

# CONGO BASIN FOREST PARTNERSHIP

The **Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP)** was launched at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in **2002** in Johannesburg as a response of the international community to Resolution 54/214 of the United Nations General Assembly. Reflecting the Yaoundé Declaration from 1999, this resolution urged the international community to **support efforts towards conservation and sustainable management of Congo Basin forests**. The CBFP is a member of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development. It represents a **multi-stakeholder platform** that allows member organizations to **cooperate on a voluntary, flexible, non-binding basis**.

The Partnership is open to **all states, international organizations, NGOs, research institutions and private sector entities** which are engaged in the Congo Basin.

Cooperation within CBFP aims to support the **shared vision of the Central African Heads of State**. Our objectives are to improve the effectiveness of technical and financial measures, to promote the conservation of biodiversity and the sustainable management of forest ecosystems, to combat climate change and to improve livelihoods in Central African countries. We work in line with COMIFAC's regional Convergence Plan.



## Partnership members work to support the implementation of actions undertaken to:

- ◆ **Addressing the drivers of deforestation**, reducing pressure on primary or naturally regenerated forests
- ◆ **Protecting the biodiversity** and wildlife by strengthening the nexus conservation, security and development, including transhumance
- ◆ **Promoting good forest governance**, sustainable use of resources and lands
- ◆ **Tackling climate change** and its effects
- ◆ **Improving the living conditions** of local and indigenous communities

## MEET THE CBFP's MEMBERS

The partnership brings together the 10 **member states of the COMIFAC, donor agencies, international organizations, NGOs, scientific institutions and private sector representatives**. As of April 2020, it has 117 members assembled in **seven colleges**. The number of members is growing continually. For information on how to become a CBFP member, please refer to our website.

### CBFP Regional College

COMIFAC, ECCAS, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Gabon, DR Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Republic of Congo, Sao Tome and Principe, Rwanda

### CBFP Civil Society College

African Community Rights Network, CEFDHAC, FLAG, PR2CAC, RECEIAC, REFACOF, REPADD, REJEFAC, REPALEAC, REPAR, RERAC, ROSCEVAC, SEEAC.

### CBFP International NGO College

African Parks Network, Arcus Foundation, AWF, BDA Foundation, CI, ClientEarth, CUSO International, FERN, Forest Peoples Programme, Jane Goodall Institute Canada, Jane Goodall Institute USA, IUCN, Laga & the Eagle Network, Nature+ ASBL, Rainforest Alliance, RAPAC, RFUK, SNV, SRAFM, TI, TNC, TRAFFIC, VSO, WCS, WRI, WWF, ZSL, Nature+

### CBFP Private Sector College

ALPI group, ATIBT – IFIA, Forest Trends, FORM International, FSC, INTERHOLCO-AG, OLAM (CIB), PEFC, Precious Woods Holding, Society of American Foresters, Earthworm Foundation, Volcanoes Safaris, WIJMA Cameroun SA, Woodbois

### CBFP Donor College

AfDB, Belgium, Canada, European Union, France, Germany, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, South Africa, Spain, United Kingdom, USA, World Bank

### CBFP Scientific and Academic College

Biodiversity International, CIDT University of Wolverhampton, CIFOR, CIRAD, CORAF / WE CARD, Drexel University(\*), ICRAFT, IITA, Institut royal des Sciences naturelles-Belgique, IRAD, IRD, IRET, UC Louvain, VLIR-UOS, Maryland University(\*), RIFFEAC, Université de Laval(\*), University of California LA(\*), University Wisconsin Madison (UWM)(\*), Woods Hole Research Center, Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech – Université de Liège – Gembloux, Ghent University, Hasselt University (UHasselt), AFORPOLIS/University of Göttingen, ZIAF/University of Frankfurt

(\* US Academic Consortium for the Congo Basin Forest Partnership (ACCBFP), along with University of New Orleans, University of Oregon and University of South Florida

### CBFP Multilaterals College

FAO, GRASP, GVTC, OIBT – ITTO, UNCCBD, UNCCD, Global Mechanism of the UNCCD, UNCMS, UNDP, UNEP, UNFCCC, UNESCO



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## A LASTING PARTNERSHIP



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# GOVERNANCE - HOW DOES CBFP FUNCTION?

Consistent with its non-binding and voluntary character, CBFP is governed through a flexible structure:

## CBFP ANNUAL MEETING OF PARTIES

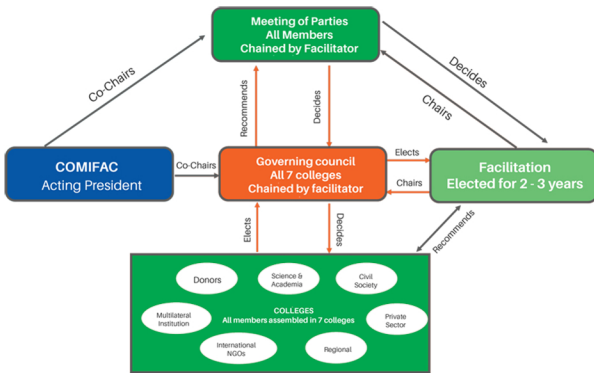
The annual CBFP Meeting of Parties serves as the “General Assembly” of the Partnership. This meeting is **held annually** in one of the COMIFAC Member States and brings together **all CBFP stakeholders**.

## CBFP COLLEGES

CBFP members are grouped into seven colleges based on their role organizational type.

## CBFP COUNCIL

The CBFP Council is composed of two representatives of each CBFP college and is chaired by the CBFP Facilitation.



## CBFP FACILITATION

The CBFP is **led on a voluntary basis by one of its members**, which serves as Facilitator and plays a key role in fostering effective dialogue and cooperation within the Partnership. Furthermore, in close cooperation with the regional states, it provides new impulses through proposing focus topics.



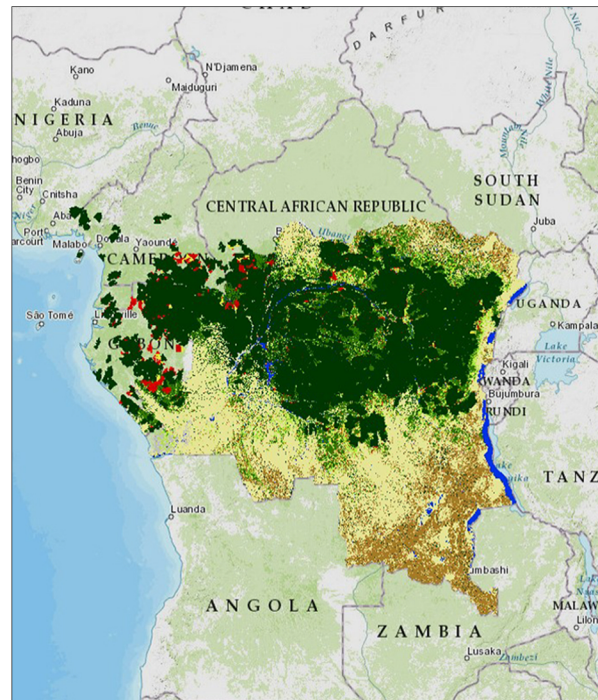
# F OREST ECOSYSTEMS IN THE CONGO BASIN

are the second largest reserve of dense tropical rainforests in the world after the Amazon Rainforest. They cover a surface area of over 301 million ha including all types of forests.

The forests of the Congo Basin are of global importance in terms of:

- ◆ Conserving biodiversity and wildlife;
- ◆ Carbon storage as well as climate mitigation and adaptation;
- ◆ Cultural and linguistic diversity;
- ◆ Provision of essential ecological and economic services to its populations.

Despite the establishment of an extensive network of protected areas, the region's forest ecosystems face manifold and ever-growing challenges such the loss of forest cover, a declining biodiversity and poverty of local and indigenous residents. These problems call for a concerted global response.



## ADDED VALUE OF OUR PARTNERSHIP

The partnership brings together nearly 120 partners engaged in the Congo Basin. More than 500 participants attend its annual Meeting of Parties. **No other regional initiative assembles such a diverse and ever-growing number of collaborating actors.** A wide variety of partners from a broad spectrum come into **dialogue** with one another. They work on joint, cross-sectoral and sustainable solutions.



## Who do we work with?

### ECCAS

The Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) is an inter-governmental organization that was established in 1983. Its mission is to promote and strengthen regional co-operation and self-sustaining.

### COMIFAC

The Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC) is the technical entity of ECCAS responsible for the conservation and sustainable management of forest ecosystems in the Congo Basin. It ensures the implementation of international conventions and forest development initiatives in Central Africa. COMIFAC's Convergence Plan is the platform that defines the strategic lines and priority actions for achieving the Central African States' common vision for conservation and sustainable management of the Congo Basin forests.

## SUB-REGIONAL CONVERGENCE PLAN

The COMIFAC Convergence Plan is the document that defines the strategic lines and priority actions for achieving the Central African States' common vision for conservation and sustainable management of the Congo Basin forests. Its second version, revised and adopted in July 2014 for the period 2015-2025, comprises six (6) priority intervention sectors and three (3) cross-cutting sectors.