

REDD+ and Green Economy in DRC – towards a Sustainable National Development Strategy

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I. Democratic Republic of Congo

- DRC has a total surface area of 2.345.000 Km² in Central Africa
- The country is situated on the equator and shares borders with nine countries.
- DRC has the strong will to improve its environmental management policy and ensure the sustainable use of the natural resources of the country.



II. REDD+ Process

1. Origin

- The DRC has been implementing REDD+ since January 2009
- The REDD process is carried out by the Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Tourism (MECNT), with the aid of the National REDD Coordination unit, and the support of numerous partners, including UN-REDD and the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility of the World Bank



II. REDD+ Process (2)

1. Forest conditions in the DRC



II. REDD+ Process (3)

With 155 millions ha of forest cover in the DRC of which 115 millions (69%) are dense evergreen tropical forest, the DRC is home to over half of the forests in the Congo Basin, almost 10% of the moist, tropical forest of the planet.

At the scale of the country, the forests cover 66.5% of the territory and dense evergreen moist tropical forest alone covers 50%.

Even though the rate of deforestation is still much lower compared to other large tropical basins, the rate is still very high within the Congo Basin.



II. REDD+ Process (4)

- What does the DRC do in the REDD+ Process?
 - Development scenarios
 - Mapping of various benefits
 - Demonstration projects



II. REDD+ Process (5)

- **The national REDD+ framework strategy**
 - This document aims to give full account of the the work of the DRC with regards to the REDD+ process.
- **It raises awareness and supports the investment phase by advancing the dialogue:**
 - Within the government
 - Among development partners
 - Between the government and development partners.



II. REDD+ Process (7)

- **It raises awareness and supports the investment phase by driving the dialogue:**
 - Within the government
 - Among development partners
 - Between the government and development partners.



III. The DRC's Vision of a Green Economy

1. Definition

- To date, there is no consensus on the definition.
- Definition by UNEP :
 - *An economy that results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities.*
 - *Practically speaking, a green economy is one whose growth is driven by investments that reduce carbon emissions and pollution, enhance energy and resource efficiency, and prevent the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services.*
 - *This development path should maintain, enhance, and rebuild natural capital as a critical economic asset and source of public benefits, especially for poor people whose livelihoods and security depend strongly on nature.*



III. The DRC's Vision of a Green Economy (2)

2. Prospects for a green economy and sustainable development

Sustainable environmental management in preparation of the country with regards to REDD+, forest protection, reforestation, sustainable use of wood resources, the conservation of biodiversity, and the halting of polluting practices.



- **The development of an ecological agricultural production model** aiming at reduced impact on forests , including the mitigation of soil erosion and based on the promotion of ecological agriculture.
- **Energy development with low carbon intensity** aiming at more sustainable management of the wood energy sector, reduction of the GHG emissions from the electricity sector and the resort to renewable energies and particularly the development of hydro – electricity.



- **Integrated water management** which strengthens the legal and institutional framework of the sector.
- **The development of low carbon transport** taking into account the value of carbon when making decisions with regards to infrastructure, technologies and modes of transport.



- **The elaboration and implementation of a land reform which** is reflected by a revision of the legal framework, its popularisation, and the modernisation of agrarian services.
- **The establishment of a land management policy** based on an integrated legal and institutional framework and new land management master plans at the national and regional level.



- The socio-economic integration of youth;
- The empowerment of women;
- Development of Eco-tourism;
- Good governance and peace-building.



IV. Towards a National Strategy for Sustainable Development (SNDD)

- The SNDD: Commitment since Johannesburg (2002)
- Initiation of the process in DRC in February 2013 with the technical and financial support of the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) through the Institut de la Francophonie pour le developpment durable (IFDD)
- Result: Production of a Roadmap



IV. Towards the SNDD (2)

Activities	Responsible Entity	Implementation Period
1. Create a National Committee of Sustainable Development (CNDD)	Ministry of Environment => Prime minister	March- May 2013
2. Enrich, finalize and validate the context report	Expert committee to be formalised by a decision of the minister of environment.	March- April2013
3. Review the vision and the axes of the first draft of the SNDD	CNDD	May –August 2013
4. Continue draft 1 with programmes , actions, indicators and budget	CNDD	September 2013
5. Validate Draft 1 through a technical workshopwith stakeholders => creation of Draft 2	CNDD	October 2013
6. Organise regional consultations (11 provinces) on Draft 2 => create Draft 3	CNDD	November 2013 – February 2014
7.Organise a national workshop on the validation of the SNDD	CNDD	March 2014
8. Present the project of the SNDD to political officials and donors for validation and launching.	CNDD	April 2014



V. Conclusion

- REDD+, green economy and the SNDD are driving the DRC towards sustainable development in order to achieve the vision of the government of emergence of the country in 2030.



Thank you

