

July 31, 2013

**Comments from Japan on Approval by Mail: Democratic Republic of Congo -
Integrated REDD+ Project in the Mbuji-Mayi/Kananga and Kisangani basins
(AfDB)**

Dear CIF Admin Unit,

Regarding the FIP project of REDD+, I send you Japan's Comment. Please find attached, the comment made by the Japanese Development Agency, JICA.

Thank you.

Regards,
Aiko Iguchi

JICA would like to suggest and comment as follows;

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) regards forest conservation as one of the priority area of its cooperation in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and is implementing the "Project for Strengthening National Forest Resources Monitoring System for Promoting Sustainable Forest Management and REDD+" in collaboration with the Government of DRC. The project aims to develop a national forest resources inventory system that provides necessary basic data/information for sustainable forest management by selecting the Bandundu Province as a pilot area. A wide range of activities to enhance the capacity of DIAF, who is the main counterpart of the project, are ongoing in order to achieve the project objective.

We understand that, in the PIREDD/MBKIS, DIAF is expected to play an important role particularly in "Project Monitoring and Evaluation" and "Measurement of Carbon". In that regard, we believe capacity building of DIAF through the JICA project will also contribute to the smooth implementation of PIREDD/MBKIS.

At the same time, however, we are deeply concerned about the lack of human resources in DRC because several initiatives, including JICA, PIREDD/MBKIS and many others, are going on and planned. Therefore it is extremely important that the donors' supports be mutually complement and well coordinated to promote consistent capacity building for DRC. Thus, we would appreciate continued information sharing and exchange with PIREDD/MBKIS.