

Case 5: Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

Agroforestry plantations of the Makala Project

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- ✓ The problem in this project was the increased need for wood as a source of energy due to the lack of electricity supply by the national electricity company, which only responds to 2% energy needs of the population.

To respond to these diverse needs and to avoid the accelerated degradation of the vegetation cover, the Congolese government and the Hans Eidel Foundation, financed by the European Union, implemented the Makala project by installing energy plantations of the species *Acacia auriculiformis* and *A. mangium*.

The expected result of this project was to cover the loss of forest by promoting the sustainable management of natural resources (animal and plant) and in the same time to improve the incomes of local communities

key words are community involvement, community forestry, income increased, agroforestry, wood transformation, energy supply

- Improvement of local people livelihood for long time, because there are the main actor of this project, that explain the durability of the project outcome.
- Several project activities are directly associated with the Forest plantations.

Implementing Organization	Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development/Hanns Seidel Foundation Add : Papa Ileo street n° 15, Gombe Commune WEB URL : www.medd.cd
Funding Source	European Union
Implementing Period	2009-2013
Project site	Democratic Republic of Congo, Kinshasa Province, Maluku Town/Mampu-Kinzono Village

Key Words: Agroforestry, Tropical forest, Forest plantation, *Acacia auriculiformis*, Family farming, charcoal, Bioenergy; Energy production; Crop yield; Forest extension



Preparation of the nursery: This photo illustrates the preparation of the nursery by members of the local community.



Tree planting: This photo illustrates the planting of trees by the local community, especially the involvement of women in order to promote gender aspects in the project

Background of the Project

Wood fuel represents more than 80% of exports of forests and household energy consumption in Africa Central and Democratic Republic of Congo in particular. It is by far the largest cause of degradation of forest areas in Central Africa, often in association with burning, then the wood energy process is the essential strategy in the creation of wealth and redistribution of income at the local level. To this end, the Makala project was implemented to address this particular concern.

Overall Goal and Objectives of the Project

Goal: Cover a larger share of urban renewable energy needs while creating rural employment.

Objective 1: To improve the life conditions of local people.

Objective 2: To implement a good practice of energy transformation.

Objective 3: To apply the forest law.

Objective 4: To supply a large basin of Kinshasa in charcoal as an energy source.

Objective 5: To protect forest resource.

Objective 6: To restore forest area. (Nine principles)

Major Activities

- ✓ Preparation of the ground (plowing, harrowing etc) Propagation using seeds
- ✓ Technical training of local community
- ✓ Preparation of the nursery
- ✓ hole digging
- ✓ Tree planting
- ✓ Maintenance of planted areas
- ✓ Installation of food crops in the interlining
- ✓ Followed by replenishing the voids
- ✓ Harvest of food crops at maturity
- ✓ Cutting trees at maturity
- ✓ Manufacture of charcoal

Direct Outputs from the Project

The project can therefore be considered a success and this model deserves to be extended on the savannahs of the Batéké Plateau, taking into account the traditional land rights and continuing the diversification and the local processing of the products. This will help to cover a larger share of urban renewable energy needs while creating rural employment. However, it is not a panacea because other models of agroforestry systems deserve to be tested.

Indirect Impact of the Project

With the increase in the population of the DRC leading to an increase in demand for wood and food products, future needs can only be met by plantations which are a model of resource creation and natural forest preservation degraded.

Challenges and limitations of the Project

As in the case of certain projects, this project had been constrained in several ways. Firstly, it had to do with community understanding and acceptance of the project and, secondly, with the objectives set by the national government.

promoting compliance with the forestry law.

Intervention of Central/Local Government and other stakeholders

As part of this project, government intervention was more based on land availability;
 The availability of experts for their involvement in the implementation and monitoring of the project;
 As well as the premises to house staff and project offices.

Way Forward

The outcome of this project will result in the change of community perceptions to the management and use of resources in the global way. Also, the change of all former practices of resource management that over time did not comply with any regulatory measures

Reference Documents/Materials

Bisiaux F., Peltier R., Muliele J.C .. 2012. In: Roose Eric (ed.), Duchaufour Hervé (ed.), De Noni Georges (ed.). Anti-erosion control: rehabilitation of tropical soils and protection against exceptional rains. Marseille: IRD [Marseille], 1 Cd-Rom. (Conferences and Seminars).

Resource Persons

Name	Affiliation	email
Nico Lucas	Hans Eidel Expert	-
Jean Claude Muliele	Hans Eidel Staff	-



Installation of food crops in the interlining:
 This photo illustrates the work of installing food crops in the interlining of trees by members of the local community.



The field Technical training:
 This photo illustrates the technical training of members of local community by the agroforestry expert



Installation of food crops in the interlining:

This photo illustrates the work of installing food crops in the interlining of trees by members of the local community and how the forest gradually takes its place