



DRC: Emission Reductions Program

OVERVIEW

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has the second largest swath of rainforests in the world—152 million hectares, accounting for most of the remaining rainforest in the Congo Basin. Although rates of deforestation in the DRC are low compared to tropical forests in the Amazon and Southeast Asia, almost half a million hectares are lost each year, a significant area in absolute terms. DRC’s direct drivers of deforestation include slash-and-burn agriculture, clearing for charcoal and fuelwood, bush fires, and illegal (artisanal) logging.

Outcomes of the Mai-Ndombe Emission Reductions Program, Democratic Republic of Congo:

- Strengthened agricultural value chains through improved cultivation techniques and perennial crop development in non-forest areas
- Natural regeneration in savannah and for degraded forest restoration
- Reduced impact logging
- Conservation of local community forests
- Afforestation/reforestation for lumber production

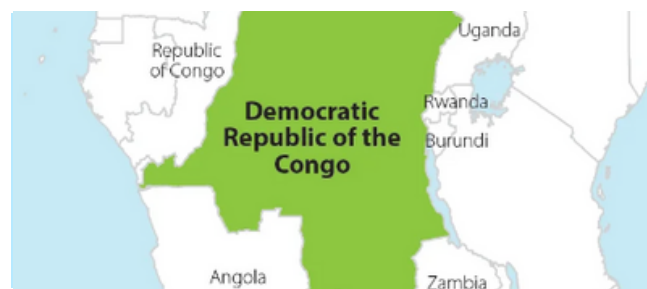
REDD+ activities (forest protection and enhancement):

- Strengthening forest and wildlife law enforcement
- Legal compliance of industrial logging operations
- Development of community forestry
- Improving management of protected areas

AT A GLANCE

- Crediting period:**
January 2019 – December 2024
- Annual Forest Emissions Baseline (Reference Level):** 33.2 million tCO₂e
- Total estimated emission reductions under the Program (gross):** 40.3 million tCO₂e
- Scope of FCPF ER Payment Agreement:**
11 million tCO₂e / \$55 million
- Key impacts:** Reduction of pressure on forests, emission reductions, maintenance of biodiversity, rights recognition, improved local livelihoods
- CORSIA Eligible:** Yes

PROGRAM LOCATION



PROGRAM GOALS

 Reduction of emissions and pressure on forests	 Recognition of land and user rights of communities	 Resource mobilization for forestry protection	 Biodiversity and ecosystems are maintained	 Benefits are shared equitably with improved livelihoods
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COUNTRY PROFILE

99	2,267	64.7	56.6	0.9	13.9
POPULATION millions	LAND AREA 1,000 square kilometers	GDP \$ billions	FOREST AREA % land area	DEFORESTATION avg. annual %	TERRESTRIAL PROTECTED AREAS % of total land area

WORK TO DATE

- **ERs generated to date:** 7.6 million tCO₂e net (pending verification)
- **Estimated emission avoidance:** 55%
- **Estimated emission removals:** 45%
- **Vintage:** 1 January 2019-31 December 2020

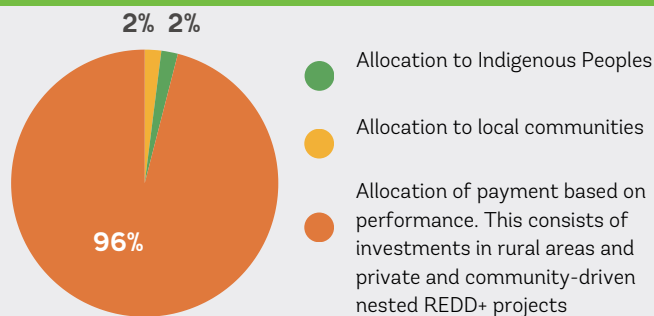
Safeguards system:

- Establishment of national REDD+ registry to disclose environmental and social impact studies and plans
- Development of national Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism (FGRM) based in part on existing complaints mechanisms of other (pilot) projects, and community designated representatives
- Implementation of new guidelines for FGRM

Non-carbon benefits:

- Natural regeneration of anthropogenic savannah will foster vegetal biodiversity and maintain soil health
- Legal, customary, and users' rights of local communities and Indigenous Pygmy Peoples over land, territories, and resources are recognized, respected, and strengthened
- Additional and diversified incomes for households
- Rehabilitation and strengthening of perennial crops plantation for alternative revenues

BENEFITS SHARING AGREEMENT



Main reversal risks identified and mitigated (additionally, a discount to reported emissions is applied to compensate)

- DRC's relatively low governance score and program area at the subnational level covering two provinces
- Assignment of carbon rights as natural resources and thus tied to land titles
- Exposure to natural phenomena

Registry:

- The DRC is revising its registry system. Once revised, all ERs will be issued through the national REDD+ Registry.
- Until finalized, the DRC uses the World Bank's Carbon Asset Tracking System (CATS) as its transaction registry

Transfer of title:

- The DRC has the authority to transfer title to generated and verified FCPF ER credits.

CASE STUDY: COMMUNITY FORESTS

Under the ER program, four local community forest concessions have been established in the territories of Kiri (2), Oshwe, and Inongo. Jointly, these concessions comprise over 180,000 hectares of forest.

Each concession is established under a 2014 decree allowing local communities to claim up to 50,000 ha of forest land based on customary rights. Based on approved management plans, these concessions allow communities to use the forest sustainably for commercial and subsistence purposes.

Photo credit: Axel Fassio / CIFOR

ABOUT THE FCPF

The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) is a global partnership of governments, businesses, civil society, and Indigenous People's organizations focused on reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, forest carbon stock conservation, the sustainable management of forests, and the enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries, activities commonly referred to as REDD+.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[DRC Country Profile](#)
[Emission Reductions Program Document](#)
[1st ER Monitoring Report \(ER-MR\)](#)
[Country Partnership Framework](#)

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COUNTRY CONTACTS

[Patrice Savadogo](#)

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[forestcarbonpartnership.org](#)
[fcpfsecretariat@worldbank.org](#)

Learn more about the FCPF Standard:

