IPSI Case Study Summary Sheet

Basic Information

Title of case study	COMDEKS Project: Bogo Region		
Submitting IPSI member organization(s)	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)		
Other contributing organization(s)	Ministry of the Environment Japan (MOEJ), SCBD, UNU		
Author(s) and affiliation(s)	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)		
Format of case study	Manuscript	Language	English
Keywords	Food security, Agro-biodiversity, Ecosystem protection, Bioenergy		
Date of submission	6 March 2017		
Web link	http://collections.unu.edu/eserv/UNU:6012/comdeks_ii_case_study_publication.pdf#page=50		

Geographical Information

Country	Cameroon	Location(s)				Bogo Region			
Longitude/latitude or Google Maps link	https://www.google.com/maps/@10.7399271,14.5637081,9z								
Ecosystem(s)									
Forest	x	Grassland		Agricultural	x	In-land water	x	Coastal	
Dryland		Mountain		Urban/peri-urban		Other			

Socioeconomic and environmental characteristics of the area

Located at the northernmost tip of the country, the landscape encompasses the Sahelian zone of the Lake Chad Basin and the western foothills of the Mandara Mountains. The Mayo Tsanaga river crosses the landscape, which consists of a large plain dotted with hills. Only 22 percent of the population lives in urban areas, with the remaining population spread throughout rural communities in the region.

Description of human-nature interactions in the area

Agriculture, livestock rearing, and artisanal hunting and fishing are the primary economic activities of the region, and several products, including cassava, sweet potatoes, millet, livestock, and fish, are sold locally at low prices. Agriculture is practiced on clay and alluvial soils, sandy soils or loam soils. Infertile soils are abundant as well, and often used for pasture.

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Status	Ongoing	Period	06/2011 – 12/2017

Rationale

More than half of the population lives below the national poverty line, local markets are not well integrated, and most economic activity is small-scale and informal. Despite the region's rich endowment of natural resources, local people are profoundly affected by soil degradation and increased climate variability that impact food security. Low levels of human development create further setbacks for local communities.

Objectives

Improved protection of ecosystems through better management of land and water, mitigating and reversing the processes of erosion and desertification; Strengthened agricultural and pastoral production systems with increased agro-biodiversity and landscape resilience; Improvement of livelihoods and well-being; Strengthened institutional capacity including participation of stakeholders in decision-making, as well as local organizations focused on the reduction of diseases

Activities and/or practices employed

Raising local environmental awareness; Improving access to water; Promoting sustainable crop and fruit cultivation; Manufacturing biofuels, reducing wood fuel use, and empowering women; Restoring forests and degraded lands; Introducing climate change-resistant crop varieties; Providing access to finance and improving basic literacy; Improving stakeholder engagement in environmental governance

Results

Awareness raising and environmental sensitization initiatives have been conducted for at least 500 community members; Solar-powered boreholes, community nurseries and a biofuel production unit have been established, with more than 120 women trained in biofuel production; More than 1,300 fruit and nitrogen-fixing trees have been planted; Women, men and youths have received training in the cultivation of new crop varieties; A revolving fund was established to improve standard of living; Community advisory groups have been created	
Lessons learned	
Local examples are crucial for understanding of the Indicators of Resilience as well as to alter perceptions; It may be better to use the term "sacred areas" rather than “protected areas” in some places; it is important that people are well informed of the scope and interest of a project and have ownership from design to implementation; Participation of women requires active support and empowerment in a society where women are marginalized	
Key messages	
Communities have begun to develop greater awareness of and involvement in environmental governance. Collaboration among six villages to establish a community forest and agree on by-laws shows the beginning of a concern beyond the village level. Establishment of a committee to oversee water access projects shows awareness of connectivity between projects. There has been wide support of landscape activities by traditional authorities and government institutions.	
Relationship to other IPSI activities	This case study is part of the COMDEKS Project
Funding	Funding of USD 280,000.00 was provided by the Japan Biodiversity Fund through the GEF Small Grants Programme for COMDEKS Cameroon.

Contributions to Global Agendas

The table below shows based on the self-evaluation by author(s). ● and ■ indicates the “direct” or “indirect” contributions to the following global agendas respectively to which the work described in this case study contributes to.

CBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets (https://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/)

Strategic Goal A				Strategic Goal B					
●	●		●	●	●	●			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Strategic Goal C			**Strategic Goal D**			**Strategic Goal E**			
●		■	●	●			●	■	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs)

●	●		■	●	●	●	■	
1 NO POVERTY	2 ZERO HUNGER	3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	4 QUALITY EDUCATION	5 GENDER EQUALITY	6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION	7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
		●	●		●			
10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION	13 CLIMATE ACTION	14 LIFE BELOW WATER	15 LIFE ON LAND	16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	