



# Programme to Support the REDD+ Process - Republic of Congo

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UN-REDD PROGRAMME EIGHTH  
POLICY BOARD MEETING

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25-26 March 2012

Asunción, Paraguay



In accordance with the decision of the Policy Board this document is printed in limited numbers to minimize the environmental impact of the UN-REDD Programme processes and contribute to climate neutrality. Participants are kindly requested to bring their copies to meetings. Most of the UN-REDD Programmes meeting documents are available on the internet at: [www.unredd.net](http://www.unredd.net).



**REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO**

***Programme to Support the REDD+ Process***

***Submission date:***

**February 2012**

**UN-REDD Programme 8<sup>th</sup> Policy Board meeting (PB-8)**

Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

**(FCPF)**

The United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from  
Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries

**(UN-REDD)**

**NOTE:**

The Republic of the Congo has had a REDD+ Readiness Preparation Proposal ("R-PP") since 2010, which was revised and internationally approved by the FCPF Participants Committee in 2011. This document clarifies the UN-REDD Programme's commitment to support the REDD+ process in the Republic of the Congo and the implementation of the country's R-PP. This proposal is based on the country's R-PP, which is therefore attached to the proposal as a main reference document.

The original version of this document is in French.

## Signatures

<i>United Nations Agencies</i>	<i>National Authority</i>
U.N. Resident Coordinator [Signature / Date]	Ministry of Sustainable Development, Forest Economy and Environment [Signature / Date]
FAO Country Representative [Signature / Date]	
UNDP Country Director [Signature / Date]	
UNEP, Director, Division of Environmental Policy [Signature / Date]	

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**This programme was endorsed during a participatory workshop on REDD+, held in Brazzaville on 25 January, 2012, with over 100 representatives of the public sector, civil society organizations, Indigenous Peoples and the private sector. The final communiqué thereof is included in Annex 1.**

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*Disclaimer: The World Bank and the UN-REDD Programme do not guarantee the accuracy of the data included in the Readiness Preparation Proposals (R-PPs) submitted by REDD Country Participants and accepts no responsibility whatsoever for any consequence of their use. The boundaries, colors, denominations, and other information shown on any map in the R-PPs do not imply on the part of the World Bank any judgment on the legal status of any territory or the endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries.*

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***The R-PP is the country's reference document for REDD+;  
it is attached to this proposal as reference document and source of details.***

## A. General information

### National REDD+ Team

#### I. REDD+ Focal Point, Government of the Republic of the Congo

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#### II. National Coordination for REDD+

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#### III. Civil society and indigenous people Representatives

##### III/a) Interim Civil Society Commission for REDD+ (CI-REDD+), 2010-2011

Names	Nongovernmental platforms
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PELLA Irma Séraphine	Association Femme-Energies
BAYEKOLA Berthe	ONG Forêt et Développement
NDINGA APENDI Gaëlle Carmela	Association pour l'environnement et la Solidarité Internationale (AESI)
NGANGA Jean	Association de Défense et Promotion des Peuples indigènes (ADPPA)
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MBOUTA – BAFUOUIDIZO	CEPAREC / OSC
Maixent Fortunin HANIMBAT EMEKA	Plateforme de la société civile pour la gestion durable des forêts
IWANGOU Désiré	FENAJEICO
NSOSSO Dominique	AMEA

##### III/b) CACO-REDD+ Joint steering committee (Consultation framework for Congo civil society organizations and Indigenous People for REDD+), early January 2012

Pillar/component	Names
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	Sylvie nadège MFOUTOU BANGA
	Roch Euloge N'ZOBO
	Daldy YOUBOU
	Arsène GUELELE KOUENE
	MBOUTA BAFOUIDIZIO
	Maixent Fortunin HANIMBAT EMEKA
	Desiré IWANGO
	Majep LIMOUNAH
	Oscar KIBIMA
	Angelique NTINO
	Thérèse PANDI)
	Hélène BIGNANGA
	<b>INDIGENOUS PEOPLE</b>
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Jean NGANGA	
Louis NGOUELE IBARRA	
Guy NGOMA	
Sandrine NGANGA	
NGOUEBARA NGUENOBI	

**Joint UN-REDD, FCPF and EFI (EU REDD) support Team to the Republic of the Congo**

Agency	Name, title and details
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<b>EFI (EU-REDD)</b>	Christophe Van Orshoven, REDD+ Specialist (Barcelone) < christophe.vanorshoven@efi.int >

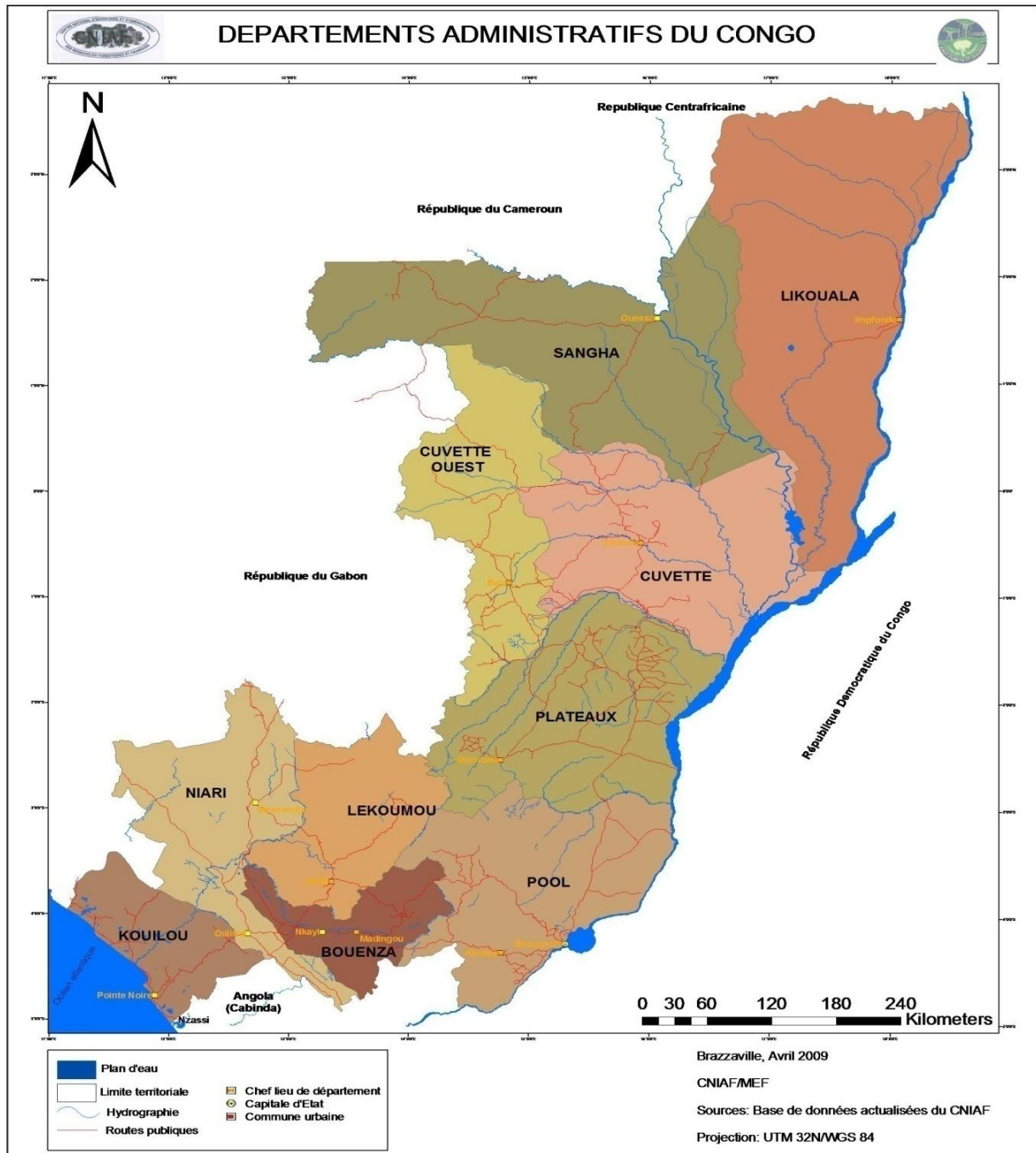
### Outline of the R-PP and this Programme

R-PP drafting period	2010-2011 (latest version : September 2011)	
Programme development period (UN-REDD proposal)	2011-2012 (submission : February 2012, for the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board March 2012 meeting)	
Scheduled implementation period for the R-PP (and this Programme)	2012-2014	
Total R-PP budget estimate (initially)	US\$ 15 500 000 (around CFA Franc 7735 millions)	
Total budget estimate (updated)	US\$ 17 654 246 (around CFA Franc 8812 millions)	
Planned funding sources (*)	Government FCPF (World Bank) UN-REDD (request underway) <i>Funding gap</i>	US\$ 600 000 US\$ 3 400 000 US\$ 4 000 US\$ 9 654 246
Signatory for the Government issuing the submission	His Excellency Henri Djombo, Ministry of Sustainable Development, Forest Economy and Environment	
Expected outcomes for the implementation of this REDD+ support Programme (UN-REDD Programme)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The national REDD+ process is well managed and fully participatory (component 1)</li> <li>2. The country is ready to implement structural reforms and REDD+ investments, while taking safeguards into account (components 2 &amp; 3)</li> <li>3. An comprehensive REDD+ information and monitoring system is in place and functional (component 4)</li> </ol>	

(\*) Combined fundings from the Government, FCPF and UN-REDD Programme (total US\$8 millions) would provide strong foundations for the REDD+ process. The identified funding gap, if filled, would enable the delivery of pilot projects and of a comprehensive REDD+ system.



**Figure 1.**  
**Administrative map of the Republic of the Congo**



### ***Abbreviations and acronyms***

AD	Activity data
C	Component
CACO-REDD+	Consultation framework for Congo civil society organizations and Indigenous People for REDD+
CDM	Clean development mechanism
CEPAREC	Center for Promotion, Support, and Capacity-Building of Civil Society Organizations in Congo
Cf.	<i>Confer</i> [see]
CFA Franc	African Financial Community Franc (currency of the Republic of the Congo)
CI-REDD	Interim Civil Society Commission for REDD+
CNIAF	National Center for Surveys and Forest and Fauna Resources Management
CN-REDD	National Coordination for REDD
CODEPA	Departmental committee (CODEPA-REDD)
COMIFAC	Central African Forest Commission
CONADEC	National Convention of Development and Environmental Associations and NGOs in Congo
CONA-REDD+	National REDD+ Committee
COP	Conference of the Parties
CTA	Chief technical advisor
DFNP	Non-Permanent Forest Estate
DFP	Permanent Forest Estate
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
EF	Emission Factors
EFI	European Forest Institute
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework (SESA)
EU REDD	European Union REDD+ Facility (see EFI)
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCPF	Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FIMS	Forest information management systems
FLEGT	Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade
FMU	Forest Management Unit
FRA	Forest Ressources Assessment
FSC	Forest Stewardship Council
GDP	Gross domestic product
GHGI	Greenhouse Gas Inventory
ha	Hectare
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
IIASA	International Institute for Applied Science Analysis
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
M	Monitoring
MDDEFE	Ministry of Sustainable Development, Forest Economy and Environment
MRV	Measurement, Reporting and Verification
MRV&M	Measurement, Reporting and Verification, and Monitoring

NAMA	National Appropriate Mitigation Actions
NEAP	National Environmental Action Plan
NFI	National Forest Inventory
NGO	Non-governmental organization
O	Option
OFAC	Observatory for the Forests of Central Africa
PAFN	National Forest Action Plan
PCIV	Principles, Criteria, Indicators and Verifiers
PNAT	National Land Management Plan
PRoNAR	National Afforestation and Reforestation Development Program
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
QA/QC	Quality Control / Quality Assurance
REDD+	Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, and fostering sustainable management and conservation of forests, enhancement of forest carbon stocks and reforestation
REL	Reference Emission Level
RIFFEAC	Network of Training Institutions and Environmental Forest of Central Africa
RL	Reference level
R-PP	REDD+ Readiness Preparation Proposal
SEPC	Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria (of UN-REDD)
SESA	Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment
SNAT	National Land Use Planning
SNDR	National Rural Development Scheme
SNR	National Reforestation Service
SO	Sub-option
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNEP	United Nations Environment Program
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UN-REDD	United Nations REDD+ Programme (FAO-UNDP-UNEP partnership)
USD / US\$	United States dollar
VPA	Voluntary Partnership Agreement
WB	World Bank

## **B. Executive summary of the UN-REDD Programme in the Republic of the Congo**

### **Background**

The Republic of the Congo is in the heart of the Congo forest basin, the world's second-largest forest massif. The country covers 342 000 km<sup>2</sup>, about two-thirds of which, or 224 713 km<sup>2</sup>, is forested. The population of the Republic of the Congo is estimated at 3.8 million inhabitants; thus average population density is fairly low, at 11 inhabitants per km<sup>2</sup>. Although nearly 60% of the people live in the country's five main cities (Brazzaville, Pointe-Noire, Dolisie, Nkayi and Ouessou), a majority is dependent on the forests for meeting vital food and energy needs. Indeed, the Congolese economy is very reliant on the exploitation of natural resources; oil and wood revenues make up 70% of the GDP. Forty percent of the active population works in agriculture, and yet this sector represents only 6% of GDP. A majority of the population, especially those living in rural areas, still lives in poverty, and depends on natural resources for survival. The country seeks to find ways to improve people's means of existence and to revitalise the economy with a view to achieving sustainable development.

The deforestation rate in the country has been negligible to date, less than 0.1%. This makes the Republic of the Congo one of the last countries in the world that has kept its considerable forestlands nearly intact. However, the country is aware of the risks of any acceleration of deforestation and the degradation of forest ecosystems; the context of economic globalisation encourages the expansion of the agriculture, bioenergy and extractive industry sectors, to the detriment of the natural forestland. Therefore, the country seeks to undertake reform and significant investment in order to prevent such risks, optimise land use planning for investment, and turn towards a green economy and development.

Because the forests of the Republic of the Congo play a role in the mitigation of climate change worldwide, the country is ready to take part in the new international climate mechanisms, political and financial. The Republic of the Congo is especially interested in REDD+, a new international green finance instrument created through negotiations on climate change, which seeks to reward measurable steps taken by developing forested countries to reduce deforestation and limit forest degradation. Together, the government, civil society and local communities are active stakeholders in REDD+; the challenge is to build a national REDD+ programme that meets the approval of all, is robust and can achieve the expected outcomes.

The Republic of the Congo believes that REDD+ is more than just the establishment of a series of technical measures for monitoring, forecasting and controlling drivers of deforestation; it also provides an opportunity to set deeper strategic and development changes in motion, by stimulating a national debate on forests and land use, introducing political and institutional reforms, and promoting a green economy with international support. The REDD+ readiness

phase is seen as a crucial step that will help design and prepare the following policies and operating programmes:

- National REDD+ strategy itself, as a first step towards green development, including measures for forest protection and for mitigation of and adaptation to climate change;
- Structural reforms, in particular land use planning and management;
- Mechanisms for managing REDD+, including establishment of a Reference Emissions Level (or Reference Level), a complete system for Measurement, Reporting, Verification and Monitoring (MRV&M), a system for social and environmental safeguards, and a financial mechanism; and
- A detailed plan for large-scale investment, especially in the sectors of agriculture, energy and forestry, which are essential to REDD+ and green development.

In accordance with international decisions on climate change/REDD+, the Republic of the Congo envisions a gradual ramp-up of goals, in line with three phases of a REDD+ process with long-term targets: first, a preparation phase building up national consensus on actions to be implemented, as well capacity building to ensure effective delivery (phase 1); second, a phase for the implementation of reforms and investments putting the country on the path to green development with sustainable measures to address the causes of deforestation (phase 2), which may overlap the end of phase 1; and lastly, a fully-fledged operational phase in line with the REDD+ mechanism, with financing linked to the demonstrated reduction of deforestation and forest degradation (phase 3) and according to terms that have yet to be defined internationally.

The Republic of the Congo has been carrying out the REDD+ preparation process since 2008. The country is a member of two multilateral REDD+ support platforms: the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) of the World Bank, and the United Nations REDD+ Programme (UN-REDD), a partnership of the FAO, the UNDP and the UNEP. The Republic of the Congo participated in the FCPF from the outset, as a "pilot country" in 2008, and became a member of UN-REDD in 2010.

In the context of the FCPF, the country held a participatory campaign to define the REDD+ Readiness Preparation Proposal, known by its acronym R-PP. The Republic of the Congo's R-PP was more than one year in drafting, taking into account national and international consultations and technical reviews. The R-PP document of the Republic of the Congo – the latest version of 200 pages, dated September 2011, is exhaustive and detailed – contains the main strategic, financial and methodological terms required by the country and its stakeholders in regard to the preparation for REDD+ implementation. The technical quality of the document, which has undergone several revisions, has been recognized internationally. It is attached as an annex to this proposal for the UN-REDD Programme because it is the policy reference document for REDD+ in the Republic of the Congo. The UN-REDD Programme agrees to support its implementation through the expertise of each UN-REDD agency, and through the coordinated and complementary action of the FCPF and other partners.

The R-PP for the Republic of the Congo is configured around six components, as called for by the FCPF / UN-REDD Common Approach, which has been slightly modified since, and which is used in the present document (section C). This includes four intervention components followed by two components for planning and monitoring implementation, i.e.: (i) organization of the REDD+ preparation process and stakeholder consultation; (ii) preparation of the national REDD+ strategy, which will be the concrete achievement of the preparation phase; (iii) development of a Reference Emissions Level or Reference Level; (iv) design of a national system for monitoring forests and information on safeguards; (v) schedule and budget; and (vi) framework for monitoring and assessment of the preparation phase.

The total R-PP budget which would enable the country to be ready to participate in the REDD+ mechanism (which corresponds to phase 1) is US\$ 15.5 million (about 8 000 million CFA francs); during the third joint REDD+ international mission in the country, the cost of REDD+ readiness was slightly revised and the current estimate is US\$ 17.7 million. About half of this amount would finance core activities of REDD+ readiness, in particular coordination, information and fostering national debate among the stakeholders (governmental and non-governmental), capacity building, REDD+ decentralisation, technical analyses, participatory development of the national REDD+ strategy, preparation of the REDD+ implementation framework, design and setup of the system for monitoring social and environmental aspects of REDD+ (risks and multiple benefits), definition of the Reference Emissions Level (or Reference Level) and the development of the MRV&M. The remaining funds would be designated for implementation of *REDD+ pilot projects* in order to draw on experience in the field and to enable the people to become directly engaged with the process and perceive the tangible multiple benefits that the REDD+ process can offer beyond the readiness phase.

### **UN-REDD Engagement**

The Republic of the Congo's R-PP was first approved by the FCPF Participants Committee in 2010 and ratified in 2011 following improvements, with funding of US\$ 3.4 million (about 1.7 billion CFA francs). Implementation of R-PP activities financed by the FCPF will begin in early 2012. In 2011, the UN-REDD Programme Policy Board recognized the country as a priority African country, and then invited the Republic of the Congo to submit a technical and financial proposal that would boost R-PP implementation and provide co-financing, in line with the initial support of the FCPF and the Government

The FCPF and UN-REDD began working together in the Republic of the Congo as of 2010, during a first joint mission, the objective of which was to improve certain aspects of the national debate on REDD+ and to provide a structure for stakeholders in the REDD+ process. At the same time, the FCPF and UN-REDD also started preparing the field for joint technical and financial support, given the high level of commitment to REDD+ in the country and the size of the forest there. A second joint FCPF / UN-REDD mission was held in September 2011 in order to define and schedule their respective roles on the R-PP. A third joint mission FCPF / UN-

REDD, including a delegate from EU-REDD (EFI), was held from 23 to 27 January 2012 to finalise and validate this UN-REDD proposal, in an exchange of ideas with all the national stakeholders.

Pursuant to this work on dialogue and coordination, the stakeholders agreed on the following areas for the engagement of the UN-REDD Programme in the Republic of the Congo:

- International-quality support and advice to the National Coordination for REDD+ (CN-REDD), as well as support for the operation of REDD+ management structures and inter-institutional collaboration;
- Support for stakeholders' engagement, for consultation and national exchange of ideas;
- Support for the launch of the REDD+ decentralisation and local exchange of ideas;
- Support for Information, Education and Communication (IEC) on REDD+;
- Support for the analysis of strategic options, finalisation and validation of the national REDD+ strategy and planning REDD+ investments (in addition to the key role played by the FCPF in defining the national REDD+ strategy);
- Support, technical and participatory guidance for REDD+ pilot projects and initiatives, including the set up of a programme to encourage local REDD+ experiments;
- Contribution to the definition of a REDD+ implementation framework, in particular in regard to income sharing, the governance system for REDD+ funds, fiscal and economic incentive tools for REDD+, and the establishment of a national registry for REDD+ projects and initiatives;
- Participatory development of social and environmental safeguards for REDD+, using the UN-REDD SEPC tool (cf. annex 2 for the provisional diagram), carried out in accordance with the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) required by the R-PP and steered by the FCPF acting as consultants;
- Establishment of the Reference Level;
- Establishment of the National Forest Monitoring System and the MRV (MRV&M); and
- Design of a system for information and monitoring of REDD+ benefits and impact, including support for the creation of an independent REDD+ Observatory.

In essence, UN-REDD engagement ensures crucial financial and technical assistance to help the Government of the Congo, with other stakeholders, to implement the R-PP, in accordance with the FCPF's support as already defined, as well as the support of the EU-REDD Facility (which participated in the drafting of this proposal). The funding request to UN-REDD amounts to a total of \$US 4 million (approximately 2,000 million CFA francs), which will allow for activities in support of the preparation for the REDD+ mechanism to get underway over a period of two and a half years, from July 2012 to December 2014, in accordance with the national goal of completing the REDD+ readiness phase by the end of 2014 (in order to launch the investment phase in 2015, or sooner if possible).

The R-PP, as well as this UN-REDD proposal for support, are consistent with the country's policy priorities and with strategic national development documents. They are also in line with UN-REDD recommended policies and practices, in particular those calling for the participation

of civil society and representatives of forest communities in the REDD+ process, for democratic governance in REDD+ activities, and for the establishment of social and environmental safeguard measures in REDD+ (as approved in the negotiations on the *United National Framework Convention on Climate Change*).

### **Summary of the programme**

**The REDD+ process support programme**, to be funded by the UN-REDD Programme, is part of the national REDD+ process that enables the country to be ready to implement its national REDD+ strategy by 2015, in the context of green development. The expected outcome of UN-REDD support is to help build national capacity for organization, exchange, strategies, analysis and technical assistance contributing to the REDD+ mechanism. The programme is built around four operational components (as provided by the FCPF / UN-REDD Common Approach, as well as the country's R-PP), aiming to achieve three outcomes: the national REDD+ process is well managed and fully participatory (component 1); the country is ready for the implementation of structural reforms and REDD+ investments, taking into account safeguards (components 2 & 3); and a comprehensive system for information and monitoring of REDD+ is functioning (component 4).

The results framework of the UN-REDD proposal is found in Table 1 here below. A simplified matrix of activities and budgets can be found in Table 2, at the end of this Executive Summary. A detailed matrix of activities, budgets and roles to be played by the different UN-REDD agencies, in accordance with the engagements of the FCPF and the Government of the Republic of the Congo, is included in section C5 (this matrix, a dashboard for the national REDD+ process, illustrates the ways in which, at all levels, activities financed by the FCPF and Government of the DRC align with and are complementary to each other, as are all other activities financed by UN-REDD).

**Table 1. Programme results framework**

<b>UN-REDD SUPPORT PROGRAMME FOR THE REDD+ PROCESS IN THE REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO</b>	
<b>Goal</b> (of the REDD+ process): The country is ready to implement its national REDD+ strategy by 2015, in the context of green development.	
<b>Objective</b> (of UN-REDD support): development of national capacities for organization, exchange of ideas, strategic analysis and technical management in support of REDD+ mechanisms.	
<b>Expected outcomes</b>	<b>Main indicators</b>
The national REDD+ process is well managed and fully participatory ( <u>component 1</u> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ToR, institutional bases and operating budgets of both centralised and decentralised management and consultation bodies for REDD + have been set up (December 2012).</li> <li>• Management and consultation bodies for REDD + take the measures and actions set forth in the respective ToR, in due time (December 2013).</li> </ul>
The country is ready for implementation of REDD+ structural reforms and investments, taking into account all safeguards (components <u>2 &amp; 3</u> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A national strategy, adopted by consensus along with a credible, multi-sector investment plan for phase 2 of REDD+ is available (December 2014).</li> <li>• A preliminary Reference Level is established by common accord (May 2014).</li> </ul>



A REDD+ global information and monitoring system is operational ( <u>component 4</u> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Satellite monitoring of forest cover is operational at the national level (May 2013).</li><li>• An information system on risks and multiple benefits of REDD+ is developed in a participatory manner (December 2013) and implemented (June 2014).</li></ul>
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*Note: This results framework shall be finalised before the official approval of the programme.*

Support on component 1 (organization and consultation) will reinforce the quality of CN-REDD work, in particular by making an international technical advisor available to supply high-level assistance in management, strategic counsel and leveraging funds for the REDD+ process, underpinning the efficient management of the UN-REDD support programme according to UN best practices. Furthermore, the UN-REDD Programme will support REDD+ decentralisation by creating three departmental units and through financing for decentralised debate on REDD+ issues (at the departmental and local levels). UN-REDD will also fund information, education and communication (IEC) on REDD+, as well as campaigns for technical consultation and exchange of ideas among the stakeholders.

Contribution to component 2 (preparation of national REDD+ strategy) will be decisive for achieving the goals of the readiness phase; UN-REDD will focus on the seven areas below:

- Preliminary analyses, in particular those not covered by FCPF financing, especially regarding governance.
- Contribution to the analysis and consultation of REDD+ strategic options, in particular through financing and steering of a prospective study on REDD+ potential and through the organization of consultation by theme and by sector.
- Support for the consolidation and adoption of the national REDD+ strategy, including high-level policy debates; support for determining national consensus and preparation of investment plans (to enable launch of REDD+ phase 2).
- Significant funding for support and advice on local REDD+ experimental initiatives through pilot projects (initiatives will then be carried out through funding from other donors as yet to be identified) and a programme of grant competition offering small subsidies to community initiatives and "REDD+ entrepreneurs", seeking to reward local, innovative REDD+ business plans. Lessons learned from these experiments will help refine the national REDD+ strategy.
- Targeted support for the implementation framework of REDD+, especially for participatory analysis of options and rules for REDD+ income sharing, for the development of a governance system for the REDD+ Fund, using a study of REDD+ tools for tax and economic incentives.
- Establishment of a national registry of REDD+ projects and initiatives, with procedures for accreditation, which shall serve as a central pillar of the REDD+ implementation framework.
- Support for participatory development of social and environmental safeguards for REDD+, in accordance with international agreements under the UNFCCC (in particular

the Cancun Agreements), using the UN-REDD Programme's Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria (SEPC), and in line with the work carried out by the FCPF on SESA.

Component 3 (Reference Level) concerns the definition of Reference Levels / Reference Emissions Levels (RL/REL). The RL and REL are used to define probable future impact in terms of emission and absorption of greenhouse gases, anthropogenic activities that affect the forest in the absence of any specific REDD+ programmes. Definition of RL/REL in the Republic of the Congo will be based in part on determination of the historic impact of the anthropogenic activities under consideration, and may take into account other variables, if the work undertaken by the IIASA and World Bank partners is pertinent to the period in question. The UN-REDD Programme will essentially supply assistance for local ownership of the issues.

Component 4 (monitoring and MRV system and multiple benefits) seeks to establish a comprehensive framework for monitoring the various aspects of REDD+. This framework will include, first of all, a system for observing forest ecosystem dynamics and in particular the effects on carbon flows. The goal is to develop an effective Measurement, Reporting, Verification and Monitoring (MRV&M) system for these carbon flows. The system should allow for estimations of the impact of anthropogenic activity from forestry in terms of greenhouse gas emissions and absorption, at regular intervals (yearly). These results will be compared to the RL/REL in order to measure the effectiveness of each of the REDD+ activities and measures set up on the national level. In this context, UN-REDD support will bear on the establishment of (i) the National Forest Inventory and its value in terms of carbon stored in the forests; (ii) Monitoring of Changes in Forest Cover through analysis of satellite imagery in order to identify forest surfaces and change in forest cover caused by anthropogenic activity; (iii) the Greenhouse Gas Inventory to measure the impact of certain human activities on the climate; (iv) the Monitoring System to compile, keep and share all of the useful information produced through REDD+ by way of an online portal; and lastly (v) management of a process that seeks to ensure national ownership, reliability, transparency and external oversight of all of the operations listed above, in line with the rules of the UNFCCC. REDD+ global monitoring framework in the Republic of the Congo will also include a monitoring system for other aspects (beyond carbon) of REDD+: multiple benefits (social and environmental), monitoring of REDD+ governance and financial flows, and of social and environmental risks. Preliminary work of quantification, spatialisation and valorisation of REDD+ multiple benefits will be undertaken, as well as specific support for the set up and operation of a specific *task force* for monitoring other REDD+ benefits and risks (in this regard, the *task force* shall be considered a precursor to the National Environment Agency, which is mentioned in the R-PP but has not yet been created), and support for the creation of the independent REDD+ Observatory that will guarantee independent and participatory oversight of the monitoring system.

Sections C1 to C4 of this document provide a description of the activities. The integrated activity plan and the budget for the whole REDD+ process, including activities to be financed by UN-REDD agencies, are in section C5 – a summary is given in Table 2 here below. The framework for programme monitoring and assessment is in section C6. The complete R-PP is in

an annex hereto, and supplies further technical, methodological and analytical information on the REDD+ readiness phase that this programme seeks to support.

**Chart 2. Activity and budget overview (Government, FCPF and UN-REDD) for the REDD+ process**

Components, areas of intervention and principal activities		Budget						TOTAL
		Rep. of the Congo	FCPF	UN-REDD			TOTAL	
				FAO	UNDP	UNEP		
<b>1. ORGANIZATION AND CONSULTATION</b>		<b>365,000</b>	<b>2,095,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>801,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>861,000</b>	<b>3,321,000</b>
<b>1a) National arrangement for preparation management</b>								
Support for REDD National Co-ordination (CN-REDD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CN-REDD staff (heads of units and specialists)</li> <li>• Chief technical advisor (international) to CN-REDD</li> <li>• Costs of CN-REDD support staff</li> <li>• CN-REDD mission expenses inside the country and abroad</li> <li>• CN-REDD running costs (communications, vehicle, etc.)</li> <li>• Consultants and research departments for financial management</li> <li>• Recruitment of an independent agency for audits</li> <li>• Technical meetings</li> </ul>	135,000	1,390,000	50,000	460,000		510,000	2,035,000
Support for CONA-REDD+ and institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research department to develop and implement a capacity-building programme for CONA-REDD, REDD+ and CN-REDD decentralised units</li> <li>• CONA-REDD meetings and operating costs</li> </ul>		175,000		10,000		10,000	185,000
Support to REDD+ decentralisation (3 <i>department</i> units.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recruitment of 3 heads of decentralised REDD+ units and 3 assistants</li> <li>• Equipment and running expenses of the decentralised units</li> </ul>				156,000		156,000	156,000
<b>1b) Consultation and participation</b>								
Support for the CN-REDD unit in charge of Information, Education, and Communication (IEC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design of communication and awareness material</li> <li>• Production of tools for communication and awareness-raising</li> <li>• Broadcasts on existing community radio stations and cultural events</li> <li>• Awareness-raising and consultation campaigns (NGO subcontracting)</li> <li>• Logistical support to the IEC unit</li> </ul>	230,000	300,000		75,000	10,000	85,000	615,000
Decentralised dialogue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for the creation and meetings of the <i>département</i></li> </ul>				80,000		80,000	80,000

Components, areas of intervention and principal activities		Budget						TOTAL
		Rep. of the Congo	FCPF	UN-REDD				
				FAO	UNDP	UNEP	Total	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>platforms</li> <li>Training of REDD+ moderators (both at the <i>département</i> platforms and local levels)</li> </ul>							
Technical consultations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organising <i>département</i> workshops and a national workshop to validate the national strategy (2a)</li> <li>Organising consultation workshops on the reference level and MRV (components 3 and 4)</li> <li>Organising the national SESA workshop</li> <li>Organising consultation workshops (according to the needs of the REDD+ process)</li> </ul>		230,000		20,000		20,000	250,000
<b>2. PREPARATION OF THE REDD+ STRATEGY</b>		<b>90,000</b>	<b>1,135,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>743,568</b>	<b>515,000</b>	<b>1,258,568</b>	<b>2,483,568</b>
<b>2a) Evaluating land use, forest policy, and governance</b>								
Analysing the situation and building consensus on the causes and drivers of deforestation and forest degradation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Analysis study carried out on the spatialisation and weighting of the causes of deforestation and forest degradation</li> <li>Collection of documentation for the analysis</li> <li>Analysis of the situation with regard to governance for REDD+ (e.g. study of the political economy of REDD+; participatory analysis of REDD+ governance)</li> </ul>	40,000	250,000		20,000		20,000	310,000
<b>2b) REDD+ strategic options</b>								
Analysis of strategic options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prospective study of the potential of REDD+ and analysis of long-term scenarios (2025-2050) (economic potential beyond the potential for emission reduction)</li> <li>in-depth analyses (costs, benefits, political feasibility, sustainability, risks of leakage) of the REDD+ strategic options proposed in the R-PP</li> <li>Themed and sector-based meetings and consultations</li> </ul>		310,000		38,568	200,000	238,568	548,568
Finalising strategy and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consolidating the national REDD+ strategy</li> </ul>				65,000	250,000	315,000	315,000

Components, areas of intervention and principal activities		Budget						
		Rep. of the Congo	FCPF	UN-REDD				TOTAL
				FAO	UNDP	UNEP	Total	
planning for investments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High-level expert mission to align strategic elements and extending political orientations</li> <li>Preparing plans and transformative investment programmes based on the strategic options (launch of REDD+ phase II)</li> </ul>							
Support for the experimentation processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support and technical advice on the development of REDD+ pilot projects and initiatives</li> <li>Programme of small grants to test REDD+ (competitive mechanism with a community component and a small businesses component)</li> <li>Review of the results of experience from the pilot projects and other initiatives in relation to REDD+ strategic options</li> <li>Logistical support to monitor pilot projects and for the Activity Unit (vehicle, field visits and maintenance).</li> <li>Pilot projects : funding for the delivery (not included into this budget: co-financing - to be found)</li> </ul>	50,000			390,000	30,000	420,000	470,000
<b>2c) REDD+ implementing framework</b>								
Designing the implementation framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recruitment of a research department to develop and implement the elements of the REDD+ implementation framework: guide for REDD+ pilot projects and legislation</li> <li>Support for REDD+ financial governance (analysis &amp; consultations, in particular regarding the distribution of REDD+ revenue and funds)</li> <li>Study of tax and economic incentive tools for REDD+</li> </ul>		275,000		80,000	35,000	115,000	390,000
National REDD+ registry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Setting up and maintaining a national registry of REDD+ projects and initiatives, with approval procedures</li> </ul>				50,000		50,000	50,000
<b>2d) Social and environmental impacts</b>								
Strategy and measures on REDD+ social and environmental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participatory development of social and environmental safeguards for REDD (making use of the UN-REDD SEPC tool and in conjunction with the SESA)</li> <li>Recruitment of a research department to carry out the technical</li> </ul>		300,000		100,000		100,000	400,000

Components, areas of intervention and principal activities		Budget						
		Rep. of the Congo	FCPF	UN-REDD			TOTAL	
				FAO	UNDP	UNEP		Total
	work related to the SESA							
<b>3. DEVELOPMENT OF THE REFERENCE LEVEL (**)</b>		<b>25,000</b>	<b>170,000</b>	<b>298,532</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>298,532</b>	<b>493,532</b>
Technical aspects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Study to quantify (in terms of future emissions) and geo-localise the dynamics of deforestation and forest degradation</li> <li>Recruitment of a technical assistant to ensure coherence in the IIASA approach</li> <li>CN REDD contribution to household surveys</li> </ul>		170,000				0	170,000
Capacity-building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of capabilities / training</li> <li>External QA/QC assessment of the reference level</li> <li>Support for specific work done by Master's/doctoral students in the Congo</li> <li>Support for the CNIAF (support for 2 civil servants/experts)</li> <li>CNIAF - IT hardware</li> <li>Co-ordination of activities and publication</li> </ul>	25,000		298,532			298,532	323,532
<b>4. DESIGNING A MONITORING SYSTEM</b>		<b>120,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>930,218</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>240,000</b>	<b>1,320,218</b>	<b>1,440,218</b>
4a) national forestry monitoring system (**)								
National Forest Inventory (NFI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Finalise development and carry out the NFI, including methodological harmonisation</li> <li>Develop and apply a method of processing inventory data for carbon accounting purposes</li> <li>Manage and improve the delivery of NFI</li> </ul>			128,369			128,369	128,369
Monitoring changes in the forest cover	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop &amp; conduct the monitoring of changes in forest cover</li> <li>Manage and improve the conduct of monitoring changes in forest cover</li> </ul>			211,692			211,692	211,692
GHGI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and perform the GHGI</li> <li>Manage and improve the GHGI</li> </ul>			30,093			30,093	30,093
National Supervision System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and establish the National Supervision System</li> <li>Manage, supply &amp; improve the National Supervision</li> <li>Build capacities for the MRV unit</li> </ul>			136,064			136,064	136,064
Cross-cutting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>International MRV advisor</li> </ul>	100,000		424,000			424,000	524,000

Components, areas of intervention and principal activities		Budget						
		Rep. of the Congo	FCPF	UN-REDD				TOTAL
				FAO	UNDP	UNEP	Total	
moderation to implement MRV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordination of activities</li> <li>IT and field material for the MRV unit</li> <li>Vehicle for the CN-REDD MRV unit</li> </ul>							
<b>(4b) Information system on multiple benefits, other impacts, governance, and safeguards</b>								
Designing the system of information and monitoring relating to benefits and impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quantifying, spatializing, and evaluating the multiple benefits of REDD+</li> <li>National specialist on risks and multiple benefits</li> <li>Consolidating the overall REDD+ monitoring system (integrating various monitoring systems: safeguards, carbon, multiple benefits, governance, implementation / registry)</li> </ul>				50,000	240,000	<b>290,000</b>	290,000
Institutional strengthening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Task force on monitoring social and environmental risks and benefits</li> <li>Support for the independent REDD+ Observatory, in order to ensure independent and participatory verification of the monitoring system</li> </ul>	20,000			100,000		<b>100,000</b>	120,000
<b>UN-REDD Programme budget compilation</b>								
<b>Implementation - total</b>				<b>1,278,750</b>	<b>1,694,568</b>	<b>765,000</b>	<b>3,738,318</b>	
<b>UN-REDD Programme Indirect implementation costs (7%)</b>				<b>89,512</b>	<b>118,620</b>	<b>53,550</b>	<b>261,682</b>	
<b>Total UN-REDD</b>				<b>1,368,262</b>	<b>1,813,188</b>	<b>818,550</b>	<b>4,000,000</b>	
<b>Total budget compilation</b>								
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>600,000</b>	<b>3,400,000</b>	<b>1,368,262</b>	<b>1,813,188</b>	<b>818,550</b>	<b>4,000,000</b>	<b>8,000,000</b>





Workshop on the REDD+ process, during which the UN-REDD support proposal was adopted; Brazzaville, 25 January 2012 (photo: Danae Maniatis).



IEC event on REDD, 2010 (photo: CN-REDD).

## C. Description of the UN-REDD support programme for the REDD+ process

*NOTE: The UN-REDD support programme for the Republic of the Congo is fully in line with the country's R-PP (September 2011 version). Therefore, the description of the programme here below includes excerpts adapted from the R-PP (with references to the relevant sections), more specific information on UN-REDD engagement and on the complementary aspects of FCPF support, along with additional information arising from recent changes in the area of REDD+ readiness. This descriptive section follows the FCPF / UN-REDD Common Approach, as well as the R-PP structure for the country. The integrated compilation of all activities with their budgets is in section C5 (component 5).*

### Component 1: Organise and Consult

#### 1a. National REDD + Readiness Management Arrangements

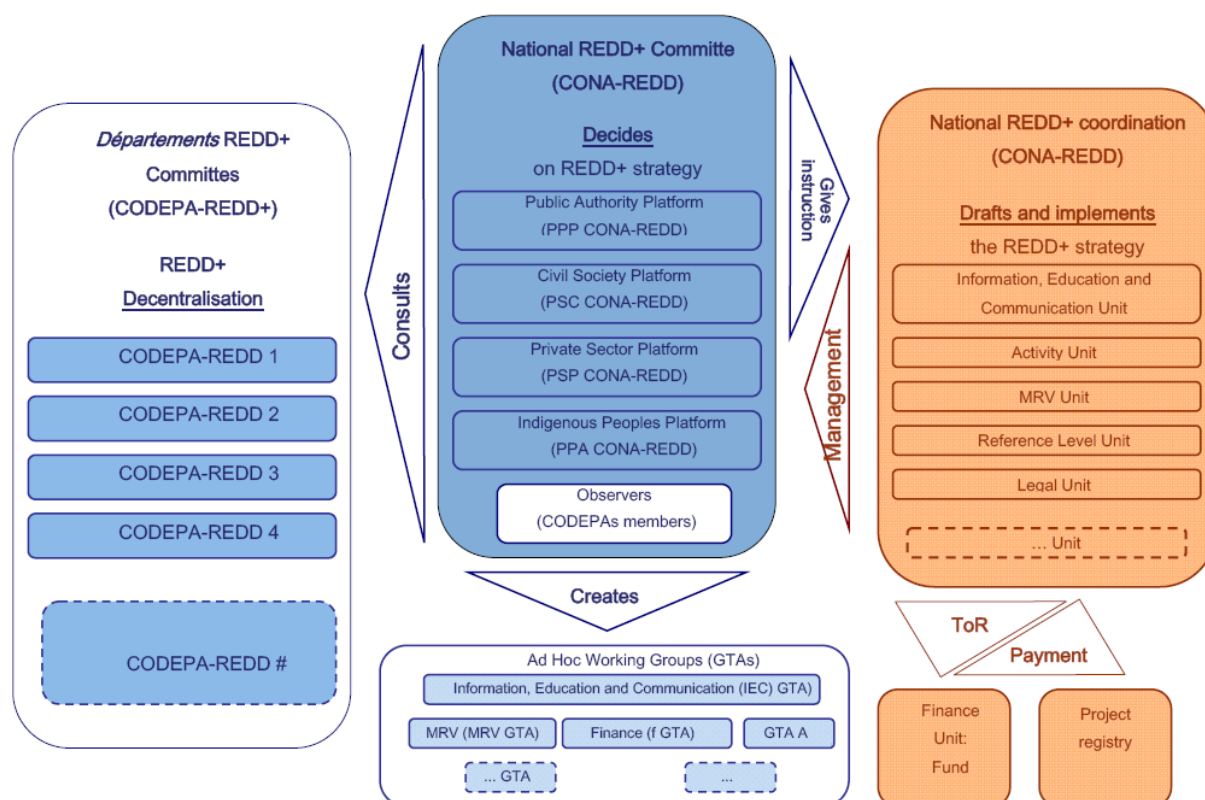
##### Description of the key national arrangements for REDD+

The main structures for REDD+ management are:

- The **National REDD+ Committee (CONA-REDD)**, which makes decisions on vision and strategy options, especially: the main course of the REDD+ process; approval of work plans and budget; validation of strategic documents and legal drafts; mediation in case of conflict;
- **National Coordination for REDD+ (CN-REDD+)**, with an executive role of day-to-day management of the REDD+ process; and
- **REDD+ departmental committees (CODEPA-REDD+)**, which facilitate CN-REDD actions at the local level and participate in REDD+ decentralisation;

These three main organizations, as well as other organizations that work together with them, are shown in Figure 2 here below and briefly described (for a complete description see section 1 of the R-PP).

**Diagram 2. REDD+ readiness management structure**



Source: Adaptation of R-PP (section 1a)

The **National REDD+ Committee (CONA-REDD)**, which had the role of strategic decision-making and setting the course for REDD+, and which is made up of multiple stakeholders to ensure that different perspectives on REDD+ are represented, will have the following responsibilities, in particular: determine the vision and strategic options for Congo's national REDD+; (ii) lead discussion on REDD+ at the national level among public authorities, civil society and the private sector, as described in component 1b of the R-PP; (iii) act as mediator in the case of conflicts between stakeholders concerned with REDD+ in the Republic of the Congo; and (iv) approve the work plan and budget of the National Coordination for REDD+. The National REDD+ Committee will include four constitutive platforms: the public authority platform, the civil society platform, the Indigenous Peoples platform, and the private sector platform. The members of the National REDD+ Committee are appointed by executive Order. The designation of the members of the National Committee will take account of gender equality. Decisions made by the National REDD+ Committee shall be reached by consensus.

The **National Coordination for REDD+ (CN-REDD)** has been set up but is still waiting for the recruitment of a sustainable professional work force. Its main responsibilities are as follows: (i) perform (directly or through sub-contracting) REDD+ readiness actions, including implementation of the integrated activities plan defined in section C5; (ii) facilitate contact and

consultation among the various stakeholders in the REDD+ process; (iii) lead and supervise analytical studies to be carried out; iv) prepare meetings of the National REDD+ Committee; and (v) ensure follow-up to REDD+ process support programmes and financing, including preparation of activity and financial reports. The National Coordination for REDD+ therefore ensures the daily management of the REDD+ process in the Republic of the Congo. It is under the administrative authority of the Ministry of the Environment and answers for the decisions made by the National REDD+ Committee, to which it will submit any and all information relevant to the REDD+ process, in the form of activity reports or advice on specific issues for which the National REDD+ Committee requests its expertise. The National Coordination for REDD+ is made up of at least six members designated among national executives, by Order of the Ministry of the Environment.

The **REDD+ Departmental Committees (CODEPA-REDD+)**, to be established in the administrative Departments of the country, shall have the following functions: (i) facilitate implementation at departmental level of decisions made by the National REDD+ Committee and the REDD+ process; (ii) lead the REDD+ departmental discussions among public authority, civil society, and private sector platforms; (iii) play a mediation role in case of conflicts between stakeholders of the departmental REDD+; and (iv) develop proposals for the REDD+ National Committee. The CODEPA-REDD+ operate in harmony with the structure of the public administration of the Republic of the Congo, which is deconcentrated and decentralised throughout 12 administrative Departments. The designation of members of the Departmental Committee will take account of gender equality.

The National REDD+ Committee and the Departmental Committees are yet to be established. The National Coordination for REDD+ has existed since 2010, but needs to be shored up in terms of human resources and the means to work. In the Republic of the Congo, the legal framework for REDD+ will be consolidated either through a REDD+ Framework Law, or by improvements made to Law no. 003/91 on the protection of the environment dated 23 April 1991. These improvements will be made through amendments to the current environmental laws and the introduction of principles associated with REDD+, in order to organise all the aspects of REDD+ process implementation in the country (an outline of the legal framework is found in section 2c of the R-PP).

In addition, A **REDD+ National Fund** could be established to manage additional REDD+ funding and to promote and channel REDD+ investments. The operation of this fund is discussed in detail in component 2c. A **National REDD+ Registry** will also be created to review REDD+ activities; it is specifically suggested in section 2c. The neighbouring country of the DRC has already started with this task so the Republic of the Congo could draw on their experience (indeed, the creation of such a Registry was inspired by the idea for an international registry of voluntary mitigation activities that have been carried out in developing countries, known by its English acronym NAMAs).

#### UN-REDD support for the organising and managing the REDD+ process (1a)

UN-REDD support in component 1a (US\$ 676,000) will add to support to be provided by FCPF financing and will seek to achieve two objectives: (i) reinforce support-advice to the entire REDD+

process by providing high-level international expertise; and (ii) begin decentralising REDD+. The following activities should be carried out with UN-REDD funding:

- Recruitment of a Chief Technical Advisor (CTA), working from within the CN-REDD (i.e., in government offices). This will be an international expert, very knowledgeable about REDD+ and having proven skills in programme management and policy processes. The expert will be recruited by the United Nations in agreement with National REDD+ Coordinator. The REDD+ CTA will have the following main duties:
  - (i) Management: Management of the implementation and monitoring of the UN-REDD support programme, ensuring coordination among the three UN Agencies; planning and follow-up of REDD+ activities; coordination of interventions and contributors; training and management of experts from CN-REDD; and management advice on the REDD+ process provided to the National REDD+ Coordinator and the MDDEFE.
  - (ii) Strategic advice: Management and coordination of work programmes in the REDD+ process; methodological and technical assistance for building the REDD+ Strategy; advice on policy analysis for REDD+ Strategy; leading the national, multi-stakeholder debate on REDD+.
  - (iii) Fund raising: Foster discussion and advocacy with donors and development partners; support for defining pilot projects and REDD+ investment plans; contact with the national and international private sector.
- CN-REDD operations, in particular support activities for the REDD+ process, inside the country and abroad, participating in negotiations or knowledge-sharing initiatives concerning REDD+ and providing information on progress achieved and lessons learned from REDD+ in the Congo. Funding for this type of activity also covers mission costs for the two international experts identified in the CN-REDD, i.e., the Chief Technical Advisor (component 1a) and the international MRV advisor (component 4a).
- Funding for technical meetings of CN-REDD and the CONA-REDD+ meetings.
- Significant support for REDD+ decentralisation, including the creation of three REDD+ units in the Departments, with a manager and assistant paid for by the programme, as well as costs related to equipment and operations. These units will be in charge of: (i) capacity building and management of REDD+ stakeholders at the departmental and local level; (ii) supporting initiatives that seek to move REDD+ forward in the Department, including pilot projects; and (iii) leading CODEPA-REDD+ units as well as multiple-partner platforms on REDD+ that will be set up on the local level. This particular aspect (made more robust by decentralised exchange as described in component 2b) is one of the pillars of the REDD+ process, because it fosters the decentralised approach that will fuel the national REDD+ strategy while enabling capacity building and experimentation in the field. UN-REDD financing therefore will play a vital role in this approach.

1b. Sharing information and engaging discussion in early phases with key stakeholders  
1c. Consultation and participation

NOTE: *The new FCPF / UN-REDD Common Approach includes sub-components 1b (information and exchange) and 1c (consultation and participation), whereas the R-PP for the Republic of the Congo has only one sub-component covering all of these issues. Herein, these items are presented together in order to be in line with the country's R-PP.*

The process of structuring civil society and Indigenous Peoples' organizations for REDD+ (2010-2012)

At the beginning of the process, the country instigated a participatory approach in drawing up the R-PP, as the R-PP itself reflects (cf. section 1b and annex 1b). However, organizations representing civil society and Indigenous Peoples were not well enough organised to join in the consultation and participation, and this led to insufficient levels of involvement. Since mid-2010, UN-REDD's preliminary contribution, through the UNDP, has served to set internal organizational changes in motion. Tools offered by the UN-REDD Programme, such as the *FCPF / UN-REDD Common Approach guide to stakeholder engagement in REDD+ process* and the UN-REDD operational manual for involving Indigenous Peoples and Forest-dependent communities have helped overcome this problem, and UN-REDD experiences in other countries have also been instructive.

First of all, the Interim Civil Society Commission for REDD+ (CI-REDD) was set up following a workshop-meeting in August 2010, led by the UN-REDD Programme and the FCPF. The CI-REDD had 13 members (30% of them women), representing all of the non-governmental platforms concerned with forest and environmental issues. It worked for a year and half, and became the first organizational structure for non-governmental REDD+ stakeholders. Nonetheless, it was meant to be a temporary body, with three goals: (i) monitor the REDD+ process in a more coordinated way for a limited time; (ii) provide a temporary partner to the CN-REDD; and (iii) make proposals for a framework to organise non-governmental stakeholders in the REDD+ process in a more sustainable manner. Even though the Commission did not always keep to a regular schedule of meetings, it was an important step towards bringing civil society and Indigenous Peoples' organizations greater maturity and more strength for better participation in the REDD+ process.

In the course of another workshop-meeting, held in January 2012, during the third joint international mission for REDD+; after several months of intense debate and constructive work, a *Consultation framework for Congo civil society organizations and Indigenous People for REDD+ (CACO-REDD+)* was designed and adopted in order to provide a sustainable structure for civil society for the purposes of REDD+. The CACO-REDD+ charter was drafted and adopted, and the members of the joint steering committee were elected (30% of them are women). Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples stakeholders in the Republic of the Congo now have a structure for REDD+ participation, consultation and advocacy, and this is partly thanks to UN-REDD engagement

The CACO-REDD+ charter sets forth the following objectives: (i) facilitate exchange and dissemination of information among civil society organizations involved in REDD+ as well as Indigenous Peoples' organizations, and beyond that, with all other REDD+ process stakeholders; (ii) designate representatives of civil society and Indigenous Peoples in the different multi-stakeholder bodies and work programmes of the REDD+ process; (iii) take stock of the opinions of civil society and Indigenous Peoples, share and stand up for these ideas with other stakeholders; (iv) make it easier for civil society and Indigenous Peoples' organizations to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the REDD+ process; and (v) organise communication on the REDD+ process.

CACO-REDD+ is made up of two pillars, each with its own organization: the pillar on consultation of civil society in regard to REDD+; the pillar on consultation of Indigenous Peoples' organizations on REDD+. The executive bodies of CACO-REDD+ are the general assembly (fully participatory deliberative body) and the joint Steering Committee (20-member body, in charge of assisting, providing for and monitoring the REDD+ process, serving also as a counterbalance to the CN-REDD and other REDD+ stakeholders). The CACO-REDD+ Charter calls for a minimum quota of 25% of women on the joint Steering Committee, in order to foster gender equality (the first joint Steering Committee, recently elected, was made up of 30% women members, which is higher than the national average in management structures, in both the public and private sectors).

In conclusion, organizations of civil society and Indigenous Peoples involved in REDD+ went through a significant process of internal organization and structuring between 2010-2012, which enables them to take part in the REDD+ process in a more stable, substantial manner.

#### UN-REDD Support (1b/1c)

The support of the UN-REDD Programme for structuring and increasing the participation of civil society and Indigenous Peoples in REDD+ cannot be confined only to the creation of CACO-REDD+. Support and assistance must be provided to CACO-REDD+ as the main non-governmental body in the REDD+ process; in the same way, support is needed for stakeholder capacity-building and the provision of means to ensure wide participation in the REDD+ process

The R-PP identifies and describes an important series of activities for participation, information exchange and consultation, which specially target civil society and grass-roots stakeholders (cf. section 1b), including the *Plan for consultation and participation* (cf. the annex to the Plan, 1b/3). In this context, and bearing in mind that the information and communication side of the project targets all stakeholders, UN-REDD support in the merged component 1b/1c will focus on the following areas:

- Support for the CN-REDD unit in charge of Information, Education and Communication (IEC), in particular as regards the design and production of communication and awareness-raising media, support for existing local radio broadcasts (radio is the most widespread

means of communication, especially in rural areas, and access across the nation is excellent), and cultural events promoting REDD+ (travelling theatre, music, etc.).

- Support for decentralised exchange, including support for creating and financing REDD+ meetings held among the departmental platforms (these are multi-stakeholder bodies), and for the training of REDD+ facilitators (in charge of disseminating REDD+ information and of managing local-level stakeholders; they also make up a network of REDD+ intellectuals and activists with local, departmental and even national connections).
- Financing some participatory technical consultations, according to REDD+ process needs and as a complement to FCPF financing expected in this area.



## **Component 2: Preparing the REDD+ Strategy**

### **2a. Evaluating Land Use, Forest Policy and Governance**

The R-PP contains a very detailed presentation of the country, including the political, social, economic and ecological dimensions concerning forests, as well as a general overview of deforestation and forest degradation drivers (see section 2a of the R-PP).

The particularities of the country to be taken into consideration for developing the national REDD+ strategy are the following:

- **A densely forested country.** The Republic of the Congo covers 342,000 sq. km, two-thirds of which are covered by forest, and one-third of which is savannah. As part of the REDD+ process, the classification of the country into “forests” and “bushy savannah” areas, depending on the definition of the forest used at the national level.
- **Low levels of deforestation and forest degradation.** The Republic of the Congo is a densely forested country, with low levels of deforestation and forest degradation. The Forest Resources Assessment (FRA, 2010) estimates the level of deforestation at 0.08%. The report on the condition of the forests of the Congo Basin (OFAC, 2009) states that the Republic of the Congo has a gross annual deforestation rate of 0.07%, while a net annual rate of deforestation of 0.02% is also reported (Duveiller *et al.*, 2008). The difference in the figures is due to the methodologies employed. Some experts feel that these estimates are too low, essentially due to a lack of usable satellite images of the South of the country (which is often obscured by clouds), but the rates of deforestation and forest degradation are nonetheless globally low in the country.
- **A deconcentrated and decentralized administrative organization.** The administrative organization of the Republic of the Congo is set forth by Law № 3-2000 of the year 2000, which deals with the principles of deconcentration and decentralization. The 12 *Départements* and the communes are administrative jurisdictions and local authorities. The *Département* is the level at which economic, social and cultural actions and operations are designed, programmed, harmonized, supported, coordinated and controlled through to the involvement of all the State's departmental services.
- **Strong population growth.** According to 2008 estimates, there are 3.8 million inhabitants of the Congo, with a population density of 10.5 inhabitants per sq. km, and an average population growth rate of 3.2%. Nearly 60% of the population lives in the five major cities: Brazzaville, Pointe-Noire, Dolisie, Nkayi and Ouessou. The remainder of the population (40%) lives in rural areas. The Congolese population is very young: approximately 45% of the population is 15 or younger. The majority of the population still depends on the forest to meet its basic needs (food, fuel, medicine, etc.).

- ***An economy dependent on oil and wood exports.*** The Congolese economy is essentially based on the exploitation of natural resources, especially oil and wood, which, according to the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP, 2007), accounted for nearly 70% of the GDP (64% from oil, 5.6% from wood) and 98% of export income (93% from oil and 5% from wood) in 2004. Forty per cent of the active population works in the agricultural sector, but agriculture only accounts for 6% of the GDP. With more than 22,000 direct and indirect jobs, the forestry sector is the main job provider after public service. The forestry sector accounts for some 150 million euros per year in turnover: its taxes amount to 2% of the State's overall revenue, and the sector's earnings from exports provide 10% of the State's income from export.
- ***The State, forest owner.*** The national forest area includes the State forest domain and the forest domain belonging to private individuals (see article 3, Law № 16-2000 of November 20, 2000 establishing the forest code). The State forest domain is divided into Non-Permanent Forest Estate (DFNP) and Permanent Forest Estate (DFP), within which there are 18 Forest Management Units (FMU) covering nearly 18.5 million hectares, or more than 80% of the national forest area (see infra 2.1 on forest planning). Populations can become owners of private forests if the forests are located on land they own, or owners of forest plantations if they planted these forests on land belonging to the State (see articles 33, 34 and 35 of Law № 16-2000 of November 20, 2000 concerning the forest code). According to the law, however, exercising these rights is contingent upon obtaining a customary land title. Article 31 of Law № 10-2004 of March 26, 2004, which establishes the general principles applicable to State and private land ownership, expressly recognizes customary land rights. The law on agricultural land use and tenure, in article 23, “ensures the recognition of pre-existing customary land rights compatible with the forest code”. Article 35 of Law № 16-2000 concerning the forest code, however, indicates that the recognition of the rights of private forest owners is done by the State on the basis of land titles or customary land rights, which were recognized by the National Conference of 1991. Unfortunately, this recognition depends on tax and technical conditions that cannot be met by local communities or indigenous peoples. These conditions must be relaxed in order for customary land rights to be applicable.
- ***Different logging methods between the North and the South of the country.*** Logging and the transformation of forest products occur essentially in the poorest, most sparsely-populated and isolated areas of the country, where logging concessions respect development plans and by so doing provide social services (acceptable housing, schools and health centres, roads, drinking water, electricity, telephone service, etc) in the absence of public structures and investments. In the North of the country, logging operations harvest about 12 kinds of wood (Sapelle, Sipo, etc.). In the South, however, about 30 types are harvested (Okoumé, Limba, Niové, etc.). For the time being, it would appear that the amount of forest resources consumed by local populations far from urban centres is low. However, there are concerns about the amount of resources used by industry, especially in the South of the country, where operations have been running for a longer period of time and are less well organized, due to a lack of forest use

concession development. The Congo Forests Sustainable Management Support Project (PAGEF) was initiated in 2009 and entrusted to the CNIAF, whose resources were strengthened for the project. It seeks to extend sustainable planning to all of the Congo's forests, especially in the Centre and South areas. The situation concerning forest management in the South of the country is thus improving.

- ***Major efforts have been made since the 2000's to develop forest planning.*** With the sustainable forest management process, which legally began at the end of the year 2000, the Republic of the Congo has made enormous progress in protecting ecosystems and the populations that depend on them. Major efforts have also been made in terms of reforestation and creating protected zones. The CNIAF 2010 data base lists the following efforts:
  - 84,420 ha of plantations, 12,450 of which are in damaged forests, have been set up since 1950;
  - 3,531,438 ha (10.30% of the country) have been declared protected areas since 1950;
  - 4,150,888 ha of concessions have been developed since 2001;
  - 6,436,376 ha are being developed;
  - 8,369,760 ha are under protection, as they are nearly permanently flooded;
  - 3,048,279 ha of already developed forest concessions are FSC certified. This achievement makes the Republic of the Congo the leading country in the world for FSC certified logging areas in natural forests;
  - By 2015, 80 to 85% of the 13,040,695 ha of forest production will be developed.
- ***The development of protected areas is a priority for the Republic of the Congo.*** Protected areas cover nearly 11% of the country, or 3.5 million hectares, 74% of which is forest. This includes three National Parks (3.2 million ha) and seven Reserves (1 million ha), as well as three sanctuaries and one hunting preserve (smaller areas). This major network of protected areas, in addition to forests benefiting from natural protection (flooded forests, mountain forests, series of forest concession protection and preservation), has been relatively unaffected by deforestation or degradation. It must be noted, however, that the creation of protected areas must comply with the principles of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC). The management of these protected areas will have to be done according to the principles of the new conservation model in order to ensure the participation, co-management, co-benefit and the respect of the rights of local communities and indigenous peoples (see Law № 37-2008 of November 20, 2008 concerning fauna and protected areas). REDD+ will also have to guarantee the participation of local communities and indigenous peoples in the implementation process of the mechanism, to make sure that it is in keeping with their interests, is compatible with their culture and recognizes them as the primary stewards of the forest.

- ***The basis of the Congolese forest policy.*** The overall goal of the forest policy is to ensure the economic, social and ecological development of the country on the basis of the sustainable management of forest resources. The legal framework that lays the foundation for the Government's policy in multidisciplinary sectors of the forest and the environment is essentially composed of the following texts: Law № 003/91 of April 23, 1991 concerning the protection of the environment, Law № 20/96 of April 15, 1996 establishing arbor day, Law № 16/2000 of November 20, 2000 concerning the forest code, Law № 17-2000 of December 31, 2000 concerning land ownership, Law № 10-2004 of March 26, 2004 concerning the Code of State-Owned Property and Law № 37-2008 of November 28, 2008 concerning fauna and protected areas. With the exception of Law № 003/91, currently under review, the Forest Law (16-2000), the Law on fauna (37-2008) and all those drafted after the Environmental Summit of 1992 take into consideration the concerns of the international community regarding the guaranteeing of economic, ecological and social sustainability of natural resources (land, forest, water, fauna, etc.).
- ***International and regional commitments.*** The country's commitment to preserving and sustainably managing natural resources is reflected in its accession to numerous international agreements, the most recent of which is the Treaty on the Conservation and Sustainable Management of Forest Ecosystems in Central Africa and to establish the Central African Forests Commission (COMIFAC), signed in Brazzaville on February 5, 2005, and ratified by Law № 35-2006 of October 26, 2006. In May of 2010, the Republic of the Congo signed a Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) with the European Union as part of the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) process. The country is preparing to issue FLEGT licenses beginning in 2013, which will guarantee the legality of all of its timber exports. The Republic of the Congo will use the verification system to ensure the legality of all wood and wood-derived products (unprocessed or processed wood, firewood, sawdust, waste, wood debris, particleboard, charcoal, nuts and shell), regardless of final markets, including domestic ones.
- ***Shortcomings in forestry legislation.*** The forestry policy has major shortcomings, as it was adopted before traditional land rights were recognized by the National Conference of 1991. The State forest domain has not yet been defined. The sustainable forest management support project, currently underway, has not yet provided such a definition. Thus, in certain forest areas there are, from time to time, misunderstandings between the local populations and the forest workers, and also between the populations and the National Reforestation Service (SNR) of the MDDEFE, farmers and urban planning services. Moreover, the lack of sufficient equipment does not make it possible for the forest administration to effectively oversee the entire national territory. According to the World Bank, progress remains to be made in the area of forestry concession taxes and adjudications, the protection of biodiversity, local and indigenous population involvement in sustainably managing forests and institutional capacities in the sector. Broadly speaking, the conclusions of the national workshop on the FLEGT process, held in Brazzaville on December 3-4, 2007, have highlighted a number of major

challenges that the country will have to meet in order to improve forestry governance, including, but not limited to: the issue of forestry training in the Congo, the question of participatory management, with an increased involvement of local populations and indigenous communities in the process, the issue of support for the forestry sector in development and the need to involve civil society and local and indigenous populations.

- **Factoring forestry policies into development policies.** The major axes defined by the National Forest Action Plan (PAFN, 1994), the National Rural Development Scheme (SNDR, 1997), the National Land Use Planning (SNAT, 2005), the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP, 2008) and the National Action Plan (PAN, 2008) are part of a global common vision and are mainly based on the preservation and the sustainable management of ecosystems, participatory management and the fight against poverty. The Ministries involved in land and natural resources management (forests, the environment, agriculture, land reform, energy, mines, territorial planning, tourism, etc.) have sectoral policies that contribute both to sustainably managing forest ecosystems and reducing poverty.

The series of maps below shows the different sizes of the forests in the Republic of the Congo (figures 3 to 5).

Figure 3. Ecological profile of the Congo

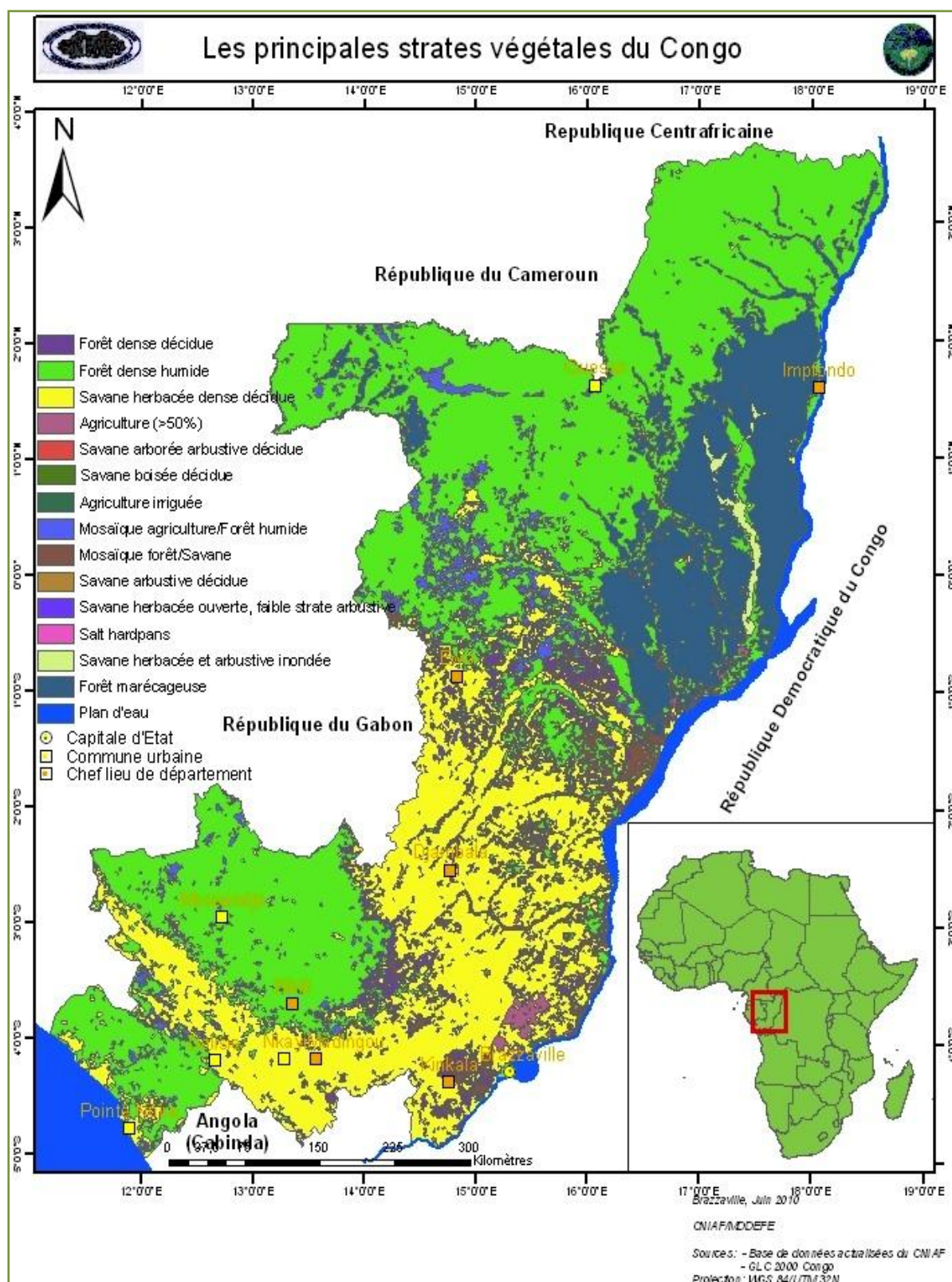
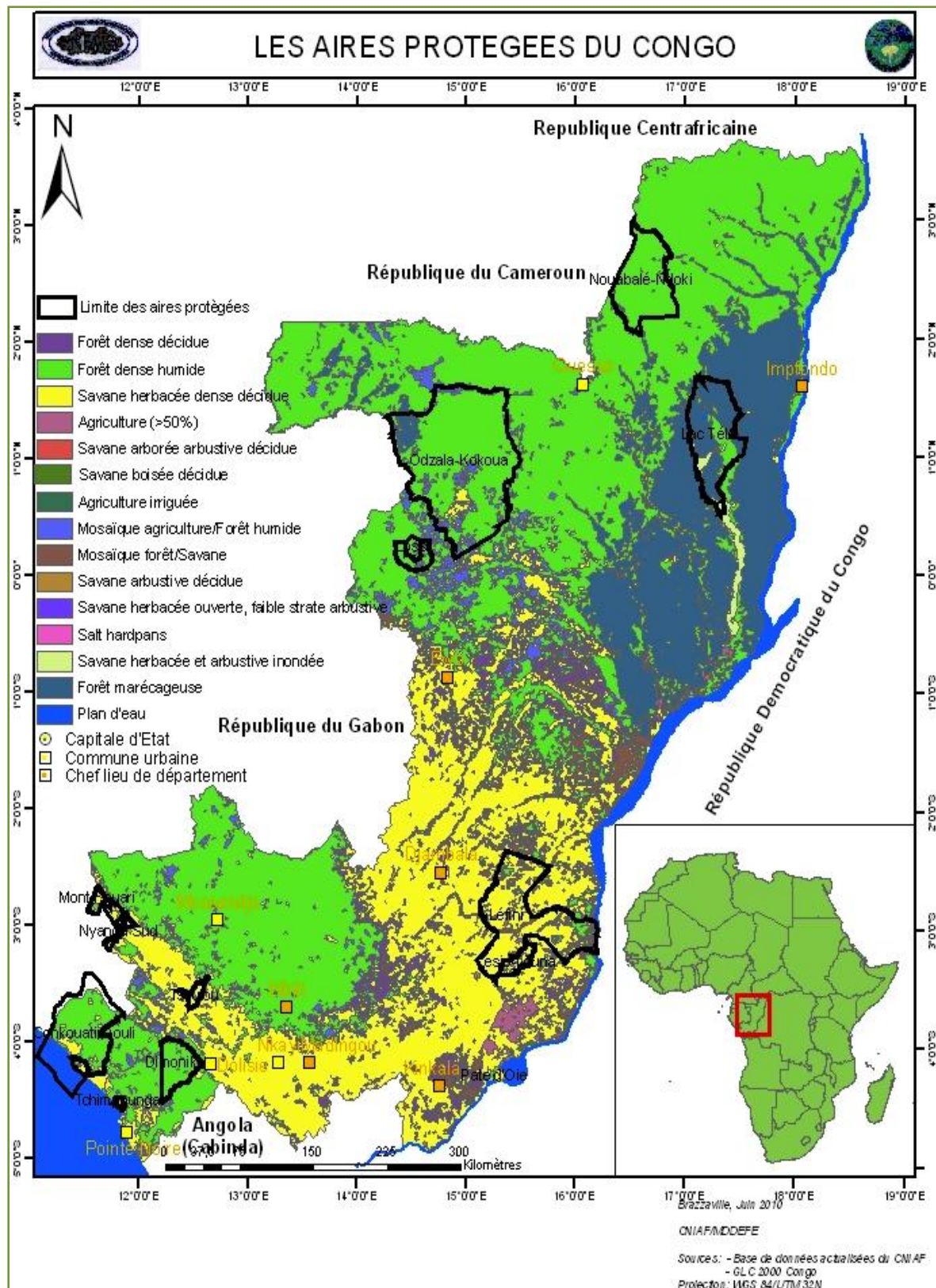


Figure 3 – Légende / Legend

Français	English
Agriculture	Croplands
Agriculture irriguée	Irrigated croplands

Capitale d'État	National capital
Chef lieu de département	Seat of <i>département</i>
Commune urbaine	Urban commune
(Dépôts salins)	Salt hardpans
Forêt dense décidue	Closed deciduous forest
Forêt dense humide	Closed evergreen lowland forest
Forêt marécageuse	Swamp forest
Les principales strates végétales du Congo	Principal vegetation strata of the Congo
Mosaïque agriculture / forêt humide	Croplands / evergreen lowland forest mosaic
Mosaïque forêt / savane	Forest / savanna mosaic
Plan d'eau	Water body
Profil écologique du Congo	Ecological profile of the Congo
République Centrafricaine	Central African Republic
République Démocratique du Congo	Democratic Republic of the Congo
République du Cameroun	Republic of Cameroon
République du Gabon	Republic of Gabon
Savane arborée arbustive décidue	Deciduous shrubland with sparse trees
Savane herbacée dense décidue	Deciduous closed grassland
Savane herbacée et arbustive inondée	Swamp brushland and grassland

Figure 4. Protected areas of the Congo

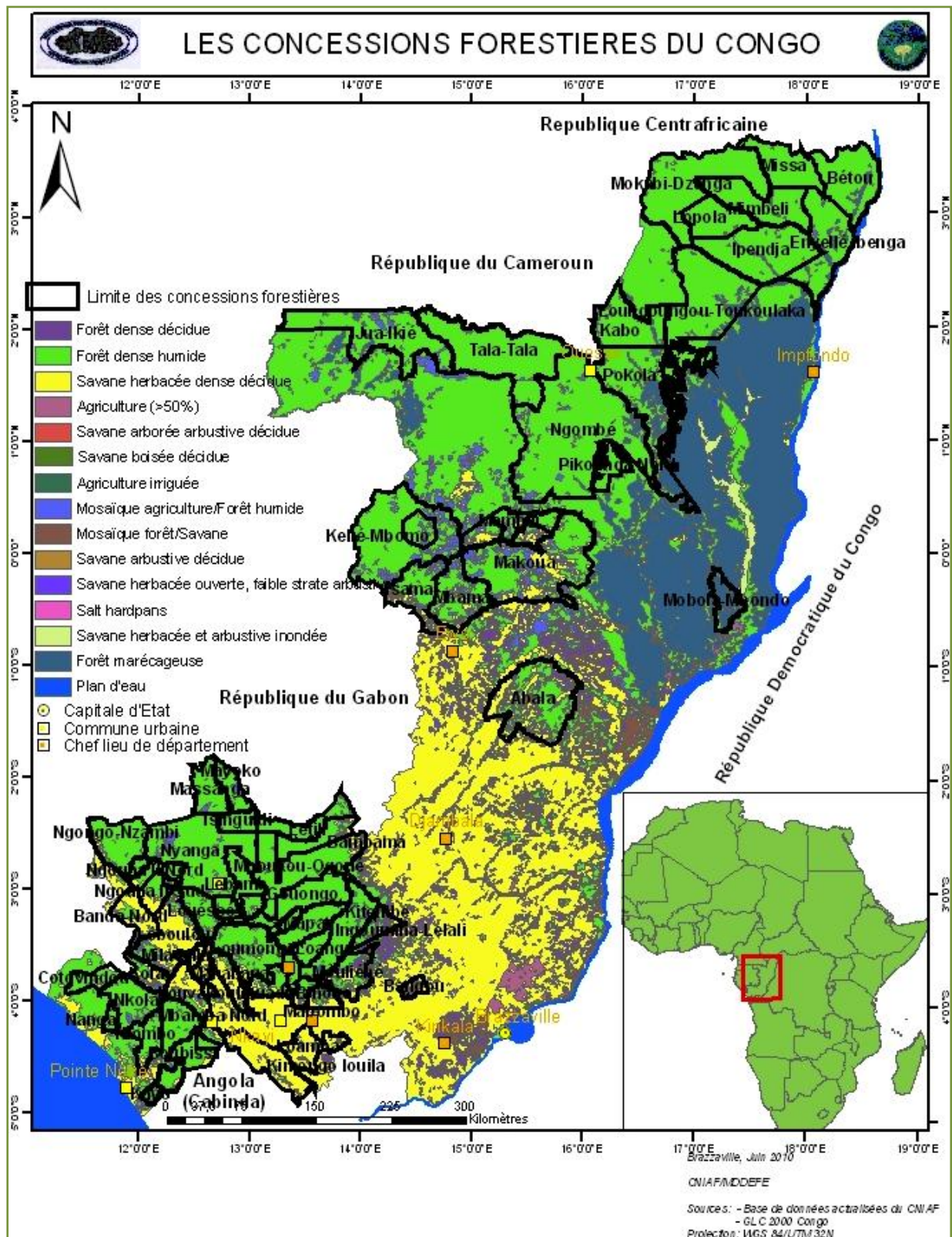




**Figure 4 – Légende / Legend**

<b>Français</b>	<b>English</b>
Agriculture	Croplands
Agriculture irriguée	Irrigated croplands
Capitale d'État	National capital
Chef lieu de département	Seat of <i>département</i>
Commune urbaine	Urban commune
(Dépôts salins)	Salt hardpans
Forêt dense décidue	Closed deciduous forest
Forêt dense humide	Closed evergreen lowland forest
Forêt marécageuse	Swamp forest
Les aires protégées du Congo	Protected areas of the Congo
Limite des aires protégées	Limit of protected areas
Mosaïque agriculture / forêt humide	Croplands / evergreen lowland forest mosaic
Mosaïque forêt / savane	Forest / savanna mosaic
Plan d'eau	Water body
Profil écologique du Congo	Ecological profile of the Congo
République Centrafricaine	Central African Republic
République Démocratique du Congo	Democratic Republic of the Congo
République du Cameroun	Republic of Cameroon
République du Gabon	Republic of Gabon
Savane arborée arbustive décidue	Deciduous shrubland with sparse trees
Savane herbacée dense décidue	Deciduous closed grassland
Savane herbacée et arbustive inondée	Swamp brushland and grassland

Figure 5. Forest concessions in the Congo



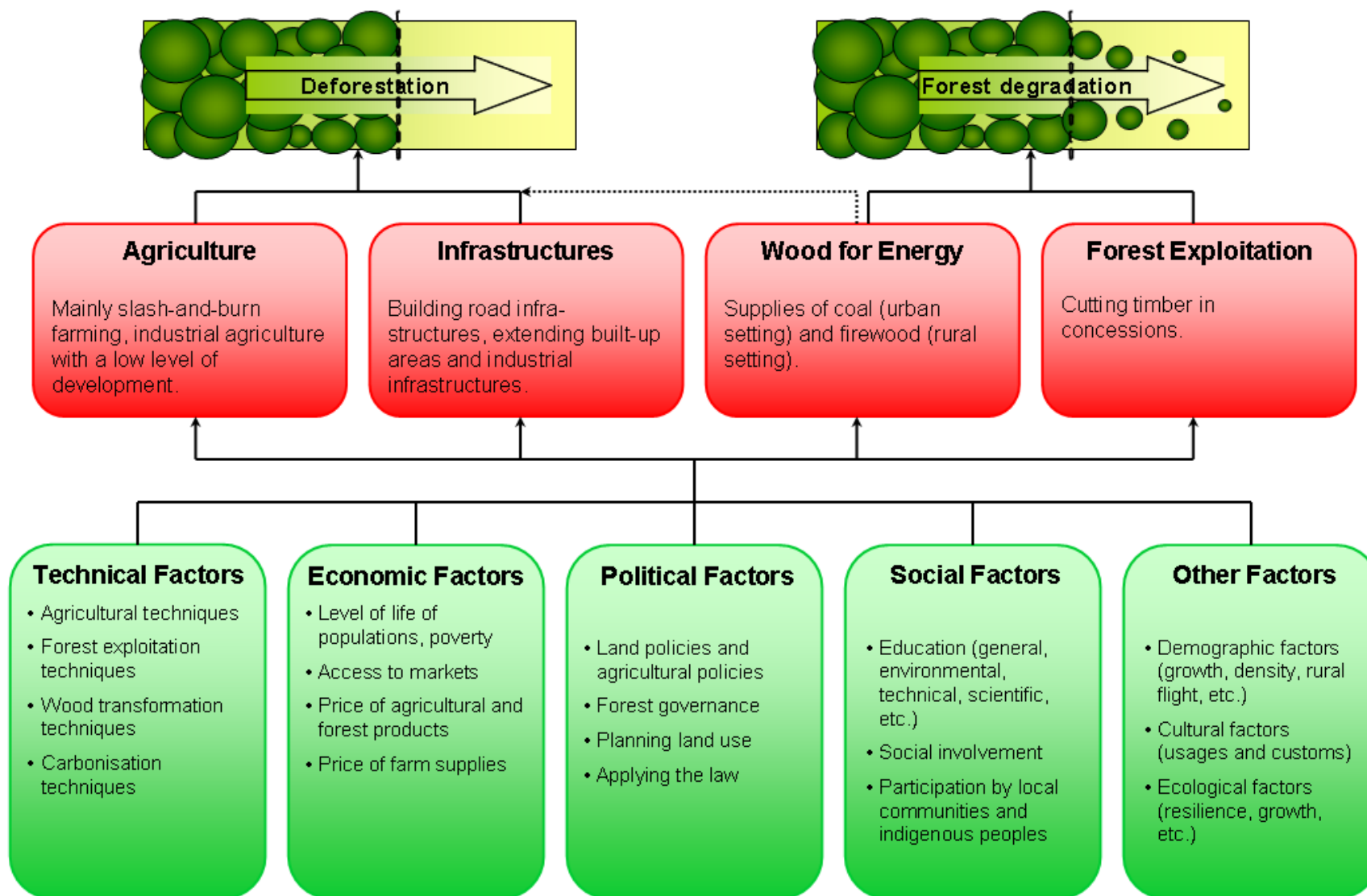
**Figure 5 – Légende / Legend**

<b>Français</b>	<b>English</b>
Agriculture	Croplands
Agriculture irriguée	Irrigated croplands
Capitale d'État	National capital
Chef lieu de département	Seat of <i>département</i>
Commune urbaine	Urban commune
(Dépôts salins)	Salt hardpans
Forêt dense décidue	Closed deciduous forest
Forêt dense humide	Closed evergreen lowland forest
Forêt marécageuse	Swamp forest
Les concessions forestières au Congo	Forest concessions in the Congo
Limite des aires protégées	Limit of protected areas
Mosaïque agriculture / forêt humide	Croplands / evergreen lowland forest mosaic
Mosaïque forêt / savane	Forest / savanna mosaic
Plan d'eau	Water body
Profil écologique du Congo	Ecological profile of the Congo
République Centrafricaine	Central African Republic
République Démocratique du Congo	Democratic Republic of the Congo
République du Cameroun	Republic of Cameroon
République du Gabon	Republic of Gabon
Savane arborée arbustive décidue	Deciduous shrubland with sparse trees
Savane herbacée dense décidue	Deciduous closed grassland
Savane herbacée et arbustive inondée	Swamp brushland and grassland

Concerning the current causes and factors of deforestation and forest degradation, no detailed or systematic analysis has yet been carried out in the Republic of the Congo. However, according to the majority of studies currently available, as well as consultations of preceding national-planning exercises, the principal causes of deforestation and forest degradation of forest resources are the following:

- non-sustainable slash-and-burn agriculture;
- non-sustainable production and consumption of fuelwood;
- non-sustainable or even illegal forest exploitation;
- urban development.

Figure 6 below compiles and brings together the direct principal causes and underlying factors of deforestation and forest degradation. Section 2a of the R-PP is a source of details for the essential factors of deforestation and forest degradation identified in figure 6.



### UN-REDD Programme support for the preliminary analysis stage before drawing up the REDD+ strategy (2a)

The work of analysing, spatializing, and weighting the underlying causes and factors of deforestation and forest degradation, with consultations and field surveys, will be financed principally by the FCPF and the Government. The role of the UN-REDD Programme will focus on analysing aspects of governance.

To that effect, the UN-REDD Programme will supply analytical support on governance for REDD+, with two linked options: a study on the political economy of REDD+, and / or a participative analysis of governance for REDD+ (PAG/REDD+). For those two possible activities, the UNDP will provide expertise and tools, developed in the course of work on the commitment of stakeholders to REDD+, as well as by the Oslo Centre for Governance. Concerning PAG/REDD+, which is already under way in other UN-REDD Programme partner countries, in particular in Nigeria and Indonesia, it is an analytical and consultative exercise that contributes to the development of aspects of governance in national information systems on safeguards to be developed (in line with the *Cancún Accords*, paragraphs 69 and 71d). In general, the Oslo Centre for Governance, which is part of the UNDP and which remains a UN-REDD Programme partner, will in this area be able to build the capacities and training for governments and to actors of civil society for compiling and systemising information on governance, in order to ensure transparency and State accountability in political processes and in investments.

## **2b. REDD+ strategic options**

*NB: This section is fairly extensive on this document, because it represents the kernel of the REDD+ process (i.e. preliminary consideration of REDD+ strategy and its scope).*

### REDD+ strategic options and the Republic of the Congo

The Republic of the Congo R-PP details preliminary strategic options that will be the subject of in-depth analysis (in particular through specific studies and the SESA process) and participation by actors from Congolese society as progress is made towards the national REDD+ strategy. Consultations when drawing up the R-PP enabled the main strategic challenges to be well defined. The following preliminary strategic options were adopted:

- Option 1: Reinforce security of land tenure (in the context of a spatial-development plan);
- Option 2: Provide sustainable management of forest resources;
- Option 3: Improve agricultural-production systems;
- Option 4: Rationalise fuelwood production and use.

Option 1 (O1): Reinforce security of land tenure in the context of a spatial-development plan

The absence of a common vision of spatial development, discussed and validated by all stakeholders, slows the implementation of development actions that are compatible with the preservation of common assets (in particular forests, soils, and water) and the protection of ecosystems. Security of land tenure will enable stabilisation of activities and improved diffusion of sustainable practices with regard to exploitation of territories, stopping local populations from considering forest as being a “free access” resource. It will also aim at facilitating access to customary land title, either by taking into account tax and technical liabilities relating to the acquisition of title, or by simplifying tax and technical conditions.

This is a cross-cutting strategic option. It should permit a fight against the four causes of deforestation and degradation identified in component 2a, i.e.: (i) non-sustainable slash-and-burn agriculture, (ii) non-sustainable production and consumption of fuelwood, (iii) non-sustainable and even illegal forest exploitation, and (iv) urban development. Its principal aim is to improve the land-tenure situation in and around forests, as well as bringing about a transfer of management responsibilities from the State to decentralised and deconcentrated local authorities, local communities, and indigenous peoples.

*Sub- Option 1.1 (SO 1.1): Set up a National Land-Use Plan*

The National Land-Management Plan (PNAT) will lay the foundations for a sustainable resolution of the land-tenure problem, and will enable private users to secure their access to natural resources (wood, mines, crops, etc.) It will facilitate State control of the exploitation of those resources, including forest resources. It will give a sustainable definition to the priority orientation of each part of national territory based on pedoclimatic, demographic, and socio-economic criteria.

The National Land-Management Plan will include the following areas, which are not necessarily mutually exclusive: permanent forest (Permanent Forest Estate, DEP = State-owned forests, forests owned by public persons, and forests owned by communes and other local authorities), non-permanent forest (Non-Permanent Forest State, DFNP = protected forests), agricultural, mining, rural, urban, hunting, fishing, and any other relevant area.

Developed in the context of a participative national process, steered by the Ministry for Planning and Spatial Planning, and bringing together all the stakeholders from the public sector, civil society, and the public sector, the National Land-Management Plan will define the areas of land use in accordance with over-arching objectives for spatial planning and for management, in particular:

- forest areas intended for the sustainable production of forest products (including areas for reforestation and for restoring degraded forests);
- areas intended for protection (existing and future protected areas);
- those parts of national territory that are intended for agricultural production;
- existing and future mining and petroleum exploitation areas;

- rural and urban areas intended for infrastructure expansion (roads, dwellings, industries, etc.)

These over-arching areas of use by objectives can be superposed on other specific areas based on the use of certain natural resources (hunting areas, fishing areas, etc.), as well as on the terms of management (public-sector management, concessions, management delegated to communities).

*Sub- Option 1.2 (SO 1.2): Strengthen the network of protected areas*

In spite of the lack of objective data, most experts agree on the fact that existing protected areas appear to be less degraded than other parts of the territory. Consequently, it is recommended that the sustainable management of existing protected areas be strengthened, and that tests be done in relation to the opportunities and potential impact of setting up new protected areas, particularly in closed evergreen lowland forest.

In parallel, it appears to be important to give a better definition of sensitive ecosystems in the context of the sustainable management of forest concessions, in particular in concessions with FSC certification. That definition will rely on the results of research, and will lead, in the long term to the exclusion of certain habitats (forests with high conservation value, steep slopes, riverside forests, buffer zones) from forest exploitation, in order to reduce their degradation.

This option will rely on two fundamental principles:

- strengthening the management of existing protected areas and identifying new areas will, naturally, have to be based on the National Land-Management Plan, which takes account of existing protected areas and defines potential zones for new protected areas;
- local communities and indigenous peoples will have to be closely associated with all those actions, in particular through systems of co-management of protected areas, in order to create tangible benefits that motivate them to conserve protected forests.

Option 2 (O2): Provide sustainable management of forest resources

Non-sustainable management of forest resources generally leads to those resources being over-exploited, thus contributing to forest degradations. The exploitation of certain resources, in particular the uncontrolled collection of fuelwood or the illegal exploitation of precious wood, also contribute to degradation, and can lead in the long term to deforestation.

Consequently, this strategic option aims at reducing deforestation and degradation by strengthening systems of sustainable management of forest resources, as well as by promoting a more rational use of timber and non-timber forest products. It is particularly important to put in place the structures and systems necessary to ensure that production forest management will be sustainable in the field, not just in spatial planning documents.



The following measures, combined with improvements in techniques and capabilities relating to wood transformation, will lead to an increase in the offer of forest products produced in a sustainable manner.

*Sub-Option 2.1 (SO 2.1): Fight against illegal forest exploitation*

Illegal exploitation can take different forms (failure to respect areas of exploitability, protected species, seed crops, re-using exploited areas to the detriment of natural regeneration, etc.), but it is not always a disaster for everyone: climate, biodiversity, and – consequently – future generations... but also, and above all, for people to practice it (accidents due to uncontrolled felling, poor yield, abandon of wood in forests, etc.) and for people who buy the product (wrongly removed timber, poor-quality wood, etc.)

Accordingly, this sub-option is extremely important. It will be a case of carrying out better monitoring the traffic in illegal wood, and to add to current statistical checks measures to give effective application to VPA-FLEGT to the whole wood trade, both national and international [see box 2b1 of the R-PP for additional notes on the links between the REDD+ Programme and VPA-FLEGT]. This can be done using the following options:

- analyse the opportunities for creating an independent control structure (with twin financial and organizational planning) within the forestry administration, enabling better separation between forest control on the one hand, and spatial-planning activities on the other;
- support for improving systems for tracing timber forest products that are currently in hand in the context of the VPA-FLEGT programme, as well as for building the capacities of the forest administration and of principal forest administrators as regards implementation of those tracing systems;
- strengthening the means of intervention by forestry officers and of their capabilities in respect of control procedures;
- support for monitoring illegal exploitation with the help of the Independent Observatory of the Forest Sector as well as NGOs and local communities, who note violations in the field.

*Sub-Option 2.2 (SO 2.2): Strengthen the sustainable spatial planning of production forests*

The Republic of the Congo has greatly involved itself in developing sustainable spatial planning for forest concessions. However, in certain areas of the country, in particular the South-West, spatial planning is not yet systematic. In addition, in certain cases, forest spatial planning is well developed, but not really implemented in the field. Consequently, this sub-option proposes to strengthen and generalise the development of spatial planning, principally through the following elements:

- strengthening national regulations on spatial planning, as well as their integration into forest legislation and other relevant legislation;
- developing and implementing transparent and competitive procedures for granting exploitation claims in order to guarantee independent monitoring by national and international bodies, with consideration also being given to the competences and the technical means of bidders;
- strengthening the management capabilities of the forest administration, of private-sector concessionaires, and of new forest administrators;
- developing forest information and management systems (FIMS) that enable better monitoring of the measures and activities set out in spatial-planning documents, as well as the performance and technical capabilities of operators;
- analysing the financial aspects and the profitability of sustainable forest management.

*Sub-Option 2.3 (SO 2.3): Involve local communities and indigenous peoples in forest management*

Local communities and indigenous peoples are currently involved only to a limited extent in decision-making and in management relating to natural resources. This results in an insufficient awareness of their rights and responsibilities with regard to those collective assets.

However, examples in other countries show that the involvement of local communities and indigenous peoples in the management of forest resources can have a very positive impact on the fight against deforestation and forest degradation. Those transfers of management also enable the creation of new sources of revenue for the populations concerned. More specifically, the diversification of actors of forest management will be based on:

- analysing experiences in terms of community management of forests at national and international level;
- developing and promoting innovative models of delegating the management of forest resources to local populations and to indigenous people, with particular emphasis on the creation of incentives for truly sustainable management;
- building the capacities of new administrators in respect of sustainable management of forest resources and product marketing.

Although community management of natural resources is not very widespread in the Republic of the Congo, that work can rely on the initial experience of CARPE, as well as on the operational implementation of community development series put in place in certain concessions in the North of the country.

*Sub-Option 2.4 (SO 2.4): Promoting forest certification*

The Republic of the Congo is one of the first countries in Africa to see some of its forests certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), and it currently occupies first place worldwide in terms of eco-certified forest area. Much has been done, but work must carry on, because certification is a powerful tool for promoting best forest practices.

Eco-certification is also an example that is of interest to the REDD+ Programme, in the sense that it is also based on the idea of continuous improvement: nothing is certain, and margins of progress are always possible. The Republic of the Congo has also adopted that attitude, by starting its REDD+ activities with objectives that are at once ambitious and realistic, keeping the idea of making slow but steady progress on the REDD+ Programme as it did with eco-certification. That promotion of forest certification will be based on:

- evaluating the attractiveness of developing a compulsory national forest certification system for all operators, principally ensuring that exploitations are legal;
- analysing the opportunity as well as the technical and financial feasibility of making forest certification compulsory for all the concessions in the country, or in certain forest areas that are particularly vulnerable.

*Sub-Option 2.5 (SO 2.5): Improving techniques in relation to wood exploitation and transformation*

Improving exploitation and transformation techniques – and building the capacities of forest and wood professionals to implement those techniques – would permit a short-term increase in the offer of sustainably-produced wood, which would reduce the impact of forest exploitation as well as carbon emissions. Various actions could be analysed:

- developing low-impact exploitation techniques: according to experts, carbon emissions are reduced by two-thirds with exploitation under spatial planning as against “traditional” exploitation (without spatial planning). With low-impact exploitation techniques, improvement would be by a factor of 4. Although the terms of carbon monetisation of these emission reductions have not yet been defined, it seems important to promote low-impact exploitation techniques;
- improving transformation techniques (sawing, slicing, peeling);
- recover harvest residue (hollow trunks or “chimneys”, non-marketable species destroyed during felling or skidding, etc.) and associated wastes from sawmills in the chipboard-panel industry (matter recovery);

- developing co-generation in wood-transformation industries (energy recovery of associated waste from sawmills and residue), as is already envisaged by certain forest concessions in the sub-region (e.g. the Rougier Group).

### Option 3 (O3): Improve systems of agricultural production

Village exploitations in Sub-Saharan Africa are often under-capitalised, but well provided with a family labour pool. The main objective of slash-and-burn agriculture is, therefore (and rationally) to seek to profit from that labour pool to clear land, thus obtaining fertility at lower cost through on-site biomass combustion. Thanks to that, the production food products is possible, even without chemical fertilisers, poor supplies of organic chemicals, and often limited access to improved seed.

After a few years of use, the soil becomes poor: the slash-and-burn cycle carries on elsewhere. If regeneration time is sufficient, this system is sustainable. If population density rises, land need rises and soils deteriorate (sometimes to the point of induration, which makes them unsuitable for any cultivation). The idea of this option is to settle itinerant farmers by fighting against soil impoverishment whilst maintaining - or even increasing – the level of agricultural production that is necessary for a country in the middle of a demographic boom.

In the course of developing this option, care must be taken against a possible perverse effect: encouraging deforestation by increasing agricultural revenue per unit of surface area, leading to the need to motivate itinerant land workers towards gradually adopting a settled lifestyle. Test phases will enable estimation of whether this risk is well-founded or not in the Congolese context.

#### *Sub-Option 3.1 (SO 3.1): Foster access small producers' access to microcredit*

With the support of Congolese banks and experienced microcredit NGOs, microcredit systems could be set up that are aimed at small producers, enabling them to have access to “country” loans to purchase fertiliser and improved seed. This would have the double effect of ensuring soil fertility and increasing yield.

The loan is granted for agricultural purposes, so repayment may be guaranteed by future harvests. In countries where such systems have been tried, results have often been interesting, and enable small producers to come out of the poverty spiral and of the under-capitalisation of their exploitation, which always occurs at the expense of natural resources.

#### *Sub-Option 3.2 (SO 3.2): Supporting organization of the agricultural profession*

As a corollary to SO3.1, support for organising the upstream portion of the agricultural profession (wholesalers and retailers of fertiliser and seed) will enable small producers to have access to the inputs needed to maintain soil fertility and improve yield.

Organizational support, even for producers, will enable the latter to improve their agricultural practices by pooling their experience, through farm-to-farm exchanges or by taking part in

experiments in the field. In the long term, they may also develop economic activities like self-management of microcredit systems and seed banks, thus enabling them not to fall back into non-sustainable cycles of slash-and-burn agriculture.

*Sub-Option 3.3 (SO 3.3): Strengthen agricultural research and extension work*

Research has an important role to play: by analysing current systems of cultivation and by identifying their limits in terms of maintaining fertility and yields, research may be able to put forward alternatives that could be tested on stations and in a land-worker setting. In order to facilitate this latter transfer of knowledge, agricultural extension workers – or even management advisers – could be made available.

*Sub-Option 3.4 (SO 3.4): Promote agro-forest systems*

Traditional agriculture often considers trees to be obstacles to be felled to bring land under cultivation, with those trees being, at best, able to produce temporary fertiliser for soils. Agricultural research in Africa shows the value of developing agroforest systems, for cultivation (protection water resources, natural fertilisation, etc.) as well as for the producer (non-timber forest products, timber, and firewood).

Option 4 (O4): Rationalise fuelwood production and use

The demand for non-sustainable domestic energy is a significant cause of deforestation and degradation. That impact is most pronounced in large urban areas: Brazzaville, Pointe Noire, Dolisie, Nkayi, Ouesso, and Gamboma. The problem is twofold: (i) on the supply side, wood-charcoal production is of low efficiency and calls for a significant size of exploitation; (ii) on the demand side, needs are enormous because of the use of traditional hearths that have poor efficiency in terms of saving energy. In addition, reforestation and replanting are, for now, at a very low level of development in the Republic of the Congo.

*Sub-Option 4.1 (SO 4.1): Improve the supply by structuring the firewood and wood-charcoal sectors*

Carbonisation and charcoal production, with a low degree of professionalisation and often illegal, are usually very inefficient and need a lot of wood to make a small amount of charcoal. This leads to a high degree of forest degradation and even destruction. Simple, low-cost measures would enable a doubling of the effectiveness of transformation, and halve the need for wood.

As was the case for the measures for improving wood exploitation and transformation techniques mentioned previously, the impact of the measures for increasing the rate of carbonisation will be short-term in nature, contrary to replanting and restoration measures proposed below.

Actions taken under this sub-option could be as follows:

- identify effective and adapted carbonisation techniques (Casamance kiln, etc.);
- strengthen the capabilities of charcoal producers by adapting training in terms of techniques habitually used in principal production centres;
- develop tailored control and tax systems to manage the functioning of wood-charcoal sectors, by strongly associating local communities;
- develop local domestic-energy supply plans: support the setting up of forest spatial planning in estover forests, support the professional organization of forest operators and wood hauliers, and promote official recognition as well as the “officialisation” of their associations, support the creation of wood markets in the 5 large urban centres, etc.

*Sub-Option 4.2 (SO 4.2): Promote reforestation and replanting, in particular to improve the supply of fuelwood*

Replanting and forest restoration are options of interest to increase the supply of wood in order to reduce pressure on natural forests. However, it should be noted that the impact of those measures will only become effective in the medium or long term, even with the use of fast-growing species.

There are two types of replanting: (i) for energy purposes (often using exotic fast-growing species like eucalyptus, acacia, etc.), and (ii) for producing timber (valuable native species like limba, okoumé, etc.).

Furthermore, the success of any measure to promote replanting depends strongly on security of land tenure (see Option 1 above), without which investors will not be interested. In the absence of the National Land-Management Plan, replanting projects could even have perverse effects by increase competition for access to land with small agricultural producers, who would risk turning to more destructive practices in the surrounding forests.

Two routes for promoting replanting could be tested in the Republic of the Congo: (i) incentivising measures aimed at the private sector and at local populations (tax arrangements, technical support, etc.), or (ii) the States’ involvement in financing and implementing replanting, via the National Reforestation Service, with an *ad hoc* financial channel like the REDD+ funds (see component 2c).

The Republic of the Congo has a good level of forestry-related technical experience, which led to the planting of 70 000 hectares of forest, including 60 000 hectares of exotic species like eucalyptus, pinus, and acacia planted in grassland, and 10 000 hectares of local species like limba (*Terminalia superba*) and okoumé (*Ocoumea klaineana*).

In 2011, the Republic of the Congo launched a vast programme called the “*Programme National d’Afforestation et de Reboisement*” (ProNAR – National Afforestation and Reforestation Development Programme). The programme aims at creating forest plantations in grassland with fast-growing species, forest-restoration plantations based on local species, and orchards across the whole country. Those sustainably-managed plantations will perform not only economic and social

functions, but also additional ecological functions, and they will increase the country's stock of forest carbon.

The programme consists of setting up 1 million ha of forest and agro-forest plantations over a 1-year period, from 2011 to 2020. That aim is part of the Republic of the Congo's commitments to attenuating and stabilising world climate and to prepare a solid foundation for a green economy on a national scale. The programme covers: (i) supplying the country in timber forest products (timber and fuelwood) and non-timber forest products (essential oils, resins, honey, fruit, vegetables, etc.), as well as (ii) expanding national forest cover (see box 2b2 of the R-PP for more information on ProNAR).

*Sub-Option 4.3 (SO 4.3): Reduce demand by improving efficiency in using fuelwood*

Energy efficiency in using fuelwood and coal is general insufficient, which leads to very high demand for wood and coal to cover domestic energy requirements. Consequently, it is recommended that fuelwood be used more efficiently as follows:

- review experiences in relation to improved hearths in other countries;
- develop models of improved hearths for firewood and for charcoal, those models being adapted to the various situations that exist in the Republic of the Congo;
- develop efficient tools to promote the spread of improved hearths.

An overview of the risks that the strategic options present for REDD+

A preliminary analysis of the risks (which are related mostly to leaks) for the four main strategic options is set out in table 3 below (analysis adapted from the R-PP and taken further).

**Table 3. Preliminary analysis of risks of strategic options  
(with a focus on the problem of leaks)**

Strategic options	Risks (mostly linked to leaks)	Risk evaluation	Actions and observations
1. Reinforce security of land tenure in the context of a national spatial-development plan	If the National Spatial-Development Plan and the protected areas emerge from in-depth consultation with all economic, actors and rural populations, and if it is implemented across the whole of the country, the risks will be limited.	Medium	This is a cross-cutting strategic option that should enable the fight against the four causes of deforestation and degradation identified in component 2a. The National Spatial-Development Plan is the centrepiece of effective treatment at national level of the risk of leaks. Decentralisation efforts contained in the R-PP - and for which the UN-REDD Programme will finance several actions - will help to lessen that risk.

2. Provide sustainable management of forest resources	Possible displacement of deforestation.  The reduction in firewood obtained by illegal or non-sustainable exploitation may lead to higher levels of consumption of fossil energy.	Medium	The Republic of the Congo leans strongly towards the certification and the sustainable management of natural resources, shared by the government as well as by, large and small operator. A political commitment to a green economy.
3. Improve systems of agricultural production	An increase in cultivated areas and in the pressure on forests if there is no improvement in revenue per unit of area.	High	The agricultural sector is a pillar for the success of REDD+, and stakeholders share that priority of strengthening the sector. There is a need to harmonise agricultural investments with the REDD+ process. Pilot projects will certainly have a significant agricultural purpose.
4. Rationalise fuelwood production and use	Developing plantations to the detriment of agriculture.	Limited	The approach to a green economy has already been started in the country. Plantation areas to be maintained in degraded areas that offer only limited competition to agriculture.

UN-REDD Programme support for strategic options and link with FCPF finance (2b)

FCPF financing that has already been ring-fenced foresees a deepening of strategic options (the shape of which may change, depending on the results of the study on the causes of deforestation, various consultations, the SESA, and early returns from experiments) through a systematic study according to the following framework of analysis:

- a detailed evaluation of costs for implementing REDD+ strategic options (in particular, it will cover costs relating to opportunity, investment, and transaction);
- an estimate of the benefits of implementing each strategic option proposed. This analysis will evaluate the contribution made by the strategic option to reducing deforestation and degradation. In addition, the study will have to evaluate other potential benefits, in particular those relating to the income of the various stakeholders (the State, local populations, etc.), to food safety, and to other environmental amenities;
- a feasibility study of the implementation of the strategic options proposed. This analysis will focus on the political, social, and economic aspects (link with the evaluation of costs and benefits mentioned above) as well as the institutional aspect;
- an evaluation of the sustainability of the options proposed, as well as the possibilities of inserting them into various development policies;
- determining the risks of leaks when implementing the national REDD+ strategy (since if the strategy is focused on certain areas, there is a risk that deforestation and forest degradation may not be reduced, but simply displaced towards other areas).

UN-REDD Programme support will enable this support to be added to by means of the following interventions:



- **Prospective study of REDD+ potential.** Changes that are hoped for from the REDD+ process on the dynamics of deforestation and of ecosystem degradation, as well as on the restructuring of sectors like agriculture and energy, will only be observed in the long term. This long-term potential needs to be evaluated and described for a large public in order to understand the general thrust of these efforts and to evaluate the real challenges, since there is a risk of getting lost in the technicity of the phase of preparing for REDD+ and gradually diluting the importance of the process and the mobilisation of actors. Accordingly, a prospective study of REDD+ potential will be carried out to evaluate future scenarios that may arise from the implementation of REDD+, clearly showing socio-economic impacts (jobs, wealth distribution, food autonomy, etc.) and environmental ones (emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, biodiversity), as well as the necessary costs and investments linked to implementing REDD+. This work will aim at contributing to the national debate concerning the vision of the development of the country (“Congo – an emerging country, 2025”).
- **Finalising the national REDD+ strategy and planning investments.** The results of the various studies above will be used to build and finalise the national REDD+ strategy. It will be a case of supporting a participatory effort at consolidating various strategic elements and mobilise high-level expertise at the right moment, in order to intelligently articulate strategic elements. Mobilising this expertise could come to a head when organising high-level events to ensure that the national strategy undergoing finalisation goes hand-in-hand with a political will that is both strong and cross-sectoral for implementing the strategy. Support from the UN-REDD Programme will also enable the strategic options to be transcribed into operational investment programmes discussed with potential donors, preparing the way to phase II of REDD+. These investment programmes will aim at promoting interventions on a scale different from that of the project approach, in order to initiate deep transformations across whole sectors, and to give a sustainable response to the causes of deforestation and of degradation at national level. Attention will be focused on sector-based investments that have multiplier effects on jobs and on shared wealth (e.g. investments in the structuring integrated sectors of agro-forest products), as well as on investments made upstream from sectoral dynamics, e.g. on clarifying and securing land rights, or support for intermediary organizations and support organizations (co-operatives, access to credit, etc.) in a rural setting. It is a case of empowering investments without which REDD+ activities cannot come to fruition on a significant scale sufficient to reduce future deforestation and forest degradation. These programmes will enable backing to be given to a short-term investment plan (on a 5-year scale) to render the national strategy operational; that period is part of a longer one that greatly exceeds the framework for administrative planning and for investments.
- **Support for the process of experimentation.** Experimentation activities in the field are an import element of work on the REDD+ strategy. If those activities are developed sufficiently early in the REDD+ process, they can provide practical teaching that is complementary to the analysis, in order to refine the national REDD+ strategy. They also enable awareness to be raised and to engage a critical mass of people in the field with regard to REDD+ themes in their most concrete form, often more effectively than specific awareness-raising and consultation campaigns. In addition, they will enable benefits to be had from the more significant

capabilities of implementing REDD+ activities for phase II. In addition, the intangible nature of REDD+ promises during the preparation phase is a recurring problem that may compromise the motivation and commitment of stakeholders for the fully participatory finalisation of the preparation phase. Specific interventions by the UN-REDD Programme in this area will be:

- Technical support and advice for project development and pilot initiatives: R-PP plans to develop ten steered projects that cover the range of strategic options [section 6.2, component 2b]. Four of them are presented [see R-PP box 2b3]. Certain pilot projects are well on the way to receiving financing for their execution, whereas other need full preparation work and setting up of financing and partnership dossiers for implementation. Without directly financing the delivery of pilot projects themselves (which lies outwith the capabilities and the modes of intervention of UN-REDD Programme agencies), UN-REDD Programme support will enable this support and advice to be provided, it being necessary to bring to fruition R-PP ambitions for pilot projects and exploiting their potential to provide lessons for the REDD+ strategy.
- Setting up a competitive programme of small grants: in order to respond to the strong national demand for tangible interventions in the field, the UN-REDD Programme plans a competitive programme of small grants (the “small-grants programme”) as the second part of the experimentation process. Individual, civil-society organizations, indigenous peoples’ organizations, and small businesses will be invited to put forward a range of initiatives that could see the light of day with a small grant (of the order of USD 5, 10, or 20 000). Eligibility criteria will be met by those proposals that show convincingly that they will be able to contribute directly or indirectly to REDD+ objectives. Other selection criteria will be put in place on the basis of the experimentation requirements of the REDD+ process (e.g. a possible need to prioritise experiments concerning interventions in the agricultural sector), or on the basis of other pre-defined criteria. A community point of contact is planned, separate from a point of contact for small businesses that will promote REDD+ business plans showing how the grant could be used as an investment for profitable activities. Obtaining a grant will be subject to REDD+ actors (members of the National Co-ordinating Organization, of REDD+ units in each *département*, etc.) being able to make visits to the activity site to learn lessons from the experiment. UN-REDD Programme financing will enable the small-grant programme to be designed (review of similar programme models, defining rules and procedures – in particular for project selection, designing communication products, as well as preparing and publishing, a call for applications and diffusing it through the media), and to apply a significant level of financing (USD 300 000) for one or more phases of the programme. It is a case here of promoting a “bottom-up” approach from experiments that are complementary to pilot projects and initiatives.
- Review of the results of experience gained form pilot projects and initiatives: this is a case of supporting the analysis using field surveys, REDD+ experiments (pilot projects, local initiatives, community grants, and grants to small businesses) in order to draw lessons and feed the construction of the REDD+ strategy as well as the design of investment plans.

## ***2c. REDD+ implementation framework***

In the component of the same name, R-PP makes proposals on the legal and institutional considerations needed to support an REDD+ mechanism:

- (i) the legal and institutional framework for implementing the Congolese national REDD+ strategy;
- (ii) creating positive incentivisation measures at national level; and
- (iii) actions to be carried out and financing to be gathered from 2011 to 2013, in order to achieve this.

The Republic of the Congo considers that the legal and institutional framework must be designed and / or reformed so as to guarantee an integrated approach to the national REDD+ strategy, which must contribute to the sustainable development of the country. The implementation framework for the national REDD+ strategy must be founded on six values: (i) sustainability, (ii) accountability, (iii) equity, (iv) efficiency, (v) measurability, and (vi) transparency. In addition, the Republic of the Congo is convinced that implementing REDD+ activities successfully depends on the involvement of all public or private actors. To that end, four principles shall guide implementation, i.e.: (i) Participation, (ii) Regulation, (iii) Incentivisation, and (iv) Control.

The development of the implementation framework must take account of the following considerations:

- improving the existing legal and institutional framework;
- difficulties encountered to make official customary land rights – a legislative bill is being drafted that will promote the recognition of customary rights;
- options for improving existing legal conditions through the promulgation of a REDD+ law (or through an amendment to the law on the environment);
- carbon law and carbon finance law;
- the various legal statuses of MDP credits and REDD+ credits;
- the existence of two options to define REDD+ credit under Congolese law: as a natural resource or as an incorporated moveable asset;
- the role of the State in carbon transactions; and
- responsible and transparent management by an REDD+ Fund.

Given that the FCPF will hold the technical and financial management for this component (and that work has already begun, with the preparation of a workshop on the REDD+ implementation framework in Brazzaville), and nonetheless taking into consideration the UN-REDD Programme's competences and experience in this area, UN-REDD Programme financing will focus on three specific and complementary actions:

- support for work on **REDD+ financial governance**, through analysis and consultations on the sharing of income as well as analysis of the options on building up a national REDD+ fund;
- a study of the **tax and economic incentivisation tools for the REDD+** in conjunction with strategic analyses on spatial planning (with the possibility of a different tax regime based on the purpose of various parts of the country, in particular within the Permanent Forest Estate) and the mechanisms for REDD+ incentivisation and involvement (possibly through a system of payments for environmental services);
- setting up and maintaining a **national registry of REDD+ projects and initiatives**, with approval procedures to check the quality of these projects and initiatives contained in the registry (this proposal is based on the successful experience with the same initiative in the DRC, a neighbouring country that developed its REDD+ registry with a regional perspective in order to share it with other countries – consequently, it will be a case of adopting and adapting a tool that has already been designed and that is already in use in the DRC).

## **2d. Social and environmental impacts around REDD+**

FCPF financing has provided for a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA). This is an exercise that is at once analytical and highly consultative, which requires a fairly significant level of depth and of detail, and that will certainly last for some time (about 1 to 2 years). R-PP provides all the details on the SESA approach and on the existing Congolese legal framework in matters of environmental- and social-impact studies. In sum, the SESA will be rolled out in two phases:

- (i) a strategic evaluation of *potential* impacts, based on the choice of preliminary strategic options and on the implementation framework (at the start of 2012, the FCPF will start work on the implementation framework);
- (ii) a diagnosis of risks and of measures of attenuation, as well as – in line with the UN-REDD Programme approach – a diagnosis of potential benefits and of promotional measures. The product of this second stage will be a *Cadre de Gestion Environnemental et Social* (ESMF – Environmental and Social Management Framework) that will form an important part of the national REDD+ strategy (the ESMF must, therefore, be finalised ahead of the preparation phase).

Accordingly, this departure point will be taken into consideration by the UN-REDD Programme, in order not to duplicate efforts and in order to ensure synergy. Nonetheless, the UN-REDD Programme has a role to play in leading this exercise and especially in its capacity as providing support to stakeholders of the REDD+ process in carrying out a process of consideration that is more practical, more immediate, and concrete, regarding social and environmental safeguards. The document entitled *Principes et Critères Environnementaux et Sociaux* (Social & Environmental Principles and Criteria – SEPC) developed by the UN-REDD Programme (provisional outline of the

document attached at Annexe 2), which is in its final phase of adoption and which will be accompanied by an implementation tool, represents a means of making progress in relation to building social and environmental safeguards around REDD+ in a practical manner.

In that sense, the UN-REDD Programme budget in the area of social and environmental impacts (safeguards) is accordingly adjusted to USD 100 000, taking account of the fact that the FCPF has ring-financed financing of USD 300 000 for the SESA exercise. In addition, the country will be able to benefit from a transfer of experience with the DRC, a neighbouring country, and one that has already begun a joint UN-REDD Programme / FCPF approach on safeguards, by reconciling the UN-REDD Programme PGES approach with the SESA – and having done so fairly efficiently until now. Furthermore, work on VPA-FLEGT, which is particularly advanced in the Republic of the Congo, will also be exploited here; it is estimated that about half the aspects covered by the UN-REDD Programme SEPC are already taken into consideration in the VPA.

The UN-REDD Programme SEPC (*cf.* provisional outline in annexe 2), as well as the associated risk-reduction tool (which is in development), constitute an excellent reference framework for developing safeguard measures adapted to the national context. During the last two joint UN-REDD Programme / FCPF missions in the Republic of the Congo, REDD National Co-ordination and the stakeholders reiterated their wish to develop national standards, adapting the SEPC (and, possibly, other reference frameworks, in particular the VPA-FLEGT PCIVs) to the national context by adding a precise series of indicators and verifiers. The aim will be to apply those standards to all REDD+ projects and initiatives in the Republic of the Congo (via an approval procedure and approval-maintenance procedure covering projects and initiatives entered in the national REDD+ registry).

Given the place set aside for REDD+ projects from the very start of the REDD+ process in this country, this work on national standards is seen as being important. UN-REDD Programme financing here will serve principally to develop social and environmental standards (as well as governance aspects) that are proper to the Republic of the Congo, for future incorporation into the ESMF. The following steps are envisaged:

- participatory development, steered by civil society in conjunction with REDD National Co-ordination, or a first version of national standards;
- experiments on the standards (in liaison with support for REDD+ experiments in the field, as set out in component 2b);
- checking the accounting of national standards with UNFCCC standards;
- negotiations on equivalence between Congolese standards and the principal voluntary international standards recognised for REDD+ purposes;
- connexion between standards and the national REDD+ registry, via approval procedures covering projects and initiatives; and
- incorporating this work into the coherent framework of the ESMF (SESA), which will be part of the national REDD+ strategy.

It is important to emphasise the search for complementarity between the SESA process and UN-

REDD Programme support for the management of socio-environmental impacts. The third joint international mission on REDD+ in Brazzaville (January 2012) profited by the presence of an FCPF expert on the SESA to discuss that linkage in the course of a number of technical and participatory sessions. The SESA process is eminently participatory, and can account for a large share of the activities planned by the UN-REDD Programme to ensure that all the main stages of the national REDD+ process (consensus on the causes and factors of deforestation; drawing up the implementation framework; setting out strategic options; revenue-sharing tools; etc.) are submitted to participation processes that are ambitious and that include the various stakeholders. Furthermore, UN-REDD Programme financial support for the development of national socio-environmental standards on the one hand, and for the development of a system for monitoring other benefits and risks on the other (*cf.* 4b), will thus provide two essential contributions to the future environmental and social management framework that will constitute the product of the SESA as well as a central pillar of the future national REDD+ strategy.

***Component 3: Development of a national Reference Emission Level and / or a national Reference Level for forests***

Reminder and links between the UN-REDD Programme proposal presented in this document and R-PP (section 3)

R-PP is an integral part of this proposal, and has already planned a certain number of actions and budget lines on the principal actions presented below. In particular, we can mention support for integration IIASA work, support for work done by the World Bank, support for holding a workshop and for a thesis grant in the context of developing Reference Emission Levels (REs) / Reference Levels (RLs). Thus, R-PP gives priority attention to strengthening existing initiatives.

However, we consider that the actions planned by R-PP do not cover all the actions to be undertaken in order to draw up a widely-accepted national REL / RL. Furthermore, since R-PP was drafted, various lines of progress and advances in climate negotiations (UNFCCC) give a better view of the work to be done. Similarly, various discussions held at national level throw better light on national choices as regards this component 3. The UN-REDD Programme proposal is, therefore, the chance to resume and improve the work programme put forward by R-PP, a programme that has not yet begun in fact. Furthermore, R-PP planned co-financing for the UN-REDD Programme higher than 50% on this component, thus leading to significant responsibility falling on the UN-REDD Programme.

Those two considerations lead us to propose an extended work programme, taking up the large space left to multiform support for local CNIAF (National Centre for Surveys and Forest and Fauna Resources Management) teams tasked with this component: support for two civil servants, financial participation for publications and for organising meetings, etc. We can also mention here the recruitment of an MRV expert, who will certainly be working mainly on component 4, but will also be able to provide support as required for component 3.

In Annexe 3, we have set out a summarised comparison in the form of a table between activities planned by R-PP and the work programme proposed by the UN-REDD Programme for component 3.

Definition and context of a Reference Emission Level, Reference Level for the forests of the Republic of the Congo

Decision 1/COP.16<sup>1</sup> (Cancún) clearly mentions the need for countries that commit themselves to REDD+ to define a Reference Emission Level (REL) for forests, and / or a Reference Level (RL) for forests. A draft Decision of COP.17<sup>2</sup> (Durban) details the development terms of RELs' / RLs. RELs / RLs are reference points that enable estimates to be made of the performance of each country in

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<sup>1</sup> <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2010/cop16/fr/07a01f.pdf#page=2>

<sup>2</sup> [http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/durban\\_nov\\_2011/decisions/application/pdf/cop17\\_safeguards.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/durban_nov_2011/decisions/application/pdf/cop17_safeguards.pdf)

implementing REDD+ activities. RELs / RLs are expressed in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year.

RELs are an indicator of the probable level of annual emissions of greenhouse gases linked to forest activities, in the future and in the absence of REDD+ implementation. Thus, RELs are particularly relevant for REDD+ activities that influence GHG emissions, activities linked to deforestation and to forest degradation.

RLs form an indicator of probable stocks of forest carbon, in the future and in the absence of REDD+ implementation. Thus, RLs are particularly relevant for REDD+ activities that influence stocks of forest carbon, activities linked to preservation, to sustainable forest management, and to boosting stocks of forest carbon.

The development of a national REL and / or a national RL for forests is a very delicate exercise for the Republic of the Congo, given its very low rate of historic deforestation and given the relative size of its forest cover on a national scale. The financial benefits that the Republic of the Congo could obtain from the REDD+ mechanism in its fully-operational phase would depend in part on the difference between those RELs / RLs and the comparative situation observed in the field.

#### Justification and brief description of the work programme

The importance of RELs / RLs for the Republic of the Congo, associated with its very low rate of historic deforestation, requires a particular effort for their determination. This effort is developed along three main strands for building up RELs / RLs: firstly, an estimate in figures of deforestation and of forest degradation in the Congo over the last two decades; next, precise and agreed-upon knowledge of the causes of deforestation and of forest degradation in the Republic of the Congo; and finally, innovative and original initiatives that concern the national circumstances that may arise in the future and lead to significant future changes in the historic trends of deforestation and of forest degradation in the Republic of the Congo.

In certain countries, historical trends are a good indicator of future ones, but it is probable that other national circumstances may be in play in the Republic of the Congo, and that those national circumstances lead to deforestation and forest degradation departing from historic trends. Those circumstances are potentially linked to non-linear demographic change, as well as factors like changes in the economy and in agricultural practices, particularly cash crops (oil palms).

The work on defining RELs / RLs is organised around various actions: (i) analysis of emissions factors, (ii) analysis of activity data, (iii) quantification of areas affected by deforestation and by forest degradation, and evaluation of rates of deforestation and of historic degradation, (iv) analysis of the causes of deforestation and of forest degradation on a national scale, (v) the *Système National de Surveillance* (National Supervision System), (vi) analysis of national circumstances, and finally (vii) a process to determine and improve RELs / RLs together with a cross-cutting moderation process.



In the Republic of the Congo, the work on defining RELs / RLs will be based on various elements and types of work that cover all of points (i) to (vi). In particular, concerning the components of the UN-REDD support programme, it involves sub-component 2a (*analysis of the situation and building a national consensus national on the causes of deforestation and of forest degradation*) for action (iv); component 4 for actions (i), (ii), (iii, and (v). In addition, the work will be based on – for analysis of national circumstances at (vi) – on surveys of households carried out by the World Bank (with the aim of producing demographic and micro-economic data) and on the work of IIASA (International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis – Austria), in particular its REDD+ Policy Assessment Centre programme, which aims to throw light on the importance of national circumstances in COMIFAC (Central African Forest Commission) countries<sup>3</sup>.

In the context of R-PP and of the actions set out above, the UN-REDD Programme will provide its support for action (vii) only through making available funds to support the work of CNIAC on this theme, and holding a series of meetings that are necessary to establish robust consensus and for national acceptance of work on RELs / RLs. that support will also enable processes to be implemented that aim at quality assurance (internal checks) and quality control (external, in particular in association with the UNFCCC) of the work done.

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<sup>3</sup> Resource person: Michael Obersteiner, Programme Leader, Ecosystem Services and Management (ESM), International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)

**Table 4: Detailed presentation of activities on RELs / RLs  
to be financed by the UN-REDD programme**

<b>Component 3: Development of a national Reference Level of Emissions for forests and / or a national Level of Reference for forests</b>			
<b>Actions of Component 3</b>	<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>	<b>UN-REDD</b>	
<b>Analysis of data on Emission Factors (cf. MRV a1)</b>			
Determine emission factors / forest carbon stocks			
<b>Analysis of Activity Data (cf. MRV b1)</b>			
Carrying out cartography and stratification for different dates			
Producing a matrix of changes in soil usage			
<b>Analysis of the causes of deforestation and of forest degradation (cf. 2a)</b>			
Analysing the situation and building a national consensus on the causes of deforestation / degradation			
<b>National Surveillance System (cf. MRV d)</b>			
Producing an information-sharing tool			
<b>Analysing social circumstances</b>	170,000		
Analysis of national circumstances (IIASA)			
Recruiting a technical assistant to align the IIASA approach	20,000		
Socio-economic micro survey of households (World Bank)			
CN-REDD contribution to household surveys	150,000		
<b>Determining and improving RLs/RELS, cross-cutting animation</b>	543,742	278,532	51%
Developing abilities / training	82,532	82,532	100%
Support for CENIAF (supporting two civil servants)	149,600	96,000	64%
Co-ordinating activities and publication	205,750	40,000	19%
External QA / QC of the reference level	50,860	30,000	59%
Support for specific work done by students at Master's / Doctorate level in the Congo	30,000	30,000	100%
IT material at CNIAC level	25,000		
Support and monitor cross-cutting animation	-	-	
	713,742	278,532	39%

***Component 4: Designing national systems for forest supervision  
and for information on safeguards***

***4a. National forest-monitoring system***

Reminder and links for Component 4 between the UN-REDD Programme proposal presented in this document and R-PP (section 4)

It is important to consider here that R-Pp was drafted in June 2010, before undergoing improvement up to September 2011. Moreover, all COP Decisions could not be taken into consideration at the time. However, all indications contained in R-PP on developing S and MRV (section 4 of R-PP) are considered valid, and UN-REDD Programme support will be decisive for this component, which does not benefit from any FCPF support.

Better understanding of the Decisions of COP15, COP16, and COP17, as well as experience-based feedback, in particular from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, have brought about a greater level of precision in this document as regards defining activities as well as the addition of certain important activities that were not listed in R-PP (in particular concerning the supervision system and the strong need for cross-cutting activity co-ordination). Furthermore, a stronger link has been established between the activities defined and the budget, a link that it was difficult to establish in R-PP. Finally, R-PP mentions an MRV unit, within which it is important to set out certain allocations by area of activity (those areas are defined below, in particular NFI, AD, GHGI, and Supervision) for which different physical persons, as well as different State bodies, shall be likely to intervene. Accordingly, arbitration of resources and means should be based on the activities of each. This remark does not call into question human resources identified to carry out work in R-PP.

In order to best present those various changes, we put forward in Annexe 4 a matrix that enables a correspondence to be found between the activities proposed in R-PP and those proposed in this document. In the text below, links are also proposed to make the connexion between this UN-REDD Programme proposal and R-PP.

The overall S and MRV budget for the UN-REDD Programme proposal is, as a consequence, significantly higher than the one contained in R-PP, but it appears to be more realistic in relation to similar work carried out in other countries.

The budget provided by the UN-REDD Programme covers only a third of estimated expenditure, so there will be recourse to multilateral and – more especially – bilateral co-financing. However, the contribution of the UN-REDD Programme is decisive, both as a catalyst and – especially – to help in co-ordinating the various partners around this important task, in particular through the recruitment of an international MRV expert during most of the preparation phase.

### Defining a national forest Supervision system, Measurement, Reporting and Verification

The specific request for a national forest-supervision system, for countries that wish to join REDD+ was defined by decisions 4/COP.15 (Copenhagen, 2000<sup>4</sup>), 1/COP.16 (Cancún, 2010<sup>5</sup>), and Draft Decision/COP.17<sup>6</sup>. The Republic of the Congo also relies – as recommended – on the texts of the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), in particular its 2006 guidelines on the agricultural sector, on land use, and on forests<sup>7</sup>.

In the light of that request, the Republic of the Congo proposes to develop an approach that rests on 4 pillars: supervision (S), measurement (M), reporting (R), and verification (V). All of those four pillar will enable a reliable determination of emissions and absorptions of greenhouse gases linked to soil occupation and to changes in soil occupation, in particular those concerning forests, as well as evaluating the impact of REDD+ initiatives that aim at improve the country's greenhouse-gas rating.

**Supervision (S)** mainly covers the results obtained by REDD+ policies and measures. It is based on simple indicators, e.g.: forest area, number of trees planted, types of forest ecosystems, expanding or creating protected areas, applying certification systems, etc. Although monitoring REDD+ policies and measures may potentially be linked to performance on emissions and removal, that should not be the main objective of the monitoring system.

**Measurement (M)** must enable a Greenhouse-Gas Inventory (GHGI) to be drawn up. That GHGI relies on the collection of Activity Data (AD) and of Emission Factors (EFs). In the specific case of REDD+, AD concern soil usage, and are given in terms of the area occupied by activities, and in particular by forest. Those areas are evaluated thanks to remote-sensing data-processing (satellite imaging). Again specifically for REDD+, EFs are carbon stocks and modification of carbon stocks for the soil uses considered, in conjunction with REDD+ activities. Those stocks and stock modification are evaluated thanks to land measurements, which are also called inventories in the case of forests.

**Reporting (R)** principally means communicating data and processing methods used for Measurement (M) to the UNFCCC, as well as other data.

Finally, **Verification (V)** corresponds to the independent process that aims at the UNFCCC being able to trust the reliability and precision of the information notified, in order to ensure the effectiveness of the REDD+ mechanism to which the country has committed itself.

### Justification and brief description of the work programme

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<sup>4</sup> <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2009/cop15/fre/11a01f.pdf#page=11>

<sup>5</sup> <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2010/cop16/fre/07a01f.pdf#page=2>

<sup>6</sup> [http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/durban\\_nov\\_2011/decisions/application/pdf/cop17\\_safeguards.pdf](http://unfccc.int/files/meetings/durban_nov_2011/decisions/application/pdf/cop17_safeguards.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.ipcc-nggip.iges.or.jp/public/2006gl/french/vol4.html>

In order for the 4 pillars to be operational, 4 principal components must be put in place, together with a fifth component: cross-cutting moderation.

### *1.-National Forest Inventory*

In the brief description of Measurement above, mention is made of the fact that the Greenhouse-Gas Inventory (GHGI) relies partly on EFs.

Those EFs express a carbon stock, an emission, or an absorption of greenhouse gas linked to a specific, identified human activity.

In REDD+, those EFs must be linked to REDD+ activities as defined in Decision 1/COP.16<sup>8</sup>: emission reduction due to deforestation, emission reduction due to forest degradation, conservation of forest carbon stock, sustainable forest management, boosting forest carbon stock. Thus, those EFs are essentially forest carbon stocks or variations in forest carbon stocks. Furthermore, those EFs concern the 5 pools of forest carbon: aerial biomass (trunks, branches, leaves, and fruits), underground biomass (roots), deadwood, litter (dead plant matter), and organic soil carbon.

The most widespread method of knowing biomass carbon stocks of living and dead forest biomass is to carry out field measurements (diameter at chest height, deadwood surveys, etc.) in the course of a forest inventory, to determine wood density on the basis of the tree species, and to calculate that tree's carbon stock through an allometric equation on the basis of those simple data.

In order to produce EFs, the Republic of the Congo feels it to be necessary to carry out a National Forest Inventory (NFI), which would enable a sufficient number of field measurements to be collected for EFs to be produced at a good level of estimate.

The *Ministère du Développement Durable, de l'Economie Forestière et de l'Environnement* (MDDEFE – Ministry for Sustainable Development, the Forest Economy, and the Environment) of the Republic of the Congo has – with the support of the FAO – already initiated a National Forest Inventory. The NFI and its processing are carried out by CNIAF (*Centre National des Inventaires et Aménagement des Ressources Forestières et Fauniques* - National Centre for Surveys and Forest and Fauna Resources Management).

However, that NFI will have to be adapted and strengthened by the UN-REDD Programme process so as to reach a level of completeness and precision that is sufficient to produce estimates of forest carbon. That will be done through an adaptation of the methodology used, a strengthening of competence on methodological adaptations, and a possible increase in the number of plots that enable coverage of the forest strata for which precision is felt to be insufficient.

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<sup>8</sup> <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2010/cop16/fre/07a01f.pdf#page=2>

In parallel with those efforts as regards the NFI, work will be done to identify the best methods for converting inventory data into EFs. That bibliographical work will also have to provide answers to carbon pools that are not covered by the NFI (organic soil carbon and litter). The action will take the form of a complete methodological review, as well as open discussion being organised with stakeholders in order to ensure that the best choice is made in the local context.

The whole of that process will be integrated into a cross-cutting process of continuous improvement, internal and external control, and moderated sessions aiming at communicating the results and the methods used. In particular, the communication of results will be through UN-REDD Programme support for setting up a database system. If necessary, internal control can also rely on data from spatial-planning inventories that are available, as set out in R-PP.

This component is already partially set out in R-PP, with the activities put forward by R-PP and covering the NFI being reformulated in this proposal.

## *2.-Monitoring Changes in Forest Cover*

In the brief description of Measurement above, the Greenhouse-Gas Inventory relies on Activity Data (AD). Those AD account for anthropic activities that have consequences in terms of variations in carbon stocks or emissions of Greenhouse Gases.

In REDD+, those AD enable qualification of activities as defined in Decision 1/COP.168 (cf. detailed list in the preceding paragraph). The IPCC gives a few tips to know how to approach and define AD: in the first place, the IPCC asks that forests be considered as a class of soil occupation, and – furthermore – the IPCC asks for managed areas to be treated separately, since they are subjected to anthropic activity, from non-managed areas.

Therefore, in seeking out AD, a good indicator seems to be managed forest areas (and non-managed forest areas), as well as deforested areas (coming out of the forest class) and replanted areas (returning to the forest class – boosting forest-carbon stock). Furthermore, anthropic activities may also bring about upward variations in the stock of forest carbon (sustainable management and / or conservation) as well as downward variations (degradation): the areas affected by those activities are also researched.

In the context of this work, the UN-REDD Programme will help the Republic of the Congo to acquire satellite images, and will provide its support to put in place national capabilities for image-processing. That processing will allow an evaluation to be done of the areas researched at various dates, in particular enabling a record to be drawn up of activities covered by REDD+. That process shall be repeated regularly in order to provide details on areas affected by REDD+ activities, following the implementation of REDD+ policies and initiatives. Matrices that cross-reference affected areas by the various activities will be put forward, enabling understanding of which new activities are being implanted in the territory, where, and to the detriment of which activities. After two reiterations of the exercise, the Republic of the Congo will be able to propose a precise

monitoring of a location of activities and of changes in activities across the whole of its national territory, based on multi-date wall-to-wall satellite-image processing.

The UN-REDD Programme will also give its support to continuous improvement of the process (the search for precision) as well as cross-cutting moderation of the process, exchanges of views with other technical groups, defining the choice of methodologies, internal and external checks, and sharing methods used as well as results obtained. That last activity will include, in particular, support for setting up a system for managing and disseminating data.

UN-REDD Programme activities proposed in this component cover certain activities proposed in R-PP. However, the UN-REDD Programme is a very important contributor to this component, and the FAO can in large measure support the country in this activity, in co-ordination with joint financing provided by the FCPF. Activities listed in the R-PP are largely completed in order to respond to the expectations of the Republic of the Congo as regards support, and in order to take into account the FAO's experience in other countries with respect to the same themes, with the Democratic Republic of the Congo coming in first place.

### *3.-Greenhouse-Gas Inventory*

The Greenhouse-Gas Inventory (GHGI) enables expression of the impact of REDD+ activities on the national territory in terms of emissions and absorptions of greenhouse gases expressed in standardised units: "carbon dioxide tonne equivalent" (teCO<sub>2</sub>).

The GHGI must provide a mathematical compilation of the information established by the AD and the EFs. In the context of REDD+, and has been mentioned above, AD express areas (in hectares - ha), whereas EFs express carbon concentrations on unit areas (teCO<sub>2</sub>/ha). By multiplying AD by EFs, we obtain the required result, expressed in teCO<sub>2</sub>. However, the GHGI must carry out this simple operation for all REDD+ activities present on the territory, by taking care to adopt adequate EFs and then giving a summation of those activity results. In order to obtain the most detailed work possible, the AD and the EFs will, in the Republic of the Congo, take the form of types of forest and / or by appropriate geographical entity and / or by anthropic use.

In that context, the UN-REDD Programme will support the Republic of the Congo in acquiring material and capabilities that are needed to carry out the GHGI. The national work unit that will be set up will not only deal with REDD+ activities, and will be responsible for all the national GHGI, in accordance with the guidance given by the government on the subject. The UN-REDD Programme will also provide support in moderating the process and in managing information. That management of information has a great degree of importance, since Reporting (R) and Verification (V), in conjunction with the UNFCCC, are based on available information and that information being compiled as part of the GHGI. The teams in charge of the GHGI will, therefore, also be supported by the UN-REDD Programme to manage that information and to communicate it to the UNFCCC (in the context of reporting) and to independent UNFCCC verifiers (in the context of verification).

The action of the UN-REDD Programme will essentially cover the aspect relating to soil occupation and rural anthropic activities within the GHGI. The GHGI may include other aspects on anthropic activities that are not related to soil use (industries, energy, etc.) It is probable that other partners of the Republic of the Congo may provide various types of support to the unit responsible within the GHGI.

R-PP did not propose important activities covering the GHGI. That lack is palliated by UN-REDD Programme support, as put forward in this document.

#### *4.-National Supervision System*

The Republic of the Congo's desire to take part in REDD+ goes hand-in-hand with constraints formulated by the framework of decisions by the UNFCCC. This is so in particular for Supervision (S). In the context of Supervision, the Republic of the Congo must ensure a transparent process of management and communication covering all information relating to REDD+ activities, in line with national communications that the Republic of the Congo made public in 2001<sup>9</sup> and 2009<sup>10</sup>. That Supervision offers great value that is twofold. In the first place, it enables the preservation of the interests of stakeholders concerned by REDD+ activities and measures undertaken (the private sector, civil society, the population) thanks to knowledge of information, thus avoiding damage to stakeholders' positions (in particular, superposing contradictory rights on a territory), or – to the contrary – that stakeholders may choose a pro-active position. In the second place, it enables optimisation of REDD+ activities and measures by carrying out optimum analysis of the results of REDD+ activities and measures already undertaken and profiting in full from feedback.

A National Supervision System enables that constraint to be filled by processing and making available information that is deemed relevant and that serves to establish AD, EFs, and the GHGI. In part, it is a case of information linked to a precise location (cf. paragraph on AD).

With the support of the UN-REDD Programme, the Republic of the Congo wishes to move forward from the model of an internet portal that brings together and organises all the information considered. It is important for UN-REDD Programme support to enable development and maintenance of the portal, as well as the process of selecting and producing the information to be presented. UN-REDD Programme support will also cover continuous improvement of the supervision portal. R-PP does not cover that activity, so the support request made to the UN-REDD Programme is essential.

#### *5. - Cross-cutting moderation to set up MRV*

In light of the four components set out above, an important need for co-ordination between all the actors involved is felt. The sensitivity of matters dealt with by S and MRV for stakeholders, who will

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<sup>9</sup> <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/natc/connc1.pdf>

<sup>10</sup> <http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/natc/connc2.pdf>



therefore have to be informed and consulted as to the directions adopted, as well as the diversity of actors who need to be co-ordinated, make clear a very strong need for co-ordination. This aspect will include support for consensual adoption of a definition of forest at national level, as the UNFCCC provides.

UN-REDD Programme support will enable full-time mobilisation of an international MRV expert (level P3 officer), based in the Republic of the Congo, in order to co-ordinate planned activities, the work of national institutions, and interventions by external experts, in particular in the context of evaluating and building national capacities.

Furthermore, the UN-REDD Programme will provide significant financial support to hold cross-cutting meetings on S and MRV themes, and for the presence of national and international experts at those meetings. The Republic of the Congo wishes for S and MRV methods and systems to be largely appropriated at national level (across the whole territory) and defined as a result of broad consensus, in order to encourage full participation by stakeholders in those choices. R-PP did not in any case specify a budget that was sufficient for that cross-cutting moderation, and in particular for holding recurring meetings that are important for national appropriate of S and MRV.

#### Conclusion on the five components proposed for S and MRV

The five components detailed above enable complete fulfilment of all obligations and exercises relating to Supervision and to Measurement, Reporting, and Verification, as defined in part 4a.1 above.

**Table 5: Detailed presentation of the activities of Component 4  
to be financed by the UN-REDD Programme (I)**

<b>Component 4: Designing national systems for forest supervision, and Information on guarantees</b>			
<b>Actions</b>	<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>	<b>UN-REDD</b>	
<b>Sub-actions</b>			
<b>National Forest Inventory</b>	604,714	128,368	21%
<b>Finalising development and carrying out the IFN</b>	380,716	45,786	12%
Adapting the methodology applied to take better account of carbon estimates	108,970	37,766	35%
Field manuals - additional content	11,072	8,020	72%
Developing and strengthening abilities as regards carbon and botanical measuring	30,516		
Comparing IFN results with planning inventories	15,258		
Providing / boosting materials for carbon measures	16,300		
Strengthening field inventory networking on the basis of post-stratification	198,600		
<b>Developing and applying a inventory data-processing method for carbon accounting</b>	50,366	23,324	46%
Evaluating the literature on calculating carbon stocks	20,344	10,172	50%
Choosing the most relevant methodology	14,850	7,600	51%
Defining studies that are additional to applying the methodology	10,172	3,052	30%
Determining emission factors / forest carbon stocks	5,000	2,500	50%
Carrying out additional studies	61,032		
<b>Managing and improving the implementation of the IFN</b>	173,632	59,258	34%
Improving the database to manage the information generated	61,032	15,258	25%
Constantly monitoring and improving processes	15,000	10,000	67%
Animating the process	97,600	34,000	35%
Supporting and monitoring IFN activity	-		
Quality assurance / (quality control) support	15,000		
<b>Monitoring changes in the forest cover</b>	660,462	211,692	32%
<b>Developing and carrying out monitoring of changes in the forest cover</b>	486,830	106,660	22%
Evaluating existing data and historical data (images, stratified maps)	61,032	40,688	67%
Evaluating available methodologies	53,024	17,422	33%
Evaluating the abilities in place for the SCCF	15,258	7,639	50%
Evaluating available material	3,052	1,017	33%
Producing additional data	68,232	27,544	40%
Choosing a methodology	8,000	750	9%
Providing / boosting material	11,600	11,600	100%
Acquiring additional data	10,000		
Recruitment / development / reinforcing abilities	61,032		
Carrying out mapping and stratification work for different dates	146,000		
Producing a matrix of changes in soil usage	49,600		
<b>Managing and improving the monitoring of changes in the forest cover</b>	173,632	105,032	60%
Creating a database to manage the information generated	61,032	61,032	100%
On-going monitoring and improvement of processes	15,000	10,000	67%
Animating the process	97,600	34,000	35%
Supporting and monitoring the "Monitoring changes in forest cover" activity	-		
Quality assurance / (quality control)	15,000		

**Table 6: Detailed presentation of the activities of component 4a to be financed by the UN-REDD Programme (II)**

Actions Sub-actions	TOTAL COSTS	UN-REDD	
<b>Greenhouse-Gas Inventory</b>	426,490	30,093	7%
<b>Developing and carrying out the IGES</b>	251,058	30,093	12%
Evaluating on-site abilities	15,258	7,639	50%
Evaluating available material	3,052	610	20%
Evaluating methodological options	30,516	20,344	67%
Choice of methodological options	8,000	1,500	19%
Recruitment / development / reinforcing abilities	61,032		
Providing / boosting material	11,600		
Carrying out the IGES	121,600		
<b>Managing and improving the IGES</b>	175,432	-	0%
Creating a database to manage the information generated	61,032		
Quality assurance / quality controle	7,500		
On-going monitoring and improvement of processes	7,500		
Animating the process	97,600		
Supporting and monitoring the IGES activity	1,800		
<b>National Supervision System</b>	423,060	136,064	32%
<b>Developing and building the National Supervision System</b>	312,978	136,064	43%
Comparing the systems available	91,548	30,516	33%
Defining a list of specifications for the National Supervision System	10,250	4,000	39%
Producing an information-sharing tool	211,180	101,548	48%
<b>Managing, feeding, and improving the National Supervision System</b>	110,082	-	0%
Feeding the National Supervision System	22,250		
Quality assurance / (quality control)	15,000		
Quality assurance / (quality control)	71,032		
Supporting and monitoring the "National Supervision System" activity			
Strengthening the MRV cell	1,800		
<b>Cross-cutting animation to set up the MNV</b>	981,936	424,000	43%
International MNV adviser (UN / P3)	785,236	364,000	46%
Activity co-ordination	96,700	60,000	62%
Supporting and monitoring cross-cutting animation	-		
MN V cell IT material and field material	50,000		
MNV cell vehicle	50,000		
	<b>3,096,661</b>	<b>930,218</b>	<b>30%</b>

#### ***4b. Information system for multiple benefits, other impacts, governance, and safeguarding measures***

##### Towards a system of information and monitoring relating to other benefits and impacts of the Republic of the Congo

Beyond monitoring emissions and removal of carbon and other greenhouse gases described in the previous chapter, other elements and aspects of implementing REDD+ require the setting up of an efficient, effective, and transparent information and monitoring system at national level. In addition to forest carbon, the Congolese global REDD+ monitoring system will, in the long term, include the following:

- monitoring the impact of implementing the national REDD+ strategy on the environment and on the social setting, linked to the execution of work on social and environmental safeguards (SESA, SEPC, cf. component 2d);
- monitoring governance of REDD+ implementation at national level, in particular the functioning of national arrangements described in component 1a and the implementation framework described in component 2c;
- monitoring changes in the principal underlying factors of deforestation and of forest degradation that have been identified in component 2a and used to adjust the Congo's historic reference scenario.

To the extent possible, the system of monitoring other REDD+ benefits and impacts will rely on existing environmental and socio-economic systems (notably VPA-FLEGT for forest governance, and the existing regulatory framework of environmental- and social-impact studies).

##### Focus of UN-REDD Programme support on the system of information and monitoring relating to other benefits and impacts

FCPF financing have not planned for any specific activity in this component. Their support for SESA should nevertheless provide significant contributions to the system of information and monitoring relating to other benefits and impacts. UN-REDD Programme financing on this component 4b will serve for following interventions.

- ***Inventory and analysis of other REDD+ benefits and impacts.*** The Republic of the Congo lacks knowledge of the other potential benefits and impacts of REDD+ activities, setting aside particular aspects like impacts on biodiversity in forest exploitations, in particular with research work on the rates of reconstitution of exploited species. The implications of REDD+ activities (or of activities that REDD+ aims at reducing or transforming) on other environmental goods and services (maintenance of soils and of fertility; water services; non-timber forest products; etc.) and on social aspects (revenue; gender; health; etc.) are poorly known. UN-REDD Programme

financing will enable work to be to evaluate and to carry out economic promotion of these other benefits and impacts, and in certain cases, mapping work that will be integrated into the national supervision and monitoring system.

- **National capacity building in respect of monitoring the other benefits and impacts of governance.** UN-REDD Programme financing will, firstly, enable the recruitment of a national expert on the social and environmental risks and benefits of REDD+. That person will be based at REDD+ National Co-ordination, and will be tasked with moderating the work relating to that theme. The work will include the development of national safeguards, gathering information on the multiple benefits of REDD+, and creating a work committee (or task force) on the socio-environmental risks and benefits of REDD+ (steering and monitoring role) as well as an independent REDD+ Observatory (autonomous verification and supervision role). Support will be provided to implementation and to the work of that steering committee (task force) on socio-environmental risks and benefits: this will be a structure made up of administrative managers, representatives of civil society as well as of indigenous people and of the private sector, in addition to specialists. It will set the broad outlines of social and environmental safeguards for REDD+. R-PP mentions the role of the *Agence nationale de l'Environnement* (National Environmental Agency) in respect of this type of question, but given that the agency does not yet exist and that setting it up would call for significant financial and human resources that this programme cannot provide, the UN-REDD Programme proposal opts for supporting a lighter structure. Particular attention will be brought to bear in order to avoid duplicating REDD+ monitoring structures. The precise attributes of the Observatory will be defined at a more advanced stage of maturation in the REDD+ process.
- **Consolidating the global REDD+ monitoring system.** Work to integrate the various monitoring systems will be needed: monitoring REDD+ projects and initiatives (registry); monitoring impacts on forest cover and on carbon (national Supervision system and MRV); monitoring the application of safeguards (Environmental and Social Management Framework of the SESA, incorporating a series of indicators that enable the verification of compliance with national principles and criteria, on the model of the UN-REDD Programme's model of social and environmental principles and criteria); monitoring other benefits and impacts (national supervision system). The national supervision system will be the entry point for the overall monitoring system, incorporated into or connected to other dimensions of REDD+ monitoring (notably the national registry), in the form of a public-access internet portal.

**Component 5: Integrated activity plan and budget of the REDD+ process and of UN-REDD Programme support**

The integrated matrix of activities and the budget given below is the result of planning work by the UN-REDD Programme team and REDD National Co-ordination, refined and validated in the course of the 3<sup>rd</sup> joint UN-REDD Programme / FCPC / EFI / EU-REDD mission in January 2012. It is based on R-PP and updated, showing components and sub-components, areas of intervention and activities planned, with budgetary specification by activity and the financial responsibilities of each stakeholder, as well as co-financing that has been ring-fenced and co-financing that is required. This matrix henceforth represents the principal REDD+ planning and management tool for the country.

Components, areas of intervention and principal activities		Budget								Period			
		Rep. of the Congo	FCPF	UN-REDD				Co-financing		Grand Total	2012	2013	2014
				FAO	UNDP	UNEP	Total	Secured	To be found				
<b>1. ORGANIZATION AND CONSULTATION</b>		<b>365,000</b>	<b>2,095,000</b>	<b>50,000</b>	<b>801,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>861,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,321,000</b>			
<b>1a) National arrangement for preparation management</b>													
Support for REDD National Co-ordination (CN-REDD)	CN-REDD staff (national co-ordinator, heads of units and specialists)		625,000							625,000	x	x	x
	Chief technical advisor (int'l) to CN-REDD (roles: management, strategic advice, and financial mobilisation)				400,000		400,000			400,000	x	x	x
	Costs of CN-REDD support staff		45,000							45,000	x	x	x
	CN-REDD mission costs in the country and abroad (training, management, support in negotiations)		95,000	50,000	50,000		100,000			195,000	x	x	x
	CN-REDD running costs (materiel, communications, vehicle, office rental, etc.)	135,000	300,000							435,000	x	x	x
	Consultants and research departments for financial management		150,000							150,000	x	x	x
	Recruitment of an independent agency for audits		150,000							150,000			
	Organising technical meetings		25,000		10,000		10,000			35,000		x	x
Support for CONA-REDD+ and institutions	Research department to develop and implement a capacity-building programme for CONA-REDD+, decentralised REDD+ units, and CN-REDD		175,000							175,000			
	CONA-REDD meetings and functioning				10,000		10,000			10,000		x	x
Support for	Recruitment of 3 heads of decentralised REDD+ units and 3				135,000		135,000			135,000	x	x	x

Components, areas of intervention and principal activities		Budget								Period			
		Rep. of the Congo	FCPF	UN-REDD				Co-financing		Grand Total	2012	2013	2014
				FAO	UNDP	UNEP	Total	Secured	To be found				
REDD+ decentralisation (3 <i>département</i> units)	assistants												
	Decentralised units - equipment and running expenses				21,000		21,000			21,000	x	x	x
<b>1b) Consultation and participation</b>													
Support for the CN-REDD unit in charge of Information, Education, and Communication (IEC)	Design of communication and awareness-raising material				15,000	10,000	25,000			25,000	x	x	
	Production of tools for communication and awareness-raising				35,000		35,000			35,000	x	x	x
	Broadcasts on existing community radio stations (to be carried out by the <i>Département</i> Committees) and cultural events (sketches, theatre plays, music recitals)				25,000		25,000			25,000	x	x	x
	Awareness-raising and consultation campaigns (NGO subcontracting)		300,000							300,000			
	Logistics support for the IEC unit	230,000								230,000			
Decentralised dialogue	Support for the creation and meetings of the <i>département</i> platforms				50,000		50,000			50,000		x	x
	Training of REDD+ moderators (both at the <i>département</i> platforms and local levels)				30,000		30,000			30,000	x	x	
Technical consultations	Organising <i>département</i> workshops and a national workshop to validate the national strategy (2a)		45,000							45,000			
	Organising consultation workshops on the reference level and MRV (components 3 and 4)		50,000							50,000			
	Organising the national SESA workshop		25,000							25,000			
	Organising consultation workshops (according to the needs of the REDD+ process)		110,000		20,000		20,000			130,000	x	x	x
<b>2. PREPARATION OF THE REDD+ STRATEGY</b>		<b>90,000</b>	<b>1,135,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>743,568</b>	<b>515,000</b>	<b>1,258,568</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7,500,000</b>	<b>9,983,568</b>			
<b>2a) Evaluating land use, forest policy, and governance</b>													
Analysing the situation and building consensus on	Analysis study carried out on the spatialisation and weighting of the causes of deforestation and forest degradation		250,000							250,000			



Components, areas of intervention and principal activities		Budget								Period				
		Rep. of the Congo	FCPF	UN-REDD				Co-financing		Grand Total	2012	2013	2014	
				FAO	UNDP	UNEP	Total	Secured	To be found					
the causes and drivers of deforestation and forest degradation	Collection of documentation for the analysis	40,000												
	Analysis of the situation with regard to governance for REDD+ (e.g. study of the political economy of REDD+; participatory analysis of REDD+ governance)				20,000		20,000					x		
<b>2b) REDD+ strategic options</b>														
Analysis of strategic options	Prospective study of the potential of REDD+ and analysis of long-term scenarios (2025-2050) (economic potential beyond the potential for emission reduction)					200,000	200,000					x	x	
	Recruiting consultants/research departments to carry out in-depth analyses (costs, benefits, political feasibility, sustainability, risks of leakage) of the REDD+ strategic options proposed in the R-PP		310,000											
	Themed and sector-based meetings and consultations				38,568		38,568						x	x
Finalising strategy and planning for investments	Consolidating the national REDD+ strategy				15,000		15,000						x	
	High-level expert mission to align strategic elements and extending political orientations				50,000	50,000	100,000						x	
	Preparing plans and transformative investment programmes based on the strategic options (launch of REDD+ phase II)					200,000	200,000					x	x	
Support for the experimentation processes	Support and technical advice on the development of REDD+ pilot projects and initiatives (link to database for REDD+ pilot projects and pilot project guide).				70,000		70,000					x	x	x
	Programme of small grants to test REDD+ (competitive mechanism with a community component and a small businesses component)				300,000	30,000	330,000					x	x	x
	Review of the results of experience from the pilot projects and other initiatives in relation to REDD+ strategic options				20,000		20,000							x
	Vehicle & maintenance (monitoring pilot projects, activity unit)	50,000												
	Funding for the delivery of pilot projects								7,500,000	7,500,000				
<b>2c) REDD+ Implementation framework</b>														



Components, areas of intervention and principal activities		Budget									Period		
		Rep. of the Congo	FCPF	UN-REDD				Co-financing		Grand Total	2012	2013	2014
				FAO	UNDP	UNEP	Total	Secured	To be found				
National Forestry Inventory (NFI)	Finalise development and carry out the NFI, including methodological harmonisation			45,786			45,786	21,760	313,170	380,716			
	Develop and apply a method of processing inventory data for carbon accounting purposes			23,324			23,324	26,850	61,224	111,398			
	Manage and improve the delivery of NFI			59,258			59,258	15,000	114,374	188,632			
Monitoring changes in the forest cover	Develop & conduct the monitoring of changes in forest cover			106,660			106,660	62,525	317,644	486,830			
	Manage and improve the conduct of monitoring changes in forest cover			105,032			105,032	3,875	79,725	188,632			
GHGI	Develop and perform the GHGI			30,093			30,093	34,900	186,064	251,058			
	Manage and improve the GHGI							3,875	171,557	175,432			
National Supervision System	Develop and establish the National Supervision System			136,064			136,064	21,400	155,514	312,978			
	Manage, supply & improve the National Supervision System							3,150	106,932	110,082			
	Build capacities for the MRV unit									0			
Cross-cutting moderation to implement MRV	International MRV advisor			364,000			364,000	0	221,121	585,121			
	Co-ordination of activities			60,000			60,000	2,425	34,275	96,700			
	IT and field material for the MRV unit	50,000								50,000			
	Vehicle for the CN-REDD MRV unit	50,000								50,000			
<b>(4b) Information system on multiple benefits, other impacts, governance, and safeguards</b>													
Designing the system of information and monitoring relating to benefits and impacts	Quantifying, spatialising, and evaluating the multiple benefits of REDD+					150,000	150,000			150,000	x	x	
	National specialist on risks and multiple benefits (components 2b investments, 2d, and 4b)					90,000	90,000			90,000	x	x	x
	Consolidating the overall REDD+ monitoring system (integrating various monitoring systems: safeguards, carbon, multiple benefits, governance, implementation / registry)					50,000	50,000			50,000		x	x
Institutional strengthening	Task force on monitoring social and environmental risks and benefits	10,000				50,000	50,000			60,000			x
	Support for the independent REDD+ Observatory, in order to ensure independent and participatory verification of the	10,000				50,000	50,000			60,000		x	x

Components, areas of intervention and principal activities	Budget									Period		
	Rep. of the Congo	FCPF	UN-REDD				Co-financing		Grand Total	2012	2013	2014
			FAO	UNDP	UNEP	Total	Secured	To be found				
monitoring system												
<b>UN-REDD Programme budget compilation</b>												
Component 1 ( 1a / 1b )			50,000	801,000	10,000	861,000				x	x	x
Component 2 ( 2a / 2b / 2c / 2d )			0	743,568	515,000	1,258,568				x	x	x
Component 3			298,532	0	0	298,532				x	x	x
Component 4 ( 4° / 4b )			930,218	150,000	240,000	1,320,218				x	x	x
Implementation - total			1,278,750	1,694,568	765,000	3,738,318				x	x	x
UN-REDD Programme Indirect implementation costs (7%)			89,512	118,620	53,550	261,682				x	x	x
<b>Total UN-REDD</b>			<b>1,368,262</b>	<b>1,813,188</b>	<b>818,550</b>	<b>4,000,000</b>				x	x	x
<b>Total budget compilation</b>												
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>600,000</b>	<b>3,400,000</b>	<b>1,368,262</b>	<b>1,813,188</b>	<b>818,550</b>	<b>4,000,000</b>	<b>195,760</b>	<b>9,458,486</b>	<b>17,654,246</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>x</b>

It should be emphasised that the total budget for preparing for REDD+ is currently US\$ 17 654 246, with the budget for preparing for R-PP standing at US\$ 15 500 000. The difference is due to additional needs identified during the analysis exercise carried out by the UN-REDD Programme team. In any case, joint financing by the Government (US \$ 600 000), the FCPF (US \$ 3 400 000), and the UN-REDD Programme (US \$ 4 000 000, if it is approved by the Guidance Council in March 2012), brings total financing of contributions identified to US\$ 8 000 000, which is reassuring in respect of making progress in a high-quality REDD+ process. In order to complete preparation for REDD+, co-financing will be necessary, in particular for pilot projects, for complete REDD+ decentralisation, and for the complete construction and sustainability of the MRV system.

**Component 6: Programme monitoring and evaluation framework**

Results expected	Indicators (with reference point and indicative period)	Means of verification	Methods of information	Responsibilities	Risks (R) and Hypotheses (H)
<p><b>I. - The national REDD+ process is well management and fully participatory.</b></p> <p><b>[COMPONENT 1]</b></p> <p>The central organs of REDD+ are in place (CN-REDD, CONA-REDD+, and structures for participation by civil society, the private sector, and indigenous peoples), operational, and able to respond to their respective lists of specifications.</p> <p>REDD+ decentralisation structures are operational</p> <p>An Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) system is functional and has wide coverage</p>	<p>The list of specifications, institutional anchoring, and operational budgets of the central and decentralised organs of management and consultation on REDD+ are adopted (December 2012).</p> <p>REDD+ management and consultation organs take measures and actions that correspond to their list of specifications, within appropriate time limits (December 2013).</p>	<p>REDD+ organ list of specifications.</p> <p>Legal texts that cover institutional arrangements.</p> <p>Reports on activities and minutes of meetings held by CN-REDD and by other REDD+ organ.</p> <p>Reports on IEC activities, including meetings as well as training and consultation events.</p>	<p>Review of legal documents</p> <p>Review of REDD+ process management and working documents: reports submitted to CN-REDD, UN-REDD annual and half-yearly reports, activity round-ups, minutes of meetings, correspondence exchanged with organs and overseas.</p> <p>Joint UN-REDD Programme / FCPF missions</p> <p>Evaluation of knowledge of populations targeted by decentralised organs</p>	<p>CN-REDD</p> <p>Organizations of civil society and of indigenous peoples</p> <p>Private sector</p> <p>Government</p> <p>UN-REDD Programme agencies: UNDP, UNEP</p>	<p>Attributing a high level of commitment and independence to REDD+ management structures. (H)</p> <p>REDD+ management structures and stakeholder-commitment structures are strengthened. (H)</p> <p>REDD+ management structures cannot take legal decisions for lack of an adequate legal framework. (R)</p> <p>Weakness of national stakeholders (in particular organizations of civil society) in relation to supporting high-quality dialogue and a process of deliberation. (R)</p> <p>Institutional fraud and corruption, which can stop the REDD+ process from gaining credibility and attracting co-financing. (R)</p>

Results expected	Indicators (with reference point and indicative period)	Means of verification	Methods of information	Responsibilities	Risks (R) and Hypotheses (H)
<p><b>II.- The country is ready to implement REDD+ structural and investment reforms, with safeguards being taken into account</b></p> <p><b>[COMPONENTS 2 &amp; 3]</b></p> <p>Adopting a national REDD+ strategy that is prepared on the basis of high-quality analyses and participatory consultations</p> <p>The social and environmental dimensions, risks, and safeguards of REDD+ are thoroughly analysed and defined in a participatory manner</p> <p>A system of leading and monitoring REDD+ pilot projects and experiments is functional</p> <p>The Congo has a preliminary reference accepted by the international community</p>	<p>A national strategy adopted in a consensual manner and a credible multi-sector investment plan for REDD+ Phase 2 are available (December 2014)</p> <p>A consensual preliminary reference level is in place (May 2014)</p>	<p>Document on the national strategy and account of its preparation.</p> <p>Minutes and attendance sheet of discussions, negotiations, meetings, and other varied consultations on the national strategy</p> <p>Reports on institutional arrangements for the REDD+ implementation framework</p> <p>Communicating the reference level</p> <p>Report on drafting the reference level</p>	<p>Analysis of the national strategy document and of work reports</p> <p>Analysis of institutional arrangements and of explanatory documents</p> <p>International acceptance of the preliminary reference level</p> <p>Analysis of the process of building the reference scenario</p>	<p>National REDD+ actors: CN-REDD, civil society, indigenous peoples, private sector, government, international funding providers</p> <p>UN-REDD Programme agencies: FAO, UNDP, and UNEP</p>	<p>Weak dialogue and lack of agreement between stakeholders in relation to the causes and factors of deforestation and of forest degradation, and their respective significance (H)</p> <p>Adequate, shared understanding of the REDD+ attenuation mechanism, as well as of the attribution of responsibilities between stakeholders (H)</p> <p>Technical weakness on the part of national, <i>département</i>, and non-governmental stakeholders, as well as a lack of dialogue between them regarding REDD+ (R)</p> <p>REDD+ activities in the field do not receive financing or have implementation problems, bringing into question the viability of REDD+ at local level (R)</p>
<p><b>III.- A global REDD+ information and monitoring system is functional</b></p>	<p>Satellite monitoring of forest cover is operational (May 2013).</p>	<p>Forest supervision system accessible to all stakeholders</p>	<p>Analysis of the supervision system and analysis of the national appropriation</p>	<p>REDD+ national technical actors: CN-REDD,</p>	<p>Wide-ranging international consultation on the methods used, and verification that those methods are compliant</p>

Results expected	Indicators (with reference point and indicative period)	Means of verification	Methods of information	Responsibilities	Risks (R) and Hypotheses (H)
<p><b>[COMPONENT 4]</b></p> <p>➤ National capabilities for the MRV system created and strengthened</p> <p>Agreement between stakeholders to monitor REDD+ benefits and risks (in particular as regards social, environmental, and governance aspects)</p>	<p>An information system on the multiple risks and benefits of REDD+ is developed in a participatory manner (December 2013) and brought into operation (June 2014).</p>	<p>Forest Emissions Factors made available, thus enabling the National Greenhouse-Gas Inventory on the UTCAF sector</p> <p>Availability of a matrix of historic changes in soil usage, activity data enabling the National Greenhouse-Gas Inventory on the UTCAF sector</p> <p>System accessible and public consultation possible</p>	<p>of the supervision system</p> <p>International acceptance of Emissions Factors, in particular by UNFCCC verification</p> <p>International acceptance of activity data, in particular by UNFCCC verification</p> <p>Analysis of the system available and of the possibility for national REDD+ actors to use it and to have their complaints examined</p>	<p>CNIAF</p> <p>Non-governmental stakeholders: civil society, the private sector, indigenous peoples</p> <p>UN-REDD Programme agencies: FAO, UNDP, and UNEP</p>	<p>with UNFCCC obligations (H)</p> <p>Current levels of understanding, and needs in terms of strengthening capabilities, mean that there exist certain inherent risks of not being able to meet the requirements imposed by the UNFCCC (R)</p> <p>National capability is formed, but is not completely autonomous (R)</p> <p>The principal stakeholders in the process disagree on REDD+ risks and the scope of those risks (R)</p>

**D. Annexes**

***Annexe 1a: Final communiqué from the participatory workshop on REDD+ (text)***

--- The original text with the signatures is to be found at Annexe 1b ---

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**FINAL COMMUNIQUÉ FROM THE PARTICIPATORY WORKSHOP OF EXCHANGES RELATING TO  
REDD+,  
THE EVALUATION OF THE UN-REDD PROPOSITION,  
AND THE ADOPTION OF THE CIVIL SOCIETY CONSULTATION DIALOGUE IN RESPECT OF REDD+**

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*Republic of the Congo*

**Description of the workshop and its work**

A total of 104 representatives from the public sector, civil society, the indigenous peoples, and the private sector of the Republic of the Congo met on 25 January 2012 in Brazzaville, from 09.00 to 19.00 hours, in the conference hall of the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Forestry Economy, and Environment, in order to exchange views on the REDD+ process, and in particular with the aim of evaluating the UN-REDD proposal before its submission to the international UN-REDD Secretariat, and to progress the exchanges of information with regard to a framework for co-ordination between the organizations of civil society and indigenous peoples with regard to REDD+. Of the participants, 85 were men and 19 women, as well as 27 delegates who had come from the interior of the country, with a predominance of representatives from civil society and the indigenous peoples. The participatory workshop also welcomed the joint mission from the FCPF, UN-REDD and EU-REDD programmes, as well as the regional counsellor for forests and climate of the Norwegian Government and two observers from international NGO's

The workshop was opened by the national Co-ordinator of REDD+, on behalf of His Excellency the Minister, Mr Henri DJOMBO, who had already received the joint mission on Monday 23 January 2012 and had voiced his encouragement for the work of the workshop. The workshop was moderated by the national REDD+ Co-ordinator jointly with the members of the Interim Commission from civil society for REDD+. A secretariat was in place to carry out the editing of the conclusions from the workshop.

The participants benefited from a series of informative presentations from the Government, the REDD+ Interim Commission, the joint mission, and the counsellor from Norway, on the following topics: The state of the REDD+ process; the priority activities for initiating FCPF support; presentation of the UN-REDD proposal; introduction to the commitment of the EU-



REDD initiative; options for the structuring of the organizations of civil society and the indigenous peoples; and the international context of support for REDD+ in the Congo Basin. Questions were then asked and the following working groups (GT) were constituted:

- GT-1. Structuring of civil society and organizations of indigenous peoples.
- GT-2. Content of the UN-REDD proposal for the Republic of the Congo and decentralized management of REDD+ and of REDD+ pilot projects.
- GT-3. Social and environmental safeguards.

### **General aspects**

The working groups and the plenary session deliberations focused on the following comments and propositions:

- It was determined that there was a readiness to adapt the international frames of reference for the safeguards (SESA of the FCPF, SEPC of the UN-REDD, etc.) to the national context (process of national safeguards and standards specific to the Republic of the Congo) with a programme of experimentation.
- It was proposed that a committee be set up to monitor the social and environmental risks and benefits of REDD+, with a consultative role (a preliminary *E-mail* list was prepared for this purpose during the workshop).
- The need to have the principal informative documents relating to REDD+ translated into the local languages in order to ensure understanding at the grass-roots level.
- The objectives of the REDD+ process and its management structures must be taken into account in the legal texts.
- Proposal to carry out awareness-raising campaign with regard to the REDD+ process in scholastic establishments and among less advantaged groups, in local languages.

### **Resolutions**

#### *1. In respect of the UN-REDD engagement:*

The assembly of the workshop adopted the UN-REDD proposal with regard to the Republic of the Congo and requested the Government and the United Nations to proceed to its official submission.

#### *2. In respect of the framework for consultation between civil society and indigenous peoples with regard to REDD+:*

In plenary session, the workshop adopted the new *Consultation Framework for Congo civil society organization sand indigenous people for REDD+ (CACO-REDD+)*, which henceforth will bring together the actors in civil society and the indigenous peoples concerned with regard to the REDD+ process.

The CACO-REDD+ rests on two pillars: One is formed by the organizations of civil society, and one by the indigenous peoples. An annual joint gathering will serve to exchange ideas and experiences, as well as to elect the members of the respective steering committees of each pillar. The steering committees will be composed of 13 members for the civil society pillar, and 7 members for the indigenous peoples, with a minimum of 25% of women, elected for a period of 3 years. The steering committees will elect a president and a secretary, and will meet about 6 times a year or more if necessary. The steering committees will also have a network of focal points for each department concerned, who will be able to participate in the meetings of their respective steering committee.

In addition to this, a joint steering committee of the CACO-REDD+ (20 members) will meet as the need arises, in order to provide a robust balance for the national REDD+ process and for the CN-REDD+. It will be possible to establish similar committees at the departmental level, based on motivation and needs. The steering committees will set up working groups to consider specific questions or topics, ideally with a mixed composition; i.e. they will comprise members from civil society and from the indigenous peoples.

The provisional charter for this consultation framework, which was drawn up on the occasion of the workshop, will be finalized in accordance with the considerations set forth above before the end of January 2012. The CACO-REDD+ will then replace the Interim REDD+ Commission of civil society and indigenous peoples.

**This Communiqué was adopted in Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo, 25 January 2012, at 19.00 hours.**

*Committee of the Workshop:*

Ms. Yves Angèle TSAKALA-MATSANGA, Secretariat of the Workshop [signature]

Mr. MAJEP-OBAMA, Secretariat of the Workshop [signature]

Ms. Gaëlle MATSOUMBOU KIOUNDA, Secretariat of the Workshop [signature]

Mr. Georges BOUDZANGA, National REDD+ Co-ordinator [signature]

Ms. Berthe BAYEKOLA, REDD+ Interim Commission, civil society [signature]

--- The list of participants, duly signed, is appended to this final Communiqué ---

## DESCRIPTION AND PROGRAMME OF THE PARTICIPATORY WORKSHOP RELATING TO REDD+

--- 25 January 2012 ---

**Context:** The REDD+ process in the Republic of the Congo embarked on a new stage in 2012, with the commencement of the FCPF activities, the submission of a proposal for technical and financial support to the UN-REDD Programme, and the engagement of the EU REDD+ Facility. This justifies the conducting of a participatory workshop aimed at the exchange of information, planning, and organization in relation to the REDD+ process.

**Objectives:** (i) To keep the stakeholders informed and provide exchanges with regard to the status of the REDD+ process; (ii) to present and discuss the UN-REDD proposal for the country, based on the R-PP; and (iii) to discuss and agree on an organizational framework for civil society and indigenous peoples with regard to the REDD+ process.

**Participants:** Some 90 persons, among them at least 26 representatives from the interior of the country (who will be financed by the UN-REDD Programme). The considered participants include the national REDD+ team (CN-REDD and CI-REDD), executives from the MDDEFE and the forestry and environment administration, representatives of the departmental councils, organizations from civil society, representatives of the indigenous populations, focal points and executives from the Ministries involved in the REDD+ process, representatives from the private sector, journalists, professionals from the development sector, representatives from the international development partners, and members of the joint FCPF, UN-REDD and EU-REDD mission.

**Venue:** Conference Hall, Ministry of Sustainable Development, Forestry Economy, and Environment (MDDEFE).

### Final Programme:

	Activities
09:00 h.	<b>SESSION I. OPENING AND ORGANIZATIONAL REMARKS</b> Opening of the Workshop – Mr. Georges Boundzanga (National REDD+ Co-ordinator) on behalf of the Honourable Minister, Mr. Henri Djombo Establishment of the Secretariat of the Workshop Workshop organizational remarks – Mr. Josep Garí (UN-REDD)
09:30 h.	<b>SESSION II. INFORMATION AND EXCHANGES IN PLENARY SESSION</b> Status of the REDD+ process – Mr. Georges Boundzanga (CN-REDD) Commencement of FCPF support: Priority activities – Mr. André Aquino (FCPF) Presentation of the UN-REDD proposal – Mr. Thomas Sembres (UN-REDD) Engagement of the EU REDD+ Facility – Mr. Christophe Van Orshoven (EIF) Advancements in the structuring of civil society and organizations of indigenous peoples with regard to REDD+ – Representatives of the CI-REDD and civil society The international context of support for REDD+ in the Congo Basin – Mr. Jostein Lindland (Norwegian Ambassador in Lusaka) Questions & open discussion
11:00 h.	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:30 h.	<b>SESSION III. WORKING GROUPS (GT)</b> GT-1: Structuring of civil society and or organizations of indigenous peoples GT-2: Contents of the UN-REDD proposal for the Republic of the Congo & aspects of decentralized management of REDD+ GT-3: Social and environmental safeguards
13:00 h.	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 h.	<b>SESSION IV. DISCUSSION IN PLENARY SESSION AND CONCLUSIONS</b> Presentation of the results from the working groups Discussion in plenary session Summary and agreements from the workshop Reading of the final Communiqué from the workshop and adoption
17:00 h.	Closing addresses

**Annexe 1b: Final communiqué from the participatory workshop on REDD+ (original & signatures)**

**COMMUNIQUÉ FINAL DE L'ATELIER PARTICIPATIF D'ÉCHANGES SUR LA REDD+,  
D'ÉVALUATION DE LA PROPOSITION ONU-REDD,  
ET D'ADOPTION DU CADRE DE CONCERTATION DE LA SOCIÉTÉ CIVILE POUR LA REDD+**

*République du Congo*

**Description de l'atelier et de ses travaux**

Un total de 104 représentants du secteur public, de la société civile, des peuples autochtones et du secteur privé de la République du Congo se sont réunis le 25 janvier 2012, à Brazzaville, de 9 h à 19 h, dans la salle de conférences du Ministère du Développement Durable, de l'Économie Forestière et de l'Environnement, afin d'échanger sur le processus REDD+, notamment avec les objectifs d'évaluer la proposition ONU-REDD avant sa soumission au Secrétariat international ONU-REDD et d'avancer les échanges pour un cadre organisationnel de la société civile et des peuples autochtones pour la REDD+. Parmi les participants on a compté 85 hommes et 19 femmes, ainsi que 27 délégués venus de l'intérieur du pays avec une prédominance de représentants de la société civile et des peuples autochtones. En plus, l'atelier participatif a accueilli la mission conjointe des programmes PCFP, ONU-REDD et UE-REDD, ainsi que le Conseiller régional forêt et climat du Gouvernement de la Norvège et deux observateurs d'ONG internationales.

L'atelier a été ouvert par le Coordonnateur national de la REDD+, au nom de Son Excellence M. le Ministre Henri DJOMBO, qui avait déjà reçu la mission conjointe le lundi 23 janvier 2012 et donné ses encouragements pour les travaux de l'atelier. L'atelier a été modéré par le Coordonnateur national REDD+ en concertation avec les membres de la Commission Intérimaire de la société civile pour la REDD+. Un Secrétariat a été mis en place pour la rédaction des conclusions de l'atelier.

Les participants ont bénéficié d'une série de présentations informatives du Gouvernement, de la Commission Intérimaire REDD+, de la mission conjointe et du Conseiller de la Norvège, sur les thèmes suivants : état du processus REDD+ ; activités prioritaires du démarrage de l'appui PCFP ; présentation de la proposition ONU-REDD ; introduction à l'engagement de l'initiative UE-REDD ; options de structuration des organisations de la société civile et des peuples autochtones ; et contexte international d'appui à la REDD+ dans le Bassin du Congo. Des questions ont ensuite été posées et les groupes de travail (GT) suivants ont été constitués :

GT-1. Structuration de la société civile et des organisations des peuples autochtones.  
GT-2. Contenu de la proposition ONU-REDD de la République du Congo & gestion décentralisée de la REDD+ et des projets pilotes REDD+.  
GT-3. Sauvegardes sociales et environnementales.

Communiqué final de l'atelier participatif REDD+ | Brazzaville | 25/1/2012

**Commentaires généraux**

Les groupes de travail et les délibérations en plénière ont porté sur les commentaires et propositions suivants :

- On constate une volonté d'adapter les cadres de référence internationaux sur les mesures de sauvegarde (EISS du PCFP, SEPC de l'ONU-REDD, etc.) au contexte national (processus de sauvegardes et standards nationaux propres à la République du Congo) avec un travail d'expérimentation.
- On propose de mettre en place un comité de suivi des risques et bénéfices sociaux et environnementaux de la REDD+, avec un rôle consultatif (une liste email préliminaire a été constituée lors de l'atelier à cet effet).
- Besoin de traduire les documents informatifs principaux de la REDD+ dans les langues locales afin d'assurer une compréhension à la base.
- Les objectifs du processus REDD+ et ses structures de gestion doivent être pris en compte dans les textes de loi.
- Proposition de réaliser une campagne de sensibilisation du processus REDD+ dans les établissements scolaires et parmi les groupes défavorisés, en langues locales.

**Résolutions**

1. *A propos de l'engagement ONU-REDD :*

L'assemblée de l'atelier a adopté la proposition ONU-REDD de la République du Congo et demande au Gouvernement et aux Nations unies de procéder à sa soumission officielle.

2. *A propos du Cadre de Concertation de la société civile et des peuples autochtones pour la REDD+ :*

L'atelier en plénière a adopté le nouveau *Cadre de Concertation des organisations de la société civile congolaise et des peuples autochtones sur la REDD+ (CACO-REDD+)*, qui rassemble désormais les acteurs de la société civile et des peuples autochtones concernés par le processus REDD+.

Le CACO-REDD+ repose sur deux piliers : un pilier des organisations de la société civile et un pilier des peuples autochtones. Une assemblée conjointe annuelle servira pour échanger idées et expériences, ainsi que pour être les membres des comités de pilotage respectifs de chaque pilier. Les comités de pilotage seront composés de 13 membres pour le pilier société civile et de 7 membres pour le

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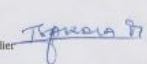
pilier peuples autochtones, avec un minimum de 25% de femmes, élus pour un période de 3 ans. Les comités de pilotage éliront un/e président/e et un/e secrétaire, et se réuniront environ 6 fois par an ou plus si nécessaire. Les comités de pilotage auront aussi un réseau de points focaux pour chaque département intéressé, qui pourront participer aux réunions de leur comité de pilotage respectif.

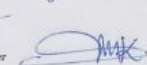
En plus, un comité de pilotage conjoint de la CACO-REDD+ (20 membres) se réunira selon les besoins, afin de fournir une contrepartie solide au processus REDD+ national et à la CN-REDD+. Au niveau départemental on pourra établir des comités analogues en fonction des motivations et des besoins. Les comités de pilotage mettront en place des groupes de travail pour réfléchir sur des questions ou thématiques spécifiques, idéalement avec une composition mixte, c'est-à-dire comprenant à la fois des membres de la société civile et des peuples autochtones.

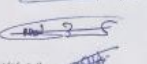
La charte provisoire de ce Cadre de Concertation, qui a été élaborée lors de l'atelier, sera finalisée selon les orientations agréées ci-dessus avant la fin janvier 2012. Ensuite le CACO-REDD+ remplacera la Commission Intérimaire REDD+ de la société civile et des peuples autochtones.

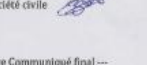
**Ce communiqué est adopté à Brazzaville, République du Congo, le 25 janvier 2012, à 19 h.**

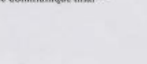
*Comité de l'atelier :*

Mme. Yves Angèle TSAKALA-MATSANGA, Secrétaire de l'Atelier 

M. MAJEP-OBAMA, Secrétaire de l'Atelier 

Mme. Gaëlle MATSOUNBOU KIOUNDA, Secrétaire de l'Atelier 

M. Georges ROUDZANGA, Coordonnateur national REDD+ 

Mme. Berthe BAYEKOLA, Commission Intérimaire REDD+ Société civile 

-- La liste des participants, dûment signée, est attachée à ce Communiqué final --

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**DESCRIPTION ET PROGRAMME DE L'ATELIER PARTICIPATIF SUR LA REDD+  
--- 25 janvier 2012 ---**

**Contexte:** Le processus REDD+ en la République du Congo entame en 2012 une nouvelle étape, avec le début des activités PCFP, la soumission d'une proposition d'appui technique et financier au Programme ONU-REDD et l'engagement de la société civile et des peuples autochtones pour le processus REDD+.

**Objectifs:** (i) Informer les parties prenantes et échanger sur l'état du processus REDD+; (ii) présenter et discuter la proposition ONU-REDD du pays, basée sur le R-PP; et (iii) discuter et agréer sur un cadre organisationnel de la société civile et des peuples autochtones pour le processus REDD+.

**Participants:** Autour de 90 personnes, y compris au moins 25 représentants de l'intérieur du pays (qui seront financés par le Programme ONU-REDD). Les participants prévus incluent l'équipe nationale REDD+ (CN-REDD et CI-REDD), des cadres du MDDEF et de l'Administration forestière et de l'environnement, représentants des conseils départementaux, organisations de la société civile, représentants des populations autochtones, points focaux et cadres des ministères impliqués dans le processus REDD+, représentants du secteur privé, journalistes, professionnels du développement, représentants des partenaires internationales du développement, et membres de la mission conjointe PCFP, ONU-REDD et UE-REDD.

**Lieu:** Salle conférences, Ministère Développement Durable et Environnement (MDDEF).

**Programme final :**

	Activités
9:00 h.	<b>SEANCE I. OUVERTURE ET ENCADREMENT</b> Ouverture de l'atelier - M. Georges Boudzanga (Coordonnateur nationale REDD+) en nom de l'Honorable Ministre M. Henri Djombo Etablissement du Secrétariat de l'atelier Remarques d'encadrement de l'atelier - M. Joseph Gari (ONU-REDD)
9:30 h.	<b>SEANCE II. INFORMATION ET ECHANGES EN PLENIERE</b> Etat du processus REDD+ - M. Georges Boudzanga (CN-REDD) Démarrage de l'appui PCFP: Activités prioritaires - M. André Aquino (PCFP) Introduction de la proposition ONU-REDD - M. Thomas Sembrés (ONU-REDD) Engagement de la société REDD+ de l'UE - M. Christophe Van Orsloven (EFP) Avancements sur la structuration de la société civile et des organisations des peuples autochtones pour la REDD+ - Représentants CI-REDD et de la société civile Le contexte international d'appui à la REDD+ au Bassin du Congo - M. Jostein Lindland (Ambassade de la Norvège à Lusaka) Questions & discussion ouverte
11:00 h.	Pause café
11:30 h.	<b>SEANCE III. GROUPES DE TRAVAIL (GT)</b> GT-1: Structuration de la société civile et des organisations des peuples autochtones GT-2: Contenu de la proposition ONU-REDD de la République du Congo & aspects de la gestion décentralisée de la REDD+ GT-3: Sauvegardes sociales et environnementales
13:00 h.	Déjeuner
14:00 h.	<b>SEANCE IV. DISCUSSION EN PLENIERE ET CONCLUSIONS</b> Présentation des résultats des groupes de travail Discussion en plénière Synthèse et accords de l'atelier Lecture du Communiqué final de l'atelier et adoption
17:00 h.	Mets de clôture



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**Annex 2: Social and Environmental Principles and Criteria (UN-REDD Programme)**

-- draft, to be finalised --

**Principle 1 – Apply norms of democratic governance, including those reflected in national commitments and Multilateral Agreements**

Criterion 1 – Ensure the integrity and transparency of fiduciary and fund management systems

Criterion 2 – Ensure accountability and legitimacy of all bodies representing stakeholders, including through establishing responsive national feedback, complaints and grievance mechanisms, amongst others.

Criterion 3 – Ensure transparency and accessibility of all information related to REDD+, including active dissemination among relevant stakeholders.

Criterion 4 – Ensure the full and effective participation of relevant stakeholders, in particular, indigenous peoples and other forest dependant communities, with special attention to the most vulnerable and marginalized groups.

Criterion 5 – Promote coordination, efficiency and effectiveness, including cooperation across sectors and in the enforcement of laws.

Criterion 6 – Ensure the rule of law and access to justice.

**Principle 2 – Respect and protect stakeholder rights, including human rights, statutory and customary rights, and collective rights.**

Criterion 7 – Respect and promote the recognition and exercise of equitable land tenure and carbon rights by indigenous peoples and other local communities.

Criterion 8 – Promote and enhance gender equality, gender equity and women’s empowerment.

Criterion 9 – Seek free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples and other forest dependent communities and respect and uphold the decision taken (whether consent is given or withheld).

Criterion 10 – Ensure there is no involuntary resettlement as a result of REDD+.

Criterion 11 – Respect and protect traditional knowledge and cultural heritage and practices.

**Principle 3 – Promote and enhance forests’ contribution to sustainable livelihoods.**

Criterion 12 – Ensure equitable, non-discriminatory and transparent benefit sharing and distribution among relevant stakeholders with special attention to the most vulnerable and marginalized groups.

Criterion 13 – Protect and enhance, while minimizing adverse impacts on, economic, social and political well-being of relevant stakeholders with special attention to the most vulnerable and marginalized groups.

**Principle 4 – Contribute to low-carbon, climate-resilient sustainable development policy, consistent with national development strategies, national forest programmes and commitments under international conventions and agreements.**

Criterion 14 – Ensure consistency with and contribution to national climate policy objectives, including mitigation and adaptation strategies and international commitments.

Criterion 15 – Address the risk of reversals of REDD+ achievements, including potential future risks to forest carbon stocks and other benefits to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of REDD+.

Criterion 16 – Ensure consistency with and contribution to national poverty reduction strategies and other sustainable development goals (including those outlined under the Millennium Development Goals framework), including alignment with ministries’ and sub-national strategies and plans that may have an impact on, or be affected by the forest sector and/or land use change.

Criterion 17 – Ensure consistency with and contribution to national biodiversity conservation policies, other environmental and natural resource management policy objectives, national forest programmes, and

international commitments.

**Principle 5 – Protect natural forest from degradation and/or conversion to other land uses, including plantation forest.**

Criterion 18 – Ensure that REDD+ activities do not cause the conversion of natural forest to other land uses, including plantation forest, and make reducing conversion due to other causes (e.g. agriculture, timber and fuelwood extraction, infrastructure development) a REDD+ priority.

Criterion 19 – Minimise degradation of natural forest by REDD+ activities and make reducing degradation due to other causes (e.g. agriculture, timber and fuelwood extraction, infrastructure development) a REDD+ priority.

Criterion 20 – Minimise indirect land-use change impacts of REDD+ activities on forest carbon stocks, biodiversity and other ecosystem services (including impacts of extractive activities).

**Principle 6 – Maintain and enhance multiple functions of forest to deliver benefits including biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services.**

Criterion 21 – Ensure that land-use planning for REDD+ explicitly takes account of ecosystem services and biodiversity conservation in relation to local and other stakeholders' values, and potential synergies and trade-offs between different benefits.

Criterion 22 – Ensure that planted and natural forests are managed to maintain and enhance ecosystem services and biodiversity important in both local and national contexts.

**Principle 7 – Minimise adverse impacts (direct and indirect) on non-forest ecosystem services and biodiversity**

Criterion 23 – Minimise adverse impacts on carbon stocks, biodiversity and other ecosystem services of non-forest ecosystems resulting directly from REDD+ activities (such as afforestation).

Criterion 24 – Minimise indirect land-use change impacts on carbon stocks, biodiversity and other ecosystem services of non-forest ecosystems (including impacts of extractive activities).

Criterion 25 – Minimise other adverse indirect impacts on biodiversity and carbon stocks of non-forest ecosystems, such as those resulting from intensification of land use.

**Annexe 3: Comparative analysis between this programme and the R-PP concerning component 3**

**Comparative table between the activities proposed by the UN-REDD Programme strategic document and by the R-PP for component 3**

Activities proposed by the UN-REDD document for component 3	Correspondence with activities mentioned in the R-PP for component 3
<b>Emission Factor data analysis (cf. MRV a1)</b>	
Determine forest emission factors / carbon stocks	
<b>Activity Data analysis (cf. MRV b1)</b>	
Carrying out cartographic and stratification work for various dates	
Producing a matrix of changes in soil usage	
<b>Analysing causes of deforestation and of forest degradation (cf. 2a)</b>	
Analysing the situation and building a national consensus on the causes of deforestation / forest degradation	*Recruiting a Research Consultancy to quantify (in terms of future emissions) and geolocalise the dynamics of deforestation and of forest degradation
<b>National Supervision System (cf. MRV d)</b>	
Producing an information-sharing tool	
<b>Analysing national circumstances</b>	
Analysing national circumstances (IIASA)	
Recruiting a technical assistant to align the IIASA approach	
Socio-economic micro survey of households (World Bank)	*CN REDD contribution to household surveys
CN-REDD contribution to household surveys	*Recruiting a technical assistant to align the IIASA approach
<b>Determining and improving RIs / RELs, cross-cutting animation</b>	
Developing abilities / training	
Supporting CENIAF (supporting two civil servants)	
Co-ordinating activities and publication	
External QA / QC evaluation of the reference level	*Grant for thesis to be researched in the context of developing the national reference scenario
Support for specific work done by students at Master's / Doctorate level in the Congo	*IT material at CENIAF level
IT material at CENIAF level	*Maintaining IT material
Supporting and monitoring cross-cutting animation	*Technical assistance (international and national consultants to 100%) for the MRV system at CENIAF level
	*Workshops for consultation, for validation, and for strengthening abilities, to be organised in the context of developing the reference scenario
	*Technical assistance (international consultants to 100%) for the MRV system at CENIAF level

**Annexe 4: Comparative analysis between this programme and the R-PP concerning component 4**

**Comparative table of activities proposed by the UN-REDD Programme strategic document and by the R-PP for component 4 (part 1 / 2)**



Activities proposed by the UN-REDD document for component 4	Correspondence with activity mentioned in the R-PP for component 4
<b>National Forest Inventory (NFI)</b>	
<b>Finalise development and carry out the NFI</b>	
Adapt the methodology applied to take better account of carbon estimates	<p><b>Activity 17:</b> Acquiring inventory material (GPS, chain saws, clinometer to estimate the heights of trees, reloscopic prism to estimate land areas, etc.)</p> <p><b>Activity 18 :</b> Finalising the national forest inventory (75% of UEs remain to be covered)</p>
Field manuals - additional material	
Developing and reinforcing capabilities in respect of carbon and botanic measures	
Cross-referencing NFI results with planning inventories	
Providing / boosting material for carbon measures	
Strengthening the field inventory network based on post-stratification	
<b>Develop and applying a method for processing inventory data for carbon accounting</b>	
Evaluating the literature on calculating carbon stocks	<p>Activity 16: Launching implementation of the MRV system</p> <p>Activity 23: For the Republic of Congo, identifying parameters for estimating biomass (density of wood from principal species, biomass expansion factor, co-efficient of root expansion, carbon from dead wood, soil carbon, etc.), and emission factors (for slash-and-burn)</p> <p>Activity 24: Making a choice between the methods of CHAVE et al. (2005), and BROWN and LUGO (1997), for estimating air carbon stocks based on forest strata. If CHAVE's equation is used, refine it based on local parameters from the forests of the Republic of Congo (trunk diameter, type of forest, specific density of principal forest essences, etc.)</p> <p>Activity 25: Making a choice between the "stock differences or variations" method and the "gains and losses" method to estimate losses due to deforestation or degradation</p> <p>Activity 26: Evaluating biomass stocks and carbon stocks</p>
Choosing the most relevant methodology	
Defining studies that are additional to the application of the methodology	
Determining emission factors / forest carbon stocks	
Carrying out additional studies	
<b>Managing and improving conduct of the NFI</b>	
Improving the database to manage information generated	<p>Activity 2: Setting up a centralised archiving system to house all the information used in the context of MRV measures. This system will ensure that data used are traceable and secure (for confidential data), and will facilitate the checking and validation of regular inventories by independent structures: activity reports, experts' reports, field surveys, forest inventory data, dendrometric data, experts' opinions, source satellite data, mapping, vectorial data, etc.</p> <p>Activité 4 : Within the CNIAP, setting up an MRV-dedicated multi-actor team.</p> <p>Activité 6 : <b>Setting</b> up a procedure for quality analysis and checking, to be used on the basis of calculations done, to estimate the precision of the MRV system and to put forward gradual improvements to the system under development.</p> <p>Activity 19: Compiling planning inventory data that are already available, and ensuring that permanent sample plots are properly sited in the UFAs</p> <p>Activity 20: Correlative analysis of the results of planning inventories in relation to forest strata, in particular the distribution of resources, and representativeness</p> <p>Activity 21: Comparison of results of planning inventories in the Northern sector with the results of the national inventory, when the latter are available. This will enable validation of the national inventory sampling rate, and thus the results for the flooded forest (stratum for which there is no inventory datum, as is the case for mangroves. This is in spite of being of limited size (about 5 000 ha), thus of little significance on a national scale)</p> <p>Activity 22: If necessary, organise additional studies for flooded forests (which should be covered by the national forest inventory, if all goes well) and for mangroves (which should also be covered, but where the low sampling rate risks not providing significant results, since the stratum is very small)</p>
Monitoring and on-going improvement of processes	
Animating the process	
Supporting and monitoring the NFI activity	
Quality assurance / (quality control) support	
<b>Monitoring changes in forest cover (MCFC)</b>	
<b>Developing and carrying out monitoring of changes in forest cover</b>	
Evaluating existing and historic data (images, stratified maps)	<p>Activity 1: Launching a short study to identify: (a) precise national needs in respect of thematic and topographical mapping information; (b) the technical characteristics required (compromise between the uses envisaged) ; and (c) the most effective methodology to meet those requirements</p> <p>Activity 3 : Analysing and capitalising on experiences from MRV system projects in countries with cloud-cover problems (Guyana, Colombia, Ecuador, Cameroon, Gabon, etc.)</p> <p>Activity 5: Training existing personnel and new recruits to the MRV team in producing soil-cover data</p> <p>Activity 11: Producing a document that gives a precise description of the technical itinerary identified for drawing up basic cartography and updated thematic cartography, with a particular focus on the following procedures: geodesy, acquiring tic points, quality control of geometric corrections, cloud elimination, analysis of multi-source data (optical, radar, varying resolution, etc.), procedure for quality control and for estimating uncertainties, procedure for archiving data and for managing databases</p> <p>Activity 12: Producing a national reference mapping on the basis of the report from the preceding activity. The most significant data needed for developing thematic cartography are: a precise cartographic reference table, official tic points that cover the whole territory, a reliable digital elevation model of the territory, an updated map of the road network, an inventory of inhabited areas and of the influence of urban areas, and an updated map of forest plots</p> <p>Activity 13: Producing reference forest cover on the basis of the report on activity 5.1. Thematic coverage shall be produced for the most recent period, 2011-2011, and for at least two historic dates, in order to have swift availability of data on the dynamics of land occupation across the territory. The reference cover shall be an overall cover of the territory, since no datum of this type exists at the moment. Thereafter, the option of working on a sampling system will be looked into in relation to the difficulties in obtaining cloud-free satellite data</p> <p>Activity 14: Collecting information needed for analysis of monitoring changes in forest cover (stratified by forest typology), based on multi-date thematic cover as well as the results and calculation of Activity 16: Launching implementation of the MRV system, conversion matrix for land occupation, and drawing up the historical reference scenario</p>
Evaluating available methodologies	
Evaluating the capabilities in place for the MCFC	
Evaluating available material	
Producing additional data	
Choosing a methodology	
Providing / boosting material	
Acquiring additional data	
Recruiting / development / boosting capabilities	
Carrying out mapping and stratification work for various dates	
Producing a matrix on changes in soil use	

**Comparative table of activities proposed by the UN-REDD Programme strategic document and by the R-PP for component 4 (part 2/2)**

Activities proposed by the UN-REDD document for component 4	Correspondence with activity mentioned in the R-PP for component 4
<b>Monitoring changes in the forest cover</b>	
<b>Gérer et améliorer la conduite du suivi du changement du couvert forestier</b>	
Creating a database to manage the information generated	Activity 2 : Setting up a centralised archiving system to house all the information used in the context of MRV measures. This system will ensure that data used are traceable and secure (for confidential data), and will facilitate the checking and validation of regular inventories by independent structures: activity reports, experts' reports, field surveys, forest inventory data, dendrometric data, experts' opinions, source satellite data, cartography, vectorial data, etc.
On-going monitoring and improvement of processes	Activity 4: Within the CNIAF, setting up an MRV-dedicated multi-actor team.
Process animation	Activity 6: Setting up a procedure for quality analysis and checking, to be used on the basis of calculations done, to estimate the precision of the MRV system and to put forward gradual improvements to the system under development.
Supporting and monitoring the "Monitoring changes in the forest cover" activity	Activity 15: Evaluating the results of the MRV system design phase, as developed. Analysis report on the quality of the system for monitoring changes in forest cover, and proposals for improving the system to be implemented. At the end of this activity, a methodological report must describe the system that is finally used for monitoring forest cover. The system could be based on a points-sampling approach, with stratification based on information obtained on the territory occupation dynamic obtained by thematic cover (high-pressure area, medium-pressure area, etc.) This approach would enable a reduction in production costs, as well as an intensification of detection and monitoring efforts in complex forest typologies (sources of error in classification) and territories with a significant dynamic of changes in land occupation.
Quality assurance / (quality control)	
<b>Greenhouse-Gas Inventory (GGI)</b>	
<b>Développer et conduire l'IGES</b>	
Evaluating on-site capabilities	
Evaluating material available	Activity 5: Training existing personnel and new recruits to the MRV team in line with GIEC recommendations, on ad hoc software.
Evaluating methodological options	Activity 16 : Launching MRV system implementation.
Choice of methodological options	Activity 27: Cross-referencing data on changes in land use (moving from the forest class to another type and vice versa) with values of carbon stocks corresponding to the initial class (before deforestation) and the final class (after deforestation and forest degradation).
Recruitment / development / boosting capabilities	
Providing / boosting material	
Carrying out the GGI	
<b>Managing and improving the GGI</b>	
Creating a database to manage the information generated	Activity 2: Setting up a centralised archiving system to house all the information used in the context of MRV measures. This system will ensure that data used are traceable and secure (for confidential data), and will facilitate the checking and validation of regular inventories by independent structures: activity reports, experts' reports, field surveys, forest inventory data, dendrometric data, experts' opinions, source satellite data, cartography, vectorial data, etc.
Quality assurance / quality check	Activity 6: Setting up a procedure for quality analysis and checking, to be used on the basis of calculations done, to estimate the precision of the MRV system and to put forward gradual improvements to the system under development.
Monitoring and on-going improvement of processes	
Animating the process	
Supporting and monitoring GGI activity	
<b>National Supervision System</b>	
<b>Develop and build the National Supervision System</b>	
Comparing available systems	
Defining a list of specifications for the National Supervision System	Activité 2 : Setting up a centralised archiving system to house all the information used in the context of MRV measures. This system will ensure that data used are traceable and secure (for confidential data), and will facilitate the checking and validation of regular inventories by independent structures: activity reports, experts' reports, field surveys, forest inventory data, dendrometric data, experts' opinions, source satellite data, cartography, vectorial data, etc.
Producing an information-sharing tool	Activity 6: Setting up a procedure for quality analysis and checking, to be used on the basis of calculations done, to estimate the precision of the MRV system and to put forward gradual improvements to the system under development.
<b>Managing, feeding, and improving the National Supervision System</b>	
Feeding the National Supervision System	Activity 8: Establishing a link between components 2a and 2b of the RPP in order to ensure that the MRVs of forest GESs enable precise measuring of the effectiveness of REDD+ strategic options chosen.
Quality assurance / (quality control)	
Quality assurance / (quality control)	
Supporting and monitoring the "National Supervision System" activity	
Strengthening the MRV cell	
<b>Cross-cutting animation for MNV implementation</b>	
International MNV adviser (UN/P3)	
Activity co-ordination	
Supporting and monitoring cross-cutting animation	Activity 4: Within the CNIAF, setting up an MRV-dedicated multi-actor team.
MN V cell IT material and site material	
MNV cell vehicle	

**Appendix: R-PP of the Republic of the Congo (September 2011) – separate document**

The R-PP of the Republic of the Congo, in its latest version dating from September 2011, is attached to this UN-REDD Support Programme as a separate document.

The R-PP represents the principal analysis and planning document for the country in its process of preparing for REDD+.