Development of a National REDD+ Strategy-Framework
The DR Congo Experience

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Democratic Republic of Congo - Context

- Vast country: 234 million ha
- 70 million inhabitants (2010), unevenly distributed
- 155 millions ha of forests* (67% of national territory):

- DSCRP National Development Document: Vision of Sustainable development
- Forest Law Framework
- Environment Law Framework

* Source: OSFAC, 2011
REACHING A NATIONAL CONSENSUS ON THE DRIVERS

At the beginning: divergent and conflictual views on the main drivers of deforestation, based on specific interests of different stakeholders.

The process of identification of main direct and indirect drivers of deforestation therefore key in paving a way to build a national consensus:

① **Sound technical analyses, both quantitative and qualitative**, with technical support from different partners (FAO, Université Catholique de Louvain, UNEP) and strong involvement of the civil society which commissioned a set of studies ⇒ 5 studies

② **Importance of the reality check**: studies carried on the ground, in different Provinces

③ **Multi-stakeholders process** with broad and strong participation as well as direct involvement of different entities to establish, review, discuss and validate the conclusions (civil society, technical partners, private sector, etc)

⇒ 2 years-process of intensive work and extensive consultations

⇒ National consensus reached = the very first premise to build a REDD+ Strategy
The National REDD+ strategy framework: drivers & pillars

Challenges at that time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National consensus</th>
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<tr>
<td>Multiple and diverse interests</td>
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<tr>
<td>Law and regulation frameworks</td>
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</table>

Direct causes
- Shifting agriculture
- Artisanal timber logging
- Fuelwood
- Mining
- Bushfires

Indirect causes
- Population growth
- Institutional aspects
- Infrastructures & urbanization
- Poverty

- A strategy based on current (& future) drivers of DD
- DD processes accelerating
- A very high national consensus & support

Challenges at that time

National consensus
Multiple and diverse interests
Law and regulation frameworks
REDD+ New concept
Information Education and Consultation (EIC)
ONE STRATEGY, SEVEN STRATEGIC PILLARS TO ADDRESS THE DRIVERS

**Sectoral Interventions:**
- Agriculture
- Energy
- Forest
- Demography

**Enabling Interventions:**
- Land use planning
- Land tenure
- Governance

**FOR EACH PILLAR:**
- Objectives
- Results
- Activities
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TECHNICAL</th>
<th>POLITICAL</th>
<th>STAKEHOLDERS</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Piloted by the <strong>National REDD+ Coordination</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Regular Oversight of the Minister of Environment&lt;br&gt;• <strong>Peer-reviews</strong> by international and national experts in and outside DRC&lt;br&gt;• Multiple <strong>studies</strong> on land tenure, PES, etc.</td>
<td>• <strong>High-level political dialogue</strong>, starting with a High-Level Forum on ‘Forests and Sustainable Development of DRC’&lt;br&gt;• Series of intensive thematic <strong>working sessions with 10 sectoral Ministries</strong> (<em>Heads of Administration and Cabinet</em>) to ensure alignment with sectoral policies</td>
<td>• 16 Thematic Groups engaging 500 participants (civil society, private sector, technical partners &amp; gov.)&lt;br&gt;• <strong>Close dialogue with GTCR</strong> (civil society network), with a series of provincial consultations&lt;br&gt;• Experiences from <strong>pilot projects</strong></td>
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Steps for writing, consultations and validation

In order to guarantee its legitimacy, the Strategy was developed according to an approach based on consultations of all stakeholders, followed by a national validation. The Consultation and validation Plan include the following steps, for year 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Steps for development and consultation</th>
<th>Periode</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Brainstorming Corpus programmatique with the Thématique Coordinations (TC) → v0</td>
<td>Avril- Mai</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Writing by the CN-REDD experts → v1.0</td>
<td>Août- Sept</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 Consultations with the Thématique Coordinations → v1.1</td>
<td>Sept- Oct.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Consultations in 2 Provinces</td>
<td>Début nov.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Politic consultations with sectoral ministries and the Premier Minister Cabinet on the strategic pillars and orientations</td>
<td>Début nov.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 Consultations (a) Members of the Comités National et Interministériel REDD, (b) civil society, (c) private sector, (d) other stakeholders</td>
<td>Octobre - novembre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Writing of other sections of strategy - framework → v2.0</td>
<td>Fin oct. début nov</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Consultations with the TC</td>
<td>Début nov.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Writing finalisation based on consultations → v3</td>
<td>Début nov.</td>
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<th>Etapes de validation</th>
<th>Période</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 National Workshop</td>
<td>Mi novembre</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Comité National REDD</td>
<td>Mi novembre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Government Validation</td>
<td>Fin novembre</td>
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Why a REDD+ framework-strategy?

Consolidation of the Policy Dialogue

Within the Government:
- Integration into sectoral & transversal policies
- Definition of objectives

Government & International Community:
- Relevance of DRC propositions
- Respective commitments (DRC & Partners)
- ODA alignment to take REDD+ into consideration

The (necessary) framework for investment is set:
- National REDD+ Framework Strategy
- National REDD+ Fund
- Social & environmental standards
- National forests monitoring system
- National registry & projects approval process

Mark the entry into the investment phase

Objective
- A base for sensitization & discussion
- Strategic vision & programmatic framework towards a national REDD+ policy
- Orientation of the country towards a green economy
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL STRATEGY

The REDD+ Agenda supports the implementation of key national reforms. Integrated Area-based Programmes aim to align main national investments to REDD+ objectives.
DRC REDD+ Process

*Rapid progress in different phases of REDD+*

- A process launch in 2009
- Necessary overlaps between phases

**A large participatory development launched mi-2010**

**National REDD+ Strategy-fram.**

**Politic Dialogue & Expérimentation**

**National Development Str.**

National REDD+ Strategy
Key Elements for success

• Large and inclusive participation of all stakeholders
• Politic ownership at a high level
• Dynamic and permanent consultation
• Strengthening IEC (Information, Education and Communication)
• Capacity building
• Implementation on the ground (reforms, pilot projects)
• Means of implementation (finances)
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Thank You!

Documents available on

www.redd.cd