



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
7 December 2015
English
Original: French

Commission on the Status of Women

Sixtieth session

14-24 March 2016

**Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and
to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace
for the twenty-first century”**

Statement submitted by Association congolaise pour le développement agricole, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 36 and 37 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* The present statement is issued without formal editing.



Statement

The Republic of the Congo is engaged in the REDD+ preparatory process, with a view to developing a national REDD+ strategy and an operational plan of action (cf. R-PP Congo). However, the data and the experience available in the country for constructing its strategy are piecemeal and inadequate.

In addition to studies, it is essential to experiment in the field with the different options for a REDD+ strategy in order to test the multiple conditions (legal, organizational, financial, human etc.) for their implementation.

Given the complexity and the diversity of problems and situations in the Republic of the Congo, and the many crosscutting areas that a credible REDD+ strategy must embrace, the country has identified several complementary pilot sites, including this one, to cover the field of experimentation needed to prepare a national strategy that will be complete, ambitious and operational.

The project is based on the outcomes from previous activities implemented by the Republic of the Congo through the National Reforestation Service (*Service national de reboisement*, SNR) during the 1980s and the National Afforestation and Reforestation Programme (PRONAR) launched by the Congolese government.

1. The overall objective of the project is to help attenuate climatic warming and to reduce poverty by promoting an innovative, integrated approach to reforestation and to agroforestry that involves the local and indigenous populations.

2. The specific objectives (SO) address problems identified globally and locally:

SO1: to contribute to the sustainable development of natural resources, in particular in the areas of forestry, fertilization and land use, charcoal production, new and renewable energy sources, etc.

Results: reforestation (with acacia, a nitrogen-fixing tree species), CO₂ sequestered, biomass production and non-ligneous products.

SO2: to contribute to the well-being of the local and indigenous populations in terms of ending their isolation and providing them with basic social services.

Results: social infrastructure (housing, health, hygiene, education, drinking water, etc.) and economic infrastructure (markets, trade fairs, rural access roads and tracks) have been rehabilitated or created

SO3: to contribute to expanding employment opportunities and sources of income for the local and indigenous populations, who for the most part are engaged in slash-and-burn agriculture and the harmful production of charcoal, by promoting the agroforestry and agri-food industries, on one hand, and ecotourism on the other.

Results: forestry, agrifood and ecotourism industries have been established.

SO4: to contribute to the reconstitution and upgrading of the community and sociocultural fabric of the local population groups.

Results: cultural events, festivals and fairs have been organized.

SO5: to contribute to improving national and international regulation for protection of the environment and sustainable management of forests.

Results: appropriate laws and regulations have been introduced, and the capacities of the institutions and government agencies concerned have been reinforced.

SO6: to contribute to the development and the registration of a suitable methodology for the MRV [monitoring, reporting and verifying] of carbon emissions as well as other environmental and social impacts.

Results: appropriate monitoring systems have been introduced.
