Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP)

Options for Fostering the Dialogue
On Sustainable Forest Management and Trade
between China and the Congo Basin

Hans SCHIPULLE, CBFP Facilitator
Samuel MAKON, CBFP Facilitator Delegate
Beijing, April 22nd, 2009
The Congo Basin Forest Partnership (1)

- launched in 2002, at the World Sustainable Development Summit at Johannesburg, as a voluntary multi-stakeholder initiative

- contributes to the implementation of an intergovernmental commitment (the Yaoundé Declaration), carried out by the Central African Forests Commission (COMIFAC), the regional body in charge of forests and environmental policy, coordination and harmonisation

- brings together COMIFAC member states, donor agencies, international organisations, NGOs, scientific institutions and representatives from the private sector (almost 50 members)
COMIFAC member states and geographic location
The Congo Basin Forest Partnership (2)

- promotes the conservation and sustainable management of the Congo Basin's forest ecosystems by
  - protecting the region's biodiversity
  - promoting good forest governance and
  - improving the population's living standards

- raises the effectiveness of the partners' programs and initiatives, through improved communication and collaboration. Partnership guidelines are laid out in the Cooperation Framework
The Congo Basin Forest Partnership (3)

Financial contributions by CBFP members (estimates 2007)

![Graph showing financial contributions by CBFP members from 2002 to 2011. The contributions are categorized by partners such as Central African states, USA, European Commission, Germany, UK, France, WB/GEF, and Other partners. The graph illustrates the trend in financial contributions over the years.]
CBFP – working structure

- Without any agency structure or secretariat, the partnership works as a transmission belt for enhancing dialogue and cooperative action between development partners.

- Steering by “Facilitation”

- Facilitation has been provided by USA (2002-2004), France (2004-2007) and Germany (2008-2009/10).
CBFP – our main accomplishments (1)

- CBFP has strengthened COMIFAC as a regional coordination body, it has promoted the capacities of its member governments to pursue their interests in international dialogue, and it provides a platform for partners to improve effectiveness of their contributions. Examples for recent initiatives:
  - Exploring new approaches for Sustainable Forest Management in cooperation with civil society and by improved governance
  - Enhancing partnership with the private sector
  - Developing regional certification standards
  - Cooperating in start up of Congo Basin Forest Fund / CBFF
  - Harmonizing support related to UNFCCC / REDD & CBD
  - Reaching out to Chinese government and private sector
CBFP – our main accomplishments (2)

- CBFP has improved **regional and international information dissemination** about the Congo Basin forest ecosystems
  - Joint publication State of the Forests 2006 and 2008 (*forthcoming*)
  - Comprehensive communication strategy (website, info bulletin, press releases) and regular exchange fora (statutory meetings)

- CBFP has demonstrated its **capability to bring in new partners**, attracted by the flexible partnership network and the provision of thematic synergies
China and the Congo Basin – a dialogue on forests (1)

China and the world timber market:
in 2006, China spent 17 billion US$ for importing timber, and re-exports 70% of this raw timber as manufactured products.

Africa and the China timber market:
in 2003, China imported 30% of its total timber imports from Central and West African countries.
China and the Congo Basin – a dialogue on forests (2)

- SFA accepted invitation to CBFP Plenary (Paris, October 2007), IFIA invited Chinese operators to their dialogue platform on sustainable forest management with private sector representatives in Libreville / Gabon (May 2008)

CBFP intends to further promote strengthening of the relations between chinese actors with actors of the Congo Basin (COMIFAC, private sector and CBFP members)
China and the Congo Basin – a dialogue on forests (3)

- EU - China
  Conference on Forest Law Enforcement and Governance
  (September 2007, Beijing)
  – followed by –
  Bilateral Coordination Mechanism on FLEG (January 2009)
  provides for exchange of information and training
  activities between EU and China, involving third
  timber producing countries (i.e. also Africa)

CBFP can contribute to implementation of the agreement
China and the Congo Basin – a dialogue on forests (4)

- EU-Commission policy initiative (October 2008)
  Communication on « The EU, Africa and China: Towards trilateral dialogue and cooperation »
  - Includes proposals on sustainable management of forests (cooperation between timber producers in Africa, processors in China, retailers in EU; technical support for government agencies, communities and private sector; implementation of guidelines for SFM)

« CBFP could have a useful role to play in such collaboration »

Let’s continue now!
For further information:

www.cbfp.org

Hans.Schipulle@gmx.de
Samuel.Makon@gtz.de

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION
Republic of Congo (Brazzaville) - tropical timber exports

Proportion imported by given country (based on RWEvolume*)

Importing country

* import data have been converted to estimate roundwood equivalent export volume

Source: Eurostat, World Trade Atlas, national yearbooks of import statistics