

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

Language: English
Original: English
Distribution: Limited



VOLTA BASIN TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

SUPPORT TO THE CREATION OF
VOLTA BASIN AUTHORITY

APPRAISAL REPORT

This report is made available to staff members to whose work it relates. Any further releases must be authorized by the Director AWF

AFRICAN WATER FACILITY

AWF
14 March 2006

CONTENTS

1	BACKGROUND	1
1.1	PROJECT RATIONALE AND ORIGIN	1
1.2	NATIONAL, REGIONAL, AND GLOBAL IWRM POLICIES AND STRATEGIES	2
1.3	THE OVERALL GOALS OF THE VBA	2
1.4	THE VBA CREATION PROCESS.....	3
2	THE PROJECT	4
2.1	PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT	4
2.2	BENEFICIARIES AND STAKEHOLDERS	4
2.3	ACTIVITIES.....	4
2.4	END OF PROJECT DELIVERABLES	4
2.5	COSTS AND FINANCING	5
3	PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION	6
3.1	THE RECIPIENT/EXECUTING AGENCY	6
3.2	IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS.....	6
3.3	IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE	7
3.4	PROCUREMENT.....	8
3.5	DISBURSEMENT ARRANGEMENTS	8
3.6	ACCOUNTING AND AUDIT ARRANGEMENTS	9
3.7	MONITORING EVALUATION AND REPORTING ARRANGEMENT	9
4	EFFECTIVENESS, EFFICIENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY	10
4.1	EFFECTIVENESS AND EFFICIENCY	10
4.2	SUSTAINABILITY	10
5	CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	12
5.1	CONCLUSIONS	12
5.2	RECOMMENDATIONS	12
5.3	CONDITIONS OF FINANCING	12
	ANNEXES	13

LIST OF ACRONYMS

AWF	African Water Facility
CEDEAO	Communauté Economique des Etats de l’Afrique de l’Ouest
ECOWAS	Economic Community for West Africa States
EUWI	European Union Water for Africa Initiative (EUWI)
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
IWRM	Integrated Water Resource Management
LFA	Logical Framework Approach
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
OIEau	Office International de l’Eau
RAP/IWRM/WA	Regional Action Plan for the Integrated Water Resources Mgmt in West Africa
RBM	Result Based Management
TA	Technical Assistance
ToR	Terms of Reference
TWRM	Trans-boundary Water Resources Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
VBA	Volta Basin Authority
VBTC	Volta Basin Technical Committee
WRCU	Water Resources Coordination Unit
WS&S	Water Supply and Sanitation

LIST OF ANNEXES

Annex 1: Volta River Basin Map	13
Annex 2: Provisional Budget for National Workshops	14
Annex 3: Provisional Budget for Regional Workshop	15
Annex 4: Associated Documents	16

Overall Logical Framework

HIERARCHY of OBJECTIVES, (COST, million Euro)	EXPECTED RESULTS	REACH BENEFICIARIES	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS, SOURCE, PERIODICITY	INDICATIVE TARGETS and TIMEFRAME	RISKS > MITIGATION STRATEGIES
GOAL : To contribute to economic growth, reduce poverty, and enhance the livelihood of all stakeholders in the Volta Basin by improved water availability, and reduced risk of floods and droughts. This will lead to enhanced food security and reduced conflicts over water resources. Improved TWRM will also have spin-off benefits outside the basin by its enhanced electricity and agriculture production	IMPACT: A VBA in place with high level political support and broad stakeholder recognition enabled to improve water resources management and promoting water investments in water related sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Urban and rural populations in the basin Private and public sector developers 	<u>Indicators:</u> <u>Source:</u> National statistics and reports <u>Periodicity:</u> Annual review	Quantifiable targets on the ground not realistic for a Project of this nature at this stage, but needs to be addressed under the objectives and targets arising from the Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of an effective of VBA constrained by the below mentioned risks
OBJECTIVES: To improve TWRM in the Volta Basin for the benefit of all affected stakeholders in the riparian states	OUTCOMES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An agreed Convention on the Creation of VBA A Road-map towards the establishment and activation of VBA Effectively operating VBA delivering the expected results 	Same as above and people directly involved in the creation process of VBA	<u>Indicators:</u> <u>Source:</u> National and regional statistics and reports <u>Periodicity:</u> Annual	By July 2006 : Convention agreed and signed between the 6 riparian countries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VBA not really recognized by all authorities and important stakeholders More time and resources will be involved for the necessary process to achieve broad consensus and recognition of VBA
ACTIVITIES Activity 1: Preparation of the provisional draft Convention for VBA Activity 2: Development of the draft convention, the roadmap of the related texts relating to the creation of the VBA Activity 3: Organization of national workshops with the major stakeholders on the "version A" for the validation of the draft convention Activity 4: Second session of the committee of regional experts to produce version B Activity 5: More comprehensive regional workshop for the validation of the version B and prep. of version C (final draft) and roadmap Activity 6: 2 nd meeting of Council of Ministers of the Volta Basin in Lomé June 06 for signing of Convention	OUTPUTS of Activities 1-6 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Provisional Draft of the Convention Draft Convention Nat W/Shop Version A Convention Version B Convention Regional W/Shop Version C Convention and roadmap Council of Ministers Signed Convention and agreed on roadmap 	Same as above	Activities 1- 6 : The respective events undertaken and outputs delivered and approved	Activities 1- 6 : Planned undertaken during the period January to June 2006.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Important authorities and/or stakeholders not on board or consulted Progress of preparing the convention hampered by disagreements so that more time and efforts will be required to reach wholehearted consensus.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background

The six riparian countries of the Volta Basin (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, and Togo) have jointly agreed to establish a Volta Basin Authority (VBA) in response to the need for joint trans-boundary water resources management (TWRM). The six riparian countries established in 2004 a Volta Basin Technical Committee (VBTC), whose mandate was to pave the way for the development of VBA in charge of integrated management of shared water resources, ecosystems and other natural resources of the basin. The Ministers in charge of water resources of the six riparian countries signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the creation of the VBA in Ouagadougou on 6th December 2005. This MoU provides the main starting point for creating the legal framework and other formalities required for the establishment and empowerment of the VBA.

Project Justification

The economies of the six riparian countries highly depend on water related sectors, such as agriculture, WS&S, hydropower, fisheries etc. and all have a common interest in sustainable management of the shared water resources of the basin. The major environmental issues in the Volta basin include land degradation, water scarcity, loss of biodiversity, flooding, water borne diseases, growth of aquatic weeds, coastal erosion, and water quality degradation. These problems are exacerbated by the uneven annual and spatial distribution of water resources in the region.

The lack of a jointly recognised basin authority makes the water resources management and development situation in the basin quite chaotic. The situation is characterised by a multiplicity of projects and initiatives under the auspices of individual governments, a variety of NGOs, private entrepreneurs, and funding agencies. Such disjointed development situation will inevitably lead to conflicts among water users, not only by social tensions between communities, stakeholders, and economic sectors, but also potential disputes among water sharing nations.

The creation of an effective Volta Basin Authority (VBA) will be an important milestone of the joint management and development of the Volta River Basin among the six riparian countries. The VBA will also play an important role for strategic coordination and monitoring of future water related investments in the Volta Basin, both those funded by ADB as well as projects supported by other external support agencies. Improved water resources management in the Volta Basin is identified as one of AWF's priority areas as stated in the Operational Programme for 2005 to 2009.

The Project

The purpose of the AFW support (the "Project") is to fund the development of a Convention that shall serve as a foundation for the establishment of an effective Volta Basin Authority (VBA) and preparation of an Action Plan ("Road Map") for the forthcoming ratification of the Convention and creation of VBA. It will serve as a basis for the detailed planning, funding and implementation of the follow-up actions funded by EU under the Water for Africa Initiative. The Project activities include expert group sessions, one national workshop in each of the six riparian countries, a final regional workshop, and a final Council of Ministers meeting. The AFW grant will also provide funding of regional WRM experts who will facilitate the workshops

and finalise the Convention and associated documents. The project duration is from March to July 2006. The provisional LFA indicates the role of the project activities in an overall hierarchy of objectives, outcomes, outputs, and risks.

Conclusion and Recommendation

Based upon a critical assessment of the relevance, effectiveness, and sustainability of the Project, as well as the credibility and capacity of the Recipient, it is recommended that the Director of AWF approves VBTC's application for funding of the amount of 165 000 Euro.

1 BACKGROUND

1.1 Project Rationale and Origin

1.1.1 The economies of the riparian countries in the Volta Basin highly depend on agriculture, and other water resource related sectors, and consequently they have a high dependency on natural resources, including water. The trans-boundary issues and challenges facing the Volta Basin have been extensively addressed in previous studies, such as the GEF-UNDP Preliminary Trans-boundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA)¹ lead by the Ministries of Environment in the riparian countries. The TDA provides the basis for development of both the National Action Plans (NAPs) and the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) in the area of international water of the Global Environmental Facility (GEF). These national and trans-boundary oriented processes will provided important basis for the focus and operations of the future Volta basin Authority (VBA). The TDA has also provided important input to the situation analysis made in the application of the Volta Basin Technical Committee (VBTC) to AWF². Major perceived issues and challenges expressed in the TDA include land degradation, water scarcity, loss of biodiversity, flooding, water borne diseases, growth of aquatic weeds, coastal erosion, and water quality degradation. These problems are exacerbated by the uneven annual and spatial distribution of water resources in the region. Annex 1 shows the map of the Volta Basin.

1.1.2 Institutionally, the water resources management and development situation in the Volta basin is quite chaotic with a multiplicity of projects and initiatives under the auspices of individual governments, and a variety of NGOs, private entrepreneurs, funding agencies, etc. Such situation may lead to conflicts among water users, not only by social tensions between communities, stakeholders, and economic sectors, but may also lead to disputes among water sharing nations. Trans-boundary issues cannot be resolved at sector or national levels, but need to be addressed through effective and trans-boundary water resources management (TWRM). This will require operational institutions and instruments for Integrated Water Resources management (IWRM) at local, national and river basin levels with the necessary political support and institutional capacity.

1.1.3 The creation of an effective Volta Basin Authority (VBA) will be an important promoter of joint management and development interventions in the six riparian countries sharing the Volta Basin. The VBA will also play an important role in strategic planning and promotion of future water related investments in the Volta Basin, both those financed by ADB and those assisted by other external support agencies, such as EU, FAO, the World Bank, and a large number of bi-lateral development partners. In order to connect the development of the VBA closer to the actual projects taking place in the riparian countries, AWF will communicate closely with the ADB Departments involved in water development projects in the riparian countries.

¹ GEF-UNEP - Volta Basin Preliminary Trans-boundary Diagnostic Analysis – Final Report Dec. 2002

² VBTC - Support to the Creation of the VBA – Project Data Sheet December 2005

1.1.4 The VBA initiative is based on the West African Conference on the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) (March 1998), where the “Ouagadougou Declaration” urged the countries sharing a river basin to “create or consolidate their basin organization”. Another enabling event is the ECOWAS Summit of Heads of States and Government which, at the 24th Session held in Bamako in December 2000 adopted the Regional Action Plan for the Integrated Water Resources Management in West Africa (RAP/IWRM/WA), which also involves the management of trans-boundary waters.

1.1.5 The VBA process started with the establishment of the Volta Basin Technical Committee in 2004 and the follow-up Memorandum of Understanding (protocol agreement) for the creation of the VBA by the Ministers of the six riparian countries in Ouagadougou on 6th December 2005.

1.2 National, Regional, and Global IWRM Policies and Strategies

1.2.1 The policy framework of the VBA process stems from a number of global and regional conventions on trans-boundary water resources management. The global principles are derived from the United Nations Conferences relating the Management of Water Resources and Environment, especially those in Dublin (1992), Rio (1992), and Johannesburg (2004). The regional policies, that have been addressed in Section 1.1.4, are key elements in the strategic framework for supporting and guiding the creation of VBA.

1.2.2 At the national level, the IWRM policy and strategic framework and reform processes differ from one to another of the riparian states. The ongoing TWRM process will also have bearings on the national IWRM reforms and their links to economic development and poverty alleviation programmes.

1.3 The Overall Goals of the VBA

1.3.1 The immediate goal of the VBA is to improve the trans-boundary WRM in the Volta Basin for the benefit of all affected stakeholders of the riparian states. The long term development goal of the creation of VBA is to contribute to economic growth, reduced poverty, and enhanced livelihood of all stakeholders in the Volta Basin in keeping with the principles of IWRM including environmentally sustainable water management and development. The many direct and indirect challenges facing the forthcoming VBA will be complex, including land degradation concerns, wise use and sharing of scarce water resources, preservation of biodiversity, flood attenuation, mitigation of water borne diseases, reduction of aquatic weeds, coastal erosion mitigation, water quality aspects, and fisheries interest. Strengthening of TWRM may also have benefits beyond the boundaries of the Volta Basin through increased production of hydroelectricity, increased agriculture outputs, and enhanced fisheries.

1.4 The VBA Creation Process

1.4.1 Project proposed for AWF funding (as further presented in Chapter 2) is part of a long-term process from the outset of the Technical Committee in 2004 towards the planned establishment of a fully operational VBA in July 2008. This process is driven by the governments of the riparian states in cooperation with the support of various bi-lateral and multi-lateral funding agencies. Table 1.1 shows the sequence of interventions, and their budgets and sources of funding, from the establishment of the MoU in 2005, through this AWF financed Project (No. IV), and to the ratification and adoption of the Convention and its texts by all six governments followed by the establishment of VBA under Project V (July 2006 - July 2008). The latter is further described in Section 1.4.2.

Table 1.1 Overview of the projects supporting the establishment of VBA

No	Project	Implementation Period	Budget (Euro)	Funding
I	Establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding for the Creation of VBA	June – November 2005	40 000	France
II	Adoption and Signing of the MoU	December 2005	13 700	
III	Preparation of a Provisional Convention for the Creation VBA	January 2006	5 000	France
IV	Finalisation and Approval of the Convention for VBA	March – July 2006	165 000	AWF (This Project)
V	Ratification of the Convention and adoption of its annex texts by all 6 governments and establishment of VBA	July 2006 – July 2008	1 250 000	Member States & EU Initiative Water for Africa – Trans-boundary Water Resources
VI	Consolidation and enhancement of VBA's performance as an effective river basin authority	Continuation of V	*	Riparian Member States, and their partners and external support agencies.

- Will be established during Phase V

1.4.2 The direct follow-up project after the AWF intervention will be Project V to facilitate the ratification of the Convention and the adoption of its annex texts by the governments of the riparian states followed by the establishment of VBA. The Volta Basin component of the EU Water for Africa Initiative (EUWI)³ will be a key source of funding for this project. The EUWI focuses on IWRM both at national and trans-boundary levels in Africa. Its activities include coordinated financing, institutional / technical support, dialogue and partnerships in close cooperation with the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW) and NEPAD. The EUWI approach takes into account the many trade-offs between conflicting water development interests and that these are addressed in a transparent way with full participation by all related stakeholders. It also recognises that IWRM is a political process involving mediation of conflicts of interest, and promotion of effective water governance.

³ EUWI – Web Address: <http://www.euwi.net>

2 THE PROJECT

2.1 Purpose of the Project

2.1.1 The purpose of the AWF funded Project is to facilitate the development of a Convention between the six riparian countries for the creation of VBA to be signed at the Council of Ministers Conference. The Project will also provide an Action Plan (“Road Map”) as a basis for the ratification of the Convention followed by the establishment of VBA.

2.2 Beneficiaries and Stakeholders

2.2.1 The ultimate beneficiaries of the Project, after VBA has been established, will be all people in the river basin as well as those outside the basin who are benefiting from better water management, capital investments, and improved performance of water related sectors, such as hydropower, agriculture, WS&S, fisheries etc.

2.2.2 The focal beneficiary of the Project will be VBTC being supported in performing its role as an ambassador and driving force for the TWRM reform process. Other direct beneficiaries are the focal persons from each riparian country and authorities, stakeholders and institutions directly involved in the development of the Convention and the Action Plan.

2.3 Activities

2.3.1 The scope of activities includes the step-wise and consultative development of the Convention and the related texts, as well as an Action Plan that will serve as a road map for the necessary post-project follow-up actions. The AWF funded activities will include a number of sensitisation workshops with officials and stakeholders from the riparian states of the Volta Basin culminating in the finalisation and endorsement of the Convention by the Council of Ministers. The activities and have been more specifically addressed in Section 3.3 “Implementation Schedule”.

2.4 End of Project Deliverables

2.4.1 The direct deliverables include:

- An agreed Convention and its related texts on the creation of VBA to be signed by the Council of Ministers from the six riparian countries
- An agreed Action Plan (“Road Map”) for the follow-up process for the ratification of the Convention and the creation and empowerment of VBA.

2.5 Costs and Financing

2.5.1 The Grant Agreement with AFW will provide funding for the services of the regional experts and direct expenses related to consultations and workshops. The implementation of the Project will also require VBTC's own contribution in terms of project administration and management inputs, as well as the time and efforts devoted by the ministers, national focal points, and other stakeholders involved in the preparation and finalisation of the Convention.

2.5.2 The overall budget for the AFW funded Project is shown in the table below. Annex 2 and Annex 3 give detailed provisional budgets for the national workshops and the regional workshop respectively.

Table 2.1 Overall Costs Estimate for the AFW Grant

Designation of Activities	Workshop and Adm. Expenses	Remuneration Consultants	Total (Euro)
Six National Workshops (6 x 5 million)	45,736	9,640	55,376
Committee of Regional Experts Working Session	400	3,240	3,640
Regional Workshop	38,113	3,240	41,353
VBTC Working Session and Meeting of the Council of Ministers	38,113	2,040	40,153
Administrative expenses, production of documents, translation, mail, etc.)	7,623	8,600	16,223
Sub Total	129,985	26,760	156,745
Miscellaneous	6,846	1,409	8,255
Total Cost Estimate	136,831	28,169	165,000

2.5.3 The envisaged contributions from the Riparian States include:

- The services rendered by the focal point representatives in their respective countries throughout the project.
- The provision by each country of office space for the conduct of the national workshop.
- Office space for the working sessions of the regional experts including telephone, fax, and internet costs associated to project provided by the Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulics and Fisheries, Burkina Faso.

3 PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

3.1 The Recipient/Executing Agency

3.1.1 The signatory of the Grant Agreement will be Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulics and Fisheries Burkina Faso. The Ministry has been entrusted by the Ministers in charge of water resources of the other riparian countries of the Volta Basin (Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mali, and Togo) the responsibility as Recipient of the grant through the "Convention de Mandat" (Annex 7) signed by all ministers in charge of water resources of the riparian countries, since the VBTC does not have the necessary legal status to receive and manage financial resources directly.

3.1.2 The "Convention de Mandat" also delegates the powers as Executing Agency to the Volta Basin Technical Committee (VBTC) of which the President is mandated to mobilize and manage the AWF grant and will be responsible for carrying out the day to day tasks. According to its statutes⁴, VBTC is an inter-governmental committee that has been set up to lead the transitional process towards the formation of the VBA.

3.2 Implementation Arrangements

3.2.1 The Execution Agency, VBTC will be responsible for meeting the obligations laid down in the Grant Agreement including fulfilment of the conditions precedent to disbursement.

3.2.2 VBTC will be responsible for management of the project implementation. It will arrange for the preparation of ToR for, and recruitment of, the regional experts. VBTC will also plan, coordinate and organise the national workshops in close co-operation with the committee of regional experts and the national focal point (contact person) of each riparian country. It will also organise the final regional workshop and the Council of Ministers Meeting. VBTC will also organise the review and approval of the draft documents before printing and dissemination. VBTC will also be in charge of information exchange and monitoring reporting to AWF on the details of the use of the Grant and submission of the final report after completion of the services.

3.2.3 The Executing Agency will be supported by a Senior Consultant (not part of the AWF funding) with residence in Ouagadougou who will also facilitate the implementation of the national workshops.

⁴ Statutes of the Volta basin Technical Committee (VBTC) signed in Ouagadougou 30 July 2004 by

3.3 Implementation Schedule

3.3.1 As shown in Table 3.1, the Project includes a sequence of working sessions, six national workshops, one regional workshop and a Council of Ministers Meeting towards the finalization, and approval of the Convention. The starting point is the provisional draft Convention that was developed in January 2006 by TA funded by France followed by an initial preparatory session conducted by the regional experts recruited directly by AWF. The Project shall be conducted over a period of about 14 calendar weeks as indicated in Table 3.1.

Table 3.1 Overview Project Activities and Implementation Schedule

Period	Activity	Outputs
Week 1 to 6	Organization of National Workshops with the major stakeholders on the draft Convention for its validation and recommended amendments. The workshops will be attended by stakeholders, officials from the ministries, ministry officials, representatives from local administrations and civil society, cooperating partners and funding agencies.	Workshop Records
Week 7	Working session of the Regional Experts and VBTC to prepare a synthesis of the amendments and recommendations of the six national workshops, and to produce an updated version of the Convention in French and English, and preparations for the Regional Workshop.	- Synthesis of the Recommendations of the National Workshops - Revised Draft Convention and its annexes in French and English
Week 8	Production and dissemination of the Convention and its annexes. Preparation of the regional workshop in Ouagadougou	Revised Draft Convention and its annexes in French and English circulated
Week 9	- Implementation of a 2-days Regional Workshop facilitated by VBTC and the Regional Experts for the validation of the draft Convention. This will be attended by some 40 delegates from different authorities and stakeholders of the riparian countries and representatives of the cooperating partners and funding agencies. - 3 rd session of the regional experts and the board with production of Final Draft Convention and Draft Action Plan ("Road map") to be submitted to VBTC for review at the final session	Workshop Records and Final Draft Convention and its annexes in French and English and Draft Action Plan ("Road Map") for the way forward toward the creation of VBA.
Week 10	Production and dissemination of the Final Draft Convention in French and English Preparation of the final VBTC Session and of the Council of Ministers meeting	Final Draft Convention circulated - Programme and Agenda for the final VBTC Session and of the Council of Ministers meeting
Week 11-14	Organization and implementation of the final Session of the VBTC Session for review of documents, and Meeting of the Council of Ministers for the approval of the Convention	Reviewed Convention and Road map Records and recommendations of the Meeting and Approved Convention

3.4 Procurement

3.4.1 The Executing Agency will ensure that the procurement of services and purchases are in accordance with the AWF Operational Procedures and, where applicable, with the Rules of Procedure of the Bank for Procurement of Goods and Works and the Rules of Procedure of the Bank for the Use of Consultants respectively. The primary responsibility for Procurement rests with the Recipient. The Recipient is required to ensure that the proceeds of the grant are used for purposes for which the grant was made with due respect for economy and efficiency.

3.4.2 It is proposed to go for direct recruitment of the regional experts by the Recipient taking into account the complex nature of the management of shared trans-boundary water resources of the Volta Basin. The development of the Convention will require the services of highly specialised experts from the region and considering the short duration of the Project it is proposed to allow direct contracting with reference to Paragraph 7.10.9 of the Operational Procedures. These open for direct purchasing, direct contracting, direct negotiation, or sole source contracting under such circumstances.

3.4.3 The Recipient has prepared the ToR for the regional experts i.e. one lawyer with competence in national and international water legislation and one WRM expert. The candidates have been identified by the Recipient and AWF has checked their CVs. Both experts have sound experience in addressing trans-boundary water resource challenges in West Africa and in integrated WRM at national and international levels, and they have the required qualifications and experience to undertake the described services.

3.5 Disbursement Arrangements

3.5.1 The overall costs estimate for the AWF funded component is presented in Section 2.5.2, Table 2.1. The total estimated cost is 165,000 Euro and Table 3.2 gives the recommended disbursement schedule to meet the specified expenditures.

Table 3.2 Activity and Disbursement Schedule for the AWF Grant

Item	Transfer Date	Amount Euro
– Six National Workshops – Committee of Regional Experts Session – Regional Workshop – VBTC Working Session and Meeting of the Council of Ministers – Administrative expenses, production of documents, translation, mail, etc.)	April 2006 June 2006	62 000 103 000
Total Cost Estimate		165 000

3.5.2 The administration of the special account should be performed by the accounting officer of the Director of the WRM Department in the Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulics and Fisheries Burkina Faso.

3.6 Accounting and Audit Arrangements

3.6.1 The Grant Agreement will include the specific accounting arrangements and requirements for the Recipient opening of a Special Account with a local Bank acceptable to AWF from which all eligible payments will be made. The account should allow instalments in Euro and FCFA on an interchangeable basis. The account will be replenished in two steps by a disbursement from the Facility.

3.6.2 In the interest of fast tracking the implementation of the Project actions, the AWF will recruit and retain an auditor to perform ex post evaluation or supporting documents review and audit the project. The Facility will require that a statement of expenditure and supporting documents review be performed and certified by the independent auditor at predetermined intervals to ensure that fund have been utilized in line with the grant agreement. The costs of such audit shall be charged to AWF and are not involved in the Grant.

3.7 Monitoring Evaluation and Reporting Arrangement

3.7.1 The plan for monitoring of this Project is to check if the anticipated workshops have taken place, if the outputs have been delivered with the required quality and if the expenditures are in keeping with the budget. The LFA matrix included in this report shall serve as a basis for the result based assessment of the outcomes of the Project during implementation supervision and after completion. AWF's oversight and supervision of the Project interventions will include regular correspondence with the Recipient, as well as review of the Recipient's Quarterly Progress Reports (QPR). AWF will consider at any time the need for undertaking field supervision missions. A Project Completion Report on the activities and the financial situation shall be produced VBTC after completion.

4 EFFECTIVENESS, EFFICIENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY

4.1 Effectiveness and Efficiency

4.1.1 Problems associated with trans-boundary water resources management (TWRM) can be daunting, ranging from institutional capacity limitations to constraints associated with legal and regulatory processes, as well as technological deficiencies. For the assessment of effectiveness, it is important to know how the Project is linked to regional and national policy and strategy frameworks and development priorities. In general, the Project seems well embedded in the national, regional and local policy for poverty reduction, water sector programme and priorities of the riparian countries. The alignment with key institutions and authorities in the riparian countries processes is also catered for through the involvement of the ministries in charge of water in the preparations for the VBA facilitated by the joint VBTC, and the recent signing of the MoU for the creation of VBA. When VBA is established and operational it will contribute to enhanced economic development and improved water sector investments and service delivery to the people of the Volta basin. This will be due to improved holistic planning and utilization of water resources in cooperation with the national institutions designated to manage them.

4.1.2. For a project of this nature it is difficult at this stage to predict its efficiency in terms of outcomes compared to the inputs of funds and human resources beyond the development of the Convention and the Action Plan. The AWF supported project is actually set up to strengthen the enabling environment for VBA through the creation of a Convention that is fundamental for securing the necessary political status of, and resource allocation to, the VBA. In addition, the action plan will set the stage for VBA's establishment and long-term performance.

4.2 Sustainability

4.2.1 For the assessment of the sustainability of the AWF intervention the following two factors should be considered:

1. The institutional sustainability of VBA as such, and
2. VBA's contribution to enhanced sustainability of future water sector development investments and services in the Volta Basin.

4.2.2 The first point about institutional sustainability of VBA will depend on the outcomes of the follow-up program (2006 - 08) towards the ratification of the Convention and the subsequent creation of VBA. The external follow-up cooperation seems to be secured through the EUWI (see Section 1.4.2) and other sources and the basic political commitment of the riparian countries is apparently in place, but will need to be further consolidated and extended to actively involve all key stakeholders and authorities in the basin states. The first challenge that will give an indication on how fast the process will move is the ratification of the Convention by all governments.

4.2.3 The second sustainability factor is whether VBA will be able to perform effective management of water resources and be an effective authority that will promote and regulate water related investments in the Volta Basin. This will depend not only on its institutional sustainability as such, but on its ability to position itself as a well recognised and capable water resources planning and regulatory authority across national boundaries and in close cooperation with the national water authorities and stakeholders, as well as its cooperation with external support agencies. These sustainability aspects need to be further addressed during the preparations of the next phases of the VBA process.

4.4.4 The above factors of concern are by and large beyond the control of the Project, although the projects can advocate and facilitate solutions to possible problems that are arising underway. Nevertheless, the above concerns cannot be held as reasons for rejecting the application, but they should be kept in mind by all parties involved in the funding and implementation if the VBA initiative.

5 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Conclusions

5.1.1 The Project is an important and justified initiative considering the many trans-boundary water challenges facing the Volta Basin riparian countries and the need for a strong legal and institutional framework for effective governance of the shared waters across national boundaries. The AWF funded Project will play an important role in supporting the creation of a Convention and an action plan as a basis for the establishment of the Volta Basin Authority. According to AWF's Operational Programme for 2005-09 support to improved trans-boundary water resources management in the Volta Basin is identified as one of the priority areas.

5.1.2 The fact that the proposal stems from a foregoing process involving the six riparian countries of the Volta Basin is a constructive starting point. The Executing Agency for the Project, the Volta Basin Technical Committee (VBTC), was created in 2004. Another key event was the recent signing of a MoU (Protocol Agreement) for the creation of the Volta Basin Authority (VBA) by the Ministers in charge of the Volta Basin water resources in Ouagadougou. This protocol agreement constitutes an important foundation for the AWF support to the creation of VBA.

5.1.3 The VBA shall pave the way for improved efficiency of future water sector investments in an environmentally sustainable way. The VBA will also play an important role in strategic coordination and monitoring of future water related investments in the Volta Basin, both those financed by ADB and those assisted by other external support agencies, such as EU, FAO, the World Bank, and bi-lateral development partners.

5.2 Recommendations

5.2.1 Based upon a critical assessment of the relevance, effectiveness, and sustainability of the Project, as well as the credibility and capacity of the Recipient, it is recommended that the Director approves VBTC's application for funding of the amount of 165 000 Euro.

5.3 Conditions of Financing

5.3.1 It is proposed that the condition for the effectiveness of the Grant shall be the establishment of the Special Account.

Annexes

Annex 1: Volta River Basin Map



Annex 2: Provisional Budget for National Workshops

RUBRIQUE	U	QTE	TAUX (FCFA)	MONTANT (FCFA)
FRAIS DE TRANSPORT				450 000
Carburant véhicules participants non résidents	km	5000	90	450 000
FRAIS D'HEBERGEMENT				750 000
Participants non résidents (10) lieu de la réunion	nuitée	30	15 000	450 000
Chauffeurs non résidents (10)	nuitée	30	10 000	300 000
PERDIEM				800 000
Participants non résidents (10) lieu de la réunion	h/j	40	10 000	400 000
Participants résidents (10)	h/j	20	10 000	200 000
Chauffeurs non résidents (10)	h/j	40	5 000	200 000
PAUSE SANTE				300 000
Pause café (2 pc x 2j x 30)	pause café	120	2 500	300 000
LOCATION SALLES / HOTESSES				210 000
Salle de réunion	jour	2	75 000	150 000
HôtesSES (2 x 2j)	h/j	4	15 000	60 000
SECRETARIAT/ REPROGRAPHIE				960 000
Frais de sujétion membres du secrétariat (5 pers x 5j)	h/j	25	10 000	250 000
Carburant véhicules secrétariat (1 véh x 5j)	ff/j	5	10 000	50 000
Frais de sujétion chauffeur (1 chauff x 5j)	h/j	5	5 000	25 000
Secrétariat et Reprographie	jour	3	45 000	135 000
Prestations / location équipements	ff	1	500 000	500 000
PRESSE / COMMUNICATION				500 000
Couverture médiatique	ff	1	500 000	500 000
TOTAL				4 120 000
DIVERS SPECIFIQUES PAYS / IMPREVUS				880 000
MONTANT TOTAL MAXIMUM (à ne pas dépasser)				5 000 000

Annex 3: Provisional Budget for Regional Workshop

RUBRIQUE	U	QTE	TAUX (FCFA)	MONTANT (FCFA)
FRAIS DE VOYAGE				7 000 000
Délégués pays				7 000 000
FRAIS D'HEBERGEMENT/PERDIEM*				5 760 000
Délégués (16)	nuitée	64	90 000	5 760 000
DEJEUNER/PAUSE SANTE				1 500 000
Déjeuner (50pers x 2j)	u	100	10 000	1 000 000
Pause café (50 pers x 4)	pause café	200	2 500	500 000
LOCATION SALLES				580 000
Salle de réunion	jour	2	100 000	400 000
Salle pour Secrétariat et Reprographie	jour	4	45 000	180 000
SECRETARIAT/ REPROGRAPHIE				2 175 000
Frais de sujétion (5 pers x 5j)	h/j	25	15 000	375 000
Consommables	ff	1	600 000	600 000
Traduction documents	ff	1	500 000	500 000
location équipements	ff	1	700 000	700 000
ORGANISATION/PROTOCOLE				1 100 000
Frais de sujétion (5 pers x 10j)	h/j	50	15 000	750 000
Hôtesse (3 x 5j)	h/j	15	15 000	225 000
Carburant véhicule Protocole (2 véh x 5j)	ff/j	10	7 500	75 000
Frais de sujétion chauffeurs (2 chauff x 5j)	h/j	10	5 000	50 000
COMMUNICATION-MEDIA-TRADUCTION				2 625 000
Interprètes (2 x 2j)	h/j	4	250 000	1 000 000
Matériel audio	ff	1	500 000	500 000
Couverture médiatique télé	ff	1	400 000	350 000
Couverture presse écrite (3 journaux)	ff	3	150 000	450 000
Couverture radio	ff	1	100 000	100 000
Publication	ff	3	75 000	225 000
TOTAL				20 740 000
DIVERS / IMPREVUS (~10%)				2 260 000
MONTANT TOTAL MAXIMUM				23 000 000

Annex 4: Associated Documents

Project Related Documents	
MoU, Statutes VBTC and associated documents	Hard copy in project file TM Office
Application Letter	AWF network drive L:\02_Operations\06 0001 Volta
Fiche Projet	“
Clarifications (memo from AWF to Recipient)	“
Reponses Clarifications (answer from Recipient to AWF)	“
Modèle Contrat PRDT- consultant for VBTC	“
Draft Convention (Fr.)	“
Draft Convention (Eng.)	“
Choix Consultant Régionaux	“
CV 3 Consultants Régionaux	“
TdR 3 Consultants Régionaux	“
TdR Atelier Régional et Ateliers Nationaux	
Documents Produced During the course of the Appraisal	
Draft Provisional Convention on the Volta Basin	Prepared by VBTC with TA support from France
“Convention de Mandat” (Entrusting the Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulics and Fisheries Burkina Faso the responsibility as Recipient of the AWF Grant signed by the other riparian countries of the Volta Basin.	Prepared by the Legal Department of ADB
Background References	
EUWI-EU Water Initiative – Africa Component	http:\www.euwi.net
Volta River Basin – Preliminary Strategic Action Programme – Final Report December 2002. GEF UNEP Project Development Facility (PDF-B)	AWF network drive L:\02_Operations\06 0001 Volta
Volta River Basin – Preliminary Trans-Boundary Diagnostic Analysis – Final Report December 2002. GEF UNEP Project Development Facility (PDF-B)	AWF network drive L:\02_Operations\06 0001 Volta
Addressing Trans-Boundary Concerns in the Volta River Basin and Downstream Coastal Area. Project Brief for a UNEP – UNOPS/UCC-Water (2003-2007)	AWF network drive L:\02_Operations\06 0001 Volta