

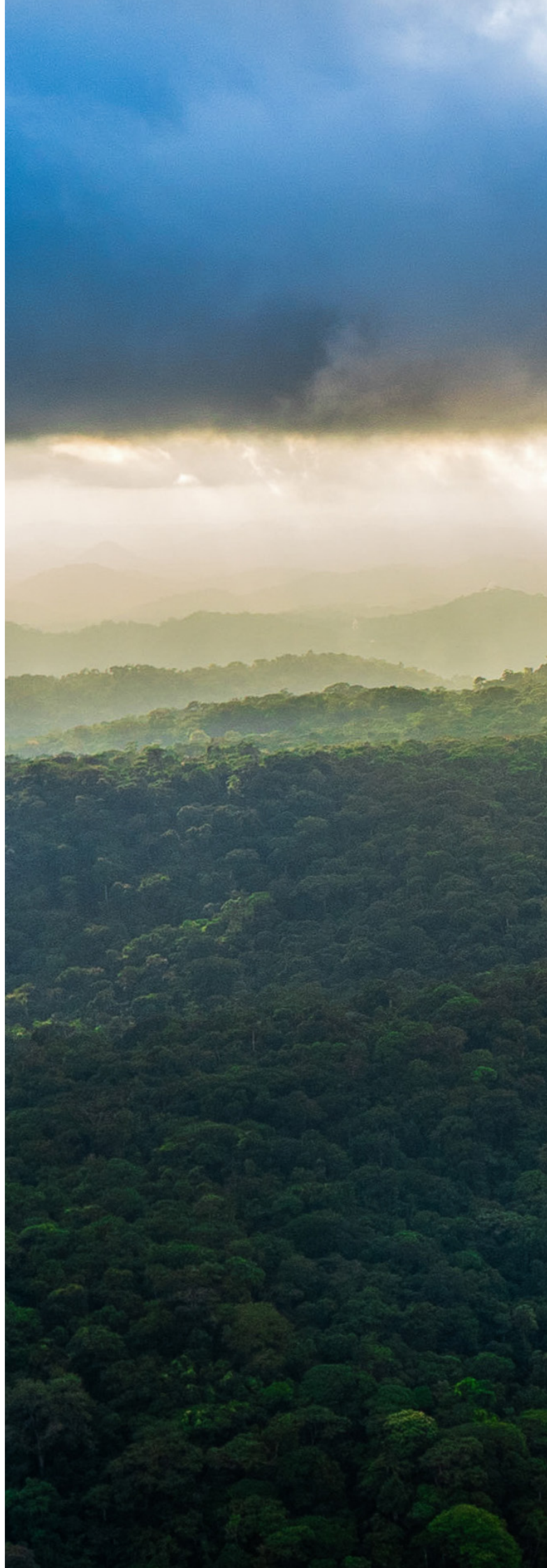
PRESS KIT

**19TH MEETING OF THE PARTIES
(MOP 19) OF THE CONGO BASIN
FOREST PARTNERSHIP (CBFP)**

5 - 8 JULY 2022
Libreville, Gabon

SUMMARY

CONTEXT	3
PARTICIPANTS	4
CHALLENGES	5-6
HOST COUNTRY: GABON, AN ENVIRONMENTAL LEADER IN AFRICA	7
PROGRAM	8-9
SPONSORS AND PARTNERS	10
CONTACTS	11





CONTEXT

As the second ecological lung of the planet, the forests of the Congo Basin represent an important heritage for the preservation of our biodiversity. Today, its forest canopy and CO2 storage capacity are shrinking

Through the Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP), the 122 members made up of 13 African member countries of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and the Central African Forests Commission (COMIFAC), international NGOs, financial backers and even members of civil society, unite to support, on the international scene, the need for financing the sustainable management of forests in the Congo Basin.

The exchanges will mainly focus on international, regional and national issues related to the protection of biodiversity and the sustainable management of forests, the fight against climate change and the sustainable development of the Congo Basin

It will therefore be a question of finding ways and means to accelerate the implementation of the COMIFAC Declaration, the Glasgow Declaration on the «Fair Deal» and all the results of the international conferences.

This annual meeting of the Partnership's General Assembly also marks 20 years of the Congo Basin Forest

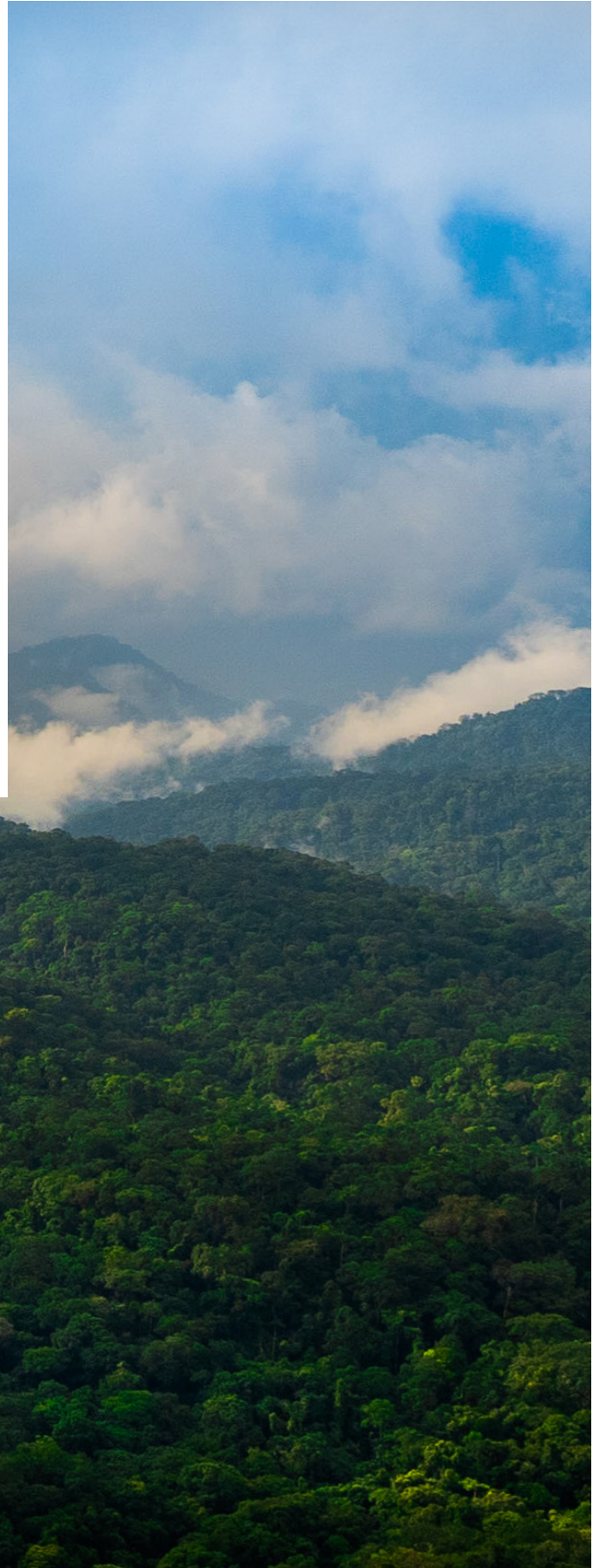
Partnership: 20 years of structural reform in the rainforest of the Congo Basin in Central Africa.



PARTICIPANTS

During this 19th meeting of parties organized by the Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP), the Facilitation of the German Federal Republic, the Gabonese Republic and the Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC) will take place workshops, face-to-face and virtual round tables. This high-level event will see the participation of several ministers in charge of forests and the environment from Central African countries, representatives of donor countries, business leaders, and partners from organizations and institutions across the world.

The partnership brings together nearly 122 partners grouped into 7 colleges committed to the forest ecosystems of the Congo Basin. More than 500 participants are expected at this meeting, which aims to find common, innovative, inspiring, intersectoral and sustainable solutions for transformational change in Central Africa.



CHALLENGES

The Congo Basin spans six countries: Cameroon, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea and Gabon

The preservation of the Congo Basin is crucial in the fight against global warming. The Congo Basin is in some ways a huge carbon bank, containing 70 billion tons of carbon stored in wood and the soil. If this carbon gets released into the atmosphere through deforestation, the global temperature could climb 3 or 4°C warmer, which would have extremely serious consequences for humanity and for our planet.

Recent scientific studies clearly show us a correlation between the forest of the Congo Basin and the rainfall in the countries of the Sahel, as well as in the Ethiopian mountains. Our forests feed the Blue Nile and send water to Egypt. Losing the

ecosystems provided by our rainforests would have unimaginable consequences; causing hundreds of millions of climate refugees, with a devastating effect on peace and security in Africa.

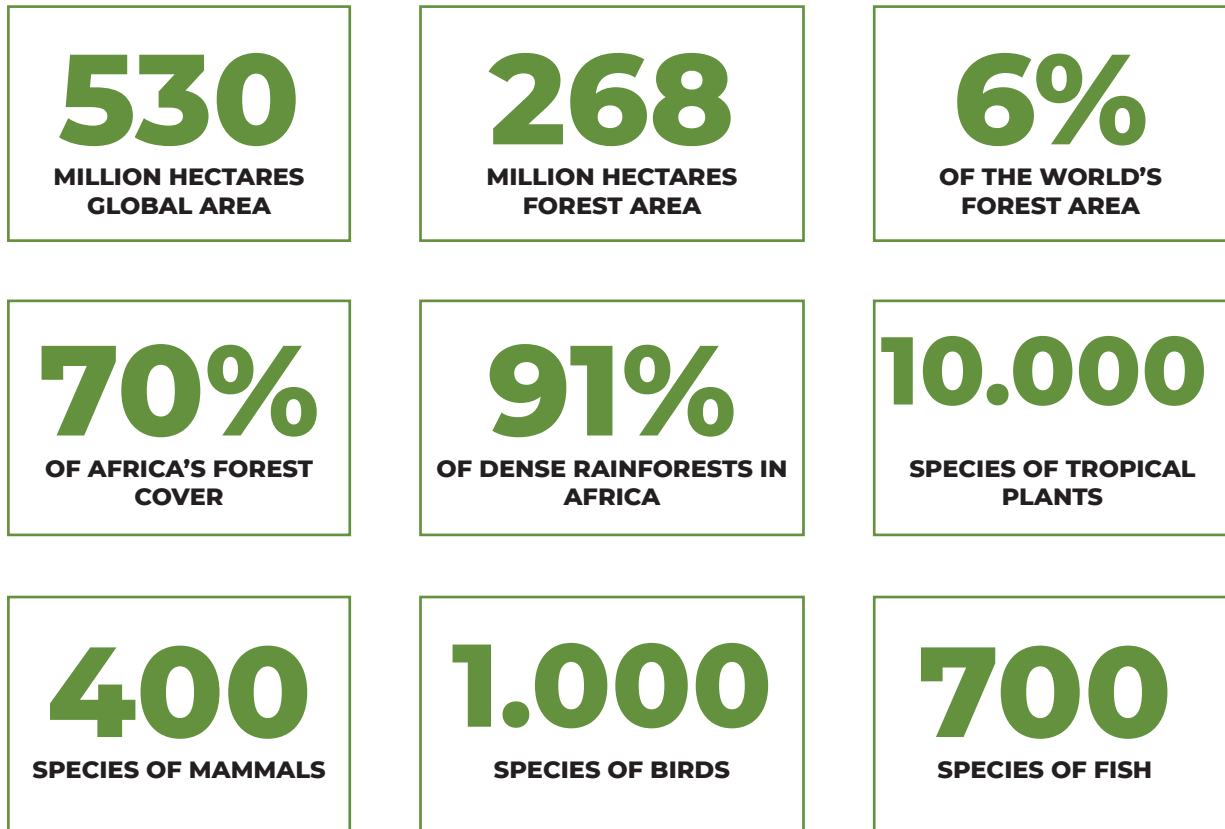
As such, each hectare of forest in our countries not only provides a stock of carbon or biodiversity, but also serves as a source of water several thousand kilometers away. This ecosystem service makes the Congo Basin the heart and lungs of our continent. Its role in the regional and continental climatic balances necessitates that we form strong collaboration to preserve the Congo Basin.



SOME STATISTICS

AREA
ABOUT 3.7 MILLION KM² (MORE THAN THE AREAS OF INDIA AND FRANCE COMBINED)

THIS INCLUDES:



The Congo basin accounts for around 25% of the CO₂ storage capacity of tropical forests around the world.

This forest cover is now threatened by degradation and deforestation due to the extension of agricultural land, the needs of local populations for firewood and construction wood, mining, as well as illegal lumber trade. To reconcile and preserve the imperatives of sustainable development and forest protection, the Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP) is stepping up its efforts. Three important themes will be discussed live during the first two days of the 19th Meeting of the Parties of the CBFP.

(1) Planning – Sustainable Land Use (1a Prerequisites for effective and sustainable land use planning and 1b Conditions and

prospects for a sustainable timber economy);

(2) Biodiversity: The Future of Protected Areas

(3) Landscape restoration.

Half of the second day will be dedicated to round tables on current topics, for example the improvement and coordination of technical and financial contributions for the Congo Basin and on the draft EU legislation on free products deforestation.



HOST COUNTRY: **GABON**, AN ENVIRONMENTAL **LEADER IN AFRICA**

This year, Gabon, which is a member of the Central African Forests Commission (COMIFAC), is hosting the 19th meeting of the Parties, cochaired by His Excellency the Honorable Dr. Christian Ruck, Goodwill Ambassador, CBFP Facilitator of the Republic of Germany and His Excellency Jules Doret Ndongo, Minister of Forests and Wildlife of Cameroon, President-in-Office of COMIFAC, accompanied by His Excellency Prof. Lee White, Minister of Water, Forests, Sea and Environment in charge of the Climate Plan and the Land Use Plan of Gabon.

Gabon has adopted bold policies over the past three decades to ensure rational and optimal land use and sustainable forestry.

Thus, the sustainable exploitation of the forest is the foundation of a resilient bio-economy and each Gabonese becomes an actor in the sustainability of our forests.

Thanks to conscious forest management, Gabon has become the first African State to be paid for the protection of its forests, which cover more than 85% of its surface.

PROGRAM

Architecture of MOP 19

- Pre-events (including field visit), side events and Participant registration

Day 1 and Day 2 :

- Technical segment – With reference to the roadmap of the German CBFP Facilitator, and the conclusions of the 9th Meeting of the CBFP Governing Council of July 2021 in Douala, Cameroon, it is envisaged to organize the following thematic streams:
 - **Stream 1** : Planning – Sustainable Land Use. This theme will be covered in two (parts) Streams 1a and 1b
 - **Stream 1a** : Prerequisites for effective and sustainable land use planning
 - **Stream 1b** : Conditions and prospects for a sustainable timber economy
 - **Stream 2** : Biodiversity - The Future of Protected Areas
 - **Stream 3** : Landscape Restoration.
- A high-level meeting dedicated to the work of the thematic streams (workshops) will take place on the morning of Day 1 of MOP 19 and the closing ceremony will be held at the end of the morning on day 2.

Partner side events:

- Exhibition / Bazaar / Fair of ideas, good practices in deciphering international events, internalization, appropriation, launch of new initiatives...

Half of Day 2 will be dedicated to:

- Round tables on current topics:
- Improving and coordinating technical and financial contributions for the Congo Basin
- Draft EU legislation on deforestation-free products.
- Partner side events
- Exhibition / Bazaar / Fair of ideas, best practices

Day 3 – Policy Segment 1: CBFP Constituency Meeting and 10th Board Meeting - CBFP Director

- Meeting of Colleges/thematic days (Civil society day, Scientific day, private sector day, Regional College/ Extraordinary Council of Ministers, colleges of donors, NGOs, Multilaterals)
- Inter-college dialogue
- High-level political dialogues between COMIFAC/ECCAS Ministers (regional college) and Ministers of Partner Countries/donor college (working lunch)

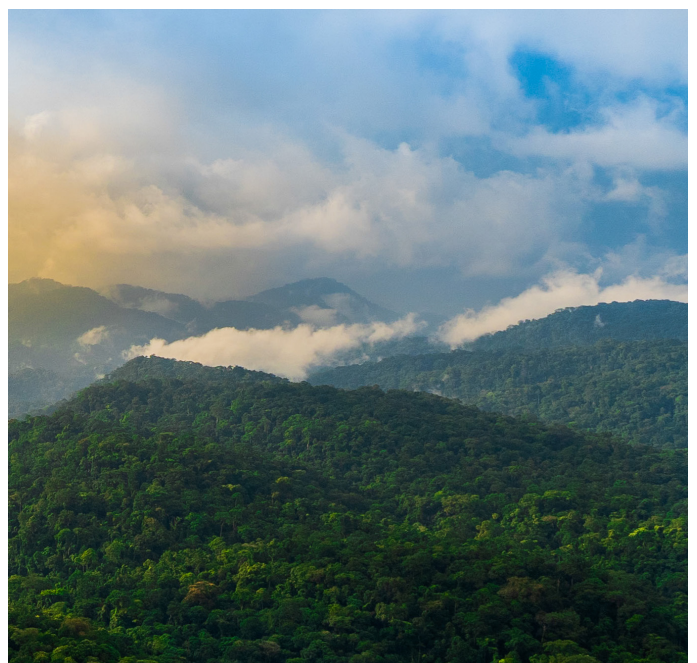
Afternoon:

- Meeting of the CBFP Board of Directors
- Partner side events
- Exhibition/Bazaar/Fair of ideas

In the evening, the CBFP will celebrate its 20th anniversary in a Gala evening in the presence of former CBFP facilitators coupled with the retrospective on the CBFP and the CBFP vision in the next 20 years. The celebration of 30 years of ECO-FAC will also be recognized there

Day 4- Political Segment 2

- Inaugural plenary session
- High Level Statement from Funding Partners
- Restitutions of the work of the Streams and the days of the colleges/thematic days;
- High-level closing political panel with the participation of COMIFAC Ministers and other VIPs
- Closing of the MoP with the reading of the Final Communique of MoP 19 by the Facilitator of the
- Federal Republic of Germany of the CBFP, Honorable Dr Christian Ruck
- Goodwill from COMIFAC
- Partner side events
- Exhibition/Bazaar/Fair of ideas



SPONSORS AND PARTNERS



**MINISTÈRE DES EAUX ET FORÊTS,
DE LA MER, DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT,
CHARGÉ DU PLAN CLIMAT, ET
DU PLAN D'AFFECTATION DES
TERRES**



CONTACTS

FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING SIDE EVENTS:
SIDE.EVENT@PFBC-CBFP.ORG

FOR EXHIBITORS AND TRADE SHOW SPACE QUESTIONS,
PLEASE CONTACT: EXPO@PFBC-CBFP.ORG

FOR QUESTIONS REGARDING EXCURSIONS, PLEASE
CONTACT: FIELD.TRIP@PFBC-CBFP.ORG

RDP19LIBREVILLE@GMAIL.COM

For more information

