



FOREST DECLARATION ASSESSMENT

Regional Assessment 2022 - Annex

Tracking progress towards forest goals in the Congo Basin

November 2022
forestdeclaration.org

Appendix 1: Forest Declaration Assessment Indicators

The *Forest Declaration Assessment* framework is a tool developed by the *Forest Declaration Assessment* partners based on the Chatham House think tank methodology for monitoring forest legality and governance.^a This assessment framework compiles information and collects data on 50 indicators for the regional *Forest Declaration Assessment* pilot in the Congo Basin under four themes: (1) forest goals; (2) sustainable production and development; (3) forest financing; and (4) forest governance (Table 1).

For each indicator, the assessment framework involves researching different relevant policies or measures adopted by public or private stakeholders that relate to the indicator, or contribute to the achievement of the indicator's objectives. It then involves assessing the quality and level of implementation of these policies and measures.

^a Chatham House. *Forest Governance and Legality Methodology*.
<https://forestgovernance.chathamhouse.org/methodology>

Theme 1: Forest goals

Indicator	Description of the indicator
National deforestation (ha/year)	National deforestation rate.
Loss of intact forest cover	This indicator measures the extent of the largest and most intact forest blocks and thus tracks one aspect of degradation.
Index of forest area integrity	This indicator tracks the ecological integrity of forests using data on the intensity and distribution of human pressures known to cause degradation, combined with observed losses in forest connectivity.
High-level commitments	What commitments have countries and sub-national governments made to combat deforestation and forest degradation? Are they aligned with the 2030 global target?
Forest cover gain through FLR (ha)	This indicator is intended to capture the increase in forest cover over time in forested landscapes through forest landscape restoration (FLR).
High-level commitments	The indicator measures the number of commitments - for example, under the Bonn Challenge, commitments made by (sub)national governments and companies - and indicates the associated hectares of restoration. This indicator would be measured against the country's targets.
Restoration Finance (public)	This indicator assesses the existence of government commitments to forest landscape restoration (FLR), their amount and the status of their disbursement.
Finance of the restoration industry (private)	This indicator assesses the existence of private commitments to forest landscape restoration (FLR), their amount and the status of their payment.
Role and involvement of Indigenous peoples and local communities in restoration plans and activities.	This indicator assesses the existence of government measures to strengthen the involvement of Indigenous peoples and local communities-for example, by ensuring that their free prior and informed consent is required for project development, providing funding to support their communities and livelihoods, and providing capacity to monitor illegalities on their lands.

Theme 2: Sustainable production and development

Indicator	Description of the indicator
2.1.1. Are national development policies aligned with forest protection objectives?	There is potential for societies to engage in alternative development paths that are less dependent on excessive resource exploitation and consumption. This requires a realignment of policies and investment priorities away from extraction and consumption-based economic growth. This indicator assesses the degree to which the country's main national policies (e.g., national development policies, nationally determined contributions (NDCs), forest policies and strategies) are aligned with forest protection, both domestically and abroad (e.g., through the import of deforestation-causing goods), and the extent to which these policies are developed through participatory and inclusive processes.
2.1.2 Are there policies or initiatives to reduce poverty among forest-dependent people while protecting forests?	Poverty reduction for rural people who depend on forests to meet their basic needs can go hand in hand with sustainable forest and land use. This indicator assesses the extent to which poverty reduction policies, strategies, and initiatives target communities that depend on forest resources (fuelwood, non-timber forest products, and small-scale mining) to provide alternative sources of income and livelihoods.
2.2.1. Have companies (producers, traders, processors, manufacturers, retailers of agricultural products) adopted policies to address deforestation in their supply chain?	Companies that source forest-risk raw materials have a significant role to play in addressing deforestation and promoting sustainable agricultural practices in their supply chains. This indicator assesses the scope of companies' policies and actions with respect to their operations and/or sourcing in countries/jurisdictions where commercial agriculture is a driver of deforestation.
2.2.2. Are there credible certification systems to combat deforestation from agricultural activity?	Certification schemes are useful tools for standardizing the quality of raw materials. Some of these systems combine rules on deforestation and ecosystem conversion with human rights standards and aim to reward producers for reducing deforestation. This indicator assesses whether these systems are active in countries at risk of deforestation, and whether they cover a significant share of the relevant markets.
2.2.3. Are technological innovations being deployed to make supply chains more sustainable?	Forest monitoring and traceability technologies can make an important contribution to creating transparent supply chains and identifying deforestation risks to enable corrective action. This indicator assesses whether these technologies are available and widely used by companies to detect and address deforestation in supply chains within the borders of the countries concerned.
2.3.1 Are there policy interventions by governments to address deforestation from	Public policies-such as moratoriums on deforestation as sanction mechanisms-can be effective in reducing deforestation. This indicator assesses whether such policies are in place and to what extent they are enforced.

commercial agriculture and its supply chains?	
2.4.1. Are there approaches to intervention at the territorial and jurisdictional level to combat deforestation related to agricultural activities?	Coherent and harmonized approaches to local interventions or integrated territorial planning initiatives, when aligned with (sub)national jurisdictions, can facilitate government leadership in promoting green economic development and addressing multiple drivers of deforestation. This indicator assesses whether such approaches are being implemented in key jurisdictions.
2.5.1. Are there policy interventions to address deforestation and forest degradation due to large and medium scale extractive activities?	It is essential to consider the impact of public development programs and projects by conducting risk assessments on forests and vulnerable populations. This indicator assesses whether policies and interventions in the extractive sector take into account potential impacts on deforestation and forest degradation through impact assessments and/or prioritization of mitigation measures.
2.5.2. Are there policy interventions to address deforestation and forest degradation due to infrastructure construction?	It is essential to consider the impact of public development programs and projects by conducting risk assessments of their impact on forests and vulnerable populations. This indicator assesses whether policies and interventions affecting infrastructure address deforestation and forest degradation through impact assessments and/or prioritization of mitigation measures.
2.6.1. Do companies in the extractive and infrastructure sectors have policies in place to manage their impacts on forests?	It is essential for companies to consider the impact of their activities on forests and people by conducting risk assessments of their activities. This indicator assesses whether the policies and activities of companies in the extractive and infrastructure sectors address deforestation and forest degradation through impact assessments and/or prioritization approaches to mitigation, including by having a "social license to operate."
2.7.1. Are civil society, Indigenous peoples and local communities, and other citizen-led groups involved in local efforts to influence forestry and economic development policies and initiatives in the public and private sectors?	Civil society actors play an important role in the development and implementation of forest impact assessments at different scales. Governments need to draw on their expertise through participatory approaches to ensure that the voices of forest and forest-dependent people are taken into account. This indicator assesses the extent to which these stakeholders are involved in public and private decision-making related to forests.
2.8.1. Are community-led conservation approaches authorized, supported and operational in the country?	Civil society movements play an important role in the planning and implementation of community forests at different scales. Their expertise should be actively engaged, using participatory approaches to enable those who live in or depend on forests to have a voice in decision-making. This indicator assesses the degree to which community-led conservation and livelihood approaches are enabled, supported and implemented in the country.

Theme 3: Financing for forests

Indicator	Description of the indicator
3.1.1. Is green international finance oriented towards mitigation in the forest sector, or towards activities that co-benefit mitigation in the forest sector?	International green finance for forests refers to financial contributions by governments and multilateral institutions to help mitigate global warming through forest activities in other countries. This includes financing aligned with forest conservation, protection, or sustainable use objectives, such as REDD+ strategies. Article 9 of the Paris Agreement states that developed countries shall provide financial resources to assist developing countries in their efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change, in addition to their existing obligations under the Convention. Other parties are encouraged to provide or continue to provide this support on a voluntary basis.
3.1.2. Are there plans to redirect existing international public financial flows to activities dedicated to forest-related emissions mitigation, or to activities where forest-related emissions mitigation is a co-benefit?	International finance committed to reducing forest-related emissions (green finance) has so far been overshadowed by finance for activities that are potentially harmful to forests (grey finance). This indicator examines plans to redirect gray finance flows to forest-related emissions mitigation activities. (Note that this Indicator only considers finance that is "being redirected"; finance that has already been "green-lit" will be considered in Indicator 3.1.1.)
3.1.3. Is international green finance oriented towards supporting Indigenous peoples and local communities, for example by securing, enhancing, and protecting their rights to land and resources?	This indicator measures international financial support to communities that are best positioned to protect forests—for example, funding pledges to support Indigenous peoples and local communities made in international fora such as COP26.
3.1.4. Is domestic green finance directed towards deforestation mitigation, or towards activities where deforestation mitigation is a co-benefit?	National governments contribute to forest mitigation and protection activities with dedicated funding in public budgets for the implementation of forest activities on the ground. This includes funding aligned with forest conservation, protection, or sustainable use objectives, such as REDD+ strategies.
3.1.5. Are there plans to redirect public finance to dedicated forest sector mitigation activities, or to activities where forest sector mitigation is a co-benefit?	In several countries, public finance committed to reducing forest-related emissions (green finance) has so far been overshadowed by finance for potentially forest-damaging activities (grey finance). This indicator examines the redirection of financial flows to forest-related emissions mitigation activities. (Note that this Indicator only considers finance that is "being redirected", finance that has already been "green-lit" will be considered in Indicator 3.1.4.)
3.1.6. Has the government put in place a green budgeting framework to assess the	Green budget frameworks can be used to assess the potential environmental impact of public investments. Ensuring that environmental dimensions are integrated into budget frameworks

environmental contributions of different budget items, and redirect public investments, consumption, and taxation towards sustainable objectives, while steering them away from harmful subsidies in the forest sector?	and tax and expenditure policies will increase transparency and help governments better align public spending with environmental objectives. This indicator builds on indicator 3.1.5 by assessing whether frameworks are in place to evaluate the impact of gray financial flows.
3.1.7. Are forest agencies adequately funded to enable them to carry out their activities?	Forest management and protection agencies can only perform their functions with sufficient financial and operational capacity. This indicator considers whether and how the resources of forest agencies are secured in national budgets.
3.2.1. Is private finance oriented towards the sustainable production of raw materials?	Private finance has considerable leverage to move commodity production onto a sustainable trajectory. This indicator takes into account the amount of private investment in activities that increase the sustainability of commodity production.
3.2.2. Is there a legal requirement for asset managers and investment banks to disclose and manage climate risks to investors?	Requiring asset managers to disclose climate-related risks can significantly improve transparency and influence investor decisions. This indicator examines whether such obligations are in place, and the extent to which they are implemented.
3.2.3. Do financial institutions' internal risk management frameworks incorporate deforestation risks and link to climate change considerations?	A robust risk management framework can help quantify the actual exposure of financial system actors, mitigate or prevent climate risks from materializing, and redirect their business strategies. It can also help institutions meet the disclosure requirements assessed in indicator 3.2.2. above. To effectively integrate deforestation-related risks into risk management frameworks, financial actors must have a clear governance process and risk management cycle for identifying, assessing, mitigating, and monitoring these types of risks. A consistent assessment of climate and deforestation risks ensures clear communication and consistency, and facilitates alignment with (future) disclosure requirements.
3.2.4. Are private sector financial institutions intervening to combat deforestation linked to agricultural activities?	Financial institutions have considerable leverage to move commodity production and consumption onto a sustainable trajectory. This indicator examines whether and how financial institutions address deforestation exposure in their investment portfolios.
3.2.5. Do investors in the extractive and infrastructure sectors have policies in place to protect against negative impacts on forests?	Investors in the extractive and infrastructure sectors can, with the right policies, help mitigate the negative impacts of these activities on forests. This indicator examines whether investors in these sectors have such policies or safeguards in place.

3.2.6. Are there sustainable financing instruments for forest conservation and sustainable management activities?	The availability of credit for green investments determines the extent to which investors can contribute to deforestation mitigation activities. This indicator considers the availability and promotion of sustainable investment instruments.
3.3.1. Are there green investments in sustainable alternatives to poverty-related deforestation (public and private funding)	Poverty-related deforestation refers to the exploitation of forests by the rural poor who are forced to rely excessively on forest resources for their livelihoods. This indicator examines whether funding is directed towards sustainable alternatives to slash-and-burn agriculture, shifting cultivation, unsustainable wood collection, charcoal production and small-scale logging. These include cleaner and more efficient cooking technologies, or more sustainable agricultural and land management practices.
3.3.2. Are there financial commitments for the restoration of forest areas (public and private funding)	High-level commitments to restore deforested and degraded areas do not always translate into financial commitments. This indicator considers the existence and implementation of funding commitments for forest land restoration.
3.4.1. Is there financing for deforestation mitigation activities provided by voluntary carbon markets?	The voluntary carbon market contributes to the conservation, protection and sustainable use of forests through the transaction of forest-based carbon credits. This indicator takes into account the volume of forest financing from the voluntary purchase of carbon credits from forest projects that generate credits.
3.4.2. Are funds allocated to forest degradation mitigation activities as part of compliance mechanisms in carbon markets?	National carbon market compliance mechanisms also contribute to the conservation, protection and sustainable use of forests, where the use of carbon offsets from forest projects is allowed to meet climate obligations. Note that this is currently only possible in a limited number of jurisdictions. This indicator takes into account the volume of forest financing from the purchase of forest carbon credits to meet national or sectoral compliance obligations.

Theme 4: Forest Governance

Indicator	Description of the indicator
4.1.1. Is there a high-level political and/or governmental mechanism in place to combat deforestation and/or promote forest protection?	Is a government agency with a clear mandate, budget, and capacity to coordinate efforts/develop policy to combat deforestation in place?
4.1.2. Is there a specific legal framework to combat deforestation and protect forests?	A set of laws, institutional mandates, economic arrangements, and associated policy measures at the national and sub-national levels that aim to create an enabling environment for the protection of forests and their sustainable management.
4.1.3. Are gender issues taken into account in the forest legal framework?	Consideration of gender (e.g. women's participation in forestry measures) in the forest legal framework.
4.2.1. Does the country engage internationally to combat deforestation at home or abroad?	International commitments (bilateral, multilateral, national) to reduce the risk of deforestation. This may include trade agreements, due diligence requirements in regulatory measures, and treaties (including any regional treaties). It is important to note that forest countries will engage differently than purely consumer countries.
4.3.1. Is there a legal requirement for citizens to access forest-related information?	Legal requirement in the forest legal framework (or general transparency laws) that requires the government to make forest-related information available to citizens.
4.3.2. Is the participation of non-governmental stakeholders ensured in decision-making?	Legal requirement in the forest legal framework (or procedural laws) that obliges the government to ensure the participation of non-governmental stakeholders in forest policy making.
4.3.3. Do citizens and civil society have access to justice?	Legal law within the forest legal framework that allows citizens and civil society to access the courts. This includes issues such as the status of individuals and civil society actors, as well as legal awareness, assistance, and advice, among others. Countries that are primarily consumers of forest products at risk will engage differently than countries that are primarily producers.
4.5.1. Do Indigenous peoples have security of tenure?	Land tenure security has many levels, including having legally recognized rights (i.e., their land ownership is defined, formally recognized, and guaranteed), having extensive rights, limited exceptions for public interest, access to mechanisms to enforce rights, etc.
4.5.2 Are there any governmental measures to	Measures that 1) broadly promote the rights of Indigenous peoples and local communities; 2) ensure the free, prior, and informed consent of

empower Indigenous peoples and local communities?	Indigenous peoples for project development (commercial, as well as conservation and restoration projects); 3) provide funding to support their communities and livelihoods, as well as to build their capacity to monitor illegalities on their lands.
4.6.1. Are forest crimes detected and prosecuted, and are penalties applied?	Behavior (of public and/or private actors) that abuses entrusted powers for private gain. This may include corruption, conflict of interest, embezzlement, etc. For the purposes of this indicator, this refers to corrupt acts that promote deforestation.
4.6.2. Is corruption related to deforestation detected, prosecuted, and sanctions applied?	Measures that 1) broadly promote the rights of Indigenous peoples and local communities; 2) ensure the free, prior, and informed consent of Indigenous peoples for project development (commercial, as well as conservation and restoration projects); 3) provide funding to support their communities and livelihoods, as well as to build their capacity to monitor illegalities on their lands.
4.6.3. Do government institutions and agencies have sufficient capacity and resources to monitor forest areas and detect and prosecute forest crimes?	Monitoring and control capabilities involve technological, budgetary, and know-how capabilities, as well as human resources.

Appendix 2: Non-exhaustive list of public policies governing forests and the forest sector

Table A2: Summary of laws framing efforts to address the causes of deforestation in the countries studied

	CAMEROON	GABON	DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO	REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO
Policy, legal and general framework for forests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Forestry Code (Law n°94/01 of January 20, 1994) is the set of provisions applicable to the regime of forests, wildlife and fisheries. Its objective is to support an integrated and sustainable management of the conservation and use of these resources and the different ecosystems • Ordinance No. 99/001 of August 31, 1999 supplementing certain provisions of Law No. 94/01 of January 20, 1994 on the regime of forests, wildlife and fisheries • The national REDD+ strategy, which defines the country's approach as well as the different commitments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Forestry Code (Law n°016/2001 of December 31, 2001) is the set of provisions applicable to the Water and Forestry sector. It sets the modalities of sustainable management of the said sector in order to increase its contribution to the economic, social, cultural and scientific development of the country • Law No. 007/2014 of August 1, 2014 sets out the specific provisions applicable to environmental protection in the Gabonese Republic. It determines a certain number of general principles of the national environmental protection policy • Law N°003/2007 of August 27, 2007 on national parks also addresses issues related to forest governance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Forestry Code (Law n°011/2002 of August 29, 2002) is the set of provisions governing the status, management, conservation, exploitation, surveillance and policing of forests and forest lands. It deals with issues related to forests, their status, the different rights of use, protection measures, the different interventions related to the inventory, management and reconstitution of forests, the general principles related to the forms of forest concession contracts, their exploitation mode, forestry taxation, penal provisions and transitional and final provisions • The national REDD+ strategy, which defines the country's approach as well as the different commitments towards a results-based payment approach in the process of reducing deforestation and forest degradation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Forestry Code (Law 33/2020 of July 8, 2020) aims primarily to establish an appropriate legal framework to ensure the conservation and sustainable management of forests, based on rational development and participatory management of resources. This fundamental law is reinforced by a series of subsequent texts, in particular Decree 2002-437 of December 31, 2002, which sets the conditions for the management and use of forests and ministerial decrees on national directives for the sustainable management of forest concessions, the creation of forest management or exploitation units, the modalities for classifying and

towards a results-based payment approach in the process of reducing deforestation and forest degradation

- Implementation of National Determined Contributions (NDC)
- Law No. 2006/002 of 25 April 2006 authorizing the President of the Republic to ratify the Treaty on the Conservation and Sustainable Management of Central African Forest Ecosystems
- Decree No. 2005/099 of April 6, 2005 on the organization of the Ministry of Forests and Wildlife
- Decree No. 95/531/PM of 23 August 1995 establishing community forestry under Article 3(11)

- Implementation of National Determined Contributions (NDC)
- Law n°002/2014 on the orientation of sustainable development
- Ordinance n°019/2021 of September 13, 2021 on climate change
- Order No. 0774/PM of 29/05/2017 establishing the modalities for monitoring activities likely to affect forest integrity

- The constitution of the Republic in its articles 53
- Sustainable Forest Management Program
- National Peatland Strategy
- Strategic Plan of the Convention on Biological Diversity 2011-2020 and associated Aichi targets (or Convention on Biological Diversity)
- Sub-regional agreement on forest control in Central Africa
- Ministerial order n°102/cab/ min/ecn-t/15/jeb/09 of June 16, 2009 establishing the rules and formalities of forestry control
- Decree No. 05/116 of 24 October 2005 establishing the modalities for the conversion of old forest titles into forest concession contracts and extending the moratorium on the granting of forest exploitation titles
- Decree n°08/09 of April 8, 2008 establishing the procedure for the allocation of forest concessions
- Ministerial Order No. 034/CAB/MIN/EDD/03/03/BLN/2015 of July 03, 2015 establishing the procedure for the development, verification, approval, implementation and monitoring of the management plan of a timber production forest concession
- Decrees on the moratorium on logging concessions
- Law N°11/009 of July 09, 2011 on the fundamental principles of environmental protection

downgrading forests, forestry taxation, etc.

- Forestry policy (2014-2025)
- The National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP, dating from 1996 and revised in January 2016)
- The national REDD+ strategy, which defines the country's approach as well as the various commitments oriented towards a results-based payment approach in the context of the process of reducing deforestation and forest degradation. The National REDD+ Committee (CONA-REDD), the National REDD+ Coordination Committee (CN-REDD), the Departmental REDD+ Committees (CODEPA-REDD)
- The constitution of the Republic in its article 41
- National Measurement, Reporting and Verification System
- Convergence Plan of the Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC) 2015-2025
- The framework of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)

- Ministerial Order CAB/MIN/AF. F-E. T/194/MAS/02 of May 14, 2002 suspending the granting of forestry allowances
- Ministerial Order n°033/CAB/MIN/ECNEF/2006 of October 2, 2006 on the organization and functioning of the Forestry Cadastre.
- Ministerial Order n°034/CAB/MIN/ECNEF/2006 of October 2, 2006 on the composition, organization and functioning of the Provincial Forestry Advisory Councils
- Ministerial Order n°035/CAB/MIN/ECNEF/2006 of October 05, 2006 relating to forestry exploitation
- Ministerial Order n°036/CAB/MIN/ECNEF/2006 of 02 October 2006 establishing procedures for the elaboration, approval and implementation of management plans for timber production forest concessions
- Decree n°06/141 of November 10, 2006 appointing the members of the Interministerial Commission for the conversion of forest titles.
- Ministerial Order n°259/CAB/MIN/AFFET/2002 of October 3, 2002 establishing the procedure for forestry transactions
- Ministerial Order n°276/CAB/MIN/AFFET/2002 of November 5, 2002 establishing the list of forest species
- Ministerial Order No. 277/CAB/MIN/AFFET/2002 of November 5, 2002
- Decree 2015-260 of February 27, 2015, on the creation, organization and operationalization of the management bodies of the REDD+ initiative
- Decree 2002-437 of December 31, 2002, which sets the conditions for the management and use of forests and ministerial orders concerning national directives for the sustainable development of forest concessions, the creation of forest management or exploitation units, the modalities for classifying and declassifying forests, and forestry taxation
- Law n°37-2008 of November 28, 2008 on wildlife and protected areas.
- Law n°24-94 of August 23, 2004, on the hydrocarbons code
- Law n°9-2004 of March 26, 2004 on the State domain code and on the conditions of expropriation, in particular the mobilization of land for economic development needs
- Law n° 10-2004 of March 26, 2004 fixing the general

			<p>2002 regulating the wearing of uniforms and insignia of inspectors, civil servants and forestry agents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-ministerial Order n°005/CAB/MIN/ENV/2005 and n°107/CAB/MIN/FINANCES/2005 of July 25, 2005 setting the rates of duties, taxes and fees to be collected at the initiative of the Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation, Water and Forests 	principles applicable to the land and property regime
Entity dedicated to the protection of forests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Forests and Wildlife • National Forestry Development Support Agency • National Control Brigade (BNC) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Water, Forests, Sea and Environment in charge of the Climate Plan and the Land Allocation Plan • National Parks Agency (ANPN) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, General Directorate of Forestry and Directorate of Forest Inventory and Management • Congolese Agency for the Environment • Congolese Institute for Nature Conservation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ministries of Sustainable Forest Economy (including the Directorate of Forest Economy) and Environment • National Center for Monitoring and Management of Forest and Wildlife Resources • Congolese Agency for Wildlife and Protected Areas • National Reforestation Service • National Forest and Wildlife Resource Inventory and Management Centre
Other related departments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development • Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development • Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Animal Industries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Food • Ministry of Economy and Finance • Ministry of Energy and Water Resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministries of Energy: Hydrocarbons/Transport • Ministries of Land Affairs, Land Management • Ministry in charge of the plan • Ministry of Finance and Budget 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minister of Land Management, Equipment and Major Works • Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries • Ministry of Land Affairs and Public Domain • Ministry of Scientific Research and Technological Innovation

**Ministerial
Coordination
Entity on
Climate and
Forestry
Issues**

- The mission of the Inter-ministerial Committee is "to coordinate and monitor sectoral diligence related to the implementation of the recommendations of the Paris Agreement".
- The interministerial working group* is a "multisectoral think tank set up to address a specific and complex issue of a cross-cutting nature involving several administrations and/or other actors in the sectors concerned".

- National Council on Climate Change created in 2010
- National REDD+ Fund (FONAREDD)

- The General Secretariat for the Environment under the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development
- The mission of the National Forest Fund (FFN) is to ensure the financing of reforestation operations, forest management and any operation likely to contribute to the reconstitution of the forest capital throughout the territory.
- Direction of Sustainable Development, with a Division of Climate Change, under the supervision of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development
- Ad hoc working groups: Technical Platform for the implementation of the National Forest Monitoring System of the DRC (SNSF); Platform on the follow-up of the implementation of the UNCCD (PTC-CDN)

- Ministry of Energy and Hydraulics
- Ministry of Tourism and Environment
- Ministry for the Promotion of Women and the Integration of Women in Development
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Mines and Geology
- Ministry of Hydrocarbons

- The National REDD+ Committee (CONA-REDD), which is the body in charge of policies and decisions for the REDD+ process. It is composed of different ministers, civil society, Indigenous populations and the private sector. This committee is placed under the authority of the Head of State
 - The National REDD+ Coordination (CN-REDD), which is the technical entity in charge of implementing the REDD+ process under the supervision of the Minister of Forest Economy
 - Departmental REDD+ Committees (CODEPA-REDD) composed of departmental representatives, departmental directors, Indigenous peoples
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				and local populations. These actors play an important role in the coordination and dissemination of information at the departmental level
Definition of the forest¹	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gabon defines forest as all land occupying an area of more than 1 ha with trees reaching a height of 5 m or more, with a tree cover of 30% or more, or with trees capable of reaching these thresholds in situ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The DRC defines forest as all land occupying an area of more than 0.5 ha with trees reaching a height of 3 m or more, with a tree cover of 30% or more, or with trees capable of reaching these thresholds in situ. Note that this definition varies from the operational definition used. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Republic of the Congo defines forest as all land occupying an area of more than 0.5 ha with trees reaching a height of 3 m or more, with a tree cover of 30 percent or more, or with trees capable of reaching these thresholds in situ 	
Economic and development policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Development Strategy 2020-2030 The Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) Vision Cameroon Emergent 2035 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emerging Gabon Strategic Plan: The Vision 2025 Plan (PSGE) with the creation of the Gabonese Agency for Space Studies and Observations (AGEOS) and the National Observation System for Natural Resources and Forests (SNORNF) National Climate Plan 2012 on the promotion and dissemination of the new sustainable development paradigm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Growth and Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper, 2^{ème} generation (GPRSP 2) Revised National Determined Contribution for 2021 National Strategic Development Plan for the period 2019-2023 (PNSD) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Development Plan (NDP) 2022-2026 Growth, Employment, and Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (GERSP)
Deforestation due to small farms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Order No. 0518/MINEF/CAB sets the modalities for the priority allocation to riparian village communities of any forest likely to be established 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 251 of the Forestry Code: Right to benefit sharing and creation of community forests Order 105, which provides for a model contractual specification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministerial Order N°025/CAB/MIN/ECN-DD/CJ/00/RBM/216/ of February 9, 2016 on specific provisions related to the management and exploitation of the forest concession of local communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decree 2015-260 of February 27, 2015, on the creation, organization and operationalization of the

	<p>as a community forest in its articles 2 and 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decree 2015-0832-PM of April 17, 2015 incorporating into the private domain of the Commune of Bengbis a portion of forest of 27,798 hectares (ha) named "Communal Forest of Bengbis" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decree n°001028/PR/MEFEPEPN of December 01, 2004 setting the conditions for the creation of community forests Order No. 018/MEF/SG/DGF/DFC of January 31, 2013 establishing procedures for the allocation and management of community forests Order No. 106/MEFPRN of May 06, 2014 on the right of reservation of a forest by a village community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decree No. 14/018 of August 02, 2014 setting the terms and conditions for the allocation of forest concessions to local communities. Law n°011/2002 of August 29, 2002 on the Forestry Code, especially articles 22, 111, 112 and 113 	management bodies of the REDD+ initiative
Deforestation due to extractive industries and infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voluntary Partnership Agreement with the European Union on Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) on May 6, 2009 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mining Code (Article 91: Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and Management/ Reinstatement of Gabon to the EITI) Sustainable Development Guidance Bill of 2014 that requires companies to offset damage to forests or community lands by purchasing sustainability credits (carbon, biodiversity, ecosystem and community capital credits) through a national credit trading system National Infrastructure Master Plan (SDNI) implemented in 2012 Adoption of PS6 performance standards by certain players following the requirements of the financial markets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law No. 11/022 of 24 December 2011 on the fundamental principles relating to agriculture. Law N° 11/009 of July 09, 2011 on the fundamental principles of environmental protection. Law No. 15/012 of August 1, 2015 on the general regime for hydrocarbons Law N° 007/2002 of July 11, 2002 on the Mining Code, amended and completed by Law N° 18/001 of March 9, 2018 Law n°14/003 of February 11, 2014 on nature conservation Decree No. 14/030 establishing the statutes of a public establishment called Agence Congolaise de l'Environnement, abbreviated as "ACE" Decree No. 038/2003 of March 26, 2003 on mining regulations as amended and supplemented by Decree No. 18/024 of June 8, 2018 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law No. 003/91 of April 23, 1991, on the protection of the environment Decree No. 2009-415 of November 20, 2009, on the mechanisms of social and environmental protection The Cancun Agreements, FSC principles and indicators Revised law N° 4-2005 of April 11, 2005, on the mining code Decree No. 6515/MEF of June 8, 2020 defining the standards of low impact operating methods

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FSC certification standards in the wood industry 	
Deforestation due to commercial agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Article 6 Order No. 0222/A/MINEF/May 25, 2002 procedures for the preparation, approval, monitoring and control of the implementation of management plans for production forests in the permanent forest estate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presidential decision of September 2018, regarding the obligation of forest concessions to adopt certifications - FSC, PEFC, RSPO, Bonsucro, GPSNR - to protect forests: RSPO (Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil) for palm oil with a national interpretation and Bonsucro ISO 22000 (FSC 22000) for cane sugar Membership in the Tropical Forest Alliance (TFA) African Palm Oil Initiative (APOI) Adoption of the TRACER due diligence system to ensure the legality of wood entering the so-called Special Economic Zone (SEZ) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presidential decree on the moratorium on logging concessions in 2002 and 2005 The national FLEGT process: negotiation of the VPA/FLEGT (legality control mechanism) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voluntary Partnership Agreements (VPAs) with the European Union
Reforestation and landscape restoration efforts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for the AFR100 process by the COMIFAC Council of Ministers at its 9th ordinary session in November 2016 in Kigali, Rwanda for the restoration of 12 million hectares of forest in the Congo Basin by Cameroon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of community forests and a local development fund: Implementation of Article 251 of the Forestry Code (Law 16/01 of 31/12/2001), Decree 105 establishing the model contractual specifications that set up the local development fund for sharing the benefits of forestry exploitation for the benefit of the forest communities affected. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100) of 2015 to bring 100 million hectares of land to restoration by 2030. DRC's commitment is to restore 8 million hectares of land. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Law No. 21-2018 of June 13, 2018 on the rules of occupation and acquisition of land and concessions The new Forestry Code promulgated on July 24, 2020 through Law No. 33-2020 in its articles 15-21 recognizes community forests 2015 African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative (AFR100) to bring 100 million hectares of

- Creation of protected areas (conservation buffer zone)

land to restoration by 2030, implemented by the African Resilient Landscapes Initiative and contributes to the achievement of the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

- Law No. 05-2011 of February 25, 2011 on the promotion and protection of the rights of Indigenous peoples in its articles 15-21

Land use planning

- Law No. 2011/008 of May 6, 2011, on the orientation for the planning and sustainable development of the territory of Cameroon

- No land use policy
- National Land Use Plan (NLUP) is being developed/finalized

- Ongoing land-use planning reform*.

- Law N° 43-2014 of October 10, 2014 on National Territorial Planning accompanied by decrees N° 2017-226, N° 2017-227, N° 2017-229 of July 07, 2017



Forest Declaration Assessment

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