



FINAL EVALUATION OF THE EU-WWF “ECOMAKALA” PROJECT IN THE EASTERN DR CONGO

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Expert(s)	Country	Volume (md)	Amount (€)	Beneficiary	Funding	Start date	End date	Partner(s)	Reference
O. Bouyer, J. Maurice, M. Le Crom	DR Congo	46	23,530 €	WWF Belgium	European Commission WWF Belgium	Apr. 2013	Jun. 2013	Pole Institute Goma	<a href="mailto:mone.vangeit@wwf.be">mone.vangeit@wwf.be</a> +32 23 400 958

Detailed description of the project	Services provided
<p>EcoMakala is a large-scale reforestation project (3,000 ha between 2007 and 2012) implemented on the lands of and in collaboration with small local landowners (in fields ranging in size from a quarter of a hectare to few hectares) in the territories of Masisi, Nyiragongo, Rutshuru, Beni and Lubero, in the North Kivu Province of the eastern DRC.</p> <p>The main objective of the project is to improve the sustainable supply of wood-energy (charcoal and woodfuel) to Goma, Beni and surrounding cities in order to contribute to sustainable development and poverty reduction, and to promote an alternative to illegal logging in Virunga National Park, one of the last refuges for mountain gorillas in the Albertine Rift region.</p> <p>Another of the specific objectives was to carry out “in the field” testing of the Climate Convention mechanisms in terms of carbon sequestration (Afforestation/Reforestation under the Clean Development Mechanism) and avoided deforestation (REDD+).</p> <p>The 5-year project started in 2007 thanks to a grant of €1.79 million from the European Commission (EuropeAid/FED) and nearly €0.6 million from the Belgium WWF. The project was implemented by the WWF office in Goma, under the supervision of the WWF ESARPO (East Africa office) before 2012 and WWF CARPO (Central Africa office) after 2012 and in close collaboration with WWF Belgium.</p> <p>The main objectives of this evaluation were to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluate the project’s logical framework following the Logical Framework Approach: evaluation of results/impacts in relation to the initial objectives;</li> <li>Draw conclusions about the project and give next phase recommendations.</li> </ul>	<p>The team of experts was organised as follows: Olivier Bouyer, chief evaluator and team leader; Jérôme Maurice, forest and biomass expert, Maden Le Crom, forest and climate change expert; Léopold Rutinigirwa Muliro, socio-economic expert.</p> <p>The methodology was consolidated during the preparation phase, based on the Logical framework approach. A dashboard (questions, indicators, verifiers) was proposed and validated in order to guide the evaluation process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RELEVANCE: Are the Project’s objectives appropriate to the context? Are they coherent with European Commission policy?</li> <li>EFFICIENCY: Has the project been achieved at a reasonable cost? How were inputs and resources converted into activities? What were the alternatives?</li> <li>EFFECTIVENESS: How did the results contribute to the Project’s objectives? How did hypothetical assumptions affect the Project’s objectives? What benefits resulted for the targeted groups, particularly the vulnerable ones?</li> <li>IMPACTS: What impact did the Project have in the wider scheme of things? Did it contribute to wider policy/sector objectives?</li> <li>SUSTAINABILITY: Is it likely that the Project’s benefits will still be felt after external funding has ended?</li> </ul> <p>A 9-day field mission was set up to collect the data. The data was collected through focus groups, semi-structured interviews and field observations. The following stakeholders were interviewed: tree-planting associations, individual tree-planters, local and regional authorities (customary and administrative), representatives of the charcoal sector (transformers, producers, and transporters), the project’s team and their financial/technical partners.</p>