

cofcca

Congo Basin Forests and Climate Change Adaptation

N E W S L E T T E R

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FOREWORD

Since our last meeting of March 2008 where we agreed on certain activities, the three groups have been busy with their various background papers. Progress has been made with organizational arrangements for the implementation of the project in DRC and RCA. Through the assistance of a Dr Robert Nasi, interviews were conducted in DRC for the selection of a research assistant. Furthermore, Cyrie traveled to RCA where together with Felix Ngana, interviewed the candidates for RCA. During her visit, she met with national officials and also signed an MOU

with the University of Bangui which is hosting the project in that country. The recruitment processes have been successfully concluded and two new staff are expected to be on board soon in the respective countries. Still in line with staffing, the Dutch government has approved our application for the recruitment of an APO for the project and the recruitment announcement for candidates has been made already by the human resource department. As a major public event of the project, preparations have been going on by our colleagues of the

CIFOR office in Yaoundé for the first meeting of partners and also official launching of the project. The entire team and staff in Yaoundé have been very busy with the preparations for the Kick Off Meeting and travel arrangements for every one who will be participating in this event. Youssoufa and Florence have ensured e-mail correspondences with everyone invited for the meeting. We hope that the KOM will be a great success and a move toward successful implementation of the project.

By Nkem Johnson, Chief de projet

NEWS

• CoFCCA has appointed two new research assistants.

In the Central African Republic, Bruno Bokoto de Semboli will coordinate the PAR activities. Bruno is currently finishing his Masters on Aménagement et Gestion participative des ressources forestières au CRESA Forêt Bois (Université de Dschang) à Yaoundé. Bruno earlier worked for WWF's Dzanga Sangha project. His e-mail address is bbokoto@hotmail.com. In the Democratic Republic of Congo, Emile Mulotwa Masumbuko is the new research assistant who will coordinate the field activities. Emile is currently finishing his Biology thesis at the University of Kisangani. He is also coordinator of the NGO 'Am-

icale Congolaise pour Conservation des Oiseaux'. You can reach him at emilemulotwa@yahoo.fr

• **Verina Ingram has joined the CIFOR Livelihoods team** as a scientist and will also assist with the CoFCCA project. Verina comes from SNV. Her e-mail address is: v.ingram@cgjar.org

• **Cyprian Jum joins the CoFCCA team as consultant until end 2008.** He will be working on a concept note on 'Assessment of Climate risks of Indigenous Communities, their local adaptive capacity and special needs for adaptation to climate impacts on the Congo Basin Forests'. You can contact him at: c.jum@cgjar.org

IN THE MEDIA

Stories that appeared in national and international media that talk about issues related to CoFCCA :

• Southern collaboration 'key to adaptation', says climate scientist

Adapting to climate change – unlike mitigating it – will succeed in developing countries only by sharing local understanding and knowledge with other low-income nations.

• African farmers 'adjusting to climate change'

Rural African farmers are already adapting to climate change, according to case studies in Benin, Kenya, and Malawi.

• Involve indigenous people in climate policy, says report

The ingenuity of indigenous peoples is too often overlooked by policymakers making decisions related to climate change — even though they are

among the most vulnerable to its impacts, according to a new report by IUCN.

• **UNEP's Africa: Atlas of our Changing Environment has aroused a lot of media interest.** A few are listed here:

- BBC - The changing face of Africa

- Africa Science News Service - New atlas details environmental degradation in Africa

- The Independent - Nature laid waste: The destruction of Africa

- Los Angeles Times – Africa most vulnerable to global warming effect, U.N. says

- AllAfrica.com – Africa: Changing Environment emerges in new U.N. Atlas

- Times Online – Man's Destruction of Africa revealed



PUBLICATIONS

The summary report of CIFOR's Forest Day Central Africa is available at the CIFOR website:
http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/Regions/CAfrica/Events/FD-CentralAfrica/forest_day_cameroon.htm

Final reports of the CoFCCA meeting in March, French and English version are available at the Coffca website.

CALENDAR

Upcoming meetings:

- 23-25 June: CoFCCA Kick-Off Meeting, Yaounde, Cameroon.
- 25 – 28 August: International Conference: Adaptation of Forests and Forest Management to Changing Climate: a review of science, policies and practices, Umeå, Sweden.
- 3-7 November: International Symposium on Sustainable Forest Management in Africa, Forests and Climate Change Response, Stellenbosch, South Africa

RESOURCES

World Bank Climate Change Consultations: Sub-Saharan Africa

Available on this website :

- Making Development Climate Resilient: A World Bank Strategy for Sub-Saharan Africa (in French and English)
- AfDB climate change strategy documents - Climate Adaptation Strategy: Approach Paper (in French and English)
- Country Note on the Democratic Republic of Congo

Eldis Dossier on Climate Change Adaptation in Sub Saharan Africa
List of documents on the topic.

Vacancy: The Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), supported by the Netherlands

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is looking for Associate Experts to work on CIFOR research. Associate Expert, Environmental Services and Sustainable Use of Forests Programme: Congo Basin Forests & Climate Change Adaptation. Duty Station: Yaoundé, Cameroon.

For detailed information of each position, please go to CIFOR's website:
<http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/Careers>

IMPORTANT - Eligibility criteria:

- The position is open to Dutch national and permanent residents of the Netherlands or nationals from eligible developing countries;
- Under 32 years of age at the time of application;
- Nationals of the duty station are not eligible (i.e. a posting in one's own country is not possible).

For further information on the eligibility criteria and the list of eligible developing countries, please refer to the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs websites:

http://www.minbuza.nl/nl/organisatie/Werken_bij_werken_bij_io/assistent_deskundigen and
<http://www.minbuza.nl/en/developmentcooperation/ExpertProgramme>
or to CIFOR's website:
<http://www.cifor.cgiar.org/Careers/APO-JPO/eligibility.htm>

Letter of interest and curriculum vitae in English should be sent by email to:
Human Resources Department CIFOR,
Email: cifor-hr@cgiar.org (Please indicate the job code in the email subject).

Any comments, questions or contributions for this newsletter?

Please contact Janneke: j.w.romijn@cgiar.org

Please let us know if you have any difficulties reading this newsletter.

