Project
Vulnerability of water resources to climate change and adaptation of population in the Kouilou-Niari watershed

Project Progress
This project aims at performing a qualitative assessment of water resources vulnerability and agricultural practices adaptations to climate change at the Kouilou-Niari Valley and Batéké Plateau, Congo. To accomplish the goals of the project, a climate change monitoring system is proposed to track natural ecosystems sensitivity, to identify agricultural species resistance and level of adaptation, and to follow population dynamics. Nevertheless, due to the lack of remote sensing and digital image processing skills as well as the lack of hardware, such as computers and DDS, project research activities were not optimal. Therefore, the project has focused its activities on capacity building actions. From October to December 2010, a project staff member attended a long training in the Instituto Superior de Estatística e Gestão de Informação da Universidade de Lisboa (ISEGI) focusing his studies in geo-information sciences, such as remote sensing, geographic information systems (GIS) and GIS applications. He also received project-oriented supervision at the institute where he has initiated the process of selecting and downloading the images to be used in the project in future work. Other project staff members have participated in training courses in Africa, and the TIGER project workshops.

Results and further steps
Some basic processing was carried out on the downloaded images, but the lack of infrastructure makes work difficult. In the next steps the project continues to build a technically sound team to speed up work for achieving the project goals (personal capacity building) and to build a processing centre, where a set of computers and DDS may be installed (institutional capacity building).