

Interactive comment on “Vegetation response to the African Humid Period termination in central Cameroon (7 N) – new pollen insight from Lake Mbalang” by A. Vincens et al.

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This paper has purposely omitted connections between human population impact and dynamics and the environmental shift at the African Humid Period termination despite of indirect evidence for such connections. This omission mainly results from the complexities and difficulties in linking climate shifts and cultural change/response and to decipher climate impact from Human one by pollen analysis, particularly in Africa. Generally, few or no significant pollen markers (i.e. of cultivation) are found that is the case in our pollen sequence from Mbalang.

In the same way, our purpose here was not to discuss potential climate mechanisms

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during the AHP termination. Our interest was focused on the ecological response of the vegetation at this key period at 7°N on the Adamawa plateau, its mode, its duration and its timing and on the comparison of these new data with those previously obtained North and South of this area in Central Africa.

Effectively, the authors ignore the occurrence of a “special” 2200 –year event and so relevant literature. They would like, if possible, to profit of some informations about this literature. Meanwhile, if such event is well defined in some West African regions as said by the reviewer, it is not evidenced in the Mbalang pollen sequence, such as in other sequences cited in the text, and so it cannot have been as important as the impact of the AHP termination on Central African ecosystems.

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