

# CLIMATE INVESTMENT FUNDS

## FIP

### Forest Investment Program

#### Democratic Republic of Congo



The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is home to the largest forest in Africa. Nearly two-thirds of the 2.3 million km<sup>2</sup> of national territory are covered by forest. Since 2003 the country has put itself on the path to growth and political stability after years of devastating regional conflict.

In spite of a relatively low rate of deforestation when compared to the average deforestation rate of other tropical countries, DRC is among the top ten countries in terms of loss of forest cover when measured on an annual basis. The country averaged more than 350,000 ha deforested per year over the period 2000–2010.

Household scale slash-and-burn agriculture and exploitation of wood for timber and energy (including charcoal) have been identified as the major drivers of deforestation and forest degradation. “Hotspots” are mostly found around large cities or densely populated areas. This reflects the strong dependence of the rural and urban populations on forest resources that is caused, in part, by the collapse of the physical and socio-economic infrastructures in the country.

DRC is a pilot country under the Forest Investment Program (FIP) that aims to address the underlying causes of deforestation and forest degradation. The FIP seeks to enhance a country’s ability to overcome barriers that have hindered progress on effective forest management in the past.

### DRC INVESTMENT PLAN FINANCING

FIP financing: **\$58.4 million**

FIP investments to DRC are all provided as grants.

Estimated co-financing: **\$37.7 million**

*Status:* DRC’s investment plan was endorsed by the governing body of the FIP in June 2011.

Based on an integrated approach for the preparation of the National REDD+ Strategy and support from the FIP, DRC is seeking to progressively put in place the structural conditions for larger scale investments in the future and launch programs that will transform the management of forests and forest resources across the country.

**Victor Kabengele**  
*Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation & Tourism*

FIP is a targeted program under the Strategic Climate Fund (SCF), one of two CIF Funds, implemented jointly by the African Development Bank, Asian Development Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Inter-American Development Bank, and World Bank Group.

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September 2011

The DRC investment plan builds on and complements the country's ongoing work on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+), including the REDD+ Readiness process supported by the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility and the UN-REDD Programme.

DRC will use FIP resources to improve the management of their forest resources through five investments.

**Project 1: Addressing deforestation and degradation in the Kinshasa supply area**

(MDB implementing partner: World Bank)

**Key results:** Improved land and forest management in the areas surrounding Kinshasa; over 2 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e sequestered.

**Project 2: Addressing deforestation and degradation in the Mbuji Mayi / Kananga supply area**

(MDB implementing partner: African Development Bank)

**Key results:** Improved land and forest management in the Mbuji Mayi and Kananga areas and close to 4 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e sequestered.

**Project 3: Addressing deforestation and degradation in the Kisangani supply area**

(MDB implementing partner: African Development Bank)

**Key results:** Improved land and forest management in the Kisangani area and over 3 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e sequestered.

**Project 4: Small grants program to promising small-scale REDD+ initiatives**

(MDB implementing partner: World Bank)

**Key results:** Reduced barriers to entry for target sectors, supported private sector initiatives with innovative financing and technical assistance, synergies between the private sector and local communities for effective land and forest management.

**Project 5: Engaging private sector in REDD+ in DRC**

(MDB implementing partner: World Bank)

**Key result:** Innovative projects will generate positive social impacts as well as environmental benefits through the development of an incubator that supports private sector involvement in REDD+ activities.



**What is the FIP?**

The FIP is a program of the Climate Investment Funds' Strategic Climate Fund (SCF), and is designed to support countries sustainable management of their forests and reduce green house gas (GHG) emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.

The FIP has \$609 million contributed by Australia, Denmark, Japan, Norway, Spain, UK and US.

There are eight country pilots (Brazil, Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Mexico and Peru).

