



Capacity for Copernicus REDD+ and Forest Monitoring Services

REDDCopernicus Online Workshop Learning Exercises & Demonstration Cases 29 September – 1 October 2020, Central Africa Region

In the framework of the REDDCopernicus project, a **series of Online Workshops** and interactive **hands-on sessions** will be organised with REDD+ Users to present, discuss and validate concepts/ products and tools of a potential Copernicus REDD+ service for improving the monitoring of forest change in tropical countries.

REDDCopernicus is continuing its Workshop Series with the Central African Region on 29 September – 1 October 2020.

Target audience

Relevant stakeholders are institutions and Users in tropical countries involved in national REDD+ forest monitoring and emission reporting, such as national forest and environmental institutions and ministries.

Aims of the workshop

The objective of the workshop is to **present and evaluate selected concepts/ products** that could serve for improved forest monitoring and reporting in the context of REDD+.

These products might be provided to Users in tropical countries through a Copernicus REDD+ service. Products may include tailored thematic data layers capturing forest status and forest change processes (e.g. tree cover density or forest canopy disturbance maps) as well as satellite image products (e.g. Sentinel-2 composites).

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Case studies will be presented for a test sites in Central Africa in order to assess the relevance of these products for national REDD+ forest monitoring and reporting in Central African countries.

The assessment will examine to which extent these concepts/ products can either:

- **provide an improved basis** for national REDD+ forest monitoring & emission reporting,
- **be useful as complementary component** to existing concepts/ products, or
- **deliver added-value** but requiring further adaptation to better match national needs.

The workshop will therefore offer an **important opportunity** to REDD+ Users in tropical countries **to contribute to the shaping the design of a future Copernicus REDD+ service** in a way to best meet national reporting needs.

Expected outcome

An expected key outcome from this online workshop will be a **report summarizing the user feedback and the results** from the evaluation, identifying products/ tools desired by national Users from a potential REDD+ Service component of the European Copernicus Programme. The User feedback will be documented in a **standardized evaluation and assessment form**.

Contact

For questions about participation, data and agenda contact the workshop conveners: Christophe Sannier (Christophe.sannier@sirs-fr.com) and Hervis Ghomsi (Hervis.ghomsi@sirs-fr.com).

Background

The **REDDCopernicus** project, launched in 2019 in the context of the European Commission Horizon 2020 research and innovation program, aims to implement a co-ordination and consolidation of the existing European Capacity for Earth Observation (EO) based Forest Monitoring with relevant stakeholders, international agencies, the research community and the private sector.

A key outcome of the project will be a **proposal for a framework for a Copernicus REDD+ Service**, which can make use of the planned Copernicus Data and Information Access Services Platform (C-DIAS) for improving EO data and product accessibility and functionality to end-users – both in tropical countries and in Europe.

The **Initial Design of the Copernicus REDD+ Service Component** is available as background information for this Workshop at: <https://www.reddcopernicus.info/downloads>

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Practical Modalities

Given the travel restrictions due to COVID-19, the workshop will be held on-line with a series of interactive Live Web Sessions and individual Hands-on Sessions within a week. The participants will provide their feedbacks through online surveys.

Presentation materials will be provided right before the sessions to allow the participants to follow the presentations offline. Links to access the datasets will be provided in advance - using a Geoportal Platform and/ or delivery of data via zip files. Hands-on exercises with the datasets is an option but additionally there will be demonstration sessions as part of the Webinar series.

Tentative Agenda

The virtual workshop will include three modules of interactive Live Webinar Sessions and two sessions of individual hands-on and feedback collection in on-line questionnaires.

Tuesday 29 September

Morning

Session 1 Introduction and Sentinel data

- Opening of the Workshop
- Presentation of Project and Workshop Objectives
- Presentation of concepts for Sentinel 2 images and composites
- Live demonstration through shared screen

Session 2 Tree Cover Status maps

- Tree Cover Density (TCD)
- Forest Seasonality/Type (FTY)
- Tropical Moist Forest (TMF) – Status
- Live demonstration through shared screen

Afternoon

- Hands-on review by partners of products using on-line Geoportal
- On-line completion of Questionnaire for products

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Wednesday 30 September

Morning

Session 3 Deforestation and Regrowth

- Tropical Moist Forest (TMF) - Change
- Breaks For Additive Season and Trend (BFAST)
- Live demonstration through shared screen

Session 4 Forest Disturbance and Alerting

- Forest Canopy Disturbance Monitoring (FCDM)-optical/radar
- RADAR Forest Cover Loss Alerts (BAYTS)
- Demonstration through shared screen

Afternoon

- Hands-on review by partners of products using on-line Geoportal
- On-line completion of Questionnaire for products

Thursday 1 October

Morning

Session 5 Platform and Service Solutions

- Introduction to on-line platform options
- Live demonstration of potential platform: C-DIAS
- Live demonstration of potential reporting interface: Forester module
- On-line completion of Questionnaire for platform requirements

Session 6 Overall review of the products presented

- Introduction
- Value of the Products for the National REDD Programme
- Potential Integration of Products in the Work Practices
- On-line completion of Questionnaire
- Workshop round up and closure

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