

### Cover Page for Project/Program Approval Request

<b>1. Country/Region:</b>	Democratic Republic of Congo	<b>2. CIF Project ID#:</b>	(Trustee will assign ID)
<b>3. Source of Funding:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FIP	<input type="checkbox"/> PPCR	<input type="checkbox"/> SREP
<b>4. Project/Program Title:</b>	<i>Forest-Dependent Community Support Project</i>		
<b>5. Type of CIF Investment:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public	<input type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> Mixed
<b>6. Funding Request in million USD equivalent:</b>	<i>Grant: 6</i>		<i>Non-Grant:</i>
<b>7. Implementing MDB(s):</b>	<i>IBRD</i>		
<b>8. National Implementing Agency:</b>	<i>Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)</i>		
<b>9. MDB Focal Point and Project/Program Task Team Leader (TTL):</b>	<i>Headquarters- Focal Point: Gerhard Dieterle Madhavi Pillai</i>		<i>TTL: Loic Braune</i>

#### **10. Project/Program Description (including objectives and expected outcomes):**

##### **Project objective:**

The objective of the project is to strengthen the capacity of targeted Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) in 16 territories and at national level to participate in REDD+ oriented land and forest management activities.

**Component 1 – Reinforce the participation of IPLCs in forest and land management processes related to REDD+.** This component will provide tailored support, including administrative and financial management issues, and improve dissemination of information about REDD+ and its impact on IPLCs. There are two subcomponents: one for the national activities (1.a) and the other dedicated to local support (1.b).

***Sub-component 1a - Building capacities at national level for strengthening IPLC voices on land and forest policies.*** Sub component 1.a is designed to supplement national advocacy and lobbying efforts towards stronger recognition and promotion of Indigenous Peoples' rights. For that purpose, this sub-component will primarily focus on three outcomes related with REDD+: (i) it will aim at improving how IPs and traditional communities are taken into account in the forest sector, (ii) will support the participation of legitimate IPLC leaders in the land tenure policy reform process, and (iii) will provide support to operationalize formal recognition of traditional rights of IPLCs for specific forested areas either by using the existing legal framework (community forestry, community managed Protected Areas) or supporting the development in DRC of innovative initiatives tested in other countries for community-based natural resources management (such as the Indigenous Community Conserved Areas and Territories – ICCA).

***Subcomponent 1.b - Strengthening the capacities of the local communities to participate in forest and land management activities.*** This sub-component will deploy enabling activities to reinforce the IPLC representation

at local level (Territory) and increase the capacity of the IPLC organizations, especially regarding their knowledge about forests and land tenure. The trainings provided by the sub-component will also indirectly facilitate the implementation of micro-projects (component 2) as it will reinforce the capacity of the local IPLC organizations from which the micro-projects will originate.

**Component 2 – Support community-based sustainable forest and land management.** This component will help empower local communities by (i) supporting the formal recognition of their traditional user rights and (ii) financing natural resource management activities that enhance climate change adaptation and the sustainable management of forest landscapes in order to improve rural livelihoods. The social impact of those investment will be mitigated through a dedicated window financing activities promoting the IPLC culture and attachment to traditional values. Sub-component 2.a will provide micro-grants to diversify socio-economic activities (and for cultural activities) and sub-component 2.b will support pilot community-managed forests.

***Sub-component 2a – promoting sustainable forest and land management through alternative livelihood activities and promotion of the IPLC culture.*** This subcomponent will provide grants to communities to engage in alternative livelihoods or in making their current livelihood more sustainable. At the project level, the objective is to demonstrate the capacity of the local communities to implement such projects and thus to benefit from the REDD+ and FIP projects. In the longer term, those grants are expected to generate supplementary income and eventually improve the livelihoods of communities.

***Subcomponent 2.b – empowering IPLC for the formal recognition of their user rights.*** The objective is to explore and test innovative ways to secure the IPLC forest management activities and/or formally recognize IPLC traditional governance systems. The ultimate objective is to secure users rights on some portions of land through the recognition of an official status which will give forest-dwelling communities an opportunity to fully benefit from their local resources.

**Component 3 – Increase the capacity to implement IPLC development activities and consolidate feedback..** This component aims at ensuring the smooth implementation of the project in compliance with World Bank procedures but with enough flexibility to match the capacity of the communities.

***Sub-component 3a – Project coordination.*** This sub-component will finance the costs of the National Executing Agency (NEA).

***Sub component 3.b – Strengthening feedback channels between the local and national levels.*** This sub-component aims at fostering the creation of an inclusive national network of IPLC representatives that maintain direct connections with leaders and organizations on the field. As for the rest of the project, a “learning by doing” approach has been chosen

## **11. Consistency with Investment Criteria:**

The projects objectives and activities are in line with the DGM objectives and modalities, as well as with the FIP objectives.

1. **Consistency with DGM objective:** DGM objective is to enhance the capacity and support specific initiatives of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in the FIP pilot countries to strengthen their participation in FIP and other REDD+ processes at the local, national and global levels. Those objectives are reflected in the FDCS

Project which has a particular focus on (i) building a legitimate and transparent national and provincial representation to promote IPLC interests in particular regarding land tenure and, more generally, land rights and (ii) experiencing pilot cases to secure IPLC rights over forested land while supporting alternate development activities.

Component 1 aims at capacity building, and component 2b will demonstrate the possibility to secure land use rights for the Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities. Investments under 2a will drive local development and indirectly increase communities' capacity, demonstrating their ability to manage and execute mini-projects that can be replicated in FIP and REDD+ areas.

2. **Consistency with the DGM guidelines:** According with Chapter III of the Guidelines for the DGM, the objective of this component is to support investments and capacity building for IPLCs through the following sub-components: (i) Implementation of on-the-ground activities of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities' choice in the FIP pilot countries and (ii) capacity building programs for IPLC organizations.

3. **Alignment with DGM approach:** The proposed activities are aligned with all the DGM thematic areas: Capacity development, Promotion of rural livelihoods, and investments in sustainable management of forest landscapes.

4. **Leadership by the IPLC:** The project has been designed under the initiative of Indigenous Peoples and/or Local Communities and will directly benefit them; IPLC organizations are at the heart of project operational arrangements and stand to benefit over the long term from the project results. The capacity building component, in particular, has been designed to follow a "learning by doing approach" in the implementation of micro-projects –the ownership by IPLC communities (that will lead to self-identified training activities, resolution by the communities of own their difficulties and participatory decision-taking) is an objective as important as the successful implementation of the micro projects.

5. **Respect of IPLC culture:** Consultations, selection of delegates and National Steering Committee rules have been led by the IPLCs in a manner that respects the cultural ways, modes of living, rights and cultural resources of the communities.

6. **Alignment with FIP:** The 16 territories have been selected based on the assessment of FIP investment plan: the project areas surrounds the 3 basins of deforestation identified in the FIP Investment Plan. Operational synergies have been established with the FIP Coordination Unit.

7. **Alignment with MDB processes:** the project proposal is compliant with the relevant operational and safeguards policies of the World Bank and received support from World Bank management.

12. **Stakeholder engagement:**

Indigenous and local communities (IPLCs) have been consulted and designated by themselves their own leaders for the steering committee. The National Steering Committee is composed by 2/3 of delegates from the rural communities and 1/3 from key leaders representing the major NGOs supporting the indigenous and local communities at national level. Series of workshops and consultations have built a legitimate representation system – and most importantly, a continuous process of mandating ensure that the delegates keep their legitimacy (or are replaced).

It is expected from the NSC to lead most of the work since the project is implemented with a bottom-up approach: IPLCs organization have identified and proposed the project areas, they are currently working on identifying a long list of sites and micro-projects for component 2 (investments) and their inputs are also expected for the implementation. Key documents (such as the Project Implementation Manual, the NSC internal rules...) are also designed by the counterpart. This work during preparation – even in absence of preparation grant – shows the level of commitment and the interest of the IPLCs and their support to the initiative.

### 13. Gender considerations:

A special attention on gender has been put at 3 level:

- On governance – objective is to reach 20% of women in the identified key leaders (currently 12% of women in the steering committee);
- On activities for micro-projects – activities that benefit to women will be prioritized in the screening process;
- As priority targets for the capacity building activities – during implementation, the project will ensure that a special accent is put on women attendance to the various training sessions that will be organized (alphabetization, small organization/association administration, family/small project accounting...)

The objective of the project is that 30% of the beneficiaries are women by the end of the project.

### 14. Indicators and Targets (consistent with results framework):

Core Indicator	Target
IPLC satisfaction rate regarding IPLC representativeness in the discussions on land and forest management held by the CN-REDD and CONAREF (Percentage)	80%
Share of territories with a score of 3 or more on IPLC representation in land and forest management discussions at local level (Percentage)	80%
DGM stakeholders with increased role in REDD + processes at local and national levels (Percentage)	50%
Aggregate score on community-based land and forest governance on four pilot sites (Number)	60%
Targeted beneficiaries satisfied with project interventions (Percentage)	62%
Direct project beneficiaries (Number)	20,000
Female beneficiaries (Percentage)	30%

### 15. Parallel Financing:

	<i>Amount (in USD million):</i>	<i>Type of contribution:</i>
Emission Reduction Purchase Agreement in Maye Ndombe (Forest Carbon Partnership Facility)	TBD	Aligning the representation scheme for IPLC with the one designed and supported by the DGM project
Promoting Forest Peoples' Rights and Food Security through Good Governance in Forest and Climate Policies; from principles to practice (funded by the European Union, implemented by FPP)	EUR 3 million	<p>This is a regional project, being implemented in 5 countries: DRC, Republic of Congo, Cameroon, Central African Republic and Liberia.</p> <p>The project will collaborate with the DGM for the capacity building activities (potential co-financing of events, coordinated strategies) and they will complement each other when intervening in the same areas</p>
REDD+, Livelihood Security and Economic Development in the Democratic Republic of Congo (funded by the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida), implemented by FPP).	EUR 3.84 million	The project will keep a close coordination with DGM, especially to build on the same representativeness processes.
<b>Co-Financing Total:</b>		
16. Expected Board/MDB Management approval date:		
September 16, 2015		