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CAFI TRUST FUND

2019 CONSOLIDATED REPORT

Preliminary report submitted to the MPTF on 31 May 2020

For approval by the CAFI Fund Executive Board

List of main acronyms

AFD : Agence Française de Développement
BUR : Biennial Update report
CAFI: Central African Forest Initiative
CAR: Central African Republic
CBFP: Congo Basin Forest Partnership
COP-23: 23rd Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
DRC: Democratic Republic of the Congo
DIAF: Forestry Department in the DRC Ministry of Environment
EB: (CAFI) Executive Board
ENABEL: Belgian bilateral cooperation agency
FAO: Food and Agriculture organization of the United Nations
FONAREDD: French acronym for the DRC's National REDD+ Fund
HCS: High Carbon Stock
IO: Implementing Organisation
Lol: Letter of Intent
NFMS: National Forest Monitoring System
NIF: National Investment Framework
M&E: Monitoring and Evaluation
(I)NGO: (International) Non-Governmental Organizations
PIREDD: French acronym for province-wide multisectoral ("integrated") REDD+ programmes
REDD+: Reducing Emissions from Deforestation, forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries
RoC: Republic of Congo
RSPO: Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil
ToR: Terms of Reference
UNCDF: United Nations Capital Development Fund
UNDP: United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFPA: United Nations Fund for Population
UNOPS : United Nations Office for Project Services
WB: World Bank
WRI: World Resources Institute

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Executive Summary

2019 – a Super Year for CAFI

Firmly set on its trajectory to simultaneously promote sustainable development and the preservation of forests in the Central African region, CAFI recorded a number of successes in 2019, through its **unique combination of high-level policy dialogue and direct investments on the ground**.

CAFI signed a US\$ 150 million landmark agreement with Gabon for results-based payment, the first time an African country will be rewarded in a 10-year deal for both reducing its greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and degradation, and removals of carbon dioxide by natural forests.

President Macron of France (on behalf of the CAFI Presidency) and President Sassou of the Republic of Congo signed a US\$ 65 million Letter of Intent. The Republic of Congo committed to protecting its peatlands and limiting the conversion of forests to 20,000 hectares per year, and this only outside of forests with high carbon stocks and high conservation value.

On the programming side, CAFI has funded or committed to funding 23 programmes for a total of over 232 million, with over 137 million dollars disbursed to date. The Initiative entered a **new phase of the partnership with the Democratic Republic of the Congo**. A renewed dialogue with the new Minister of Environment concluded with a joint Forest Sector Roadmap to be implemented early 2020. The conclusion of independent verification of the milestones of the Letter of Intent led to the high-level adoption of a joint Action Plan that in turn allowed the opening of the 2nd tranche of CAFI funding.

Funding commitments and deposits continued to increase, with Germany's signature of a contribution agreement of over US\$ 30 million to the CAFI Fund, South Korea's announcement of a contribution of US\$ 2 million to the CAFI Fund, and the signature of the European Union US\$ 17 million agreement to the CAFI Fund. This brings the CAFI Fund capitalization to over 300 million US\$.

Funding turned into action, as programming continued and programmes took off, with

- The 4th sub tranche of US\$ 28 million disbursed from the CAFI Fund to DRC for the implementation of its portfolio bringing the transfers to a total of US\$ 150M since 2016. A landmark sectoral program for orienting agriculture towards savannahs and degraded areas and another on the sustainable management of forests were approved, as well as an 8th province-wide program (Mongala) covering all sectors.
- Concrete results of the first programmes in the DRC were recorded on the ground, such as, just to name a few, first improved crop seedlings in 5 provinces, hundreds of hectares of sustainable subsistence crops and fuelwood plantations, 22 local agricultural councils and over 600 household cooperatives established, a strong Land tenure reform commission established, more than 100 local land use and natural resource management plans and over 50 thousands years of couple-protection already distributed.
- US \$ 12 million newly committed to develop additional programmes in Gabon, adding to the existing 18.4 million approved in 2018.

- Finalization of the programming framework under the Letter of Intent with the Republic of Congo.
- On the international scene, at the United Nations Secretary General Climate Action Summit, Heads of State from CAFI donors and partners countries highlighted the key role of Central African Forests for climate action, prompting unprecedented coverage by top tier international media and shifting the global narrative on Central African forests.

Social media exposure grew to maintain CAFI's position as a major player in the arena of climate, forest and development efforts in Central Africa, and partnerships grew with civil society with the organization of the first CAFI Dialogues in Bonn.

The overall context remains cause for concern: while deforestation is stabilized in some countries (Congo, Gabon), 14 million hectares of tree cover are estimated to have been lost across¹ the CAFI partner countries between 2000 and 2018. Accelerating programme implementation, increasing policy dialogue especially in DRC, raising funds to scale up and maintaining high level commitments will be the challenges of the few coming years.

¹ From app. 269 million hectares in 2000 to app. 255 million hectares in 2018. Source GFC v1.6, with threshold 50%. Communication by FAO to the CAFI Executive Board, October 2019.

1. Purpose

The region is home to more than 40 million people who depend on the forest for food, shelter, culture and energy. On a more regional scale, humid air generated by the Central African rainforest regulates rainfall across West and East Africa having thus an impact on agriculture (food production) and hydro electricity production. The forest is also the catchment area for the Congo river, the largest in Africa. On a global level, Central Africa has unique biodiversity with endemic species only found here including primates, the okapi or the forest elephant. Furthermore, being the second tropical forest basin, it is a massive carbon sink: one hectare of forest stocks, on average, 180 tons of carbon, and in addition actively captures carbon every year.

These forests are threatened. While deforestation is commodity driven in the Amazon and South East Asia, in Central Africa poverty and demographic pressure play a predominant role in deforestation and forest degradation, through increasing domestic demand for especially food and wood energy.

Reducing the pressure on forests and achieving the nation-wide emission reductions expected by the Paris Agreement, require a systemic response led by governments in coordination with different stakeholders. Since **the drivers of deforestation span several economic sectors** (direct drivers such as agriculture, wood energy, forestry and infrastructure/mining) and indirect drivers (such as lack of land use planning and insecure land tenure, poor governance and rapid population growth), focusing exclusively on one sector will not be sufficient to tackle forest loss.

Therefore, CAFI supports **reforms and investments in several sectors behind forest loss**, thus providing the foundation for the necessary institutional and sectoral changes to address deforestation. In addition, it supports national coordination structures to ensure that consensus is found among all different stakeholders, sectors and line ministries.

CAFI is the only initiative that supports strategic, holistic and country-level REDD+ and Low Emission Development investments while focusing on Central African high-forest cover countries. Its objective is to **recognize and preserve the value of the forests in the region to mitigate climate change, reduce poverty and contribute to sustainable development.**

This objective will be attained through **substantially scaled-up international support to transformational reforms and ambitious investments on the ground, combined with a high-level policy dialogue.**

As a collaborative partnership, CAFI gathers:

- Central African partner countries: Cameroon, Central African Republic, Republic of Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea and Gabon
- A coalition of donors: the European Union, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, South Korea and the United Kingdom
- Brazil as South-South partner.

The CAFI Trust Fund is managed by the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office of the UN.

At country level, CAFI enters into phased dialogues that ensure the mainstreaming of climate and forestry objectives into sectoral and development plans. This catalyzes a long-term process necessary for the

changes required, but develops relatively quickly as the programming process is already ongoing through the CAFI portfolio and opportunities for co-funding have been identified.

1. Partner countries develop their **national investment frameworks** addressing all drivers of deforestation and forest degradation according to their priorities
2. Following a review of the national investment framework and discussions with the partner country, the CAFI Executive Board (EB) agrees to support certain policy reforms and large-scale programs
3. Through a **Letter of Intent** ([e.g. with DRC](#), Gabon and the Republic of Congo) signed between the CAFI EB and by Ministers with coordination mandates (e.g. Minister of Finance) or Heads of state or government, agree on time-bound targets in policy reform and programmatic performance and the corresponding financial support by CAFI if jointly defined milestones are met.
4. CAFI and partner countries agree on a programming framework and then partner countries develop and implement **programs** (sectoral and landscape/jurisdictional) to achieve the milestones in the Letter of Intent and jointly monitor progress with the EB.

Throughout the process, CAFI offers a framework that allows for a combination of field investments and high-level policy dialogue. Multi-donor coordination strengthens the convening power of the Initiative.

CAFI is an opportunity to drive systemic change through whole-of-government approach and donor coordination. Through CAFI, donor countries pool their financial resources, coordinate their policy dialogue and align their bilateral funding and thus multiply the impact of their individual contributions.

2. Results at Fund level

This section presents the programmes that CAFI supports and information on how investments spread across different drivers of deforestation and forest degradation, as well as expected higher-level results.

Country-level results are presented in section 3. More specific analysis programme by programme for DRC can be found in the consolidated trust fund report of FONAREDD available on the MPTF website. Results in terms of improved governance are highlighted, as well as the contribution of the CAFI portfolio to greater gender equality.

This section also features the performance of implementing agencies, resource mobilization efforts and the work of the Executive Board.

2.1 Overview of the portfolio

As of 31 December 2019, **CAFI has funded or committed to funding 23 programmes for a total of over 232 million, and it has disbursed over 137 million dollars to date.** These programmes can be categorized as:

- Sixteen large-scale programmes to implement a National Investment Framework (NIF), of which fifteen are in the DRC and one in Gabon. Of these, the CAFI portfolio is spread over
 - rural investments over 8 DRC provinces;
 - national reforms and policies, through 11 programmes in DRC and one in Gabon to support the forest, agriculture, land use, land tenure, energy, reproductive health sectors and civil society and indigenous people
- Five small preparatory grants to develop a National Investment Framework in Cameroon, Central African Republic, Equatorial Guinea and the Republic of Congo and foster policy dialogue and develop programs
- The direct support to the Secretariat of CAFI and the Secretariat of the DRC's National REDD+ Fund (FONAREDD)

These programmes are now implemented by ten implementing organisations - three more than in 2018 as UNOPS, UNFPA and ENABEL have started in 2019 to implement new programmes in the DRC

As seen in Table 1, DRC remains the country with the largest investments. Gabon, the 2nd country that signed a Letter of Intent with CAFI, benefits from the 2nd largest programme. The Republic of Congo and CAFI signed a Letter of Intent for up to 65 million dollars and benefited from a small grant to develop a proposal to the Green Climate Fund. The three other partner countries are finalizing their NIF and have entered in an active policy dialogue.

Programme	Objectives ²	Approved budget (M US\$)	Impl. org
Democratic Republic of Congo			
Support to civil society	GTCR-R fully functional (national coordination and governance and oversight bodies) Organization expanded and new partnerships sought Active provincial and territorial coordination, especially for REDD+ intervention areas Training programmes implemented	3	UNDP
Land use planning reform	Land use planning policy developed Regulatory and legal framework strengthened to coordinate sectoral and territorial policies to resolve land conflicts and promote a balanced land use development Strengthen capacity for dialogue and negotiations of stakeholders, primarily MATUH, CONARAT and their regional units as well as territorial entities Ensure that social and environmental safeguards are taken into account in land use planning	8	UNDP
Integrated program - Tshopo, Ituri and Bas Uele (ex Orientale)	Income of target populations increased by 10% A reduction of app. 10.8 million tCO ₂ eq, or app. 10% of emissions in the target areas, with focus on hotspot along roads and large urban area Strengthened local governance of land use planning and natural resources management Increases in the yields of staple crops (9000 ha), cash crops, sustainable subsistence agriculture (160,000ha) and agroforestry (6000 ha) Reduced consumption of fuel energy (fuelwood plantations, natural regeneration (45,000 ha) and 5000 cookstoves 150,000 ha of community forestry established	33	UNDP
Integrated program - Mai Ndombé	Deforestation and forest degradation stabilized in the former Mai-Ndombé District, through a holistic vision centered on land use planning and strengthening local governance resulting in an estimated decrease in emissions of 27.7 million tCo ₂ eq Living conditions and incomes of close to 150 000 people (incl. 75,000 women) improved by 20%, especially those of farmers, while ensuring the sustainable management of resources and land Sustainable rural development promoted by increasing agricultural productivity through improved practices, developing perennial crops (1650ha), agroforestry (5000 ha), subsistence agriculture (11,650ha) 180,000 households trained on family planning	30	WB
Integrated program - Sud Ubangui	Management capacity strengthened Support agricultural development that respects management plans and promote sustainable and perennial crops (cocoa and coffee) 22 sustainable development plans and 100 simple management plans Strengthen technical capacities of decentralized authorities	7	WB

² Numbered targets are provided as examples, and not exhaustive as not always defined at onset of programmes

Programme	Objectives ²	Approved budget (M US\$)	Impl. org
Integrated program – Kwilu province	Carbon sequestration and avoided deforestation (223,000 tons of CO ₂) through promoting agroforestry (5000 ha) Improved livelihoods (improved median revenue of supported farmers by 10%)	4 ³	JICA
Integrated program – Equateur province	Support sedentary agriculture in savannahs and fallow lands, using PES and improved crops 3000 ha of wood energy plantation and 7000 ha under natural regeneration 10,000 households adopt improved cookstoves 480,000 ha of community forestry supported Increase contraceptive prevalence in 10% of targeted communities	6	FAO
Integrated programme - Mongala province	A two-phase programme based on a territorial approach and capacity strengthening, to support sustainable agroforestry systems (banana, fruit trees), non-timber forest products (caterpillar trees) and a territorial development planning Up to 250 hectares of fuelwood plantations through community forestry	7	ENABEL
National Forest Monitoring System	Monitoring of the changes in forest cover Proactive monitoring of major deforestation events Meet UNFCCC criteria to allow access to results-based payments related to reduction in deforestation (including submission of FREL)	10	FAO
Land tenure reform	Strengthen CONAREF to prepare and implement tenure reform Support communities to elaborate methodological guidance to strengthen cadastres, and capitalize on lessons learned in pilots (conflict resolution and harmonization of secure tenure) to feed into the tenure policy document Tenure policy document and associated legal text elaborated in a participative manner	6	UN-Habitat
Support to Indigenous Peoples	Develop national capacity to identify models of sustainable natural resource management by Indigenous peoples Experiment these models in order to disseminate them more widely	2	WB
Sustainable agriculture policy	Develop and implement an agricultural policy that takes into account forests including the promotion of savanna-based agriculture	3	FAO
Sustainable wood energy	Provide alternatives to unsustainable wood energy by developing markets for LPG and improved cookstoves. Access to 87,000 clean energy solutions	15	UNDP and UNCDF

³ This programme benefits from another 3.4 M in co-financing from JICA

Programme	Objectives ²	Approved budget (M US\$)	Impl. org
Savannah-based and degraded forests agriculture	Small and medium agricultural enterprises sustainably manage savannahs and degraded forests - Kwilu and Tshopo provinces, with the establishment of 7000 hectares of agroforestry	15	AFD
Scaling up Family planning	Reduce the effects of unplanned demographic growth on forests 8 Million Couple Year Protection 193 health centres supported	33	UNOPS and UNFPA
Sustainable Management of Forest	Elaboration of a strategy to strengthen the economic governance of the sector Transparent and participatory elaboration of a Forest policy Developing the forest/timber artisanal sector with legal practices Sustainable management of forests by communities and territorial entities Management of large forest concessions is performed in accordance to Congolese law Strengthen the capacity of local forest and decentralized administration	12 ⁴	AFD
DRC National REDD+ Fund Secretariat	Coordination, technical assistance, transparency and policy dialogue	15.9	UNDP
Sub total DRC		210	
Gabon			
Land use planning and forest monitoring	Develop, adopt and implement a National Land Use Plan (PNAT) and a National Observation System for Natural Resources and Forests (SNORF) that will contribute to the reduction of GHG emissions from LULUCF in Gabon	18.4	AFD
Republic of Congo			
Preparatory grant for National investment Framework		0.7	WB
Grant to prepare GCF proposal		0.3	FAO
Sub total RoC		1	
Cameroon			
Preparatory grant for National investment Framework		1	WB & AFD

⁴ Benefits from another 4 M USD in co-financing from AFD

Programme	Objectives ²	Approved budget (M US\$)	Impl. org
Equatorial Guinea			
Preparatory grant for National investment Framework		1.087	FAO
Central African Republic			
Preparatory grant for National investment Framework		1	WB
Total		232	10
CAFI Secretariat		5.9	UNDP

Table 1: CAFI portfolio of programmes as of 31 December 2019

Net transferred amount to each of these programmes is reported in the financial report (Annex 1). Details for DRC's FONAREDD disbursement to programmes is found the FONAREDD financial report (available on the FONAREDD web site).

Figure 1 below highlights how the DRC represents just over 90% of CAFI's investments, and Gabon just 9.4%, the rest being split between CAFI's other 4 partner countries. While this trend has been constant since 2016, the forecasted approval of programmes in the Republic of Congo in 2020, following the signature of the Letter of Intent in 2019 and finalization of the programming framework, as well as new programmes and payments for results in Gabon is expected to alter these percentages.

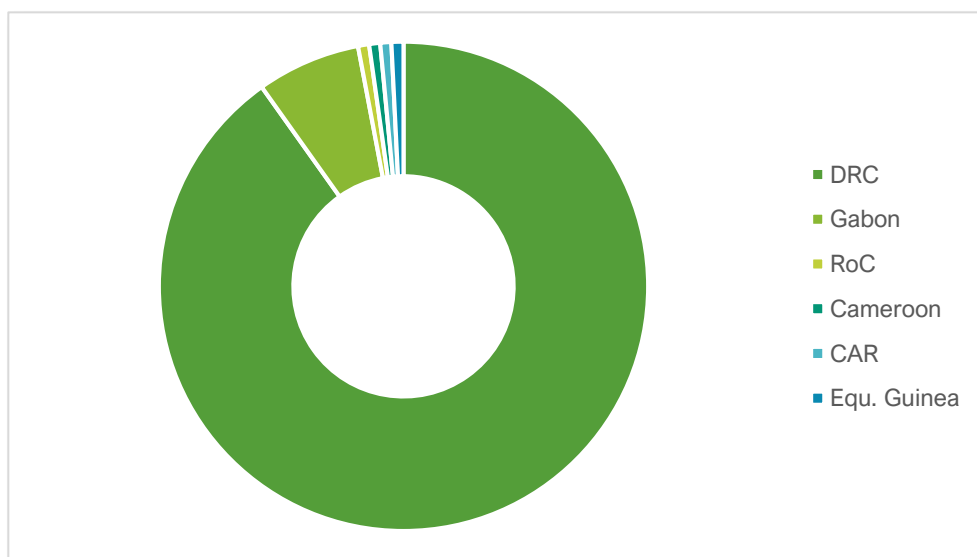


Figure 1: Net funded amount per country (December 31, 2019)

2.2 Funding and delivery per agency

Ten multilateral or bilateral cooperation organizations now implement CAFI programmes. That is three more than in 2018, with UNOPS, UNFPA and ENABEL implementing new programme in the DRC). Table 2 displays the net funded amounts per programme and per agency.

Agency	Country	Net funded amount per programme (US\$)	Net funded amount per agency (US\$)
AFD	Gabon	9,874,010	
	Cameroon	474,010	
	Sub total AFD		10,348,020
Enabel	DRC	4,000,000	
	sub total ENABEL		4,000,000
FAO	DRC	16,481,154	
	RoC	314,173	
	Eq Guinea	1,087,500	
	sub total FAO		17,882,827
IBRD (World Bank)	DRC	25,000,000	
	Cameroon	542,000	
	CAR	1,000,000	
	RoC	698,000	
	Sub total World Bank		27,240,000
JICA	DRC	3,168,041	
	sub total JICA		3,168,041
UNCDF	DRC	4,174,200	
	sub total UNCDF		4,174,200
UNDP	DRC	32,959,305	
	sub total UNDP		32,959,305
UNFPA	DRC	8,729,120	
	sub total UNFPA		8,729,120
UNHABITAT	DRC	5,000,000	
	sub total UN Habitat		5,000,000
UNOPS	DRC	21,270,880	
	sub total UNOPS		21,270,880

Table 2: Net funded amount per programme and per agency

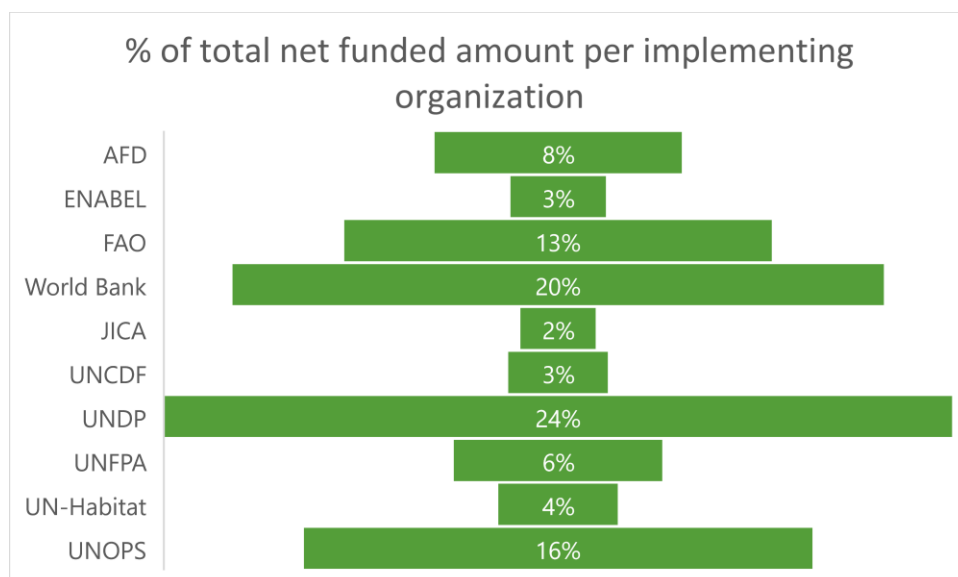


Figure 3 : Net funded amount per agency

With the caveat that data is heavily dominated by the FONAREDD portfolio, UNDP is the largest recipient of CAFI funding (24%), followed by the World Bank (20%), UNOPS (16%) and FAO (13%). The French Development agency ranks 5th with 8%, but this percentage is expected to increase in 2020 with the first US\$ 8M transfer to the Programme on the Sustainable management of forests in the DRC approved in December 2019 and the Gabon pipeline.

Delivery rates per agency, reported from the table in the Annex of this report as well as the one in the financial report of the FONAREDD, are presented in Table 3 below. Explanations are provided in each country section of this report below.

For the whole of the FONAREDD, the delivery rate is of 29.75%.

Agency	Country	Net funded amount (US\$)	Expenditure (US\$)	Delivery rate (%)
AFD	Gabon	9,874,010	1,014,953	10.8
	Cameroon	474,010	0	0
Enabel	DRC	4,000,000	257,415	6.44
FAO	DRC	16,481,154	8,090,699	49.09
	RoC	314,173	298,953	95.16
	Eq Guinea	1,087,500	1,076,435	98.98
IBRD	DRC	25,000,000	7,021,199	28.08
	Cameroon	542,000	370,787	68.41
	CAR	1,000,000	763,969	76.4
	RoC	698,000	698,000	100
JICA	DRC	3,168,041	6,0149	35.79
UNCDF	DRC	4,174,200	472,657	11.32
UNDP	DRC	32,959,305	7,704,456	23.38
UNFPA	DRC	8,729,120	313,123	3.59

UNHABITAT	DRC	5,000,000	4,653,844	93.08
UNOPS	DRC	21,270,880	5,494,313	25.83

Table 3: Delivery rate per agency

2.3 Investment per outcome

As of 31 December 2019, CAFI has invested in all outcomes of its Theory of Change, at the exception of mining and infrastructure. This exception continues to be attributed to the due to the slow programming in the DRC towards this outcome.

The largest shares of CAFI investments are now directed to demography (25%) and agriculture (24%) and land use planning (22%), followed by energy (18%), forest sector (15%) and governance (13%)⁵.

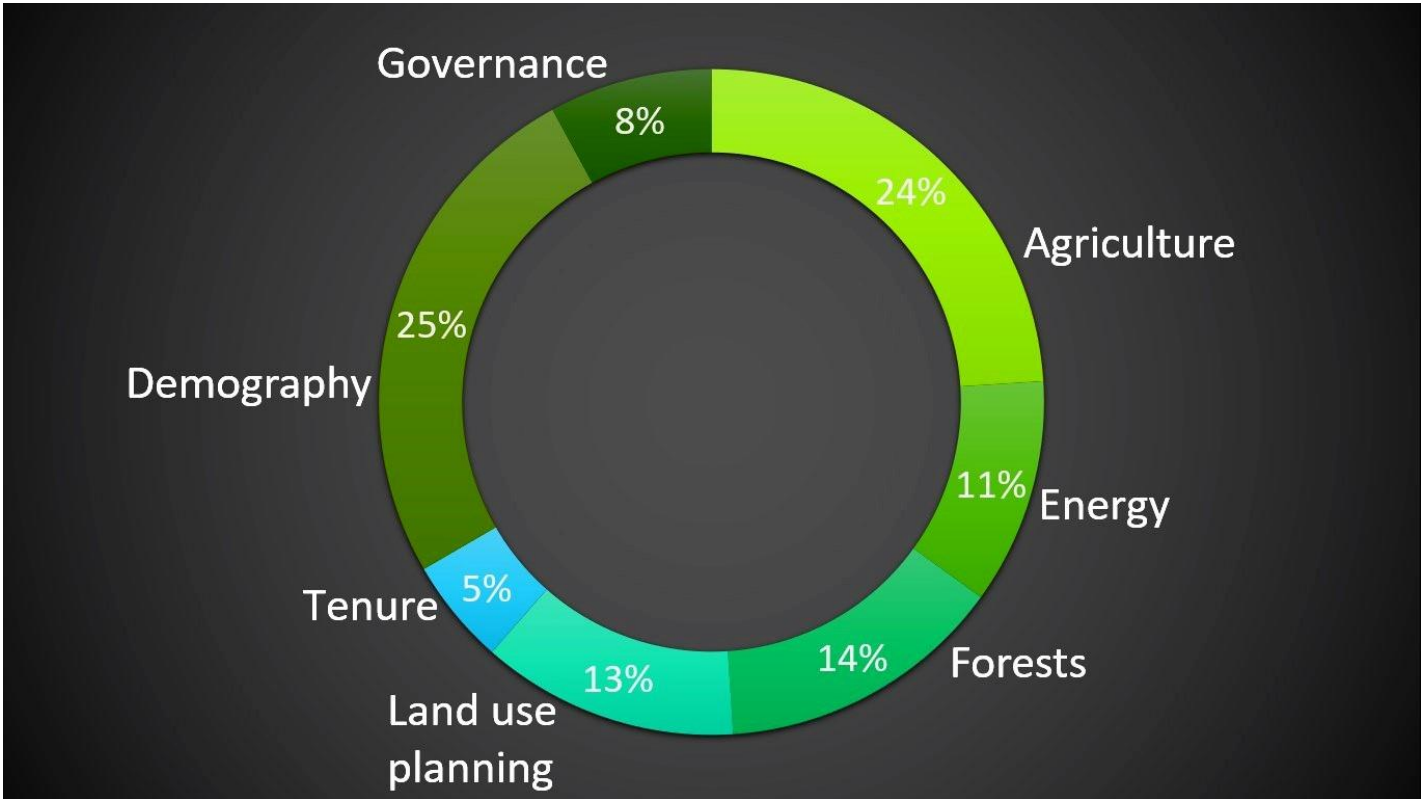


Figure 4: Total CAFI Investments per outcome across large scale programmes in DRC & Gabon

Agriculture remains in the top funded outcome (see Figure 2). The increase observed in funding towards demography is largely explained by the approval of an ambitious DRC programme to support reproductive health.

⁵ Calculations based on the first tranches of programmes.

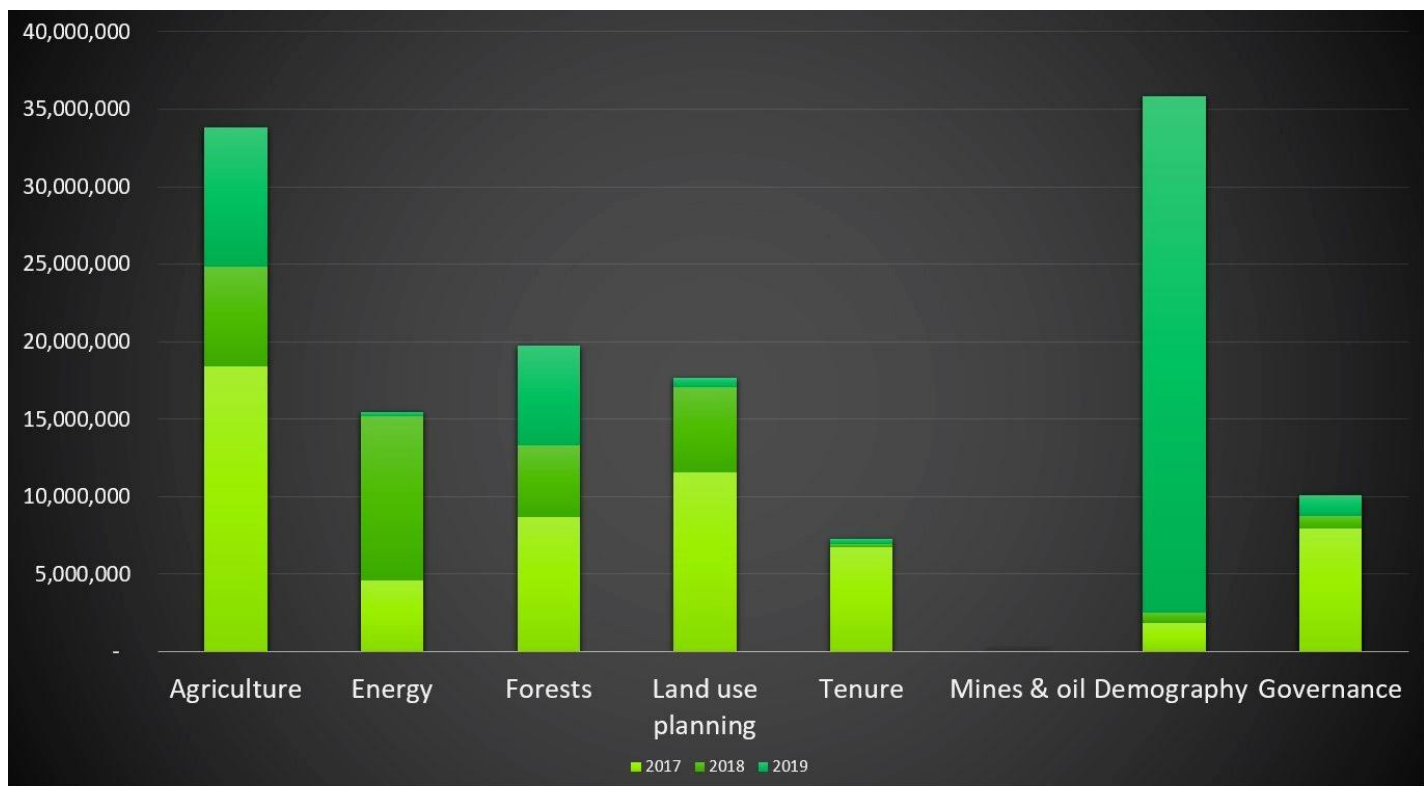


Figure 5: Yearly evolution of CAFI's investments per outcome 2017 to 2019

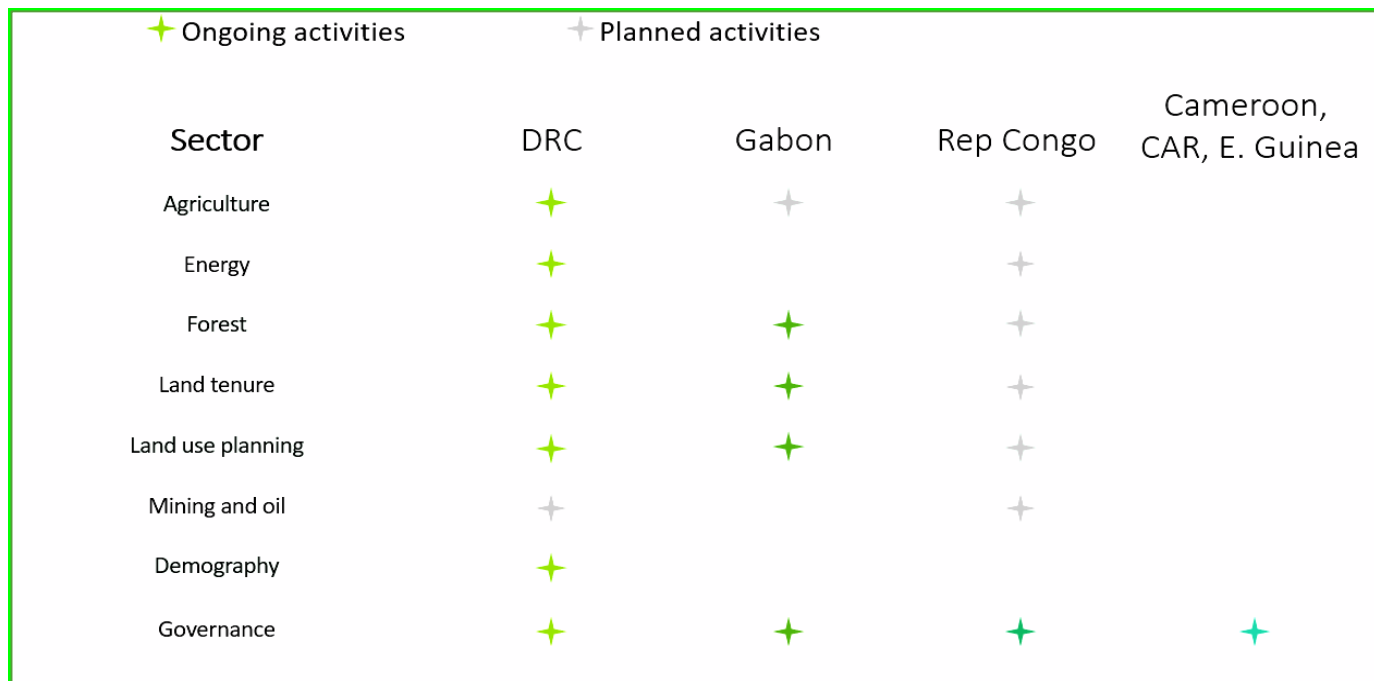


Figure 6: Current and forecast investments per country

2.4 Results per outcome

As most programmes, in DRC or Gabon, are still in the early stages of implementation, but some results per outcome have been recorded, although mainly at the output level. A detailed description of how these results respond to the indicators of the CAFI monitoring framework is found in Annex 4.

At the impact level, available figures⁶ **show targets of emission reductions of 40 million tons of CO₂eq and an increase from 10 to 20% in household revenues.** These numbers however only take into account some provincial programmes in DRC, since not some FONAREDD programmes will establish targets in year 1 of programme implementation.

At the output level, notable results span over several sectors.

Agriculture – 33.8 US\$ millions disbursed from the CAFI Fund⁷

In the DRC, improved crops seedlings were initiated in 5 provinces with dwarf palm tree, coffee, cocoa, and acacia nurseries, and coffee (300ha), cocoa (150 ha) and cassava demonstration fields. The first 16 hectares of palm oil were planted (towards a 5-year target: 7,650 ha) and 35 hectares of subsistence agriculture crops were established (5-year target: 172,000 ha). 670 household cooperatives supported and 22 rural agriculture management councils (CARG) set up. A Technical cell established in the Ministry of Agriculture to support the development of the new Agricultural policy whose draft is expected in 2020. The first ten sites were identified to establish sentinels for major deforestation events.

In the Republic of Congo, the draft agriculture bill stresses the need for the sector to contribute to the sustainable management of natural resources and for the promotion of climate smart agriculture. This is in line with the commitments of the Letter of Intent signed with CAFI since:

- It displays the Government's willingness to direct agriculture activities in savannah and degraded areas and ban the allocation of agro-industrial activities in the forest;
- It recognizes the conclusions from national land use planning process, including the need for defining the agricultural domain;
- It recognizes customary rights and promotes the need for participatory and inclusive processes for strategies and public programs development;
- It envisions to establish specific funding mechanisms to encourage the adoption of sustainable natural resources management practices.

One of the sectors covered by the second generation of CAFI programmes for which a call expression of interest was organized in Gabon is also in the Agriculture sector. It will focus on agricultural suitability analysis to complement the national land use planning process supported by CAFI under the first batch of funding. However, the program is expected to be launched in 2020 and no result can be reported at this stage.

⁶ Not all programmes have quantitatively estimated their ER impacts. This ER estimate is based on the cumulative targets of three provincial integrated programmes in DRC.

⁷ These represents disbursement from the CAFI Fund towards the first tranches of programmes (in the DRC, through the FONAREDD), and does not include preparatory grants. Since few agencies have reported their programmes disbursements per outcome, an analysis of amounts disbursed per outcome was not possible for this reporting cycle.

Energy – 15.5 million US\$ disbursed from the CAFI Fund

Feasibility studies on wood energy substitutes were conducted and pilot sites identified for micro hydro electricity generation. Analyses of actors in the clean cookstoves value chain, clean cooking markets in 5 major cities & producers' capacity was produced. On the ground, the first 540 ha of fuelwood plantations (with cassava) were established in collaboration with 1 460 rural households, towards a 5-year target of 10,350 ha.

Forests – 19.7 million US\$ disbursed from the CAFI Fund

In the DRC, revised Forest Reference Emissions Level (FREL) submitted to the UNFCCC and the first Biannual updates report drafted for the UNFCCC. Seventeen Indigenous microprojects were validated by IPs. The National forest inventory is completed on 85% of the country. The National Forest monitoring system is operational and update. A process to launch of the process to reform the Forest policy was initiated. A forest sector roadmap was negotiated with the government to support the key policy processes and reinforce the legality of the forest sector through a legal review of the concessions.

In Gabon, a draft forest strategy was presented to Council of Ministers. The dialogue was renewed with FLEGT with the EU. Datasets for Forest Reference Emissions level, biannual update report, national communication were harmonized. Through the initiation of an audit of concessions and a review of management plan, forest governance is being improved.

Land use planning – 17.6 million US\$ disbursed from the CAFI Fund

In the DRC, a Technical Support Cell on Land-Use Planning was established in the Ministry of Land use planning and the first draft of the National Land Use policy produced. Three Land use provincial schemes and seven territorial plans were developed, and 98 simple management plans validated. At this stage there is no information on whether these land use plans take into consideration the objectives of the LOI and whether the economic activities supported under the other pillars (plantations for example) respect the plans. Needed infrastructure was identified in several provinces, such as 240km of roads, 36 bridges, 1 shuttle boat in Mai Ndombé province.

In Gabon, the National Land Use Commission is operational, and High value forests (High Carbon Stocks and High Conservation value) that should not be converted are being identified, with compliance by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Tenure – 7.3 million US\$ disbursed from the CAFI Fund

In the DRC, the Tenure Reform Commission is operationalized. A 2nd draft of the tenure policy was drafted with inputs from indigenous peoples, as well as the first draft of the tenure law. At the time of the writing of the report, it has not been established whether these policy documents comply with the objectives of the LOI. A guide to define provincial strategies on land tenure was elaborated, as well as a strategic plan on tenure rights for Indigenous peoples. 13 territories were delineated.

Demography – 35.8 million US\$ disbursed from the CAFI Fund

Although few provincial integrated programs have started activities, the Family planning programme approved in early 2020 has already resulted in 2,981 service providers were trained and 52,344 of Couple Years of protection provided across 7 provinces (6 year target: 15 million).

Governance – 11.2 million US\$ disbursed from the CAFI Fund

The CAFI M&E framework unpacks good governance to monitor cross sectoral institutional arrangements, participation of civil society, linkages between REDD+ and development plans. The per-country summaries below touch on where most progress was observed. Note that this analysis concerns not solely large scale programmes, but also small preparatory grants, that are equally expected to initiate governance gains.

In the DRC, the multi-ministerial and multi-stakeholders Steering and Technical Committees of FONAREDD remained fully functional in 2019, despite the political transition of 2019. The Ministers in the Steering Committee also validated an action plan to achieve the milestones of the Letter of Intent, a further demonstration of high-level political commitment to their respective engagements in the CAFI partnership. Another example of such commitment was the validation by the Minister of Environment of a Forest sector roadmap. This was a major achievement as the dialogue between CAFI and the Minister has been unsuccessful since the granting of contested logging concessions in early 2018. To increase and improve policy dialogue between CAFI and the government and build on the existing structures further measures were proposed during the annual review of the partnership to be implemented in 2020 (such as regular high-level meetings in addition to Steering Committee meetings to discuss key policy and regulatory instruments developed with CAFI funding).

In addition, 218 local development committees were established in 4 provinces to promote inclusive governance systems in 4 provinces. Transparency of FONAREDD operations and programmes was maintained through the FONAREDD and programmes web sites. Three complaints were logged and treated, demonstrating the ability of the mechanism to function.

In the Republic of Congo, a decree on inter-ministerial coordination was agreed in the Council of Ministers, for adoption by the Prime Minister⁸. The Prime Minister has expressed a strong sense of ownership and demonstrated an understanding for the need for a solid coordination mechanism, under his leadership. He has also led a high-level political dialogue, at the end of 2019, with the Ministries in charge of Agriculture, Forest and Environment and the Ambassadors (Germany, France, EU) acting as CAFI Board representatives, to be consolidated into biannual meetings as of 2020.

Civil society has initiated a cross-sectoral dialogue among its various platforms (forestry, extractive industries, agriculture, rights) in order to identify synergies with the LOI milestones and better understand its own role, as a collective, in the LOI implementation and monitoring.

⁸ It establishes a coordination structure within the national counterpart for the implementation and monitoring of progress on the LOI. These structures include a Minister-level Steering Committee as a multi-stakeholder concertation organ, involving the private sector and the civil society; it also establishes a national coordination unit, responsible for facilitating and monitoring these processes

The Government and partners strove for enhanced coordination among key processes aiming at strengthening transparency and governance in land use sectors (APV-FLEGT, EITI, dialogue with the IMF, APOI Initiative, etc). As a result, these other initiatives now refer to the Letter of Intent within their own work. The national African Palm Oil Initiative platform together work with the World Bank and CAFI in supporting the Government in framing its vision for sustainable agriculture, and launched a workstream in the definition of HCS/HCV areas. The EITI mission systematically referred to the Letter of Intent and the IMF report referred to the Letter of Intent under the forest sector. The APV-FLEGT steering structures have extended an invitation to CAFI representatives for its 11th Implementation Committee and shared this invitation for future events. These various efforts demonstrate growing ownership, and need to be consolidated in the year to come within a coordinated dialogue mechanism leading to better coherence among programmes and policies.

In Gabon, the President led the mobilization of Heads of State from the region for the UN Climate Action Summit to increase ambition in climate mitigation targets from the land use sector. This was complemented by several ministerial level meetings organized in the framework of the Economic Commission for Central African States.

2019 was also the year of the “Kevazingo Gate”. Illegally felled special hardwood of 353 containers worth nearly \$250 million was reported stolen from a cache of 392 intercepted at the port of Owendo in late February and early March and this prompted the firing of the Vice President and the Forest Minister. In addition, following the publication of a report by the Environmental Investigation Agency⁹ on illegal timber in March, the logging license of the company in question was suspended.

The National Land Use Commission has been operational and provided a key venue to reach high level consensus across the different land use sectors on land allocations in line with the strategic objectives of the country set in various policy documents and the letter of intent.

Furthermore, progress towards gains in full and effective participation as set by the letter of intent was logged with i) discussions initiated with stakeholders on a methodology and roadmap on Free, prior and informed consent related to decisions related to land allocations, ii) a report on the status of participatory planning related to the same was elaborated and iii) a decree, presented at the October meeting of the National Land Use Commission (CNAT) , about the inclusion of civil society and the private sector in the CNAT works.

In Equatorial Guinea, the Minister of Finance led the development of the REDD+ NIF, and accessibility by public, media and civil society to PNI-REDD+ improved with the development of the NIF. The 3rd National Economic Conference, held in May 2019 and organized to help develop the new National Development Plan for 2020-2035, allowed for debates, for the first time, on environmental aspects, including land use planning, as one of the 4 main strategic themes.

In the Central African Republic, many NGOs and associations are active in the field of climate change, organized within a national platform called Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and the Environment (GDRNE). A National REDD+ Committee (CN REDD+), that oversees the entire National REDD+ strategy, was created by Decree and foreseen to chaired by the Prime Minister and composed of 26 members including 6 ministers, the President of the Commission in charge of the Environment at the

⁹ <https://eia-global.org/reports/20190325-toxic-trade>

National Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, representatives of producer groups, the private sector, civil society organizations, representatives of local communities, indigenous peoples. Although not yet operational, but it is planned that it will meet after the national validation of the National Investment Framework developed thanks to the CAFI preparatory grant.

In **Cameroon**, the Government displayed a greater understanding of the key role of climate change in its national development processes, as the National Development Plan Strategy 2030 integrates for the first time a Strategic Axis on the integration of climate change concerns. Sustainable land use appears as a structuring component of the Rural Sector Development strategy for 2025. The revision of the National Investment Framework aligned to the ongoing work on the Rural Sector Development Strategy. A high-level meeting took place on December 2019 with the Heads of Administration of line ministries and the PM Office to discuss the NIF and better refine the national vision for the development of sustainable agricultural value chains coupled with land use planning and securing of land tenure.

2.5 Monitoring for results

At the global level,

- a revised [Monitoring and Evaluation Framework](#) was adopted, and a new approach to palliate the issue of missing baselines was adopted.
- a Risk management strategy was adopted, with a request to the Secretariat to update the Risk Dashboard on an annual basis.
- the terms of reference for the mid-term evaluation of the CAFI Fund were approved but activities postponed, through a decision of the Executive Board, to begin in mid-2019 in order to fully benefit from the conclusions of the independent verification of the milestones of the Letter of Intent with DRC. By the end of 2019, however, no valid proposal had been received and recruitment is to continue in early 2020.

In DRC, the independent verification of the milestones of the letter of Intent was concluded, and its results detailed in section 3.1.

2.6 Gender responsiveness: A second assessment of the CAFI portfolio

Based on the UN-REDD programme gender marker, an analysis of gender responsiveness was applied to the CAFI portfolio. Based on four criteria (context, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, as well as budget, expertise and tools) all 18 programmes were assessed as either gender blind (GEN 0 - 0 criteria met), gender sensitive (GEN 1 - 1 to 3 criteria met) or gender responsive (GEN 2 - 4 criteria met).

Objectives

From the baseline conducted in 2018, the Executive Board adopted through decision [EB.2019.14](#) a gender target stating that “at least 15% of CAFI-funded programmes are assessed as “gender-responsive” by the respective next reporting cycle”.

The analysis below aims to provide an impartial evaluation of the role of gender in the ongoing programmes. By engaging in gender tracking, the goal is to encourage agencies to enhance their focus on gender mainstreaming in their programming and stimulate gender equality across all CAFI funded programmes.

Methodology

A gender analysis was carried out based on the programme documents and annual reports. Some informal communications with agencies also strengthened the available data. Regarding the analysis of the FONAREDD portfolio (13 programmes), both the FONAREDD Secretariat and the CAFI Secretariat carried out their respective analysis, which were consolidated to decide on a final score. In its evaluation, the CAFI Secretariat gave more weight to the annual reports as opposed to what is foreseen in the programme documents, while the FONAREDD Secretariat put a slightly stronger emphasis on attention paid to gender in the programme document. There was often a noticeable gap between what the agencies was planning on doing on gender and what was reported in the annual report, which explains some of the differences in scoring between the two Secretariats¹⁰.

Summary of results

This second gender assessment shows that, out of 18 programmes;

- 1 programmes are marked as GEN 0 - gender blind - with 0 criteria met (5%).
- 14 programmes are marked as GEN 1 - gender sensitive – (78%) with;
 - 2 programmes with 1 criterion met
 - 10 programmes with 2 criteria met
 - 2 programmes with 3 criteria met
- 3 programmes are marked as GEN 2 - gender responsive - with 4 criteria met (17%). CAFI’s 2019 target was therefore met.

¹⁰ see Annex 1 below.

With 17% of programmes being marked as gender responsive, the Executive Board’s gender objective was met in 2019¹¹.

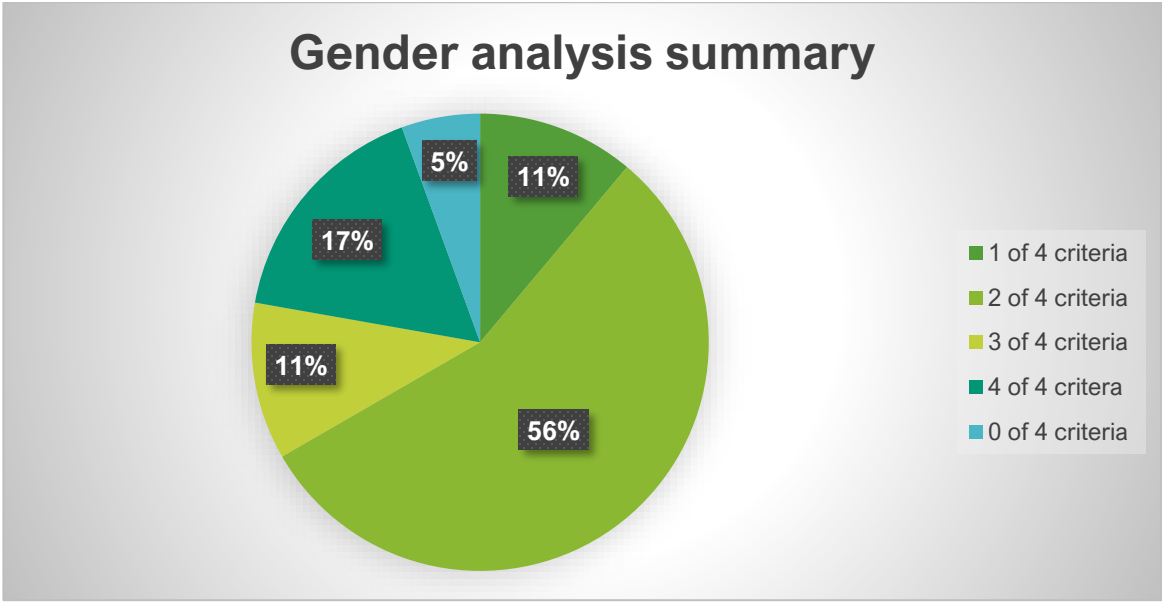


Figure 1: gender markers for CAFI programmes

One programmes did not meet any of the four criteria (DRC’s National Forest Monitoring system programme), as gender was not mentioned neither in the programme document nor in the annual report.

Of the 14 programmes marked as gender sensitive, the weakest are PIREDD Mongala and Sustainable Management of Agriculture. They received a low score due to a lack of essential mentions of gender in the annual reports, and only vague references to gender in the planning of programme implementation.

The ten programmes that met two out of four criteria (Land Planning Reform, PIREDD Kwilu, Land Tenure Reform, PIREDD Equateur, Energy, Support to Indigenous Peoples, Gabon LUP and Monitoring, Republic of Congo preparatory grant, Cameroon preparatory grant and Central African Republic preparatory grant) were overall more consistent in their gender reporting; they included data on women’s participation in activities, even though their participation was somewhat weak and they reported about challenges in fulfilling set objectives. In other instances, it was not quite clear which of the planned activities had been carried out, but points were allocated to those programmes that could demonstrate in their programme documents that they planned to take gender issues into account in their implementation and evaluation phases.

Two programmes fulfilled three out of four criteria, namely PIREDD Orientale and PIREDD Sud-Ubangi, because they could demonstrate that a high percentage of women and vulnerable people benefited or

¹¹ See Annex 2 for details on criteria met.

participated in the implementation of activities, in addition to including gender when mapping out the programme context.

The three programmes that have been assessed as Gender responsive are the support to Civil Society, PIREDD Mai Ndombe and Equatorial Guinea’s Preparatory Grant, due to their overall efforts on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all programme phases.

Observations and recommendations

The available data was not always complete, which weakens some aspects of the analysis. For example, gender issues being included in the programme documents in most phases of the programme’s life cycle, but not mentioned in the annual report can mean several things: that gender is merely addressed on paper, or that the implementing agency does not deem it necessary to mention gender in their annual reporting since the programme document already does. Even though the programme document addresses gender, it is essential that gender efforts are better highlighted in the annual report, to avoid uncertainty and assure progress towards gender mainstreaming.

As mentioned in the previous section, a few programmes were rewarded for their efforts on reporting on participation of women and other vulnerable groups in programme implementation and follow up, despite weak participation. However, it is important that agencies do not interpret this as an incentive to slow down gender mainstreaming and consider what has been done as “good enough”. On the contrary, CAFI means to encourage these and other agencies to increase their efforts.

2.7 Resource mobilization

With the first deposits from the European Union and additional deposits from France and Norway, the CAFI Fund is currently capitalized at 198,917 million US\$.

Contributors	Total Commitments	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2018 Deposits	Current Year Jan-Dec-2019 Deposits	Total Deposits
European Union	16,409,072	-	4,261,363	4,261,363
Government of France	6,481,500	3,112,800	3,368,700	6,481,500
Government of Norway	236,274,300	144,256,817	43,917,435	188,174,252
Grand Total	259,164,872	147,369,617	51,547,498	198,917,115

Table 4: Funding commitments and deposits

Funding pledges also grew, with

- Germany’s announcement at the Secretary General Climate Action Summit of a contribution of over US\$ 30 million to the CAFI Fund and the subsequent signature of the contribution agreement in December 2019
- South Korea’s announcement of a contribution of US\$ 2 million to the CAFI Fund
- A contribution agreement of US\$ 17 million from the European Union to the CAFI Fund.
- The 150 million US\$ 10-year commitment from Norway to Gabon, through the CAFI Fund, as part of the 2019 Addendum of the Letter of intent with Gabon (results-based payments).

Norway contributed in 2019 a Junior Professional Officer to the CAFI Secretariat, based in Geneva, enhancing the capacity of the CAFI Secretariat on gender and the partnership with the Democratic Republic of Congo.

2.8 Executive Board and technical meetings

The **12th EB meeting** (4-5 April in Bonn, hosted by BMZ) allowed, among other decisions, to agree on the launch of the negotiations of a Letter of Intent with the Government of the Republic of Congo. The meeting was also an opportunity to present the first version of Equatorial Guinea's National REDD+ Investment Framework, provide recommendations to the Government of Cameroon on its NIF based on its independent assessment and discuss progress in Gabon and DRC.

The highlights of the **13th EB meeting** (9-10 July in Paris hosted by AFD) included a decision to extend the duration of the CAFI Fund until 2027, a decision to launch a call for expression of interest for a total of US\$ 12 million to assist Gabon in the implementation of a national-scale forestry certification programme, a protected areas programme and sustainable agriculture programme. As part of the ongoing negotiations on a Letter of Intent, the Board Meeting was also a key opportunity to discuss with the Republic of Congo a cap for the conversion of forest and/or peatlands, in line with the country's commitments in the Brazzaville Declaration, to conserve and protect peatlands and prevent them from drainage and degradation. The EB also included a session to discuss progress in the implementation of the DRC's REDD+ NIF and the results of the CAFI Trust Fund

The **14th meeting** (29-30 November in Geneva, hosted by UNDP) gave the opportunity to foster South-South exchanges and learning, as country sessions were opened to other countries. The Governments of Gabon, Republic of Congo, DRC, Central African Republic and Equatorial Guinea joined in. The DRC session was an opportunity to discuss the results of the independent verification of the milestones of the Letter of Intent with the DRC. During the dialogue with the Republic of Congo, coordination mechanisms for effective and inclusive implementation of the recently signed Lol, under the leadership of the Prime Minister, were largely debated. A high-level delegation from Equatorial Guinea, headed by the Secretary of State of the Ministry of Finance, Economy and Planning, demonstrated how the country is integrating its REDD+ objectives into its new National Development Strategy, and its endeavor to initiate a land-use planning process that takes into account the value of its large forest cover. It was the first time that a delegate from the Central African Republic attended a CAFI EB meeting, which provided an opportunity to discuss the decentralization process including the national development plan and its new iteration. The conversation with Gabon's National Climate Council Chief was an opportunity to discuss the ongoing program on land use planning and monitoring (under the Letter of Intent signed in 2017), ask selected implementing agencies to develop full program proposals following a call for expressions of interest agreed to last June, and the contents of the addendum to the Lol to receive results-based payments (signed at the 2019 Climate Action Summit in New York).

All-together, the CAFI Executive Board took 27 decisions in 2019 (approximately the same number as in 2018 and 2017), listed in Figure 1. In a continuous effort towards transparency, decisions were translated and published online on CAFI's website as soon as they were agreed by the Board.

Table 5: Executive Board decisions in 2019

CAFI EB 2019 Decisions					
EB.2019.01	23/01/2019	Partnership with the Republic of Congo	French	English	Intersessional
EB.2019.02	19/03/2019	Extension of the Equatorial Guinea preparatory grant	French	English	Intersessional
EB.2019.03	05/04/2019	CAFI results framework	French	English	EB12, Bonn
EB.2019.04	05/04/2019	Risk Management Strategy	French	English	EB12, Bonn
EB.2019.05	05/04/2019	Letter of Intent with the Republic of Congo	French	English	EB12, Bonn
EB.2019.06	05/04/2019	Programming note for the prep grant to FAO for RoC (GCF proposal)	French	English	EB12, Bonn
EB.2019.07	05/04/2019	Equatorial Guinea's National Investment Framework	French	English	EB12, Bonn
EB.2019.08	31/05/2019	Mid-term evaluation of the CAFI Fund	French	English	Intersessional
EB.2019.09	27/06/2019	No cost extension of Cameroon prep grant	French	English	Intersessional
EB.2019.10	10/07/2019	Programming in the Republic of Congo	French	English	EB13, Paris
EB.2019.11	10/07/2019	Republic of Congo- Coordination project in support of PM office	French	English	EB13, Paris
EB.2019.12	10/07/2019	Revision of the 2020 budget of the CAFI Secretariat	French	English	EB13, Paris
EB.2019.13	10/07/2019	CAFI Fund extension	French	English	EB13, Paris
EB.2019.14	10/07/2019	Annual report	French	English	EB13, Paris
EB.2019.15	10/07/2019	Gabon programmes	French	English	EB13, Paris
EB.2019.16	03/09/2019	RoC Letter of intent and country allocation	French	English	Intersessional
EB.2019.17	20/09/2019	Gabon addendum to Letter of Intent	French	English	Intersessional
EB.2019.18	16/10/2019	Presidency of CAFI	French	English	EB14, Geneva
EB.2019.19	16/10/2019	Gabon Programs	French	English	EB14, Geneva
EB.2019.20	16/10/2019	Monitoring and evaluation framework	French	English	EB14, Geneva
EB.2019.21	16/10/2019	Risk Management Dashboard	French	English	EB14, Geneva
EB.2019.22	16/10/2019	Republic of Congo	French	English	EB14, Geneva
EB.2019.23	16/10/2019	Equatorial Guinea	French	English	EB14, Geneva
EB.2019.24	22/10/2019	Trends and drivers study	French	English	Intersessional
EB.2019.25	22/10/2019	Central African Republic	French	English	Intersessional
EB.2019.26	13/12/2019	Central African Republic – no cost extension	French	English	Intersessional
EB.2019.27	20/12/2019	Approval of disbursement to DRC National REDD+ Fund – 4th sub-tranche	French	English	Intersessional

Between EB meetings, information exchange between Board members was facilitated by monthly calls organized by the CAFI Secretariat.

2.8 Shaping the global narrative: global events and communications

Through high-level political engagement, boosted events, communication efforts and an ever-increasing presence on social media, CAFI has held its position as a major player in the arena of climate, forest and development efforts in Central Africa.

In April 2019, over 20 INGOs and country representatives responded to the invitation of the CAFI EB to partake in the [first CAFI Dialogues and “generate more light than heat”](#). Organized and facilitated by the CAFI Secretariat and hosted by GIZ, this event was an opportunity to examine facts, studies and ground experiences, as well as discuss, debate and deliberate face-to-face. One key outcome was the decision to work jointly on regional study to better understand and reach consensus about the drivers of and trends in deforestation.

In September, the [United Nations Secretary-General Climate Action Summit](#) and its preparations allowed a high uptake of the value of Central African forests in the global policy and climate agenda, as well as their accelerating loss and its causes. Via addresses to the General Assembly and several side-events, heads of state and governments - including of the DRC, Germany, France and the Republic of Congo, as well as the UN Secretary-General - alerted the world and reiterated their commitments. This, combined with the announcement of the historic agreement between Gabon and CAFI, prompted top tier international media coverage. The CAFI Secretariat played an active role in coordinating country efforts and messaging, as well as supporting and spreading the word about events.

As mandated by the Executive Board, the **CAFI Secretariat contributed to key events** such as the Abu Dhabi Climate Conference to prepare the UN Climate Action Summit and facilitating a session on NDCs in Central Africa during the [FERN-Hosted dialogue on Forests in NDCS](#), with the participation of the EU and French Ministry of Environment.

Online, **CAFI's increased presence raised awareness on its approach and actions**. In 2019 the CAFI Secretariat produced 12 articles in two languages and published them on the front page of the CAFI website¹². Beside reporting on events (see section above), new programmes ([DRC](#)), agreements ([Republic of Congo](#), [Gabon](#)) and results of CAFI's investments ([DRC](#), [Equatorial Guinea](#)), they also included a [Call to action](#). New [portfolio](#) and [results pages](#) were created to provide a clearer overview of CAFI's investments, actions and results.

These articles helped increase CAFI's online activity, and resulted in an overall increase in visitors to the CAFI website¹³, boosted also by promotion through the [@CAFISecretariat](#)¹⁴ Twitter Account. Consistent growth in audience engagement is observed

¹² <http://www.cafi.org/content/cafi/en/home/events/all-news.html>

¹³ <http://www.cafi.org>

¹⁴ <https://twitter.com/CAFISecretariat>

2.8 Challenges, risks and safeguards

Identifying and mitigating risks

Some of the risks identified in the Risk Management Strategy materialized, for which an updated risk dashboard was approved by the EB in November 2019. The Secretariat has sought to overcome these challenges through scaled-up engagement and guidance.

First, 2019 was a year of political transition in DRC, where several members of the FONAREDD Steering Committee engaged in the post-electoral dynamic and expectation of a new government. While the FONAREDD Steering Committee was made functional through an interim, smaller-composition Committee with the mandate to approve programmes, the policy dialogue with the new Minister of Environment only resumed when he took office in September 2019.

Secondly, the very slow onset of some programmes, is leading to tensions between the Governments and the implementing agencies, as the delay have an impact on the achievement of the milestones of Letters of Intent both in the DRC and Gabon. The CAFI Secretariat (and the FONAREDD Secretariat in DRC) facilitated the resolution of the problems but a more systemic solution is recommended, as these concerns were formally reported by DRC through the independent verification process. This challenge will be addressed in the revised Terms of Reference of the Fund that will be proposed to the Executive Board for adoption in 2020.

Thirdly, the independent verification of the LOI with DRC identified several areas for improvement.

Finally, as CAFI's portfolio grew in 2019, the Executive Board approved an increase in CAFI Secretariat staff in July, which has not yet materialized. The fact that the Secretariat was understaffed had a negative impact on its performance (mainly manifested by delays) or put high pressure on its staff members¹⁵.

Reporting on safeguards

The CAFI terms of reference stipulate that *“It is expected that all recipient organizations will provide information on how CAFI-supported activities are addressing and respecting the social and environmental safeguards outlined in Annex 4 as part of the CAFI requirements for Monitoring and Reporting. While taking into account national context, the reports should include information on each of the key issues associated with the safeguards”*

An analysis was performed on the extent to which programs report on the Cancun safeguards, as stipulated by the CAFI terms of reference. Annex 4 details this analysis. In summary, twelve programmes did not report on safeguards, and only six of them did. This analysis is strictly related to reporting, but some programmes, such as all PIREDD in the DRC, have undertaken preliminary analyses before the beginning of programme activities.

¹⁵ There were periods when the CAFI Fund had a Secretariat relying on only 2 full time professional staff.

3 Country results

3.1 DRC ¹⁶

Through the letter of Intent concluded with the DRC in 2016, CAFI committed 190 M USD in funding (in two tranches), to which are added additional allocations for family planning and the FONAREDD secretariat project.

CAFI disbursed 123,6 M USD to the FONAREDD by 31 December 2019. These funds currently represent 83% of the capitalization of the FONAREDD.

3.1.1 Summary of main achievement in 2019

As the portfolio is almost fully developed under the current funding envelope and the programs become operational, the first results can be registered as it is described below. In terms of the policy dialogue, CAFI has been actively participating in the Steering Committee of the FONAREDD with 6 Ministers. However, there has been very little engagement at the policy level except for in the forest sector (see details below). This can be explained by several factors:

- the late establishment of the new government after the 2018 elections thus a lack of government counterparts and government policy to discuss,
- the delays in the development of several key policy and regulatory instruments supported by CAFI funding. These first drafts were either developed by the end of the year (such as the land use policy) or their development had not even started (agriculture, forest policy).
- Lack of capacity of the CAFI Secretariat to follow policy evolution and inform the Board on policy documents for which first drafts were circulated in 2019 (land use planning, and land tenure)

a) Sectoral programmes

- Provincial deforestation estimates for the periods 2000-2010 and 2010-2014 were elaborated, and are expected to be validated in the first semester of 2020;
- The Biennial Update Report (BUR) documents were finalized for submission to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). To date, only the preface remains to be signed by the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development, before the BUR is submitted in the first quarter of 2020;
- Pilot areas in the active province-wide multi sectoral programmes (“PIREDD”) where sustainable agricultural practices and sustainable forest management could be encouraged were identified;

¹⁶ The FONAREDD 2019 Annual report prepared by the FONAREDD Secretariat is the basis for this section. The final version of this report, based on comments by the FONAREDD Technical Committee provided on 29 April 2020) and to be endorsed by the Steering Committee, was not available at the time of writing, but should be available on the FONAREDD [website](#) by 31 May 2019.

- Draft methodological guide on the different stages of the implementation of a land information system was elaborated;
- A draft policy and framework law on Land-use planning were developed, including the finalization of analyses to define their strategic orientations

b) Multi sectoral provincial programmes (PIREDDs)

- Governance bodies were established in eight provinces
- Supervision and distribution system for agricultural inputs in five provinces were operationalized;
- Local communities were structured into Local Development Committees. Agricultural Rural Management Councils were revitalized, and the first drafts of provincial land use plans in Tshopo, Bas Uélé and Ituri provinces were produced.
- The first thousand hectares of sustainable subsistence agriculture, palm oil and acacia for fuelwood were established, marking the beginning of on the ground activities expected to substantially scale up in the few coming years.

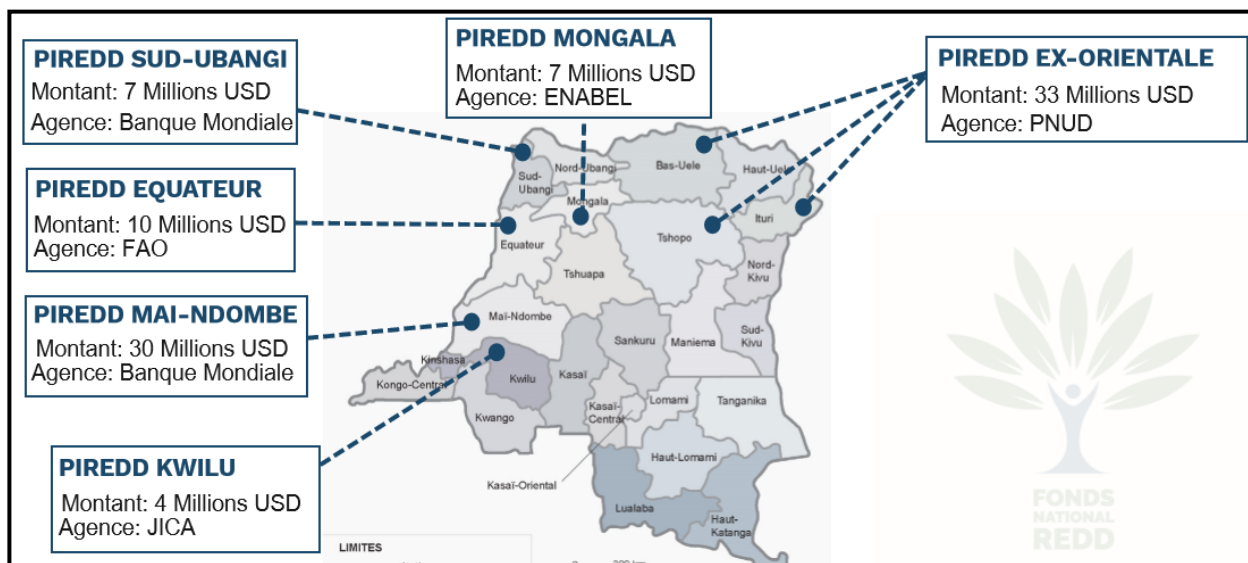


Figure 2 : 5 programmes covering 8 provinces in the DRC

3.1.2 Program status and budget allocations

Across all programmes, FONAREDD reported a **disbursement rate to implementing agencies of 66% by the end of 2019.**

According to the data collected on the MPTF Gateway, the amount disbursed for all fifteen programmes amounts to 37,773,048 USD from 2017 - 2019 out of 132,392,106 USD transferred to the executing agencies. **21,957,768 USD were disbursed in 2019 alone.**

The overall budget implementation rate is 28% of the amounts transferred to the agencies. This rate can be considered low for operational programmes, especially those launched two years ago. This can be mainly attributed to poor planning and preparation. Several programmes are however ready to scale their

disbursement up in the next two years. Table 7 below provides details on the FONAREDD portfolio, listing allocations and disbursement/spending per agency and programme.

FONAREDD portfolio

Imp. agency	Programmes	Approved budget in USD	Amount transferred to implementing agency in USD	Total amount spent as of 31 December 2019	Budget impl. rate (Tranche 1)
UNDP	FONAREDD Secretariat	15,866,934	4,742,911	2,874,718	61%
	Civil Society	3,000,000	2 000 000	1,125,607	56%
	Land-use planning reform	8,000,000	5,000,000	2,178,384	44%
	PIREDD Oriental	33,000,000	20,000,000	4,157,427	21%
	Energy	8,042,950	4,825,800	73,512	2%
	Subtotal UNDP	67,909,884	36,568,711	10,409,649	28%
UNCDF	Energy	69,57050	4,174,200	472,657	11%
	Subtotal UNCDF	69,57,050	4,174,200	472,657	11%
World Bank	Indigenous Peoples	2,000,000	1,000,000	5,703	1%
	PIREDD Sud Ubangi	7,000,000	4,000,000	1,149,058	29%
	PIREDD Mai Ndombe	30,000,000	20,000,000	5,866,438	29%
	Subtotal World Bank	39,000,000	25,000,000	7,021,199	28%
FAO	National Forest Monitoring System	10,000,003	9 001 241	7,367,682	74%
	PIREDD Equateur	10,000,000	6,000,000	405,710	4%
	Sustainable Manag.Agriculture	3,000,000	1,479,913	317,307	11%
	Subtotal FAO	23,000,003	16,481,154	8,090,699	35%
UNHABI TAT	Land-tenure reform	6,999,490	5,000,000	4,653,844	93%
	Subtotal UN-HABITAT	6,999,490	5,000,000	4,653 844	93%
ENABEL	PIREDD Mongala	7,000,000	4,000,000	257,414	6%
	Subtotal ENABEL	7,000,000	4,000,000	257,414	6%
AFD	Savannas and degraded forests	14,999,378	8,000,000	0	0%
	Sustainable Manag. of Forests	12,000,000	0	0	0%
	Subtotal AFD	26,999,378	8,000,000	0	0%
JICA	PIREDD Kwilu	3,999,607	3,168,041	60,148.69	2%
	Subtotal JICA	3,999,607	3,168,041	60,148.69	2%
UNFPA	Promis	8,729,120	8,729,120	313,123	4%
	Subtotal UNFPA	8,729,120	8,729,120	313,123	4%
UNOPS	Promis	24,270,880	21,270,880	5,494,313	26%
	Subtotal UNOPS	24,270,880	21,270 880	5,494,313	26%
Total		214,865,412	132,392 ,106	36,773,047	28%

Table 6: FONAREDD programme portfolio, transfers and disbursements

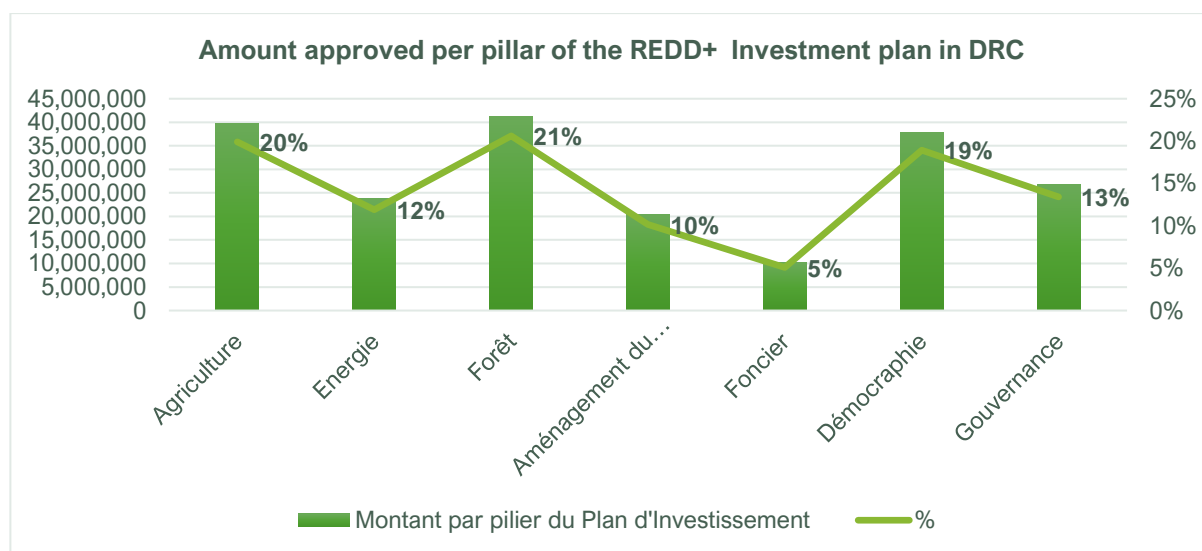


Figure 3 : amount approved for each pillar of the DRC Investment Plan

Figure 11 reveals that 21% of the approved amount was allocated to financing the forestry pillar, 20% to agriculture and 19% to demography. The remaining amount was allocated to the energy pillar (12%), land-use planning pillar (10%) and land tenure (5%) pillar.

The FONAREDD portfolio and pipeline can be summarized as follows:

- **15 programmes under implementation**, including 8 sectoral programmes and 6 integrated programmes, in addition to the FONAREDD Executive Secretariat.
- **1 approved programme for which fund transfer is expected in 2020**: Programme on Sustainable Forest Management (PGDF).
- **1 programme that has not yet spent any of the allocated budget**: Programme on Savannahs.
- **2 programmes remaining in the pipeline** at different stages of elaboration: Governance, for which draft 0 terms of reference were produced (app. US\$ 4.2 M) , and Mining standards (app. US\$ 5M) for which the terms of reference are in their 3rd draft version but on which no consensus has yet been achieved.

3.1.3 Performance of the Governance structure of the FONAREDD

In total, three meetings of the Steering Committee and five meetings of the Technical Committee were organized. Summary tables are available in the FONAREDD 2019 annual report. The CAFI Secretariat participates in the Technical Committee and representatives of the Norwegian government in both the Technical Committee and the Steering Committee. Table 4 below summarizes their main decisions and activities.

Governance body	Meeting dates	Activities in 2019
Steering Committee	21 May	Approval of 5 programmes (PIREDD Mongala, Family Planning (PROMIS), Savannahs (PSFD), Sustainable
	5 July	

	5 December	<p>Management of Forests (PGDF) and SE FONAREDD programme</p> <p>Review and adoption of :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjustments to PIREDD Equateur • Action plan on Milestones of the Letter of Intent • Conclusion of annual review
Technical Committee	<p>22 March</p> <p>16 May</p> <p>28 June</p> <p>9 September</p> <p>8 November</p>	<p>Technical review of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Terms of reference of the Mining standards programme and mid-term evaluation of SE FONAREDD • 2 Integrated programmes: Mongala, Equateur • sectoral programmes proposals: Family planning, Savannahs and Green Climate Fund proposal <p>Validation of PIREDD Maniema with GIZ</p>

Table 7: Meeting and activities of the FONAREDD Governance bodies

3.1.4 Progress towards the milestones of the Letter of Intent

[The Letter of Intent](#) between the DRC and CAFI called for an independent verification of the "intermediary"(2018) milestones. The DRC and CAFI mutually agreed on the methodology for the verification and a team of four independent consultants from [TEREA](#) concluded its work in early November 2019 with an "[Analytical report](#)" that looked at progress milestones per milestone, and a shorter "[Recommendation report](#)" that proposed ways to overcome identified challenges. The independent verification process was extremely comprehensive, with 168 documents reviewed and over 130 people interviewed or consulted.

Key findings included

- 1) Over 70% of the milestones fully or partially met by 31 December 2018: of the 29 intermediary milestones in the Letter of Intent, the independent verification concluded that **4 were assessed as fully met, 17 partially met, 7 unmet** and 1 was considered non-assessable.
- 2) Progress witnessed across (almost) all sectors: the 8 objectives of the Letter of Intent have varying numbers of milestones associated with them (for example, 3 for agriculture and 9 for the forest sector). However, practically all sectors have seen concrete progress towards the achievement of milestones.
- 3) Major political and technical results have been achieved in a limited time: major accomplishments were highlighted, both at the political and the technical levels.

- 4) The DRC- CAFI partnership commended as unique in the continent structure, innovation and inclusiveness.
- 5) Challenges to be addressed in a newly adopted Action plan: a number of challenges were identified (see a [summary here](#)). In response to these challenges, recommendations were made and a " Joint [Action plan](#) to reach the milestones of the Letter of Intent" was developed between CAFI and the DRC, and [approved by the Steering Committee of the DRC National REDD+ Fund on 5 December 2019](#). **The approval of this Action plan allowed for the programming of the 2nd tranche of CAFI funding to the FONAREDD.**
- 6) Lessons learned from the DRC independent verification process will help CAFI's partnerships with other countries

Results and progress against each milestone are examined below.

a) Agriculture

Major Agriculture results in 2019

- Operational agricultural inputs in three PIREDDs
- Major agricultural-related deforestation events are being tracked
- In provincial programmes, 82 209 ha will be set aside for natural regeneration and 27 350 ha for agroforestry are currently planned for the next 4 years. So far, the first results have only been achieved in Sud-Ubangi, while the other programmes are in the preparatory phases of setting up agricultural management structures.

Status of the Agriculture milestones of the Letter of Intent

Intermediate milestones (2018) ¹⁷	Status of the milestones	
	By end 2018 ¹⁸	By end 2019 ¹⁹
Draft agricultural policy	Not achieved	Not achieved
System for satellite monitoring of Major Deforestation Events programmes	Partial	Achieved
Operationalizing structures for an agricultural management system (linked to PIREDD and GDA)	Partial	Partial
Final milestones (2020)		
Agriculture policy adopted		
System to monitor major deforestation events available on Terra Congo	Partial	Achieved

¹⁷ These are the abbreviated version of the full milestones wording. The entire milestone set may be found on the CAFI web site here : https://www.undp.org/content/dam/cafi/docs/drc-documents/DRC_2016_LOI%20V7%20Final%2018%20April%202016%20-ENG%20-%20with%20logos.pdf

¹⁸ As assessed by the independent verification

¹⁹ As assessed by the FONAREDD Secretariat

Two studies on the coffee and cacao commodity chains were conducted in Sud Ubangi. Studies of commodity chains, inventory of sustainable agricultural models and inventory of perennial crops were carried out in the Orientale provinces.

With the launch of the programme on Sustainable Management of Agriculture, institutional structures necessary to elaborate a new agricultural policy (final 2020 milestone) have been put in place; a platform for multi actor cooperation, operational technical working groups and identification of ten pilot territories for closer follow up of major drivers of deforestation (The Terra Congo platform). Despite the launch of preparatory activities, the 2018 milestone on a draft agricultural policy is yet to be Not achieved.

In 2019, two sectoral programmes - Sustainable Agriculture Management (GDA) and National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) - and PIREDD Mai Ndombe, Oriental and Sud Ubangi contributed to the achievement of the five milestones (three intermediate and two final). A third sectoral programme on agriculture in savannahs scheduled to start in 2020, will also support the implementation of the agricultural pillar.

Political mobilization

No notable progress

Looking forward

The draft agricultural policy is expected in the 3rd trimester of 2020, and regulatory texts in Q4. It will provide an opportunity to engage in a policy dialogue with agriculture sector.

b) Energy

Major Energy results in 2019

- Based on sites identified in the Renewable Energy Atlas, field identification for the choice of micro-hydro sites with REDD potential was performed.
- Two PIREDDs - Kwilu and Mai-Ndombe - have embarked on agroforestry activities, including the production of acacia seedlings and nurseries.
 - **In Kwilu**, 64 nurserymen trained, equipped and motivated in 32 villages; 45 nurseries were set up, which will lead to the establishment of 450 ha of acacia plantations; and 34 village CLD were redynamised.
 - **In Mai-Ndombe**, the production, in collaboration with nearly 190 nurserymen, of acacia seedlings on 33 sites was initiated. A total of 673,433 seedlings were produced; in collaboration with nearly 1,460 village households, of acacia-cassava agroforestry plantations were established on 33 sites for an estimated total of 540 ha.

Status of the Energy milestones of the Letter of Intent

Intermediate milestones (2018)	Status	
	By end 2018 ²⁰	By end 2019 ²¹
Studies on alternatives to wood energy	Achieved	Achieved
Studies on supply chain and woodfuel use in Kinshasa and other consuming areas.	Not achieved	Partial
Final milestones (2020)		
Revised Energy policy	Not assessed	Not achieved

The partially achieved milestones relate to the studies (2 out of 10 completed) and work towards a reform of the energy policy (2020 milestone). The below studies were conducted:

A feasibility study on renewable energy in urban areas allowed the production of the Atlas of renewable energies. This Atlas documents and localizes 890 sites that are suitable for the development of hydro-electricity and shows where they are located in DRC's 145 territories. In 2019 this selection has been narrowed down to 4 potential sites in the PIREDD Provinces, especially in the Oriental. These sites are Mabinza (1.2 mw) to provide electricity to the centre of Aketi in Bas-Uele; Mambasa (about 200 kw) to provide electricity to the centre of Irumu in Ituri; Yame (232 kw) to provide electricity to Bambuzi in Tshopo Province; and Wede (less than 100 kw) to provide electricity to Banalia in Haut Uele.

The final 2020 milestone of a revised energy policy has yet to be achieved, and the programme on energy is progress towards this end.

Political mobilization on the Energy sector

A workshop to mobilize high level decision makers was organized in November 2019 but no notable engagement with the authorities in this sector.

Looking forward

A draft Energy policy that addresses wood energy is expected in Q4 2020. It will provide an opportunity for CAFI to engage with the government.

c) Forest sector

Major results in the forest sector

- Provincial deforestation estimates produced 2000-2010 and 2010-2014 and awaiting validation
- A first and revised FRELS were submitted to the UNFCCC
- Terra Congo platform is operational

²⁰ As assessed by the independent verification

²¹ As assessed by the FONAREDD Secretariat

Status of the milestones of the Letter of Intent

Intermediate milestones (2018)	Status	
	By end 2018 ²²	By end 2019 ²³
Forest policy adopted	Not achieved	Partial
Promotion and implementation of alternative models for forest use concessions	Partial	Partial
Legal conformity of concessions (management plans)	Partial	Partial
Independent observatory	Partial	Partial
Ambitious plan to fight illegal logging	Partial	Partial
Conditions to lift the moratorium are met	Not applicable	Not achieved
Public queries before adjudication	Not achieved	Not achieved
FREL communicated to the UNFCCC	Achieved	Achieved
Terra Congo operational	Partial	Partial
Final milestones (2020)	Status	
Adopted forest policy	By end 2018 ²⁴	By end 2019
Revised forest code	Not achieved	Not achieved
Illegal logging stabilized	Not achieved	Not achieved
Provincial FREL submitted to the UNFCCC	Achieved	Achieved
Biennal Update Report submitted to the UNFCCC	Not assessed	Partial

Six intermediate (2018) milestones were partially achieved, with notable progress. The Forest Advisory Council was established by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, as well as a team to develop the forest policy. A land-use plan was validated and 70% of commercialized timber is in conformity with the latter, which pushes towards realization of the three milestones to combat illegal timber exploitation, alternative concession models and a legal concession plan.

One 2020 milestone was completed in 2019; the SNSF programme produced provincial estimates for the whole of the Democratic Republic of Congo which represents the 2020 milestone on Reference Emission Levels for Forests for the areas covering the five provinces (the current provinces of Kasai Oriental and Occidental, the provinces of North Kivu, South Kivu and Maniema).

In December 2019, CAFI's Executive Board successfully resumed high-level dialogue with the current Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development thanks to the adoption of the Forest Sector Roadmap to relaunch the Fund's support to the forest sector, notably through the financing of the Sustainable Forest Management Programme (GDF). The latter programme was approved by the Steering Committee in December 2019, and its launch is expected to have a positive influence on the achievement of the 6 partially achieved intermediate milestones on forest governance. The same goes for the programme on energy and several PIREDDs engaged in agroforestry.

²² As assessed by the independent verification

²³ As assessed by the FONAREDD Secretariat

²⁴ As assessed by the FONAREDD

Two 2020 milestones (revised forest code and the stabilization of illegal forest exploitation) are still to be achieved.

Political mobilization

The newly established Ministry of Environment validated, in December 2019, a jointly developed Forest sector roadmap. This roadmap reconfirms the new Minister's engagement to respect the milestones of the Letter of Intent. Through this roadmap, the Minister committed to strengthening governance of the forest sector, support sustainable management in forest concessions and in the artisanal sector, and promote various approaches for managing forests by local communities and decentralized territorial entities.

Looking forward

The Programme on the Sustainable Management of Forests is expected to start in the second semester of 2020. In the meantime, the Forest Sector roadmap highlights the Minister's commitment to taking immediate actions, before the effective start of the PGDF expected next Fall, including

- Launching a process to elaborate the National Forest Policy, in line with the participatory approach of article 4 of the Forest Code - from January 2020
- Organizing the first meetings of the National Consultative Committee on Forests (*CCNF in French*), with strengthened participation of the private and public sector and national and international civil society, while revising the Decree that established it
- Undertaking, during the 1st semester of 2020, a review of the legality of forest titles, conducted by an external auditing firm recruited through a process involving the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, the European Union and the National REDD+ Fund.

d) Mining Standards

Mining and hydrocarbon investments should adopt and implement REDD+ standards in forest areas to prevent, reduce or compensate their impacts on forests. The FONAREDD has planned a 5 M USD programme to strengthen the legal, institutional and operational process in place on the protection of the environment and implementation measures. The Terms of Reference for this programme have been finalized and submitted to the Ministries of Mines and Hydrocarbons for consultation, but consensus still has to be achieved. In the absence of an active programme, there are no results to report at this stage.

KEY MEASURES OF THE FOREST SECTOR ROADMAP

Launch, by January 2020, the process to elaborate the National Forest Policy

Organize as early as January 2020 the first meetings of the National Consultative Committee on forests

Undertake a review of the legality of forest concessions in the first semester of 2020

Status of the milestones of the Letter of Intent

Intermediate milestones (2018)	Status	
	2018 ²⁵	2019 ²⁶
REDD+ standards defined	Partial	Not achieved
Final milestone (2020)		
REDD+ standards adopted, disseminated and implemented	Not assessed	Not achieved

Looking forward

Pending agreement on the terms of reference, a programme is expected to be developed and approved in 2020.

e) Land use planning

Major Land use planning results

- Drafts produced of the LUP policy and framework law, undergoing consultations. To note, debates on the objectives, tools and methodology are not concluded.
- Diagnostic review of the legal framework for land use planning
- Four PIREDDs (Orientale, Mai Ndombe, Sud Ubangi and Kwilu) produced tools and instruments that support land use planning in each respective province, such as:
 - Nine multi-actor and multi-sector platforms are operational in the ex-Orientale province to design and monitor land use plans and supported by a provincial decree in Tshopo.
 - Four Territorial and 14 Sectoral CARCs have been structured at the Territorial and Sectoral levels; 130 Local Development Committees were structured, and 98 MTPs validated in Mai Ndombe.
 - 34 Local Development Committees were revitalized

²⁵ As assessed by the independent verification

²⁶ As assessed by the FONAREDD Secretariat

Status of the Land Use planning milestones

Intermediate milestones (2018)	Status	
	By end 2018 ²⁷	By end 2019
Baseline analyses	Partial	Partial
Methodological guide	Partial	Partial
Participatory geographic programming for new industrial concessions	Not achieved	Not achieved
Final milestones (2020)	By end 2018 ²⁸	By end 2019
Land use planning policy respects forest resources and provincial rights. Directives schemes for land use planning at national level and in all areas with integrated programmes	Not assessed	Partial

The Land use planning programme has allowed progress under three intermediate milestones:

- *Baseline legal analysis of the land use sector in DRC*: a draft is available but requires validation at the national level; document review and data collection are ongoing. The Technical Cell on Land Use Planning is now 10-expert strong to assist the Ministry of land-use planning and a working group with civil society is in place.
- *Methodological Guide on participatory zoning*: the process was launched in collaboration of the integrated programmes, PARAT, DIAF, WRI and Ministry of Planning. Workshops for the exchange of experiences was carried out and a draft of the guide produced, awaiting validation.

Progress was made towards the 2020 milestone on a National Land Use Policy and legal land use framework, as a draft was made available for both. The former was validated by a national workshop, but issues related to the methodology and purpose of the land use policy are likely to emerge in early 2020 and are being followed up closely by the CAFI and FONAREDD Secretariats.

Political mobilization

No notable engagement with the authorities in 2019.

Looking forward

The following products are expected in 2020 :

- Draft land use planning policy (April-May 2020, for examination by the Parliament in September)
- Draft Law (1st semester 2020)
- Decree for the creation of the COPIRAT (2nd semester)
- SNAT (2nd semester)
- Several provincial schemes prepared or revised

²⁷ As assessed by the independent verification

²⁸ As assessed by the independent verification

The debate and consultations on these documents will open the door for more dialogue and engagement with the authorities.

f) Tenure

Major Tenure results

- The National Commission on land tenure reform (CONAREF) is fully functional at national level
- Methodological Guide Project was elaborated to define provincial land management strategies
- 2nd draft of the land tenure policy produced together with an executive summary. This draft takes into account the concerns of Indigenous Peoples on the basis of a note produced by them through the Indigenous Peoples Support Programme.
- Three drafts of land use maps for rural and urban-rural land management are being developed in each of the three provinces of the **PIREDD Orientale** programme. At the level of Bas Uélé province, a land commission has been set up and is supported by a Governor's order. The mandate of this commission is to assist the land administration to fight against abuses and to participate in decision-making on the allocation of land.
- **PIREDD Mai Ndombe** supported the delimitation of 130 Terroirs and began implementing GMPs that indicate land allocations (agricultural, fishing, conservation, community forestry, etc.).

Status of the Tenure milestones of the Letter of Intent

	Status	
	By end 2018 ²⁹	By end 2019 ³⁰
Intermediate milestones (2018)		
Functional CONAREF	Achieved	Achieved
Methodological guide	Partial	Partial
Experiment of strengthening of community land tenure rights	Partial	Partial
Final milestones (2020)		
Land tenure policy adopted	Not assessed	Partial

Two intermediate milestones are partially achieved:

- A draft methodological guide on provincial land management strategies was developed (50% completed). Studies on land tenure have been carried out in two provinces of the integrated programmes (ITURI and MAI NDOMBE) with a broad range of stakeholders: local community, indigenous peoples, civil society, local authorities, etc.). The finalization of the guide will involve testing at the community level, and in a participatory manner, tools identified and/or developed.

²⁹ As assessed by the independent verification
³⁰ As assessed by the FONAREDD Secretariat

- The Model Land Law is available and under expert consultation, before wider consultations in 2020

The land tenure pillar has also benefited from contribution of actions carried out at the level of the integrated programs.

Political mobilization

No notable engagement with the authorities.

Looking forward

The draft policy is scheduled for May 2020, and the draft law in the 2nd semester of 2020. They will provide and opportunity for more engagement with the authorities.

g) Demography

Main Demography results in 219

- Training of the first 2 981 service providers on family planning at community level and in health centers
- Over 50,000 couple year protection provided
- Multisectoral committees have been established in the provincial areas with integrated programmes

Status of the Demography milestones

Milestones	Status by end 018 ³¹	Status by end 2019 ³²
Intermediate milestones (2018)		
Permanent Multi sectorial Committee in place ; provincial strategies to family planning in support of PIREDD elaborated and implemented	Partial	Partial
National consultations on the links between demography and natural resources management	Not achieved	Not achieved
Communication strategy on family planning	Not achieved	Partial
Final milestone (2020)		
National plan implemented in areas targeted by the National Strategy	Not assessed	N/A

Governance

³¹ As assessed by the independent verification

³² As assessed by the FONAREDD Secretariat

Intermediate milestones (2018)	Status by end 2018	Status by end 2019
Dissemination of REDD intervention	Partial	Partial
Studies on drivers of deforestation	Partial	Not achieved
Guide to consult stakeholders	Achieved	Achieved
Consultation platforms at all levels	Partial	Achieved
Risk management matrix	Partial	Achieved
Final Milestone (2020)		
Alignment of external interventions to the National REDD+ Strategy and investment framework	Not assessed	Partial

The governance programme has not been launched yet, but progress across programmes ensures the achievement of three intermediate milestones and one partially Not achieved milestone:

- Annual programme reports managed by FONAREDD are published on the FONAREDD website;
- A study on the drivers of deforestation is being launched in the provincial areas of Tshopo, Ituri and Bas Uélé as part of the PIREDD Orientale.
- A guide for stakeholder consultations was developed by civil society and is applied in all programmes
- The risk management matrix is updated by the projects and applied, including in project governance;
- FONAREDD's complaints and recourse system is operational, as well as those of PIREDD Mai Ndombe, Sud-Ubangi and the sectorial program on support to Indigenous Peoples.
- 15 provincial coordinators of the Renovated REDD Climate Working Group (GTCR-R) were established, to participate and monitor the governance of REDD at the provincial level through integrated programs.

Governance institutions are in place (Steering Committee, multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral consultation frameworks, technical platforms, etc.) to help ensure good governance of the programmes with the participation of members of civil society and Indigenous Peoples.

Political-administrative authorities, civil society through the REDD+ Renovated Climate Working Group (RWGCR), women and indigenous peoples participate at the level of the Steering Committees. All 16 programmes have steering committees for program governance. Others have technical platforms for specific themes, as in the case of the SNSF, land use planning and land tenure reform sectoral programmes.

The final 2020 milestone on an alignment policy and external REDD strategy interventions and its Investment Plan is in progress, built around co-financing and the strategic evolution of the agencies (territorial approach).

Political mobilization on Governance

Governance is an ongoing process. Institutionally, the full-scale, six-Minister Steering Committee of the FONAREDD is expected to re-convene in 2020 and provide oversight over programmes and the action plan for the achievements of the milestones of the Lol.

Looking forward

Pending agreement on the terms of reference, a Governance programme is expected to be approved in 2020. The Annual Review proposed additional measures to reinforce policy dialogue with DRC authorities including the Ambassadors of CAFI EB members as heads of cooperation.

Not achieved milestones

The eight intermediate milestones that have not yet been achieved are mostly explained through the linkages between pillars and various programmes that have suffered delays in programming, approval, funding or implementation (explained further in the “challenges” section below).

3.1.5 Safeguards

To ensure that programmes do not lead to perverse effects such as displacement of indigenous peoples, land grabbing, etc, several legal tools in DRC provide a framework for socio-environmental safeguards: (i) the framework law on the environment and its implementation texts; (ii) the REDD+ M&E management frameworks developed with World Bank support; and (iii) the 2015 national REDD Social and Environmental Standards (final 2016 version) formulated with UNEP support.

These tools all aim at avoiding, mitigating or compensating, where appropriate, the potential adverse effects of project activities, while strengthening measures to maximize their benefits. All programmes funded by FONAREDD implement their activities in accordance with these tools.

Below are some actions that demonstrate the consideration of this dimension in the programmes financed:

- Social and environmental screening were carried out before the effective launch of the following programme; PIREDD Mai-NDOMBE, Province Orientale, Kwilu, Equateur and South Ubangi;
- Systematic review (screening) from a socio-environmental point of view was carried out within the framework of the PIREDD Mai Ndombe’s land use planning, and all Simple Management Plans (SMP).
- The principles of safeguarding were respect during the identification of the ideas of the micro-projects of the Indigenous Peoples with the elaboration of an Indigenous Peoples' Development Plan;
- A Strategic Environmental Study in the case of each policy and law in elaboration is in the planning phase.

As many activities are still in their initiation phases, the reports are not yet very consistent. Improvement and strengthening of these aspects are expected as the implementation of the programmes advances.

3.1.6 Partnership monitoring

In November **the third annual CAFI-DRC partnership monitoring meeting** was organized with FONAREDD in Kinshasa. Taking stock of the results of the independent verification of the milestones, this meeting concluded with

- The elaboration (and later approval by the Steering Committee on 5 December) of Formal recommendation of the Annual review. These recommendations highlight the need for a strengthened policy dialogue
- The finalization (and later approval by the Steering Committee on 5 December) of a [joint Action plan](#) to achieve the milestones of the Letter of Intent
- The finalization and adoption of a [Forest sector roadmap](#), that was formally agreed upon by the Minister of Environment on 5 December

3.1.7 Risks

Two main risks of the CAFI Risk Management Dashboard materialized for DRC in 2019.

First, the political risk due to the electoral transition materialized, at least partially. As stated above, it did not prevent ministerial approval of programmes, thanks to a smaller and functional interim Steering Committee. But the transition put a halt to the policy dialogue until after key ministries were established.

Weak capacity in implementing organizations, an “implementation risk” featured in the Risk Management Dashboard, were also observed. The overall performance of some programmes, including due to long internal procedures of implementing organisations to ensure quality control, continued to remain low. Enhancing the role of the Technical Committee (in which CAFI participates) in programme oversight and mobilizing a high level of agencies management on programmes performances – both recommendations that emanated from the Annual Partnership review, should help address this challenge.

On the other hand, a number of “contextual risks“ listed in the Risk Management dashboard can be assessed as decreasing in probability thanks to the activities of programmes under implementation. Therefore, risks related to increase in wood energy, inadequate land use planning and tenure rules, and uncoordinated forest and agriculture sectors should be increasingly mitigated.

Challenges and recommendations

FONAREDD reported on facing three main challenges in 2019:

- Cumbersome procedures specific to the programme implementing agencies;
- Complex formulation of the milestones, allowing different interpretations and understandings by different actors;
- The responsibility borne by the DRC government for the achievement of the milestones or the timing of the allocation of funds to the implementing agencies.

In addition, the Annual Partnership review highlighted the need to better prioritize certain functions of the FONAREDD Secretariat, to ensure a direct dialogue between CAFI and government representatives, and better ways to ensure quality control by FONAREDD governing bodies (CT and COPIL) over the products

of programmes, especially when these are of strategic importance to achieve the objectives of the DRC National REDD+ Strategy.

With almost all programmes now operational, implementation challenges are beginning to surface as well. These can be summed up in four points:

- mobilization of high-quality national and international expertise for the implementation of the programmes (lengthy process);
- lack of synchronicity between the programmes;
- coordination between different programmes when the costs and time required for such coordination have not been included in the programme documents;
- expectations in terms of speed, cost and quality of implementation with tight budgets

Prospects

2020 will be a crucial year for the CAFI/DRC partnership, as a new Letter of Intent for the period 2021-25 will be negotiated and adopted in 2020, allowing to strengthen REDD+ efforts in the DRC.

3.2 Gabon

Background

Gabon has preserved the majority of its rainforest since the early 2000s with the creation of 13 national parks, one of which is listed as UNESCO's Natural Heritage. The country has made significant advances in sustainable management of its timber resources outside the parks. As a result, whilst it only has 12% of the Congo Basin forests, Gabon hosts almost 60 percent of the surviving forest elephants in Africa – a key indicator of sound natural resource governance. In its expected new NDC, Gabon seeks to reduce its emissions by more than 50% compared to 2005 – effectively cutting by half the emissions from the forest sector.

In June 2017, **the Government of Gabon and the CAFI signed a Letter of Intent for 18 million US dollars** on the basis of the Gabon Investment plan, to allow the country to meet its 50% emission reduction target, better plan and monitor the use of land and protect over 23 million hectares of tropical rainforest - nearly 90% of its national territory.

The reaching of this objective set in Gabon's Intended Nationally Determined Contribution will only be possible by preventing the conversion of high-carbon stock and high conservation a value forest and limiting the conversion of forests not falling into this category.

Milestones to be reached include 50% economy-wide emission reductions compared to 2005, the non-conversion of HCS/HCV forests and the setting of “a long-term cap on carbon-neutral conversion of non-HCS/HCV forests, with no more than 10,000 ha converted on an annual basis.

CAFI's ongoing partnership with Gabon is characterized by several sets of actions:

- **The ongoing [18.4M US\\$ programme approved in 2018 Gabon](#)** to “develop, adopt and implement a National Land Use Plan (PNAT) and a National Observation System for Natural Resources and Forests (SNORF) that will contribute to the reduction of GHG emissions from LULUCF in Gabon “ – often referred to as “Gabon- CAFI 1”
- US \$ 12 million committed to new programmes in Gabon in 2019 (“Gabon- CAFI 2”)
- A [landmark US\\$ 150 million agreement for results based funding \(“ Gabon- CAFI 3”\)](#)
- Gabon and CAFI also worked together to mobilize the governments of the region to develop a joint position through the Economic Commission of Central African States. This resulted in high-level representation (Heads of State and Government) during the United Nations Climate Action Summit (see below).

Main results

CAFI -1

The SNORF and PNAT Programme has not delivered major results in 2019. The convention between AFD and the Government was signed in March 2019 (hence one year after the [approval of the Programme by the CAFI Executive Board](#)). The first programme Steering Committee was held in July

2019 and allowed the approval of a working plan with 9 action points. Two third of these were finalized, namely the near-final recruitment of 8 out of 9 key staff of the Programme Management Unit and acquisition of material and offices.

A notable concrete result included the enrichment of the natural resource inventory through field missions during the summer. This allowed the clarification of emission factors that in turn made it possible to sign the results-based payment agreement in September 2019.

The delivery rate for the programme is at 10.8% cumulatively.

Risks and challenges were reported as mostly operational, such as:

1. time for the appropriation of the procedures and the start-up of the Programme Management Unit following the signing of the agreement;
2. administrative time (particularly the stage at the CNC for contract signings and the transmission of recruitment documents);
3. accounting and financial system delays;
4. very long document writing and validation process, with a large number of partners;
5. Governance issues with the CNAT
6. Budgetary reallocations or new expenditures not included in the original budget had to be proposed and debated;
7. Difficulty in finding candidates qualified for highly specialized positions in the program

CAFI – 2

An additional US\$12 million envelope [was approved in 2019](#) to support the government's efforts to:

1. Deploy mandatory certification of forest concessions and increase the enforcement capacity of forest administration (reducing emissions from forest degradation caused by logging)
2. Expanding existing Congolese protected areas on the Gabonese side of the border (improving carbon stocks and biodiversity in protected areas)
3. Conduct adequacy studies for agricultural production (reduce future emissions by directing agricultural investments to lower-value forests and help the agricultural administration identify and maintain an appropriate land registry)

Through a call for expression of interest, the CAFI Executive Board [identified AFD and UNDP](#) as implementation agencies for these activities, and invited them to develop programme documents. The project documents are currently being finalized and will be submitted for review by CAFI's Executive Board in Q1 2020.

CAFI 3 – results - based payments

The 150 million US dollars agreement (as an [addendum to the 2017 Letter of Intent](#)) between Gabon and Norway via the Central African forest initiative was historic in many ways. For the first time, an African country will be rewarded in a 10-year deal for both reducing its greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and degradation, and absorptions of carbon dioxide by natural forests. The partnership provides Gabon with a major incentive for cutting greenhouse gases by setting a carbon price floor at 10 US dollars per certified ton. The agreement will reward both past performance – verified results since

2016 compared to the previous decade from 2005 to 2014 – and future results to be paid annually until 2025.

Milestones and partnership monitoring

The government of Gabon and CAFI held a second partnership monitoring meeting to assess progress towards the milestones.

For 15 delayed milestones, the constraints were deemed programmatic.

Table 9: Milestone monitoring matrix

Milestone (abbreviated version)	Status (as of 5 November 2019)	Comments	Main constraints	Expected date of full completion of the milestone
The national land use plan is adopted and implemented	Some progress towards completion	The programme started one year late	Programmatic	Dec-22
1.a. Signing of the Marrakesh Declaration	Declaration not signed	There is an ongoing national debate about forest definition and the new concepts of zero deforestation	Political	Dec- 19
1.b. Finalisation and adoption of the National Action Plan of the Marrakesh Declaration	Good progress Gabon organized the 3rd APOI regional encounter in October 2017	Awaiting adoption by the Government	Political	Dec- 19
1.c. Directives and national definitions for HCS et HCV	Good progress National principles are being elaborated. Capacity strengthening took place on HCV and HCS and FPIC in Gabon for 30 stakeholders from the administration, civil society and private sector as part of a training organized by WWF and Proforest in collaboration with Olam Palm Gabon.	Land use proposals at the Ministry of Agriculture take into account national guidelines on non-conversion of HCS and HCV forests.	Programmatic	Dec-21
1.d. policy on carbon neutrality of non-HSC/HVC forest conversion	Some progress APOI assisted the government in a series of meetings to define the concept of "forest," which will contribute to the effectiveness of land use planning aimed at enabling economic development and the achievement of conservation objectives. However,	Methodologies are being developed as part of the NRI to measure carbon neutrality.	Programmatic	Jun-20

	adoption and implementation have yet to be implemented.			
1.e. Methodology and roadmap on FPIC for land allocation decisions.	Progress: Preparatory discussions have begun with stakeholders	The terms of reference are being developed and a coordinator has been identified for direct recruitment, in order to enable the start of activity 1.5 in connection with this milestone	Programmatic	Dec-20
1.f. Long-term cap on carbon-neutral conversion of non-HSC forests	Progress: study committed on the reference level in connection with this milestone.	activities 1.9 and 1.10 will provide additional data to address this milestone are underway. Work is done on the reference level, in connection with CAFI 3 (Results based payments). The summary of the results being compiled will be presented to the next Steering Committee, for validation	Programmatic	Jun-20
1.g. Report on compliance with the commitment on non conversion of HCS/HCV forests	Good progress: A summary of the results is being developed, the baseline and results project provides data until January 2019	A summary of the results will be presented to the next Steering Committee	Programmatic	Jun-20
1.h. Progress in participatory and inclusive planning for land allocation	Progress is being observed: Preparatory discussions began on the basis of PNAT V0, which is the update report for participatory planning	A report on the state of play in participatory land use planning to be presented in December	Programmatic	Dec-19
1.i. Mapping activities on land suitability for agricultural use, mining, conservation, climate vulnerability and sustainable exploitation of natural resources	Progress: This milestone is the subject of ongoing studies	AGEOs studies on the adaptability of assignments are ongoing. The results will be presented in December.	Programmatic	Dec-19
The SNORNF is operational and allows efficient monitoring of LULUCF	Progress: under way	The programme started a year late	Programmatic	Dec-22
2.a. Design of the SNRONF achieved.	Progress Activities 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4 related to this milestone are being carried out.	Recruitment of staff who must carry out these activities is being completed.	Logistical and financial	Mar-20

2.b. Monitoring methodology of carbon neutrality of non HCS-HVC forests	Good progress: the HSC and HVC standards are under development, debate underway at the sub-regional level. The remeasuring activities have produced results.	Activity 1.8, which is to provide the additional data to address this milestone, has not yet started	Programmatic	Dec-20
2.c. Biennial report updated	Good progress: The Minister has created a Task Force to coordinate all activities (national communication, GHG inventory, FREL, biennial report) related to this milestone. Teams work on consolidating data and methodologies	The summary of the results of the studies will be presented to the next Steering Committee	Programmatic	Jun-20
2.d. Preliminary report on monitoring forestry economic activities.	Good progress: This milestone is the subject of ongoing studies on the reference level and monitoring methodology.	Following studies related to activities 1.6, 1.7 and 2.5, a preliminary report on monitoring forestry economic activities will be developed	programmatic	Dec-21
2.e. Activities related to strengthening law enforcement following alerts from the SNORNF to the Ministry of Enforcement or the agency in charge	The implementation of CAFI 2 will support the development of legal texts and the application of the law	A dialogue with stakeholders is under way to provide the CNAT Legal Committee with the necessary support for the drafting of the texts	Programmatic and financial	Dec-21
2.f. SNORF national ongoing	This milestone is achieved			Dec-19
2.g. 750 et/ou 29% des villages cartographiés	Activities 1.5 and 2.2 related to this milestone are in the process of being started	Recruitment of staff to carry out these activities is being completed	Programmatic	Dec-21
3.a. Civil society and private sector representatives are involved in the work of the CNAT	A decree is being revised, it was presented to the CNAT meeting of 30 Oct 2019	the proposed revision makes the commission more operational, integrates other stakeholders involved in land tenure planning issues	Political	Jan-20
3.b. Joint M&E Framework on Relevant International Development Assistance for Aligning Funding Flows and Technical Assistance			Political	Jan-20

3.c. Ambitious plan to combat illegal logging	(i) The Ministry of Forests has finalised the first draft of the drill strategy which it will submit to the Interministerial Council of 05 new 2019, (ii) the Minister has received the EU Ambassador to restart negotiations under the FLEGT on wood traceability, (iii) the national FSC standards have been the subject of a validation workshop	Provisions are being developed to establish FSC certification as a requirement for forestry activity	Political	Dec-20
3.d. A report on the legal and regulatory framework for forest management, logging and timber trade ii. Implementation of management plans iii. Renforcement des capacités de l'administration forestière dans les domaines de la surveillance et de l'application des lois	(i) the forest code is being revised to take into account climate and sustainable development issues including issues related to the letter of intent with CAFI, (ii) the TDRs of forest permit audits are being validated, (iii) a forest management database is being validated, (iv) management plans and forest operations plans are being analyzed	A status report will be presented to the next steering committee	Political and programmatic	Dec-22
3.e. Review of the Forest Code and its regulatory decrees	(i) the new Code that had been discussed by the Parliament was brought back to the Department to take into account climate issues and (ii) the Department's forest strategy that will determine the different rates of reduction in acreage reduction	Discussions have begun at the level of parliament with a view to its adoption	Political	Dec-20
3.f. Target to reduce emissions per hectare and total emissions for residual forest concessions and develop and adopt an action plan	a 50% emission reduction quota has been set for 2050	Studies are underway to determine the level of emissions by sector	Technical and political	Dec-20
3.g. Information system on UNFCCC guarantees including the first summary of safeguards information in the national report to the UNFCCC	(i) work underway as part of the updating of the third national communication, (ii) of the biennial report on climate change, (iii) 4th National Communication (iv) updating the NDC	A Task Force has been established by the Minister to coordinate all this work in order to present consolidated documents to the Government.	Technical	Jun-20

As seen in table 9 above, considering the delays in programme implementation, a number of milestones were postponed to a later date

Risks and challenges

The following risks have been extracted from the [Risk Management Dashboard](#) as they are particularly relevant to Gabon. Mitigation measures are described.

The key risk that materialized is related to implementation risk, with the program being launched two years after the signature of the LOI. The current set up (i.e. implementation in the hands of the implementing agencies while responsibility for reaching the milestones with the Government) creates several problems:

- Delay in reaching the jointly agreed milestones
- Frustration between government and implementing agency
- If a program has high political relevance and is expected to deliver results that are important to maintain political commitment, delays may result in decreased political engagement. For example, in Gabon the national land use plan is a key policy that will allow the different economic actors to plan their investments geographically. Several key stakeholders have accepted to halt certain investments until the land use plan is sufficiently advanced to make investment decision in line with government priorities regarding forests. If the land use plan is delayed for too long that may result in lack of confidence in the process from economic actors and different line ministries and a walk back on commitments (leading to the materialization of the “lack of national appropriation” risk)

In 2019, several tripartite meetings have been organized between the CAFI Secretariat, the government and the implementing agency to understand the reasons for delays and resolve them. This resulted in the signature of the different legal documents necessary for the launch of the program. However, at the end of the year the situation was still not optimal and a more permanent and systemic solution will need to be found in 2020.

3.3 Republic of Congo

Background

A country with high forest cover and a low deforestation rate, the Republic of Congo has a vast forest area, estimated at more than 22 million hectares (FAO, 2015), or 65.4 per cent of the land area. The historically low gross annual deforestation rate is 0.07 per cent, which can be explained by economic growth based on the oil sector and the country's long-standing efforts to promote sustainable management of its forests.

Faced with an economic crisis, the country currently intends to diversify its economy focusing on land-use based sectors, primarily agriculture but also the extractive sector. This is enshrined in its National Development Plan and the agreement signed with the International Monetary Fund. Nevertheless, the country has stated its willingness to develop sustainably and promote good management of natural resources and preserve the forest, especially in the most vulnerable areas. Congo's vision is to maintain a historically low rate of deforestation while diversifying its economy. Thus, the country is willing to mitigate future risks, including related to agro-industrial exploitation, as it has shown in a recent inter-ministerial decree (2018) that directs these activities to savannah areas.

Progress and results

Letter of Intent signed

Following the August 2018 submission of the Investment Plan, developed with CAFI support through a preparatory grant implemented by the World Bank, and negotiations on a Letter of intent, President Sassou Nguesso and President Emmanuel Macron signed on 3 September 2019 a Letter of Intent committing 65 million US dollars for the preservation of the rainforest in the Republic of Congo.

Norway, France and the European Union agreed to contribute 45 million US dollars to the agreement from the CAFI Trust Fund, with an additional 20 million from the French Development Agency (AFD), the UK Department for International Development (DFID) and the German Federal Ministry of the Environment (BMU).

The Letter of Intent, which is piloted and monitored by the Prime Minister, is an act of many ambitious and pioneering commitments to consolidate the efforts undertaken by the Congo in recent years (notably its commitment to the management of its production forests and within the FLEGT process, etc.). These include:

- Develop its national territory through a multi-sectoral and inclusive spatial planning process
- Orient agricultural activities in savannah areas following a ban adopted in October 2018, on the allocation of large-scale concessions in forest areas
- Identify and not convert its high carbon stock (HCS) and high conservation value (HCV) forests
- Cap the conversion of degraded forests (with a provisional ceiling of 20,000 hectares per year)
- Not drain or dry peatland areas.

The Prime Minister reiterated on December 2019 to the Ambassadors representing the CAFI Board his intention to establish high-level, multi-sectoral and inclusive governance mechanisms under his authority

to closely follow up the progress towards the achievement of the commitments laid out in the Letter of Intent.

The Programmatic framework was completed and a launch for Expressions of Interest expected in the first months of 2020 to identify potential implementing organizations and co-financing opportunities. The Programmatic Framework is the document setting out the expected results under each sector and indicative budget of projects funded by a specific investment envelope. The Programmatic Framework allows the selection process of agencies to begin on the basis of their interest, capabilities, existing portfolios and co-financing opportunities. The Programmatic Framework will trigger the drafting of the Terms of Reference of a Call for Expression of Interest, but also the calibration of activities constrained by budgetary frameworks, which may be partly or entirely lifted by co-financing.

Preparatory grant to finalize GCF proposal ³³

To demonstrate its willingness to support the country in mobilizing additional funding sources to achieve its objectives, the CAFI EB approved in October 2019 a US\$ 314,173 grant to FAO to further develop the program proposal of the Republic of Congo to the Green Climate Fund. The project document of the GCF project “PREFOREST” of Republic of Congo, was developed and expected to be formally submitted to GCF Secretariat for their review in Q1 2020. These include

- The GCF funding proposal
- The economic and financial analysis
- The environmental and social monitoring framework
- The stakeholder consultation report
- The indigenous people’s plan
- The gender assessment and action plan
- The analysis of agro-technical itineraries: agriculture, silvicultural and agroforestry systems
- Studies on wood energy

Risks and Challenges

The key milestone in Republic of Congo for 2019 being the negotiation and signature of the LOI, it represented an optimal turning point to include risk mitigation in the commitments towards and from the country. The “contextual” risks, programmatic in nature, were integrated into the LOI itself, which addresses the issues of increased unsustainable agriculture and use of wood energy, insufficient forest governance and land use planning, etc.

“**Governance and coordination**” risks were addressed during the negotiation phase as well as in preparation of the programming exercise of 2020: the Executive Board kept on underlining the need for the establishment of effective and inclusive coordination and concertation mechanisms as a *sine qua none* condition for further programming discussions. The Ambassadors conveyed this message at the highest level through official letters and bilateral meetings with the Prime Minister and the Authorities. The inclusiveness of the governance mechanisms will ensure greater monitoring of risks. The inclusiveness of the negotiation of the Letter of Intent needs to be underlined as the national Task Force conveyed several representatives from the civil society and from the private sector to ensure to the extent

³³ This is based on communications received by the CAFI Secretariat, but no annual report was received by the CAFI Secretariat at the time of finalizing this report.

possible they could voice their concern on several key reform processes with respect to land tenure, forest sector, etc. The engagement of stakeholders from civil society and private sectors will remain a key aspect in the implementation of the Letter of Intent; to ensure effective and sound participation CAFI will dedicate funding for specific projects.

Regarding the “**operational**” risks category, the main risk identified in 2019 is the insufficient technical capacity at the Prime Minister’s office to undertake the large range of tasks required. This will be directly and specifically addressed by a coordination support project to be executed as of 2020 by the Secretariat, upon request by the Executive Board. Capacity building of national institutions within hybrid programme management units is also requisite within the programme development by each executing agency.

3.4 Equatorial Guinea

Background

Since 2016, CAFI has supported, through a preparatory grant implemented by FAO, the development of key national REDD+ strategic documents to guide and move forward the REDD+ process in Equatorial Guinea. The project, initially of US\$ 1 M, was extended at cost to December 2019 to overcome the delay in the finalization of the drivers’ study and allow sufficient time for the participatory development of the EN-REDD+ and the PNI-REDD+. The extension also allowed to incorporate the suggestions of the CAFI EB in the final version PIN-REDD+ to continue the political dialogue between Equatorial Guinea and the members of CAFI’s Executive Board. This dialogue culminated with the participation of the Secretary of State for Planification at the 14th Executive Board meeting in October 2020.

The programme delivery rate is at 98%.

Main results

1) *Data gaps filled*

The programme provided a solid basis for strategic decision making about REDD+, through the publication of the “[Study on drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in Equatorial Guinea 2004-2014](#)” and the “[Historical analysis of deforestation and forest degradation 2004-2014](#)”. Both documents have enhanced much needed information and data about the country’s forests, forest change trends and drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. Thanks to these studies, it is estimated that forests covered 93 % of the territory in 2014, making Equatorial Guinea one of the most forested country in the world. These 2.5 million hectares are estimated to store 364 millions tons of carbon.

These forests are however highly degraded, notably due to forestry activities (23%) and shifting agriculture. Forest degradation was estimated between 2004 and 2014 at **0.9% per year, or 23 000 hectares per year (entre 2004 et 2014)**. In addition, this degradation seems to have rapidly accelerated with the boom of exports of round wood to Asia between 2014 and 2018. A ban on the export of roundwood was promulgated at the end of 2018.

2) *A REDD+ Strategy validated nationally*

Based on this updated data, the project supported the development of the “[REDD+ national strategy](#) (EN-REDD+)” through a participatory process involving multiple stakeholders. Subsequently, the REDD+

National Investment plan (PNI-REDD+) was developed and validated at national level, as a solid tool to plan and mobilize resources for the implementation of the EN-REDD+. The [EN-REDD+](#) defines the country's REDD+ vision as follows: "To contribute through REDD+ to the fight against climate change and to the development of the country for the wellbeing of the people of Equatorial Guinea, focusing on sustainability, integrated land management, food security, social equity and gender".

It spells out the objective of the Government to **maintain the current level of forest cover at 93% and to halve the degradation rate (to reach a rate of less than 0.045%) rate by 2030.**

3) A National REDD+ Investment plan

The REDD+ National Investment plan (PNI-REDD+) was developed and enriched by multiple stakeholders through a consultative process.

The PNI-REDD+ includes:

- National Programmes (NP): 1. Land-use planning; 2. Sustainable forest management; 3. Agriculture and Food security; 4. Mining, energy and construction; and 5. REDD+ governance.
- Integrated Local Programmes (PILs): I. Litoral province; II. Niefang municipality; III. KieNtem province; IV. Bioko island; and V. Annobón island.

The PNI-REDD+ was first presented to CAFI Executive Board in April 2019; then reviewed as per comments received from CAFI and two independent evaluators in April 2019 and October 2019; the final version is expected to be submitted to CAFI Executive Board in March 2020.

4) High level leadership

The development of the PNI-REDD was guided and monitored by a Steering Committee, created by a Presidential Resolution in 2016 and headed by the Ministry of Finance, Economy and Planning (MHEP), co-headed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Environment (MAGBOMA) and composed of representatives of the government institutions, academy, civil society and the private sector. The project Steering Committee met in December 2016, June 2017, June 2018 and February 2019. A smaller technical committee met more regularly to support technical decision-making for project implementation.

5) Mainstreaming environment in the Development Plan

The project has played a catalytic role in mainstreaming environmental aspects in the development model of Equatorial Guinea, enhancing its contribution to the global fight against climate change. The Executive Board It is expected that the new National Plan for Sustainable Development 20135 (PNDS 2035) will reflect this green approach, incorporating national REDD+ and climate change objectives

6) Mobilizing resources

The PNI-REDD+ constitute a solid tool for the mobilization of resources for the implementation of the EN-REDD+, allowing further progress towards a national green and low emission development, and towards enhancing Equatorial Guinea's contribution to the global fight against climate change. Already, the CAFI

preparatory grant has been catalytic to mobilize complementary funding, such as GEF6 and GCF readiness.

Main challenges and risks

The following risks have been extracted from the [Risk Management Dashboard](#) as they are particularly relevant to Equatorial Guinea. Mitigation measures are described.

The main risks whose probability rose in 2019 were designated in the Risk Management dashboard as “**weak capacity in government**” and “**lack of national appropriation**”. Legislative elections have resulted in ad-interim national counterparts from November 2017 to April 2018, at which point new counterparts were designated. Both the posts of the Director General for Planification and the Ministry of Finance changed in 2019. Limited availability for formal/official events or consultations has also been noted. To mitigate, direct consultations with national experts during transition period and the 3rd Project Steering Committee organized in June to allow appropriation by the designated counterparts.

Another risk that materialized has been **the weak decision-making capability of the Executive Board on funding allocation** for Equatorial Guinea. Equatorial Guinea is the smallest of the CAFI partner countries in terms of hectares of forests and has currently very little ongoing bilateral or multilateral cooperation, at the notable exception of the IMF – with a US\$ 280 grant signed in December 2019 (financial stability and governance)– and, to lesser extent, the African Development Bank and the World Bank.

The political risks linked to **low levels of transparency and weak institutions and financial tracking systems** of the country has a whole represents a constant risk. Insufficient governance, especially regarding the forestry sector, is also a recurring risk in Equatorial Guinea.

Looking forward

Beyond the project, CAFI decided to continue the political dialogue with Equatorial Guinea. A high-level dialogue was held with the Secretary of State for Planification on the occasion of the 14th meeting of the Executive Board. Ensuring the political mobilization at even higher level will be key to the success of the partnership.

3.5 Cameroon

Context

Cameroon's humid forests cover about 17.5 million hectares, with a high concentration in the southern part of the national territory. Particularly in the last 7 years deforestation has increased rapidly. Of this deforestation (974,000 hectares), 80% occurred in the following four regions: Centre, Est, Sud and Littoral (coast). As a result, CO₂ emissions resulting from forest clearing have increased considerably and the general trend of increasing deforestation and emissions is not aligned with Cameroon's national commitment to achieve a 32% reduction in emissions compared to 2010 by 2035.

The direct causes of deforestation are subsistence agriculture and food crops (small to medium scale), agro-industry (including the development of palm oil, rubber trees, bananas, sugar cane, pineapple and sugar), logging in the permanent and non-permanent forest estate, as well as fuel wood, mining and the development of transport and energy infrastructure.

In 2015, Cameroon signed the CAFI Declaration and the CAFI Executive Board allocated a preparatory grant of 1 Million USD to support the government with the elaboration of a national investment framework. The grant was to be jointly implemented by the French Development Agency AFD and the World Bank. Because of unresolved questions about the institutional oversight AFD's portion of the grant was not disbursed and will be returned to the CAFI Fund.

The World Bank started implementing the grant in 2016/2017 through a small REDD+ National Coordination Unit, under the Ministry of Environment (MINEPDED). The delivery rate is at 68%.

In 2015, Cameroon submitted its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) with a target of reducing national GHG emissions by 32% until 2035. In 2018, the country finalized its national REDD+ strategy, aiming to cut its emissions from deforestation and degradation by 50% until 2025 and reduce deforestation to zero by 2035. However, Cameroon's ambitious economic development vision, aiming to become a middle-income, newly industrialized and emerging economy by 2035 and the medium-term development strategies are not yet aligned with the objectives of its national REDD+ strategy. Consequently, emissions from deforestation could continue to rise, unless there is a high-level and cross-sectoral policy dialogue on how to integrate a sustainable land-use agenda into various national sectoral and sub-sectoral strategies under revision.

After a first independent evaluation of the investment framework in early 2018, a new team of consultants was recruited in late 2019 and successfully initiated discussions with Cameroon's Ministry of Economy and Planning on the necessity to align sectoral strategies with CAFI's agenda (for example in the Industry & Services Sector (sub-sectors : Energy Industry ; Agro-Industry ; Forest-Wood Industry ; Mining) and in the Rural Development Sector (sub-sectors : Agriculture; Forestry; Environment; Livestock).

The closure of CAFI's existing preparatory grant allows to re-adjust CAFI's approach to support Cameroon and integrate other Ministries, such as the Ministry of Economy and Planning (MINEPAT) into the dialogue.

The Government (the Secretar-General for MINEPDED) presented a revised draft of its National Investment plan during the 12th CAFI Executive Board meeting in Bonn. At its 12th meeting, the EB indicated its willingness to engage in a political dialogue with the Government on the country's vision and

ambitions for sustainable land use. The EB stressed the importance of mobilizing the various relevant sectors with the commitment of the respective authorities and strengthening multi-sector coordination.

The objective of this dialogue is to establish a process to jointly identify key reforms to support the country's economic diversification while promoting sustainable management of natural resources. This dialogue should be based on ongoing national processes, such as the establishment of the New Generation DSCE, existing planning frameworks and strategies (Rural Sector Development Strategies, REDD National Strategy, etc.) and sectoral policies in key land use sectors.

Main Results

- Through a mission in June 2019 headed by the German Embassy to foster policy dialogue and two technical missions in Yaoundé, CAFI's objectives were presented to the Prime Minister and key government officials. This enabled to enhance the alignment and substantive coordination of the NIF development workstream with key ongoing development planning processes (National Development Plan and revision of the Rural Development Sectoral Strategy) under the leadership of the Ministry in charge of Economy, Planning and Land-Use Planning.
- A new team of consultants was recruited to support the government with the revision of the NIF and the mobilization of all relevant ministries in the land-use sector. The revised national investment framework now provides an updated analysis of historical deforestation trends and drivers, reviews the new orientations in the National Development Strategy (Stratégie Nationale de Développement) and, where available, newly emerging development priorities in sectorial strategies; projects the likely impacts of these new strategies and development priorities on land use and forests, highlights a set of key interventions as appropriate for Cameroon to request support from CAFI and proposes some implementation modalities for high level coordination and governance of potential CAFI investments.

The revised NIF was presented during a high-level meeting in Yaoundé in December during which high-level representatives of ministries and the prime minister's office participated, in addition to representatives from the civil society and from technical and financial partners.

Risks and Challenges

The main risks were designated in the [Risk Management Dashboard](#) as **“lack of national appropriation“**, **“environmental, political and/or economic changes/shocks“** and **“country's vision and CAFI theory of change not harmonized**

While climate change is now recognised as 'real' in Cameroon, climate smart development lacks high level Government “champions” for a common vision to be translated into coordinated policy and concrete practice.

In addition, REDD+ remains an unproven concept, unlike agricultural commodities, staple food crops, timber, minerals, etc. Institutionally, REDD+ remains largely dominated by the MINEPDED, with little ownership by other Ministries, although they are adopting climate smart approaches. Increasing the political ownership of the national investment framework across sectors and beyond the Ministry of Environment at the highest possible political level has remained a challenge for CAFI in 2019. Several missions and consultation workshops were organized throughout 2019 to mobilize representatives of key ministries, including with diplomatic support of the German mission in Yaoundé.

Finally, conflict and insecurity have remained a concern in 2019.

The attention of the government and the international donor community continues to be directed to the complex humanitarian situation in the anglophone regions. Until the situation improves, there is a risk that this influence negatively on the pace of the donor community's development agenda, impacting also on the capacity of delegations from members of the CAFI Executive Board to mobilize support for the political dialogue around the national investment framework.

Furthermore, Cameroon focuses on becoming a middle-income and industrialized country by 2035. Although green economy considerations and instruments to strengthen intersectoral coordination such as land use planning are increasingly recognized by the government to achieve sustainable economic growth and poverty reduction, the involvement of civil society and international development partners in the elaboration of the new national development strategy has not allowed to fully integrate some of the key climate-related issues. The resulting strategy gives priority to accelerated industrial development. The decommissioning a forest management unit adjacent to Campo national park and the classification of Ebo Forest as a future Forest Management Unit instead of a proposed national park appear to be symptoms of a more fundamental issue that needs to be addressed as a whole.

To mitigate this risk, the political dialogue around the national investment framework will focus even more strongly on the integration with current national policy processes and the direct dialogue with all relevant government stakeholders as well as private sector and civil society.

3.6 Central African Republic

Context

Heavily impacted by the 2013 political-military crisis, CAR is one of the poorest countries in the world with a GDP per capita of US \$ 418 in 2017 with 4.6 million inhabitants in 2018.

The humanitarian crisis caused by the 2012-2013 political-military crisis continues, with population movements continuing to fluctuate with episodes of violence. At the end of August 2018, there were 621,035 internally displaced persons and 572,984 persons in neighboring countries. The World Food Programme recently estimated the number of food-insecure Central Africans at more than 2 million and in 2018, more than half of the country's population still required humanitarian assistance (2.9 million people), according to OCHA a figure that increased by 16% compared to the previous year.

The country's economic growth rate has been around 4% and remains largely insufficient to meet the reconstruction needs (BM databank, 2018). This growth rate is supported by the recovery of activities in construction, trade and transport as well as by timber export. The country's public finance situation is still characterized by low domestic revenue mobilization, which represented only 9.1% of GDP in 2017 (sub-Saharan Africa average: 16%) and low investment from domestic resources.

The Central African Republic remains largely dependent on the support of technical and financial partners. During a joint donor conference in November 2016, the international community promised to mobilize 2,2 Billion USD to implement a National Crisis and Development Plan, called the National Peace Building and Recovery Plan for the Central African Republic (RCPCA). The plan's elaboration was supported by three donors (EU, UN, World Bank).

Forest cover approximately **28.3 million hectares, or 47 %** of the national territory. Deforestation is relatively low in dense humid forests, with an average of 0.10 to 0.20% per year (in the best-known region of the South-West).

Results

After several years of slow progress due to the difficult political circumstances, significant progress was made in 2019. The firm to support the drafting of the country's national investment framework was recruited, and the first complete draft of the national investment framework was presented to the Executive Board at its October 2019 meeting. The programme delivery rate is at 76% (31 December 2019).

The Government of CAR presented a progress report of the 2020-2025 NIF process during the 14th CAFI Board meeting held October 15-16, 2019. A no-cost extension of the grant closing date to June 30, 2020 was articulated to provide additional time to engage with high-level political decision makers, conduct an independent evaluation of the NIF and support the government to address related feedback.

A central element of the National Investment Framework is the theory of change, which identifies the priority measures to be implemented over the 2020-2025 period in order to achieve the REDD+ results expected in the longer term. In the absence of a national REDD+ strategy to date (under development), 26 priority measures have been identified based on existing analyses of the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in CAR (current and future), the national development vision and the country's sectoral policies and development priorities.

Each measure i) respond concretely to one (or more) direct and/or indirect driver of DD - taking into account the local context and the barriers to their implementation; ii) is consistent with the country's vision for development and support its implementation; iii) is in line with stakeholders' priorities; iv) ensure compliance with the 7 Cancun safeguards.

These 26 priority measures have been identified that together will contribute to 6 main outcomes, namely

- Outcome 1: Integrated and inclusive national land use planning and increased land tenure security, fostering REDD+ investments
- Outcome 2: Adoption of sustainable use and management practices of forest ecosystem & restoration of degraded landscapes
- Outcome 3: Reducing unsustainable wood-energy consumption
- Outcome 4: Development of a remunerative, job-creating, sustainable and "zero deforestation" agriculture
- Outcome 5: Mining operations incorporate good environmental and social impact management practices
- Outcome 6: Increased access to "green" financing for sustainable investments in the LULUCF sector

The CAR NIF approach is to implement at sub national scale it in three priority areas, selected based on the existing HCS/HCV forests & threats, existing local authorities &/or projects to support re-deployment of local authorities, existing LDP / LUP, safety, financial & Technical partners presence and context diversity (threats, land tenure, etc.) to promote replicability. Based on these criteria, **Bangui & its surrounding area, the protected area of Dzanga Sangha and the National Park of Mbaere Bodingue & corridor and the Bangassou Forest** were identified as priority areas.

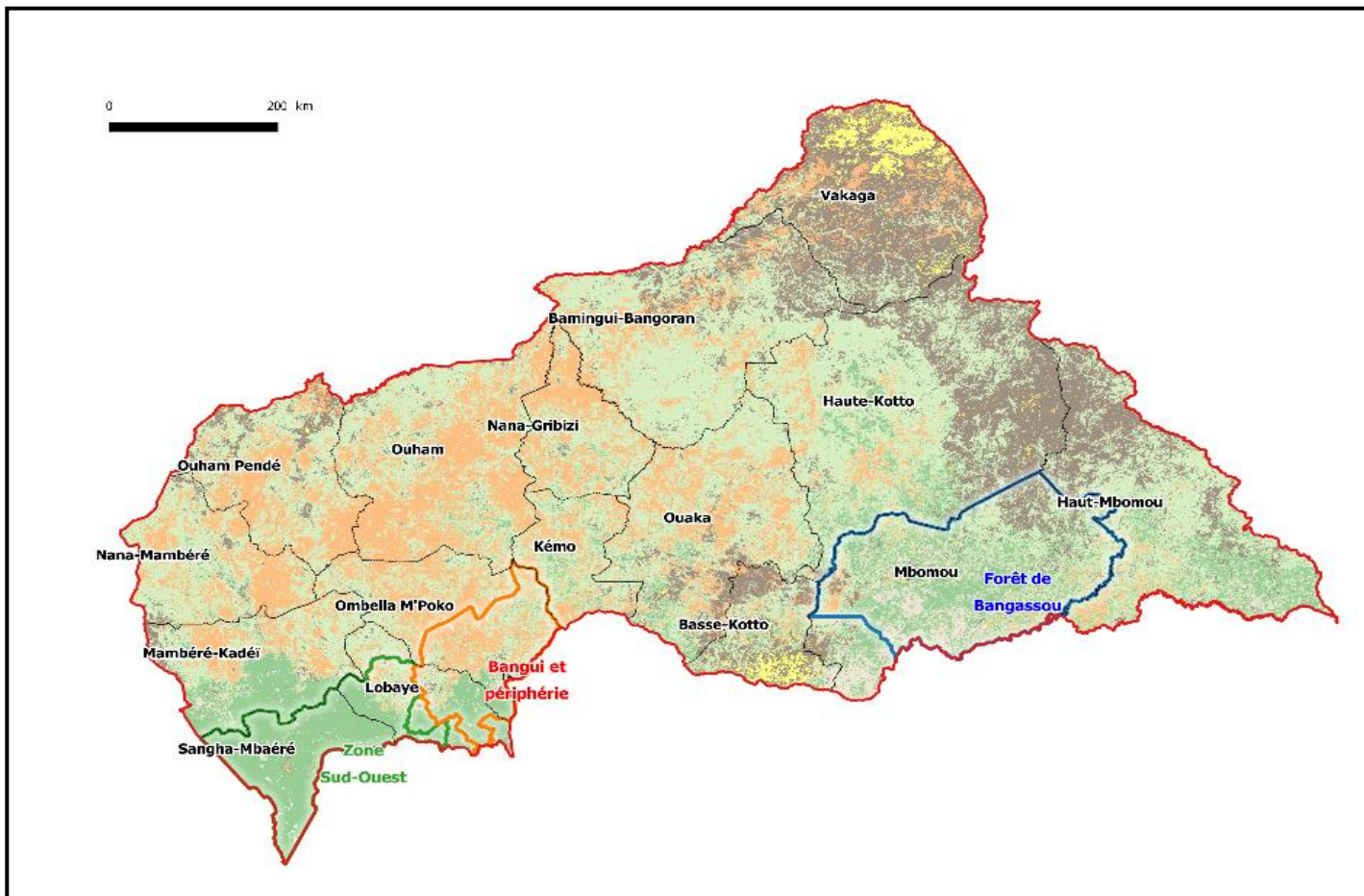


Figure 4: Map of priority areas for the NIF in CAR

The CAR government is expected submit the NIF to the CAFI Secretariat in early 2020. The NIF will address the feedback received from stakeholders during the national validation workshop organized on October 21, 2019. A Ministerial-level seminary, chaired by the Prime Minister, is also planned to take place in February/March 2020 to present the NIF

Risks and Challenges

The main risks were designated in the [Risk Management Dashboard](#) as “**environmental, political and/or economic changes/shocks**” and “**weak capacity in government**”

Although in early 2019 a peace agreement was signed in Khartoum as result of a lengthy and direct dialogue between the CAR government and different rebel groups, the political situation remains unstable with frequent reshuffling of the cabinet. In addition, the government is slowing deploying its administrative capacity beyond Bangui, and weak administrative capacity on the regional level can be expected for the next years. Bearing the fragility of the new CAR state in mind, the CAFI Executive Board expects the national investment framework align strongly with country's National Recovery and Peace Building Plan (RCPCA).

Political risks include a potential increase of violence in the potential intervention zones, since the government is effectively controlling 20-30% of the national territory. Further political risks that could endanger a successful implementation of the national investment framework are a relative uncertainty with regard to the organization of the next elections and future political priorities, and potential delays in the adoption of important political reforms such as the law on local administration/decentralization.

Further potential risks include insufficient governance processes (e.g. decisions are not taken in an intersectoral coordinated manner or unclear mandates of the different inter-ministerial organs working on land-use planning and REDD+). This risk should be mitigated through the establishment of a high-level, intersectoral coordination organ.

Socio-environmental risks include potential land-use conflicts arising from the tenure reform, which will be mitigated by the elaboration of national land-use plan and the revision of the legal framework relating to tenure. Social and tenure-related conflicts could also emerge from the return of displaced persons.

Furthermore, a potential risk could be a lacking coordination of finance for development activities channeled through CAFI. However, CAFI is planning on providing dedicated support to the coordination, monitoring and evaluation of future investments. Furthermore, future activities will be aligned with the National Recovery and Peace Building Plan (RCPCA).

Annex I: Consolidated Annual Financial Report of the Administrative Agent for the Central African Forest Initiative Fund for the period 1 January to 31 December 2019

Elaborated by the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office
Bureau for Management Services
United Nations Development Programme
[GATEWAY: http://mptf.undp.org](http://mptf.undp.org)

May 2020

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS



The Agence Française de Développement (AFD)



DRC National Fund REDD+



Food and Agriculture Organizat



World Bank Group

CONTRIBUTORS



European Union



Government of France



Government of Norway

DEFINITIONS

Allocation

Amount approved by the Steering Committee for a project/programme.

Approved Project/Programme

A project/programme including budget, etc., that is approved by the Steering Committee for fund allocation purposes.

Contributor Commitment

Amount(s) committed by a donor to a Fund in a signed Standard Administrative Arrangement with the UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office), in its capacity as the Administrative Agent. A commitment may be paid or pending payment.

Contributor Deposit

Cash deposit received by the MPTF Office for the Fund from a contributor in accordance with a signed Standard Administrative Arrangement.

Delivery Rate

The percentage of funds that have been utilized, calculated by comparing expenditures reported by a Participating Organization against the 'net funded amount'.

Indirect Support Costs

A general cost that cannot be directly related to any particular programme or activity of the Participating Organizations. UNDG policy establishes a fixed indirect cost rate of 7% of programmable costs.

Net Funded Amount

Amount transferred to a Participating Organization less any refunds transferred back to the MPTF Office by a Participating Organization.

Participating Organization

A UN Organization or other inter-governmental Organization that is an implementing partner in a Fund, as represented by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the MPTF Office for a particular Fund.

Project Expenditure

The sum of expenses and/or expenditure reported by all Participating Organizations for a Fund irrespective of which basis of accounting each Participating Organization follows for donor reporting.

Project Financial Closure

A project or programme is considered financially closed when all financial obligations of an operationally completed project or programme have been settled, and no further financial charges may be incurred.

Project Operational Closure

A project or programme is considered operationally closed when all programmatic activities for which Participating Organization(s) received funding have been completed.

Project Start Date

Date of transfer of first instalment from the MPTF Office to the Participating Organization.

Total Approved Budget

This represents the cumulative amount of allocations approved by the Steering Committee.

US Dollar Amount

The financial data in the report is recorded in US Dollars and due to rounding off of numbers, the totals may not add up.

INTRODUCTION

This Consolidated Annual Financial Report of the **Central African Forest Initiative Fund** is prepared by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office) in fulfillment of its obligations as Administrative Agent, as per the terms of Reference (TOR), the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the UNDP MPTF Office and the Participating Organizations, and the Standard Administrative Arrangement (SAA) signed with contributors.

The MPTF Office, as Administrative Agent, is responsible for concluding an MOU with Participating Organizations and SAAs with contributors. It receives, administers and

manages contributions, and disburses these funds to the Participating Organizations. The Administrative Agent prepares and submits annual consolidated financial reports, as well as regular financial statements, for transmission to contributors.

This consolidated financial report covers the period 1 January to 31 December 2019 and provides financial data on progress made in the implementation of projects of the **Central African Forest Initiative Fund**. It is posted on the MPTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/AFI00>).

The financial data in the report is recorded in US Dollars and due to rounding off of numbers, the totals may not add up.

2019 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

This chapter presents financial data and analysis of the **Central African Forest Initiative Fund** using the pass-through funding modality as of 31 December 2019. Financial information for this Fund is also available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY, at the following address: <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/AFI00>.

A. 1. SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS

As of 31 December 2019, 3 contributors deposited US\$ 198,917,115 in contributions and US\$ 1,218,074 was earned in interest.

The cumulative source of funds was **US\$ 200,135,189**

Of this amount, **US\$ 143,319,454** has been net funded to 4 Participating Organizations, of which **US\$ 46,646,729** has been reported as expenditure. The Administrative Agent fee has been charged at the approved rate of 1% on deposits and amounts to **US\$ 1,946,558**. Table 1 provides an overview of the overall sources, uses, and balance of the **Central African Forest Initiative Fund** as of 31 December 2019.

Table 1. Financial Overview, as of 31 December 2019 (in US Dollars)

	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2018	Annual 2019	Cumulative
Sources of Funds			
Contributions from donors	147,369,617	51,547,498	198,917,115
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income	471,356	746,718	1,218,074
Interest Income received from Participating Organizations	-	-	-
Refunds by Administrative Agent to Contributors	-	-	-
Fund balance transferred to another MDTF	-	-	-
Other Income	-	-	-
Total: Sources of Funds	147,840,972	52,294,216	200,135,189
Use of Funds			
Transfers to Participating Organizations	13,114,010	401,673	13,515,683
Transfers to MDTFs	81,200,000	42,400,000	123,600,000
Refunds received from Participating Organizations	-	-	-
Net Funded Amount	94,314,010	42,801,673	137,115,683
Administrative Agent Fees	1,473,696	472,861	1,946,558
Direct Costs: (Steering Committee, Secretariat...etc.)	4,438,771	1,765,000	6,203,771
Bank Charges	1,599	850	2,449
Other Expenditures	-	42,614	42,614
Total: Uses of Funds	100,228,076	45,082,998	145,311,074

Change in Fund cash balance with Administrative Agent	47,612,897	7,211,218	54,824,115
Opening Fund balance (1 January)	-	47,612,897	-
Closing Fund balance (31 December)	47,612,897	54,824,115	54,824,115
Net Funded Amount (Includes Direct Cost)	98,752,781	44,566,673	143,319,454
Participating Organizations' Expenditure (Includes Direct Cost)	20,330,524	26,316,204	46,646,729
Balance of Funds with Participating Organizations			96,672,725

2. PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS

Table 2 provides information on cumulative contributions received from all contributors to this Fund as of 31 December 2019.

The **Central African Forest Initiative Fund** is currently being financed by **3** contributors, as listed in the table below.

The table below includes commitments made up to 31 December **2019** through signed Standard Administrative Agreements, and deposits made through **2019**. It does not include commitments that were made to the fund beyond **2019**.

Table 2. Contributors' Commitments and Deposits, as of 31 December 2019 (in US Dollars)

Contributors	Total Commitments	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2018 Deposits	Current Year Jan-Dec-2019 Deposits	Total Deposits
European Union	16,409,072	-	4,261,363	4,261,363
Government of France	6,481,500	3,112,800	3,368,700	6,481,500
Government of Norway	236,274,300	144,256,817	43,917,435	188,174,252
Grand Total	259,164,872	147,369,617	51,547,498	198,917,115

3. INTEREST EARNED

Interest income is earned in two ways: 1) on the balance of funds held by the Administrative Agent (Fund earned interest), and 2) on the balance of funds held by the Participating Organizations (Agency earned interest) where their Financial Regulations and Rules allow return of interest to the AA.

As of 31 December **2019**, Fund earned interest amounts to **US\$ 1,218,074**.

Details are provided in the table below.

Table 3. Sources of Interest and Investment Income, as of 31 December 2019 (in US Dollars)

Interest Earned	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2018	Current Year Jan-Dec-2019	Total
Administrative Agent			
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income	471,356	746,718	1,218,074
Total: Fund Earned Interest	471,356	746,718	1,218,074
Participating Organization			
Total: Agency earned interest			
Grand Total	471,356	746,718	1,218,074

4. TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Allocations to Participating Organizations are approved by the Steering Committee and disbursed by the Administrative Agent. As of 31 December 2019, the AA has transferred **US\$ 137,115,683** to 4 Participating Organizations (see list below).

4.1 TRANSFER BY PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION

Table 4 provides additional information on the refunds received by the MPTF Office, and the net funded amount for each of the Participating Organizations.

Table 4. Transfer, Refund, and Net Funded Amount by Participating Organization, as of 31 December 2019 (in US Dollars)

Participating Organization	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2018			Current Year Jan-Dec-2019			Total		
	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded
AFD	9,874,010		9,874,010				9,874,010		9,874,010
DRC NF	81,200,000		81,200,000	42,400,000		42,400,000	123,600,000		123,600,000
FAO	1,000,000		1,000,000	401,673		401,673	1,401,673		1,401,673
IBRD	2,240,000		2,240,000				2,240,000		2,240,000
Grand Total	94,314,010		94,314,010	42,801,673		42,801,673	137,115,683		137,115,683

5. EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL DELIVERY RATES

All final expenditures reported for the year **2019** were submitted by the Headquarters of the Participating Organizations. These were consolidated by the MPTF Office.

Project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organization, and are reported as per the agreed upon categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting. The reported expenditures were submitted via the MPTF Office's online expenditure reporting tool. The **2019** expenditure data has been posted on the MPTF Office **GATEWAY** at <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/AFI00>.

5.1 EXPENDITURE REPORTED BY PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION

In **2019, US\$ 42,801,673** was net funded to Participating Organizations, and **US\$ 24,566,558** was reported in expenditure.

As shown in table below, the cumulative net funded amount is **US\$ 137,115,683** and cumulative expenditures reported by the Participating Organizations amount to **US\$ 40,996,144**. This equates to an overall Fund expenditure delivery rate of 30 percent.

The agencies with the three highest delivery rates are: FAO (98%), IBRD (82%) and DRC NF (30%)

Table 5.1 Net Funded Amount, Reported Expenditure, and Financial Delivery by Participating Organization, as of 31 December 2019 (in US Dollars)

Participating Organization	Approved Amount	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure			Delivery Rate %
			Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2018	Current Year Jan-Dec-2019	Cumulative	
AFD	9,874,010	9,874,010		1,014,953	1,014,953	10.28
DRC NF	123,600,000	123,600,000	14,248,421	22,524,627	36,773,048	29.75
FAO	1,401,673	1,401,673	989,312	386,076	1,375,388	98.12
IBRD	2,240,000	2,240,000	1,191,853	640,903	1,832,756	81.82
Grand Total	137,115,683	137,115,683	16,429,586	24,566,558	40,996,144	29.90

5.2 EXPENDITURE BY PROJECT

Table 5.2 displays the net funded amounts, expenditures reported and the financial delivery rates by Participating Organization.

Table 5.2 Expenditure by Project within Country, as of 31 December 2019 (in US Dollars)

Country / Project No.and Project Title		Participating Organization	Approved Amount	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure	Delivery Rate %
Cameroon						
00102312	CAMEROON/World Bank-AFD: CAFI	AFD	474,010	474,010		0
00102312	CAMEROON/World Bank-AFD: CAFI	IBRD	542,000	542,000	370,787	68.41
Cameroon Total			1,016,010	1,016,010	370,787	36.49

Central African Republic						
00102121	CAR/World Bank-CAFI Preparator	IBRD	1,000,000	1,000,000	763,969	76.40
Central African Republic Total			1,000,000	1,000,000	763,969	76.40

Congo						
00102120	CONGO/World Bank-CAFI Preparat	IBRD	698,000	698,000	698,000	100.00
00116876	Preparatory grant	FAO	314,173	314,173	298,953	95.16
Congo Total			1,012,173	1,012,173	996,953	98.50

Congo, The Democratic Republic						
00103702	Disbursement to DRC National Fund	DRC NF	123,600,000	123,600,000	36,773,048	29.75
Congo, The Democratic Republic Total			123,600,000	123,600,000	36,773,048	29.75

Equatorial Guinea						
00103594	EQ. GUINEA/FAO- Desarrollo del	FAO	1,087,500	1,087,500	1,076,435	98.98
Equatorial Guinea Total			1,087,500	1,087,500	1,076,435	98.98

Gabon						
00111269	GABON AFD-National Planning	AFD	9,400,000	9,400,000	1,014,953	10.80

Gabon Total	9,400,000	9,400,000	1,014,953	10.80
Grand Total	137,115,683	137,115,683	40,996,144	29.90

5.3 EXPENDITURE REPORTED BY CATEGORY

Project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organization and are reported as per the agreed categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting. In 2006 the UN Development Group (UNDG) established six categories against which UN entities must report inter-agency project expenditures. Effective 1 January 2012, the UN Chief Executive Board (CEB) modified these categories as a result of IPSAS adoption to comprise eight categories. All expenditure incurred prior to 1 January 2012 have been reported in the old categories; post 1 January 2012 all expenditure are reported in the new eight categories. See table below.

2012 CEB Expense Categories

1. Staff and personnel costs
2. Supplies, commodities and materials
3. Equipment, vehicles, furniture and depreciation
4. Contractual services
5. Travel
6. Transfers and grants
7. General operating expenses
8. Indirect costs

Table 5.3 Expenditure by UNDG Budget Category, as of 31 December 2019 (in US Dollars)

Category	Expenditure			Percentage of Total Programme Cost
	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2018	Current Year Jan-Dec-2019	Total	
Staff & Personnel Cost (New)	2,940,991	3,396,659	6,337,650	16.67
Suppl, Comm, Materials (New)	217,230	224,685	441,916	1.16
Equip, Veh, Furn, Depn (New)	1,118,073	1,118,288	2,236,361	5.88
Contractual Services (New)	6,039,428	9,749,349	15,788,777	41.52
Travel (New)	1,143,267	2,066,164	3,209,431	8.44
Transfers and Grants (New)	1,899,398	4,390,661	6,290,059	16.54
General Operating (New)	1,154,209	2,567,696	3,721,905	9.79
Programme Costs Total	14,512,596	23,513,502	38,026,098	100.00
¹ Indirect Support Costs Total	1,916,990	1,053,057	2,970,047	7.81
Total	16,429,586	24,566,558	40,996,144	

¹ **Indirect Support Costs** charged by Participating Organization, based on their financial regulations, can be deducted upfront or at a later stage during implementation. The percentage may therefore appear to exceed the 7% agreed-upon for on-going projects. Once projects are financially closed, this number is not to exceed 7%.

6. COST RECOVERY

Cost recovery policies for the Fund are guided by the applicable provisions of the Terms of Reference, the MOU concluded between the Administrative Agent and Participating Organizations, and the SAAs concluded between the Administrative Agent and Contributors, based on rates approved by UNDG.

The policies in place, as of 31 December 2019, were as follows:

- **The Administrative Agent (AA) fee:** 1% is charged at the time of contributor deposit and covers services provided on that contribution for the entire duration of the Fund. In the reporting period US\$ **472,861** was deducted in AA-fees. Cumulatively, as of 31 December 2019, US\$ **1,946,558** has been charged in AA-fees.
- **Indirect Costs of Participating Organizations:** Participating Organizations may charge 7% indirect costs. In the current reporting period US\$ **1,053,057** was deducted in indirect costs by Participating Organizations. Cumulatively, indirect costs amount to US\$ **2,970,047** as of 31 December 2019.

7. ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

In order to effectively provide fund administration services and facilitate monitoring and reporting to the UN system and its partners, the MPTF Office has developed a public website, the MPTF Office Gateway (<http://mptf.undp.org>). Refreshed in real time every two hours from an internal enterprise resource planning system, the MPTF Office Gateway has become a standard setter for providing transparent and accountable trust fund administration services.

The Gateway provides financial information including: contributor commitments and deposits, approved programme budgets, transfers to and expenditures reported by Participating Organizations, interest income and other expenses. In addition, the Gateway provides an overview of the MPTF Office portfolio and extensive information on individual Funds, including their purpose, governance structure and key documents. By providing easy access to the growing number of narrative and financial reports, as well as related project documents, the Gateway collects and preserves important institutional knowledge and facilitates knowledge sharing and management among UN Organizations and their development partners, thereby contributing to UN coherence and development effectiveness.

8. DIRECT COSTS

The Fund governance mechanism may approve an allocation to a Participating Organization to cover costs associated with Secretariat services and overall coordination, as well as Fund level reviews and evaluations. These allocations are referred to as 'direct costs'. In the reporting period, direct costs charged to the fund amounted to US\$ **1,765,000**. Cumulatively, as of 31 December 2019, US\$ **6,203,771** has been charged as Direct Costs.

Table: Direct Costs

Participating Organization	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure	Delivery Rate
UNDP	6,203,771	5,650,584	91%
Total:	6,203,771	5,650,584	91%

Annex 2 : Methodology to assess gender responsiveness

Mark	Meaning	Criteria
Gender blind (GEN-0)	Programme not likely to contribute to gender equality, may even exacerbate inequalities or exclude women or men	Programme does not contribute to gender equality or women's empowerment. Specifically, gender is not reflected explicitly in any of the following aspects Context Implementation Monitoring and reporting process Budget and/or expertise or tools consulted
Gender sensitive (GEN-1)	Gender partially mainstreamed	This means gender is reflected in one or more of the aspects above but not all
Gender responsive (GEN-2)	Gender is fully mainstreamed	Gender equality, even though not the main objective of the programme is mainstreamed: gender is reflected in all aspects above

Table a: categorizing gender responsiveness

Aspects	Documents consulted
Context	Background section in programme documents
Implementation	Programmes annual reports to CAFI or the FONAREDD
Monitoring and reporting	Results framework in the programme document and in the Annual report
Budget and expertise	Budget section in the programme document

Table b: documents consulted to assess gender markers

Annex 3: Reporting against the M&E framework

Indicator	Applicable country	Baseline	Target	Means of verification	Progress / result by end 2019
I-1 Emissions (tons of CO ₂ eq)	All	<p>DRC: 2010-2014: 830,53 ± 66,73 MtCO₂eq.</p> <p>Estimations³⁴ 2015: 979 MtCO₂eq 2016: 1 028 MtCO₂eq 2017: 1 078 MtCO₂eq 2018: 1 128 MtCO₂eq 2019: 1 777 MtCO₂eq</p>	<p>General target: reduction</p> <p>In DRC, provincial integrated programmes aim at a 10% reduction in emissions. Their cumulative targets total 42 MtCO₂eq over the duration of the programme (5 years). Not all provincial integrated programmes, nor sectoral programmes, have clear targets.</p>	DRC: NFMS programme	Not measurable yet, in line with the frequency of data collection
		<p>Gabon: net emissions for 2005 (date selected in the INDC): 685,408.58 tCO₂eq 2010: 66,189,465.82 tCO₂eq 2015: 51,368,472.97 tCO₂eq³⁵</p>	Gabon: reductions of emissions from the LULUCF of 50% by 2025 (compared to 2005)	Gabon: a FREL and biannual report will be submitted to the UNFCCC	Not measurable yet, in line with the frequency of data collection
		RoC: 35.48 MtCO ₂ eq/year for the 2000-2020 period (historical with adjustments for 2015-2020) ³⁶			Not measurable yet, in line with the frequency of data collection

³⁴ FREL 2018. Data for 2016-2018 will be available mi-2019.

³⁵ See table and analysis on page 10 of

http://www.cafi.org/content/dam/cafi/docs/Gabon%20documents/French/Gabon_pRODOC_AFD_CAFI_FINAL.pdf

³⁶ FREL 2016. The FREL will be revised in 2024

I-2 Absorptions (tons of CO2eq)	Gabon (2019, addendum to the Lol)		Gabon: stabilization or increase	Gabon: FREL and biannual report will be submitted to the UNFCCC	Not measurable yet, in line with the frequency of data collection
I-3 Annual rate of deforestation and degradation (hectares per year and %)	All	DRC: 2010 - 2014: 7 005 535.30 (+/- 813 005.33) hectares loss to deforestation ³⁷ , or 1,750,000 hectares per year. 2016-2018 data expected mid 2019 for the country and per province	General: reduction of annual rates of deforestation and degradation compared to reference scenario RDC: objective to stabilize forest cover at 63.5%	DRC: NFMS programme (with DIAF). Submission of the biannual report to the UNFCCC	Not measurable yet, in line with the frequency of data collection
		Gabon: gross deforestation for the 2010-2015 period is estimated at 96,230 hectares; net deforestation: 59,406 hectares ³⁸	Gabon: annual conversion ceiling of 10,000 hectares; long term cap will be determined in June 2020.	Gabon: AGEOS, through the BUR	Not measurable yet, in line with the frequency of data collection
		RoC: 12,000 hectares/ year for the 2000-2012 period ³⁹ .	RoC annual ceiling of 20,000 hectares per year		Not measurable yet, in line with the frequency of data collection
		Equatorial Guinea: annual degradation rate of 0.9% for the 2004-2014 period			Target currently unfunded.
Number of deforestation alert i) produced ii) reported iii) followed by ground intervention	Gabon	No operational deforestation alert system	No targets to be set, but figures to monitor		Not measurable yet, in line with the frequency of data collection

³⁷ FREL 2018

³⁸ See table and analysis on page 11 of http://www.cafi.org/content/dam/cafi/docs/Gabon%20documents/French/Gabon_pRODOC_AFD_CAFI_FINAL.pdf

³⁹ Data will be revised in the 2024 FREL

Impact 2: Poverty and sustainable development

Indicator	Applicable country	Baseline	Target	Progress and results
I-4 Proportion of population with revenues below 1.25 dollars a day	All	RDC: 76% in 2012 ⁴⁰ Gabon: 3.4% in 2017 Roc: 37% in 2011 Equatorial Guinea: N/A Cameroon: 23.8% in 2014 CAR: 63% in 2008	Increase in all countries	UN stats – SDG report ⁴¹ has not provided any updated data
I-5 Direct beneficiaries' money income (including women, youth and indigenous people)	DRC, in provinces with integrated programmes	DRC: no harmonized methodology to evaluate household revenues ⁴² , but studies were launched in ex-Orientale and Mai Ndombé	DRC: integrated programmes aim at a general increase of 10%	Mai Ndombé : US\$ 90,000 dollars disbursed for PES
I-6 Number and ratio of direct beneficiaries compared to the total population of the area of intervention	DRC	0 at the beginning of the programme	To be clarified by integrated programmes	Mai Ndombé : - training provided to 180 nurserymen -support to 1300 growers

⁴⁰ For provinces, the 1-2-3 survey provides the following: Equateur: 77.3% ; Province Orientale : 56.9% ; Sud Kivu : 60.2%.

<http://ins-rdc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Rapport-enquete-123.pdf>. Across the country, this survey estimates that poverty incidence was at 63.4% in 2012.

⁴¹ <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/database>

⁴² The FONAREDD Secretariat will develop a household survey methodology.

1. Outcome and product indicators

Outcome indicators appear at the top and are marked as “X.E.X”, from the French word “effet” (outcome); product indicators appear below and are marked as “X.P.X”.

Outcome 1 – Agriculture encroaches less on forest lands

Indicator	Applicable country	Baseline	Target	Progress / results (2019)
A.E. 1 Forest surface area converted to agriculture (hectares) – distinguishing commercial agriculture from slash-and-burn (Contributes directly to impact 1)	DRC Gabon RoC	DRC: Not available. ⁴³ Should be available during 2019. Gabon: between 2010 and 2015, 19,817 hectares net lost within agro-industrial concessions ⁴⁴	DRC Gabon Lol: 10,000 hectares annual ceiling RoC: 20,000 hectares annual ceiling (total)	No figures yet, in line with expected frequency of data collection
A.E. 2 Existence, implementation and supervision of policy and legal frameworks that limit the conversion of forests into agricultural concessions (by specifying the size of those concessions) (Contributes directly to impact 1)	DRC Gabon	DRC: such frameworks do not exist Gabon: baseline under development (oil palm strategy + four other crops and analysis of the national land use plan (PNAT V0)) RoC: inter-ministerial order (2018) establishes a 5-hectare limit	Existence/improvement of implementation quality (DRC, Gabon) DRC Gabon RoC: implementation of order	DRC: GDA programme approved in 2019 has objective to align agricultural development to REDD objectives
A.E.3 Productivity (in metric tons/hectare and for each crop)	DRC Gabon	DRC: MINAGRI survey of the 2017-2018 agricultural year	Productivity on surface areas receiving support is	Gabon: while no result is measurable yet, AFD has been

⁴³ For 2017, the report that WRI submitted to FAO notes: village-based agricultural conversion: 100 ha and industrial agricultural conversion: 550 ha, but there are 16,000 ha of deforested surface areas for which the driver cannot be identified officially.

⁴⁴ See Note 1, Figure 2, page 11 of the National Investment Framework

<p>on surface areas supported by the programmes (Contributes directly to impact 1 and 2)</p>		provides statistics by crop for reference	greater than on those that are not	identified to develop programme on Land use optimization for the intensification of crop production
<p>A.E. 4 Share of imported food ⁴⁵ (Note: this indicator is linked to sustainable development and serves as a proxy for national production) (Contributes directly to impact 2)</p>	DRC Gabon RoC	In DRC, experts estimate that imported food products neighbour 2 M tons via Matadi and Boma ports, and Kasumbalsa in Katanga ⁴⁶ Other sources: 1 M ton (2011) ⁴⁷ 2013: 1.3 billion dollars	Reduction In Gabon, quantifiable goal to be determined	
		In Gabon, importation of CFAF 280 billion of foodstuffs in 2012 ⁴⁸		
<p>A.E. 5: Change of practices by small and medium-sized businesses to address deforestation caused by agriculture (Contributes directly to impacts 1 and 2)</p>	DRC	<i>No baseline – survey focuses on change</i>	<i>Increase</i>	<i>To be assessed via surveys at later stage</i>
<p>A.P. 1 Percentage and number of environmental impact studies prepared before an agricultural concession is granted (Contributes directly to impact 1)</p>	DRC	DRC: 0 in 2018 Gabon: 100%	<i>DRC: Increase Gabon: maintain</i>	No data

⁴⁵ Statistics from COMTRADE can be visualized here – example for Gabon : <https://oec.world/en/profile/country/gab/#Imports>.

However this is a proxy, expressed in dollars, of the

⁴⁶ <https://www.vivafrik.com/2019/01/17/rdc-le-paradoxe-de-limportation-des-produits-alimentaires-a23296.html>

⁴⁷ <https://www.lephareonline.net/importation-des-produits-alimentaires-la-rdc-perd-plus-dun-milliard-des-dollars-par-an/>

⁴⁸ See Note 1, page 55 of the National Investment Framework

<p>A.P. 2 Georeferenced hectares of new agroforestry crops</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impact 2 and indirectly to impact 1)</p>	<p>DRC Gabon</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>In DRC, total PIREDD = 29,350 ha Orientale: 9000 Mai Ndombé: 3350 Equateur: 3000 Kwilu : 5000 Sud Ubangui : 2000 Savannahs : 7000</p>	<p>In 2019, 225 ha of coffee trees and 105 ha of cocoa trees were planted (Sud Ubangui province)</p>
<p>A.P. 3 Georeferenced hectares of new perennial crops on savannahs</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impact 2 and indirectly to impact 1)</p>	<p>DRC</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>In DRC, total PIREDD : 7650 ha Orientale : 6000 ha Mai Ndombé : 1650 ha of palm oil</p>	<p>Mai Ndombé : 32 palm oil nurseries established, towards 770 ha to be planted in 2020</p>
	<p>Gabon</p>			
<p>A.P.4 Georeferenced hectares of new perennial crops in forests</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impact 2 and indirectly to impact 1)</p>	<p>DRC</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>In DRC, total PIREDD : 10500 Orientale Mai Ndombé : 10,000 (Coffee, cacao, hevea, palm oil) Equateur Kwilou Sud Ubangui Mongala : 300 ha, top up 500 ha</p>	<p>Mai Ndombé : 16 ha of palm oil</p>
<p>A.P. 5 Hectares of improved subsistence agriculture (a) on savannahs and (b) in forests</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impact 2 and indirectly to impact 1)</p>	<p>DRC</p>	<p>0. Reference situation (for comparison): 27 M ha in 2017 (MINAGRI)</p>	<p>In DRC total PIREDD : 172,000 Orientale : 160,000 Mai Ndombé : 11,650 Equateur : 300 Kwilou Sud Ubangui Mongala</p>	<p>Mai Ndombé : the first 500 hectares of manioc-acacia were established in savannahs</p>

<p>A.P. 6 Number of households receiving subsistence agriculture support (a) on savannahs and (b) in forests</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impact 2)</p>	DRC	0	In DRC, total PIREDD	<p>In Mai Ndombé, the 540 ha of acacia and manioc were established to benefit 1 460 rural households</p>
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Outcome 2 – Consumption of unsustainable wood energy decreases

Indicator	Applicable country	Baseline	Target	Progress and results
<p>E.E. 1 Ratio of metric tons of wood from new sustainable sources (protected + agroforestry plantations) to metric tons of total production ⁴⁹</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impact 1)</p>	DRC	No estimate of sustainable fuelwood production before Year 5 of the programme, at the soonest	Increase	Not measurable yet, in line with data collection frequency
<p>E.E. 2 Average savings (in USD) to households using clean cooking solutions</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impact 2)</p>	DRC	Will be available in 2020 (CIRAD study)	Increase	Not measurable yet, in line with data collection frequency
<p>E.E.3 Existence (or progress toward adoption) and implementation of national or subnational energy policies for sustainable management and alternatives to fuelwood</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impact 1)</p>	DRC RoC	DRC: RoC: Energy sectoral policy exists	DRC: adoption RoC: sectoral policy on energy implemented	DRC : approved Energy programme aims to produced draft Energy policy that addresses wood energy in Q4 2020. RoC: programme approval expected in 2020
<p>E.E. 4 Existence (or progress toward adoption) of an implementation strategy that includes supply and demand questions and substitution issues</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impacts 1 and 2)</p>	DRC	Did not exist in 2018 when the Energy programme was approved	In DRC, adoption of strategy	

⁴⁹ Obtained by extrapolation before establishing plantations or protection; that is, surface area X estimated yields = metric tons anticipated at the end of Y years. The PIREDDs enter the numerator and the Energy Programme enters the denominator.

<p>A.E.55: Change of practices by small and medium-sized businesses to address deforestation caused by fuelwood (Contributes directly to impacts 1 and 2)</p>	DRC	No baseline – survey focuses on change	Increase	
<p>E.P. 1 Access to updated data on sustainable fuelwood (such as number of publications, frequency of updating on programmes' websites) (Contributes indirectly to impacts 1 and 2)</p>	DRC	DRC: CIRAD 2012 fuelwood study exists	Increase	DRC : study underway as part of the Energy programme
<p>E.P. 2 Number of improved cookstoves distributed/sold (and total number of households) and in which territory, sector, group and village (Contributes directly to impact 2 and indirectly to impact 1)</p>	DRC	0 at start of programme	In DRC, total PIREDD Orientale : 5000 Mai Ndombé : 0 Equateur : 27,000 Kwilou Sud Ubangui Mongala Energy prog : 87,000	Not measurable yet, in line with data collection frequency
<p>E.P. 3 Rate of adoption and profile of use of clean cooking solutions (LPG or improved stoves) in target zones (Contributes directly to impact 2 and indirectly to impact 1)</p>	DRC	Not available	Increase	Not measurable yet, in line with data collection frequency
<p>E.P. 4 New surface areas and their agroforestry and reforestation georeferenced data (hectares) (Contributes directly to impacts 1 and 2)</p>	DRC	0 at start of programme	Total PIREDD : 10,350 ha Orientale : 1000 Mai Ndombé : 3,350 (acacia + cassava) Equateur : 3000 Kwilou : 3000 Sud Ubangui Mongala	Mai Ndombé : 540 ha of acacia and manioc established to benefit 1 460 rural households

<p>E.P.5 New surface areas left under natural regeneration and their georeferenced data (hectares) (Contributes directly to impact 1 and indirectly to impact 2)</p>	DRC	0 at start of programme	In DRC, total PIREDD: 82 209 Orientale: 45,000 Mai Ndombé : 30,000 Equateur : 7000 Kwilu : 209 Sud Ubangui Mongala	None established in 2019
<p>E.P. 6 Number of jobs created (by the programmes) throughout the value chain⁵⁰ (Contributes directly to impact 2)</p>	DRC	0 at start of programme	In DRC	Not measurable yet, in line with data collection frequency

⁵⁰ 1. in the production of sustainable fuelwood; ii. In its processing; iii. In the production and marketing of improved stoves

Outcome 3 - Forest governance and managements are improved

Indicator	Applicable country	Baseline	Target	Progress and results
<p>F.E.1a Surface areas (in ha) and percentage of forests with management plans</p> <p><i>F.E. 1b: quality of land use plan implementation</i></p> <p>(Contribute directly to impact 1)</p>	DRC Gabon RoC	In DRC, as of 7 December 2018, eight forest concessions had validated management plans (covering a surface area of 2,158,329 ha)	RoC (2023): 100% of Forest Management Units assigned have an approved Land Use Plan	DRC: in October 2019, 58% of forestry titles have a management plan ⁵¹ . This represents approximately 6.215 million hectares ⁵² FE1b to be assessed by surveys
<p><i>F.E. 2 a) share of illegal wood on domestic markets</i></p> <p><i>F.E. 2b) share of illegal wood for export</i></p> <p><i>F.E. 2c) illegal logging in forests with sustainable land use plan</i></p> <p><i>F.E. 2d) illegal logging in type 2 forests</i></p> <p>(Contribute directly to impacts 1 and 2)</p>	DRC Gabon RoC	<i>Specific information not available. Estimates place it at between 0-10% for artisanal wood.</i>	<i>Reduction for all sub-indicators</i>	<i>All to be assessed via surveys at later stage</i>
<p>F.E. 3 Surface area under legal or formal artisanal operation (hectares)</p> <p>(Contribute directly to impact 1 and indirectly to impact 2)</p>	DRC RoC	Idem		

⁵¹ Etat des lieux des acteurs de la filière forêt-bois en République Démocratique du Congo », ERAIFT, October 2019

⁵² Selon le rapport publié en Mai 2019 par l'AGEDUFOR et dont les contenus restent échangés, l'ensemble de titres forestiers couvrent une superficie de 10 715 678 hectares

<p>F.E.4 National plan developed to combat illegal practices i) validated ii) implemented (estimate the rate and specify practical measures showing implementation) iii) having led to prosecutions (indicate number of cases instituted/completed)</p> <p>(Contribute indirectly to impacts 1 and 2)</p>	<p>DRC Gabon RoC</p>	<p>DRC: No plan exists Gabon : milestone of the Lol</p>	<p>RoC: implementation of VPA-FLEGT and its legality assurance system</p>	<p>DRC: no progress, awaiting inception of Sustainable Forest Management programme Gabon:</p>
<p>F.E. 5 Percentage of hectares of certified forests</p> <p>(Contribute indirectly to impact 1)</p>	<p>DRC Gabon RoC</p>	<p>For the whole sub region : 5 392 000 ha (April 2020)</p> <p>In DRC, certification activities had ended in 2011. At the time, one company (SIFIRCO) had a certificate</p> <p>RoC : 2 989 168 ha (April 2020)</p>	<p>Gabon: 100%</p>	<p>DRC : 1 company, CFT, has obtained a 3rd party timber legality certificate⁵³. Its concessions cover 623.631 hectares, or 5.8% of areas under industrial concessions.</p>
<p>F.E. 6: Small and medium-sized businesses change practices to address deforestation caused by forestry</p> <p>(Contribute directly to impacts 1 and 2)</p>	<p>DRC Gabon</p>			<p><i>Will be assessed by survey</i></p>

⁵³ Etat des lieux des acteurs de la filière forêt-bois en République Démocratique du Congo », ERAIFT, October 2019. Il s'agit de la Compagnie Forestière de Transformation (CFT), . It has a capacity of 30 000 m3 and declared a production of 1181,37 m3 (0.68% of the total production) in 2018.

<p>F.E.7 Surface of community forestry established (hectares)</p>	<p>DRC</p>		<p>Total PIREDD : over 600,500 ha Orientale : est. 150,000 Mai Ndombé : 10,000 Equateur 480,000 Kwilou : 209 Sud Ubangui Mongala: 500ha, 750 ha with top up</p>	<p>None established in 2019</p>
<p>F.P.2 Existence and operation of a secure IT system to ensure reliable monitoring of traceability of the legality of wood</p> <p>(Contributes indirectly to impact 1)</p>	<p>DRC Gabon RoC</p>	<p>In DRC, a new wood traceability system launched in September 2018 (Agency for executing forest-timber sector activities) Gabon: RoC: no system in place</p>	<p>RoC (LoI, 2022): Computerized Legality Verification System (CLVS) developed, validated and operational</p>	

Outcome 4 – Impacts of mining and hydrocarbon activities are minimized

Indicator	Applicable country	Baseline	Target	Progress and results
<p>M.E.1. Availability of data on the number and surface area (and GIS points) of mining concessions in forests</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impact 1)</p>	DRC RoC	In DRC, not available but external sources exist (IPSIS)	Improvement	None
<p>M.E.2. Existence and implementation of a policy or legal framework, commercial agreements or standards limiting or offsetting the conversion of forests into mines</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impact 1)</p>	DRC Gabon RoC	In DRC, Article 33 of Law 11/009 of 9 July 2011 establishing core principles pertaining to environmental protection; Articles 14, 20, 25, and 35 of Law 14/003 of 11 February 2014 on Nature Conservation Gabon: Sustainable development law	DRC: the standards programme will specify the target Roc: to be determined	Programme not launched
<p>M.E.3 Kilometres of new transportation infrastructures opened in the forests for mines or other extractive industries, separately identifying railroads</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impact 1)</p>	DRC Gabon RoC	Not available	Not available	
<p>M.P. 1 Percentage of new mining and hydrocarbon concessions preceded by an environmental impact study</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impact 1)</p>	DRC RoC	Not available	DRC: 100%. The standards programme will specify the goal. Roc: studies prior to any oil production in peatlands to avoid	Programme not launched

			draining or drying them	
M.P.21 Percentage of new roads preceded by an environmental impact study (Contributes indirectly to impact 1)	DRC	100%	100%	Programme not launched

Outcome 5 – Land use planning takes into account forests contribution to climate change, and land tenure is improved

Indicator	Applicable country	Baseline	Target	Results and progress
<p>Am.E.1. Existence and implementation of land use planning policies or laws that take account of the contribution of forests and land use to mitigating climate change and to generating other social and environmental benefits</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impacts 1 and 2)</p>	<p>DRC Gabon RoC</p>	<p>In DRC, does not exist</p>	<p>DRC : -National LUP policy -National LUP Law -Creation of COPIRAT -SNAT (National level) -SPAT (Provincial)</p>	<p>DRC : National LUP policy subject to validation⁵⁴ First draft of LUP Law elaborated ⁵⁵ The Decree to create COPIRAT is being prepared ⁵⁶ SNAT (schéma)⁵⁷ SPAT – several being prepared and revised</p> <p>Quality of these products is being reviewed.</p>
		<p>In Gabon, laws, decrees and implementing texts on land use planning do not exist, but the PNAT draft analyses the situation</p>	<p>Gabon: The PNAT 1 will be the basis of a policy/law</p>	
		<p>ROC: A national land use scheme (SNAT) exists</p>	<p>Roc: revision of the NTDP, development of the PNAT and departmental land use plans (SDAT) and their implementation</p>	<p>Programme under development</p>

⁵⁴ will be finalized by April-May 2020, for examination by the parliament in September

⁵⁵ 1st semester of 2020

⁵⁶ Target : 2nd semester of 2020

⁵⁷ 2^{ème} semestre 2020

<p>Am.E.2 Existence of an interactive atlas mapping juxtaposed land uses. Specify whether this Atlas is produced, updated (frequency), used to coordinate with other sectoral ministries and/or publicly accessible.</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impacts 1 and 2)</p>	<p>DRC Gabon RoC</p>	<p>DRC: no such atlas exists</p>		<p>DRC : Maps on land allocation and uses are being elaborated in PIREDD Mai Ndombe, Sud Ubangi, Mongala and Kwilu</p>
		<p>Gabon: the PNAT V0 database is accessible on line but incomplete (2015)</p>	<p>In Gabon, a robust database for the PNAT VF updated and accessible on line.</p>	
		<p>RoC: no updated registry</p>	<p>RoC: national mapping of all of the “land use contracts” (registry) produced and provided to the public. Creation of a cross-sectoral land registry (mining, oil, agro-industrial and forestry sectors)</p>	
<p>Am.E.3 a) Surface areas of deforestation contradicting the provisions of the plan (5 ha or more, 2 years after validation of the plan)</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impact 1)</p>	<p>DRC Gabon RoC</p>	<p>In DRC, baseline to be established when the plan is completed (programme underway)</p>		<p>Not measurable yet, in line with the expected data collection frequency</p>

<p>Am.E.4 Surface areas where land use disputes are identified and resolved</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impacts 1 and 2)</p>	<p>Gabon RoC</p>		<p>In Gabon, land use disputes that have been resolved are in the validated PNAT V1</p>	<p>Not measurable yet, in line with the expected data collection frequency</p>
<p>Am.E.5 Perception regarding the frequency of land use disputes</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impacts 1 and 2)</p>	<p>DRC Gabon RoC</p>	<p>No baseline</p>		<p>To be assessed via surveys</p>
<p>Am.E.6 Existence and implementation of an equitable land use policy – including with respect to issues of gender and vulnerable individuals as well as local communities and indigenous peoples – and that ensures sustainable and non-conflictual land management and clarifies land rights with a view to limiting conversion of forest lands</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impacts 1 and 2)</p>	<p>RoC</p>	<p>In DRC, does not exist</p> <p>ROC: Articles 31 and 32 of the Law of 5 to 25 February 2011 on promoting and protecting indigenous people's rights</p>	<p>RoC (2023): specific regulatory text adopted and implemented Land dispute redress and resolution mechanism in place and operational.</p>	<p>DRC: new draft Land use policy presented for validation</p>
<p>Am.P.1 Percentage and total number of entities with an established development committee</p> <p>(Contributes indirectly to impacts 1 and 2)</p>		<p>In DRC, 0 at the start of the programmes</p>	<p>DRC : Orientale : 100%</p>	
<p>Am.P.2 Number of participatory plans and mechanisms programming/implementing a</p>		<p>In DRC, 0 at the start of the programmes</p>	<p>DRC: PIREDD MAI NDOMBE : 600</p>	<p>98 Simple management plans were validated in 2019 in Mai Ndombé</p>

<p>sustainable medium- and long-term vision for natural resource use</p> <p>(Contributes indirectly to impacts 1 and 2)</p>			<p>Simple management plans 2) PIREDD PO : 240 Local development plans 3) PIREDD KWILU : 30 Natural resource management plans 4) PIREDD Equateur : 326 Natural resource management plans 5) PIREDD Mongala : 16 Simple management plans 6) PIREDD Sud Ubangi : 100 Natural resource management /simple management plans</p>	
<p>Am.P.3 Number of plans that take account of topsoil stabilization</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impact 1)</p>		<p>In DRC, 0 at the start of the programmes</p>	<p>DRC : Orientale : 160</p>	<p>0</p>
<p>Am.P.4 Surface areas and percentages covered by development plans by type of regional entity</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impact 1)</p>		<p>In DRC, 0 at the start of the programmes</p>		<p>No data</p>
<p>Am.P.5 Number of plans covered by a performance contract (or</p>		<p>In DRC, 0 at the start of the programmes</p>		<p>No data</p>

<p>where such contract is complied with)</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impact 1)</p>				
<p>Am.P.6 Number, surface area, and GIS points for village-based territories that are mapped in a participatory fashion</p> <p>(Contributes directly to impacts 1 and 2)</p>	<p>DRC Gabon</p>	<p>In DRC, 0 at the start of the programmes In Gabon, no georeferenced participatory village-based map is found in the PNAT database.</p>	<p>In Gabon, 750 and/or 29% of villages mapped</p>	<p>Recruitment of personnel to undertake this mapping is being finalized</p>

Outcome 6 – Demographic pressure on forests decreases

Indicator	Applicable country	Baseline	Target	Results and progress
D.E.1 Number of children per woman (disaggregated by areas of intervention) (contributes directly to impact 1 and indirectly to impact 2)	DRC	In DRC, 6.3 children/woman in 2018	DRC: Reduction	Not measurable yet, in line with the expected data collection frequency
D.E.2 Percentage of women, married or in a couple, from 14 to 49 years, who use a modern contraceptive method (contributes indirectly to impacts 1 and 2)	DRC	In DRC: All women=8.1%; Women in a couple=7.8%	DRC: increase by 1.5% every year	
D.E.3 Awareness of reproductive rights (contributes indirectly to impact 2)	DRC		Increase	Will be assessed via surveys
D.P.1 Couple-years of protection (CYP) supplied (contributes indirectly to impacts 1 and 2)	DRC	563, 373 (date to be provided)	8 Million CYPs funded by CAFI over 3 years	52,344 in 2019
D.P.2 Numbers and locations of health centres supported by the programmes (contributes indirectly to impacts 1 and 2)	DRC	0 at start of programme	In the DRC : 1) Mai Ndombé: TBD 2) PO : 13 health centres 3) Equateur : TBD 5) Mongala : TBD 6) Sud Ubangi : TBD 7) PF : 193 health centres	
D.E.3. Number of individuals (disaggregated by gender) migrating from non-forest zones to forest zones and vice-versa (contributes indirectly to impact 1)	DRC	In DRC, the data is not quantitative		

Outcome 7 – Governance of the process is effective, multi sectoral and multi actors

Indicator	Applicable country	Baseline	Target	Results and progress
<p>G.E.1 Quality of civil society representation and participation (including indigenous people) investment plan decisions, their programmes and monitoring</p> <p>(contributes indirectly to impacts 1 and 2)</p>	All	<p>In DRC, the indigenous people’s programme regularly conducts surveys focusing on target populations. This is not done for non-indigenous people.</p> <p>In Gabon, the CNAT will include civil society participation</p>	Stability or improvement	<p>DRC : participation of civil society in the Technical and Steering Committee is institutionalized, functional, recognized and systematic</p> <p>Cameroon: As the FCPF TAP Report on Cameroon’s R-Package states, the participations of stakeholders and communication should be further improved.</p>
<p>G.E.2 REDD+ Investment Plan indicators incorporated into the country’s National Plan/Development Strategy</p> <p>(contributes indirectly to impacts 1 and 2)</p>	All	In DRC, 22 Investment Plan indicators in the PNSD.	In DRC, this number is not expected to change.	
<p>G.E.3 Rate of adoption of recommendations made by the programmes’ steering committees</p> <p>(contributes indirectly to impacts 1 and 2)</p>	All countries with active programmes (DRC and Gabon)	N/A	100%	<p>DRC :</p> <p>Gabon: 67% of anticipated programme activities implemented in 2019</p>
<p>G.E.4 Number of complaints handled/ recorded through official mechanisms</p> <p>(contributes indirectly to impacts 1 and 2)</p>	DRC Gabon	In DRC, one complaint has been recorded and processed since the mechanism was created.	100%	3 complaints documented in 2019

G.P.1 % of programmes approved for which programme documents are accessible on line (contributes indirectly to impacts 1 and 2)	All countries with approved programme (DRC and Gabon)	For the DRC and Gabon, all programme documents have been accessible on the CAFI site since 2016. In 2017, the DRC launched its site, and 8/12 of the programmes are accessible there.	100%	DRC : 100% (on FONAREDD and CAFI web sites)
G.P.2 Ratio (%) of the web sites of operational programmes that are updated (contributes indirectly to impacts 1 and 2)	DRC Gabon	In 2017: N/A	100%	DRC
G.P.3 Rate of publication (on internet site) and regular transmission of the governance institutions' activity reports (contributes indirectly to impacts 1 and 2)	DRC Gabon	In DRC, some COPIL programme reports are available on the FONAREDD site.	100%	DRC: resolutions of the technical Committee and decisions of the Steering Committee are now all available on the FONAREDD web site
G.P.4 Number of meetings between ministers held to discuss the investment plan (contributes indirectly to impacts 1 and 2)	All	In DRC: COPILs since 2016 In Gabon, CNAT created in 2017	In DRC, twice/year In Gabon, CNAT meeting (interministerial)	DRC in 2019: 3 meetings of the Steering Committee
G.P.5 Stakeholders' perceptions regarding the commitment to fighting corruption (contributes indirectly to impacts 1 and 2)	All	Not available	Stability or improvement	<i>Perception surveys (experts) - Cf Annex</i>
G.P. 6 Perception of effectiveness of measures taken (sanctions) (contributes indirectly to impacts 1 and 2)	All	Not available	Stability or improvement	<i>Perception surveys (experts) - Cf Annex</i>

Annex 4: Safeguards reporting

Programme	Section on safeguards in annual report	Comments
Appui à la réforme de l'Aménagement du Territoire	No	Results table mentions that the framework law on land use planning will contain provisions to safeguard ecosystems, but this has not been yet finalized
Energie	No	
Appui à la réforme foncière	No	
Gestion Durable Agriculture	No	
Peuples Autochtones	Yes	Analysis on page 3 (environmental and social safeguarding expert recruited, monitoring mission of safeguards carried out and results of this mission are discussed in this report). Report gives number of people trained in backups (41 people including 11 women). On p. 24 the "Risk Management" table also provides information on environmental protection.
Planning Familial	No	
SNSF	No	
Société Civile	No	
PIREDD Equateur	No	
PIREDD Kwilu	Yes	The project has carried out preliminary studies on socio-environmental risks in defining safeguards. From page 11 of the report, the report details the measures taken by the project to ensure compliance with Cancun's safeguards.
PIREDD Mai Ndombé	Yes	A reference is made in relation to the DRC (page 25) that a safeguard expert has updated the project's backup documents. Page 20, in reference to PIREDD Mai Ndombé, mentions that impact studies for PIREDD activities have been conducted.
PIREDD Mongala	No	
PIREDD Oriental	Yes	Page 33. Chapter E "Safeguard measures." Fairly generic text plans an EIES impact analysis for the most serious cases (of the project's agricultural and forestry activities) and also a general analysis will be conducted in each target province.
PIREDD Sud Ubangi	Yes	Page 17 states that a safeguard analysis has been done: "The environmental and social impact assessment has been carried out (with additional funding from the PARRSA project) and the project is probably judged in a positive way" The text is not entirely clear to the reader - it is not clear whether these socio-

		environmental safeguard analyses were done by the PIREDD or the PARRSA project.
Gabon : Programme AT et surveillance forestière	Yes	Page 23 mentions that a Sustainability Impact Study on the PNAT has been conducted - no reference to Cancun safeguards or results in the text.
Equatorial Guinea (FAO)	Yes	On page 9 there is a small box explaining that as part of the PNI Program 5 on Governance, information on the environmental and social impact of REDD will be collected and potential risks related to non-compliance with the Cancun safeguards analysed. No concrete activity carried out
CAR et Cameroun (Rapport Banque Mondiale)	No	