



**SUPPORT FOR THE REGIONAL STUDY “ECONOMIC GROWTH AND DEFORESTATION IN THE CONGO BASIN - MODELLING OF DEVELOPMENT TRAJECTORIES”**

**Ref.**  
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Expert(s)	Country	Volume (md)	Amount* (€)	Beneficiary	Funding	Start date	End date	Partner(s)	Reference
Maden Le Crom	Congo Basin countries from Austria	3	2,100 <i>*For the referred expert, within ONFI</i>	COMIFAC countries	World Bank	May 2010	May 2010	IIASA	<a href="mailto:oberstei@iiasa.ac.at">oberstei@iiasa.ac.at</a> + 436 6 49 19 79 47

Detailed description of the project	Services provided
<p>Since the Bali Climate Conference in December 2007, the member countries of the “Commission des Forêts d’Afrique Centrale” (COMIFAC – Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe) have expressed strong interest in the REDD+ mechanism.</p> <p>Most of these COMIFAC countries are engaged in REDD+, and, as such, are expected to prepare a reference scenario of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions due to deforestation and degradation. Robust and scientifically-sound analytical tools are necessary to help their decision-makers, firstly, to better understand how the development of economic sectors can affect the forest cover, and secondly, to strengthen their position in the international arena of REDD+ negotiations.</p> <p>A regional modelling exercise on “the impacts of development trajectories on forest cover and GHG emissions in the Congo Basin” has been conducted by the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA). A workshop was organized in June 2010 to present the results of this modelling exercise. Within the framework of this modelling exercise, technical assistance was required:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To collect data at the country level to help finaliseeducatedemodelling of GHG emissions;</li> <li>To prepare and conduct a three-day technical workshop in June 2010 and to present the results of the regional modelling exercises (mainly performed by IIASA);</li> <li>To help prepare key documents presenting the main results of the modelling exercise during and after the workshop, so that the decision-makers of the Congo Basin countries can better understand the potential future trends of deforestation.</li> </ul>	<p>1/ Description of the optimisation process used by the GLOBIOM model on geographic simulation units (maximised income for producers and consumers depending on the different types of land use such as agriculture, forestry and biofuels; supply adjusted to demand for agricultural and wood products and limited to the international level by both population and GDP growth; integration of international or regional, economic and political signals) and support for the implementation of the CONGOBIOM model;</p> <p>2/ Description of G4M (forest) and EPIC (agriculture) production models in order to estimate the productive potential of lands, production costs and environmental impacts, based on biophysical parameters and management practices;</p> <p>3/ Detailed explanation of model improvements (wood energy, forestry, coffee, cocoa and palm oil, transportation, wood processing, taking into account the limits of permanent forest);</p> <p>4/ Expertise on forest degradation with a view to its inclusion in the model;</p> <p>5/ Analysis of modelling results:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deforestation will triple by 2030 if the planned infrastructures are built;</li> <li>Global signals have significant impact on meat or biofuels ;</li> <li>Deforestation is very sensitive to price signals on coffee and cocoa;</li> <li>A reduction of deforestation by 7% for a 20% reduction in the consumption of woodfuel;</li> <li>Agricultural productivity has an ambiguous role, depending on the productivity differentials between the Congo Basin and the rest of the world.</li> </ul>