



**Implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on ABS:
The role of Women in the Central African region in the development of the
Biocultural Community Protocol (BCP) for sustainable management biodiversity**

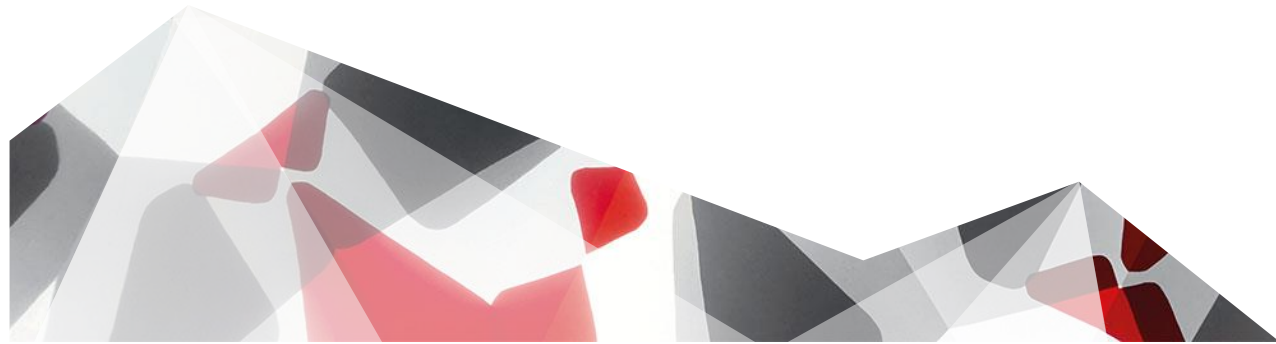
**Site Event: XV World Forestry Congress Pavillon COMIFAC- ECCAS
Initiative**

From 02nd to 06 May 2022, Coex, Seoul, Republic of Korea

Programme gestion durable des forêts dans le bassin du Congo



Development of a Biocultural Community
Protocol: (*Tetrapleura tetraptera*) in the Eastern
Region of Cameroon (Dja Reserve)



CONTEXT



BIOCULTURAL COMMUNITY PROTOCOL IN THE CONTEXT OF ABS

Art. 12.1 – Recognition of Community Protocols

Parties shall, in accordance with national law, take into account customary laws, procedures and Community protocols, if any, concerning TK associated with GR.

(UNEP / CBD / WG8J / 9/2 / Add.1):

Community protocols cover a wide range of documents generated by communities **to define how they expect other stakeholders to engage with them.** They may **refer to customary, national or international laws to assert their rights to be approached according to a certain set of standards.** Articulating information, relevant factors and details of customary laws and traditional authorities helps other stakeholders to better understand the community's values and customary laws. Community protocols offer communities the opportunity to focus on their development.



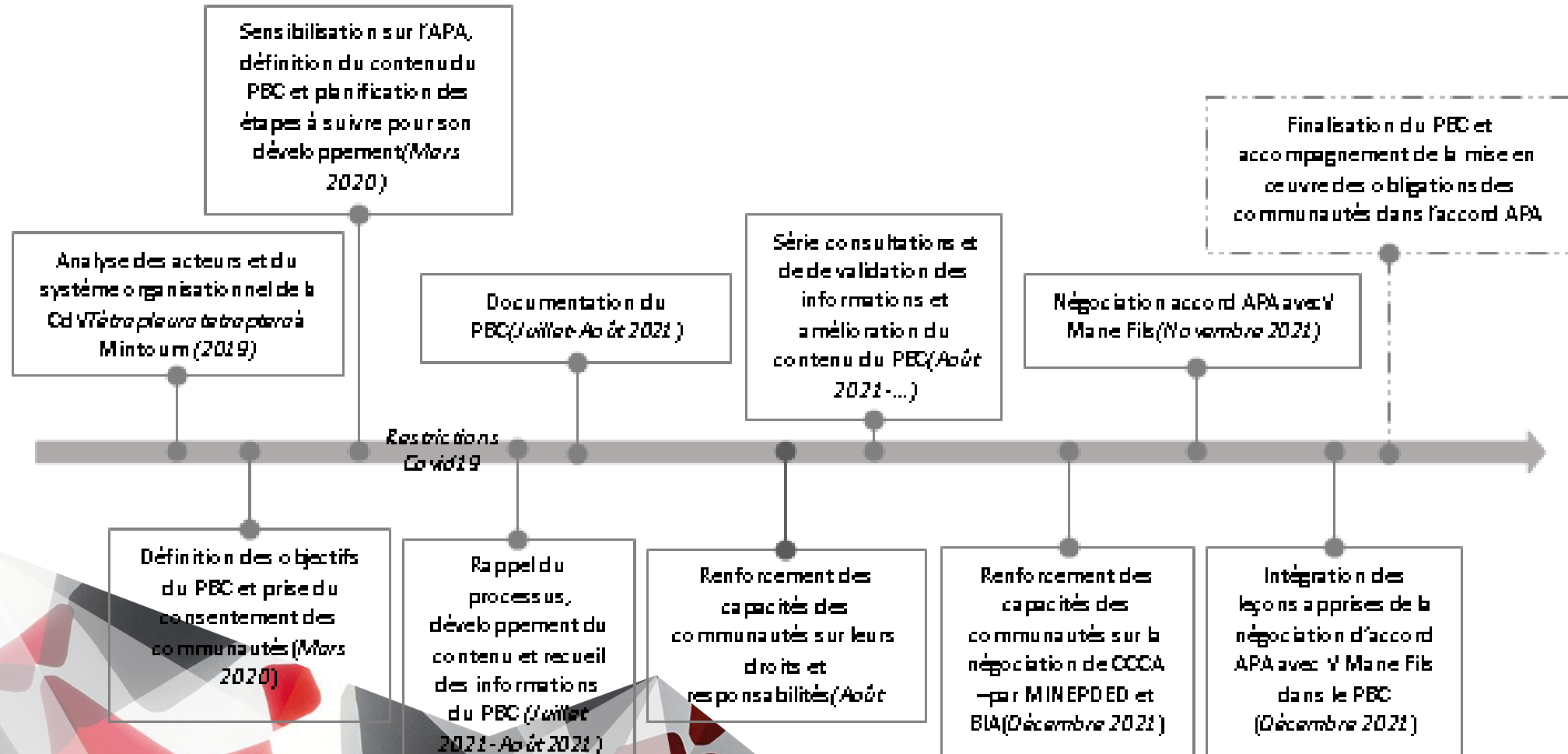
CONTEXT

PROTOCOLES COMMUNAUTAIRES DANS LE CONTEXTE APA

1. Instruments developed by the community, based on understanding of their rights.
2. Based on customary rules, national and international frameworks
3. Used for communication between community and government/other stakeholders
4. Communicates terms and conditions for access, use of resources and associated knowledge
5. Clearly establishes community institutions and decision-making Varies according to local circumstances



Overview of the process



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Role of Women in the development of the Biocultural Community Protocol (BCP)

- ❖ The communities (Baka and Bantu) were well involved and concerned in the drafting of the protocol;
- ❖ During certain stages of the process, meetings were often held separately for Baka and Bantu, in order to allow the Baka to better express themselves and be understood;
- ❖ Women are responsible for collecting *Tetrapleura* in the community. They store, dry and market the product with the help of local associations,
- ❖ Women have always been present in the meetings throughout the process. Indeed, from the very beginning of the meetings, their presence is noted. They have been invited to all the meetings, and moreover the facilitating organisation is an association that fights for the social welfare of women.



Role of Women in the development of the Biocultural Community Protocol (BCP)

- ❖ The meetings were specifically organised with Baka and Bantu women separately, to better gather their views and grievances;
- ❖ The women demonstrated that they are also very often the main holders of certain traditional knowledge, which they generally pass on from mother to daughter or between sisters. With regard to natural resources in general, they are very often the custodians of traditional medicine and it is they who provide information on the importance of plants. Case of the Bakas
- ❖ During the roundtable discussion of the International Day for Biodiversity, women clearly stated their needs for improved activities. The PCB should mention these needs as monetary and/or non-monetary benefits



Résultat 3b: IP : Appui à l'élaboration d'un Protocole Communautaire Bio culturel: Cas de 4 côtés (*Tetrapleura tetraptera*) à L'Est du Cameroun (Réserve du Dja) : (*Produits*)

- ✓ The Mintoum BCP Document,
- ✓ BCP Guide for the COMIFAC sub-region,
- ✓ Document on the lessons learned from the PBC development process and the first experience of the ABS agreement negotiation,
- ✓ Document the role of women and the customary law as concerns the management of natural resources in relation to the Bio Cultural Community Protocols and the negotiation of ABS agreements in Cameroon



PROTOCOLE BIOCULTUREL COMMUNAUTAIRE (PBC)
DES COMMUNAUTÉS LOCALES ET DES PEUPLES
AUTOCHTONES
DU VILLAGE DE MINTOUM



Etat en 2022

Lessons learned from the Pilote Initiative



- Community consent should be based on their full understanding of the issues and implications of the protocol and the concrete objectives of its development;
- Traditional leaders are informed in the first instance of all initiatives;
- The BCP will serve as a collective agreement to clarify and improve the governance system at village level more equitably, strengthening the effective participation and representation of the Baka and other potentially vulnerable groups;
- The protocol has more at stake for the Baka people in that the tool represents an opportunity for them to know and assert their rights in relation to natural resources, their culture and their land of life;
- Discussions at the Baka level require an additional effort of linguistic translation from French into their language;
- The capacity of the institutions facilitating the process has a great influence on the quality of the results of the work at the local community level;
- It is important to involve local authorities and representatives of technical ministries from the beginning of the process to facilitate the move towards recognition and the acquisition of binding value of the protocol during its implementation.
- The first draft of the PCB available to accompany the negotiation of an ABS contract between the Baka and Bantu communities of Mintoum and the company V. Mane

**THANKS FOR YOUR KIND
ATTENTION**

