



SUPPORT IN THE ELABORATION OF THE CONGOLESE R-PP (READINESS PREPARATION PROPOSAL FOR REDD+)

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Expert(s)	Country	Volume (md)	Amount* (€)	Beneficiary	Funding	Start date	End date	Partner(s)	Reference
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Detailed description of the project	Services provided
<p>The REDD+ mechanism was officially launched during the Bali Climate Change Conference, in December 2007. It aims at rewarding the tropical countries that reduce the greenhouse gas emissions that are a result of the deforestation and degradation of their forests or who protect, or even increase, their stocks of forest carbon. At the same time, the G8 of Heiligendamm launched the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), a multi-donor fund managed by the World Bank. At the beginning of 2013, more than 15 developed countries and more than 40 developing countries, including Congo, joined the FCPF.</p> <p>Since 2008, developing countries wishing to benefit from the REDD+ mechanism were encouraged to prepare a REDD + Plan Idea Note (R-PIN) and to submit it for approval to the Participants' Committee of the FCPF. Congo was among the first countries to have its R-PIN approved, in 2008.</p> <p>Following this, the French Development Agency (AFD) wished to encourage the efforts of the central African countries, members of the <i>Commission des Forêts d'Afrique Centrale</i> (COMIFAC) to prepare a more substantial document, the REDD + Readiness Preparation Proposal (R-PP), aimed at setting up a national REDD+ strategy. An R-PP must be elaborated according to very precise guidelines, set up by the Participants' Committee of the FCPF. It requires an in-depth analysis of institutional, legal, economic and technical issues related to the forests, punctuated by extensive consultations with the participating stakeholders.</p> <p>The AFD appointed three NGOs active in Central Africa, the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and Conservation International (CI), to support the COMIFAC countries in developing their REDD+ strategy. It is within this framework that the WCS, in charge of the REDD+ process in Congo, turned to an ad hoc expertise to support the elaboration of the Congolese R-PP, starting point of the REDD+ strategy.</p>	<p>In close liaison with the Congolese Ministry in charge of forests and the WCS, this support consisted in the planning, supervision and fine-tuning of the work of more than 15 experts (both national and international, 8.3 mw of work in total), in order to achieve an R-PP which can be validated by the Participants' Committee of the FCPF. Specifically, the services allowed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The identification of the roles/responsibilities in terms of implementation of the REDD+ strategy and the constitution of the ad hoc committees; - The identification of the stakeholders to inform and/or consult during the elaboration of the strategy and the design of an ad hoc consultation plan; - The review of the social, economic and environmental context, in order to identify the direct and indirect drivers of deforestation and forest degradation; - The elaboration of the REDD+ strategic options, with analysis of technical feasibility, social acceptability, environmental efficiency, economic efficiency, durability, robustness and risks; - The identification of the existing capacities in terms of REDD+, and those to be strengthened; - The identification of the existing legal measures in terms of land tenure and carbon rights and formulation of legislative proposals to improve the existing framework; - The socio-environmental evaluation of the consequences of the REDD+ options; - The elaboration of a calculation methodology for a reference scenario of greenhouse gas emissions due to the deforestation and to the degradation of forests; - The elaboration of a comprehensive inventory system of forest carbon; - The elaboration of a budget for the implementation of the R-PP. <p>The Congolese R-PP was approved in 2009 and Congo since started the implementation of its REDD+ activities.</p>