



CARBOAFRICA Kick-off meeting

Pieve Tesino, Italy, 23-25 October 2006

CARBOAFRICA - Quantification, understanding and prediction of carbon cycle, and other GHG gases, in Sub-Saharan Africa

Sixth Framework Programme of European Commission
Priority 1.1.6.3: Global Change and Ecosystems
STREP (Specific Targeted Research Project)
Proposal no.: 037132
Duration: 3 years (01/10/2006 – 30/09/2009)

The meeting was attended by 35 people, coming from 16 institutions of 5 European and 3 African countries. During the meeting, the foundation for the project implementation has been laid.

Valentini, the project coordinator, introduced the objectives of the project and listed the main items to be considered during the meeting. He proposed also to consider the reducing emissions from avoiding deforestation issue.

Each work package leader has given a presentation on the work to be done for the work package development. The first deliverables and milestones were showed, and each involved participant showed his specific contribution.

General rules for the data policy (data availability, data ownership) were agreed. The list of the eddy covariance sites that will provide data to the project were defined, and it was decided to establish the first flux tower in an African tropical forest in Ghana (Kakum National Park).

In order to concentrate the efforts, it was decided to carry out at least 3 joint field campaigns in 3 strategic sites, considering at least the 2 different seasons. Considering the variability of African biomes, it was decided that the site number and representativeness should be discussed with the modelling group. The different modelling approaches were showed. The possibility to derive models that include N and other non CO₂ gases and other critical issues were considered. Details about the CARE experiment were discussed.

It was confirmed that an African map of fires and the estimates of important fire-related CO₂ and other GHG emission of Sub-Saharan Africa will be produced.

With regards of Capacity building and communication, it was decided that each participant shall support the compilation of a comprehensive list of server and help in identifying where it is possible to host African and European students for training. It was also approved to include a dynamic web mapping component in the website.

About the CDM analysis, it was confirmed that the methodological aspects (cost/benefit approaches) will be considered, at least 2 cases studies will be foreseen, a suitability map will be produced and the potential opportunities of CDM in Africa will be analysed.

Finally, the calendar of the decided activities, including next steps, deliverable and milestones, was considered and approved.