



Agenda

International Workshop

“Forest Governance and Sustainability Standards in the Congo Basin”

29th of September till 1st of October 2010

Objective

The three day workshop aims at bringing together international and national actors as well as decision-makers in a multi-stakeholder-setting in order to

- Explore synergies between regulatory approaches and voluntary standards and gain an understanding how new regulations in importing countries can impact producing countries / voluntary standards systems
- Advance knowledge in applying voluntary standards and related mechanisms as instruments for sustainable management
- Deepen knowledge on recent market developments in the global markets.

Participants will discuss expert inputs in order to better promote sustainable forest and agriculture land-use management on regional level.

Day I – 29th September 2010

“Forest certification and Land-use Planning & transboundary forest conservation”

08.00 **Registration**

09.00 **Opening Ceremony** (*Mr Essel, GIZ, Ms Shaw, US DoS, Mr. Haas, BMZ, Mr. Grenier, CBFP, Mr. Mbitikon, COMIFAC, H.E. J.E. Bononge Minister DRC*)

09:30 **Morning session: Expert inputs**

Introducing concepts in the context of biodiversity & climate change (HCVF, PES, REDD+) and the potential synergies between national / regional approaches and project based certification.

1. High Conservation Value Concept (HCV)

Expert Inputs (each 15 min.):

- *HCV and Land-use planning of forest areas (R. Robertson, FSC Int.)*
- *HCV and Intact Forest Landscape concept (C. Jacquemart, Greenpeace Int.)*
- *HCV assessments in forest concessions (C. Blanchard, IFIA)*

Key questions to address:

- What are possible mechanisms to enhance application of HCV Forests in certified concessions and communal forests on national and regional scale?
- What is the current status and experiences gained from the HCV-concept in the Congo Basin?

- How can the concept be scaled up in Land-use Planning processes?
- Can the Intact Forest Landscapes (IFL) concept be integrated in HCV assessments?

Discussion (15 min.)

10:30 Coffee break and networking

11:00 2. Concept of Payment for Environmental Services (PES) with the focus on REDD+ in the Congo Basin

Expert Inputs (15 min.):

- *Overview of Public and Private market schemes (C. Ndikumagenge, IUCN)*
- *REDD+, Sustainable Forest Management & Land-use Planning (M.d. Galbert, World Bank)*
- *REDD+ and Land-use Planning: Developing Mapping and Monitoring Systems (B. Hugel, UNREDD)*

Key questions to address:

- To which extent can sustainability standards foster public and private PES schemes?
- What are the main potentials and challenges for the public and private sector regarding REDD+?
- How can standard initiatives advance the REDD+ process?

Discussion (15 min.)

12.10 Lunch

13.30 Afternoon session: 3 working groups on introduced concepts: HCV, PES, REDD+

Guiding questions for discussion:

- How can each concept guide intersectoral Land-use Planning (national & transboundary)?
- What are potentials / challenges of the mechanisms in the Congo Basin? What can be next steps?
- What kind of cooperation between governmental, private sector and standard systems can facilitate this process?
- How can HCVF, PES & REDD+ concepts achieve an integrated sustainable land-use system?

14.45 Coffee break and networking

15.15 Presentation of working group results with Discussion (each 15 min.)

17.00 Wrap up (Moderator M. Tadoum, COMIFAC)

Expected outputs:

- Increased knowledge of HCVF, PES and REDD+, the role of sustainability standards, impacts on Land-use Planning
- Recommendations to foster ownerships by governments
- Stakeholder / Participants identify current challenges as well as possible options for cooperation and next steps.

19.00 Dinner with reception (COMIFAC Sec.)

Day II – 30th September 2010:

“FLEGT process and voluntary standards – instruments to reduce illegal logging and associated trade”

09.00 Introduction of the day agenda of work

09.15 Morning session: Expert inputs (each 15 min.)

- *Why Voluntary Standards – Standard systems as management tool (S. Essel, GIZ)*
- *Developing national traceability systems (B. Mintyene, MinFOF Cameroon)*
- *FSC’s approach to pursue from legality to sustainable forest management (E. Hakizumwami, FSC Africa)*
- *FLEGT and voluntary forest certification – mutual support for enhancing sustainable forest management (E. Heuse, FLEGT Special Envoy in DRC)*

10.15 Coffee break and networking

10.30 Expert inputs (each 15 min.)

- *Linking Legality with Sustainability (J. Nkoulou, Rainforest Alliance)*
- *Legalizing the informal markets- FLEGT impacts for smallholders (B. Pokorny, University of Freiburg, Germany)*
- *FLEGT timber trade on domestic markets- perspective from communal forest users (L.B. Cheteu, Communal Forest Association, Cameroon)*

11.15 Panel Discussion

12.00 Lunch

13.30 Afternoon session: 3 Working groups

Guiding Questions:

- Which procedures are needed to use added values by complementing regulatory systems with private standards?
- Is it realistic to have only winners in the process – what are the main challenges?
- What are the possibilities for linkage at national and regional level respectively?

Expected outputs: Recommendations for Roadmap of relevant stakeholders

15.30 Coffee break and networking

16.00 Presentation of working group results and discussion

17.00 End of day II

Day III – 1st October 2010

“Standards as a promoter of striving towards sustainable development and trade”

09.00 Introduction of the day agenda of work

09:15 Morning session: Expert inputs (15 min. each)

- *Market developments for certified tropical African timber (F. Hiol Hiol, African Timber Organization (ATO)) - Cancelled*
- *Small scale enterprise development – FAO Market Dev. & Analysis Concept and standard schemes (M. Useni, FAO DRC)*
- *Marketing networks - Africa Wood for Life Initiative (C. Blanchard, IFIA)*
- *Introduction of African Eco label Mechanism as benchmarking system for African Products (K. Khisa, African Eco Label Mechanism Project)*

10.15 Coffee break and networking

10:45 Expert inputs (each 15 min.)

- *European public procurement policies for timber products and impacts on the market for certified products (S. Tind Nielsen, Central Point of Expertise on Timber (CPET))*
- *Sustainable Palm oil and maintenance of tropical forests – sustainability standards as safeguard to make both possible (C. Stewart, Pro Forest)*

11.45 Wrap up (M.Tadoum, COMIFAC)

12.00 Lunch

13.00 Afternoon session: Panel discussion

A panel discussion with the speakers will focus on the following guiding questions:

- What are current trends regarding sustainable sourcing and environmental finance?
- Best Practices and outlook – what are large companies doing? How are sustainability standards used for long term profit and competitiveness?
- How do public procurement policies in consumer countries currently change? What are the implications for producers?
- What can benchmarking systems achieve?
- What can standards systems and regulatory processes do jointly to progress sustainable economic development?

Expected outputs:

- Experience exchange on the rising demand for certified products and trends towards a green economy
- Advanced knowledge on the relevance of sustainability standards for sustainable development & sustainable sourcing
- Increased understanding of interlinkages between European procurement policies and Agro- & Forest enterprises in the Congo Basin

14.30 Coffee break

15.00 Closing Remarks / Outlook (D. Schorlemer, GIZ, R. Mbitikon, COMIFAC)

15.30 End of workshop