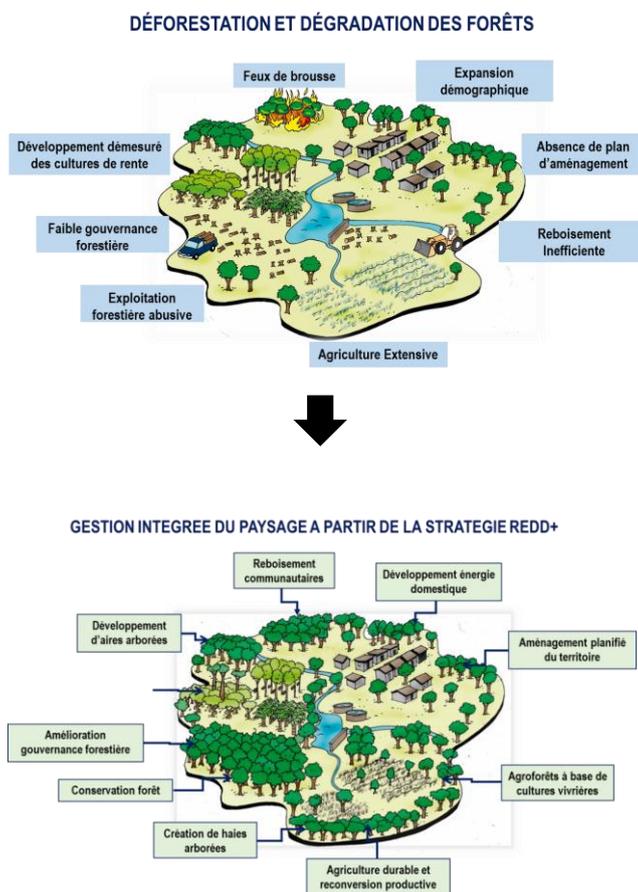


Figure 2 : The National REDD+ Strategy theory of change

### **Strategic Option 1: Zero Deforestation Agriculture in public-private partnership**

**Objective of the Strategic Option 1:** Reduce by 80% deforestation generated for agricultural production to by 2030 (a reduction by 74 400 ha/year), mainly in the field of State protected forestry and protected areas, while improving agricultural productivity in protected forestry field, preservation of biodiversity and improvement of the livelihood of the producers, in contributing to the national effort of reconstitution of forest cover.

**Specific objectives :**

- Non-forested land included in the protected forestry field , outside protected areas and forests (except in particular cases of com-farms created by the SODEFOR);
- to contribute to the national effort to restoration of the forests in the area protected forest - In order to compensate, in part, the historical deforestation - and restoration of the protected and deteriorated forests and areas;
- Protect the rights on the use of the land of producers through clarification and securing of land;
- Improve equitably the livelihood of producers, women, men and their communities.

### A. Policies and general measures for agricultural sector

- PM1: Assessment of Risks and opportunities related to forests in the basins of supply;
- PM 2: Information on the origin of the products and monitoring of deforestation;
- PM 3: Support to small producers for the improvement of productivity;
- PM 4: Support to the emergence of "sustainable territories" <sup>2</sup> Deemed without deforestation through a device of incitement of PSE type;
- PM 5: Restore the protected and deteriorated Forests ;
- PM 6: commitment of the private sector to the sector and partnership with the government;
- PM 7: awareness, commitment, communication and trade agreements;
- PM 8: Establishment of a national platform on zero deforestation agriculture

***Objective of reducing REDD+ :*** Reduce by at least 80% deforestation due to the culture of the cocoa by 2030, a reduction of 44,000 hectares/year

### B. Cocoa Industry

- PM 1: Decoupling of cocoa-culture and deforestation in rural areas;
- PM 2: Contribution to the sustainable management of protected forests, parks and reserves and restoration of degraded forests in the areas of cocoa production;
- PM 3: commitment of cocoa private sector in capitalizing on the sustainability agenda already in progress;
- PM 4: Creation of a working group on the theme of climate change within the platform of Public-Private Partnership.

***REDD+ reduction Objective :*** Reduce by at least 90% deforestation due to rubber farming, to achieve zero deforestation by 2030, that is a reduction by 22,500 hectares/year.

### C. Rubber Sector

- PM 1: Alignment of Strategic documents of rubber culture to the objectives of Agriculture zero deforestation policy;
- PM 2: Regeneration of old farms of rubber trees in the forest zone and promote the development of new rubber farms in the transition zone forest-savanna;
- PM 3: Promotion of food security by combining the food crops and rubber culture;
- PM 4: Strengthening of good quality rubber tree subsidy program for small holders, women and young people;
- PM 5: Strengthening the process of traceability of the entire value chain;
- PM 6: Strengthening the support program to secure land;

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<sup>2</sup> these territories or "sustainable territories" are composed of one or several territory(s) contiguous villages not experiencing net loss of natural forests (verifiable by remote sensing images) and with a minimum of 20% of forest cover.

PM 7: Promotion of technical and Economic value of rubber firewood into softwood lumber and firewood.

***REDD+ Objective for reduction:*** Reduce by at least 90 % deforestation due to oil palm farming by 2030, that is, a reduction of 10,800ha / year.

#### D. Oil Palm Sector

PM 1: Development of new oil palm farms in the context of a Land use and management Plan which respects the identified protection areas;

PM 2: Intensification of oil palm farms, through adoption of best agricultural and conservation practices;

PM 3: Promotion of Land securing, while respecting the rights and values of local communities and those of non-owner operators (individual farmer, agro-industry);

PM 4: Development of a sustainable funding mechanism for zero deforestation palm oil production;

PM 5: Application of national principles defined in the framework of the Tropical Forest Alliance 2020 Palm Oil Initiative, where appropriate, application of RSPO principles and criteria to projects and programs for the expansion of oil palm planted surface areas;

PM 6: Alignment of the Oil Palm Sector Strategic Documents with the objectives of the Zero Deforestation Agriculture Policy;

PM 7: Promotion of the Ivorian Zero Deforestation palm oil among international buyers and investors who committed for zero deforestation before their clients.

***REDD+ Objective for reduction:*** Reduce deforestation due to the cashew nut industry, contribute to the reforestation effort, and improve farmers' yields.

#### E. Cashew Sector

PM 1: Development of new cashew farms on non-forest and degraded lands to promote carbon sequestration with improved plant material to increase farmers' income;

PM 2: Promotion of Agroforestry systems with timber species other than Cashew in the farms;

PM 3: Strengthening research for the establishment of high performance plant material that can be used as matured lumber;

PM 4: Establishment of a quality seedling grant program for the benefit of smallholder farmers based on the Rubber Farming model;

PM 5: Organization of farmers as Cooperative Society and strengthening of the technical coaching;

PM 6: Establishment of a Farmer Traceability System up to Processing.

***REDD+ Objective for reduction:*** Reduce deforestation due to food crops, while ensuring food safety and sovereignty for the country, increase of agricultural households' income, while preserving the consumers' purchasing power with an approach based on the promotion of youth and women.

## F. Food Crops

PM 1: Promotion of agroforestry in the production of food crops (introduction of legumes, fruit trees and wood fuel in particular), by integrating food crops in the interlining of reforestation, rubber and cashew farms;

PM 2: creating and building the capacity of food crop farmers' organizations with a particular emphasis on women;

PM 3: Intensification of food crop production through control and management of irrigation water, promotion of mechanization, use of quality agricultural inputs, including organic inputs;

PM 4: Strengthening agronomic research for the creation of varieties adapted to the various climate change consequences (short-cycle varieties, more tolerant to drought, flooding and pests);

PM 5: Establishment of an Agricultural Information System to communicate on weather forecasts through rehabilitation of rainfall stations, as well as information on the markets;

PM 6: Promotion of food products processing through support to young entrepreneurs and to women organizations for better value-creation and conservation of products.

## **STRATEGIC OPTION 2: Sustainable Domestic Energy Strategy with value-creation of the agricultural biomass**

***Objective of Strategic Option 2:*** Establish a sustainable value chain for cooking energy, including charcoal, through strengthening provision of biomass energy through reforestation for wood fuel purposes value-creation of agricultural residues in biochar briquette. The products from wood fuel plantations will be used, either as fire-wood, or transformed into charcoal for energy efficiency improvement through the use of improved fireplaces by households.

### ***Specific Objectives:***

- Improve the institutional framework for the development and implementation of domestic cooking energy policy, as well as research on the biomass and renewable energies;
- Ensure a sustainable supply of wood biomass energy, through an incentive policy of reforestation and plantation for energy purposes, including value-creation of agricultural residues (agro-industrial by-products for the production of biochar briquettes);
- Improve the other links in the value chain such as charcoal production (or carbonization), transportation, distribution (including storage) and retail sale;
- Improve and facilitate access to other alternative domestic energy sources to the biomass such as butane gas, solar heating, etc.;
- Promote energy efficiency and sobriety through the development of new technologies for creating value of the biomass and the use of improved fireplaces

PM 1: Strengthening of the institutional framework for the formalization of the charcoal value chain;

PM 2: Securing a sustainable supply of biomass energy;

- PM 3: Support for an effective and sustainable production of charcoal from the biomass;
- PM 4: Improvement of distribution and marketing of cooking energy from the biomass;
- PM 5: Promotion of energy efficiency and sobriety.

### **STRATEGIC OPTION 3: Sustainable Management of forests and conservation of protected areas**

*Objective of Strategic Option 3: Ensure preservation of conserved areas and gradual restoration of all degraded spaces, through implementation of a more participatory and inclusive management approach which takes into account the economic, social and environmental challenges.*

**Specific Objectives**

- *Reduce illegal logging and illegal timber trade through involvement of all stakeholders in the development and application of forest regulations, as well as improvement of Governance (See. FLEGT));*
- *Strengthen protection of gazetted forests and protected areas, through modern management methods;*
- *Restore degraded spaces through reforestation and regeneration, or gazing;*
- *define a specific model for the Management of infiltrated populations in order to gradually restore degraded forests;*
- *Improve forest governance through building the institutional capacity of Forest Managers, and involvement of local communities in forests management;*
- *Build the technical, material and financial capacity of the organizations in charge of managing the classified forest area and protected areas;*
- *Support adaptation of wood industries to forests production capacities by assisting them to get equipped with machines and tools required for processing wood of small diameters.*

PM 1: Enhancing the legal exploitation and sustainable exploitation of timber through implementation of the APV-FLEGT process and other certification mechanisms of sustainable management;

PM 2: Strengthening governance of gazetted forests;

PM 3: Management of Agricultural infiltrations in gazetted forests;

PM 4: Development of partnerships for restoration of gazetted forests;

PM 5: Strengthening protection and sustainable management of protected areas;

PM 6: Strengthening the Statute of Sacred Forests, and conservation of community forests.

## **STRATEGIC OPTION 4: Afforestation/Reforestation, Restoration of degraded forests and lands**

*Objective of Strategic Option 4: 3.2 million hectares of lands restored in the rural area by 2030 (on average 200,000 ha of lands restored per year)*

**Specific Objectives:**

- *Build the capacity of existing organizations in charge of reforestation to ensure reforestation-related coaching and monitoring;*
- *Structuring the various links in the Timber value chain in order to optimize production and promote green jobs in the sector;*
- *Promote village reforestation through the development of organizational models of local communities, while ensuring food safety;*
- *Promote partnerships between the private sector and Village Farmers with diversification of species to be reforested in order to ensure food security and alleviate poverty;*
- *Secure supplies of Lumber and biomass energy by increasing the supply for Timber depending on the types of uses, while ensuring food security by systematically integrating food crops productions in all reforestation to performed (Taungya Model);*
- *Stimulate the local market with training, Organization and building the production capacity of local craft people.*

PM 1: Strengthening the institutional framework for implementing the restoration policy of the forest cover and reforestation;

PM 2: Establishment of an institutional mechanism for production of tree seeds;

PM 3: Development of village plantations;

PM 4: protection and monitoring of forests, and reforestation;

PM 5: Traceability, coaching and development of partnership agreements for exploitation and marketing of Timber;

PM 6: Establishment of a sustainable funding mechanism for reforestation;

PM 7: Strengthening of the industry for adapting Timber production tools to small diameter wood.

## STRATEGIC OPTION 5: Environmentally Sound Mining

**Objective of Strategic Option 5:** *Reduction of 70% of deforestation due to mining by 2030, and compensation for residual deforestation, through the development of a “mining sector with low ecological footprint” through the development of environmental and social safeguards, and the promotion of CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) from Companies and of Gold Mining Cooperatives.*

**Specific Objectives:**

- Regularize Gold Mining to ensure a better monitoring by the Government;
- Popularize Good Mining Practices;
- Rehabilitate degraded Industrial Mining areas;
- Establish a financial mechanism of the Mining sector for restoration of the National Forest Cover.

PM 1 Strengthening the regulatory framework of the National Gold Mining rationalization Program;

PM 2: Mapping of sites of Gold Mining and identification of Gold Miners;

PM 3: Professionalization of the Gold Mining activity and restoration of degraded sites;

PM 4: Development of safeguard measures for Mining operations;

PM 5: Improvement of the funding mechanism for the contribution of the Mining sector to the national effort to restore the Forest Cover.

## STRATEGIC OPTION 6: Payment-type incentive system for environmental services

**Objective of Strategic Option 6:** *Establish a Payment-type incentive system for Environmental Services (PES) in order to involve small producers and local communities in the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy activities. Therefore, through the PES, this is all about providing an investment capacity that was missing, mainly to smallholder Farmers and local communities, allowing them to make investments in reforestation and agroforestry, specifically in the case of forest conservation.*

**Specific Objectives:**

- Combine two dimensions, which are (i) Commitment for Conservation (Forest easement restriction) and (ii) investment on collective or family spaces
- Build the investment capacity in forestry activities (seed production, production of seedlings), but also the organizational capacities of stakeholders from a request motivated by incentives
- Facilitate the transition towards more sustainable agricultural practices that effectively reduce deforestation. In such a case, payments can be made in the form of inputs
- Promote agro-sylvo-pastoral practices through the PESs to increase the resilience of agricultural systems to changes in the climate and in the environment conditions;
- Use the national system of PSE as a means to transfer the REDD+ Incentives from the national level to the local communities.

PM1: Establishment of four PSE modalities: Agroforestry, Village Reforestation, Assisted Natural Regeneration, Forest Conservation;

PM 2: Establishment of a National PSE System Governance Mechanism;

PM 3: Establishment of a domestic funding mechanism for PSEs.

## **STRATEGIC OPTION 7: *Aménagement du territoire et sécurisation foncière***

### A. Land Use Planning Reform

***Objective:*** Support the Rural Land Reform

***Objective of Strategic Option 7:*** Resume the Land Use Planning in Côte d'Ivoire by incorporating the challenges of forest resources preservation

PM 1: Integration of the issues of natural resources preservation and of the REDD+ mechanism, in general, in the manual for the developing Regional Land Use planning and Development Schemes;

PM 2: Support to Local Authorities for achieving regional land use planning and development schemes for each of the priority regions for the REDD+;

PM 3: Development of a national framework for Land Use Planning, and development of a national Land Use Planning Scheme.

### B. Reform of the Rural Land Tenure

PM 1: Renovation of Rural Land Tenure Domain Governance Tools;

PM 2: Rationalization of technical operations of delimitation, registration and issuance of property documents;

PM 3: Intensification of awareness raising, information, training and communication campaigns;

PM 4: Establishment of an innovative funding mechanism;

PM 5: Establishment of a mechanism to encourage the establishment of the Rural Land Tenure Certificate.

## **STRATEGIC OPTION 8: National Planning and Structural Reforms for the transition To a Green Economy**

***General Objective:** Promote the development and orientation of national policies and measures in line with the Sustainable Development Goals consistent with the commitments made by the country. This option intends to present decision makers with a persuasive argument to couple REDD+ planning with investments and planning in favor of a Green Economy.*

***Specific Objectives:***

- *Integrate the REDD+ mechanism and the Sustainable Development Goals in the National Planning;*
- *Promote a new look on the forests by better consideration of their values in the National Economic Accounts (reevaluation of forests in the National Accounting, Taxation and Budgetary allocation Systems, etc.);*
- *Take into account REDD+ objectives and Sustainable Development Goals in the National Budgeting;*
- *Address other indirect deforestation factors like demography and immigration.*

PM 1: Integration REDD+ Objectives and of Sustainable Development in the National Development documents (PND and Vision 2040): the “Threshold 21” model (T21);

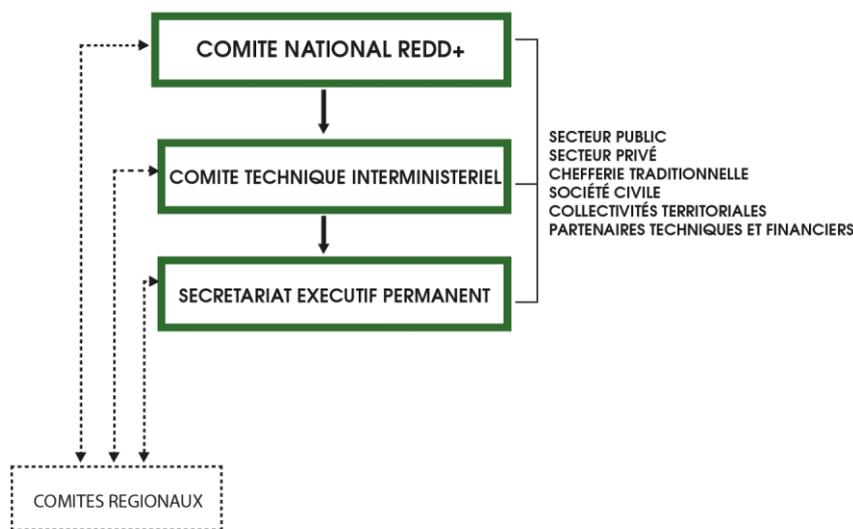
PM 2: Internalization of the ecosystem services economic value provided by forests in the National Accounts;

PM 3: Alignment of National Public Funding with REDD+ objectives;

PM 4: Control of population increase: birth rate and immigration.

### **5. A Transparent and Sound Governance Model**

The regulatory and institutional landscape of Côte d’Ivoire offer many advantages for the sound implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy. In addition to the international conventions related to the Environmental Management and ratified by the country, several national laws are available and can be used as the basis for the REDD+. However, a few recommendations for improvement have been proposed through a legal roadmap with a view of harmonizing some provisions of the legislative and regulatory texts for consideration of the REDD+ challenges. Also, to ensure efficient management of the REDD+ Process in Côte d’Ivoire, the President of the Republic has taken Order No. 2012-1049 dated 24 October 2012 in order to create an appropriate Governance Entity.



*Institutional Framework REDD+ Implementation*

## 6. National REDD+ Strategy Support and Governance Tools

### A. Environmental and social Safeguards

To manage the challenges and impacts of the REDD+ NS, and in accordance with the International REDD+ Requirements, the safeguards instruments have been prepared. These instruments define the provisions, mechanisms and procedures to be implemented to manage the topics addressed based on the World Bank safeguard policies. These contain an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), a Resettlement Policy Framework (CPR), a Pests and Pesticides Management Plan (PGPP), a Cultural Physical Resources Management Framework (CGRCP), and a Functional Framework of Access to Natural Resources (CFARN)

### B. Free, Prior and Informed Consent (CLIP)

Côte d'Ivoire has ratified several international legal instruments that protect the rights of communities as regard exploitation of natural resources on their lands and territories, and acknowledge the CLIP as a right which local communities have to refuse accept any project likely to affect their lands, their natural resources, their lifestyle and their livelihood. As part of the National REDD+ Strategy, the CLIP will be developed as a safeguard measure, and integrated in the Safeguard Information System (SIS), including for large scale reforestation projects and for Timber Concessions. This will help ensure full and effective participation and consultation of all stakeholders, and avoid, as much as possible, the conflicts around the use of lands and forests.

### C. National REDD+ Strategy Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

The Strategy Monitoring and Evaluation Framework will help policy makers and stakeholders take important decisions on how to improve piloting of programs and initiatives to implement

the National REDD+ Strategy. For each of these programs and initiatives, monitoring and evaluation systems will be developed to inform the National Investment Framework, which will be subsequently developed for the National REDD+ Strategy.

The members of the National REDD+ Commission (CN REDD+, CTI REDD+ and SEP-REDD+) will be a solid platform to facilitate the integration of the strategy in the sector-related policies and monitoring, evaluation and review of the progress and performance of the National REDD+ Strategy implementation. In addition to the overall Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, which will be updated to take into account the implementation phase of the REDD+ Process, three accessible and transparent tools will help monitor the implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy:

- **The National Forest Surveillance System;**
- **The National REDD+ Register;**
- **The Safeguard Information System (SIS).**

#### **D. Complaints and Appeals Settlement Mechanism**

In order to prevent and facilitate the settlement of potential conflicts in the context of the REDD+ mechanism, a Complaints Settlement Mechanism (MRP) has been developed and will be accessible to the populations in order to properly manage the complaints on the entire national territory. It puts forward conflicts and complaints settlement through mediation. It is however not excluded that the provisions of the Forest Code, the Rural Land Tenure Code, or any other Applicable Laws be applied in the management of the relevant resources.

#### **E. Communication**

The communication component will provide strategic support to improve the understanding of the REDD+ mechanism, encourage membership, ownership and commitment of all stakeholders, including from beneficiaries. Implementation of communication actions will rely on a communication strategy developed from a relevant situational analysis to better pinpoint and understand the current behavior and communication problems that are related to it and an action plan to allow for behavior change or adoption by the targets.

#### **F. REDD+ CI Projects Accreditation Manuel**

Classifying a project as a REDD+ Project shall meet a number of criteria, of which the main ones are that the project (a) be in line with one or more SN REDD+ strategic options, (b) meet the objectives of the option or options with which it is in line. An accreditation manual will be developed, which will specify, *inter alia*, (i) the categories of promoters, (ii) the criteria for REDD+ projects in CI, (iii) the conditions for adopting the projects as REDD+ projects, (iv) the conditions for implementing and monitoring these projects, (v) the links between project promoters and the Mechanism Governance Bodies (National REDD+ Commission, Ministry in charge of Environment, The Prime Minister's Office, etc.), (vi) the payment conditions for environmental services, etc. These aspects are not comprehensive.

## **G. REDD+ National Fund**

This Fund will mobilize funding, especially public funds, and those of the climate-related finance. It will be an alternative to ensure REDD+-centered investment, thus contributing effectively to the implementation of REDD+ activities. The payments generated by the emissions reductions shall necessarily be channeled through the FN-REDD+. These funds will continue to be reinvested through the National REDD+ Fund to continue the implementation of future iterations of the National REDD+ Strategy. A feasibility study will put in place the terms of the National REDD+ Fund in connection with existing funds.

## **H. Profit-sharing mechanism**

Successful implementation of the National REDD+ Strategy will generate carbon and non-carbon benefits. The country's regulatory perspectives are considering property of the carbon to the Government which will have the possibility to transfer to third parties based on a Profit-sharing plan depending on the stakeholders' contribution in the reduction of emissions. The Profit-sharing plan will aim at encouraging all stakeholders to effectively contribute to the reduction of emissions related to deforestation and forest degradation.

## **7. Financial Mechanisms for the SN REDD+**

### **A. Public Funding Mobilization**

Registering the REDD+ Process in national planning helps plan for traditional domestic public funding from the Government, as well as Official Development Assistance. An alignment of these existing funding should help mobilize a large part of the funding required for the implementation of the REDD+ strategy. However, even with a strong potential for alignment, the current public domestic funding would remain inadequate to cover REDD+'s needs for investment, which must still be quantified in the REDD+ National Investment Framework. It will also identify potential funding sources for the implementation of the strategy. In this context, new sources of public funding could be generated through the taxation of deforestation motor activities.

### **B. Mobilization of Private Investment**

- Private sector involved in the value chains: Many companies are committed to eliminate products related to deforestation from their supply chains by 2020, in particular through the Consumer Goods Forum international professional association. This represents an opportunity to involve the private sector in funding the deforestation control in a country which is a large exporter of raw material such as Côte d'Ivoire.
- Private sector of the Finance: the Ivorian financial private sector invests very little in activities related to the use of lands because of insecurity related to land tenure, the lack of knowledge of the agriculture and forestry activities and the high risk, since it is dominated by smallholder farmers. The National REDD+ Strategy will establish business model associated with various REDD+ activities and define from an iterative process of dialog with the financial sector, innovative approaches to fund smallholder

farmers, in particular for agricultural intensification, reforestation, but also the production of charcoal.

- Carbon Private Sector: it will be possible to invest in emission reduction projects after a prior analysis of the activities to be carried out by the SEP-REDD+, their socio-economic impacts and the verification of their compliance with the REDD+ strategy. However, carbon will be sold based on a common agreement with the Government, with a distribution of carbon benefits collected in the form of taxation.

### **C. Mobilization of Climate-related Funding**

Côte d'Ivoire will mobilize funding related to the various funds open at the climate level in the various areas related to the REDD+, such as Agriculture, Forestry, Energy. This climate-related fund mobilization will relate to both adaptation and mitigation measures.

# **REDD+**

## CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Réduction des Emissions de gaz à effet  
de Serre issues de la Déforestation,  
et de la Dégradation des Forêts

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