



ATIBT FORUM – SHANGHAI – OCTOBER 2019

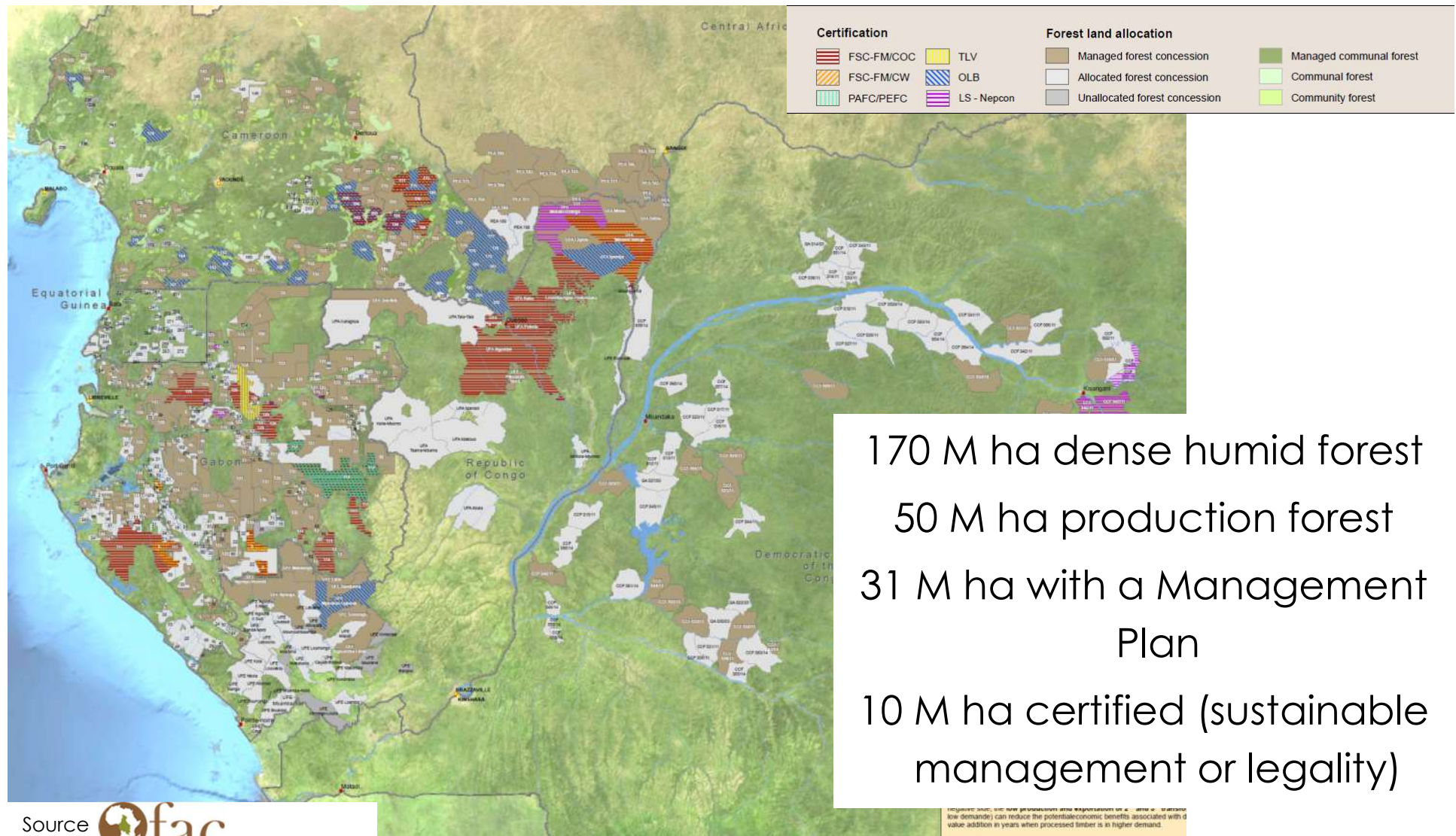
SESSION IV: ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY OF THE WOOD INDUSTRY IN THE CONGO BASIN

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ATIBT Forest Commission President



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Forest Concessions in Central Africa



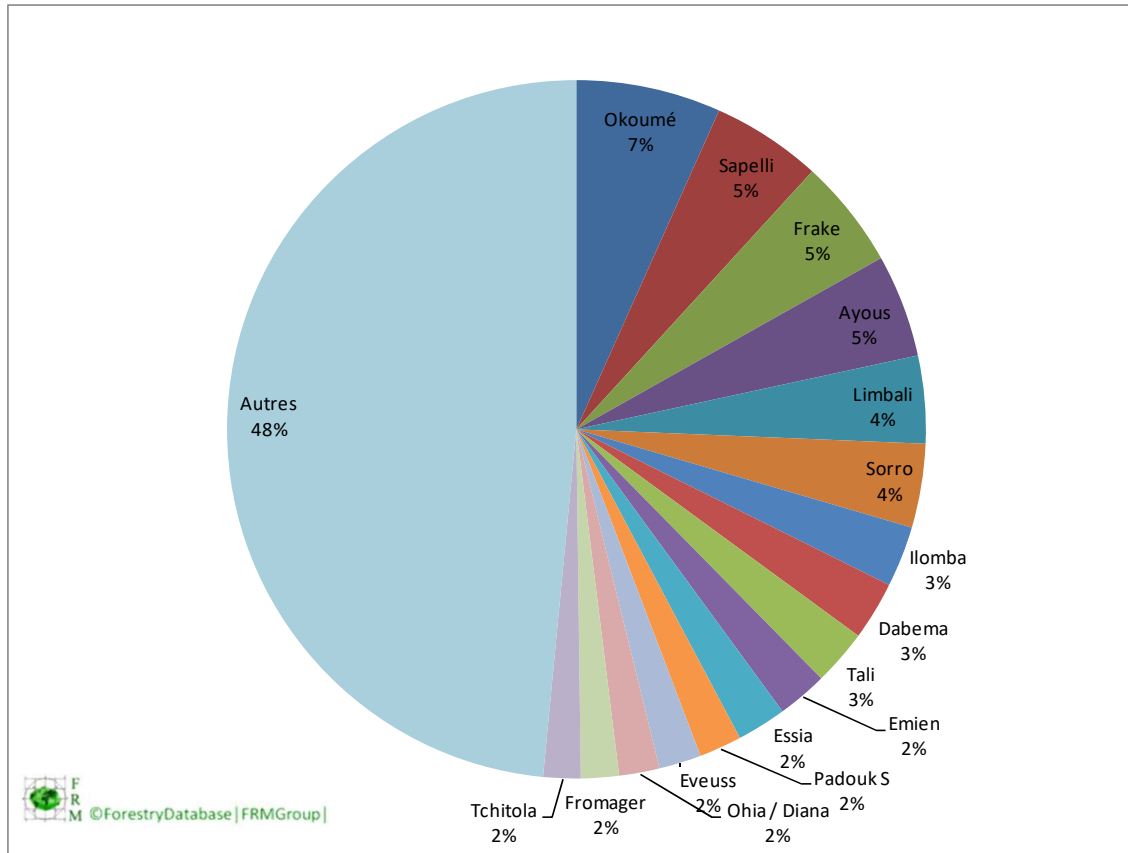
The management of forest concessions



A management model set up
20 years ago and in constant
improvement

Well known forest resources

Available resources



Inventory data analysis of 25 million hectares

150 species currently listed

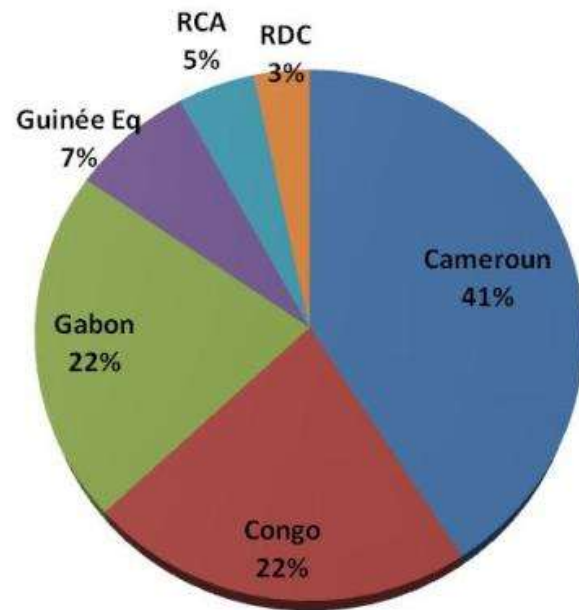
Source BAD, FRMi 2018

On 50 M ha:

⇒ 27 to 37 M m³/year harvestable under management plans

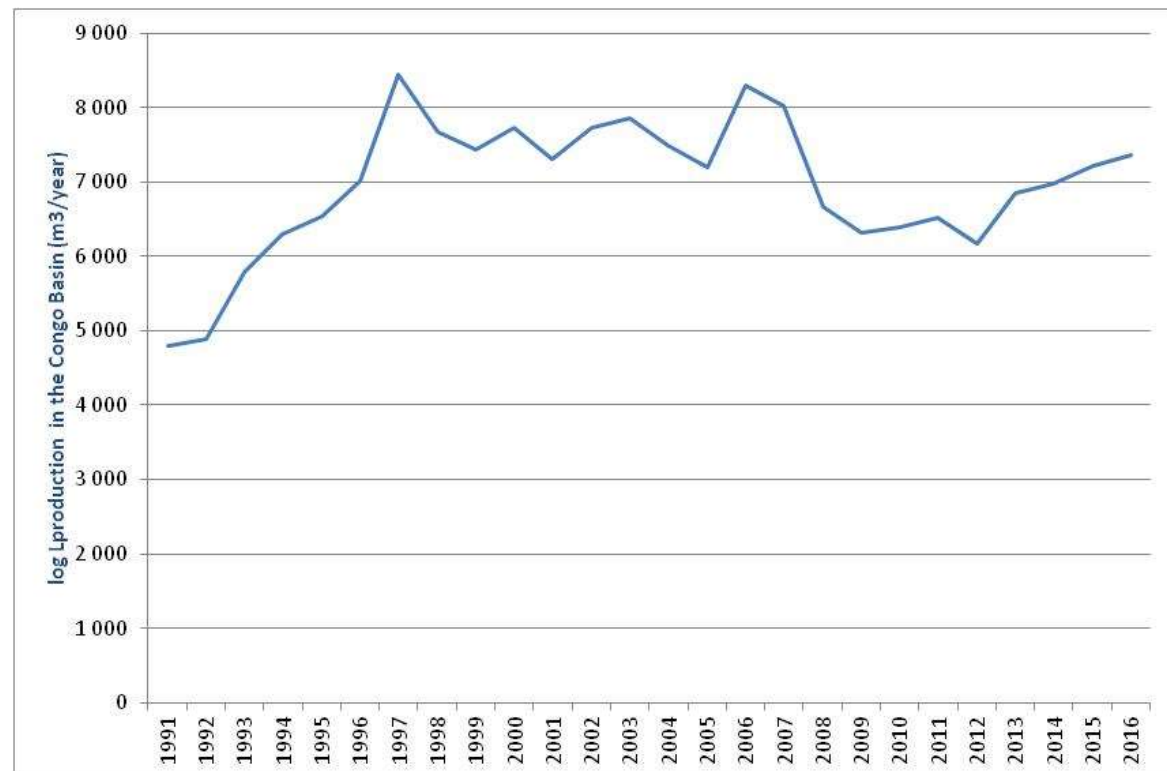
⇒ Of which 14 to 18 M m³/year harvestable with the current 54 commercial species

Current productions

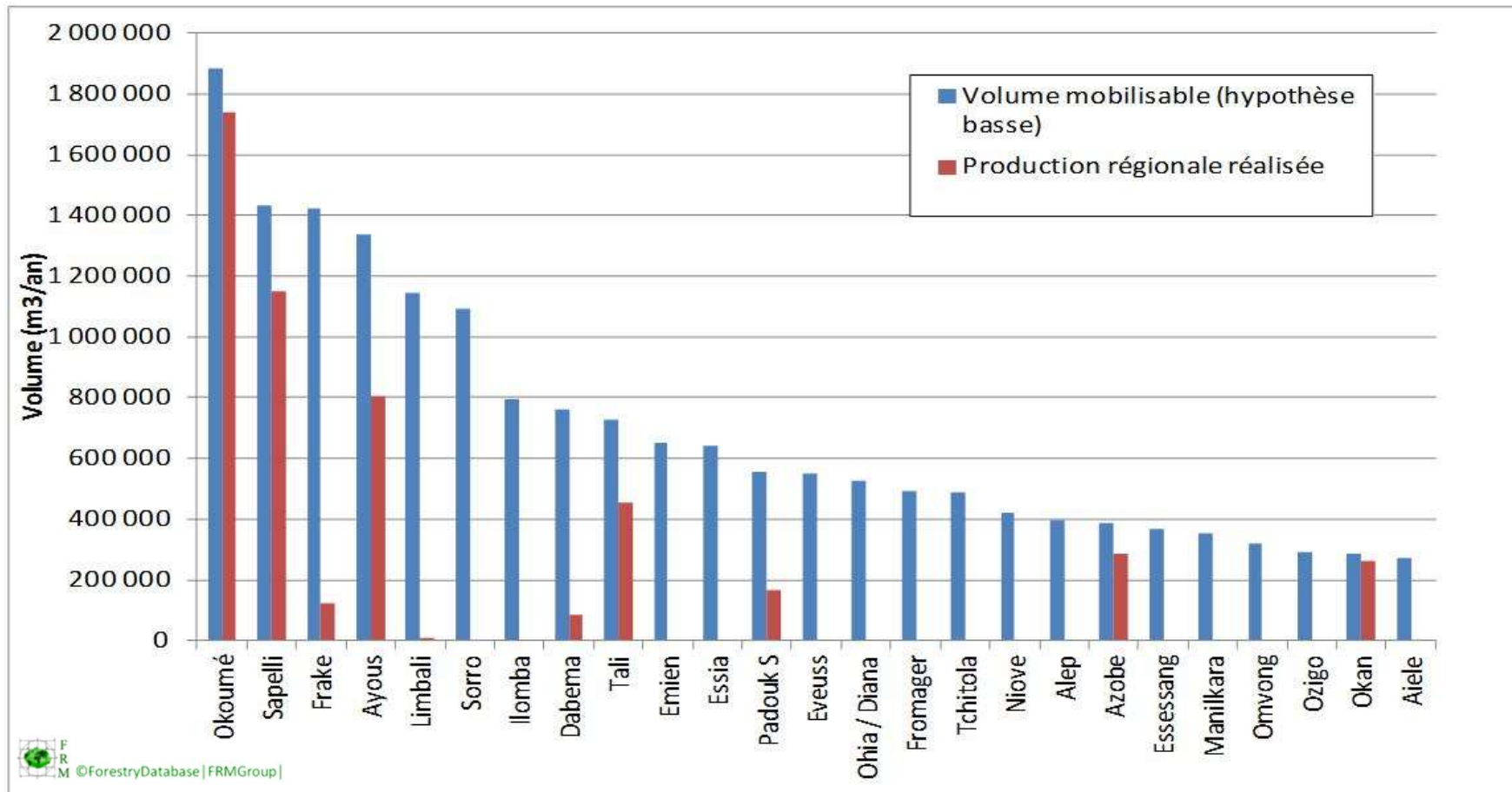


Distribution of log harvesting by country (average 2012-2016)

**A marginal place in the world timber production:
 7 M m³ logs/year in average
 1% of the world logproduction
 5% of the tropical log production**

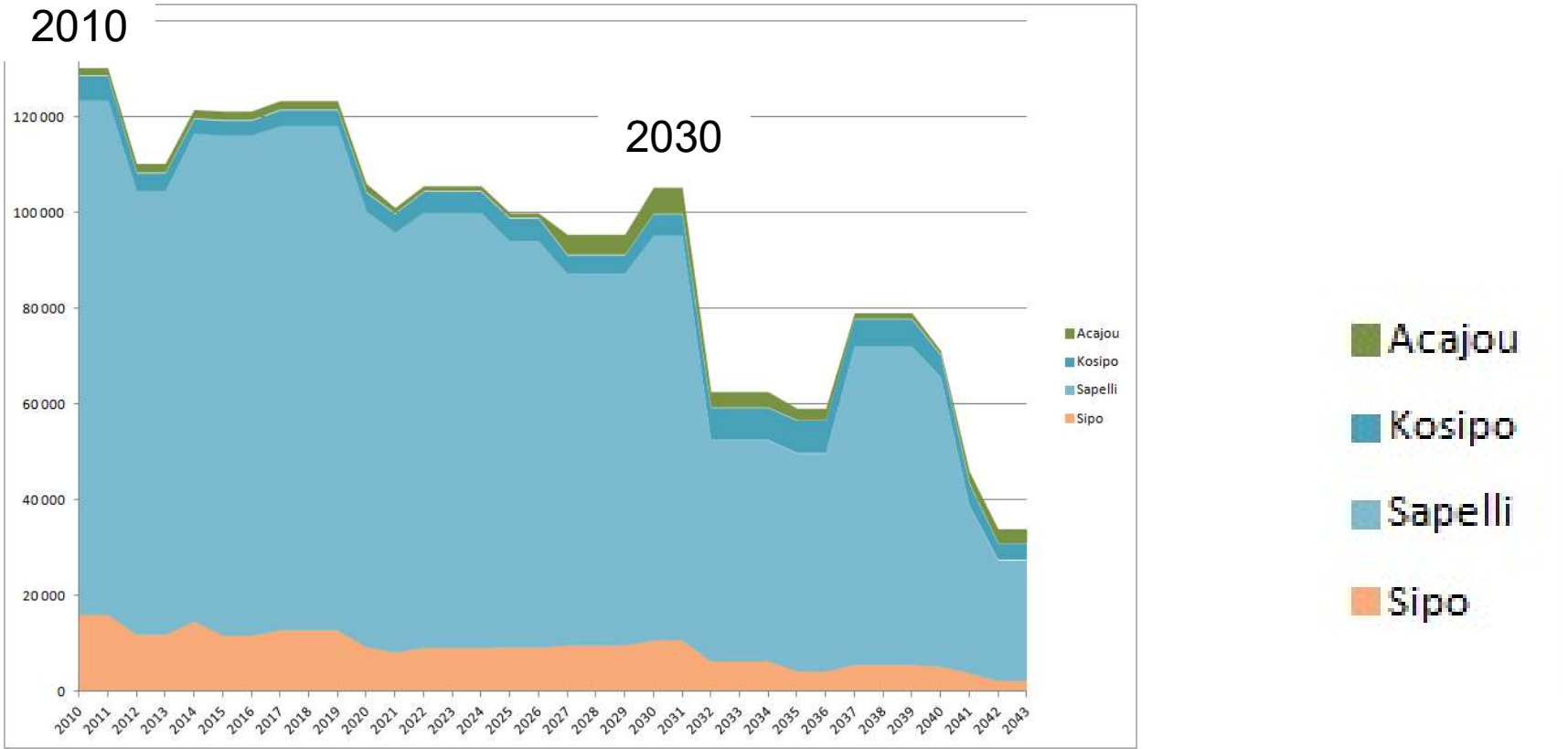


Low valorization



Many species are little harvested or not harvested at all

A fall in production coming in the second rotation for some species



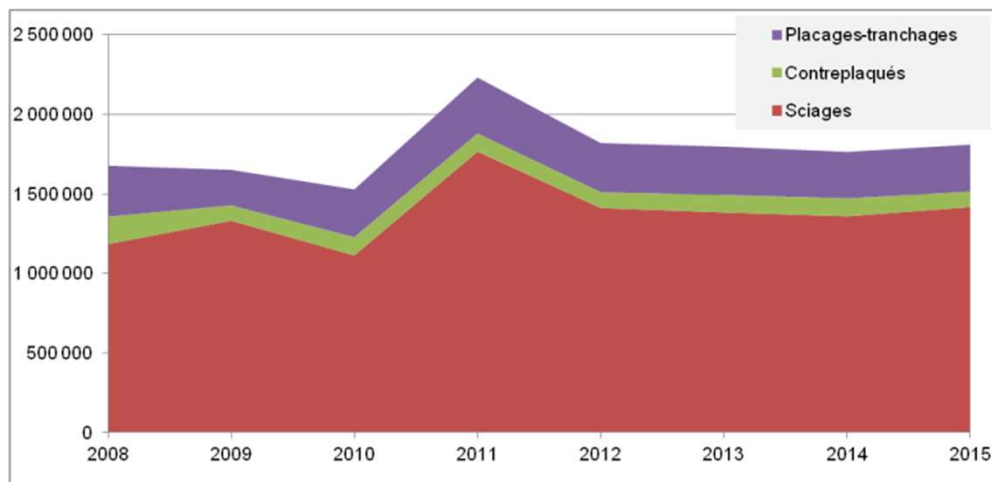
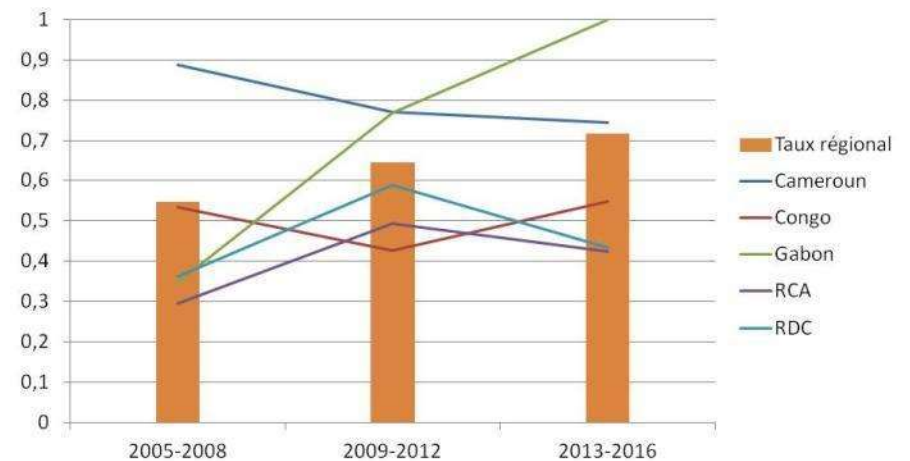
Example of the Sapelli on a set of concessions

In the region: a current potential of 1.4 M m³ => 0.3 to 0.4 M m³ at the very most within 20 years

Limited industrialization

1/3 of the logs are exported
A contrasting situation:
Gabon: 100% processed timber
Cameroun: 75%
CAR, DRC, Congo: 40 to 60 %
Equatorial Guinea: less than 5%

Industrialization rate by country



Existing Industries

- Limited to 1st processing / very little 2nd and 3rd processing
- 80% sawnwood / 20% veneer – plywood
- Extremely low material yield (almost 60% of residue that is not recycled)

Particular case in the region: Gabon

- ⇒ Timber export ban in 2010
- ⇒ Strong evolution of the sector: end of integration
- ⇒ Operators became specialized
- ⇒ Setting up of a timber market
- ⇒ Special Economic Zone of Nkok



Central Africa: a real potential for development A competitiveness to be strengthened

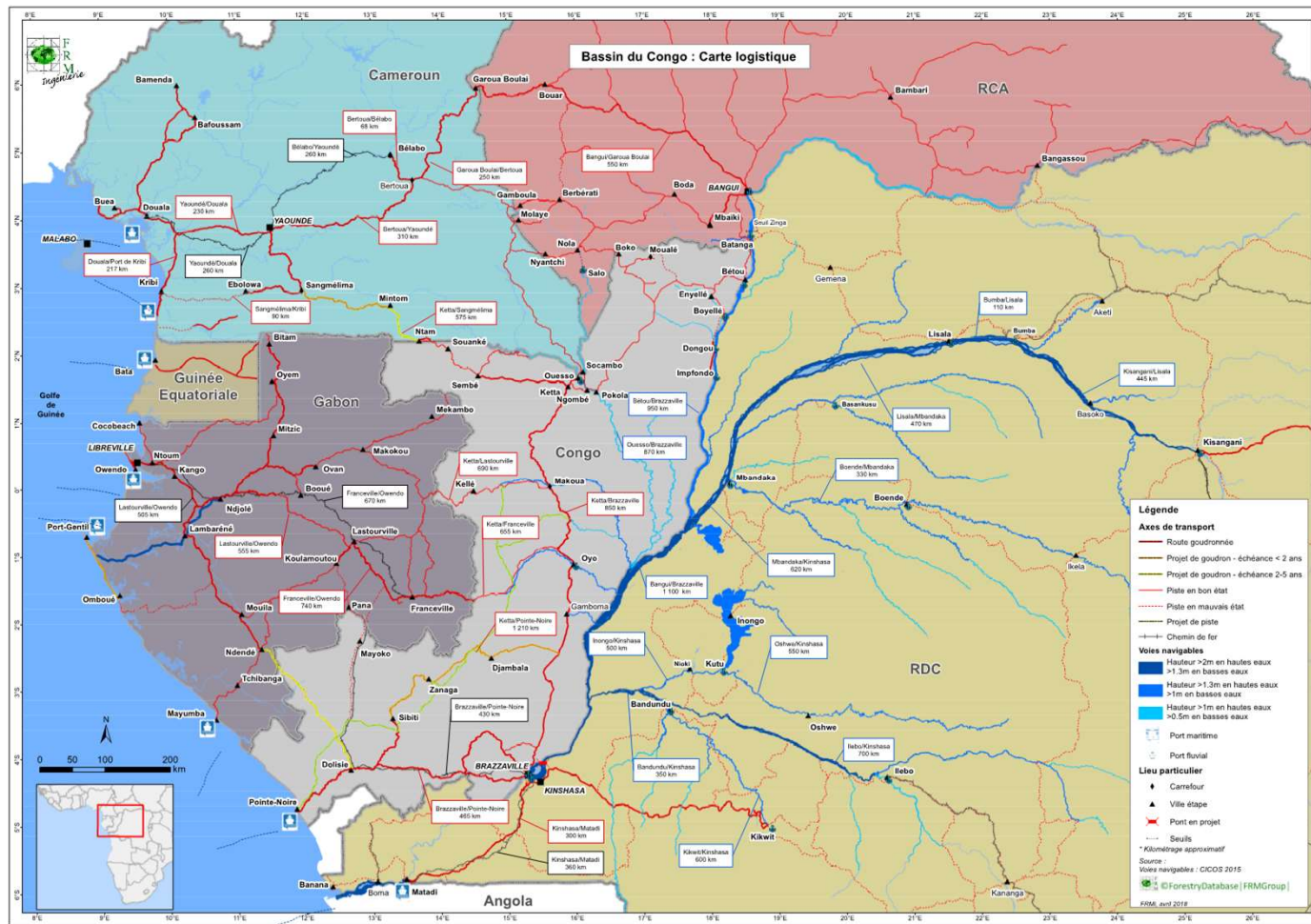
⇒ Increase production by diversifying the harvested species

⇒ Industrialize to promote new species





Central Africa: A competitiveness to be strengthened Improve logistics



Transport:
30 to 60% of the
FOB cost price

Central Africa: A competitiveness to be strengthened Changing the Tax system

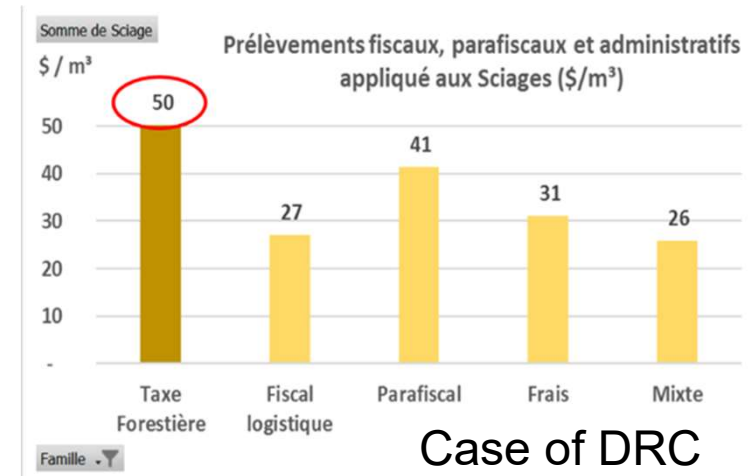
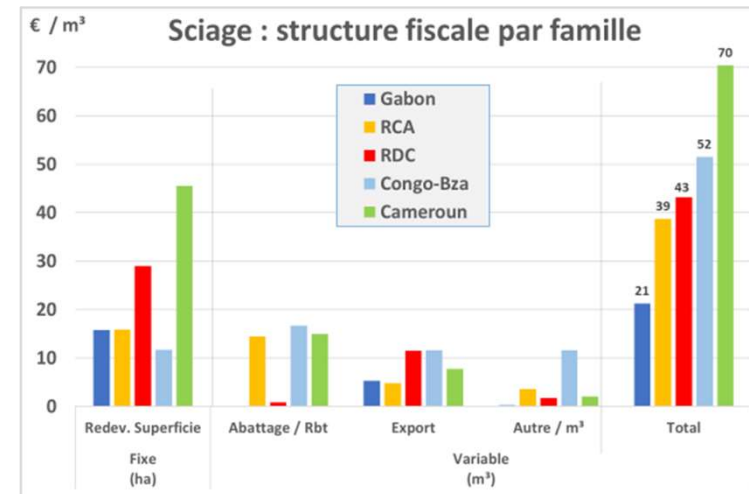
Forest taxes and export

- Timber: 20 to 30€/m³ (Congo, CAR, DRC)
- Sawnwood: 20 to 50€/m³ (except Cameroon)

Incidental taxes, abusive fees and deductions

Example in DRC: around 125€ /m³ for sawnwood

Insufficiently incentive tax system





Central Africa: A competitiveness to be strengthened Other issues

Staff training

Strengthening forest and industry research

Access to financing

**Access to domestic markets for formal industrialists and professionalization
of independent professionals**



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