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CAFI TRUST FUND 2017 CONSOLIDATED REPORT

LIST OF MAIN ACRONYMS

CAFI: Central African Forest Initiative

CAR: Central African Republic

CBFP: Congo Basin Forest Partnership

COP-23: 23rd Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

DRC: Democratic Republic of the Congo

DTEs: Decentralized territorial entities

EB: (CAFI) Executive Board

FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

LUP: land use planning

M&E: Monitoring and Evaluation

NFMS: National Forest Monitoring System

NIF: National Investment Framework

(I)NGO: (International) Non-Governmental Organizations

REDD+: Reducing Emissions from Deforestation, forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries

RoC: Republic of Congo

ToR: Terms of Reference

UNDP: United Nations Development Programme

UNFCCC: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

WRI: World Resources Institute

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: A YEAR OF STEADY PROGRESS IN SPITE OF CHALLENGES

While 2016 was dedicated to funding the first National Investment plan (DRC) and beginning of implementation of preparatory grants, 2017 saw the CAFI portfolio advancing with **the signature of a second letter of Intent (with Gabon)** and programmes rolled out in the DRC that allowed progress towards the results of the National Investment Framework, the milestones of the Letter of Intent and CAFI's results framework.

This 2017 report is the first where an effort is made to report against these frameworks, highlighting for example:

- Eleven intermediary milestones of the Letter of Intent with DRC are already achieved or on track
- The four desired outcomes of CAFI where most progress is noted, based on its support in DRC and Gabon, namely **agriculture investments, optimal land use planning and land tenure and improved governance** - reflecting the respective investments made by CAFI in these areas.

Major decisions of the three Executive Board meetings, to which partner countries and international NGOs were occasionally invited, included:

- **A US \$18 million allocation from the CAFI Fund to the implementation of the National Investment Framework (NIF) of the Republic of Gabon (2017-2022) through an ambitious Letter of Intent that will allow Gabon to meet 50% emission reduction target, better plan and monitor the use of land and protect over 23 million hectares of tropical rainforest**
- **A second sub-tranche of US \$ 41.2 million disbursed from the Fund to the DRC National REDD+ Fund (FONAREDD) to support the implementation of its portfolio and subsequent funding of programs**

2017 was also marked by the Republic of Korea joining CAFI, and by the handover of chairmanship of the Initiative from Norway to France in November. In DRC, CAFI's participation in the governing bodies of the National REDD+ Fund contributed to the approval of four new programmes or a total amount of 47 Million \$USD. These were two national programs focusing on land use reform and tenure policy and two sub-national programs to foster sustainable rural development in the Province of Sub-Ubangi and Ituri, Tshopo and Bas Uele. The first Annual partnership monitoring meeting was held.

A new line of work was launched with the private sector, to support an economic transition to a forest-friendly and green economy, with a first extensive feasibility study completed for DRC and Gabon.

Through boosted events and communication efforts, including a highly talked about ministerial event at COP-23, the production of a short documentary film and higher presence on social media, CAFI has maintained its position as a notable player in the arena of climate, forest and development efforts in Central Africa.

Challenges abounded: a sensitive context in DRC, slower-than-expected implementation of some preparatory grants, heightened contestation by international civil society and monitoring challenges have mobilized the full capacity of the CAFI Secretariat and Board members, together with partner countries. Yet, in spite of these, CAFI's unique vision continues to be firmly backed and carried forward by a cohesive Executive Board.

Purpose

CAFI is as a collaborative partnership that gathers:

- Central African partner countries: Cameroon, Central African Republic, Republic of Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea and Gabon
- A coalition of donors: the European Union, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway, South Korea and the United Kingdom
- Brazil as South-South partner.

Commitments to the CAFI approach are formalized through the signature of the CAFI Declaration.

CAFI is the only initiative that supports strategic, holistic and country-level REDD+ and Low Emission Development investments while focusing on Central African high-forest cover countries. **Its objective is to recognize and preserve the value of the forests in the region to mitigate climate change, reduce poverty and contribute to sustainable development. This objective will be attained through substantially scaled-up international support to transformational reforms and ambitious investments on the ground.**

Thus CAFI's support focuses on:

- developing and implementing **National Investment Frameworks (NIFs)**, endorsed at the highest level by national institutions with cross-sectoral mandates
- providing funding based on the achievement of policy and programmatic **milestones** that are spelled out in letters of intent
- encouraging **donor coordination and alignment of bilateral assistance** based on NIFs
- promoting **inclusive participation** of all stakeholders, including the private sector.

CAFI also set up a multi-donor trust fund to support the implementation of CAFI's objectives.

Results

1. Financial summary

A detailed financial report is available on the MPTF gateway. The tables below summarizes CAFI investments to date (Figure 1a). and for 2017 only (Figure 1.b)

○ All years ● Select period Jan ▼ 2016 ▼ to Dec ▼ 2017 ▼

Refresh Report by Country ▼ All amounts in US\$  

Projects by Country	Approved budget (real-time)	Net Funded Amount (real-time)	Expenditure (annual)
+ Congo, The Democratic Republic (2)	81,489,970	81,489,970	5,783,828
+ United Nations (1)	4,148,801	4,148,801	2,438,465
+ Cameroon (1)	1,016,010	1,016,010	19,000
+ Central African Republic (1)	1,000,000	1,000,000	282,160
+ Equatorial Guinea (1)	1,000,000	1,000,000	803,064
+ Congo (1)	698,000	698,000	521,470
Totals	89,352,781	89,352,781	9,847,988

Figure 1.a.: CAFI investments in its 6 partner countries to date

All years Select period Jan ▼ 2017 ▼ to Dec ▼ 2017 ▼

Report by Country ▼ All amounts in US\$

Projects by Country	Approved budget (real-time)	Net Funded Amount (real-time)	Expenditure (annual)
+ Congo, The Democratic Republic (2)	42,489,970	42,489,970	5,783,828
+ United Nations (1)	4,148,801	4,148,801	2,438,465
+ Cameroon (1)	474,010	474,010	0
+ Central African Republic (1)	0	0	247,160
+ Congo (1)	0	0	489,726
+ Equatorial Guinea (1)	0	0	803,064
Totals	47,112,781	47,112,781	9,762,244

Figure 1.b: CAFI investments in its 6 partner countries for 2017

These tables illustrate steady investments in DRC with the disbursement of the first two sub-tranches planned in the Letter of Intent. Other countries (except Gabon) benefit from small preparatory grants to develop their National Investment Frameworks. The transfers to United Nations show funding for the Secretariat of CAFI and FONAREDD.

2. Advances in the Country portfolio

- a. DRC: Nine programmes funded – first concrete results despite various levels of implementation

Overall performance of programmes

In DRC, CAFI's funding is disbursed through the National REDD+ Fund or FONAREDD. It has funded nine programmes with CAFI's financial contribution at the end of the 2017.

APPROVED DRC PROGRAMMES UNDER IMPLEMENTATION

Programme short title	Agency	Total amount (FONAREDD)	Co-financing	Approved 1st tranche	Approved 2 nd tranche	Disbursement in 2016-2017 (1st tranche)	Approval date
National Forest Monitoring System	FAO	10'000'000		6'000'000	4'000'000	6'001'241	Approval by Steering Committee in December 2016
Support to Land use planning reform	PNUD	4'000'000		3'000'000	1'000'000	4'000'000	Approval by Steering Committee in February 2017
Support to tenure reform	UN Habitat	2'000'000		3'000'000	3'000'000	2'000'000	Approval by Steering Committee in February 2017
Support to indigenous peoples for sustainable management of forests	World Bank	2'000'000	4'000'000	2'000'000	-	1'000'000	Approval by Steering Committee in December 2016
Support to strengthening capacity of civil society	UNDP	2'000'000		2'000'000	-	1'101'970	Approval by Steering Committee in December 2016
Provincial (Integrated programme) Mai Ndombé	World Bank	30'000'000	45'000'000 (Fonds Carbone FCPF)	20'000'000	10'000'000	20'000'000	Approval by Steering Committee in December 2016
Provincial (Integrated programme) Sud Ubangi	World Bank	7'000'000	30'000'000	4'000'000	3'000'000	4'000'000	Approval by Steering Committee in February 2017
Provincial (Integrated programme) Orientale (Ituri, Tshope & Bas Uele)	UNDP	33'000'000		20'000'000	13'000'000	20'000'000	Approval by Steering Committee in February 2017
Executive Secretariat of FONAREDD	UNDP	8'837'000					
Total		175'687'000		100'600'000		59'691'421	

These programmes have had varying levels of performance, as reported by the FONAREDD Executive Secretariat and summarized in the table below¹. This performance takes into account whether the programme has started, the rate of implementation of programme activities, the level of achievement of programmed results, the annual disbursement rate, the overall disbursement rate. For the FONAREDD Executive Secretariat an indicator is added about the organization of Steering Committees

Funded programme	Supporting agency	Performance level²
National Forest Monitoring System	FAO	High
Support to Land use planning reform	UNDP	Poor
Support to tenure reform	UN-Habitat	Medium
Support to indigenous peoples for sustainable management of forests	World Bank	Poor
Support to strengthening capacity of civil society	UNDP	Medium
Provincial (Integrated programme) Mai Ndombé	World Bank	Poor
Provincial (Integrated programme) Sud Ubangui	World Bank	Poor
Provincial (Integrated programme) Orientale	UNDP	Medium
Executive Secretariat of FONAREDD ³	UNDP	Medium

Figure 2: Performance of DRC programmes, as assessed by the FONAREDD

In 2017, CAFI, represented by Norway and the CAFI Secretariat, participated in seven Technical Committee meetings of the DRC National REDD+ Fund, and reviewed terms of reference for 9 calls for proposals and 10 project proposals. It also participated in one Steering Committee meeting approving four programmes (Land tenure, Land planning, Mai Ndombé Integrated programme, Sud Ubangi Integrated programme) for a total of 47 Million \$US. Programmes under development that were reviewed by CAFI, are summarized below:

¹ Draft excerpt from the consolidated report of the FONAREDD, 2017. The final version of the report was not available at the time of submission of this report. See section IV.4

² Ibid

³ With co-financing

PROGRAMMES UNDER DEVELOPMENT					
Programme short title	Agency	Expected amount	Co-financing	1st tranche	Status
Sustainable management of Forests	AFD	12'000'000	4'000'000	7'500'000	To be presented to Technical Committee in April 2018
Sustainable management of agriculture	FAO	3'000'000		3'000'000	To be presented to Steering Committee in April 2018
Forest Governance	World Bank	4'250'000		2'500'000	2018
Integrated programme Mongala	World Bank	7'000'000		4'000'000	Approval by Steering Committee in February 2017
Integrated programme Equateur	FAO (with WWF)	6'000'000	6'000'000	4'000'000	To be presented to Steering Committee in April 2018
Integrated programme Kwilu	JICA	4'000'000	4'000'000	3'000'000	To be presented to Steering Committee in April 2018
Agriculture: savannah based	AFD	15'000'000		8'000'000	2018
Energy	UNDP	15'000'000		9'000'000	2018
Mines et Oil norms and standards	TBD	2'600'000		2'600'000	2018
Family planning	TBD	8'000'000		4'000'000	2018

More details about the objectives of each DRC programme may be found on the CAFI web site [here](#). Their contribution to CAFI’s outcomes are also summarized in section (g) below.

The performance of FONAREDD programmes towards the objectives of the DRC Investment Plan is summarized In Annex 2.⁴

Most significant progress in DRC: Validation of the National Forest reference Emission level (FREL)

The most significant result was achieved through the National Forest Monitoring System programme, with the **technical validation of the National Forest reference Emission level (FREL)**, to be submitted to the UNFCCC in January 2018. The FREL has, notably, indicated that 1.7 million hectares of forest were lost over the 2000-2014 period, with deforestation rates dramatically increasing from 0.44% per year (1990-2010) to 1.25% per year (2010-2014). This represents a challenge for a country, which has committed in its [National REDD + Framework Strategy](#) to stabilize the forest cover rate to 63.5%, starting from 67% in 2000.

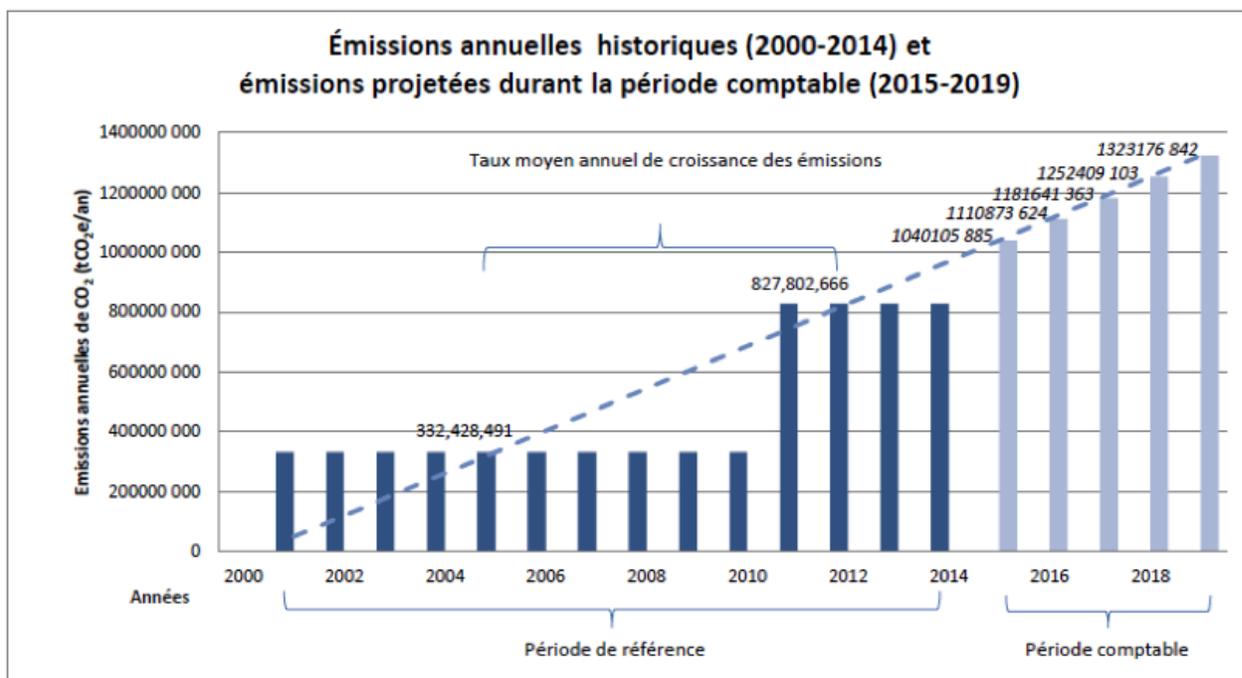


Figure 3: Annual historic emissions (2000-2014) and projected emissions for 2015-2019

⁴ Draft FONAREDD 2017 report. The Final 2017 FONAREDD report was not communicated in time to include in this report.



National Forest Monitoring System

English Français

Democratic Republic of the Congo

Admin Feedback Upload KML Measure PDF

- Layers [3]
- Base Layers [1]
- Land cover & change [1]
 - FACET Forest Classification ⓘ
 - UCL Forest Classification ⓘ
 - Forest - non forest 2000 - 2010
 - Forest - non forest 2010 - 2014
- Administrative Areas [1]
- SRTM data
- Mosaics
- REDD+ Activities ⓘ
- REDD+ Registry
- Forest area and forest area change ⓘ
- Other



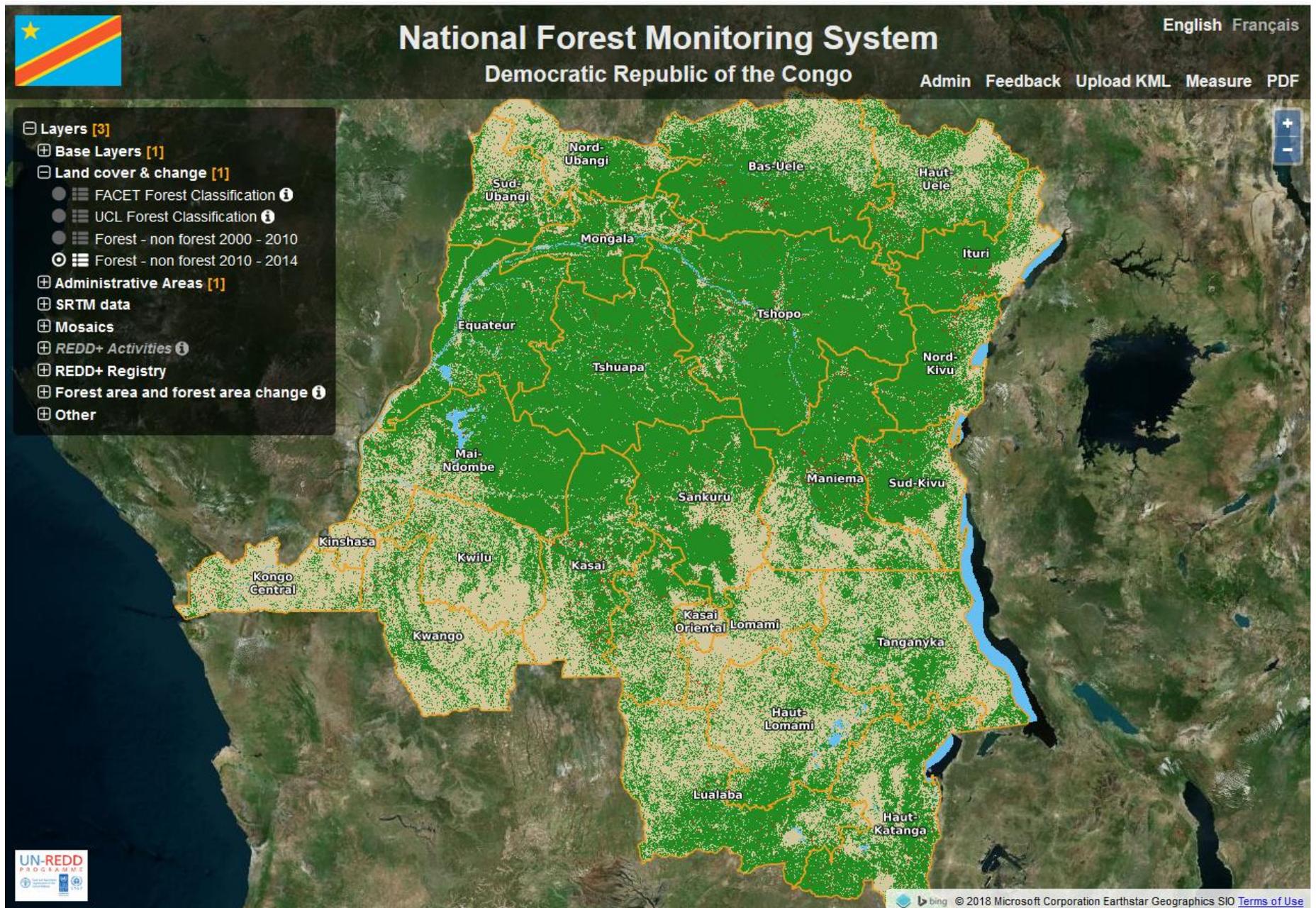


Figure 4. Conversion from forest to non-forest 2000-2010 (top) and 2010-2014 (bottom) – maps produced using the NFMS web site rdc-snsf.org

Progress towards the 2018 (intermediary) milestones of the Letter of Intent⁵

In November 2017 the **first annual CAFI-DRC partnership monitoring meeting** was organized. On behalf of the Executive Board, the Governments of Norway, France and the CAFI Secretariat met with the Government of the DRC to assess progress over the past 12 months. All programs - including those already implemented, under evaluation or to be launched in 2018 - were discussed. The meeting also allowed for a first glimpse at the partnerships' progress toward intermediate milestones of the Letter of Intent (see below) that will be evaluated independently in 2019, and agreement on a timeline to organize this independent verification.

It appears that five 2018 milestones, listed below, have been reached to date:

Outcome of the National REDD+ Investment Plan	2018 milestone	
Forests	3h	Communication of the FREL
	3i	Availability of data on the Terra Congo platform
Land tenure reform	6c	Support local communities in their requests for various sustainable local and community forest management models and in securing land tenure rights
Governance	8c	Methodological Guide developed in a participatory manner specifying practices to be applied for consultations during integrated programme implementation
	8e	Fully develop...a detailed risk analysis, with specific and effective mitigation measures aiming to ensure transparency, accountability and good governance in fiduciary management

Figure 5.a: milestones reached to date⁶

Whereas six additional milestones are estimated as on track, namely:

Outcome	2018 Milestone	
Agriculture	1b	Satellite monitoring of the spatial development of commercial plantations integrated into the National System of Forest Monitoring (NSFM)
Land use planning	5a	Baseline analyses completed in view of the development of a land-use planning policy integrating the objectives of the National REDD+ Framework Strategy
Land tenure reform	6a	CONAREF is functional
Governance	8a	The results of REDD+ interventions are made available to the public in a transparent manner through annual reports published by the 1st trimester of the following year
	8b	Study on deforestation and forest degradation factors (drivers) in integrated programme target areas
	8d	Strengthen spatial planning and natural resources management through various levels of appropriate territorial governance

Figure 5b: Milestones on track to be achieved by the 31 December 2018 deadline⁷

⁵ Based on CAFI Secretariat's own assessment and draft figures communicated by the FONAREDD Secretariat. Final figures from FONAREDD not available at the time of submission of this report.

⁶ Ibid

⁷⁷ Ibid

Leaving the following milestones off track:

Outcome	2018 Milestone		Risk
Agriculture	1a	Draft agricultural policy	Medium
	1c	System of agricultural guidance and input production/distribution in place in each REDD+ Integrated Programme	Medium
Energy	2 a	Completion of a feasibility study on alternative energies to substitute to wood-energy	Low
	2 b	Baseline studies conducted in Kinshasa and areas targeted by integrated programmes regarding energy production, consumption and efficiency	Low
Forests	3a	Forest Code revision project	High
	3b	The promotion and implementation of various sustainable local and community forest	High
	3c	Application of the provisions of the Forest Code to all existing industrial forest concessions	High
	3d	Facilitate the establishment, by 2017, of an operational independent and operational auditing mechanism	High
	3e	An ambitious plan to fight illegal logging	High
	3f	The lifting of the Moratorium will be conditioned to the legal conditions defined in the Presidential Decree n° 05/116 dated 24 October 2005	High
	3g	procedures planned in the Forest Code regarding (i) tendering, (ii) preliminary public inquiry and (iii) negotiations of social clauses	High
Oil and mining	4a	REDD+ standards developed	High
LUP	5b	Methodological Guide developed	Low
	5c	A targeted effort to ensure that the geographical programming that is required to lift the moratorium on industrial forestry concessions will be realized in the framework of the land-use planning approach	
Tenure	6b	Methodological Guide developed	Low
Demography	7a		Medium
	7b	Elaborate and implement by 2017 a plan to consult stakeholders	Medium
	7c	The National Communication Strategy on family planning	Medium

Figure 5 c: 18 LOI milestones not on track and their estimated risk factor⁸

This means that 11 out of 29 intermediary milestones – or more than a third - are either achieved or on track. The rest (18) of the 2018 milestones are deemed not on track to be achieved by the 31 December 2018 deadline, with 8 considered high risk (all pertaining to the forest sector), 6 medium risk and 4 low risk.

Figure 6 summarizes the status of estimated progress towards the 2018 milestones.

⁸ Ibid

Status of progress towards the
2018 "Intermediary" Milestones of
the Letter of Intent between CAFI and the DRC

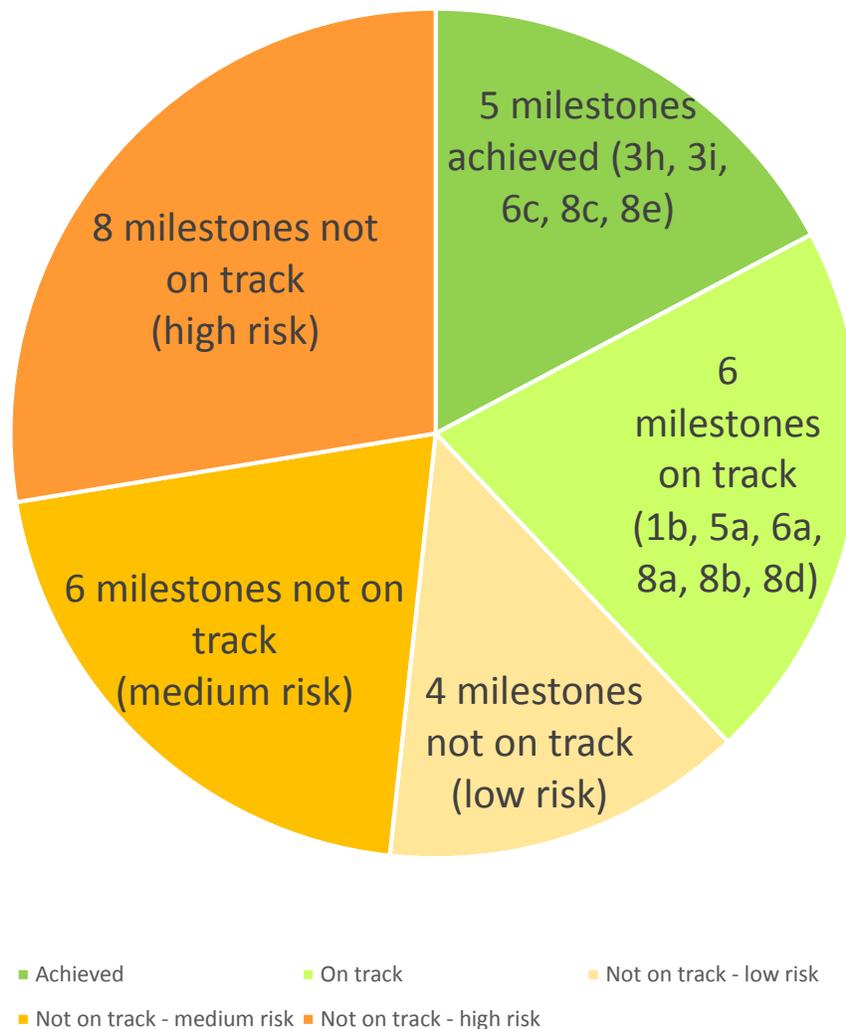


Figure 6: Estimated status of progress towards the 2018 intermediary milestones of the CAFI Letter of Intent with DRC

Illegal concession contracts cancelled

Alerted on 31 January by international NGOs to new breaches of the DRC moratorium on logging concessions, the CAFI Board decided through [Decision EB.2017.02 on 7 February](http://www.cafi.org/content/dam/cafi/docs/Executive%20Board/CAFI_EB_Decisions/English/EB.2017.02-%20DRC%20programs.pdf)⁹ to freeze financial allocations until the following three conditions were met:

- a. Illegally awarded concessions are immediately cancelled and these decisions are published;
- b. The Government of DRC shares a robust action plan which details the appropriate measures taken to address and prevent the lack of compliance with the legal framework in the forestry sector;

⁹ http://www.cafi.org/content/dam/cafi/docs/Executive%20Board/CAFI_EB_Decisions/English/EB.2017.02-%20DRC%20programs.pdf

c. The Government of DRC identifies and implements sound internal oversight measures to prevent any future breach of the moratorium before a new legal framework to rule the forestry sector has been endorsed at the national level “

On July 3, five illegally awarded concessions were cancelled through a signed decision (Arrêté 006, 3 July 2017 – see Figure 7) of the DRC Minister of Environment¹⁰.

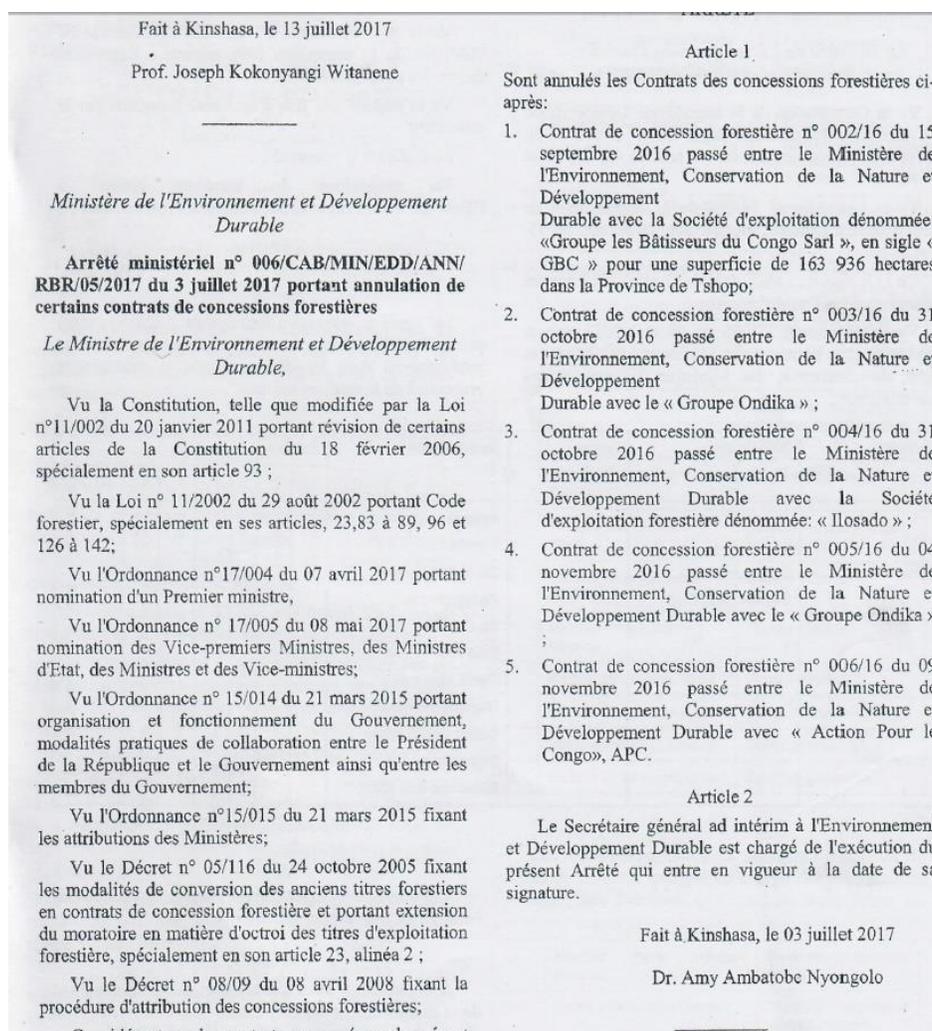


Figure 7: Excerpt of the DRC Decree 006

The cancellation of these contracts, that resulted from diligent actions taken by the [DRC National REDD+ Fund](#) with support from CAFI, highlights the constructive dialogue maintained between the DRC government and the coalition of [CAFI donors](#), despite a complex political context.

This cancellation, complementing the [forest governance risk matrix and action plan adopted in June](#) through inclusive multi-stakeholder consultations, allowed the first conditions of Decision EB.2017.02 to be met, and funds to be disbursed.

¹⁰ <http://www.cafi.org/content/cafi/en/home/events/drcongo-cancels-illegal-concessions.html>

b. Gabon – Letter of Intent signed to protect 23 million hectares of forest

In June 2018, **the Government of Gabon and the Central African Forest Initiative signed a Letter of Intent for 18 million US dollars** on the basis of the Gabon Investment plan, to allow the country to meet its 50% emission reduction target, better plan and monitor the use of land and protect over 23 million hectares of tropical rainforest - nearly 90% of its national territory. The reaching of this objective set in Gabon's Intended Nationally Determined Contribution will only be possible by preventing the conversion of high-carbon stock and high conservation value forest and limiting the conversion of forests not falling into this category.

The [Letter of Intent](#) is articulated around three ambitious objectives:

1) **a national-land use plan**, to allow the country to meet its ambitious objective to develop agriculture - needed for both food security and economic diversification – and other economic activities while ensuring that forests with high carbon and high conservation value are not converted.

Milestones to be reached by 2019 include :

- setting for “a long-term cap on carbon-neutral conversion of non-HCS/HCV forests, with no more than 10 000 ha converted on an annual basis¹¹”
- reports on mapping land use suitability for agriculture, mining, conservation, climate vulnerability and sustainable natural resource exploitation.

2) **a National Natural Resources and Forestry Observation System**. Gabon will monitor activities through a National Natural Resources and Forest Observation System that will, among others, help estimate carbon stocks, gain a robust understanding of economic activities in forests, and allow quick enforcement reactions to unforeseen deforestation events.

Importantly, it will be a key tool for the government to monitor the respect of the national land use plan.

Milestones include :

- a methodology to monitor the carbon neutrality of conversion on non-HCS-HCV forests
- submission of a Biennial Update report to the UNFCCC
- reports on monitoring of economic activities and law enforcement action,
- mapping of 29% of villages.

The final (2021) milestones call for the System to be fully operational and reporting to the UNFCCC, sustainable beyond CAFI funding and its information to be made publicly available.

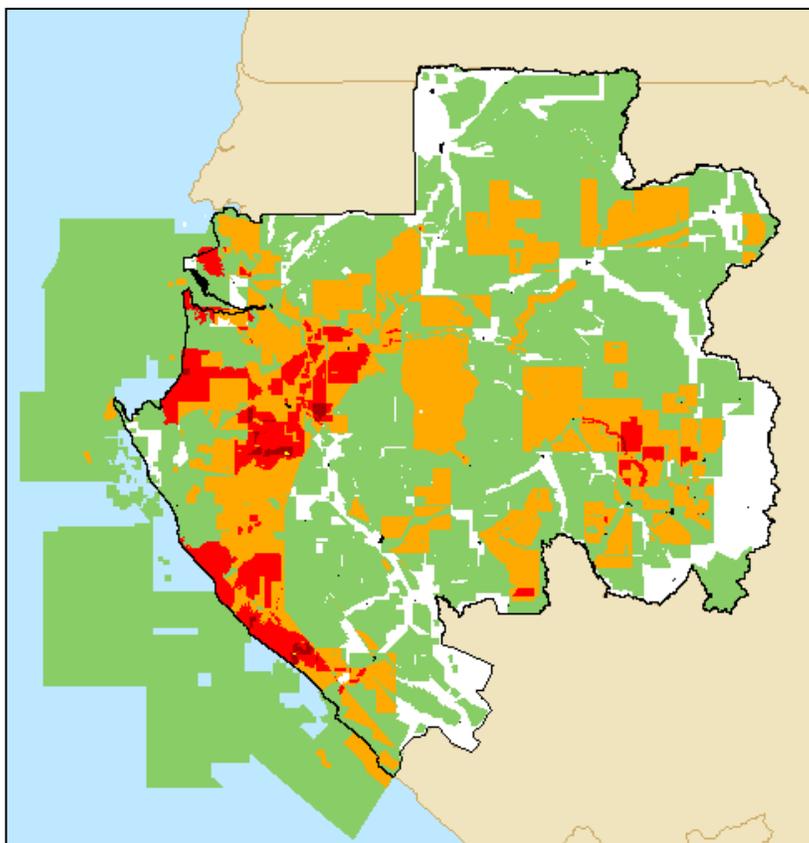


Figure 8: Map of Gabon showing overlapping land uses

¹¹ This will be calculated as a rolling three-year average of maximum 10 000 ha, while allowing for annual variation up to 20 000 ha as long as within the three-year rolling average of 10 000 ha per year.

3) **gains in carbon sequestration, reduced emissions from degradation and improved governance of forests.** Here milestones include a plan to fight illegal logging, reports on enforcement, revisions of the forest code to set out how areas under concessions will be reduced, a target on reduced emissions from forest degradation and a safeguards information system

Programmes to implement the national investment Framework are being developed by AFD and will be submitted for approval in 2018.

c. Republic of Congo – First version of the REDD+ Investment plan presented to CAFI

The investment planning process for CAFI and the Forest Investment Program (FIP) has been jointly prepared in accordance to ensure coherence. The CAFI Preparatory Fund Grant Agreement was signed on March 23, 2017. Since then, RoC has produced its investment framework, and organized extensive consultations during the preparation period, including 32 consultation events across the country, gathering approximately 1,200 stakeholders, and a national validation workshop. The Government presented a first draft to the CAFI Executive Board on October 10, 2017 and the CAFI Executive Board provided written comments on November 22, 2017. These are currently being integrated into the final version of the investment framework, which is slated for presentation to the June 2018 CAFI Executive Board meeting. In the meantime, the FIP Sub-Committee endorsed the investment plan on December 13, 2017.

A first CAFI mission took place on September 2017 to discuss the main objectives of CAFI with the authorities and the principles laid down in the Joint Declaration with respect to institutional arrangements. Meetings took place with the Prime Minister and the Minister of Forest Economy.

The Government of France approved a JPO position to support CAFI efforts in the Prime Minister's Office. It will be filled in 2018

d. Cameroun – Co-financing from FIP allows draft National Investment Framework

The Grant Agreement package was prepared in 2016 and signed on November 22, 2017. Thus, very few activities were conducted in 2017 with this source of fund, while parallel funding (FCPF, FIP) was used instead. By the end of 2017, the Government of Cameroon shared with the CAFI Executive Board a first draft National Investment Framework (NIF), which was endorsed by the FIP Sub-Committee at its meeting on December 14, 2017. A revised version will be presented before June 2018.

e. Equatorial Guinea – Active multi-sectorial platform and Drivers study completed

CAFI's preparatory grant, with FAO support, has significantly contributed to advance the REDD+ process of Equatorial Guinea's, specifically in terms of communication and awareness raising, engagement of multiple actors and sectors, and generation of key data and information that will support strategic decision making about REDD+. Equatorial Guinea made important steps towards the development of its REDD+ National Investment Plan, including the establishment of a multi-sectorial platform that meets regularly to reach consensus on REDD+ issues, and new updated data about its forests and the current and future drivers of forest loss.

Output 1- Consultation, outreach and participation

The project has undertaken wide consultation and outreach activities in relation to REDD+. Public national and provincial authorities, opinion leaders, media professionals, and men and women in rural communities were reached through the following:

- The elaboration of a **REDD+ consultation plan** and a **communication strategy**

- The development of a **gender action plan for REDD+**
- Two **workshops on Forests, climate and REDD+ for journalists and communicators**
- The distribution of **communication/visibility materials**: 5 000 flyers, 4 000 posters, 350 t-shirts, vest and caps.
- Wide media coverage through **14 international and national press releases**¹², as well as national TV and radio.
- Development of a video on REDD+ for national television (<https://youtu.be/sfpCJHEIRuQ>) explaining climate change concepts the importance of REDD +

Output 2 -Spatial and qualitative study of the direct and underlying causes of deforestation and forest degradation

The study on drivers of deforestation and forest degradation (D&D) for the 2004-2014 period was finalized and validated in 2017, and will be launched and printed in 2018. The study will inform the national REDD+ process, supporting decision-making and planning of future socio-economic development policies, land and natural resources management, and guide investments to reduce impacts on forests and emissions. The study included (i) a literature review; (ii) a qualitative analysis through consultation processes (over 530 persons); and (iii) a quantitative analysis, including remote sensing and field sampling. It revealed that:

- Forest cover in 2014 is estimated in 2 500 000 ha ($\pm 101\ 000$ ha) representing 93% of the country.
- Deforestation area in 2004-2014 reached 87 000 ha ($\pm 9\ 000$ ha) with an **annual deforestation rate of 0,3%** or 8 700 ha/year.
- Degradation in 2004-2014 was equivalent to 230 000 ha ($\pm 46\ 000$ ha) with an **annual degradation rate of 0,9%**, or 23 000 ha/year.
- The **main direct cause of deforestation is the expansion of infrastructures (with a relative weight of 96%)**, followed by the agricultural sector (with a relative weight of 4%), including intensive and subsistence agriculture.
- The **main direct cause of forest degradation is agriculture (with a relative weight of 41%, mainly related to subsistence agriculture)**, followed by infrastructures (with a relative weight of 36%, mainly transport routes, including forest tracks) and by logging (with a relative weight of 23%). Timber harvesting includes large-scale commercial harvesting and small-scale informal sector
- The direct causes of deforestation and forest degradation are rooted in different underlying causes: political and institutional, economic technological and sociodemographic and cultural factors.

Although the country maintains a relatively high forest cover, it is losing its forest surface every year; moreover, forests are increasingly degraded, losing their biodiversity, and reducing their capacity to provide environmental and socioeconomic services and benefits.

During the elaboration of the study, several technical workshops in remote sensing were organised to enhance national capacities, with national experts from the National Institute for Forestry Development (INDEFOR), the National University (UNGE); the Agency of Monitoring the implementation of the National Development Plan (ANGE2020), the National Institute of Statistics and others.

Output 3 - Study on strategic REDD+ actions

A first draft of the study on strategic actions to address deforestation and degradation was elaborated. The study was developed based on the study of drivers; relevant national policies and international experiences; consultations with public authorities and academia; and a field trip to a forestry concession in the continental region.

¹² <http://www.fao.org/guinea-ecuatorial/noticias>, <http://www.fao.org/africa/news> and <http://www.fao.org/forestry/news>

The study identifies the following strategic actions:

- Sectorial axes: (1) Inclusive and climate smart agriculture; (2) Sustainable forestry; (3) Conservation of priority ecosystems; (4) Reduced impacts from mining, energy and infrastructures.
- Crosscutting axes: (5) Land-use planning; (6) Land and forest governance; (7) Development of economic opportunities; (8) Knowledge and communication outreach

The first draft of the study on strategic actions was consulted and reviewed in November 2017 by representatives of the Ministry of Forests and Environment; the Ministry of Planning, Economy and Public Investments, ANGE 2020 and others national institutions. In 2018, the study will continue with different national stakeholders to adjust the identified actions to their concerns and needs, and reach consensus about the actions that will be then incorporated in the REDD+ national strategy, and form the basis for defining REDD+ investments.

Output 4. 2–3 REDD+ pilot investment projects

The pilot investment projects will be designed in 2018 in the framework of the REDD+ NIP, selecting priorities zones based on predefined criteria. The pilot investment projects will be identified to test the impact of the proposed actions, in terms of carbon emissions as well as other socio-economic and environmental benefits.

Output 5 – REDD+ National Strategy

The structure of the REDD+ National Strategy and its main components have been initiated building on the REDD+ Readiness Preparation Proposal, R-PP (2014) and technical discussions with national experts; and aligned with the national development policies and plans. The main components of the REDD+ National Strategy include a national vision for REDD+; the strategic mid and long-term goals, and the institutional framework for REDD+.

In 2018, the different components of the REDD+ national strategy will be further developed and consulted, and then the final document will be presented to the project steering committee for validation.

Output 6 – REDD+ National Investment Plan

The development of the REDD+ NIP is planned in the first semester of 2018.

f. Central African Republic

The political transition process that began in 2014 coupled with several delays in the presidential elections have led to delays affecting the entire Bank portfolio in the country. These issues have since been resolved and the Agreement was finally signed in April 2017. To ensure coordination and reduce transaction costs, the CAFI preparation grant is executed jointly with the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) Readiness Preparation grant.

The process is nearly complete for selection of firms to undertake the development of the REDD+ strategy (financed by FCPF), the development of the SESA (financed by FCPF) and the National Investment Framework (financed by CAFI) which includes detailed options for prioritized activities. These three strategic products will be able to inform one another. Given the late start of the grant-financed activities, [an extension of the grant to December 31, 2018](#) was accepted by the CAFI Executive Board.

g. Overall progress towards CAFI's objectives: results against the framework

In April 2016 the CAFI Executive Board had adopted [a series of indicators](#) to evaluate the impact of its approach and investments. It was decided that the indicators would be presented as a menu from which programmes should pick and report annually. This means that it is possible that depending on funding allocation decisions from the Executive Board and country priorities some indicators will not be informed by any CAFI funded programmes. It was further decided that the CAFI Secretariat would not seek to collect data through sources outside of programmes, but rather to

aggregate data (from FONAREDD consolidated data for DRC and programmes in other countries). An evaluation of this approach shows that, despite several decisions of the EB,

- The CAFI indicators have not appeared in the results framework of agencies implementing programmes in agencies
- Few baselines have been elaborated by the programmes
- As a result of a lack of baselines, no quantitative target has been established for each indicator
- The “menu” decision could make data difficult to compare/consolidate from one programme (e.g. between two provincial programmes in the same country, or between two countries).

Nevertheless, an effort to document progress is presented in Figure 8, that estimates progress based on three types of documents:

- National Investment Frameworks (DRC and Gabon)
- Letter of Intent (DRC and Gabon)
- Programmes developed/approved in 2017 to implement the NIF (DRC)

Consequently, the table only documents and evaluates progress in DRC and Gabon. An exception is however made for governance indicators (outcome 7), for which the EB had agreed that progress should be evaluated as the very process of elaborating a NIF could be conducive to positive governance results.

Figure 9: detailed progress against CAFI’s impact and outcomes indicators

CAFI’s IMPACTS	
1 – Emission reductions and increased absorptions	<p>Target of approved programmes:</p> <p>Mai Ndombe: impact is estimated at 27.7 MT CO2 eq</p> <p>Orientale: impact is estimated at 10.4 M T CO2 eq</p>
2 – Poverty reduction and improved livelihoods	<p>Mai Ndombé: impact estimated at 150,000 people (including 75,000 women and 15,000 indigenous people) with improved livelihoods</p> <p>Orientale: objective of a 20% increase of revenues for households receiving support on subsistence agriculture</p>

Progress, not results, are here evaluated. For example, if an indicator states a number of hectares, a score of “good” does not mean that the target in terms of hectares has been met, but rather than a programme is underway to contribute to the target.

CAFI Outcome 1. Sustainable agricultural investments			
Indicator	Baseline (2016 if possible, otherwise specified)	Narrative progress towards indicators from programmes	Progress in 2017 (poor / fair / good)
<p>1.1 Area (ha) of new agriculture lands resulting from forest conversion in target areas</p> <p><i>(qualitative target: stabilization or decrease)</i></p>	<p>DRC: Not available - will be provided by the FAO-supported NFMS programme</p> <p>Gabon: 14 925 ha for commercial agriculture in 2015.</p>	<p>DRC Approved programs in DRC will reduce pressure on forests by establishing crops outside forests:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mai Ndombé + Orientale: exclusion for regeneration of a total of 65 000 ha <p>Data under this indicator will be provided by the FAO-supported NFMS programme, with support from WRI.</p> <p>Gabon: while programmes are not yet approved, the LOI milestones call for the National Land Use Plan to be based on the principles of non-conversion of HCS/HCV forests, limited and carbon-neutral conversion of non-HCS/HCV forest. Activities in the land use planning program will spatially identify areas where the conversion can or cannot happen</p>	<p>Good: 2 programmes approved in DRC towards this objective; Gabon was developing its land use planning program to inform this indicator.</p>
<p>1.2 Existence of policies and legal frameworks limiting conversion of natural ecosystems (forest) to agricultural concessions</p> <p><i>(target: existence, application and enforcement)</i></p>	<p>DRC: N/A</p> <p>Gabon: While theoretically there is no possibility to convert forests unless degazetted and only for a specific category of forests: gazetted forests (forêts classées), loopholes can be found in the legal system through temporary logging permits and leasehold contracts</p> <p>Draft policy on oil palm exists</p>	<p>In DRC, a program to support agricultural reform is being developed for approval in 2018</p> <p>In Gabon, a programme to support the elaboration of the National Land Use plan limiting the conversion forests was being developed in 2017</p>	<p>Fair:</p> <p>1 programme being developed in DRC</p> <p>1 programme being developed in Gabon</p>
<p>1.3 Percentage of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) done before agricultural concessions are granted, per target area</p>	<p>Already a requirement in Gabon</p>	<p>In DRC, 3 approved integrated programmes and 3 integrated programmes under development could provide data towards this indicator – TBC</p>	<p>Fair</p>

<i>(qualitative target: increase)</i>		In Gabon the expected traffic light system for agricultural concessions currently under development will further reinforce the effectiveness of EIAs	
1.4 Increase in a. absolute food production and b. food productivity (food production over ha of land) <i>(qualitative target: increase)</i>		DRC Indicator a : food production expected to increased through activities in approved programmes in DRC to establish : - 171,650 ha of sustainable subsistence agriculture (160,000 ha in Orientale and 11,650 ha in Mai Ndombé). - 22,650 ha of Cash crops (11,000 ha for Orientale and 11,650 in Mai Ndombé) Indicator b: Exclusion for natural regeneration will increase indicator b : 60,000 ha (30,000ha in former Orientale and 30,000 ha in Mai Ndombé)	Fair

CAFI Outcome 2. Sustainable wood energy investments			
Indicator	Baseline (2016 if possible, otherwise specified)	Narrative progress towards indicators	Progress in 2017 (poor / fair/ good)
2.1 Total amount of wood energy a. produced per inhabitant (disaggregated by sex) and b. consumed in target area <i>(qualitative target: decrease)</i>	b. Kinshasa: 4,8 millions m3 consumed annually ¹³ (2011 estimate) Kisangani: 200,000 m3 consumed	DRC b. The draft Energy programme seeks to increase by 2% the number of households that reduce their use of fuelwood in Kinshasa	Fair : 1 programme under development
2.2 Share of sustainable ¹⁴ wood energy from fuelwood plantations a) compared to overall wood energy production (2.1) b) in the general country energy matrix <i>(qualitative target: increase)</i>	DRC : a ¹⁵ . Kinshasa (2011) :35% from others/plantations, 41% from forests, 20% from slash and burn Kisangani: 3% from others/plantations, 31% from forests, 65% from slash and burn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mai Ndombé approved programs in DRC will seek to increase the volume of available fuelwood plantations by planting 3350 ha of acacia, 4000 ha in Orientale 	Fair: 2 programmes approved
2.3 Existence of energy policies for sustainable management of wood-energy and substitution <i>(target: existence)</i>	No relevant policy exists in DRC	DRC : the draft Energy programme seeks to support a policy and regulatory framework on the sub-sector of wood-energy	Fair : 1 programme under development
2.4 Incidence of improved cookstoves in cities in target areas <i>(qualitative target: increase)</i>		DRC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved program (Orientale) will distribute 12,200 improved cookstoves and report on their use. • Draft Energy programme seeks to increase by 5% over 5 years the number of households that use improved cookstoves 	Fair: 1 Programme approved, 1 programme under development

¹³

¹⁴ Sustainable wood energy is difficult to define so the proxy chosen is fuelwood plantations

¹⁵ Schure et al, 2011 – as in draft Energy programme submitted to FONAREDD

CAFI Outcome 3. Sustainable forest governance and investments, enhanced permitting, monitoring and enforcement capacity			
Indicator	Baseline	Narrative progress towards indicators	Progress in 2017 (poor / fair/ good)
3.1 Hectares and % of forests with forest management plans ¹⁶ (qualitative target: increase)	DRC: 1 963 693 ha out of a total of 10 706 293 ha under concessions, corresponding to 18 %. Out of 57 titles, 14 management plans were and 7 validated ¹⁷ . Numbers for community forestry to be added Gabon (in NIF): 36 permits spanning over 80 317 km ²	DRC: partnership with Ministry of Environment, responsible for sustainable forest management programme, is complex. Gabon: expected decrease of forest area under concession as per the LOI	Poor (due to lack of performance in DRC)
3.2 m ³ of total round-wood / hard-wood production (from industrial concessions, harvesting permits and artisanal permits) (qualitative target: TBD)	DRC: to be obtained from AGEDUFOR Gabon (in NIF, for 2015): 1 450 000 m ³	DRC: same as above Gabon: LOI has a milestone on a plan to fight illegal logging, enforcement of the legal and regulatory framework for forest management, timber logging and trade	Poor (due to lack of performance in DRC)
3.3 Number /percentage of permits granted following existing regulations (qualitative target: increase)	DRC: 5 illegal contracts discovered	DRC: Integrated programmes could provide information on number of artisanal logging permits granted by decentralized administration). For the sustainable forest management programme, same consideration as above 5 illegal contracts cancelled ¹⁸	Fair
3.4 Accessibility of information on permits, harvesting allowances, concessions, forest managements plans: a) as defined in laws and regulations and b) assessed in practice ¹⁹ (qualitative target: increase)	DRC : information not available Gabon : 2013: 208 permits	DRC: same as above Gabon: LOI has a milestone on progress reports on its pnat web site	Fair

¹⁶ Recognizing that not all plans reflect improved forest management.

¹⁷ AGEDUFOR, February 018

¹⁸ Cumulative with 2016 cancellations 7

¹⁹ Methodology to guide reporting under this indicator should differentiate between availability and accessibility

CAFI Outcome 4. Improved siting and development of transport and mining infrastructure			
Indicator	Baseline	Narrative progress towards indicators	Progress in 2017 (poor / fair/ good) and why
<p>4.1 Number of new (year compared to 2016) mining concessions appearing in forests</p> <p><i>(qualitative target: stabilized or decrease. This indicator could be complemented by number of hectares under mining concessions / exploration)</i></p>	<p>DRC: N/A The NFMS in DRC could eventually provide this data Gabon: 2013: 57 mining permits (total) + 60 oil permits on shore</p>	<p>DRC: call for proposals on extractives not launched. The NFMS in DRC could eventually provide this data Gabon: LOI limits conversion of forests for mining and transport infrastructure unless it serves a vital national interest and the conversion is compensated; program development on the national land use plan ongoing</p>	<p>Fair: No call for proposals launched in DRC, but important commitment in LOI by Gabonese government</p>
<p>4.2 Length (km) of new transport infrastructure (for mining or other extractive industries) built in forests, total and disaggregated by</p> <p>a. roads b. railways</p> <p><i>(qualitative target: stable or decrease)</i></p>	<p>DRC: N/A The NFMS in DRC could eventually provide this data Gabon: roads 9170 km total and railways 658 km total</p>	<p>DRC: call for proposals not launched The NFMS in DRC could eventually provide this data, although not disaggregated</p> <p>Gabon: LOI limits conversion of forests for mining and transport infrastructure unless it serves a vital national interest and the conversion is compensated; program development on the national land use plan ongoing</p>	<p>Fair: No call for proposals launched in DRC, but important commitment in LOI by Gabonese government</p>
<p>4.3 Percentage²⁰ of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) done</p> <p>a. before new mining concessions are granted b. before new roads are built</p> <p><i>(qualitative target: increase)</i></p>	<p>DRC: N/A Gabon (as reported in NIF): 100%</p>	<p>DRC: call for proposals not launched Gabon : the expected traffic light system for mining concessions currently under develop will further reinforce the effectiveness of EIAs</p>	<p>Poor: No call for proposals launched in DRC.</p>
<p>4.4 Existence of policies and legal frameworks, trade agreements limiting conversion of natural ecosystems (forest) to mining and / or oil concessions</p> <p><i>(qualitative target: existence, application and enforcement)</i></p>	<p>DRC : none</p> <p>While theoretically, in Gabon there is no possibility to convert forests unless degazetted and only for a specific category of forests: gazetted forests (forêts classées), loopholes can be found in the legal system through</p>	<p>DRC: call for proposals not launched Gabon :LOI limits conversion of forests for mining and transport infrastructure unless it serves a vital national interest and the conversion is compensated; program development on the national land use plan ongoing</p>	<p>Poor: No call for proposals launched in DRC.</p>

²⁰ Total number of concessions granted over number of concessions granted following an EIA

	temporary logging permits and leasehold contracts		
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CAFI Outcome 5. Optimal land use planning and land tenure			
Indicator	Baseline	Narrative progress towards indicators	Progress in 2017 (poor / fair/ good)
5.1 Updated land use laws/policies that take into account the contribution of forests and land use sector to climate change mitigation and other social and environmental benefits <i>(qualitative target: existence, application and enforcement)</i>	DRC : none Gabon : none	DRC: tenure programme launched, working cell in charge of the process created, recruitment ongoing. Gabon: LUP important part of NIF and LOI	Good
5.2 Existence of instruments a) developed b) enacted c) implemented to promote the rights of communities to access and sustainably use forest resources, with due regard given to gender, vulnerable people, local communities and indigenous peoples. <i>(qualitative target: existence, application and enforcement)</i>	DRC: RFUK in Mai Ndombé and Equateur provinces 2 districts Gabon: exists for national parks and buffet zones	DRC: Tenure programme launched, integrated programmes approved but not operational Gabon: the National investment framework plans for participatory mapping; LOI contains numbers of villages mapped, programme being developed to undertake mapping and resolve disputes	Good
5.3 National land cover and land use regular comparable maps a) Produced b) Actively maintained c) used to coordinate with other sectoral ministries d) officially released <i>(qualitative target: b, c and d)</i>	DRC : a mapping of land use is available at the Ministry of LUP but it does not cover all sectors. Gabon: PNAT 0 provides land use maps, AGEOS land cover maps, however inconsistencies in certain categories of forests	DRC: the National Forest Monitoring System has produced land cover maps. The approved programme to support LUP reform will allow to cover all sectors. Gabon: planned in the NIF and program under development	Good
5.4 Ha of land for which consensus on how to use the land is reached among different sectors and stakeholders in target areas <i>(qualitative target: increase)</i>	DRC : NA Gabon : Version 0 of the PNAT documents permitting overlaps (see map number 62 of the PNAT V.0). Draft programme documents states that that a third of land (36%, or 9.6 million hectares) is affected to two to four different activities.	DRC : LUP reform program and integrated programmes will provide information provide information Gabon: Activity planned in draft programme to resolve land use conflicts for full national territory	Fair – 1 programme approved in DRC, 1 programme under development in Gabon

<p>5.5 Ha of forest registered conditioned upon EIA and in compliance with environmental management plans – in target areas</p> <p><i>(qualitative target: increase)</i></p>			<p>NA. This indicator could be deleted and merged with 5.2</p>
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CAFI Outcome 6. Decreased demographic pressure on forests			
Indicator	Baseline	Narrative progress towards indicators	Performance in 2017 (poor / fair/ good)
<p>6.1 Modern Contraceptive prevalence rate <i>(qualitative target: increase. Note that the DRC LOI has a specific target of “at least 1.5% percentage point increase annually”)</i></p>	N/A	<p>In DRC, approved programmes will seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increase awareness of 180,000 households (Mai Ndombe) ensure that 450,000 women use at least one modern contraception method and reach 9% of modern contraception use by 2020 (Orientale) 	<p>Fair: In DRC, there are targets in integrated programmes, but no proposal has yet been developed in response to the call for proposal</p>
<p>6.2 Number of people migrating from a) non-forests to forests and b) vice versa, disaggregated by sex <i>(Qualitative targets: None. This indicator could be re-phrased as “Number of quantitative studies documenting the number of people migrating etc...)</i></p>	<p>DRC: Qualitative information only:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> migration towards Mai Ndombé coming from savannah areas of Kwilu, and forest of the North of Idiofa (left bank of the Kasai). The areas most threatened are forests of Kwamouth and South Oshwé. Orientale: migration flows have happened since decades, but dramatically increased with conflicts and wars to the east of the country. Reasons are listed. Migration occurring from Nord-Kivu Haut-Uélé 	<p>In DRC, studies about migration flows (origins, numbers, reasons) are planned for Mai Ndombé and Orientale (Ituri)</p>	<p>Poor <i>(or fair if indicator is rephrased as proposed).</i></p>
<p>6.3 Percentage of girls attending high school or tertiary education in a. rural areas b. urban areas <i>(qualitative target: increase)</i></p>		<p>This indicator was removed from the list of harmonized indicators between CAFI and the FONAREDD</p>	<p>Poor</p>

CAFI Outcome 7. Improved governance and intersectoral coordination ²¹			
Indicator	Baseline (2016)	Narrative/score progress towards indicators	Overall Performance in 2017 (poor / fair/ good)
<p>7.1 A functional, recognized multi-stakeholder mechanism (e.g. civil society platform, representative on a Steering Committee, participatory monitoring mechanism) to accompany the National Investment Framework cycle:</p> <p>a. Exists (<i>on paper</i>) b. Exists but lacks quality, recognition and regularity c. Exist and is recognized and systematic</p> <p><i>(qualitative target: c for all CAFI countries)</i></p>	<p>CAR: a Cameroon: b. Equatorial Guinea: a Gabon: c DRC: c R Congo: b</p>	<p>CAR: a) Cameroon: b). Equatorial Guinea: b). The project steering committee, established by Presidential resolution on September 2016, meets regularly, includes representatives of civil society, private sector (forest and construction companies) and academia. The preparatory grant has supported extensive, participative and open consultations, particularly in relation to the development of the study on drivers of D&D. It is foreseen that the participatory approach will continue as the REDD+ national coordination is also constituted as a multi-stakeholder platform for decision making and monitoring. Subsequent support to REDD+ investments must encourage more regularity and continue capacity development efforts to ensure informed participation of all actors. Gabon: between b) and c): Civil society participates in the technical commission DRC: c). GTCR-R active and strengthened through CAFI/FONAREDD/UNDP support. All programmes have multi-stakeholder steering committees, R Congo: b)</p>	<p>Good: Overall improvement compared to baseline, with countries maintaining or improving it.</p>
<p>7.2 Accessibility by public, media and civil society to NIF and their M&E plans, data and results</p> <p><i>(qualitative target: increase)</i></p>	<p>CAR: N/A Cameroon: Poor R Congo: N/A Equatorial Guinea: Poor Gabon: Fair DRC: Fair -</p> <p>In 2016, the CAFI web site has published the DRC National Investment Plan and developed simple communication</p>	<p>CAR: N/A Cameroon : access to information on forestry, land, mining and infrastructure in general in Cameroon remains relatively poor DRC: FONAREDD site (www.fonaredd-rdc.org) launched; brochures produced on investment plan, integrated programme and monitoring and evaluation. R Congo : continues to rely on CAFI web site Equatorial Guinea: Wide media coverage through 14 international and national press releases, as well as in national TV and radio. Video on REDD+ and climate change elaborated, and foreseen to be displayed in national TV in 2018. 2 workshops for journalists and communicators (September 2017) to enhance their knowledge and role in communicating on REDD+ and CC.</p>	<p>Fair: web sites exist in DRC and Gabon, but they do not reflect all relevant data; Equatorial Guinea has launched a wide awareness campaign. Other countries have not developed tools to make information more accessible, and rely on the CAFI web site to disseminate information.</p>

²¹ These indicators can be informed even when CAFI has only contributed preparatory grants (R. Congo, CAR, Cameroun, Equatorial Guinea), or engaged in a policy dialogue (Gabon) – see CAFI EB decision EB.2016.10. Information in this table is based on CAFI missions and intelligence, as well as, for Equatorial Guinea, the FAO preparatory grant 2017 annual report

	products around each CAFI country NIF	Gabon: www.pnatgabon.ga exists and expected to be updated when programmes start. R Congo	
7.3 Degree of anchoring of the NIF in the national development policy and institutional fabric <i>(qualitative target: increase)</i>	CAR: data not provided Cameroon: mainly considered a MINEPDED project DRC: excellent anchoring, process led by Ministry of Finance and 6 ministers are part of the Steering Committee and indicators included in the PNSD Equatorial Guinea: Prior to the prep grant, REDD+ was led by the Ministry of Forest and Environment. Gabon: excellent high level anchoring (presidency and Conseil Climat) and multi-sector ownership R Congo : REDD+ process led by sectoral ministry	CAR: data not provided Cameroon: no change DRC: maintained the same excellent level Equatorial Guinea: The national REDD+ process has benefited from strong political and institutional support, reflected in the involvement of multiple ministries under the leadership of the Ministry of Planning, Economy and Public investments, and the Ministry of Forest and Environment. The two ministers have attended the launch workshop, and provided high-level support to key events. The REDD+ National Strategy will be based on the Horizon 2020 Economic and Social Development Plan. Gabon: adoption of the decree on the National Land use planning commission at state secretary level to pilot the land use planning process, already convened meetings where the CAFI NIF was presented R Congo: CAFI mission initiated stronger lead by Prime Minister's office, with support from relevant sectoral ministries	Good: 3 countries have maintained or progressed in their anchoring as a result of CAFI's actions.
7.4 Stakeholder perception on increase or decrease of corrupt acts or risks <i>(qualitative target: improved perception)</i>	DRC: a risk matrix, was initiated in 2016 and concluded in 2017. Other countries. N/A	DRC: the FONAREDD web site has a section dedicated to complaints and redress by project. Monitoring of risks and practices has not been operationalized Gabon: land use planning program contains support to redress mechanism Equatorial Guinea: No specific survey undertaken in 2017. The study on drivers of D&D reflects that local communities perceive a lack of effective, consistent and equitable application of laws, particularly in relation to timber harvesting and land-use rights.	Fair

Figure 8 summarizes the progress per indicator across the region, indicating that :

- for six (6) CAFI outcome indicators, progress is estimated as good (for the outcomes of Agriculture, Land use planning, Tenure and Governance)
- for fourteen (14) CAFI outcome indicators, progress is estimated as fair
- for eight (8) CAFI outcome indicators, progress is estimated as poor (for mining and infrastructure and population, notably)

CAFI Outcome	Indicator	Progress
Sustainable agricultural investments	1.1	Good
	1.2	Fair
	1.3	Poor
	1.4	Fair
Sustainable wood energy investments	2.1	Fair
	2.2	Fair
	2.3	Fair
	2.4	Fair
Sustainable forest governance and investments, enhanced permitting, monitoring and enforcement capacity	3.1	Poor
	3.2	Poor
	3.3	Fair
	3.4	Fair
Improved siting and development of transport and mining infrastructure	4.1	Fair
	4.2	Poor
	4.3	Poor
	4.4	Poor
Optimal land use planning and land tenure	5.1	Good
	5.3	Fair
	5.4	Fair
	5.5	NA
Optimal Land Tenure	5.2	Good
Decreased demographic pressure on forests	6.1	Fair
	6.2	Poor ²²
	6.3	Poor
Improved governance and intersectoral coordination	7.1	Good
	7.2	Fair
	7.3	Good
	7.4	Fair

Figure 10: summary progress towards CAFI outcome indicators- Agriculture, Land use planning, Tenure and Governance are the 4 outcomes with at least one “good” score.

²² Or fair, see explanation in Figure 8 above.

CAFI Investment per CAFI outcome

To assess CAFI's performance, the table below reflect which effects CAFI funds are contributing to. It is limited to DRC since this is to date the only country where programmes are funded by CAFI, and only reflects the first tranche of the CAFI commitment.

CAFI's IMPACT	CAFI contribution in DRC (in Million USD)	Programmes contributing to the CAFI outcome on which calculation is based
Emission reductions	Not directly quantifiable – all funding is indirectly linked to this impact	All programmes contributing
Livelihoods	5.980	Mai Ndombé, Sud Ubangui, Oriental
CAFI's outcome	CAFI's contribution in DRC (in Million USD) ²³	Programmes contributing to the CAFI outcome
Agriculture	12.937	Mai Ndombé, Sud Ubangui, Oriental
Energy	3.838	Mai Ndombé, Sud Ubangui, Oriental
Forests	5.849	Mai Ndombé, Sud Ubangui, Oriental, NFMS
Land use planning	9.328	Mai Ndombé, Sud Ubangui, Oriental, LUP reform
Tenure	3.485	Mai Ndombé, Sud Ubangui Oriental, tenure reform
Oil and mining	0	--
Population	1.204	Mai Ndombé, Sud Ubangui, Oriental
Governance	6.979	Mai Ndombé, Sud Ubangui, Oriental, FONAREDD Secretariat, Civil society, Indigenous peoples

Figure 11 a: CAFI funding per outcome

Figure 10a and 10b illustrates how the areas of **agriculture, land use planning and governance** are the top three receiving the largest share of CAFI's investments (limited to DRC).

²³ Administrative costs excluded

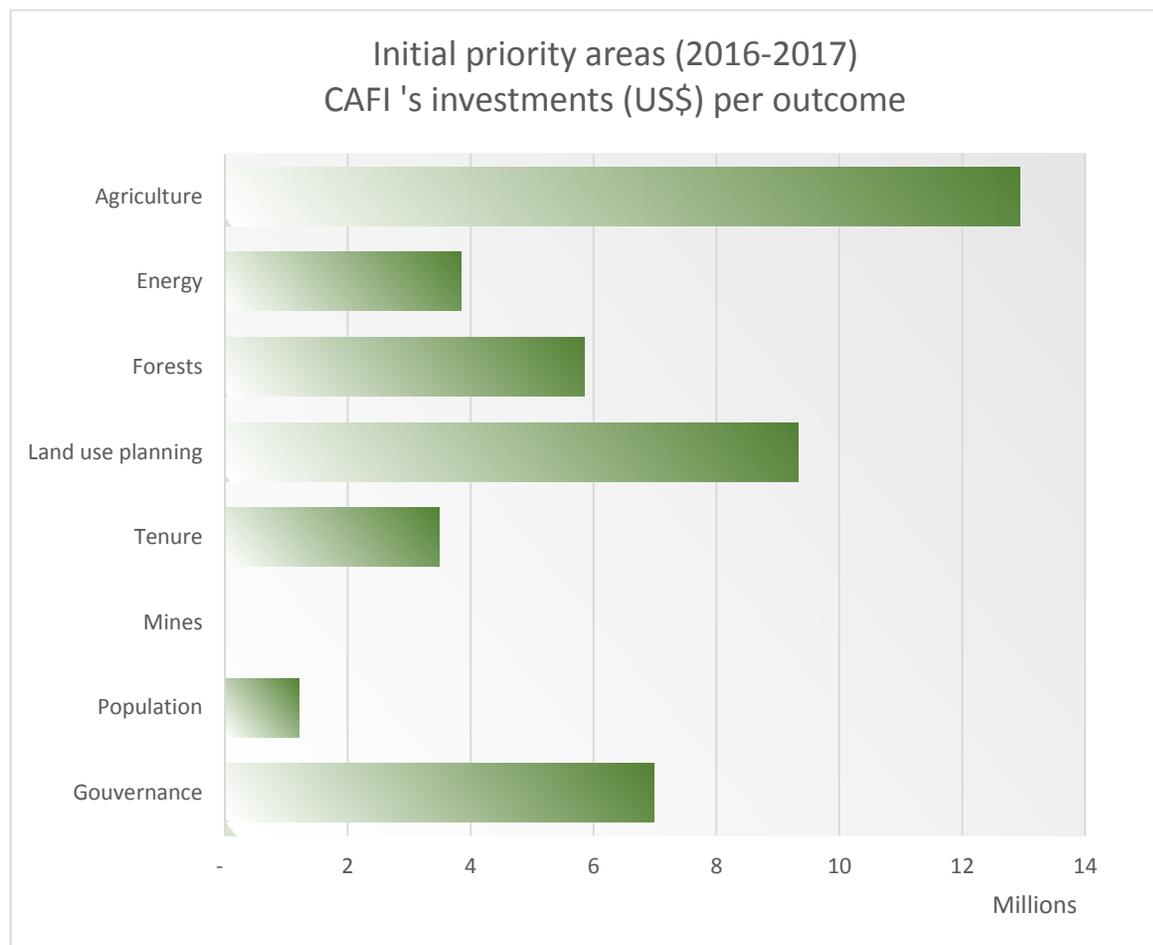


Figure 11b: CAFI funding per outcome for the 2016-2017 period, based on DRC approved programmes

Comparing Figures 9 and 10 is not appropriate at this stage, as the former a) is relatively process-based and qualitative at this point and b) takes into account several countries, while the latter only reflects programmes approved and funded, therefore only reflects CAFI’s investments in DRC.

Nevertheless, considering that the assessment in Figure 9 largely reflects the DRC situation, it is clear that areas where CAFI is investing the most (agriculture, land use planning and governance) are also the ones gathering a “good” score. Similarly, extractives and infrastructures, where no CAFI fund have been invested, has witnessed the least progress (only “poor” scores) - or the Secretariat has no information.

This first assessment will be conducted and enhanced every year –including by integrating other countries’ data and progress towards quantitative targets - to refine the assessment of CAFI’s performance.

3. New donor and continued donor coordination

On 17 January, during a high-level ceremony in Daejeon, the Republic of Korea signed the [CAFI Declaration](#) and thus became the 7th CAFI member. With their signature, the Republic of Korea have joined the six other member countries that have “committed to better coordination and harmonization with other donors in the Central African region, and to mobilizing resources for the implementation of national investment frameworks developed by Central African countries.”

The CAFI Secretariat organized three meetings of the CAFI Executive Board (EB), all hosted by France in Paris at the Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs and at the AFD Headquarters..

The 6th EB meeting (27-28 April) reiterated the consistent progress being made in several CAFI partner countries, underlined by [the agreement to no-cost extensions of three programmes](#) – in Cameroon, Central African Republic and Republic of Congo. Following a session with DRC government representatives and first reading of Gabon’s NIF, international NGOs (Greenpeace and Global Witness) attended a dedicated session to brief the EB on their concerns about forest governance in DRC.

The highlight of the 7th EB meeting (27 June) was agreement on a **decision to [allocate USD 18 million to the Republic of Gabon](#)**, from the CAFI fund to the implementation of the [National Investment Framework](#) (2017-2022) submitted on 13 June. Programmes funded by this allocation will allow Gabon to meet 50% emission reduction target, better plan and monitor the use of land and protect over 23 million hectares of tropical rainforest. This was followed by a high level ceremony, with the Gabonese presidency and the Norwegian Ambassador, to sign the [Letter of Intent with Gabon](#). To take stock of the steps made and milestones reached since project inception, Equatorial Guinea, Cameroon and the Republic of Congo, were invited to showcase the [progress and challenges of developing National Investment Frameworks](#), whilst the DRC reflected on the programming achievements and needs on the [first anniversary of the signing of their Letter of Intent](#) with CAFI.

During its 8th meeting (10 October), the EB adopted the **decision to disburse the 2nd sub-tranche of funding to DRC National REDD+ Fund**, to support the implementation of its portfolio and subsequent funding of the programmes. The decision was made in light of the cancellation of three illegal concessions made by the Minister of Environment on July 3, fulfilling the conditions set forth by the EB in February 2017.

All-together, the EB made 24 decisions in 2017, listed in Figure 10. In a continued effort towards transparency, decisions are translated and made public on the [CAFI web site](#) as soon agreed to by the Board.

2017 DECISIONS					
EB.2017.01	16/01/2017	CAFI International Support to the FONAREDD Secretariat	French	English	Intersessional, 16 January 2017
EB.2017.02	07/02/2017	DRC Programmes	French	English	Intersessional, 7 February 2017
EB.2017.03	28/04/2017	Gabon National Investment Framework	French	English	EB6, Paris
EB.2017.04	28/04/2017	No cost extension Cameroon, Central African Republic, Republic of Congo	French	English	EB6, Paris
EB.2017.05	28/04/2017	Monitoring and Evaluation	French	English	EB6, Paris
EB.2017.06	28/04/2017	Next meetings	French	English	EB6, Paris
EB.2017.07	28/04/2017	Chairing the Executive Board	French	English	EB6, Paris
EB.2017.08	15/05/2017	Submission to the GCF	French	English	Intersessional 15 May 2017
EB.2017.09	18/05/2017	DRC Programmes (2)	French	English	Intersessional, 18 May 2017
EB.2017.10	27/06/2017	2016 Annual Report	French	English	EB7, Paris
EB.2017.11	21/07/2017	Secretariat Budget revision		English	Intersessional, 21 July 2017
EB.2017.12	27/06/2017	Gabon – Letter of Intent, Country Allocation and Programmes	French	English	EB7, Paris
EB.2017.13	27/06/2017	Monitoring and Independent verification of milestones (DRC)	French	English	EB7, Paris
EB.2017.14	27/06/2017	DRC – Follow up on EB.2017.02	French	English	EB7, Paris
EB.2017.15	14/07/2017	Revision of Cameroon preparatory grant project document	French	English	Intersessional, 14 July 2017
EB.2017.16	14/07/2017	Fiduciary measures in high risk scenarios	French	English	Intersessional 14 July 2017
EB.2017.17	10/10/2017	National Investment Framework of the Republic of Congo	French	English	EB8, Paris
EB.2017.18	10/10/2017	Approval of disbursement to DRC National REDD+ Fund – 2 nd sub-tranche	French	English	EB8, Paris
EB.2017.19	10/10/2017	Fiduciary measures – UN-Habitat	French	English	EB8, Paris
EB.2017.20	10/10/2017	Gabon R-PP and Programmes	French	English	EB8, Paris
EB.2017.21	10/10/2017	Central African Republic Preparatory Grant Implementation	French	English	EB8, Paris
EB.2017.22	10/10/2017	Cameroon Preparatory Grant Implementation	French	English	EB8, Paris
EB.2017.23	10/10/2017	Monitoring of country programmes	French	English	EB8, Paris
EB.2017.24	01/11/2017	Monitoring and Independent verification (DRC)	French	English	Intersessional, 1 November 2017

Figure 12: list and hyperlinks of CAFI EB decisions in 2017.

Between EB meetings, information exchange between Board members was facilitated by monthly calls organized by the CAFI Secretariat.

4. New avenues for change explored with the private sector

As part of a strategy to establish partnerships with the private sector to build a green, deforestation-free economy in Central Africa – and support broader REDD+ activities, CAFI undertook [a feasibility study with Dalberg Global Development Partners](#). The focus: the potential for incubator–accelerator initiatives to assist CAFI in reducing pressure on forests through the replication and scaling of green and inclusive business models.

With an initial focus on the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Gabon, the study illustrated the business climate for small enterprises and entrepreneurs, and concluded with recommendations for each context. CAFI initiated discussions with partners to facilitate the development of clear business plan, establish a pilot incubator and refine the model for expansion.

5. Visibility of CAFI actions enhanced with events and communications

Through boosted events and communication efforts, including a highly talked about ministerial event at COP-23, the production of a short documentary film and higher presence on social media, CAFI has maintained its position as a notable player in the arena of climate, forest and development efforts in Central Africa.

a. Three major events punctuate the year

In 2017, the CAFI Secretariat led, co-organized or participated in three major public events, highlighting the continued successes and on-going commitment of the CAFI Secretariat, its partners and donors.

The first major event, in January, was the [high-level signature ceremony for the Joint Declaration with South Korea](#)²⁴ – the 7th donor to join the Central African Forest Initiative. The event, held in Daejeon, was attended by the Minister of Korea Forest Service, Norway’s Ambassador to Korea and a representative of UNDP’s Seoul Policy Centre.

In June, **the Government of Gabon and the Central African Forest Initiative signed a Letter of Intent for 18 million US dollars** (see section III.b) The ceremony²⁵, that took place on the eve of the 7th meeting of the CAFI Executive Board in Paris, garnered significant media coverage, including on [Reuters](#)²⁶ and [Jeune Afrique](#)²⁷, and an [interview on Channel Africa Radio](#)²⁸ with Head of the CAFI Secretariat Berta Pesti.

At COP-23 in Bonn in November, the [CAFI Secretariat co-organized an event with France](#)²⁹ to mark its upcoming presidency of the Initiative and reflect on successes, challenges and how to enhance efforts moving forward. The event kicked off with the premiere of the CAFI short documentary, [“Key to a cooler future for us all”](#)³⁰. “Let’s not wait until it is too late to act” French Minister for Ecological and Solidarity transition Nicolas Hulot exhorted the audience in its keynote remarks, before welcoming speakers from Gabon, the DRC, Germany the Republic of Congo and the private sector.



²⁴ <http://www.cafi.org/content/cafi/en/home/events/south-korea-joins-cafi.html>

²⁵ <http://www.cafi.org/content/cafi/en/home/events/cafi-and-gabon-sign-letter-of-intent.html>

²⁶ <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-gabon-climatechange/gabon-pledges-to-protect-forests-in-regional-drive-to-save-congo-basin-idUSKBN19J1JL>

²⁷ <http://www.jeuneafrique.com/452018/societe/gabon-recoit-18-millions-de-dollars-protection-de-forets>

²⁸ <https://embed.iono.fm/chan/2488#>

²⁹ <http://www.cafi.org/content/cafi/en/home/events/cafi-at-cop-23.html>

³⁰ <https://youtu.be/HPmxZsf5PqQ>

b. Fresh news and video products and enhanced online presence increase awareness on CAFI's actions

News

In 2017, the CAFI Secretariat produced a total of 25 articles – i.e two per month, in two languages each- and published them on the front page of the CAFI web site³¹. They covered major milestones in the CAFI portfolio, such as the signature of the letter of Intent with Gabon, positions on the forest sector in DRC, the new line of work explored with the private sector, as well as updates on country programmes.

The CAFI 6-min documentary film “Key to a cooler future for all of us” was shot in Gabon and DRC and narrated in English by Hollywood A-lister Djimon Hounsou and in French by a local Gabonese artist. It emphasizes the importance of rainforests for local populations – such as food, shelter, revenues - and for the whole world (amongst which climate, biodiversity and security). Recalling the efforts undertaken by CAFI partner countries to preserve these forests in spite of growing pressures, the film ends with a vibrant call to more collaboration, more alignment, and engagement from all stakeholders.

Footage was tailored into various features:

- The full length, 6-min feature during the COP-23 event³²
- A 1 min feature that opened discussions at the first ever, France-hosted, [“One Planet Summit”](#)³³ (12 December)
- Webisodes tailored for Facebook and Twitter, launched in French³⁴ and promoted by the UNDP corporate account @UNDP (1.25 million followers) and the francophones account - @PNUDFR (95,700 followers).³⁵

Country fact sheets³⁶ were updated in both English and French to reflect advances in programming and implementation, [posted online](#) and distributed in hard copy during COP-23.

These communication products benefited from CAFI's largely boosted online activity, with increased CAFI web site³⁷ readership and active promotion by the new @CAFISecretariat³⁸ Twitter feed.

Twelve months following the **CAFI web site** redesign (December 2016), consistent growth in audience engagement has been observed. In 2017, cafi.org welcomed:

- 7934 users; 14,344 sessions and 39,647 page views;
- an average user session of 3.24 minutes resulting in 2.76 pages being visited per viewer.³⁹

This amounts to an average of 661 users per month, **a 215% increase from the website launch in December 2016.**

³¹ <http://www.cafi.org/content/cafi/en/home/events/all-news.html>

³² <https://youtu.be/HPmxZsf5Pq0>

³³ <http://www.cafi.org/content/cafi/en/home/events/new-cafi-movie-calls-for-joint-action.html>

³⁴ <https://twitter.com/CAFISecretariat/status/940503039047237632>. The English webisodes will be launched during International Forest Day in March 2018

³⁵ <https://twitter.com/pnudfr/status/940473890480033792>

³⁶ <http://www.cafi.org/content/cafi/en/home/events/CAFIcountryfactsheet2017.html>

³⁷ <http://www.cafi.org>

³⁸ <https://twitter.com/CAFISecretariat>

³⁹ All numbers from Google analytics

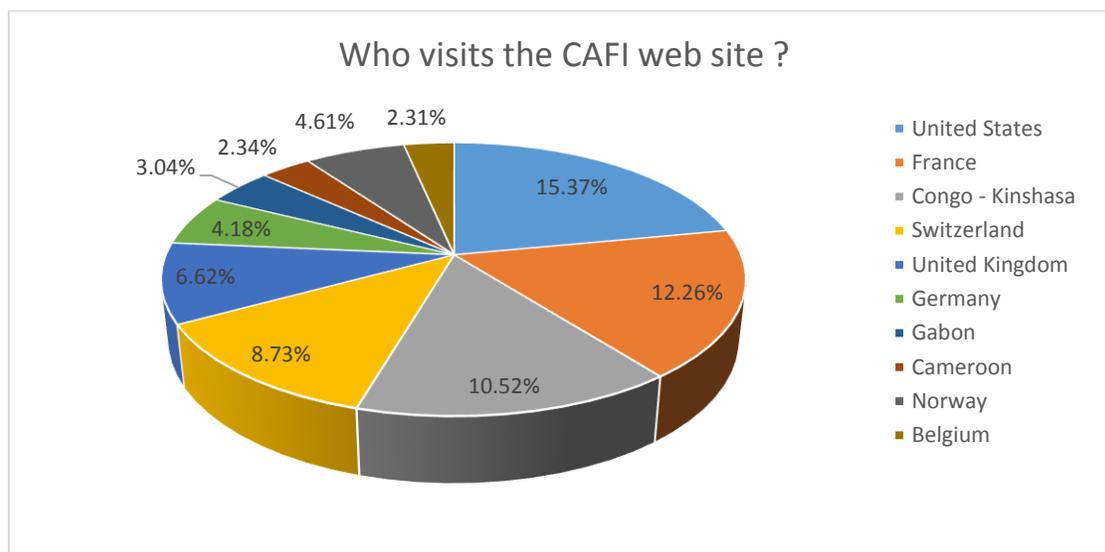


Figure 13: Sessions on the CAFI web site, per country

As per the figure above, most user sessions originated from the United States, France and the DRC, followed by Switzerland, the United Kingdom and Germany. This readership data reflects a good level of engagement with EB countries, and more limited engagement in some partner countries, likely due to limited connectivity (CAR) and/or CAFI support currently limited to preparatory grants (CAR, RoC, EG).

The @CAFISecretariat Twitter handle was established in April 2017. Tweeting at least weekly in both French and English, the account had attracted **285 followers, as of 31 December 2017**. CAFI maintained an engaged follower base throughout the 9 months of initial activity, demonstrated by:

- 147,122 total tweet impressions (an average of 424 impressions per tweet)
- 2320 profile visits
- 131 mentions
- An average 4 engagements and 1.7 retweet per tweet.

These numbers constitute a baseline against which progress will be measured every year.

On average @CAFISecretariat received 424 impressions per tweet . Peak activity was observed in November with 49 tweets garnering 38,400 tweet impressions, 608 profile visits and 42 mentions. During COP-23 (6-17 November) alone, @CAFISecretariat published 20 tweets and received 2000 tweet impressions per day.

The most popular tweet of 2017 (6837 tweet impressions, 83 engagements and 20 retweets) was a quote of French Minister Nicolas Hulot at the COP-23 event on 16 November⁴⁰ :

"La gourmandise de l'homme pour la terre peut être sans limites. La planète ne va pas survivre à la perte de ses ressources forestières" @N_Hulot [#CAFI](#) [#COP23](#)



⁴⁰ <https://twitter.com/CAFISecretariat/status/931080650651848705>

6. Technical assistance provided to partner countries to foster results aligned with objectives

The CAFI Secretariat organized a number of facilitating missions, joined by local or international representatives of the Policy Board, in Gabon, RoC, and DRC.

- In Gabon, these missions eased the final revisions of the NIF, mutual understanding during the negotiations of the LOI and support to programming.
- In RoC, these missions supported the submission of the NIF to the EB for a first reading.
- In DRC, the CAFI Secretariat supported the organization of Technical and Steering committee meetings, bringing their support to programming, as well as the annual partnership monitoring meeting.

7. Staffing 100% completed

With recruitment of the administrative assistant finalized, staffing of the CAFI Secretariat is now 100% completed. Germany also approved a JPO position for the Secretariat that will be filled in 2018.

Challenges and actions taken

Challenges abounded in 2017: a sensitive context in DRC, slower-than-expected implementation of some preparatory grants, and heightened contestation by international civil society and reporting challenges have mobilized the full capacity of the CAFI Secretariat and Board members, together with partner countries. In spite of these challenges, CAFI's unique vision continues to be firmly backed and carried forward by a cohesive Executive Board.

1. DRC FONAREDD portfolio implemented in a sensitive context

Failures in forest governance represented a challenge in DRC. These occurred against a backdrop of new preliminary deforestation data, gathered thanks to CAFI funding and FAO support, showing an alarming trend indicating that DRC (long considered a high-forest low-deforestation country) is now turning into a high-deforestation country.

The cancellation of these contracts, that resulted from diligent actions taken by the DRC National REDD+ Fund with support from CAFI, highlighted the constructive dialogue maintained between the DRC government and the coalition of CAFI donors, despite a complex political context.

The temporary suspension of cooperation between FONAREDD and the Ministry of Environment in September, which was subsequently resolved in December following the re-engagement of the Ministry in FONAREDD activities, represented an additional challenge.

It is expected that this challenging situation will persist if not worsen in 2018 with a complex election year in the DRC. The CAFI Secretariat has been and will be facilitating the dialogue between the government of DRC and the Executive Board, to be prepared to appropriately handle the evolution of events. As an unexpected positive side effect, the complexity of situation has brought the different members of the Executive Board together for more information exchange and joint strategizing. It is expected that this closer cooperation will continue in 2018 and will be reinforced.

2. Preparatory grants implemented slower than expected

While steady progress has been observed for the preparatory grants of Equatorial Guinea (FAO support) and Republic of Congo (World Bank), implementation of preparatory grants that had been allocated in 2016 to CAR (World Bank), and Cameroun (World Bank and AFD) have been slow to start. This is due to a combination of internal procedures and complex political contexts. To maintain momentum and explore how to increase delivery, the Executive Board requested⁴¹ implementing agencies in countries without a National Fund to prepare short "country updates" and share them three weeks in advance of each Executive Board meeting, and tasked the CAFI Secretariat to provide guidance on guiding questions for these short country updates ».

It is expected that the work done with the CAFI preparatory funding will bear its fruits in 2018, with several investment frameworks expected to be presented to and discussed by the EB.

3. With heightened action came heightened public scrutiny

Throughout 2017, CAFI and several of its major donors, were subject to various commentaries via twitter, news articles and on NGO websites. CAFI interventions in the DRC were largely the focus of contention.

⁴¹ http://www.cafi.org/content/dam/cafi/docs/Executive%20Board/CAFI_EB_Decisions/English/EB.2017.23-%20Monitoring%20of%20country%20programmes.pdf

To answer constructively and maintain an essential dialogue, the CAFI Secretariat:

- Developed - in consultation with the EB, the FONAREDD Secretariat and technical partners- [FAQs and a briefing note on the DRC forest sector](#)⁴² that were published and updated regularly on the CAFI web site
- Established direct contact with the consortium of NGOs and individuals, including several email exchanges and phone conferences with EB members. Efforts were made to allow parties to express their concerns and contribute their feedback for consideration, although this was still met with hostility by some.

Efforts to quell public accusations - whilst maintaining the integrity of the Secretariat and its partners- are on-going and will continue in 2018 - including the development of a systematic, both proactive and reactive, communications strategy.

4. Reporting challenges

2017 is the first year of reporting against the CAFI result framework, allowing to identify two main challenges.

First, the simultaneous reporting deadlines for the FONAREDD and CAFI Funds (both due on 31 May) have made the consolidation of FONAREDD data into this report impossible. Indeed, as of 31 May 2018 the submission of this report, only draft parts of the FONAREDD consolidated report had been shared with the CAFI Secretariat. While this is in respect of the legal agreement made with the MPTF Office, cascading deadlines should be agreed to.

Secondly, the EB decision for all programmes to report on governance indicators has not been respected by all agencies, making the collection of data much less rich and informed than could have been. A discussion between the EB and implementing agencies is scheduled in 2018.

⁴² <http://www.cafi.org/content/cafi/en/home/events/the-drc-forest-sector---nuanced-and-complex.html>

Annex: Progress towards the indicators of the DRC investment plan (as reported by FONAREDD)

Result in the REDD+ Investment plan	Narrative towards the result	Result indicator	Performance
Outcome 1: Forest-friendly agricultural investments that improve the livelihoods of rural populations, including vulnerable and marginalized people (women, youth, etc.)			
Agricultural Bill developed	Programme on agriculture has not started. Programme document expected to be approved at the 4 th Steering Committee in 2018	A project for agricultural policy is elaborated	0%
Percentage of forest surface area under sustainable cropping systems or with limited degradation	Integrated programmes have not started ; Savanna-based agriculture programme not started	Number of hectares in forests with established sustainable crops	idem
Percentage of savannah surface area under sustainable cropping systems or with limited degradation	idem	Number of hectares in savannahs with sustainable crops or reduced degradation	idem
The surface areas allocated to large-scale agriculture (100ha+) are directed towards formers concessions and savannah areas in priority	idem	Number of hectares dedicated to large scale agriculture seeded	idem
		Number of hectares dedicated to sustainable agriculture in savannahs	idem
Outcome 2: Reduction of in the share of non-renewable fuelwood			
Increase in the quantity of fuelwood produced by closing off areas to allow for natural regeneration (<i>mises</i>)	Energy Programme document not finalized ; integrated programmes not yet started	Number of hectares for exclusion for natural regeneration	Programme document not finalized

<i>en defens</i>) and through agroforestry plantations			
	idem	Area (ha) of agro forestry seed with wood species	idem
	idem	Number of trees planted in agro forestry fields	idem
Reduction in the quantity of fuelwood consumed by large cities	idem	% of reduction in wood consumed in cities	idem
Increase in the number of households that have adopted improved cookstoves	idem	Number of households that have adopted improved cookstoves or number of households impacted by improved cookstoves	Idem
Outcome 3: Deforestation and forest degradation caused by logging is reduced thanks to the adoption of more sustainable management practices			
NFMS operational		Terra Congo online and operational	100%
		Forest inventory completed	75%
Forest policy adopted and forest code revised in a participatory manner	Programme on Sustainable management of Forests not yet approved	Forest policy adopted	Programme has not started, draft not provided by MEDD in 2016
		Forest code elaborated in a participatory manner is adopted	idem
Increase in the number of concessions under an implemented sustainable management plan or certified	18 concessions under management plan out of 57 (April 2018)	Number of such forest concessions	10 management plans validated 70 % of commercialized wood comes from concessions under a management plan
Increase in the number of communities and decentralized territorial entities(DTEs) supported to implement community forestry		Number of established community forests	N/A
	Programme on Sustainable management of Forests not yet approved	Number of structured communities	N/A
		Number of DTE that have adopted community forestry	N/A

		Number of structured DTE	N/A
Increase in the ratio of legal wood/ illegal wood exported	Programme on Sustainable management of Forests not started, numbers not available	% of legal wood	N/A
Outcome 4: Environmental management standards and tools for mining and oil projects are operational and are aligned with REDD+			
Lessons learned from the current application of environment management standards applied in existing and experimental sites	Terms of reference of the relevant request for proposal not finalized	Sample of studies and projects identified, lessons learned	Terms of reference not finalized
Standards are integrated into national regulations and strategies		Guide for mining and oil norms published in Official Journal	idem
		Representatives of Ace and concerned ministers are trained to using the Operational Guide	idem
Capacity building of stakeholders in order to implement regulatory changes	idem	A panel of consultants is trained in each mining province to guide socio-environmental studies in applying the operational guide	idem
		The responsible people in main mining companies, unions and artisanal mining agency receive training to use the Operational Guide.	idem
A method for monitoring and evaluation at short, medium and long term is elaborated and the capacity of relevant agents is strengthened to implement it.	idem	A M&E system, including complaints and recourse and soci-environmental studies in the mining sector – is elaborated, described in the Operational Guide, its role in the studies and the monitoring of their	idem

		implementation is described. The system is put in place in each mining province.	
		Les agents constituant ce dispositif sont formés	idem
Outcome 5: Human activities are better planned and allow for an optimized use of space and a reduction of their impact on forests			
The policy and the law on Land Use planning are elaborated in a participatory manner	Ministry personnel is currently being recruited. The cell in charge of the process has been created	The LUP policy is elaborated, The socio-environmental strategic evaluation is completed	Awaiting the operationalization of the process
		Law on LUP is drafted	idem
National land use planning Scheme (NLUPS) developed	idem	Schéma national sur l'AT élaboré	idem
Number of administrative sectors, territories and provinces for which a land use plan has been developed and is complied with	Integrated programmes not yet started	Nombre de plans élaborés (tableau détaillé sera élaboré en cours de mise en œuvre)	Activities not initiated
		Plans d'usage des sols dont le dispositif de mise en œuvre est opérationnel (plateformes, contrats de mise en œuvre...)	idem
Outcome 6: Land tenure rights allow logging and agriculture practices to evolve in a sustainable manner			
System for implementation is operational	Largely operational	CONAREF operational, Consultants recruited Equipments bought Platform and steering committee operational Thematic groups in place	70%
Land Tenure Bill developed in a participative manner	Draft being elaborated	Tenure policy project elaborated	Draft being elaborated

Provincial land tenure edicts developed in a participative manner	Pertains to integrated programmes, non yet operational	One provincial edict per province	Pertains to integrated programmes, non yet operational		
One operational circonscription per integrated programme (8)	The programme on tenure reform only aims at elaborating the model to strengthen capacities, its piloting in Oriental province in 2 circonscription and the elaboration of a guide . To meet the Plan's objective, need to use remaining funds	The model to strengthen capacities is finalized (PRF and oriental integrated programme)	Design under development (CONAREF)		
		Piloting of the model in the oriental province (2 circonscription)	Non operational		
		Drafting of the guide to strengthen capacities	Non operational		
		One circonscription equipped and trained per integrated programme	Non operational		
Number of consultative councils for agriculture that are functional	PIREDD not initiated	One consultative counsel for agriculture functional for each province with an integrated programme and its branches for territories and sectors are operational (CARGs).	Awaiting the implementation of those activities in the integrated programmes, including to evaluate the situation of these counsels and their capacity strengthening needs		
Map(s) showing the various formal or informal, public or private, sectoral land-use patterns (for the various productive sectors that consume	One provincial map available per PIREDD	Map Evaluation conducted by local experts about	Element of the Elément du SNAT et des SPATs. Firme non recrutée. Processus de réalisation non engagé.	Provincial map available for each Integrated programme	Activities not initiated in integrated programmes
				Participatory map for each priority REDD+ territory	Activities not initiated in Integrated programmes

Les capacités des services techniques de l'agriculture et du cadastre sous PIREDD sont renforcés.	PIREDD et AT not opérationnel on that topic.	Selected personnel for agriculture services for each territory in Integrated programmes is trained	Integrated programmes
		Personal of selected services (piloting of capacity strengthening models) is trained	idem
		Agents of the technical agricultural services where there is an integrated programme are motivated and equipped.	idem
		Les services sélectionnés du cadastre sont équipés et motivés. Les services sont équipés.	idem
% of local community land mapped in a participative manner	Status of the situation to be evaluated by Integrated programmes when operational	All villages selected in a province with a integrated programmes benefit from a development plan	Integrated programmes
(Juridical and technical) provisions for the recording of collective rights have been proposed.	Integrated programmes	All villages that have chosen the community forestry model are registered by the MEDD and the Province	idem
		Agreed processes to register plantations under collective rights are applied	
Outcome 7 Human pressure on forests, related to migration and population dynamics, is reduced			
The prevalence of modern contraception is increasing to reach the objectives of the national Strategy	Non operational	National communication strategy validated by the CNPT	Non operational
		Every area under an integrated programme has a plan to implement the strategy validated by the CNPT	Non operational

		Plans are undertaken for areas under integrated programmes	Non operational
Demographic dynamics are better understood	Non operational	Chaque grande zone de migration fait l'objet d'une étude sur ses causes et effets et des moyens de les mitiger.	Non operational
Outcome 8: Good governance is ensured for effective, cross-cutting, integrated, transparent, equitable and sustainable implementation of REDD+ that is result-based, and that integrates information, consultation, participation and consent of all stakeholders, in a manner that is equitable between women and men			
REDD+ National Fund in place	Operational	FONAREDD operational and functional (CT meetings and Steering committee meetings)	Operational
REDD+ National Fund tools are managed in a dynamic, transparent and rigorous manner	Cf evaluations	The web site is updated and all information about the process of programming and monitoring and evaluation is available	Operational
		Periodaical reports are published within agreed timeline and disseminated on the web site for the wide public	Operational
Number of governance structures strengthened or created and that are functional (per level of governance; "institutional"/independent)	Operational	All FONAREDD sectoral programmes have a multi stakeholder platform to guide them All Integrated programmes have such platforms at different territorial levels and multi stakeholder steering committees	3 out of 4 approved sectoral programmes 0 out of 3 operational for integrated programmes
Governance structures are representative (per type and level of governance), including women and indigenous peoples	Operational	Each interest group has qualified representatives in governance structures	Civil society programme is operational. DGEM/indigenous peoples programme to ensure representation in steering committees

		Support is provided to interest groups to organize, elaborate their strategies for representation and designate qualified representatives in governance structures	Idem. On gender and other interest groups, not operational in integrated programmes
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**Consolidated Annual Financial
Report of the Administrative Agent
for
the Central African Forest Initiative Fund
for the period 1 January to 31 December 2017**

**Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office
Bureau for Management Services
United Nations Development Programme
[GATEWAY: http://mptf.undp.org](http://mptf.undp.org)**

May 2018

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS



Agence Française de Développement

DRC National Fund REDD+



Food and Agriculture Organization



World Bank

CONTRIBUTORS



FRANCE, Government of



NORWAY, Government of

DEFINITIONS

Allocation

Amount approved by the Steering Committee for a project/programme.

Approved Project/Programme

A project/programme including budget, etc., that is approved by the Steering Committee for fund allocation purposes.

Contributor Commitment

Amount(s) committed by a donor to a Fund in a signed Standard Administrative Arrangement with the UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office), in its capacity as the Administrative Agent. A commitment may be paid or pending payment.

Contributor Deposit

Cash deposit received by the MPTF Office for the Fund from a contributor in accordance with a signed Standard Administrative Arrangement.

Delivery Rate

The percentage of funds that have been utilized, calculated by comparing expenditures reported by a Participating Organization against the 'net funded amount'.

Indirect Support Costs

A general cost that cannot be directly related to any particular programme or activity of the Participating Organizations. UNDG policy establishes a fixed indirect cost rate of 7% of programmable costs.

Net Funded Amount

Amount transferred to a Participating Organization less any refunds transferred back to the MPTF Office by a Participating Organization.

Participating Organization

A UN Organization or other inter-governmental Organization that is an implementing partner in a Fund, as represented by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the MPTF Office for a particular Fund.

Project Expenditure

The sum of expenses and/or expenditure reported by all Participating Organizations for a Fund irrespective of which basis of accounting each Participating Organization follows for donor reporting.

Project Financial Closure

A project or programme is considered financially closed when all financial obligations of an operationally completed project or programme have been settled, and no further financial charges may be incurred.

Project Operational Closure

A project or programme is considered operationally closed when all programmatic activities for which Participating Organization(s) received funding have been completed.

Project Start Date

Date of transfer of first instalment from the MPTF Office to the Participating Organization.

Total Approved Budget

This represents the cumulative amount of allocations approved by the Steering Committee.

US Dollar Amount

The financial data in the report is recorded in US Dollars and due to rounding off of numbers, the totals may not add up.

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INTRODUCTION

This Consolidated Annual Financial Report of the **Central African Forest Init. Fund** is prepared by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office) in fulfillment of its obligations as Administrative Agent, as per the terms of Reference (TOR), the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the UNDP MPTF Office and the Participating Organizations, and the Standard Administrative Arrangement (SAA) signed with contributors.

The MPTF Office, as Administrative Agent, is responsible for concluding an MOU with Participating Organizations and SAAs with contributors. It receives, administers and

manages contributions, and disburses these funds to the Participating Organizations. The Administrative Agent prepares and submits annual consolidated financial reports, as well as regular financial statements, for transmission to contributors.

This consolidated financial report covers the period 1 January to 31 December **2017** and provides financial data on progress made in the implementation of projects of the **Central African Forest Init. Fund**. It is posted on the MPTF Office GATEWAY (<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/AFI00>).

The financial data in the report is recorded in US Dollars and due to rounding off of numbers, the totals may not add up.

2017 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

This chapter presents financial data and analysis of the **Central African Forest Init. Fund** using the pass-through funding modality as of 31 December 2017. Financial information for this Fund is also available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY, at the following address: <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/AFI00>.

1. SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS

As of 31 December 2017, 2 contributors deposited US\$ 100,705,662 in contributions and US\$ 199,590 was earned in interest.

The cumulative source of funds was US\$ **100,905,252**.

Of this amount, US\$ **89,352,781** has been net funded to 4 Participating Organizations, of which US\$ **9,847,988** has been reported as expenditure. The Administrative Agent fee has been charged at the approved rate of 1% on deposits and amounts to US\$ **1,007,057**. Table 1 provides an overview of the overall sources, uses, and balance of the **Central African Forest Init. Fund** as of 31 December 2017.

Table 1. Financial Overview, as of 31 December 2017 (in US Dollars)

	Annual 2016	Annual 2017	Cumulative
Sources of Funds			
Contributions from donors	39,849,187	51,466,804	100,705,662
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income	48,169	148,511	199,590
Interest Income received from Participating Organizations	-	-	-
Refunds by Administrative Agent to Contributors	-	-	-
Fund balance transferred to DRC National Fund REDD+i ¹	-	-	-
Other Income	-	-	-
Total: Sources of Funds	39,897,355	51,615,315	100,905,252
Use of Funds			
Transfers to Participating Organizations	3,240,000	474,010	3,714,010
Transfers to DRC National Fund REDD+	39,000,000	42,200,000	81,200,000
Refunds received from Participating Organizations	-	-	-
Net Funded Amount	42,240,000	42,674,010	84,914,010
Administrative Agent Fees	398,492	514,668	1,007,057
Direct Costs: (Steering Committee, Secretariat...etc.)	1,200,000	1,498,771	4,438,771
Bank Charges	284	705	1,074
Other Expenditures	-	-	-
Total: Uses of Funds	43,838,776	44,688,154	90,360,911
Change in Fund cash balance with Administrative Agent	(3,941,420)	6,927,162	10,544,342
Opening Fund balance (1 January)	7,558,601	3,617,180	-
Closing Fund balance (31 December)	3,617,180	10,544,342	10,544,342
Net Funded Amount (Includes Direct Cost)	43,440,000	44,172,781	89,352,781
Participating Organizations' Expenditure (Includes Direct Cost)	85,744	9,762,244	9,847,988
Balance of Funds with Participating Organizations			79,504,792

2. PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS

Table 2 provides information on cumulative contributions received from all contributors to this Fund as of 31 December 2017.

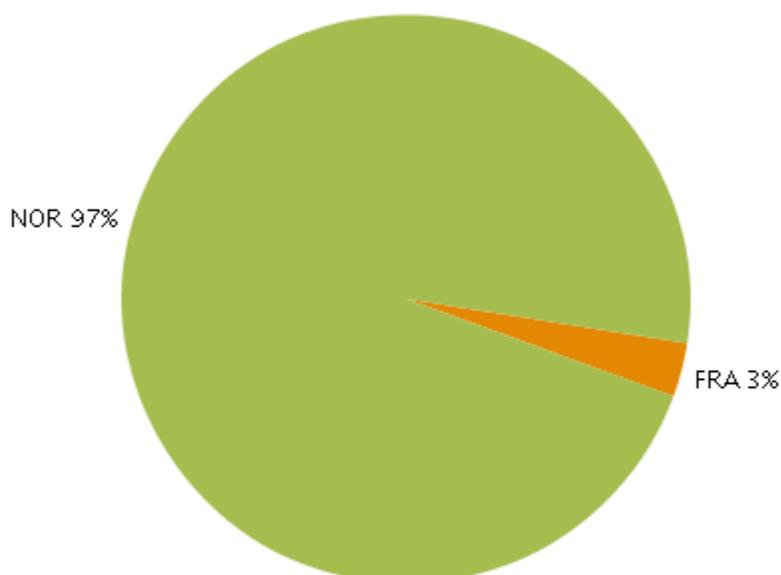
The **Central African Forest Init. Fund** is currently being financed by 2 contributors, as listed in the table below.

The table below includes commitments made up to 31 December **2017** through signed Standard Administrative Agreements, and deposits made through **2017**. It does not include commitments that were made to the fund beyond **2017**.

Table 2. Contributors' Commitments and Deposits, as of 31 December 2017 (in US Dollars)

Contributors	Total Commitments	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2016 Deposits	Current Year Jan-Dec-2017 Deposits	Total Deposits
FRANCE, Government of	3,112,800	3,112,800	-	3,112,800
NORWAY, Government of	108,224,934	46,126,058	51,466,804	97,592,862
Grand Total	111,337,734	49,238,858	51,466,804	100,705,662

Figure 1: Deposits by contributor, cumulative as of 31 December 2017



3. INTEREST EARNED

Interest income is earned in two ways: 1) on the balance of funds held by the Administrative Agent (Fund earned interest), and 2) on the balance of funds held by the Participating Organizations (Agency earned interest) where their Financial Regulations and Rules allow return of interest to the AA.

As of 31 December **2017**, Fund earned interest amounts to US\$ **199,590**.

Details are provided in the table below.

Table 3. Sources of Interest and Investment Income, as of 31 December 2017 (in US Dollars)

Interest Earned	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2016	Current Year Jan-Dec-2017	Total
Administrative Agent			
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income	51,079	148,511	199,590
Total: Fund Earned Interest	51,079	148,511	199,590
Participating Organization			
Total: Agency earned interest			
Grand Total	51,079	148,511	199,590

4. TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Allocations to Participating Organizations are approved by the Steering Committee and disbursed by the Administrative Agent. As of 31 December 2017, the AA has transferred US\$ **84,914,010** to 4 Participating Organizations (see list below).

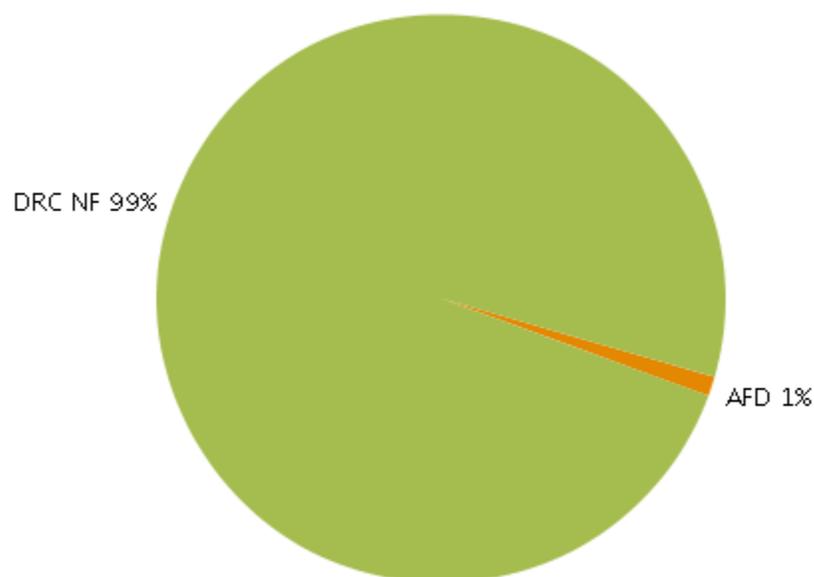
4.1 TRANSFER BY PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION

Table 4 provides additional information on the refunds received by the MPTF Office, and the net funded amount for each of the Participating Organizations.

Table 4. Transfer, Refund, and Net Funded Amount by Participating Organization, as of 31 December 2017 (in US Dollars)

Participating Organization	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2016			Current Year Jan-Dec-2017			Total		
	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded
AFD				474,010		474,010	474,010		474,010
DRC NF	39,000,000		39,000,000	42,200,000		42,200,000	81,200,000		81,200,000
FAO	1,000,000		1,000,000				1,000,000		1,000,000
IBRD	2,240,000		2,240,000				2,240,000		2,240,000
Grand Total	42,240,000		42,240,000	42,674,010		42,674,010	84,914,010		84,914,010

Figure 2: Transfers amount by Participating Organization for the period of 1 January to 31 December 2017



5. EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL DELIVERY RATES

All final expenditures reported for the year **2017** were submitted by the Headquarters of the Participating Organizations. These were consolidated by the MPTF Office. Project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organization, and are reported as per the agreed upon categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting. The reported expenditures were submitted via the MPTF Office's online expenditure reporting tool. The **2017** expenditure data has been posted on the MPTF Office GATEWAY at <http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/AFI00>.

5.1 EXPENDITURE REPORTED BY PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION

In **2017**, US\$ **42,674,010** was net funded to Participating Organizations, and US\$ **7,177,085** was reported in expenditure.

As shown in table below, the cumulative net funded amount is US\$ **84,914,010** and cumulative expenditures reported by the Participating Organizations amount to US\$ **7,262,828**. This equates to an overall Fund expenditure delivery rate of **9** percent.

The agencies with the three highest delivery rates are: FAO (80%), IBRD (37%) and DRC NF (7%)

Table 5. Net Funded Amount, Reported Expenditure, and Financial Delivery by Participating Organization, as of 31 December 2017 (in US Dollars)

Participating Organization	Approved Amount	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure			Delivery Rate %
			Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2016	Current Year Jan-Dec-2017	Cumulative	
AFD	474,010	474,010				0
DRC NF	81,200,000	81,200,000		5,637,134	5,637,134	6.94
FAO	1,000,000	1,000,000		803,064	803,064	80.31
IBRD	2,240,000	2,240,000	85,744	736,886	822,630	36.72
Grand Total	84,914,010	84,914,010	85,744	7,177,085	7,262,828	8.55

5.4 EXPENDITURE REPORTED BY CATEGORY

Project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organization and are reported as per the agreed categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting. In 2006 the UN Development Group (UNDG) established six categories against which UN entities must report inter-agency project expenditures. Effective 1 January 2012, the UN Chief Executive Board (CEB) modified these categories as a result of IPSAS adoption to comprise eight categories. All expenditure incurred prior to 1 January 2012 have been reported in the old categories; post 1 January 2012 all expenditure are reported in the new eight categories. See table below.

2012 CEB Expense Categories

1. Staff and personnel costs
2. Supplies, commodities and materials
3. Equipment, vehicles, furniture and depreciation
4. Contractual services
5. Travel
6. Transfers and grants
7. General operating expenses
8. Indirect costs

Table 6. Expenditure by UNDG Budget Category, as of 31 December 2017 (in US Dollars)

Category	Expenditure			Percentage of Total Programme Cost
	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2016	Current Year Jan-Dec-2017	Total	
Staff & Personnel Cost (New)	-	1,417,704	1,417,704	24.69
Suppl, Comm, Materials (New)	-	191,408	191,408	3.33
Equip, Veh, Furn, Depn (New)	-	824,177	824,177	14.35
Contractual Services (New)	744	1,106,427	1,107,171	19.28
Travel (New)	-	476,715	476,715	8.30
Transfers and Grants (New)	-	1,402,648	1,402,648	24.43
General Operating (New)	-	321,668	321,668	5.60
Programme Costs Total	744	5,740,747	5,741,491	100.00
¹ Indirect Support Costs Total	85,000	1,436,338	1,521,338	26.50
Total	85,744	7,177,085	7,262,828	

¹ **Indirect Support Costs** charged by Participating Organization, based on their financial regulations, can be deducted upfront or at a later stage during implementation. The percentage may therefore appear to exceed the 7% agreed-upon for on-going projects. Once projects are financially closed, this number is not to exceed 7%.

6. COST RECOVERY

Cost recovery policies for the Fund are guided by the applicable provisions of the Terms of Reference, the MOU concluded between the Administrative Agent and Participating Organizations, and the SAAs concluded between the Administrative Agent and Contributors, based on rates approved by UNDG.

The policies in place, as of 31 December 2017, were as follows:

- **The Administrative Agent (AA) fee:** 1% is charged at the time of contributor deposit and covers services provided on that contribution for the entire duration of the Fund. In the reporting period US\$ **514,668** was deducted in AA-fees. Cumulatively, as of 31 December 2017, US\$ **1,007,057** has been charged in AA-fees.
- **Indirect Costs of Participating Organizations:** Participating Organizations may charge 7% indirect costs. In the current reporting period US\$ **1,436,338** was deducted in indirect costs by Participating Organizations. Cumulatively, indirect costs amount to US\$ **1,521,338** as of 31 December 2017.

7. ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

In order to effectively provide fund administration services and facilitate monitoring and reporting to the UN system and its partners, the MPTF Office has developed a public website, the MPTF Office Gateway (<http://mptf.undp.org>). Refreshed in real time every two hours from an internal enterprise resource planning system, the MPTF Office Gateway has become a standard setter for providing transparent and accountable trust fund administration services.

The Gateway provides financial information including: contributor commitments and deposits, approved programme budgets, transfers to and expenditures reported by Participating Organizations, interest income and other expenses. In addition, the Gateway provides an overview of the MPTF Office portfolio and extensive information on individual Funds, including their purpose, governance structure and key documents. By providing easy access to the growing number of narrative and financial reports, as well as related project documents, the Gateway collects and preserves important institutional knowledge and facilitates knowledge sharing and management among UN Organizations and their development partners, thereby contributing to UN coherence and development effectiveness.

8. DIRECT COSTS

The Fund governance mechanism may approve an allocation to a Participating Organization to cover costs associated with Secretariat services and overall coordination, as well as Fund level reviews and evaluations. These allocations are referred to as 'direct costs'. In the reporting period, direct costs charged to the fund amounted to US\$ **1,498,771** for the anticipated 2018 direct cost. Cumulatively, as of 31 December 2017, US\$ **4,438,771** has been received as Direct Costs including the budget for 2018.

Table: Direct Costs

Participating Organization	Years	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure	Delivery Rate
UNDP	Cumulative 2017	2,940,000	2,585,160	88%
UNDP	Cumulative including 2018 budget	4,438,771	2,585,160	58%
Total:		4,438,771	2,585,160	58%