Beyond adaptation and mitigation
Multisectoral approach of synergies in the Congo basin

Congo Basin: complex settings, isolated sectoral policies

+++
Fauna & flora
Biodiversity (CBD)

+++
Natural resources
Rich forests

High external demands
Agro business, mining, etc.

+++
Carbon stock (UNFCCC)

Poor states (MDG)

High development needs

Poor governance conflicts

vulnerability to CC

Activities
- **Research**: Country profiles and regional synthesis on adaptation, mitigation, forest, environment, multisectoral policies
- **Participatory action research** on 5 pilot projects

Complexity: diverse and conflicting interest, multiple stakeholders, and competition

Research questions
Is synergy adapt.- mitigation
- necessary?
- Sufficient?
- If no, what is needed?
Is synergy A – M necessary? Opportunities? Constraints?

**Opportunities at national level**
- COMIFAC and national institutions for concerted policies;
- REDD+ Safeguards
- SFM policies and practices → Low deforestation and degradation rate;
- Existence of a benefit sharing mechanism, to be performed

**Constraints:**
- unclear Land and forest Tenure → risk of exclusion of local people from land and pecuniary benefits of REDD+ → vulnerability
- Illegal activities
- Competition between actors and conflicts of leadership
- Forest excludes from adaptation
- High pressure on forest and forest resources

**Vicious circle:** vulnerability ↔ deforestation/degradation  → +++ of the synergy A&M
Is synergy A-M sufficient?

Climate change ↔ Development

Sectors sensitive to CC
- Rural economy
- Health
- Water
- Fishing

Agriculture
- Livestock
- Hydro energy
- Transport
- Forests
- Etc.

Wood energy
- Mines etc.

Sectoral drivers of deforestation and degradation

No sustainable development without taking into account climate issues

Climate is a crosscutting issue and is an integrated part of the fight against poverty at all levels.

- Cameroon Growth and Employment strategies (2020) should lead to at least 1,9 millions hectares of forest loss, that is 7,36% of the current national forest cover.
- And what about the former commitment of raising permanent forests up to 30% of the total area of national territory? (Law 94 Section.22)
building synergies and negotiating trade-offs for insuring permanence of carbon stocks in the Congo Basin implies removing or at least reducing existing barriers between adaptation and mitigation policies, between climate change and development policies and practices.

Landscape as an optimal level of implementation of synergies

Action research to test and improve synergies
Thank you!

Merci!

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