

DRAFT OUTLINE OF THE COUNTRY PROGRAMMING FRAMEWORK

25-30 pages, plus appendices

I. SUMMARY - 1 page

In GEF format.

II. INTRODUCTION - 1 page

The history and development of the PRC/GEF Partnership on Land Degradation.

The significance of GEF OP12 on Integrated Ecosystem Management and the Programmatic Approach.

One or two lines on the CPF modality.

III. BACKGROUND - 2-3 pages

Land Degradation in PRC. Status, causes and consequences of land degradation, such as erosion, low agricultural productivity, farming unprofitable, high unemployment and out-migration. Major features in western PRC, with particular reference to dryland areas. Linkages to poverty. Socio-economic profile of western PRC, poverty and ethnic minorities, etc. Lessons from past experience.

Government Policies and Plans. The Western Development Strategy as a framework for sustainable development in western PRC, its rationale, goals and structure. The national and sectoral 10th five year plans as they relate to land degradation. National action plans, including CCD NAP, BCAP, Agenda 21.

Global Significance - 1 page

Critical ecoregions in western PRC. Biodiversity and carbon sequestration significance. Identification and prioritization of threats, including land degradation.

IV. THE PRC/GEF CPF

Rationale - 2 pages

Integrated ecosystem management, and multiple benefits at local, national, global levels.

Lessons from past experience and lessons that need to be learned.

Need to overcome the key institutional, financial, legislative, knowledge and other barriers to effective programs to reduce land degradation, e.g. the need to harmonize five-year development plans, improve cross-sectoral coordination, etc.

Build on long-term government commitment to the Western Development Strategy

Commitment to long term finance and more effective use of GEF resources based on Government priorities, and leveraging other resources.

Objectives of the CPF - 0.5 page

The PRC/GEF Country Programming Framework will represent an agreement between PRC and the GEF to commit resources towards sequenced priorities over an agreed time frame, tentatively 10 years. It has the following objectives (to be sharpened):

- To combat land degradation and reduce poverty in selected ecoregions of national and global significance,
- To achieve global environmental benefits through conservation of biodiversity and carbon sequestration,
- To generate lessons on policies, institutional arrangements, and approaches for integrated ecosystem management for widespread replication.

Scope of the CPF - 4 pages

This section will provide a roadmap for a 10-year program consisting of 2-3 phases. For each phase the objectives and outcomes will be specified, along with milestones and indicators. A logical framework matrix will constitute an appendix.

Interventions under the CPF will target specific ecoregions. These ecoregions will have been selected on the basis of the following broad criteria (to be refined):

- global environment significance
- national sustainable development objectives
- land degradation status and trends
- potential for poverty reduction and economic development
- identified priorities in the BCAP and other relevant plans
- opportunity to develop potentially replicable responses for integrated ecosystem management.

CPF Interventions - 6 pages

A logical sequencing of interventions between phases is required. The CPF will comprise approximately six packages of policy, TA and capacity building and investment activities in the first phase. It is likely that there will be one package, principally TA, addressing national level enabling measures, and five packages, studied to pre-feasibility level, focused on selected sites in each of the five priority ecoregions. Other interventions consistent with the objectives and principles of the CPF will also be accommodated. Indicative second and third phase interventions will also be described.

This section will describe each of the six packages, including scope, financial requirements, institutional arrangements, economic viability, GEF incremental costs and global benefits, and expected impact, prospects for replicability, and adaptive learning mechanisms. Costab will be used for project costing. More details will be provided in six corresponding appendices

Financing the CPF - 1.5 pages

Financing plan will include baseline Government contribution, external financing and GEF incremental finance for the first phase, and indicative estimates of the second and third phase. The overall level of financial commitment expected from the GEF for the ten-year period. Tables of CPF costs and financing plan will be included.

Implementation Arrangements - 3 pages

Overall implementation arrangements for delivering the CPF, recognising that each of the six CPF interventions will have their own implementation arrangements. This will include arrangements for monitoring and evaluation of the program, including overall learning and adaptive learning management system.

Impact and Benefits - 2 pages

The main local, national and global benefits will be summarized, and the impacts of the program will be analyzed.

Sustainability and Risks - 2 pages

This section will highlight the main issues associated with sustainability, including financial sustainability as GEF contributions phase out. It will also address risks.

V. APPENDIXES - indicative

Maps

- land degradation distribution, status and potential
- biodiversity distribution, status of conservation
- carbon sequestration potential
- poverty distribution

Logical Framework Matrix

Indicators and Trends in Land Degradation in Western PRC

Summary of Government Plans including those related to multilateral environment agreements.

Description of Priority Ecoregions and Global Significance

6 Detailed Appendixes on 6 Project Interventions, including separate log frames

Overall Learning and Adaptive Management System

Social and Poverty Impact

Analysis of Policy and Legislative Barriers

Institutional Capacity and Constraints

Lessons Learned and Best Practices

Detailed Costs, Including Incremental Cost Matrix