



Central African Regional Program  
for the Environment

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Abstract

**SOS Fund number - # 6c.043**

**Proposal Title: *Atelier Regional de Formation sur la Collecte des Données par Satellite en Afrique Centrale***

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Start date: **5/01/00**  
Duration: **2 months**  
Total Grant amount: **\$51,109**

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During the past few years, remote sensing data from space-borne optical and microwave systems have become available over the tropical forests of Africa. Data from high resolution radar imagery from the Global Rain Forest Mapping (GRFM) project, TREES, and the NASA Landsat Pathfinder program are examples of these data sets available over the African tropical forest. On a regional scale, these data are used to map the vegetation cover and establish methodologies for monitoring patterns and changes of land cover and land use. On a smaller scale, the high resolution data can be used for detailed mapping and monitoring as well as forest management, conservation, and a suite of other applications. However producing reliable and repeatable results depend significantly on the use of data by scientists and individuals in environmental organizations and conservation groups in the region. Providing data and resources that can readily be used for local needs and adjusted to changing conditions of the region can insure sustainability and efficiency of environmental and conservation programs. Furthermore, the need to develop capacity within the region and to help addressing issues in resource management and solving environmental problems in future is one of the primary objectives of several development and conservation programs in the region. It is for these reasons that we propose to have a training and data distribution workshop in the region.

The objectives of the project are as follows:

1. To distribute satellite images to selected individuals and organizations in the region for environmental applications.
2. To provide educational and training material for the use of satellite data such as classification and data interpretation techniques.
3. To establish a series of tasks and cooperative research for validation and production of land cover and land use maps for both regional and local applications.