



INVITATION

HIGH LEVEL SIDE EVENT

STRENGTHS AND CHALLENGES OF CENTRAL AFRICAN FORESTS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE

Congo Basin Event at European Union Pavilion, December 8th, 2015 (5:15pm-6:15pm)

ORGANIZERS: COMIFAC, CBFP Facilitation (European Commission and USA)

CHAIR OF THE SIDE EVENT : Current COMIFAC Chairman and Incoming CBFP Facilitator

MODERATOR OF THE SIDE EVENT : H.E. José Manuel Briosa e Gala – Special Advisor of H.E. Neven Mimica, European Commissioner in charge of International cooperation and Development, incoming CBFP Facilitator

DESCRIPTION

This high level side event will bring together the ministers of COMIFAC member countries and other countries parties, CBFP member countries and representatives of international organizations. It aims to showcase the countries' efforts in the field of conservation, sustainable management and their contribution to the fight against climate change.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTORY PRESENTATIONS

- Remarks by His Excellency Mr Maroš Šefčovič, Vice-President of the European Commission, in charge of Energy Union (5mn).
- Remarks by - H.E. Emmanuel Niyonkuru, Minister of Water, the Environment, Spatial Planning and Urban Planning of Burundi, and Acting President of COMIFAC (5mn)
- Remarks by - H.E. Ahmad Allam-Mi, ECCAS Secretary-General (5mn)

TECHNICAL SEGMENT

- The issue of Sustainable Management of Congo Basin Forests and the fight against Climate Change - Dr. Christopher Martius, CIFOR Regional Coordinator (10mn)
- Official Launch of special report : Forests and Climate Change in Central by H.E. Raymond MBITIKON (COMIFAC Executive Secretary) (5mn)

HIGH LEVEL PANEL

Dialogue between ministers and partners on climate finance in the Congo basin: Strengthening financial assistance to address mitigation and adaptation challenges

Moderator : H.E. José Manuel Briosa e Gala – Special Advisor of H.E. Neven Mimica, European Commissioner in charge of International cooperation and Development, incoming CBFP Facilitator.

Scene-setting Presentations (5mn) :

- Hela Cheikhrouhou (tbc), Executive Director, Green Climate Fund
- Naoko Ishii (tbc), CEO and Chairperson, Global Environment Facility
- Mr. Per Fredrik Ilsaas Pharo (tbc), Director of the Kingdom of Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative (NICFI), Norway
- Fernando Frutososo de Melo , Director General of International Cooperation and Development of the European Commission (DG DEVCO)

panel members and ministers discussions (3mn)

- H.E. Henri Djombo, Minister of Forestry Economics and Sustainable Development - Congo
- H.E. Robert Bopolo Bogeza, Minister of Environment, Nature Conservation and Sustainable Development - DRC
- H.E. Mrs. Josephine Flore Mistoul YAME, Minister of Protection of the Environment and Natural Resources, forests and the sea - Gabon

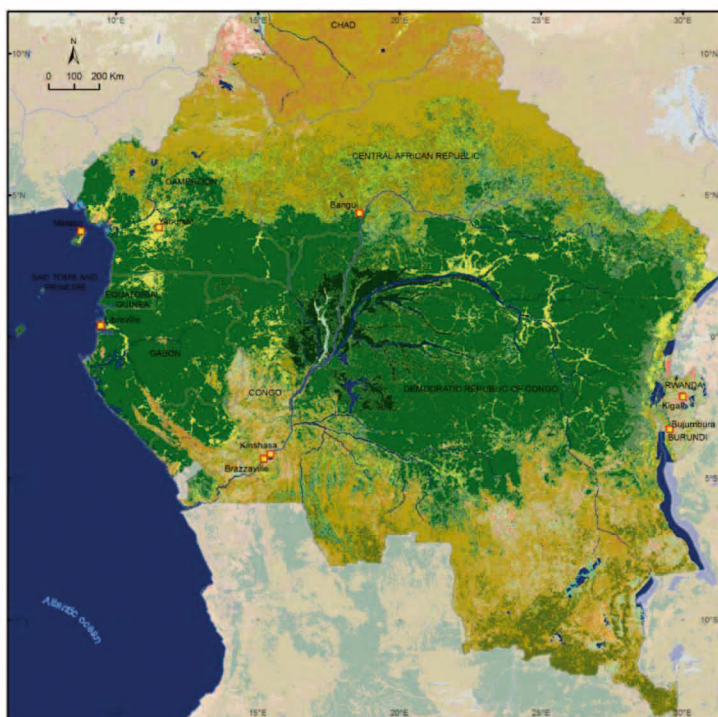


Figure 1.1: Congo Basin land cover map derived from 300 m resolution data
Source: Verheggen & Defourny, 2010

Questions that may serve to steer the discussions

- The current level of funding generated by Congo Basin financing mechanisms: (1) UNFCCC Financial Mechanism: Private sector: JI and CDM – Non market based: GCF, Adaptation Fund, GEF/LDCF, SCCF – (2) Non UNFCCC Financial Mechanism: FCPF, CIFs: CTF, SCF (FIP, SREP, PPCR), Carbon Fund (PMR, Biocarbon Fund), ACCF, CBFF, GEEREF, UNREDD...
- Financing needs of Central African countries in the area of climate change adaptation and mitigation
- Prospects for increasing the current share of funding for the benefit of Congo Basin countries

Summary, Conclusions and Recommendations of the side event :

By H.E. José Manuel Briosa e Gala, incoming CBFP Facilitator (5min)

NB: The "forests and climate change" special report will be broadcast during the session

Central African Forests Commission (COMIFAC) - <http://www.comifac.org/>

