

Forests Forever Committee Meeting IOM3 Headquarters, London, 19 November 2018

About the Guest Speaker



Valerie Vauthier has an MSc in International management. She started her forests work as a Global Witness investigator and pioneered the mandated monitoring approach in Africa in 2000.

She then co-founded REM in 2003, a proactive but non-lobby NGO, and spent 15 years developing, implementing and managing large mandated monitoring projects in the Congo Basin. She is also a co-founder of Gaiachain, a Blockchain+ startup since April 2018.

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About Resource Extraction Monitoring (REM)



REM is a non-profit organisation founded in 2003 and specialised in independent monitoring of law enforcement and governance for activities related to the extraction and management of natural resources. We differ from conventional NGOs in that REM establishes formal partnerships with target governments and donors in order to improve resource management and exploitation practices. We also develop enforcement tools supporting enforcement such as legislation and enforcement procedures manuals, infractions databases and tracking systems. To date, REM carried out 152 joint investigations documenting evidence of 465 specific governance issues, 857 company specific forest infractions. Our work led to forest title cancellations, sanctions and tax recovery, but also enabled a sector oversight at country-level of the worse and better forest operators.

REM has had offices in Cambridge, United Kingdom (headquarters), Yaoundé, Cameroon (2005-2009), Brazzaville, Republic of Congo (2006-2013) and Kinshasa (2010-2013) for the implementation of Mandated Independent Monitoring projects. Mandated monitoring organisations FLAG, CAGDF and OGF now operating in those countries were created from these projects by REM national staff. Short-term missions are also conducted regularly by REM and since 2003 we have worked in Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Central African Republic, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, and Vietnam.

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