

**Exploring cost-effective approaches to demonstrating the eligibility of land to qualify as a clean development mechanism (CDM) afforestation or reforestation (A/R) project activity**

Labour issues and costs are expected to rise with increase in hectares of forest production. As forest species take long time to mature for harvesting there is need to select forest trees that have multiple uses; i.e. species good for timber and for condiment. A good example of tropical tree specie is *Irvingia gabonensis*. It is a very popular condiment that is very expensive in Nigerian market. Every farmer will be happy to engage in afforestation project if he knows that the tree can come to production in 5-6yrs instead of the normal 30-40yrs fruit production age.

The ability of trees to produce early is enhanced when they are budded on dwarfed root stock. If such tree species is selected on the criterion of size-control and precocity or early bearing, it is imperative that you get the tree species producing quickly as possible. To explore cost effectiveness the forest should be designed in a manner to maximize labour efficiency. Using a higher density of trees per hectare on precocious dwarfing rootstocks encourages early and maximum production.

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