



CONGO BASIN FOREST PARTNERSHIP SUSTAINABLE FINANCING STREAM

YAOUNDÉ 17 – 19 JUNE 2015

Context

In preparation of the 15th Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP) meeting slated to be held from June 17 to 18, 2015 in Douala, the US Congo Basin Forest Partnership Facilitation has requested the African Development Bank (AfDB) to lead the panel on the thematic of **Sustainable Financing** in collaboration with UNEP, GEF, GCF, FTNS, CAFE/CFA, AWF, and PPP. The CBFP Facilitation has suggested that the leader and associated partners submit an Outline Draft of the concerned thematic day (Stream).

The event on **sustainable financing** will serve as a platform for discussion between the CBFP members and their partners on how: resources can be mobilized for sustainable development – both domestically and internationally – with a particular emphasis on innovative sources of finance and how national and regional institutions in the Congo Basin can be assisted to effectively utilize these resources. The expectation is that active debate will lead to increased understanding of the options available for access to funding, with regards to fostering the implementation of sustainable development commitments.

Expected Outcome

The primary outcome of the event will be to raise awareness, increase knowledge and initiate dialogue on financing sustainable development issues in Central Africa. Specifically, discussions during the event will result in:

- Identifying mechanisms for sustainable development financing flows to the Congo Basin;
- Building and strengthening strategic alliances and partnerships to further address the Congo Basin sustainable development finance agenda;
- Discussing the importance of an improved Congo Basin access to current and future sustainable development financing instruments including domestic resources.
- Enhanced knowledge on the status of sustainable development finance in the Congo Basin;
- Better informed the Region decision-makers and practitioners on the necessity of innovative sustainable finance for the Congo Basin.

Target audience

- High-level decision makers
- Bilateral and multilateral organizations
- Practitioner community, including private sector, community based organizations and civil society organizations, such as NGOs, media on financing sustainable development in central Africa and development issues.

Provisional Agenda for the 1-day event

The proposed agenda for the day will include a general presentation on the concept of “Sustainable Financial Mechanism” followed by 3 presentations on existing specific financial mechanisms, and a panel discussion:

- General presentation:
 - What is sustainable financial mechanism?
 - Discuss: beneficiaries, donors and implementation agencies
- Presentations on 3 existing specific financial mechanisms

Three of the following organizations UNEP, GEF, GCF, FTNS, CAFE/CFA, AWF, PPP will make short presentations that will outline their efforts to mobilize financial resources for the development agenda, challenges faced, and offer suggestions that could help mobilize additional resources.

- Panel discussion (panelists to be identified from the above institutions, those who have not made a presentation).

Key questions that the panel may address would include:

- What are the roles of the Development Financial Institutions (DFIs) in financing sustainable development?
- What can DFIs or other existing mechanisms do to further encourage innovative financing?
- How can DFIs and other technical partners improve working relationship with other development actors such as NGOs and CSO?
- What are the major impediments in the Congo basin to date in mobilizing and accessing additional financial resources for sustainable development? And how can the emerging non- traditional donors be engaged effectively?
- What role for national institutions (ministries of finance) to improve the effectiveness of aid?

MODERATOR

A moderator will be identified preferably out of the sector, from the medias. She/he will provide a general overview of the reasons prompting this discussion, the general issues, introduce the panelists, explaining their positions and why their experience is pertinent for this discussion.

At the end of the event, AfDB/CBFF will summarize the main issues discussed and the recommendations on a way forward.