

Preparation Workshop
Project for Enhancing Institutional Capacities on REDD issues for Sustainable Forest Management
in the Congo Basin

June 22- 24, 2010
[Venue : Hotel AZUR Bastos]
Yaoundé, Cameroon

AGENDA

Tuesday, June 22nd	Regional REDD Project Preparation Workshop - Day 1:
8:30 -9:00	<i>Participant Registration</i>
9:00-9:15	Welcome and Introduction
9:15-9:30	Presentation of the REDD context in the Congo Basin and the status of international negotiations
9:30-10:30	Presentation of Project Objectives and Project Design for : Regional REDD Project
10:30-11:00	Questions & Answers
11:00- 11:15	<i>Tea/Coffee Break</i>
11:15-12:00	Presentation on relevant parallel initiatives planned or under implementation in the Congo Basin
12:00-13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
13:00-13:15	Objectives of the Working Group Session: Discussions per component: technical & institutional issues. Synergies & complementarities of the Project with existing and planned initiatives
	<i>Working Group Sessions:</i> Discussion on complementarities, synergies, and gaps in development support on REDD readiness in the Congo Basin and suggested focus of the Regional REDD Project
13:15-15:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Group 1:</i> Component 1- Strengthening knowledge on REDD- <i>Group 2:</i> Component 2 - Building technical capacities for MRV- <i>Group 3:</i> Component 3- Developing methodologies to mainstream the REDD concept into SFM projects
15:30-16:00	<i>Tea/Coffee Break</i>
16:00-16:45	<i>Working Group Sessions:</i> Suggested Institutional and Implementation Arrangements
16:45-17:00	Wrap up of Day 1

**Wednesday,
June 23rd**

Regional REDD Project Preparation Workshop - Day 2:

- 8:30 -9:00 *Participant Registration*
- 9:00-9:15 Welcome & Objectives for Day 2
- 9:15-10:00 *Presentation & Discussion* : Group / Component 1- Strengthening knowledge on REDD
- 10:00-10:45 *Presentation & Discussion* : Group / Component 2 - Building technical capacities for MRV
- 10:45-11:15 *Tea/Coffee Break*
- 11:15-12:00 *Presentation & Discussion* : Group / Component 3- Developing methodologies to mainstream the REDD concept into SFM projects
- 12:00-13:00 *Lunch*
- 13:00-13:15 Summary of main conclusion from working groups
- 13:15-14:00 Presentation of planned/ongoing project preparation activities, including timeline
- 14:00-14:30 *Tea/Coffee Break*
- 14:30-16:30 Joint Plenary: Development of an Action Plan for Project Preparation
- 16:30-17:00 Wrap up of discussions and conclusions
- 17:00 *Workshop Closing*

**Thursday,
June 24th**

Regional REDD Project Preparation Workshop - Day 3 (Optional):

- 8:30-9:00 *Participant Registration*
- 9:00-10:30 Présentation de l'étude "Modélisation de la déforestation dans le Bassin du Congo"(cf. restitution des travaux de l'Atelier IIASA) et de l'étude prospective.
- 10:30-11:00 *Tea/Coffee Break*
- 11:00-11:45 Discussion on findings
- 11:45-12:00 Wrap up & *Workshop Closing*
- 12:00-13:00 *Lunch*
- 13:00-15:00 Time for informal discussions with National REDD Focal Points and National Coordinators, as well as other partners
- 15:00-15:30 *Tea/Coffee Break*
- 15:30-18:00 Time for informal discussions with National REDD Focal Points and National Coordinators, as well as other partners

PROJECT INFORMATION DOCUMENT (PID)

CONCEPT STAGE

Report No.: AB4285

<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Enhancing Institutional Capacities on REDD issues for Sustainable Forest Management in the Congo Basin</u>
<u>Region</u>	<u>AFRICA</u>
<u>Sector</u>	<u>Forestry (100%)</u>
<u>Project ID</u>	<u>P113167</u>
<u>GEF Focal Area</u>	<u>Climate change</u>
<u>Borrower(s)</u>	<u>CONGO BASIN COUNTRIES: Cameroon, CAR, DRC, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Republic of Congo</u>
<u>Implementing Agency</u>	<u>Ministries in charge of Environment and/or Forest Management in the six countries and COMIFAC Secretariat.</u>
<u>Environment Category</u>	<u><input type="checkbox"/> A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> FI <input type="checkbox"/> TBD (to be determined)</u>
<u>Date PID Prepared</u>	<u>December 06, 2008</u>
<u>Estimated Date of Appraisal Authorization</u>	<u>January 29, 2010</u>
<u>Estimated Date of Board Approval</u>	<u>May 31, 2010</u>

1. Key development issues and rationale for Bank involvement

The Congo Basin forest, located within the boundaries of Cameroon, Central Africa Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and Republic of Congo, is the world's second largest contiguous block of tropical forest on the planet. In all of the six forest-rich countries, the forestry sector is one of the major economic sectors, providing jobs and local livelihood from timber and non-timber products, while highly contributing to export revenues and fiscal revenues. The forest ecosystems in the Congo basin also perform valuable ecological services, such as flood control, climate regulation at the local level, and buffer against global climate change with huge amount of carbon stored in its abundant vegetation (24-39Gt of carbon).

Protecting the integrity and the health of the Congo Basin forest ecosystem becomes vital for both sustainable economic development at the country-level and the preservation of global public goods at the global level. The prospect of new markets for ecosystem services, and in particular the REDD scheme (Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation), opens up new opportunities for supporting sustainable management of forest resources. However, these opportunities will be made available only to countries with proven capacities to monitor and protect their forests (REDD Readiness). Even if the REDD framework is still under discussion, it is quite unlikely that the Congo Basin countries be eligible for these innovative market-based instruments, unless their capacities, particularly on forest monitoring, are enhanced.

The project falls under the larger framework of the GEF Strategic Program for Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) in the Congo Basin. The regional approach

chosen for this operation was requested by the Congo Basin countries and builds on the remarkable effort made by the countries during the last few years to harmonize their positions on forest management and preservation, through the COMIFAC, and the mutually agreed 10 pillar *Plan de Convergence*.

Rationale for Bank involvement: The proposed project is consistent with the CASs and PRSPs, for the different countries, placing forestry sector and related activities high on the agenda of economic growth and poverty reduction. Indeed the World Bank has relevant practical experience on forest issues in most of the Congo Basin: it ranges from policy dialogue (CAR, Republic of Congo) to investment lending and/or budgetary support targeted on national programs on forestry and environment (Gabon, Cameroon, RDC). Additionally, the World Bank has considerable experience in designing pilot activities that pioneer carbon finance. In particular, the World Bank has recently launched the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) that is designed to build capacity of developing countries to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation: the six countries of the Congo Basin have all indicated their interest in this Facility and four have already been selected. Finally, the regional approach of the project is aligned with the overarching goal of the Regional Integration Assistance Strategy (RIAS) for Sub-Saharan Africa to strengthen collaboration across Africa's borders.

2. Proposed objective(s)

The Project Development Objective of the proposed project is to strengthen the capacities of the Congo Basin countries on REDD issues, and help prepare themselves to take advantage of a future, large-scale, system of positive carbon-based incentives for sustainable forest management.

3. Preliminary description

Component 1: *Strengthening knowledge on REDD at local, national and regional levels*

The project will support the national dialogue on REDD issues and the necessary cross-sectoral coordination, as well as strategic analytical works on drivers of deforestation and on potential impacts of sectoral policies on forest cover (cf. agricultural subsidies, fiscal policies, infrastructure investments...).

The project will support an active participation of the local populations (with a specific attention given to vulnerable stakeholders, incl. indigenous peoples) through extensive consultations at the local level. The GEF contribution will help countries in designing transparent mechanisms to manage carbon-related financing and ensure that REDD schemes support pro-poor and environmentally-sound policies.

The project will support the set up of a regional platform to create synergies and knowledge sharing through active exchanges of technical information and to reinforce the Congo Basin countries capacities to negotiate on REDD issues in the international fora.

Component 2: *Building Technical Capacities for measurement and monitoring of carbon stocks in the Congo Basin Forests*

The project will support the generation of allometric equations, based on field data collection and modelling exercise. It will carry out the development of a reliable methodology to measure and monitor carbon stocks in the Congo Basin forests, based on a combination of field surveys and monitoring through satellites images). Subsequently, the first comprehensive vegetation/carbon stock map of the Congo Basin area will be produced.

Component 3: *Mainstreaming REDD concept within SFM projects*

This Component will support the operationalisation of the REDD concept at the ground level. To do so, it will first assess carbon performance of existing activities on the ground dealing with major pressures on forests, such as fuelwood collection, conversion to agriculture, logging activities... The project will therefore develop methodologies and technical guidelines to mainstream REDD concept in future SFM programs and projects in the Congo Basin: those methodologies and guidelines will be developed in close coordination with all stakeholders involved in the Congo Basin and then widely disseminated, thereby contributing to strengthen partnerships on REDD and its operationalisation on the ground.

Component 4: *Project Coordination, Monitoring and Evaluation.*

The detailed institutional arrangements for the proposed project, as well as the financial management, will be determined in the course of the preparation. However it is anticipated that the COMIFAC Secretariat will be responsible for coordinating the regional activities. An Advisory Committee will be set up and will comprise representatives of countries and partners.

4. Safeguard policies that might apply

The proposed regional project is a Category B. It focuses on capacity building and the development of improved methodologies for forest management. Its B rating is due to the fact that the project's context is sensitive. Project preparation and implementation will ensure free, prior, and informed consultations with key stakeholders, most particularly forest dwelling indigenous people, as well as ensure compliance with OB/OP 4.36 on Forests.

The project team will ensure that the Environmental Annex (Annex 10) of the PAD is drafted in partnership with Government and that it is then disclosed as the project's safeguard instrument. The Annex will summarize the project's approach to environmental and social risk management, most particularly the management of consultations with key stakeholders.

5. Tentative financing

<u>Source:</u>	<u>(\$m.)</u>
<u>BORROWER/RECIPIENT</u>	<u>1.5</u>

Global Environment Facility (GEF)	13.0
FRANCE: French Agency for Development	1.9
Foreign Multilateral Institutions (FCPF, EU)	4.67
International NGOs (WWF, WCS, CI)	2.35
Other Agencies (CEEAC, CIRAD, UNEP)	2.76
Total	26.18

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