

## Montagskolloquien für die Praxis

Event date 20.11.2017, 15:15-17:30 Uhr, ETH Zürich  
Seminar room: CHN C14, Universitaetstrasse 16

[Location](#)

### What will happen to the forests of the Congo Basin, how and why?

**Koordination: Dr. Claude Garcia (ETH ForDev)**

The future of the forests of the Congo Basin is constrained by two processes: climate change and land use change. An improved understanding of the drivers and pathways of landscape change and a more realistic depiction of the decision making processes of the stakeholders involved would allow managers and land planners to better anticipate the ecological, social and economic impacts of human interventions. In this session, we report on the outcomes of the twin projects CoForTips/CoForSet, aimed at developing future scenarios for the forests of the Congo Basin.

We merged expert, local and scientific knowledge to develop models linking social, economic and environmental drivers. These models facilitate improved understanding of the social and ecological system of the forests of the Congo Basin, highlighting drivers behind system change, and

We developed theoretical models that highlight underlying patterns of deforestation linked to small-scale agriculture. We developed precise and realistic simulations predicting changes in land cover for the next 50 years. We developed process-based role-playing games that allow stakeholders to grasp the complexity of the system and devise new strategies and new forms of collective action. **We have addressed the what, the how and the why of forest landscape change in the Congo Basin.** These outputs allow stakeholders and decision makers to develop their own scenarios of land use and biodiversity. Our methodologies, and in particular the role playing games, can be used at the village level to develop social capital and trust, while at the regional level they act as negotiation tools, helping shape the future governance of the forests of the region. They will help stakeholders make more informed decisions today and better anticipate future outcomes.

#### Program

Time	Lecture
15:15	<b>Introduction: Multiscale future scenarios</b> Claude Garcia, ETH Group of Forest Management and Development
10'	<b>Forest types and transitions</b> Jean Francois Bastin
10'	<b>Changing landscapes, changing strategies</b> Laurene Feintrenie, Juliette Chamagne
10'	<b>Best practice biodiversity safeguards and standards fail to account for intact forest landscapes</b> Fabien Quetier
16h15	<b>Coffee break</b>
10'	<b>What will happen to the Congo Basin?</b> Aline Mosnier
10'	<b>How do landscapes change in the Congo Basin.</b> Valery Gond and Johan Oszwald
10'	<b>Why do landscapes change?</b> Claude Garcia, ETH Group of Forest Management and Development
10'	<b>Questions &amp; Answers</b> Claude Garcia, ETH Group of Forest Management and Development
17h30	<b>End of the event</b>