



ERAIFT takes part in the Three Basins Summit on Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Tropical Forests in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo

October 26-28, 2023

The summit of the three tropical forest basins, Congo-Amazonia-Borneo Mekong, takes place from October 26 to 28, 2023 in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo. This international forum aims to coordinate policies to fight deforestation, protect the climate and peatlands, and ultimately accelerate the energy transition. ERAIFT's Director and four doctoral and post-doctoral researchers are actively participating in this international summit.

During the panel discussion on strategy, programs and concerted investment plans for enhanced cooperation between the three basins, Professor Baudouin Michel, Director of ERAIFT, presented ERAIFT's contribution to environmental training and research. He also outlined the innovative systemic approach for training 21st century African managers in the management of protected areas and tropical forests, in a collaborative view with the three tropical forest basins. He then demonstrated the need to make farmers central to all research and development activities in order to achieve real stability in tropical forest deforestation and degradation. Professor Baudouin Michel also showed participants the role played by ERAIFT and its partners in providing policy-makers in Congo Basin countries with solid, reliable data on carbon sequestration in forests, thanks to the first flux tower installed in lowland natural forests at Yangambi (eastern DRC) and all the remote sensing technologies that go with it. At the UNESCO side event on "The contribution of UNESCO networks to biodiversity conservation and the establishment of a platform for scientific cooperation between the three basins", Professor Baudouin Michel presented how ERAIFT could contribute to the establishment of the platform.

During the summit, ERAIFT and its partners VisioTerra and CICOS will host a special stand to present their main scientific, operational and collaborative achievements across the three tropical forest basins on forests and water resources as seen from space.

ERAIFT thanks the government of the Republic of Congo and the summit organizing team for their warm welcome. It expresses its gratitude to the European Union for its financial support. Finally, ERAIFT would like to thank AGRINATURA, VisioTerra, CICOS and Mr Patrick GAINCKO for their collaboration..

