



Press Release

416 words

On Sunday March 17, 2024, ERAIFT was honored by a visit from Mr. Mustafa Rawji, Managing Director of RAWBANK. For the occasion, the CEO of DR Congo's leading banking institution was accompanied by Mr. Thibaut Deckers, Commercial Manager at the Trading Room and craftsman of the bank's Carbon Desk. The Rawbank marketing team was also present.

After a warm welcome in the office of ERAIFT Director Prof. Baudouin Michel, the delegation moved into the conference room for a convivial exchange with a number of teachers, including the "Nyama ya Zamba" program team led by Professors T. Trefon and K. Mavakala, Dr Doriane Desclée, who teaches value chain analysis at ERAIFT, and ERAIFT students from a dozen African countries. The exchanges were intense and full of lessons for both parties.

In his speech, CEO Mustafa Rawji emphasized Rawbank's strategic commitment to being at the forefront of African financial operators actively involved in the major themes of nature conservation, biodiversity and the fight against climate change. In particular, the bank aims to play a key role in the regulation of fair payment mechanisms for environmental services, and in the development of green economy initiatives that generate carbon credits. This is why RAWBANK recently set up a Carbon Desk, becoming the first Congolese bank to do so.



On the ERAIFT side, fundraising director O. Mushiète took the opportunity to remind participants of the forthcoming "English speaking days for Nature, Biodiversity and Climate @ERAIFT", to be held on April 17 and 18 at the WBI conference center. This event will be followed from April 22 to 26, 2024 by a continuing education course on fundraising and project management, led by Ms. Céline Henrard.



The morning ended in high spirits with the planting of trees in the ERAIFT mini-forest and a family photo.

This contact day initiated by ERAIFT is part of the project's activities to build the capacity of biodiversity practitioners, scientists and political decision-makers for the sustainable management of protected areas and forest ecosystems in Africa. More specifically, the project focuses on forging closer ties with the private sector and on fundraising and diversifying financial resources. This project, implemented in the Congo Basin sub-region and West Africa, is funded by the European Union and the ERAIFT category 2 center under the auspices of UNESCO. It is jointly implemented by the AGRINATURA EEIG and ERAIFT.

ERAIFT would like to extend its warmest thanks to the European Union and RAWBANK, as well as to all its partners, for making these important meetings possible, and for their innovative, sustainable and relevant projects.