



Kinshasa Communiqué

At the conclusion of the workshop to finalize the ER-PIN

Under the patronage of the Minister of the Environment Nature Conservation and Tourism, *Mr. Bavon N'sa Mputu Elima*, with financial support from the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and funding from Norad, a workshop was held the 26 to 28 February 2013 in the Arche Hall, Kinshasa, to finalize the Emission Reduction Program Idea Note (ER-PIN) of a large-scale integrated REDD + program for the districts of Plateau and Maï-Ndombe (future Maï-Ndombe province). It brought together various stakeholders: members of the central government, provincial government officials, private sector representatives and civil society nationally and internationally.

2) With the overall goal of finalizing the ER-PIN in order to present to the Carbon Funds of the Forest Carbon Partnership Fund (FCPF), the workshop has had some highlights including the opening ceremony with the welcome address by the National Director WWF-DRC *Monsieur Raymond Lumbuenamo* who had pledged its support by tapping into the vast network of WWF expertise or borrow it if necessary to carry out this jurisdictional approach.

3) The words of the Governor of the province of Bandundu who was unable to attend, read by the Provincial Minister of Environment *Monsieur Ngwo Louison* focused on the interest this workshop raises and that it should also solve the divergences between stakeholders to achieve the implementation of the ER-PIN and that this spirit of participation of the Bandundu Province is a strong signal of its determination regarding the use and management of its forest resources.

4) The Minister for the Environment Nature Conservation and Tourism, *Mr. Bavon N'sa Mputu Elima* in his opening remarks of the workshop briefly outlined the steps taken by the country in the implementation of REDD + in DRC. He then demonstrated the interest of the central government related to REDD + in the province of Bandundu and more specifically to the districts of Plateau and Maï-Ndombe with FIP investment of about USD 13 million to set up local governance of natural resources to reconcile local development and the reduction of emissions from deforestation and forest degradation. He also recommended review of the framework of contractual arrangements in which several partners and project could unify their efforts on the scale of the future province of Maï-Ndombe, and design a program management who will be responsible, not only to evaluate the performance of various field activities and holders of different projects, but also to assist technically small projects in the program area.

5) The second point is the series of presentations by the experts;

1. The appraisal of the REDD + process and jurisdictional approach in the DRC by *Mr Victor Kabengele* (Coordinator of the CN-REDD)

- Need to work with all stakeholders in the area to change all the dynamics of sustainable development in the program area

- Many players with different but complementary knowledge and skills
 - What types of partnerships and what contractual and institutional arrangements
 - Structure of a robust and inclusive yet lightweight and functional system
 - What assessment system? (proxy indicators, MRV)
2. Terms of FIP support to the finalization of the ER-PIN by Mr *Clement Vangu Lutete*, FIP Coordinator
 - Priority 1: Integration of activities in the development policy of the future province of Mai-Ndombe
 - Priority 2: Strengthening forest governance and land management
 - Priority 3: Support for the implementation of village land use plans and village land development plans
 - Priority 4: Investing for the implementation of village development plans.
 3. Carbon Fund of the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) by Mr *Etienne Benoist* of World Bank
 - The function and role of the Facility, including the FCPF Carbon Fund
 4. The jurisdictional approach by *Summer Montacute* of VCS
 - The VCS REDD + initiative called Jurisdictional and Nested REDD +
 - Presentation of scenarios and methodological approaches
 5. Overview of the ER-PIN by *Marie Calmel* of ONFI
 6. Detailed analysis and consensus on 7 points of the ER-PIN
 7. The ER Program also has an overall goal of sustainable management of forest ecosystems to stabilize forest cover and reduce carbon emissions taking into account the socio-economic needs of local people and other stakeholders
 8. In addition, principles should be kept in mind for the development of the emission reduction program. These principles are:
 - Follow the methodological guidelines of the FCPF
 - Meeting the aspirations of the DRC in terms of implementation of REDD + at a grand scale for the eventual regulated international market
 - Respect the missions and direction of the national strategy under REDD + and allow - in order to strengthen - operationalization thereof at the program scale
 - On the basis of a rigorous historical analysis of deforestation and degradation, with the best available methods and data, providing opportunities to reduce deforestation and forest degradation in order to mitigate the effects of climate change

- Be ambitious in the matter of reduction of deforestation in order to ensure the economic and financial viability of REDD + in DRC and to make REDD +, a competitive option compared to the unsustainable use of forests
- Provide sustainable economic alternatives for local communities and other stakeholders with an interest in the decision-making process and a fair sharing of benefits
 - o Work to ensure the Free, Prior and Informed Consent (CLIP/FPIC)
 - o Clarification of land and property rights
 - o Respect the rights of indigenous peoples
- Participate in strengthening forest governance and improving the business climate to attract private sector investments for REDD +
- Contribute to regional and national objectives of protecting biodiversity and maintaining and / or improving ecosystem services
- Ensure transparency, legality and strengthening local governance including through improved land management plans
- Mobilize available resources, adequate and early

8) Following discussions of 7 points of the ER-PIN, the plenary decided to form a working group that will work to finalize the drafting of the document during the week of March 4 to 8, 2013. The objective is to build on consensus that emerged during the workshop - to go deeper into the points where there was still disagreement, to find a consensus in order to finalize the drafting of the ER-PIN for submission of the document to the government in March. The Government of the DRC, through the CN-REDD will be responsible for submitting the FCPF.

This team will be divided into sub-groups for discussion on topics requiring significant technical expertise.

A number of stakeholders have already been identified and

are invited to participate in this discussion group, without exclusion of stakeholders not listed here but may be relevant and will assist in the work. Stakeholders already identified are:

- The provincial government
- The FAO/DIAF/ JICA
- CN-REDD
- The FIP
- LeWWF
- Representatives of the private sector:
 - o Logging concessions
 - o Cattle Concessions
 - o WW ERA

- o Novacel
- The DDD
- REPALEF
- GTCR
- OSFAC

The work of the task force will be under the coordination of ONFI who will play the role of the secretariat and submit the document to MECNT.

9) During the workshop, plenary discussions led to agreement on a number of issues concerning:

- The boundaries of the area of the area of intervention:
 - o Extension of the area limits the future province of Maï-Ndombe (Plateau district including territory of Mushie and Maï-Ndombe District), a total of about 12.5 million hectares, of which approximately 9.2 million hectares of forest
- The general structure of implementation:
 - o The adoption of a legal approach without excluding projects
 - o The government of the DRC is the bearer of the initiative, but the project management and coordination may be delegated to one or more organization (s) responsible (s), especially in the interests of rapid operationalization in respect principles of transparency and good governance
 - o All stakeholders are integrated into the strategy and decision-making and working in harmony and collaboration
- The reference level (REL)
 - o Different methodological approaches have been presented. This issue will be discussed in detail next week with a group of technical experts.
 - o The reference level will be developed for the whole program.
- MRV:
 - o In accordance with the FCPF: strong synergies with the national level must be maintained. In principle, harmonization of methods and information sharing, the program will make operational-efficiency perspective in short term - tools developed at national level and in a pragmatic concern that implementation of the program and enhance these tools.
 - The jurisdictional approach: The three scenarios from the VCS requirements for jurisdictional and nested REDD + (VCS-JNR) were presented. Scenario 1 corresponds to a distribution of carbon credits directly and only to projects. Scenario 2 corresponds also to the jurisdiction as well as directly to projects, and scenario 3 only to the jurisdiction then in charge of making the redistribution to projects. Scenario 1 & 3 are considered irrelevant and Scenario 2 has been chosen by the government of the DRC as it allows greater flexibility and assures greater attractiveness vis-à-vis the private sector. The Government of the DRC remains the sole owner of Carbon.

- The compensation of performance and benefit sharing:
 - o The benefits must be distributed to all stakeholders in ways that remain to be clarified.
 - o The social and environmental impacts of the program will be monitored on a following a procedure which remains accurate and in compliance with environmental and social safeguards.
- The budget and funding:
 - o The budget must be consolidated in accordance with the strategy of intervention and pursuant to the requirements of the FCPF-CF
 - o Stakeholders must bring the information they have on the costs of implementation of sectoral and enabling activities, in order to feed the budget.

10) Begun on Tuesday, February 26, 2013, this workshop has ended this Thursday, February 28 under the Minister of the Environment Conservation and Tourism, *Mr. Bavon N'sa Mputu* who warmly thanked the participants for the work done and wishes a good continuation for the working group put in place.