HOW FRANCE'S DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIPS are meeting the challenge of climate change?

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ET DE LA FORÊT



M. Hurdebourcg/MAEDI

CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF FORESTS

Climate, biodiversity, food security, energy, water, health, sustainable production and consumption, forests are at the core of the priorities defended by France, at national, as well as at international level.

With its significant forest cover in temperate and tropical regions and, its centuries old forestry tradition, France is renowned for its expertise on sustainable forest management.

It is one of the only Annex I countries to have major tropical forest cover with 8 million hectares in French Guiana.

The numerous and diverse actions of the French cooperation to support the conservation and the sustainable management of forests show the French commitment on the matter: governance, country planning, protected areas financing, information system. All these actions aim to tackle the environmental, social and economic challenges raised by forest areas.

French forest financing

France has been playing a major role in the forests and agriculture components of climate negotiations, and also in actions with developing countries.

During the Copenhagen Conference, in December 2009, France committed itself to spending approximately €250 million over 3 years (2010-2012) on forests, i.e. 20% of its total fast start commitment. This commitment has been achieved.

Since 2010, fast-start REDD+ financing was distributed via several multilateral - the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) - and bilateral - the French Development Agency (AFD) and the French Global Environment Facility (FFEM) - channels.


CNES 2009 - Distribution Astrium Services/Spot Image


FFEM Tunisie


V. Chaume/ONFI

General overview of some bilateral projects in the forest and climate sector

Optimising the goods and services provided by Mediterranean forests (Algeria, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia, and Turkey)

Initiated in late 2011, this project financed by the FFEM comes within the scope of the work done by the Silva Mediterranean, FAO and the Collaborative Partnership on Mediterranean Forests. It aims at contributing to the conservation and sustainable management of Mediterranean forests by highlighting the services they provide in the context of climate change and increasing anthropic pressure. Five countries are targeted: Algeria, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia, and Turkey.
The project endeavours to study the carbon storage and removal potential of the Mediterranean forests, which can be valuable in a REDD+ framework.

The project will be used for a regional capitalization to benefit to all the Mediterranean countries. It should end in 2015.

Promoting agro-ecology in order to limit deforestation around the Gilé National Reserve in Mozambique

The REDD+ Gilé project intends to combine biodiversity conservation, deforestation reduction and food security around the Gilé national reserve. It was launched in January 2014 thanks to the FFEM funding and the technical support from the Agriculture Ministry. Promoting agro-ecology among local communities is the main project's target. This should allow to both increase the production and maintain soil fertility while tackling land clearing.

Technology transfer of high resolution satellite imagery for forest monitoring in Central Africa

French cooperation initiated a series of projects designed to promote access to and use of SPOT satellite imagery for the purposes of REDD + in Central Africa:

* **Provision of satellite imagery f**or national authorities and stakeholders in REDD + projects (AFD funding, managing by the National Geographic Institute in partnership with Airbus Defense & Space, CNES, the Institute of Research for Development –IRD- and the NFB. See http://bassinducongo.reddspot.org.
* **Equipment and capacity-building of national public actors** for the exploitation of satellite data for forest monitoring (FFEM funding, steering by the IRD).

* **Installation of a reception antenna for satellite images** at libreville, steering by the gabonese agency for spatial study and observation - ageos).
* **Provision of satellite images** for consultation and analysis by the Global Forest Watch platform www.globalforestwatch.org.

Conservation and sustainable management of Gran Chaco (Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay)

The project aims at contributing to the sustainable management of Gran Chaco region, by developing an innovative approach combining the conservation of natural resources and local and participative local development through.

* **The creation of a regional sustainable development** and conservation area around the Pilcomayo catchment basin, located between Argentina, Bolivia and Paraguay;
* **The reduction of forest and land degradation** by pilot operations (food security improvement, valuation of bovine meat from routes, sustainable forest management, etc.).

The project is steered by the tri-national initiative for the conservation of the Pilcomayo (ITP), association which gathers together three foundations of the countries concerned. The project will be implemented in a complementary and coherent manner with the project from the GEF, entitled Sustainable forest management in the transboundary Gran Chaco American ecosystem. The project will last until 2016.

France supports the creation of REDD+ expertise abroad

France supports the enhancement of REDD+ expertise in countries by pooling, in the context of several projects, the skills of different actors (public institutions, private companies and NGOs).

* **The National Forestry Department (ONF) and its international branch (ONFI)** design reforestation projects, projects to avoid deforestation, and manage woodland and bio energy, organise seminars to provide support for forest/climate negotiators (Africa, Latin America, Southeast Asia) and contribute to the REDD+ project on the Guyana Shield.
* **CIRAD, the French Centre for agricultural research for development,** has been a pioneer in sustainable management of logged forests in Africa. It contributes to global research networks and implements a number of forestry projects throughout the world.
* **The IRD (Institute for Development Research)** is particularly active in the use of satellite data for monitoring forest cover, botany and sequestration on agricultural and forest land.
* **Several private forestry companies** have been involved in the sustainable management of logged forests. Rougier, Pallisco and Precious wood work with the FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) label.
* **Private consultancies** such as FRM (Forest Resources Management) or TEREA have developed unique expertise in forestry development with national teams.
* **The Airbus Defense & Space Group** (ex EADS-Astrium) has created a high-resolution satellite data and information analysis product which is appropriate for tracking the evolution of the forest cover within REDD+.
* **French and international NGOs,** supported by France in developing local expertise in REDD+: WWF, CI, WCS and TNC are implementing pilot projects. Action Carbone-Goodplanet and GERES are developing the use of highly innovative financing mechanisms for REDD+ projects, biogas, and improved stoves which have an important local impacts for communities.

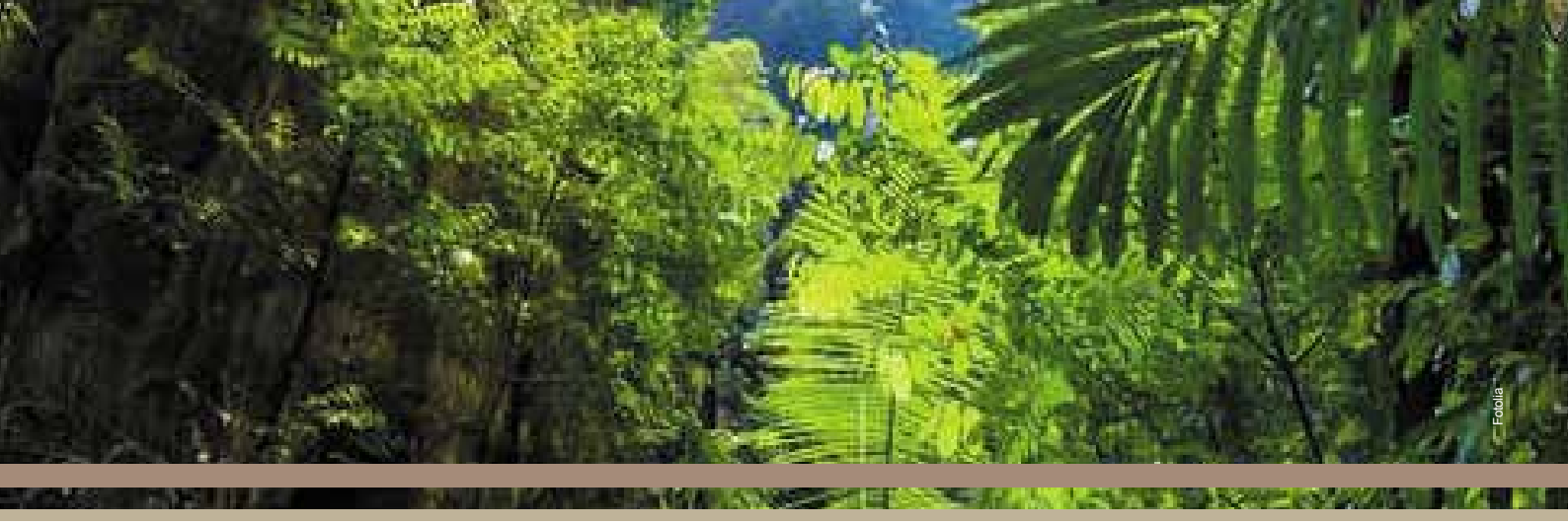
France and the fight against illegal logging

France is involved in implementing the EU FLEGT Action Plan (Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade), by facilitating the negotiation and implementation of voluntary partnership agreements (VPA) between the EU and third party timber producers). Thanks to the delegation of funds from the United-Kingdom government, France is supporting the implementation of the voluntary partnership agreement between the Republic of Congo and the European Union.

Thoughts of the French actors on tropical forests

On the occasion of the Rio+20 Conference in 2012, the National Group on Tropical Forests, which gathers the different French actors on this issue – Ministries and government agencies, the private sector, the scientific community and non-governmental organizations – produced a joint report entitled: Tropical forests: taking stock and new challenges. This defines new orientations in the face of the current challenges, in the France overseas as well as with partner countries.

www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/Rapport-GNFT-annee-2012.html



For further information

- **AFD (French Agency for Development):** www.afd.fr
- **Astrium geo-information services:** www.spotimage.com
- **ATIBT (International Tropical Timber technical association):** www.atibwt.org
- **CIRAD (International Center on agricultural research for development):** www.ur-bsef.cirad.fr
- **FLEGT and REDD facilities:** www.euflegt.efi.int
- **FFEM (French Global Environment Facility):** www.ffem.fr
- **FRM (Forest Ressources Management):** www.frm-france.com
- **INRA (French National Institute for Agricultural Research):** www.inra.fr/presse/foret_et_changement_climatique
- **IRD (Institut de recherche pour le développement):** www.ird.fr
- **Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development:** www.diplomatie.gouv.fr
- **Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry:** www.agriculture.gouv.fr
- **Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy:** www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr
- **ONF (Office national des forêts):** www.onf.fr
- **ONF international (Office national des forêts):** www.onf-international.fr
- **Terea:** www.terea.net

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