

# *les dossiers* d'**AGROPOLIS** INTERNATIONAL

*Expertise of the scientific community  
in the Languedoc-Roussillon region (France)*



## Family farming





▲ Discussion to draw up a simple management plan in a village in Bas-Congo province, Democratic Republic of the Congo.

## Public policies and sustainable land-use planning

Some research activities of UPR B&SEF are aimed at supporting public policies so as to mainstream family farming activities in sustainable land-use planning and sustainable natural resource management. This has been done, for instance, regarding oil palm in Cameroon, as well as village land management in Indonesia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

CIRAD, in partnership with the World Wide Fund for Nature (Central Africa Regional Programme Office, WWF-CARPO), IRD and the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), supports the Cameroonian Ministry of Agriculture in defining a national sustainable development strategy for oil palm. The aim is to promote family and small-scale palm oil production while preserving high conservation value forest cover and ecosystems.

Locally, village communities in Indonesia participate in decisionmaking regarding their lands via land-use plans to integrate family farming and forest activities in a landscape

mosaic. A participatory mapping tool is used for this purpose, which shows the scale of land-use plans on a subnational level (districts, 1:50 000). Village communities produce a set of maps showing the current uses of their land and their expectations for the future. These maps are then discussed with decisionmakers (local government).

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, simple land management plans are drawn up in a participatory manner with village communities. These plans should help stall deforestation induced by the growing demand for fuelwood in large urban centres by organizing sustainable wood and food production on village lands. Village communities located on the periphery of large urban centres are currently living in an environment that is so degraded that forest ecosystems and associated goods and services have almost disappeared.

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