



AFORPOLIS
African Forest Policies & Politics



**Global
Environmental Institute**
北京市朝阳区永续全球环境研究所

First Africa-China AFORPOLIS Workshop on

Forestland Governance, Investments and Sustainability

Yaoundé- Cameroon, 3 - 5 September
2019

Programme

Organising committee

This workshop is organised by the African Forest Policies and Politics (AFORPOLIS) organisation and the Global Environmental Institute (GEI) – China in cooperation with the University of Göttingen in Germany, the University of Dschang in Cameroon, the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO), the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, The Congo basin Forest Partnership (CBFP), the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), and the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF) - Cameroon.

Main organisers:

Symphorien Ongolo, AFORPOLIS/University of Göttingen – Germany

Lin Ji, Global Environmental Institute (GEI) – China

Co-organisers:

Martin Tchamba, University of Dschang – Cameroon

Dany Pokem, Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP)

Abdon Awono, Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) – Cameroon

Organising committee members and secretariat

Ameni Hasnaoui, AFORPOLIS/University of Göttingen – Germany

Minette Nago, AFORPOLIS/University of Göttingen - Germany

Yue Zhao, AFORPOLIS/University of Göttingen – Germany

Sandrine Andong, AFORPOLIS Cameroon

Main Organisers



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Organising partners



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CIFOR

Sponsor

The first Africa-China AFORPOLIS workshop is mainly sponsored by the UKaid and supported by an additional contribution provided by CBFP.



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from the British people

Context

Since the early 2000s, the increasing activities by Chinese companies – in forestland conversions including for logging, agribusiness, mining and infrastructure development– have caught special international attention because of the related sustainability challenges. These Chinese increasing investments and trades in Africa are partly driven by the China’s Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and the Forum of China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), with significant ecological and social implications for African countries under deforestation pressure. In the same vein, China has become Africa’s biggest trading partner, reaching a trading value of 203.98 billion USD in 2018 with 20% increase from 2017. In timber trade sectors, China has become a major export destination of the timber-rich African countries such as those in the Congo Basin including Cameroon. By estimation, more than 75% of Africa’s timber production was exported to China in 2017. This trend is predicated to keep rising, notably because of the growing wood demand in China. These Chinese investments and related trade implications have been disputed for their environmental (biodiversity, ecosystem services, climate change mitigation) and social (forest-dependent people’s livelihood, labour conditions, etc.) effects in Africa.

Objectives

The workshop aims to: (i) elucidate the effects of Chinese investments in forest sector in Africa; (ii) explore opportunities to enhance and promote sustainability in Chinese forestry investments; and (iii) promoting a science-policy multi-stakeholders dialogue and interactions on Chinese forest-related investments in Africa.

Tuesday, 03 September 2019

09:00 **Registration**

09:30 **(Chair: Abdon Awono, CIFOR)**

Introduction

Symphorien Ongolo, AFORPOLIS/University of Göttingen, Germany

Jiaman Jin, GEI, China

Thomas Pichet, DFID/FGMC, UK

Keyong Liu, China NFGA, China

Welcome speech

Vice-Chancellor, University of Dschang, Cameroon

Opening

Minister of Forestry and Wildlife, MINFOF, Cameroon

11:00 **Coffee break**

11:30 **Keynote 1**

Chimère Diaw

RAFM, Cameroon

Talk: Beyond carbon: win-win investments and partnerships to govern African forestlands for societies

12:10 **Keynote 2**

Yong Chen

NFGA, China

Talk: China-Africa timber trade and forest investments

12:50 **Lunch break**

Plenary session (Moderator: Roger Ngoufo, CEW/Univ. Yaoundé I)	
14:20	Talk 1: Zhun Mao (INRA, France)
14:50	Talk 2: Samuel Assembe-Mvondo (Independent Researcher, Cameroon)
15:20	Talk 3: Alain Karsenty (CIRAD, France)
15:50	Coffee break
16:20	Talk 4: Wen Zhou (Yale University, USA)
16:50	Talk 5: Peng Ren (GEI, China)
17:20-17:35	Logistics information

Wednesday, 04 September 2019

	Room 1 (plenary room)	Room 2
09:00	Session 1: Community forestry – governance and livelihood (Chair: Yunzhu Chen)	Session 2: Forest resources and local development (Chair: Lucie Temgoua)
10:40	Coffee break	
11:10	Session 3: Biodiversity preservation and sustainability (Chair: Serge Bobo Kadiri)	Session 4: Wildlife, trade and illegality (Chair: Jiaman Jin)
12:50	Lunch break	
14:20	Session 5: forestland-use, logging and certification (Chair: Germain Yéné)	Session 6: Timber and legality processes (Chair: Yong Chen)

15:35	Round table discussion with sessions' chairpersons (Chair: Dany	
–	Pokem, CBFP)	
16:50		
16:50	Coffee break	
17:20	Group discussion 1: forest	Group discussion 2: Wildlife
–	exploitation, plantation and	management and biodiversity
18:30	sustainability (Chair: Patrice	preservation (Chair: Lin Ji)
	Bigombe)	
19:30		
–	Workshop dinner	
21:45		

Thursday, 05 September 2019

09:00	Finalising group discussions' reports
10:00	Wrap up meeting - take home message (presentation of group 1 and group 2 reports)
11:30	Closing ceremony
12:00	Lunch break
13:30	Field trip

*Each talk in plenary session is scheduled for 30 minutes in total. This includes 20 minutes for presentation and 10 minutes for discussion. Each parallel session is scheduled for 90/100 min. This includes 45/60 min for 3-4 talks, and 30/40 min for discussion.

Notice: Dear participants, we are honoured that you will join us and appreciate your participation in the first Africa-China AFORPOLIS workshop on "Forestland governance, investments and sustainability". Please, kindly be aware that the organisers do not assume any liability for any risk or damage associated with your participation in the Africa-China workshop 2019.

Table of talks - overview:

Names	Country of affiliation	Institution	Talk
Plenary session (Chair: Roger Ngoufo, Univ. Yaoundé I)			
Zhun Mao	France	INRA	Why do forest and agro-forestry ecosystems matter for environmental sustainability?
Samuel Assembe-Mvondo	Cameroon	Independent Researcher	Mapping Chinese forestry investments in Cameroon: actors and trade flows
Alain Karsenty	France	CIRAD	Addressing subcontracting issue to improve tropical timber production in the Congo basin
Wen Zhou	USA	Yale university	Concessions in the crosshairs: African elephants, Western conservationists, and Chinese logging companies in Gabon, Central Africa
Peng Ren	China	GEI	China's regulatory policy development on environmental impacts of overseas investments and China's non-forest investments in Africa.

Parallel session 1: Community forestry – governance and livelihood (Yunzhu Chen)			
Eliezer Majambu	DRC	University of Kisangani	Can traditional authority improve the governance of forestlands in the Congo (DRC)?
Patrice Bigombe-Logo	Cameroun	CERAD & University Yaoundé2	Close to the forests, out of the benefits? community forestry and inequality in Cameroon
Lilian Laurin	Republic of Congo	Comptoir Juridique Junior	Independent forest monitoring and sharing of benefits from logging for the benefit of neighbouring communities
Armand Aboulé	Cameroon	GIC Tsoung-Amande/Lomié	Local management and trade systems in community forestry: Experience from Est-Cameroon
Parallel session 2: Forest resources and local development (Lucie Temgoua)			
Weiju Song	China	Qinghai Provincial Forestry and Grassland Bureau	Community conservation and livelihoods development in China – insights from local government perspective

Kui Peng	China	Global Environmental Institute (GEI)	Developing ecosystem-services based economy to reconcile conflicts between conservation and development – theory and practices
Yves Mvondo	Cameroon	Ets. MYREG	Experience in subcontracting community forestry with a Chinese operator in Cameroon
Lucie Temgoua	Cameroon	University of Dschang	Developing forest plantations from local level: Can peasants make the difference in Cameroon?
Parallel session 3: Biodiversity preservation and sustainability (Serge Bobo Kadiri)			
Edgar Ambassa Ongono	Cameroon	MINFOF	Deforestation, mining and biodiversity: empirical observations from East Cameroon
Jingwei Zhang	China	GEI	China in Africa: forest and biodiversity challenges and opportunities
Serge Bobo Kadiri	Cameroon	University of Dschang	Managing forestlands for biodiversity preservation: opportunities and challenges in Congo basin

Parallel session 4: Wildlife, trade and illegality (Jiaman Jin)			
Chun Li	China	GEI	Institutional setup and coordination mechanism that supports China's CITES implementation
Simon Essissima	Cameroon	MINFOF	Monitoring and punish illegal hunting: experience from Cameroon
Martin Fokit	Cameroon	MINFOF	combatting illegal wildlife trafficking: learning from the airports forest police
Nan Jiang	China	Nanjing Forest Police Academy	Policies and practices in combatting illegal trade of timber and wildlife in China, and the needs for China-Africa cooperation
Parallel session 5: forestland-use, logging and certification (Germain Yéné)			
Jianmin Xiao	China	China Academy of Forestry	Assessment of the Chinese Forest Investors' behaviors in Africa-based on the investigation in Mozambique
Corneille Kumbazi	DRC	DIAF/MEDD (DRC)	Emergence and evolution of Chinese logging companies in DRC
Eric Dassie Wendji	Cameroon	PPECF/COMIFAC	Chinese operators and forest certification initiatives in the Congo basin

Parallel session 6: Timber and legality processes (Yong Chen)			
Justin Kamga	Cameroon	FODER	Reducing illegal logging in the Congo basin: Lessons from forest independent monitoring systems
Samuel Assembe-Mvondo	Cameroon	Independent Researcher	Does the origin of investments affect managerial practices? case of Chinese investments in forest sector in Cameroon
Yong Chen	China	Center for International Forest Products Trade, China NFGA	Timber legality verification system in China - Development and practices

Roundtable and group discussions

Roundtable (Chair: Dany Pokem, CBFP)

The roundtable discussion aims to facilitate a knowledge sharing of key messages from parallel sessions. Accordingly, panellists of this roundtable discussion will include the chairpersons of the parallel sessions for a comprehensive discussion with the audience. The Roundtable Chair will be assisted by a **rapporteur** (Sophie Balla).

Group discussions

Two thematic group discussions are scheduled in the afternoon on the second workshop day (see schedule structure). The outcomes of the group discussions will be reported to all participants in plenary session in the first half of the third workshop day. Each group discussion will consist of a comprehensive discussion session among attendees. Each thematic group discussion will be organised under the leadership of a chairperson assisted by a rapporteur.

Group discussion 1	Group discussion 2
Topic: forest exploitation, plantation and sustainability	Topic: Wildlife management and biodiversity preservation
Chairperson: Patrice Bigombe	Chairperson: Lin Ji
Rapporteur: Sandrine Andong	Rapporteur: Zhun Mao

The aim of Group discussion 1 and Group discussion 2 is to explore path forward and suitable alternatives to improve sustainability of Chinese forestry investments and related trade flows in the Congo basin. The main outcome of the constructive discussions expected from these group discussions will be to: (i) point out the major failings; (ii) propose specific recommendations.

List of participants

Name	Affiliation	Country of affiliation
Ameni Hasnaoui	Organiser/ AFORPOLIS/ Univ. of Göttingen	Germany
Minette Nago Zeufack	Organiser/ AFORPOLIS/ Univ. of Göttingen	Germany
Yue Zhao	Organiser/ AFORPOLIS/ Univ. of Göttingen	Germany
Junior Deudak	IT, AFORPOLIS	Germany
Sandrine Andong	AFORPOLIS Cameroon	Cameroon
Symphorien Ongolo	Organiser/ AFORPOLIS/ Univ. of Göttingen	Germany
Lin Ji	Organiser /GEI	China
Jiamao Jin	Global Environmental Institute	China
Martin Tchamba	Organiser/University of Dschang	Cameroon
Emmanuel Heuse	Africa coordinator ai. FAO FLEGT programme	Belgium
Sophie Balla	University of Yaoundé II	Cameroon
Isaac Ndoumbe-Berock	ESSEC/University of Douala	Cameroon
André Melachio Tameko	University of Yaoundé II	Cameroon
Chimère Diaw	Forêts-Modèles (RAFM)	Cameroon
Yves René Mvondo	MYREG SARL	Cameroon
Anicet Minsouma Bodo	ANAFOR	Cameroon
Samuel Assembe-Mvondo	Independent Researcher	Cameroon
Liboum Mbonayem	CIFOR	Cameroon
Serge Bobo Kadiri	University of Dschang	Cameroon
Emmanuel Lema	Observer	Cameroon
Julien Chongwang	Journalist/SciDev	Cameroon
Amindeh Blaise Atabong	Freelance journalist	Cameroon

Adrienne Engono	Journalist/Mutations	Cameroon
Marie Lucie Ayaka	Journalist/L'œil du Sahel	Cameroon
Marcellin Mgansop	Journalist/Equinoxe television	Cameroon
Line Renée Batongue	Journalist/CRTV	Cameroon
Justin Kamga	FODER	Cameroon
Lucie Temgoua	University of Dschang	Cameroon
Patrice Bigombe-Logo	CERAD/University of Yaoundé II	Cameroon
Maxime Nzita	CBFP	Cameroon
Abdon Awono	CIFOR	Cameroon
Claudine Tiogue	FASA/FMBEE	Cameroon
Erica Ndollo Mbena	ISME/Douala	Cameroon
Simon Essissima	MINFOF	Cameroon
Alexandre Endanga Nga	FASA/FMBEE	Cameroon
Suzanne Larissa Etoa	IRIC/ University of Yaoundé II	Cameroon
Joseph Pierre Effa	University of Yaoundé II	Cameroon
Norbert Sonne	WWF	Cameroon
Edgar D. Ambassa Ongono	MINFOF	Cameroon
Martin Fokit	MINFOF	Cameroon
Marie Ba'ane	APIFED	Cameroon
Brigitte Anziom	ASTRADHE	Cameroon
Armand Aboulé	GIC Tsoung-Amande	Cameroon
Roger Ngoufo	CEW/University of Yaoundé I	Cameroon
Martial Nkolo	GIZ/COMIFAC	Cameroon
Lorent Romain	PPECF	Cameroon
Eric Dassie Wendji	PPECF/COMIFAC	Cameroon
Bakker Nongni	GIZ	Cameroon
Alexandre Djimeli	University of Dschang	Cameroon

Marc Dandji	University of Dschang	Cameroon
Appolinaire Foulla	University of Dschang	Cameroon
Herman Zanguim	Assistant DEPFOR	Cameroon
Roger Tsafack Nanfosso	Vice Chancellor/Univ. of Dschang	Cameroon
Brusil Miranda Metou	University of Dschang	Cameroon
Dieudonné Bitom	University of Dschang	Cameroon
S.E. Jules Doret Ndongo	Minister, MINFOF	Cameroon
S.E. Raymond Ndomba Ngoye	COMIFAC	Cameroon
MFOU'OU Mfou'ou Bruno	General Inspector/MINFOF	Cameroon
DJOGO Toumouksala	DPT/MINFOF	Cameroon
EHETH Victoire née ONGMANONG	DCP/MINFOF	Cameroon
LEKAELEM Joseph	DFAP/MINFOF	Cameroon
Jean Robert ONANA	CELCOM/MINFOF	Cameroon
OWONO Owono Stephane	Protocol/MINFOF	Cameroon
Nerry Mballa	University of Bangui	CAR
Jianmin Xiao	China Academy of Forestry	China
Yunzhu Chen	Global Environmental Institute	China
Kui Peng	Global Environmental Institute	China
Peng Ren	Global Environmental Institute	China
Chun Li	Global Environmental Institute	China
Jingwei Zhang	Global Environmental Institute	China
Keyong Liu	National Forestry and Grassland Administration	China
Jianxiong Xu	National Forestry and Grassland Administration	China

Ke Li	National Development and Reform Commission	China
Weicong Qian	National Forestry and Grassland Administration	China
Yao Wang	Ministry of Finance	China
Yong Chen	National Forestry and Grassland Administration	China
Nan Jiang	Nanjing Forest Police Academy	China
Weiju Song	Qinghai Forestry and Grassland Bureau	China
Hong Gao	Translator	China
Peixin Qian	Translator	China
Junzuo Zhang	CCCMC/LTS	China
Lihui Sun	CCCMC	China
Hongli Liu	UK Embassy in Beijing	China
Gaël Bouka	University Marien Ngouabi	Congo R.
Lilian Laurin Barros	Comptoir Juridique Junior	Congo R.
Gady Inés Mvoukani	Comptoir Juridique Junior	Congo R.
Corneille Kumbazi	DIAF/MEDD	DRC
Eliezer Majambu	University of Mbuji-Mayi	DRC
Sandra Nduhirahe Sifa	Journalist	DRC
Jean-Pierre Messina	ERAIFT	DRC
Zhun Mao	INRA	France
Germain Yéné	ATIBT	France
Alain Karsenty	CIRAD	France
Dany Pokem	CBFP	Germany
Martin Bostrom	KfW	Germany
Cudjoe Awudi	Ghana Forest Commission	Ghana
Mawuli Samuel Doe	Ghana Forest Commission	Ghana
James Mayers	IIED	UK
Julia Stange	ClientEarth	UK

Tanja Venisnik	ClientEarth	UK
Thomas Pichet	DFID/FGMC Programme	UK
Wen Zhou	Yale University	USA
Stanley Dinsi	Program Officer/NESDA	Cameroon
Samuel Nguiffo	Executive Director, Center for Environment and Development (CED)	Cameroon
Aline Fabing	FGMC coordinator/DFID	Cameroon

In-country information in brief

Accommodation

The first Africa-China AFORPOLIS workshop 2019 venue and the accommodation place of participants will be located at *Mont Febe hotel* (Tel: +237 2 22 21 40 02)¹.

Currency

“Communauté Financière Africaine” Francs (Fcfa) is the currency in Cameroon. The usual currency exchange with Euro is: 1 Euros = 655 Fcfa (approximately). Money machines exist in the majority of banks in Yaoundé. There are available agencies for money transfer in the city. The general accepted payment in Yaoundé is Cash. For this, we suggest participants to consider bringing cash, preferably in local currency or Euro. Payment by credit card is possible in some hotels, some supermarkets and restaurants, but not in small shops and fast foods.

Transportation:

The recommended transportation in Yaoundé is (yellow) taxi. It costs around 10.000 Fcfa from and to the airport of Yaoundé Nsimalen. An individual use of yellow taxi in the city costs around 2500 Fcfa per journey or 300 Fcfa in a collective use with other passengers.

There will be available AFORPOLIS workshop shuttles to transport participants 1) between the Yaoundé airport and the *Mont Febe hotel* for arrival and departure, 2) for lunch, the workshop dinner and the field visit/excursion.

Mobile

Recommended Sim-cards: MTN Cameroon; Nexttel; Orange Cameroon.

Internet

Internet access is free of charges in *Mont Febe hotel*, but as regards with outside hotels, there are different offers by private companies (Nexttel; Orange Cameroon; MTN Cameroon).

¹ <http://www.hotel-montfebe.com/>

Climate and Weather

September is usually a rainy season in Yaoundé, please do not hesitate to take an umbrella or a raincoat with you. Temperature varies between 20 and 28°C in Yaoundé in September.

Opening time of shops

The working days are from Monday to Saturday in Cameroon. Shops open at 9am and close at 6pm. The majority of shops are closed on Sunday.

The available supermarkets around *Mont Febe hotel* are DOVV-Bastos and Mahima.

Eat & drink

A meal costs approximately from 2500 to 10000 Fcfa depending on restaurant category. Water in bottle costs from 250 to 500 Fcfa.

Selection of typical food: Ndolé, Poisson braisé, Poulet-DG; Soya. Plantains frits, baton de manioc, Coki & beignets haricot – Sanga –Prunes, etc. (for vegetarians).

Short selection of typical drink: 'vin de palm', Foléré.

About the main Organisers



AFORPOLIS

African Forest Policies & Politics

AFORPOLIS (African Forest Policies & Politics) is an international scientific network and non-profit Association based at the University of Göttingen in Germany. AFORPOLIS aims to advance cutting-edge knowledge on the emergence and evolution of the governance of forestlands and related natural resources in Africa. AFORPOLIS was founded in 2018 to promote multidisciplinary and multi-actor activities that include: regional and continental scientific conferences, thematic workshop, research-development projects, capacity building events and science-policy interactions in the field of forestland use governance and sustainability.



**Global
Environmental Institute**

北京市朝阳区永续全球环境研究所

Founded in 2004, Global Environmental Institute (GEI) is a Chinese non-governmental and non-profit organization headquartered in Beijing with projects across China and other developing countries in Southeast Asia, South Asia and Africa. Its mission is to design, execute and support market-based models and policy recommendations that solve environmental problems in order to achieve development that is economically, ecologically and socially sustainable. Program areas of GEI include renewable energy, climate change, biodiversity conservation and community development, marine conservation, combatting illegal wildlife trade, as well as sustainable Chinese trade and investment overseas.

AFORPOLIS Organisation

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Global Environmental Institute (GEI) - China

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