

Objective and activities as of July 2020:

The humid forests of the Congo Basin are one of the most important carbon sinks on our planet. The demographic development and economic growth of the DR Congo is threatening to massively increase the present low rate of deforestation. The project therefore supported a system for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+). This counteracted the accelerated deforestation, assigning a value to the forests and their ecosystem services that goes beyond the usual uses such as a source of timber or potential agricultural land. The establishment of a national REDD+ mechanism was also supported, as well as the setup of a corresponding REDD unit to implement the REDD+ programme. Among other approaches, laser remote sensing data was used to map the carbon content of the forests. The project also developed functional structures for sharing the benefits of the carbon payments and set them up as model structures together with its partners.