



**DEBATE: “DRIVERS OF DEFORESTATION: ARE WE ON THE RIGHT TRACK”?**

### CBFP Meeting of the Parties

Efforts to conserve forests, such as through REDD in DRC and the wider Congo Basin, are largely premised on increasingly contested deforestation analyses that point to subsistence 'slash and burn' agriculture and charcoal production as the main underlying drivers of deforestation. Meanwhile, community forestry and similar approaches to forest protection that have proven effective elsewhere in the tropics have been largely peripheral.

A growing number of studies are starting to challenge the received wisdom around deforestation in the Central Africa region and more particularly DRC. Drawing on improved data and analysis, a much more nuanced picture is emerging concerning the underlying drivers of deforestation, regrowth linked to rotational farming, the forest-farming dynamics of the 'rural complex', the downstream impacts of industrial logging as well as huge local, regional and temporal variations in forest loss. These suggest that the current policy approaches and some large programmes may need to be reconsidered, and new approaches developed instead.

# EVENT

### Speakers

- **Henk Hoefsloot, Tropenbos:** Introduction to the session
- **Lauren Williams, World Resources Institute:** Understanding forest loss trends in DRC through rural complex and deforestation hotspot analysis
- **Simon Counsell, Rainforest Foundation UK :** An analysis of multi-year deforestation patterns within DRC logging concessions
- **Alain Karsenty, CIRAD:** 'Concessions 2.0': a policy response to the reality of logging concession/community dynamics

### Venue:

**Royal Museum of Central Africa,  
Leuvensesteenweg 13, 3080 Tervuren**

**Date: Tuesday, 27th November 2018**

**Time: 16:30 – 18:30**



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