



Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

Cameroon ER-PIN Emission Reduction Program in Southern Cameroon

Thirteenth Meeting of the Carbon Fund (CF13)

Brussels

October 13-16, 2015

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ER Program Idea Background/Context

Country context:

- **Historically low deforestation** but under enormous pressure (HFLD: >70% forest cover and 0.11% annual deforestation);
- **Forest is under threat** from increasing agricultural expansion, mining and infrastructure development;
- **Sustainable land use planning** and zoning is crucial to address deforestation;
- **Inter-ministerial dialogue** under the auspices of MINEPAT (Ministry of Planning) and the National REDD+ Steering Committee currently ongoing;

ER program:

- **Vision: Achieve regional green growth** while contributing to the stabilization of GHG through zero net deforestation, sustainable natural resource management, biodiversity conservation, and provision of alternative livelihoods;
- ER Program will operationalize sustainable land use planning and bring all relevant actors together within a **sub-national strategy for local development and climate change mitigation**.

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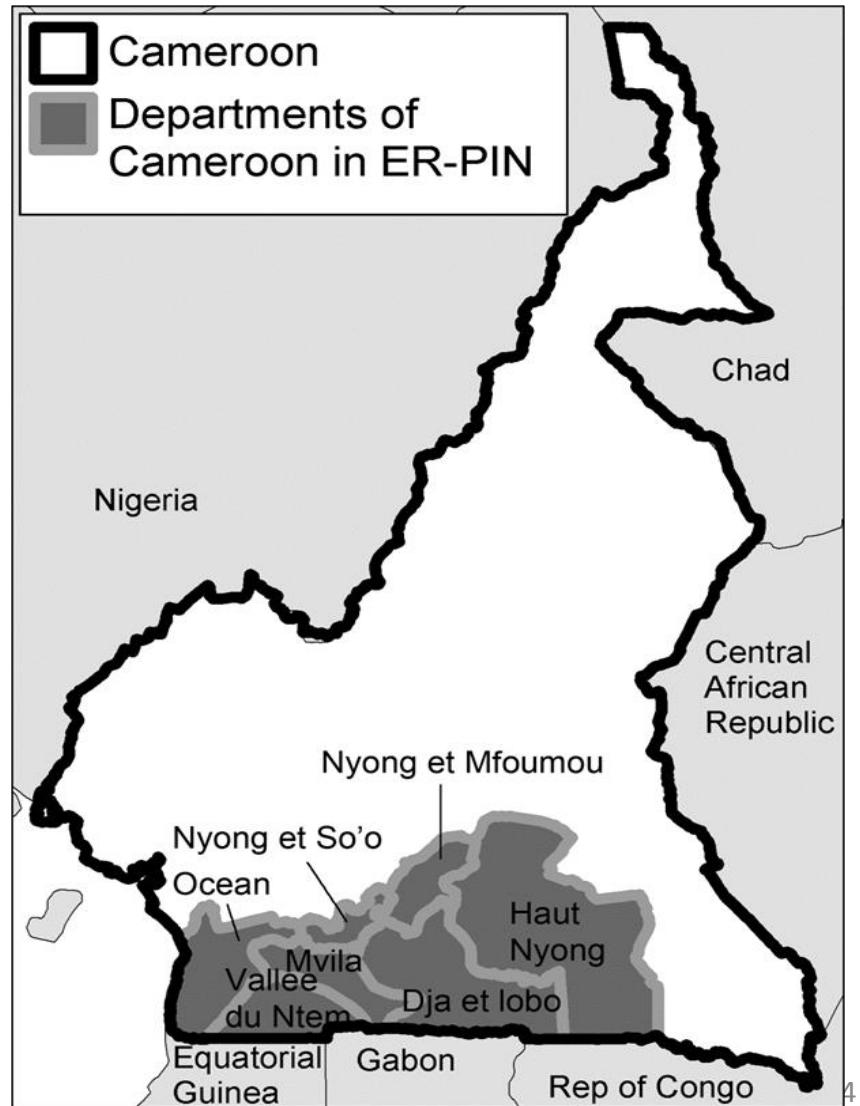
Program highlights

- Unique opportunity to **galvanize REDD+ stakeholders** to embark on a low-carbon pathway in the context of local economic development and livelihood security;
- Apply **integrated landscape approach**;
- Addressing future drivers: agricultural extension, urban & infrastructural expansion, mining;
- Enable natural resource conservation and management **around protected areas** (UNESCO Heritage) within the program area;
- ER program builds continuum with the ER program in Northern Congo allowing to **control transboundary leakage**

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Scale

- **Jurisdiction:** 7 administrative divisions within 3 regions;
- **Population:** 1,152,362 in 2005; different ethnic groups & IPs (Bakola, Bagyeli and Ba'ka);
- **Program Area:** 93,328 km²
- **Forest area** (dense rainforest): 66,279 km² (71% of program area)
- Permanent forest domain (63%); non-permanent domain (8%)
- Estimated forest carbon: 1.725 Gt (37% of total stock in Cameroon)
- Historic deforestation: (0.11%/year)



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Country progress towards Readiness

Components	Assessment of progress
Component 1	National REDD+ steering committee operational; REDD+ Technical Secretariat operational; Institutional arrangements to be decentralized (2016); FGRM (Sept 2016)
Component 2	Drivers study (mid 2016); National REDD+ strategy (Dec 2016); SESA/ESMF (June 2016); National CSO platform active
Component 3	REL (Dec 2016)
Component 4	Significant progress on MRV; Safeguard Information System (early 2017)

The ER Program will be developed simultaneously with the National REDD+ strategy. Key milestones:

- Submission of the Mid Term Progress Report (MTR) by September 2016;
- Submission of Readiness Package (May 2017).

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Political commitment

- INDC submitted with forest/land use playing an essential role;
- Development of an **Economic Governance Matrix** to include REDD+ related national reforms;
- **Inter-ministerial and multi-stakeholder**, national REDD+ steering committee has endorsed the ER-PIN;
- ER-PIN has been **endorsed by the SC, CSO and IP platforms**;
- **Palm oil strategy** which allows increase in yields while **ensuring zero deforestation**;
- **Revision of the forest law** to better address governance issues;
- **Elaboration of land use plan**;
- **Revision of land tenure laws** to address its current shortcomings;

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Drivers and proposed program activities

GHG Emission Sources	Causes	Proposed program activities
Permanent forest domain (total: 5,878,061 ha)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • deforestation in protected areas, • poaching 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor law enforcement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness raising, • Biodiversity conservation • Improved law enforcement
Unplanned deforestation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small-scale slash and burn agriculture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of land use planning; • Lack of tenure security; • Population growth and poverty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved agriculture practices • Agroforestry • Forest protection & establishment
Unplanned degradation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Illegal logging Planned degradation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logging 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of law enforcement • Lack of incentives for improved forest management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced impact logging • Sustainability certification
Non-permanent Forest domain (total : 749,932 ha)		
Planned deforestation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mining, infrastructure and agroindustry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of land use planning • Lack of tenure security; • Population growth and poverty; • Market demand and commodity prices; • Vision 2035 development targets; • High land demand by industrial companies • Weak governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved agriculture practices, Rehabilitation of abandoned plantations, • Agroforestry, • Forest protection and establishment; • Land use planning • Land rehabilitation
Unplanned deforestation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small-scale agriculture (commercial and subsistence) 		

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Reference Level

- The REL is adjusted above the historical average (country is HFLD);
- Results from both the assessment of AD and EF were combined to demonstrate expected annual emissions for a 10-year period following the project start date (April 2018);
- Estimates of carbon stocks for each LULC class was simplified to “forest” and “non-forest” by calculating a weighted average of all forest classes and non-forest classes based on area estimates;
- The HFLD adjustment was determined relative to the HFLD definition from deFonseca et al (2007);
- As the historical deforestation rate is approximately half of the deFonseca et al (2007) threshold of 0.22%/y, the adjustment was determined as 0.05% of carbon stocks per year. This equates to an upward adjustment to the historical average REL of approximately 760,000 tC/yr.
- Forest degradation has not been considered in the estimates.

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Emission Reductions Generated

- The historical average scenario estimates 1.85 MtCO2e/yr in emission reductions and the HFLD adjusted scenario estimates 2.09 MtCO2e/yr in emission reductions.
- Based on conservative estimates, the country intends to propose 3.17 adjusted to 3.57 MtCO2/year, representing approximately 17% of the total emission reduction in 10 years.
- The country plans to contact other carbon financiers and buyers during the elaboration of the program.

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Non-carbon benefits

Sector	Activity to generate ER	Non-carbon benefits
Agriculture	Intensification through crop mixtures	Support local and durable development.
	Improved cocoa production.	Adaptation, diversify and increase local income.
	Improve agroforestry.	Improved soil quality and adaptive capacity of communities.
Forestry	Forest protection.	Biodiversity conservation, improved resilience to increased climate variability.
	Sustainable forest management.	Biodiversity conservation, social license.
	Increasing tree cover and enrichment planting in fallows and old fields.	Increased resilience, diversified and increased local income strategies.
	Support NTFP production.	Food and income security, strengthen local community organizations.
Mining	Professionalization of artisanal miners.	Reduce adverse environmental impacts, improve job security for miners.
	Promote compliance with REDD+ objectives.	Reduce adverse environmental and social impacts, create green jobs.
Infrastructure development	Application/utilization of low-carbon impact methods and techniques.	Creation of green jobs and reduction of adverse environmental and social impacts.
	Support compensation programs.	Compensate for adverse ecological impacts.
General		Participatory land use management, Contributions to multilateral environmental agreements

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Diversity and Learning Value

1. **Programmatic approach** to align finance instruments emerging:
 - Readiness: FCPF, KfW Basket Fund
 - Investments: FIP initial funding, Central Africa Forests Initiative (CAFI)
 - Results-based payments: Momentum through ER-PIN
2. High potential for change through combination of **structural reforms in the Governance Matrix** (under development, activities to be proposed for CAFI finance) and **action on the ground through the ER program**;
3. Cameroonian model for low-carbon rural development;
4. Unique opportunity to inject new energy into the process and galvanise all REDD+ stakeholders.