



Republic of Congo — Approval of the Programme on “Operationalization of the SYNA-MRV of the Republic of Congo “

Adopted on 25 JUNE 2021

EB.2021.11

Considering:

- a) [Decision EB.2019.16](#) on the Letter of Intent with the Republic of Congo and the country allocation to the country;
- b) [Decision EB.2019.22](#) on the Republic of Congo and the subsequent joint endorsement by the CAFI Board and the Government of the Republic of Congo (RoC) of the background documentation to a Call of Expression of Interest (Programming Framework, Call for Expression of interest (Eoi), Terms of Reference of the Call for Eoi);
- c) [Decision EB.2020.15](#) on the selection of the executing agencies for the development of the programs pipeline, decision jointly reviewed and agreed upon by the Government during the 1st meeting of the Inter-ministerial Committee with the Ambassadors held on September 24, 2020 and headed by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Congo;
- d) [Decision EB.2020.23](#) on programming and timelines for project documents' submission on selected executing agencies respective work plan and timeline towards the submission of their project document for CAFI independent review ;
- e) The programs documents submitted in January 2021 by the FAO named “Operationalization of the SYNA-MRV of the Republic of Congo”;
- f) Programs Documents Independent Review conducted in February 2021
- g) [Decision EB.2021.05](#) on the fast start wood energy plantations and MRV program documents review;
- h) The reviewed program document and comments responses matrix submitted by the FAO on 28 May 2021

i) Programs Documents complementary Independent Review conducted in June 2021

The CAFI Executive Board:

- 1) Thanks the FAO for their revised program document on MRV operationalization in the Republic of Congo;
- 2) Acknowledges that the FAO will endorse the full responsibility to provide all program deliverables in respect to the program calendar as mentioned in the program document;
- 3) Approves the project document for a total amount of US\$ 2,000,000 to be used over a 2-years implementation period, pending that:
 - The following changes are addressed in the program document:
 - i) Detailing the institutional set-up and decision-making responsibilities for the SYNA-MRV and the Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) Greenhouse gases (GHG) monitoring and reporting in the national communications and the National Determined Contribution in Section I – situational analysis;
 - ii) Addressing the risk of reliance to the SEPAL (System for Earth Observation Data Access, Processing and Analysis for Land Monitoring) platform
 - iii) Detailing activity 1.2.4 to better understand which field measurements will be conducted and how it will improve GHG emissions estimations
 - iv) Clarifying how the program will provide information on AFOLU peatlands emissions
 - v) Including CAFI representatives in the Technical Committee;
- 4) Asks the CAFI Secretariat to ensure that the above changes are satisfactorily completed before the signature of the Program Document;
- 5) Requests that the total amount will be disbursed in two tranches of, respectively US\$ 1,500,000 and US\$ 500,000. The second tranche is conditional and will be transferred upon the signature of the data sharing agreement (referred in activity 1.5.1) by all concerned parties in respect with the following conditions:
 - i) Ensuring availability of recent, transparent data and their accessibility to the public, especially to enable stakeholders to monitor and evaluate LoI objectives and impacts on a yearly basis;
 - ii) Ensuring full databases access during the entire program to experts recruited by CAFI and/or through the CAFI-RoC Partnership Coordination Support Program to perform analysis deemed necessary to reach the objectives of the Letter of Intent;
- 6) Asks the CAFI secretariat to verify the achievement of the above conditions to release the second tranche by the Multi-partner Trust Fund (MPTF) Office;
- 7) Recalls that, while respecting its rules and regulations, the implementing organization commits to zero tolerance for fraud, corruption and sexual exploitation and abuse; protection of whistleblowers, public disclosure, gender and social inclusion and use of adequate complaints mechanisms. In addition, the implementing organization commits to managing all other contextual and programmatic risks identified by the Executive Board with the outmost care. The implementing organization is expected to be proactive in reporting those risks to the CAFI MPTF in respect to CAFI Trust fund Terms of reference and as per the annual reporting template;
- 8) Recalls that the implementing organization will have to report on progress toward both the objectives and milestones of the LoI as well as on indicators of the National REDD+ Investment Plan and CAFI results

