



## SUPPORTING LOCAL POPULATIONS THROUGH A PROJECT TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FROM FORESTS IN CONGO

Since 2008, Congo has been committed to the Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in developing countries (REDD+) process, with a view to tackling climate change, protecting its forest ecosystems, combatting poverty and laying the foundations for a green economy and sustainable development in the country.

Congo’s proactive attempts to secure financing for its national REDD+ Investment Plan led it to request the technical assistance of FAO in developing a project proposal for the Green Climate Fund, with a focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions from forests in five departments of the country.

Through a range of outputs and activities, including analysis of local agriculture and forestry models, consultative processes involving local women’s and indigenous groups and economic and financial analysis, the full project proposal package was enhanced, finalized and ultimately submitted to the Green Climate Fund in January 2020.



### WHAT DID THE PROJECT DO?

The project supported Congo in developing the full proposal for submission to the Green Climate Fund, including in-depth consultation processes and feasibility and technical assessments.

Analysis was carried out of climate-friendly production and transformation models in agriculture, forestry and agroforestry, while different models of sustainable use and management of wood resources were assessed for efficient charcoal production with reduced environmental impacts.

The project carried out a number of assessments and evaluations, focusing on areas such as environmental and social risks and developing the Environmental and Social Risk Monitoring Framework. Significant attention was also given to the role of women and indigenous peoples in the future project, in particular through the identification of potentially affected indigenous groups and the production of a Gender Action Plan.

### KEY FACTS

**Contribution**

USD 314 173

**Duration**

July 2019 – April 2020

**Resource Partners**

Central African Forest Initiative

**Partners**

Ministry of Forest Economy,  
Republic of Congo

**Beneficiaries**

Women, indigenous people’s  
groups and disadvantaged  
populations in the target areas

# IMPACT

As a result of the project, co-financing from the Green Climate Fund was mobilized to support the implementation of Congo's REDD+ Investment Plan and to generate emissions reduction and socio-economic and environmental co-benefits in six priority departments of the country.

The project played a catalytic role, improving the likelihood of approval by the Green Climate Fund, which may leverage substantial climate funding and contribute to the implementation of Congo's REDD+ national investment plan. It also contributed to the establishment of synergies and coordination among climate-related funding sources, initiatives and actors.

In addition, the project's activities demonstrated that development and climate change objectives can only be achieved with the effective participation of men and women in decision-making processes at both local and community levels.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

# MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

- Project proposal completed and submitted to the Green Climate Fund, including analysis of costs and social, economic and environmental benefits, as well as an assessment of feasibility, costs and models of cook stoves.
- Decentralized consultations carried out in 12 districts across the target departments of Kouilou, Niari, Bouenza, Pool and Plateaux, attracting 415 people (including 62 women).
- Indigenous populations identified in the project areas and a Planning Framework for Indigenous Peoples produced, with a view to ensuring their participation in local initiatives, providing training and support in securing their land rights and establishing a complaints and monitoring management system.
- Gender assessment carried out in all target areas, to guarantee incorporation of the practical needs and strategic interests of female beneficiaries during the formulation of the project.
- Gender Action Plan for the Green Climate Fund project developed, tackling discrimination against women and removing the cultural obstacles that tend to exclude women from land management. The Plan states that at least 35 percent of the Green Climate Fund project's land beneficiaries will be women.
- Environmental and Social Management System established, with sections on the management of invasive species, pesticide management and complaint management.
- Economic and financial analysis of the Green Climate Fund project's interventions conducted in order to assess its economic viability and its impact on the beneficiaries, quantifying the net incremental financial and economic benefits generated by the investments.



## Project Code

FAO: UNJP/PRC/019/UNJ

## Project Title

CAFI Project Formulation Allocation to FAO

## Contact

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