



Entity name:	Economic Community of the Central African States (ECCAS)
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Format for United Nations Forum on Forests regional/sub-regional partners reporting on progress towards the implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017–2030 and the United Nations Forest Instrument

1. The format is structured around the global forest goals and targets of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030.
2. While considering the word limits, regional and sub-regional entities are invited to provide as much detail as possible in their answers, including regarding figures and deadlines, if applicable.
3. The year 2015 is used as a baseline.
4. Where possible, all terms used herein are consistent with the terms and definitions used by the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessment.
5. Wherever possible, please indicate the source of information or provide a weblink.

*Please submit the completed format to: unff@un.org with cc: tavora-jainchill@un.org
by 15 November 2019.*

General Information

Information on Entity

Official Name:	Economic Community of the Central African States
Membership:	Regional Partner
Mandate:	Regional integration, member countries' economic development and improvement of people living conditions

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Global forest goal 1 and associated targets¹

Reverse the loss of forest cover worldwide through sustainable forest management, including protection, restoration, afforestation and reforestation, and increase efforts to prevent forest degradation and contribute to the global effort of addressing climate change

Associated targets

- 1.1 Forest area is increased by 3 per cent worldwide²
- 1.2 The world's forest carbon stocks are maintained or enhanced
- 1.3 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally
- 1.4 The resilience and adaptive capacity of all types of forests to natural disasters and the impact of climate change is significantly strengthened worldwide

Questions on goal 1

1. (a) Since 2015,³ what types of action have been taken by your entity to support Member States to advance or contribute to the achievement of targets 1.1–1.4?
 - **Subscribing to AFR-100 or AFR-one initiative for increasing the forest area wideness (1.1 and 1.3)),**
 - **Implementing the Regional project on REDD+ in Central Africa outcomes (1.2);**
 - **Implementing the Program of Support to the Congo Basin Ecosystems Conservation (PACEBCo in French) (1.4).**

Please indicate to which targets the actions relate and briefly describe the results to date, if applicable, (in a maximum of 250 words). For each action, please indicate whether it is continuous, planned, in progress or completed.

The action concerning AFR-one initiative is related to all of the 4 targets relative to the global forest goal -1 (target 1.1, target 1.2, target 1.3 and target 1.4.) Indeed, this action contributes to increase of forest area, enhancing forest carbon stocks, promoting of sustainable management of all types of forest implementing, increase afforestation and reforestation globally, strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity of all types of forests to natural disasters and impact of climate change. Up to now, AFR-100 initiative is in progress. The Planning and Coordinating Agency of NEPAD, which holds the Secretariat role, and Development partners such as Germany Cooperation, World Resources Institute have been struggling raising funds for the benefit of the initiative.

The action concerning the regional project on REDD+, is related to target 1.2. Indeed, this project is focused on the institutional capacity building in REDD+ issues in view of the Congo Basin Forest sustainable management. The overcome objective had been to strengthen the capacities of the Congo Basin Countries in matter related to REDD+ in general and the measuring of forest carbon storage in particular. The project had been funded by World Bank in the frame GEF-six and took end in March 2018. ECCAS and COMIFAC are managing to raise new funds for a second phase of this projects.

The action concerning the support of the Congo Basin Ecosystems Conservation (PACEBCo in French) is related to target 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4. In fact, the indicated Program has been built on two technical components out of which one consisted of biodiversity sustainable management and adaptation to climate change. This component aimed to planting ten thousand hectares with forest species around national parks high value conservation areas in the Congo Basin countries and the second on sustainable promoting of the well-being of people living around forests in project areas. Local development activities and REDD+ activities had been developed for this concern. In other words, this program contributes to increase of forest area, enhancing forest carbon stocks, promoting of sustainable management of all types of forest implementing, increase afforestation and reforestation globally, strengthening resilience and adaptive capacity of all types of forests to natural

disasters and impact of climate change. The Program (PACEBCo) arrived to its first phase in December 2018. ECCAS is in touch with African Development Bank for funding the five years second phase.

Legislative and policy actions

1. List of actions: **(i) Adoption of African Union Declaration on afforestation and restoration of degraded forest land of one hundred million hectares in Africa to 2030. (AFR-one in English or AFR-100 en French);**
(ii) Adoption of the REDD+ as common position to be integrated in the new Climate Change Agreement since Copenag CoP on Climate Change Convention. The regional REDD project has been capitalized for reinforcing institutional capacities of the congo basin countries in REDD+ issues and elaborate stools of measuring forest carbon storage;
(iii) Adoption of sustainable forest management and conservation of congo basin ecosystems as common position to submit to partners for funding. PACEBCo (Programme d'Appui à la Conservation des Ecosystèmes du Bassin du Congo) has been co-financed by African Development Bank and ECCAS in response to this request.

2. Description of actions: **(i) AFR-one (or AFR-100 in French)** has been created in 2016 with the rational to restore one hundred million hectares of forest land degraded in Africa. It is an initiative for helping African countries to realize the implementing of their national engagements taken in the frame of Bonn Challenge. My entity (ECCAS) has sensitized his member countries to involve in AFR-one implementing so that each of them, except Gabon and Equatorial Guinea, has defined the area to restore.
(ii) Regional project on REDD+: institutional capacities of the six Congo Basin countries (Cameroon, Centrafrica, Congo, DRC, Gabon, and Equatorial Guinea) in matter of REDD+ had been reinforced and allometric equations for measuring carbon stocks of Congo Basin forest had been developed.
(iii) Program of Congo Basin Ecosystems' Conservation (PACEBCo): Technical and institutional capacities of all sub-regional institution involved in forest resources conservation had been reinforced; about 7 000 (seven thousand) hectares had been reforested; infrastructures of forest resources conservation and those of local development had been build; activities related to the improvement of local people conditions and their adaptive capacity to climate change had been developed.

(ii) Institutional actions (actions to advance implementation of SFM)

1. **List of actions:** (i) capacity building of national forest administration responsables in matter of REDD+ for the congo basin forest sustainable management, (ii) determination by each member country of the area to afforest from now to 2030 in the accomplishment of engagement related AFR-one initiative.

2. Description of actions: **(i) Regarding REDD+:** Training on REDD+ matter had been organized in favour of all actors entities involved in the process; each congo basin country has been provided with equipments for collecting required datas; allometric equations had been developed by specialists and validated by countries' experts; national REDD programs had been developed.

(ii) Regarding AFR-one: all the member countries, except Gabon and Equatorial Guinea, have determined the area to put in afforest. About 60 million hectares are planned to be reforested in Central Africa.

¹ Goal 1 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 6.6, 12.2, 13.1, 13.3, 14.2, 15.1–15.4 and 15.8 of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5, 7, 9, 11, 14 and 15, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (o) and 7 (d) and (e) of the United Nations forest instrument.

² Based on the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2015.

2 Or earlier, where relevant to capturing important action. The same applies hereafter.

(iii) Financial actions

1. List of actions:

(i) Regarding REDD+: Activities had been financed by the Regional project funded by GEF-4 with an amount of thirteen (13) million dollars for 5 years. Other countries such as Gabon and DRC had additional financing from national budget and other multilateral sources as well. **(ii) Regarding AFR-one:** none field activity has been financed yet by bilateral or multilateral cooperation. Activities are still financed by national budgets

(iii) Regarding PACEBCo: activities had been financed by the Program funded by African Development Bank and ECCAS with an amount of 32 (thirty two) million account unit from ADB, 5 million AC U from ECCAS and 0,28 million Ac U from beneficiary countries, which is a total of 37,28 million Account Unit for eight years.

2. Description of actions:

(i) Regarding REDD+ Regional project: activities had been focused on 3 technical components as follows: (1) Improvement of knowledge and coordination of REDD+ initiatives in Congo Basin (4,705 million \$), (2) Reinforcement of technical capacities on measuring and monitoring of congo basin forests' carbon stocks (4,050 million \$) and (3) Integration of the REDD+ concept in the sustainable forest management projects (2,970 million \$). The 4th component was "the project management" (1,275 million \$).

(ii) Regarding the Program of the congo basin ecosystems conservation (PACEBCo): activities were focused on 3 technical components as follows: (1) Enhancement of institutional and technical capacities of COMIFAC (Commission of forests of the Central Africa) and all sub-regional organizations recognized by its Treaty as partners for the implementation of the COMIFAC's Convergence Plan (7,9 Account Unit); (2) Sustainable management of biodiversity and adaptation to climate change (17,88 Ac U), (3) Sustainable promotion of the forest-dependent people well-being (7,10 AC U). The 4th and last component had been "the program management" (4,4 Ac U).

(iii) Regarding AFR-one: None field activity has been financed by multilateral cooperation, except in some countries such as Cameroon.

3 Technical and scientific actions

In the frame of PACEBCo:

accomplished technical and scientific actions : recruitment of specialized Experts; elaboration of the regional strategy for forest research in Central Africa; creation of the platform for the data-base for monitoring the convergence plan implementation; elaboration of the local development plans; training and equipment of eco-gardes (wardens), sensitization of rural communities on agricultural and pastoral good practices; mapping landscapes and fencing parks; forest plantations; supporting of organizations and institutions involved in conservation in forest protected areas plans, building of conservation centers, water forage, schools and health centers for the benefit of people around forests....

Regarding REDD+:

Reinforcement of the regional coordination in matter of REDD+ between congo basin countries; promotion of inclusive participation and representation of REDD stake holders' groups to high level meeting on REDD+ policies and strategies; creation of scientific partnership for measuring and monitoring of forest carbon stock; elaboration of allometric equations; definition of methodologies and directives for promoting REDD+ activities in Congo Basin.

(b) What other action is being taken by your entity in support Member States to achieve goal 1?

(i) Negotiation with African Development Bank for funding a second phase of the Program of Supporting in favor of Congo Basin Ecosystems Conservation (PACEBCo en French);

(ii) Negotiation with accredited organisms (World Bank, UNDP, ...) for capturing GEF or Green fund for climate in order to fund the second phase of REDD+ regional project.
(iii) Negotiation with Partners of AFR-100 Initiative through African Union Development Agency-NEPAD for mobilizing funds in order to assist Member States in the implementation of forest degraded landscapes restoration.

(c) How do the actions listed above support Member States in the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

The above listed actions support member countries in the implementation of UN forest instrument, especially the UN strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030 as long as these actions contribute to reverse the loss of the regional forest cover.

(d) What are the main challenges in supporting Member States in achieving goal 1 in your region?

The main challenges in reversing the loss of forest cover is to ensure the sustainability of forest functions and values such as ecological, protection and productive functions. In other terms, reversing the loss of forest cover through forest protection, restoration and afforestation contribute to addressing climate change while conserving environmental advantages and generating forest products useful for economic development of Member states.

(e) Any additional comments on goal 1:

None

Global forest goal 2 and associated targets⁴

Enhance forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest-dependent people

Associated targets

- 2.1 Extreme poverty for all forest-dependent people is eradicated
- 2.2 Increase the access of small-scale forest enterprises, in particular in developing countries, to financial services, including affordable credit, and their integration into value chains and markets
- 2.3 The contribution of forests and trees to food security is significantly increased
- 2.4 The contribution of forest industry, other forest-based enterprises and forest ecosystem services to social, economic and environmental development, among other things, is significantly increased
- 2.5 The contribution of all types of forests to biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation and adaptation is enhanced, taking into account the mandates and ongoing work of relevant conventions and instruments

Questions on goal 2

2. (a) Since 2015, what types of action have been taken by your entity to support Member States to advance or contribute to the achievement of targets 2.1–2.5?

1. Implementing the Program of Support to the Congo Basin Ecosystems Conservation (PACEBCo in

French). (2.1 and 2.5)

2. **Subscribing to AFR-100 or AFR-one initiative for increasing the forest area wideness (2.5),**
3. **Promotion of non-wood forest products utilization as human food (2.3);**
4. **Promotion of sustainable development of wood products industry in Congo Basin countries (2.4)**

Please indicate to which targets the actions relate and briefly describe the results to date if applicable (in a maximum of 250 words). For each action, please indicate whether it is continuous, planned, in progress or completed.

(i) Legislative and policy actions

1. List of actions:

- (i) Adoption of African Union Declaration on afforestation and restoration of degraded forest land of one hundred million hectares in Africa to 2030. (AFR-one in English or AFR-100 en French);**
- (ii) Adoption of sustainable forest management and conservation of Congo Basin ecosystems as common position to submit to partners for funding.**
- (iii) Adoption by the Member countries, through the COMIFAC Ministerial Counsel, of a decision to put on foot a regional project on promotion of non-wood forest products development.**
- (iv) Adoption, in May 2015, by ECCAS Head of States' Conference of a decision to promote the development of small and medium scale wood products producing enterprises.**

2. Description of actions:

- (i) AFR-one (or AFR-100 in French)** has been created in 2016 with the rational to restore one hundred million hectares of forest land degraded in Africa. It is an initiative for helping African countries to realize the implementing of their national engagements taken in the frame of Bonn Challenge. My entity (ECCAS) has sensitized his member countries to involve in AFR-one implementing so that each of them, except Gabon and Equatorial Guinea, has defined the area to restore.
- (ii) Program of Congo Basin Ecosystems' Conservation (PACEBCo):** Technical and institutional capacities of all sub-regional institution involved in forest resources conservation had been reinforced; about 7 000 (seven thousand) hectares had been reforested; infrastructures of forest resources conservation and those of local development had been build; activities related to the improvement of local people conditions and their adaptive capacity to climate change had been developed.
- (iii) The regional project on promotion of non-wood forest products** had been elaborated and adopted in 2015. Its implementation had been financed by African Development Bank and executed with FAO technical aid. The first phase of the project took end in 2017 and ECCAS / COMIFAC is in touch with African Development Bank for funding the second phase.
- (iv) In view of putting in action the Head of States' decision on the promotion of wood-products producing enterprises,** ECCAS, with financial support of African Development Bank, has had elaborated a strategic plan for the sustainable development of wood industry in Congo Basin countries. This strategic plan aims the widening of the productive forest area, the increasing of the number of wood species to harvest, the increasing of the volum and quality processed woods products, the performing of wood-products producing technical and financial capacities, the improving of investment conditions..etc

(ii) Institutional actions (actions to advance implementation of SFM)

1. List of actions:

- (i) Determination by each member country of the area to afforest from now to 2030 in the accomplishment of engagement related AFR-one initiative.

- (ii) Putting on foot the Unity of the Program Management for the implementation of the regional Program PACEBCo;
- (iii) Recruitment of an a consortium of expert cabinets for the elaboration of the strategic plan for the sustainable development of wood industry in Congo Basin countries and its submission to the validation by the Member countries' delegates;
- (iv) Recruitment of a consultant for the elaboration of the regional project on promotion of non-wood forest products;

2. Description of actions:

- (i) Regarding AFR-one:** all the member countries, except Gabon and Equatorial Guinea, have determined the area to put in afforest. About 60 million hectares are planned to be reforested in Central Africa.
- (ii) Regarding the regional Program PACEBCo: a Regional Coordinator and 9 thematic experts were recruited for the implementation of the Program.
- (iii) Regarding the strategic plan for the sustainable development of wood industry in Congo Basin countries:** a consortium of four expert cabinets (CIRAD, FRM, ...), sustained by national experts of Ministries in charge of forest of the 6 congo basin countries, had been recruited and produced the report on the status of forestry situation in each country, including the strategic plan for developing the wood producing sector in Central Africa.
- (iv) Regarding the regional project on promotion of non-wood forest products:** a consultant, under FAO's Central African Regional Office coordination had been for the elaboration the said project. This one had been focused on the identification of mains non-wood forest products to promote for being integrate in human people feeding system.

⁴ Goal 2 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 1.1, 1.4, 2.4, 4.4, 5.a, 6.6, 8.3, 9.3, 12.2, 12.5, 15.6 and 15.c of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 4, 14 and 18, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (d)–(f), (h), (j), (p), (q), (t)–(v) and (y) and 7 (k) of the United Nations forest instrument.

(iii) Financial actions

1. List of actions:

- (i) Regarding AFR-one:** none field activity has been financed yet by bilateral or multilateral cooperation. Activities are still financed by national budgets
- (ii) Regarding PACEBCo:** activities had been implemented under a co-funding from African Development Bank for an amount of 32 (thirty two) million account unit from ADB, ECCAS for an amount of 5 million Ac U from ECCAS and 0,28 million Ac U from beneficiary countries, which is a total of 37,28 million Account Unit for eight years.
- (iii) Regarding the strategic plan for the sustainable development of wood industry in Congo Basin countries:** funded by African Development Bank;
- (iv) Regarding the regional project on promotion of non-wood forest products:** funded by African Development Bank

2. Description of actions:

- (i) Regarding the strategic plan for the sustainable development of wood industry in Congo Basin countries :** African Development Bank financed for the consortium of expert cabinets' honorary fees and for 2 workshops organized in favor of Member countries' delegates for validation of the report and the the strategic plan;
- (ii) Regarding the Program of the congo basin ecosystems conservation (PACEBCo):** activities were focused on 3 technical components as follows: (1) Enhancement of institutional and technical capacities of COMIFAC (Commission of forests of the Central Africa) and all sub-regional organizations recognized by its Treaty as partners for the implementation of the COMIFAC's Convergence Plan (7,9 Account Unit); (2) Sustainable management of biodiversity and adaptation to climate change (17,88 Ac U), (3) Sustainable promotion of the forest-dependent people well-being (7,10 AC U). The 4th and last component had been "the program management" (4,4 Ac U).
- (iii) Regarding AFR-one:** None field activity has been financed by multilateral cooperation, except in some countries such as Cameroon.
- (iv) Regarding the regional project on promotion of non-wood forest products:** The African Development Bank funded, through FAO Regional Office based in Libreville in Gabon, for the payment of the consultant recruited for the elaboration of the project and for its implementation as well.

(iv) Technical and scientific actions

- (i) In the frame of PACEBCo :** recruitment of specialized Experts; elaboration of the regional strategy for forest research in Central Africa; creation of the platform for the data-base for monitoring the convergence plan implementation; elaboration of the local development plans; training and equipment of (wardens) eco-gardes, sensitization of rural communities on agricultural and pastoral good practices; mapping landscapes and fencing parks; forest plantations; building of conservation centers, water forage, schools and health centers for the benefit of people around forests....
- (ii) Regarding the regional project on promotion for the sustainable development of wood industry in Congo Basin countries:** 2 workshops had been organized in favor of six congo basin countries' delegates in view of validation of the documents elaborated by the consortium of expert cabinets. It remains to have this strategic plan validated by ECCAS' Ministerial Counsel for it to be adopted by ECCAS' Head of States and Government Conference.
- (iii) Regarding the regional project on promotion of non-wood forest products:** regional directive had been adopted. It belongs to Member countries to convert this regional directive in national designs.

(b) What other action is being taken by your entity in support Member States to achieve goal 2?

(i) Negotiation with African Development Bank for funding a second phase of the Program of Supporting in favor of Congo Basin Ecosystems Conservation (PACEBCo en French);
(ii) Negotiation with Partners of AFR-100 Initiative through African Union Development Agency-NEPAD for mobilizing funds in order to assist Member States in the implementation of forest degraded landscapes restoration.

(c) How does the actions listed above support Member States in the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

The above listed actions support member countries in the implementation of UN forest instrument, especially the UNSPF 2017-2030 given that:

- (i) PACEBCo contributes to the implementation of targets 2.1 and 2.5;
- (ii) Strategic plan for the sustainable development of wood industry is supposed to address the targets 2.1, 2.2 and 2.4;
- (iii) The regional project on promotion of non-wood forest products will address the targets 2.1 and 2.3; and
- (iv) AFR-100 initiative contributes to the implementation of target 2.5

(d) What are the main challenges in supporting Member States in achieving goal 2 in your region?

The main challenges in enhancing forest-based economic, social and environmental benefits, including by improving the livelihoods of forest-dependent people are as follows among others:

(i) This goal corresponds to the statutory mandate of ECCAS which is articulated around 3 axes: (i) enhance regional integration, (ii) help the Member States to reinforce their national economics, and (iii) improve the environmental and economic people living conditions. Therefore, implementing the five targets of this goal in ECCAS region contributes significantly to the implementation of the mandate of our regional economic community.

(ii) Achieving this goal will help Member States to create jobs for their people and contribute to the development of local communities while ensuring the sustainability of livelihoods of forest dependent people.

(e) Any additional comments on goal 2:

None

(d)

Global forest goal 3 and associated targets⁵

Increase significantly the area of protected forests worldwide and other areas of sustainably managed forests, as well as the proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests

Associated targets

- 3.1 The area of forests worldwide designated as protected areas or conserved through other effective area-based conservation measures is significantly increased
- 3.2 The area of forests under long-term forest management plans is significantly increased
- 3.3 The proportion of forest products from sustainably managed forests is significantly increased

Questions on goal 3

5. (a) Since 2015, what types of actions have been taken by your entity to support Member States to advance or contribute to the achievement of targets 3.1–3.3?

Please indicate to which targets the actions relate and briefly describe the results to date if applicable, (in a maximum of 250 words). For each action, please indicate whether it is continuous, planned, in progress or completed.

- (i) Legislative and policy actions

1. List of actions:

- (i) **Widening of protected forest area (target 3.1.) ; continuous action**
- (ii) **Sensitization of Member States to elaborate forest management plans for their forest allocated to wood production (targets 3.2, 3.3);continuous action,**
- (iii) **Supporting Member States in elaboration of management plans for their protected areas (target 3.1); continuous action,**
- (iv) **Sensitization of Member States to strictly harvest logs in sustainably managed forest area (target 3.3); continuous action.**

2. **Description of actions:**

(i) Creation in 2016 of a new trans boundary park called Bouba Ndjida park between Chad and Cameroon;

(ii) All the Congo Basin countries are in the process of elaboration of forest management plans for all of their forest allocated to wood production. This process has been internalized by forest societies given the fact that sustainable forest management has been the main requirement of forest certification. An expert Cabinet called Forest Management The group Forest Resources Management (FRMi), associated with CIRAD has been encourage to assist forest societies in elaborating forest management plans.

(iii) **Program of Congo Basin Ecosystems' Conservation (PACEBCo):** Technical and institutional capacities of all sub-regional institution involved in forest resources conservation had been reinforced; about 7 000 (seven thousand) hectares had been reforested in the view to avoid people to introduce their activities in protected forest areas;

(iv) **Program Central African Forest Ecosystems Conservation (ECOFAC in french),** funded by European Union in the frame of 10th European Fund for Development, has supported Member States to elaborated management plans for their protected areas.

- (ii) Institutional actions (actions to advance implementation of SFM)

1. List of actions:

- (i) Creation of the bodies in charge of conservation and sustainable forest management in the Member States;
- (ii) Putting on foot the Unity of the Program Management for the implementation of the regional Program (PACEBCo and ECOFAC);
- (iii) Recognition of FRMi (Forest Resources Management group) as a technical supporting organism in the process of the elaboration of sustainable forest management plans in Congo Basin ;

2. Description of actions:

(i) Creation of bodies in charge of forest conservation and sustainable forest management: In all member countries, it is created at one hand the specialized bodies for the protected forest areas, especially for national parks and all kinds of protected forest areas. In other Member States, at another hand bodies in charge of sustainable productive forest management.

(ii) Regarding Program management Unities: for each of the both above indicated programs, it has been created the regional unities for their technical and financial implementation. Each Management Program Unity has been constituted of a Regional Coordinator and thematic experts, among which the one in charge of administrative and financial affairs.

⁵ Goal 3 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 7.2, 12.2, 12.6, 12.7, 14.2, 14.5, 15.2 and 15.4 of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 7, 11, 12 and 16, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (p), (q) and (x) and 7 (f) and (g) of the United Nations forest instrument.

- (iii) Financial actions

(iv)

1. List of actions:

- (i) Negotiation with African Bank for Development for funding PACEBCo**
(ii) Negotiation with European Union for funding the Central African Ecosystems Conservation.

2. Description of actions:

(i) Regarding PACEBCo: activities had been implemented under a co-funding from African Development Bank for an amount of 32 (thirty two) million account unit from ADB, ECCAS for an amount of 5 million Ac U from ECCAS and 0,28 million Ac U from beneficiary countries, which is a total of 37,28 million Account Unit for eight years.

(ii) Regarding the ECOFAC Program: in the frame of 10th edition of European Fund for Development (FED in french), ECCAS negotiated and received from European Union (EU) an amount of about 4 million Euros for funding for a duration of 4 years (2010 to 2013). In order to achieve the activities initiated with this 10th EFD, ECCAS also negotiated with European Union and got fund in the frame of 11th EFD.

(iii) **Regarding FRMi activities of assisting forest societies in elaboration of sustainable forest management plans:** activities are funded by own financial resources of these forest societies

(v) Technical and scientific actions

1. List of actions:

ii) Regarding PACEBCo: promotion of activities related to sustainable forest conservation in forest landscapes.

(iii) Regarding the Central African Forest Ecosystems Conservation program (ECOFAC /EFD-10 / 11) : implementation of existing stools of nature conservation in protected areas.

(iv) Regarding FRMi : assisting forest societies in the elaboration of sustainable management of their forest concessions.

2. Description of actions:

(ii) Regarding the Program of the congo basin ecosystems conservation (PACEBCo): training and equipment of eco-gardes (wardens), sensitization of rural communities to avoid agricultural and pastoral activities in protected areas; mapping landscapes and fencing parks; forest plantations; building of conservation centers, supporting of institutions involved in nature conservation for elaborating protected forest areas management plans.

(ii) Regarding the Central African Forest Ecosystems Conservation program (ECOFAC /EFD-10 / 11) the fund received in this frame had been used for the implementation of activities related to forest protected areas and to anti-poaching in Central Africa. Management plans for protected areas and anti-poaching tools had been elaborated and implemented.

(b) What other action is being taken your entity in support Member States to achieve goal 3?

ECCAS sensitizes and encourages member countries to create additional parks or protected forest areas. All Member countries plan to affect more than 10% of their respective national wide to protected areas, and are sensitized to elaborate adequate strategies and plans for the sustainable management of their forests.

(c) How does the action listed above support Member States in the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument?

The above listed actions support member countries in the implementation of UN forest instrument, especially the UN strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030 as long as they contribute to increase the area of protected forests worldwide and other areas of sustainable managed forests, as well as the proportion of forest products from sustainable managed forests..

(d) What are the main challenges in supporting Member States in achieving goal 3 in your region?

The main challenges in increasing the areas of protected forest regional wide and other areas of sustainable managed forest is to ensure the sustainable contribution of forest to nature protection,

addressing climate change and to the generation of forest products useful for economic development of Member states.

(e) Any additional comments on goal 3:

None

Global forest goal 4 and associated targets⁶

Mobilize significantly increased, new and additional financial resources from all sources for the implementation of sustainable forest management and strengthen scientific and technical cooperation and partnerships

Associated targets

- 4.1 Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance sustainable forest management and provide adequate incentives to developing countries to advance such management, including for conservation and reforestation
- 4.2 Forest-related financing from all sources at all levels, including public (national, bilateral, multilateral and triangular), private and philanthropic financing, is significantly increased
- 4.3 North-South, South-South, North-North and triangular cooperation and public-private partnerships on science, technology and innovation in the forest sector are significantly enhanced and increased
- 4.4 The number of countries that have developed and implemented forest financing strategies and have access to financing from all sources is significantly increased
- 4.5 The collection, availability and accessibility of forest-related information is improved through, for example, multidisciplinary scientific assessments

Questions on goal 4

6. (a) Please describe major actions taken in your region to move towards goal 4 and its associated targets. More detailed information on actions for each target may be supplied below.

Mobilization of financial resources for the implementation of:

1. Program of Supporting of the Congo Basin Ecosystems Conservation (PACEBCo): 28 million account unities from African Development Bank (ADB) : targets 4.1 and 4.2
2. Program of Conservation of the Central African fragile ecosystems (ECOFAC): 6 million Euros from European Union : targets 4.1. and 4.2.
3. Regional Project on Reduction of Gas Emission due to Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+):13 million USD from Global Environment Fund (GEF): targets 4.1, 4.2, and 4.4
4. Central African Forests Initiative (CAFI): 4.4.

Progress towards targets 4.1 and 4.2

(b) Since 2015, has your entity been able to mobilize significantly increased financial resources to support Member States in the implementation of sustainable forest management?

Yes.

1. Program of Supporting of the Congo Basin Ecosystems Conservation (PACEBCo): 28 million account unities from African Development Bank (ADB)
2. Program of Conservation of the Central African fragile ecosystems (ECOFAC): 6 million Euros from European Union
3. Regional Project on Reduction of Gas Emission due to Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+):13 million USD from Global Environment Fund (GEF).

Yes

No

Please describe the main challenges in mobilizing funds in a maximum of 250 words:

The main challenges in mobilizing funds is to help Member States to implement activities related to the promotion of their forest sector in the view of putting in action their engagements face to international agreements at one hand and improving their own sustainable development at another hand.

⁶ Goal 4 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, targets 12.a, 15.7, 15.a, 15.b, 17.1–17.3, 17.6, 17.7 and 17.16 -17.19 of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Target 19, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (h), (i), (m), (r) and (s) and 7 (a)–(c) and (l)–(q) of the United Nations forest instrument.

Progress towards target 4.3

(c) Please specify the actors/stakeholders with which your entity is cooperating:

- Governments **Yes**
- Intergovernmental organizations/processes
- Private sector
- Non-governmental organizations
- Other (please specify):

Types of cooperation:

- North-South **Yes**
- South-South
- North-North
- Triangular
- Technical **Yes**
- Financial **Yes**
- Other (please specify): **Multi-lateral**

Areas of cooperation:

- Forests and climate change **Yes**
- Forest biodiversity **Yes**
- Valuation of the ecosystem services provided by forests
- Socioeconomic issues, including livelihoods
- Forest degradation and rehabilitation **Yes**
- Scientific cooperation
- Forest monitoring/data collection
- Technology transfer and capacity development
- Production of timber or non-timber products **Yes**
- Other (please specify):

Progress towards target 4.4

(d) Since 2015, has your entity supported Member States in developing or implementing financing strategies to achieve sustainable forest management and to implement the United Nations forest instrument?

Yes

No

Comments if needed:

Member States had been trained in matter of the elaboration of projects related to Green Fund for Climate; and more than two of them (Republic of the Congo, D.R. Congo, Gabon) have already benefited from CAFI fund.

Global forest goal 5 and associated targets ⁷

Promote governance frameworks to implement sustainable forest management, including through the United Nations forest instrument, and enhance the contribution of forests to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Associated targets

5.1 Number of countries that have integrated forests into their national sustainable development plans and/or poverty reduction strategies is significantly increased

5.2 Forest law enforcement and governance are enhanced, including through significantly strengthening national and subnational forest authorities, and illegal logging and associated trade are significantly reduced worldwide

5.3 National and subnational forest-related policies and programs are coherent, coordinated and complementary across ministries, departments and authorities, consistent with national laws, and engage relevant stakeholders, local communities and indigenous peoples, fully recognizing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

5.4 Forest-related issues and the forest sector are fully integrated into decision-making processes concerning land use planning and development

Questions on goal 5

7. (a) Please describe major actions taken in your region to move towards goal 5 and its associated targets. More detailed information on actions for each target may be supplied below.

1. Implementation of forest activities in having as reference the regional Convergent Plan adopted by the COMIFAC Head of States' Summit; (5.1, 5.3, 5.4)
2. Elaboration by each Member State of sustainable forest management plans before exploiting their productive forest; (5.2)
3. Adoption of a common regional and national sets of principles, criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management to take as reference for the elaboration of SFM plans (5.2, 5.4);

4. Adoption of regional and national system of chain of custody for trade of logs and processed wood products (5.2, 5.4);,
5. Adoption of regional and national anti-poaching plans (5.2).

⁷ Goal 5 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement, among other things, of targets 1.4, 2.4, 5.a, 15.9, 15.c, 16.3, 16.5–16.7, 16.10 and 17.14 of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Aichi Biodiversity Targets 2 and 3, and are supported by paragraphs 6 (a), (c), (k), (l), (n) and (w) and 7 (c) and (h)–(j) of the United Nations forest instrument.

Progress towards target 5.2

(b) Since 2015, has your entity supported Member States in promoting or participating in National/Regional/Sub-Regional initiatives to prevent and reduce illegal international trafficking in forest products, wildlife and other biological resources?

Yes

No

Comments if needed:

The national systems of chain of custody put on foot in the frame of Agreement of voluntary partnership for wood products with European Union address fight against illegal international trafficking in forest products.

ECCAS brings support to Member States for their participation to regional and or sub regional meetings and conferences on the indicated target 5.2 topics

Global forest goal 6 and associated targets⁸

Enhance cooperation, coordination, coherence and synergies on forest-related issues at all levels, including within the United Nations system and across member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, as well as across sectors and relevant stakeholders

Note: targets 6.1 and 6.2 are not included in this section of the reporting format as they address actions taken by the international community, and not those taken at the national level

Associated targets

6.3 Cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation to promote sustainable forest management and halt deforestation and forest degradation are significantly enhanced at all levels

6.4 A greater common understanding of the concept of sustainable forest management is achieved and an associated set of indicators is identified

6.5 The input and involvement of major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the

strategic plan and in the work of the Forum, including intersessional work, is strengthened

Questions on goal 6

8. (a) Please describe major actions taken in your region to move towards goal 6 and its associated targets. More detailed information on actions for each target may be supplied below.

1. Creation of national intern ministerial platforms for the implementation of REDD+ (6.3)
2. Consultation of all the forest stake holders during the process of the elaboration of the SFM plans (6.5);
3. Adoption of the regional (COMIFAC) Convergent Plan as reference document for the design and implementation of projects related to sustainable development on the basis of forest resources in the region (6.4).

⁸ Goal 6 and its targets support and contribute to the achievement of, among other things, target 17.14 of the Sustainable Development Goals and are supported by paragraphs 6 (b), (c), (g), (m) and (w) and 7 (r) and (s) of the United Nations forest instrument.

Progress towards target 6.3 (cross-sectorial coordination and cooperation)

(b) Please describe major actions taken in your region to regarding cross-sectorial coordination and cooperation to promote sustainable forest management and halt deforestation and forest degradation.

1. Consultation of all the forest stake holders during the process of the elaboration of the SFM plans;
2. Existing of a regional and national civil societies organizations accredited for the sustainable forest development in the region. This organization is called in french “Conférence des Ecosystèmes des Forêts Denses et Humides d’Afrique Centrale (CEFDHAC)”.

Progress towards target 6.4 (criteria and indicators)

(c) Are there criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management used by your entity?

- Yes** No

If yes, please specify which sets are used:

Regional and national sets of principles, criteria and indicators of sustainable forest management to take as reference for the elaboration of SFM plans

For which of the following purposes are they used? (Multiple answers possible)

- To generate information for national reports on forest conditions and management **Yes**
- To monitor and assess forest conditions and management **Yes**



- To review and develop national forest policies and tools for sustainable forest management **Yes**
- To communicate with society and carry out dialogue with stakeholders
- To report on forests to regional and international organizations (please specify):

Progress towards target 6.4 (communication and awareness)

(d) Since 2015, have actions been taken by your entity to communicate and promote a greater understanding and awareness of sustainable forest management?

- Yes** No

If yes, please specify in a maximum of 250 words:

Every two years, it is published an edition of document called “status of Central African Forest” where are presented many issues related to SFM in the region, including many definitions. Moreover.

Progress towards target 6.5

(e) Have actions been taken by your entity to involve major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030?

- Yes** No

If yes, please specify in a maximum of 250 words:

Existing of a regional and national civil societies organizations accredited for the sustainable forest development in the region. This organization is called in french “Conférence des Ecosystèmes des Forêts Denses et Humides d’Afrique Centrale (CEFDHAC)”.

Other questions

9. (a) Since 2015, has your entity taken action to support Member States in promoting gender equality in the forest sector?

- Yes** No

If yes, please indicate action taken regarding the following:

- Women’s effective access to the control and use of forest resources
- Women’s effective participation in decision-making at the household and community levels
- Women’s effective participation and representation in forest management institutions **Yes**
- Other

Please provide a brief description:

A regional strategy on gender had been adopted by Regional Ministerial Counsel and its implementation has been at its starting step.

(b) What action has been taken by your entity in observance of the International Day of Forests?

- Cultural activities (for example, art, music, film and theatre)
- Educational activities (for example, workshops and symposiums)
- Media activities (for example, newspapers, magazines, television and radio) **Yes**
- Social media activities
- Other



Please provide two to three examples and, if possible, a weblink or weblinks to relevant documentation:

Not available (radio communication)

Success stories

10. Does your entity have any success stories relating to the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017– 2030? If so, please provide a brief description, with references (such as weblinks, publications and articles), showing how the action contributed to achieving the goals and targets and specifying which goals and targets are relevant. Please provide a maximum of three success stories.

Success story 1

Action taken:

Goals and targets addressed:

Outcome and results achieved: