

**1. Project title:**

**STRENGTHENING THE HYDROLOGICAL MONITORING OF THE CONGO FOR INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT TAKING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION INTO ACCOUNT**

**2. Organization in charge of its implementation:**

International Commission of the Congo-Ubangui-Sangha Basin (CICOS)

**3. Project description:**

The project funded by AFD up to an amount of €500,000, deals with capacity building and increased knowledge of water resources. It will optimize the system for monitoring and sharing water-related data and information, to facilitate the implementation of adaptation measures.

The Congo Basin is at the core of global concerns on climate change and biodiversity; monitoring such a large basin (second in the world) remains a challenge. With a total of nearly 3 million Euros, France has been supporting the CICOS transboundary basin organization for the last ten years to strengthen Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in the Congo Basin.

The hydro-meteorological monitoring will be improved through worldwide innovative technology under the French-American SWOT satellite program developed by CNES (National Space Study Center) under the Future Investment Program. This technology will be used for better understanding climate change impacts in the Congo Basin. This knowledge will enable a consensual planning by the Basin Countries and a resilient local economic development for more than 100 million citizens of Central Africa.

**4. Implementation schedule:**

Duration: 18 months

Time: January 2016 – July 2017

**5. Method for monitoring project implementation:**

CICOS has established consultation platforms in its Member States that will be used to disseminate and follow up the pilot experiments by the national hydrological services and the populations.

A working group has been set up under the CNES's SWOT Aval preparatory program. Besides AFD and CNES, the group includes other stakeholders that will contribute to the successful implementation of the project to support CICOS, such as IRD (Institute of Research for Development) and IOWater (International Office for Water).