



ERAIFT takes part in a workshop on presenting the results of the "Community management of Miombo forests in the south-east of Haut-Katanga" project

Kinshasa, 15 June 2023

On Thursday 15 June 2023, ERAIFT took part in a workshop organised by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) at the Hôtel Fleuve Congo in Kinshasa to discuss the achievements of the Miombo community forest management project in south-eastern Haut-Katanga. The workshop brought together a number of participants, including technical and financial partners supporting the implementation of community forestry in the Democratic Republic of Congo, representatives of the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development (MEDD), as well as representatives of civil society and indigenous populations.

After the official launch of the forum with speeches by the Secretary General of the MEDD and the FAO Representative in the Democratic Republic of Congo, the main achievements of the project were presented to the participants. These included innovative practices in producing simple management plans (PSG), organisational support, community restoration of degraded areas, community entrepreneurship and the co-production of information and monitoring of the changes induced.

After exchanging and discussing lessons learned, the experts identified a number of challenges that require particular attention, including the rigidity of the approach to creating a local community forest concession (CFCL) as defined by the national operational guide on CFCL, the level of technical rigour required by the regulations for carrying out a multi-resource inventory, which is often modelled on the industrial logging model, the low level of involvement of women in CFCL initiatives and the rejection of the process by some traditional chiefs.

ERAIFT thanks the FAO for having associated it with this forum, which is of great importance for the sustainable management of forests in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

