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PART III: APPROVAL/ENDORSEMENT BY GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) AND GEF AGENCY(IES)

- A. RECORD OF ENDORSEMENT OF GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT(S) ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT(S):  
(Please attach the [Operational Focal Point endorsement letter\(s\)](#) with this form. For SGP, use the [GFP endorsement letter](#).)

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE (MM/dd/yyyy)
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ANNEX A: PROJECT RESULTS FRAMEWORK (either copy and paste here the framework from the Agency document, or provide reference to the

ANNEX B: RESPONSES TO PROJECT REVIEWS (from GEF Secretariat and GEF Agencies, and Responses to Comments from Council at work program inclusion and the Convention Secretariat and STAP at PIF).

At PIF Stage.

STAP	
<p>General observations. The PIF outlines many anthropogenic threats to the remaining forest ecosystem, and to the livelihoods of the communities associated with the river basin and contains the principal hypothesis that by developing alternative means of income generation forest regeneration will occur. The PIF does not contain any objective evidence that such an intervention could be made to work, indeed it is just as likely that for example, pressure on the forest would be maintained and degradation continued. Regarding stakeholders, it is not clear from the PIF what community land rights exist in order to underpin the proposed certification approach to forest products and presumably also watershed services. To enable the basis of a market-led approach, as is implied, the fundamentals regarding rights to resources and their management would need to be clearly set out.</p>	<p>Developing alternative means of income generation will not be enough to forest regeneration. Additional activities such as training, dissemination of best practices, and awareness raising on sustainable forest and water ecosystem management are complementary to provide evidence that the alternative means of income can help regenerating forest ecosystem which in turn will provide more services to local community at medium to long term. <u>Please refer to section 3.6.3 of project document</u></p> <p>During the project preparation and in consultation of stakeholders at national and local level, the certification approach appears difficult to apply given the current context. Instead the project will focus on training farmers on practices that can latter lead to certification when land tenure become favorable. <b>In fact land right issues could not properly integrated in the project and given the political issues in relation to land and forest resources, it was suggested to undertake training on best practices of land management before proposition any certification approach.</b> <u>Please refer to section 3.4 of project document.</u></p>

The incremental reasoning of the project also relies on ecosystem valuation and the development of integrated land use plans. Ecosystem valuation varies hugely and the methods in use range from hedonic pricing to contingent valuation. The way that values are assigned affects the results fundamentally, as does whether a land-user or societal perspective is adopted. The project proponents need not only to describe the methods that will be used but also supply the scientific rationale for how "valuation of ecosystems provides opportunities for incorporating biodiversity into integrated land use plans." (pp.11-12)

The economic valuation is no longer application to the project. Development of land use plans will build on the current land situation to develop integrated and sustainable land use plans that balance the need for biodiversity conservation and community livelihood. **Taking into consideration the various sectors on the ground, and pressing needs of improved knowledge, capacity and livelihood systems, developing0 0 1 254(d)-91t(eg)4(r)-3(p)-**





	project document.
Question 25 on co-financing	Given the change in the project baseline, the reorientation of aid flows and activities on the ground due to the Ebola outbreak in the region, the level of co-financing had to be adapted.



ANNEX D: CALENDAR OF EXPECTED REFLOWS (if non-grant instrument is used)

Provide a calendar of expected reflows to the GEF/LDCF/SCOP/IF Trust Fund or to your Agency (and/or revolving fund that will be set up)

NA