Biogeochemistry, transport fluxes and emission of greenhouse gases from the Ogooué River (west central Africa): preliminary results after two years of monitoring

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The Ogooué River is the fourth largest river in Africa by discharge. The Ogooué Basin mostly consists of undisturbed rainforest with some savanna grassland. Yet, there is no information on the biogeochemistry, transport fluxes and greenhouse gases in this river. Here, we report initial results of a monitoring campaign whereby 2-weekly samples were collected at Lambaréné (Gabon) [10.24°E 0.69°S] between April 2012 and March 2014 for a suite of physico-chemical and biogeochemical characteristics, including total suspended matter (TSM) concentrations, concentration and stable isotope composition of particulate organic carbon (POC and δ13C-POC) and particulate nitrogen (PN and δ15N-PN), chromophoric dissolved organic matter (CDOM), dissolved organic carbon (DOC and δ13C-DOC), dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC and δ13C-DIC), concentration of greenhouse gases (GHGs) (CO2, CH4 and N2O), as well as major elements, total alkalinity, and oxygen isotope signatures of water (δ18O-H2O). This dataset allows us to construct annual budgets for particulate and dissolved carbon fluxes, nutrient exports, as well as a first seasonally resolved characterisation of the GHGs emitted to the atmosphere by the Ogooué River.