

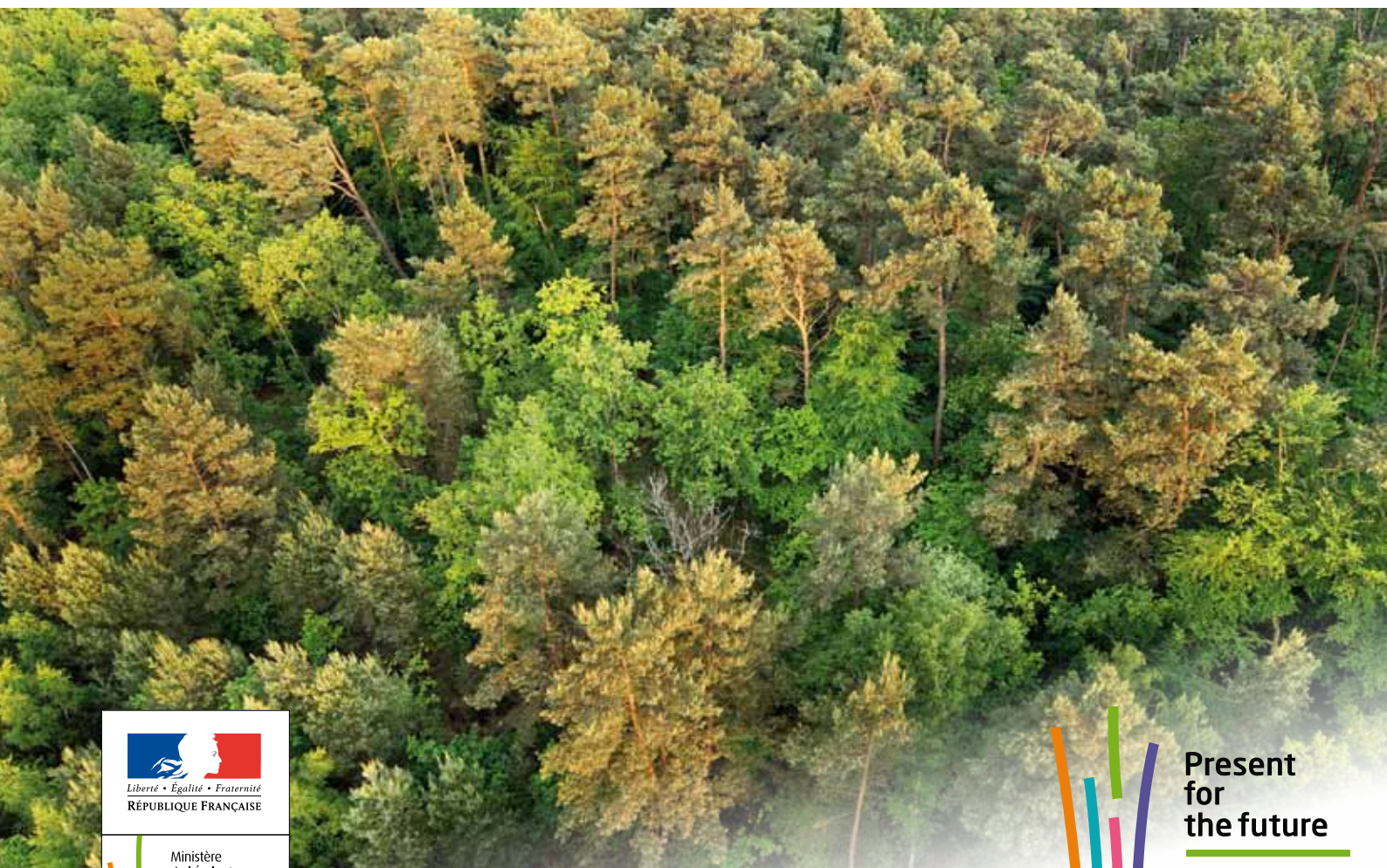
# How **France's** development partnerships are meeting the challenge of climate change ?

## The fight against deforestation

**F**rance is renowned for its expertise in sustainable management of forests on account of its significant forest cover in temperate and tropical regions and its centuries old forestry tradition. It is one of the only Annexe 1 countries to have major tropical forest cover with 8 million hectares in French Guiana.

France has played a major role in the forest and agriculture components of climate negotiations, and also in actions with developing countries. During the first semester of 2010, it has launched with Norway the interim REDD+ partnership initiative to facilitate the mobilisation and coordination of fast start and to promote the activities of REDD+ before UNFCCC's decision in Cancun on December 2010. France and Brazil co-chaired the Partnership during the first semester of 2011.

France believes that implementing REDD+ must bring together forest-dwelling populations as well as the private sector and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) which can play a crucial role in managing forests sustainably by reconciling environmental protection with economic benefits.



Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development, Transport and Housing

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## The interim REDD+ partnership as a product of the Paris-Oslo Process

The Paris-Oslo ministerial conferences held in March and May 2010 led to the creation of a global REDD+ interim partnership to promote the implementation of the Copenhagen Agreement measures relating to protection of forests in developing countries, in particular the fast-start finance, without waiting for the new architecture for international action to be fully operational within the framework of the Climate Convention. In November 2011, the REDD+ Partnership brings together 73 forest nations and donors and coordinates over 4 billion dollars of fast start REDD+ funding over 3 years engaged by different channels. It constitutes an interim platform for voluntary political and technical cooperation between donor nations and developing forest nations.

With a view to inventorying the fast-start financing and actions, thus better apprehending the geographical repartition, gaps and overlaps of financial flows, the partnership has developed a voluntary database of REDD+ financial flow and projects, based on the initial data collected by France via the French Development Agency (AFD), Australia and Papua New Guinea during the Paris-Oslo Process. In the same logic, two analyses, one on financing gaps and overlaps, the other on the effectiveness of multilateral initiatives were commissioned by the Partnership. The reports were released on December 2010 and September 2011 respectively. The REDD+ Partnership represents also a forum for experience sharing on different REDD+ subjects : demonstration activities, safeguards, MRV, scaling-up of REDD+ finance, etc.

### Fast start on forest

France has committed itself to spending approximately 250 million euros over 3 years on forests, i.e. nearly 20% of its total fast start commitment. To make use of existing expertise and to ensure a rapid start-up, these funds will be distributed via existing channels such as the forest programme of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the French Development Agency, the French Global Environment Facility and the FCPF (Forest Carbon Partnership Facility).

In 2010, France fulfilled its aim of spending 20% of its early funding on REDD+ and is well on the way to achieve it in 2011, in particular thanks to different bilateral pilot projects engaged through the French GEF (FFEM) and the French Development Agency (AFD) :

- development of co-management and biodiversity conservation mechanisms in Guatemala;
- development of timber exploitation standards, integrating trees population dynamics and pedo-climatic conditions variability in Central Africa;
- REDD+ regional programme in the Rio Grande de la Magdalena basin in Columbia;
- optimization in forest ecosystem goods and services production in mediterranean forest ecosystems ;

- fight against deforestation in Gile national reserve and its suburb in Mozambique.

On a multilateral level, France has worked to create a new programme to fight against deforestation and promote sustainable forest management during the last reconstitution of the Global Environment Facility (GEF: 75 million euros of its contribution to GEF5 of 215 million euros (a 40% increase) target forests.

### France supports countries so that they will be eligible for the future REDD+ mechanism

France, through the AFD, participated in 2007 in the creation and funding of the FCPF, the precursor fund of the REDD+ mechanism. Through its active participation in the FCPF, France supports the inclusion of countries in Africa in the development of modern forest strategies which will attract international funding. France also provides technical assistance for the implementation of the collaborative UN-REDD programme in the Congo Basin.

Moreover, France funds numerous capacity building activities and REDD+ pilot projects through the FFEM and the AFD. France also supports national "climate and development plans" agreed unilaterally with several developing countries in which forest issues play an important role. Thus the AFD has released budgetary funding for Indonesia, Mexico and Vietnam to support the immediate implementation of "climate and forest" action plans in those countries.

### France, forest conservation and sustainable forest management

Sustainable management of protected and logged forests is an important element of France's forest strategy.

This involves firstly the creation and management of natural parks and the implementation of long-term funding such as the foundations dedicated to forests in Madagascar, Cambodia or Central Africa, for example.







Since 1995, France has been committed to funding forestry policies in Central African states with the aim of establishing large-scale modern sustainable management of logged forests. Today, these projects have enabled sustainable land use plans to be put in place covering 14 million hectares, 4.5 million hectares of which are certified. In October 2011, the FFEM and the AFD released an assessment of their respective cooperation actions supporting forest conservation and sustainable forest management in the Congo basin.

### France supports the creation of REDD+ expertise abroad

France supports the creation and development of REDD+ expertise in countries with several projects which pool the skills of developed and developing countries. Thus several French public institutions, private companies and NGOs are involved in projects with partners in developing countries. For example:

- ▶ the National Forestry Department (ONF) and its international branch (ONFI), who design reforestation projects, projects to avoid deforestation, and manage woodland and bio energy in Africa, Latin America and Southeast Asia. ONFI also organises seminars to provide support for forest/climate negotiators in South America and the Congo Basin;
- ▶ CIRAD, the French Centre for Research into International Issues in Agriculture and Development in the southern hemisphere, has been a pioneer in sustainable management of logged forests in Africa and works on forests with its partners. CIRAD contributes to global research networks and implements a number of forestry projects throughout the world;
- ▶ the IRD (Institute for Development Research) is particularly active in the use of satellite data for monitoring forest cover, botany and sequestration on agricultural and forest land;
- ▶ several private forestry companies have made a commitment to a long-term partnership to implement large-scale sustainable management of logged forests. In the

Congo Basin, they have formed teams of national experts who are world leaders in this field, for example from the French Rougier and Pallisco groups or European groups such as Precious wood and DLH, who work with the FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) label;

- ▶ private consultancies such as FRM (Forest Resources Management) or TERE A have developed unique expertise in forestry development with national teams;
- ▶ the Astrium geo-information services group has created a satellite data and information analysis product which is particularly appropriate for tracking the evolution of forest cover to monitor REDD+ commitments. The Spot images are in the most technologically advanced state in the world;
- ▶ French and International NGOs are also supported by France in developing local expertise in REDD+ : WWF, CI, WCS and TNC are implementing pilot projects. ActionCarbone-Goodplanet and GERES are developing the use of highly innovative financing mechanisms, including carbon sale for REDD+ projects, biogas, and improved stoves which have an important local impacts in rural and urban populations.

### France and monitoring of emission/absorption of greenhouse gases in forests

In 2007, France was the first country to produce an inventory of emissions and absorptions in a large massif of the tropical forest in French Guiana as a requirement of the Kyoto Protocol. This inventory was made possible by combining remote sensing from SPOT satellite images with biomass data collected in the field.

France shares this skill, which is useful for REDD+, notably with countries in the Congo Basin and in the Guiana shield.

Regarding satellite data for forest monitoring, France supports



the provision of SPOT5 images for administration and project developers in the Congo basin, capacity-building on remote sensing in Central and West Africa and the fittings of a satellite ground receiving station in Libreville (Gabon) to receive satellite images and provide them in the sub-region. The CNES (National Centre for Spatial Studies), IRD and IGN (National Geographic Institute), are mobilised to provide the necessary technical support to use these images and train national experts in order to protect the forests better.

## France and the fight against illegal logging

France is involved in implementing the European FLEGT action plan (Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade) by facilitating the negotiation and the implementation of Voluntary Partnership Agreements between the European Union and third party timber producers.

By promoting a better forest governance and by fighting against overexploitation, an important driver of tropical forest degradation, these agreements are an integral part of effective participation in the REDD+ mechanism for developing countries.



### For more information:

- ▶ **AFD** : [www.afd.fr](http://www.afd.fr)
- ▶ **ATIBT** : [www.atibt.org](http://www.atibt.org)
- ▶ **CIRAD** : [ur-bsef.cirad.fr/](http://ur-bsef.cirad.fr/)
- ▶ **Facilités FLEGT and REDD Facilities** : [www.euflegt.efi.int](http://www.euflegt.efi.int)
- ▶ **FFEM** : [www.ffem.fr](http://www.ffem.fr)
- ▶ **FRM** : [www.frm-france.com](http://www.frm-france.com)
- ▶ **INRA** : [www.inra.fr/presse/foret\\_et\\_changement\\_climatique](http://www.inra.fr/presse/foret_et_changement_climatique)
- ▶ **IRD** : [www.ird.fr](http://www.ird.fr)
- ▶ **MAAP** : [www.agriculture.gouv.fr](http://www.agriculture.gouv.fr)
- ▶ **MEDDTL** : [www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr](http://www.developpement-durable.gouv.fr)
- ▶ **ONF** : [www.onf.fr](http://www.onf.fr)
- ▶ **ONF international** : [www.onf-international.fr](http://www.onf-international.fr)
- ▶ **Astrium geo-information services** : [www.spotimage.com/](http://www.spotimage.com/)
- ▶ **TEREA** : [www.terea.net](http://www.terea.net)



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