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**Proposal Title: *GIS modelling of the causes and consequences of deforestation in the dense forest regions of the Central African Republic***

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Abstract

This project will combine a detailed geographic information system developed by PARN for the dense forest regions of the Central African Republic with modelling tools developed by CARPE and the World Bank to: 1) model the relationship among the market for fuelwood, the urban deforestation halo around Bangui, fuelwood transportation costs, and consumer adoption of alternative cooking fuels such as kerosene and liquid petroleum gas; 2) model the probable rate, extent, and causes of deforestation in each of the biogeophysical zones that characterize the landscape of the dense forest zone of the Central African Republic; and 3) model the expected extent of deforestation under different socio-economic scenarios in the Dzanga-Ndoki protected area of southwestern Central African Republic.

The project provides 1) a forum for collaboration between a central African technical institute and US-based researchers, and 2) opportunities for capacity building and co-learning.

Results will be a) presented to the Minister of Environment and to donors in Bangui, b) prepared for publication in an appropriate academic article, and c) made available in summary form on the PARN and CARPE websites.