

U.S EFFORTS IN CONGO BASIN FOREST PARTNERSHIP (CBFP)

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CBFP HISTORY

- Created at World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), Johannesburg 2002
- Public-Private Partnership of 20 governments, 13 international organizations, 11 NGOs, industry, and civil society
- Partners individually pledge to fund and/or implement programs
- **CBFP DOES NOT HAVE**: Secretariat, Permanent Staff, Direct Funding, or Program Implementation functions
- **CBFP DOES** : Provide institutional platform for coordinating services and a forum for dialogue among partners, improving cost effectiveness of development assistance and commercial investments.

CONGO RIVER BASIN

- Second largest tropical forest (over 80 million hectares in 6 countries: ***Cameroon, Central Africa Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and Republic of Congo***)
- 10,000 plant species, 1,000 bird species, 400 mammal species
- Human population: 24 million, most dependent on forest for livelihoods

CBFP MISSION

- Provide people with sustainable means of livelihood through well-managed forestry concessions, sustainable agriculture, and integrated ecotourism programs;
- Improve forest and natural resource governance by using community-based management, combating illegal logging, and enforcing anti-poaching laws; and
- Help the Congo Basin countries develop a network of effectively managed parks, protected areas, and ecological corridors.

20 Partner Governments

- Belgium
- Burundi
- Cameroon
- Canada
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Dem Republic of the Congo
- European Commission
- Equatorial Guinea
- France
- Gabon
- Germany
- Japan
- Republic of Congo
- Rwanda
- Sao Tome and Principe
- South Africa
- Spain
- United Kingdom
- United States of America

Partner International Organizations

- IUCN - The World Conservation Union
- World Bank
- International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)
- UN Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD)
- UN Development Program (UNDP)
- UN Environment Program (UNEP)
- UN World Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO)
- UNESCO
- Secretariat of Convention on Biodiversity (CBD)
- Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)
- African Development Bank
- COMIFAC (Central African Forest Commission)
- Great Apes Survival Project (GRASP)

Partner Civil Society

- Jane Goodall Institute
- Conservation International
- Wildlife Conservation Society
- World Wildlife Fund U.S.
- World Wildlife Fund International
- World Resources Institute
- Forest Trends
- Society of American Foresters
- American Forest and Paper Association
- Association Technique Internationale des Bois Tropicaux
- Center for International Forestry Research

Landscape Approach

- 12 Landscapes (target areas)—ecologically sensitive and biologically diverse areas and wildlife corridors
- Each landscape with teams of conservation organizations and implementing partners
- Closely coordinated—ensure similar approaches and basin-wide reporting on progress

12 CBFP Landscapes

- **Monte Alen** - Mont de Cristal Inselbergs Forest Landscape (Equatorial Guinea & Gabon)
- **Gamba** - Conkouati Forest Landscape (Gabon, Congo & Democratic Republic of Congo)
- **Lope** - Chaillu - Louesse Forest Landscape (Gabon & Congo)
- **Dja** - Minkebe - Odzala Tri-national Forest Landscape (Cameroon, Congo & Gabon)
- **Sangha Tri-national Forest Landscape** (Cameroon, Congo, Central African Republic)
- **Lac Tele** - Lac Tumba Swamp Forest Landscape (Congo & Democratic Republic of Congo)
- **Bateke Plateau Forest Savanna Landscape** (Congo & Gabon)
- **Maringa/Lopori** - Wamba Forest Landscape (Democratic Republic of Congo)
- **Salonga - Lukenie** - Sankuru Forest Landscape (Democratic Republic of Congo)
- **Maiko - Lulunguru Tanya** - Kahuzi Biega Forest Landscape (Democratic Republic of Congo)
- **Ituri - Epulu** - Aru Forest Landscape Democratic Republic of Congo)
- **Virunga Forest Landscape** - (Democratic Republic of Congo & Rwanda)

U.S. Contribution and Objectives

- Founding government partner; Committed US\$82 million since 2002, most through USAID's Central African Regional Program for the Environment (CARPE), some through U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

U.S. OBJECTIVES:

- Enlarge forest areas under sustainable management;
- Increase livelihood benefits and/or incomes of communities generated by improved natural resources management;
- Broaden areas monitored for forest condition/degradation;
- Boost number and types of forest resources monitored;
- Improve forest information dissemination to decision makers and advocacy groups;
- Strengthen policies and laws supporting protected areas;
- Increase community-based natural resources management;
- Improve regulation of logging concessions;
- Boost civil society advocacy in sustainable natural resources management;
- Increase institutional capacity of NGOs and target government agencies.

Selected U.S. Strategies

- Training of park rangers and game scouts
- Development of community enterprises linked to landscape conservation
- Encouraged adoption of voluntary operating standards by a logging trade association, and of a sustainable forest management program by a timber company
- Strengthening of legislation and establishment of new protected areas
- Support for regional processes for communication, collaboration, policy coordination
- Remote sensing to monitor real-time changes in forest access, land use, and deforestation
- Dissemination of educational materials for local participation in natural resource governance

U.S. President's Initiative Against Illegal Logging (PIAIL)

- Launched in 2003
- CBFP is central pillar
- Tropical Forest Conservation Act:
 - Debt-for-Nature Agreements with 12 countries in Africa, Latin America, and Asia
 - Relieve official debt to U.S.
 - Generate \$163 million in next 10-25 years for use toward conservation of tropical forests in partner countries

Selected PIAIL Activities

- Restoring forests in the Malaysian state of Sabah, an important orangutan habitat.
- Developing and testing wood tracking technologies in Peru and Bolivia.
- Strengthening information sharing on cross-border timber trade in Europe and Asia.
- Introducing methodologies and tools to combat illegal logging in Russia and the Balkans

U.S. and China

- Memorandum of Understanding on Illegal Logging and Associated Trade, **signed May 2008**
 - Work cooperatively to strengthen forest law enforcement and governance,
 - Share information on illegal logging and associated trade, and
 - Promote transparent timber markets and legal timber trade

For More Information

- Congo Basin Forest Partnership Website:
http://www.cbfp.org/index_en.html
- Central African Regional Program for Environment (CARPE)
<http://carpe.umd.edu/>
- Link to [U.S. State Department Fact Sheet](#)