



Central African Forest Initiative  
Progress Report on Letters of Intent Milestones  
(Cameroon, Gabon, Republic of Congo,  
Democratic Republic of Congo)

27th Board Meeting (February 10 and 11, 2026)

## Table of Contents

|                                                                                                  |           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| I Introduction .....                                                                             | 3         |
| 1.1 Lessons learned.....                                                                         | 3         |
| 1.2 Methodology for developing CAFE country profiles .....                                       | 8         |
| II Monitoring of milestones: Letter of Intent between Cameroon and CAFE 2025–2035 .....          | 12        |
| 2.1 Introduction – Context of the partnership .....                                              | 12        |
| 2.2 Progress and Analysis .....                                                                  | 13        |
| 2.3 Delayed milestones and potential challenges .....                                            | 15        |
| 2.4 Conclusions: points for attention and outlook .....                                          | 17        |
| III Monitoring of milestones in the Gabon-CAFE Letter of Intent 2017–2023 .....                  | 19        |
| 3.1 Introduction – Context of the partnership .....                                              | 19        |
| 3.2 Progress and Analysis .....                                                                  | 19        |
| 3.3 Delayed milestones and potential challenges .....                                            | 21        |
| 3.4 Conclusions: points for attention and outlook .....                                          | 22        |
| IV Follow-up on the milestones of the DRC-CAFE Letter of Intent 2021–2025 .....                  | 24        |
| 4.1 Introduction – Context of the partnership.....                                               | 24        |
| 4.2 Progress and Analysis.....                                                                   | 24        |
| 4.3 Delayed milestones and potential challenges .....                                            | 26        |
| V Follow-up on the milestones of the Republic of Congo-CAFE Letter of Intent 2019–2025 .....     | 28        |
| 5.1 Introduction – Context of the partnership .....                                              | 28        |
| 5.2 Progress and Analysis .....                                                                  | 30        |
| 5.3 Delayed Milestones and Potential Challenges .....                                            | 32        |
| 5.4 Conclusions: points for attention and outlook .....                                          | 35        |
| Appendices.....                                                                                  | 37        |
| <i>Detailed monitoring of the 84 milestones for 2021–2025 by sectoral pillar in the DRC.....</i> | <i>37</i> |
| <i>Strategic role of the Milestone Achievement Support Project (PAAJ) in the DRC.....</i>        | <i>55</i> |

# I Introduction

This report presents the progress made in implementing the Letters of Intent signed with partner countries (Cameroon, Gabon, Republic of Congo, and Democratic Republic of Congo) through country fact sheets.

This introduction will present:

- Some lessons learned on the implementation of the Letters of Intent;
- The methodology used by the CAFI secretariat for the data presented in the country fact sheets on progress toward achieving milestones and data entered into a Power Bi tool developed by the secretariat in 2025.

## 1.1 Lessons Learned

The lessons learned mentioned below relate to:

- Joint findings discussed, in particular between the signatories of the Letters of Intent (LOI), during the annual reviews held in the DRC in 2023 and 2024, in the Republic of Congo in 2023, as well as findings from evaluations conducted by partner countries such as the DRC prior to the signing of the second Letter of Intent in 2021;
- Findings discussed within the CAFI Board of Directors, which informed the design of new Letters of Intent, such as the one concluded with Cameroon in 2024.

**Lesson 1: There is a need to establish an explicit, effective, and operational link between political commitment and programming processes in order to avoid delays and inconsistencies between processes.**

This is a **key finding that is shared by all partner countries**.

The report highlights that the vast majority of delays in reaching milestones are due to a lack of resources made available in time to achieve them.

**Milestones were negotiated and agreed upon in the LOI prior to the formulation and approval of the program frameworks, resulting in significant delays** due to the review cycles between:

- i) the signing of the Letter of Intent,
- ii) the development and validation of the program framework,
- iii) CAFI approval for project development,
- iv) the submission of projects by agencies,
- v) the approval of projects by CAFI, and
- vi) the operationalization of projects by the agency (launch, team setup, COPIL meetings, recruitment of responsible parties, etc.).

During the negotiation of the LOI with Cameroon in 2024, the parties wished to address these constraints by negotiating the LOI after a joint agreement on the program framework obtained in 2023 and therefore with clarity on the latter, as well as one year after the launch of the Call for Expressions of Interest (2023) and the selection of agencies for the development of projects supporting the milestones, and by identifying sources of funding for the achievement of the milestones under the LOI.

These provisions have significantly reduced delays, in particular by eliminating the delays between the i) signing of the LOI and the iii) approval by CAFI of the development of projects by the selected agencies. It should therefore be noted that in Cameroon, the effective and operational start-up of projects takes place over a much shorter period of time, (ev12 to 18 months after the signing of the LOI, compared to an average of three years in other partnerships).

However, it should be noted that **even in the case of Cameroon, although the CAFI Board selected the agencies in August 2023** to develop the project documents, i.e., more than a year before the signing of the Letter of Intent (October 2024), it appears that the vast majority of projects (Coordination, TA, Grand Mbam, IFAD) will **not** be launched, and therefore not fully **operational, until February 2026 (i.e., more than a year after the signing of the LOI, even though the start-up phase lasts only two years)**. This is due to (i) the relatively late submission of project documents by the implementing organizations and (ii) delays in accreditation due to requests from those organizations (GLZ, KfW).

In other countries, these delays are much more significant, with:

- projects becoming operational on average three years after the LOI was signed;
- very low disbursement rates for projects in the first years of operation (e.g., in the Republic of Congo)
- and, in extreme cases, projects that have just been approved, for example in support of the mining and hydrocarbons sectors (13 months ago in the DRC and six months ago in the Republic of Congo<sup>1</sup>), even though the periods covered by the milestones in the Letters of Intent have already expired (2025).

With regard to the absence or lack of funding for certain milestones set out in the Letters of Intent, **successful arrangements have been made** by the countries and the CAFI Board of Directors, such as:

- [Regional/RoC, Gabon](#): The CAFI Board of Directors has approved the UNOPS regional technical assistance project since 2024; this project is greatly appreciated by partner countries and has made it possible to quickly mobilize missing support, such as i) for the private sector and the CDN, as well as support for coordination by the Prime Minister's Office in the Republic of Congo, and ii) support for the ANPN and coordination in Gabon;
- [DRC](#): Validation of the PAAJ milestone support project (UNDP) by the FONAREDD Steering Committee in November 2024, operational since March 2025<sup>2</sup> :
- [Cameroon](#): The MIINEPAT coordination support project (UNDP), which has benefited from several extensions with additional costs to compensate for delays in project development and operationalization. Thanks to this support, significant progress has already been made in Cameroon on the Governance pillar since 2025.

---

<sup>1</sup> The project approved in June 2025 is not yet operational because the project document has only just been signed and the transfer is therefore still in progress.

<sup>2</sup> It should be noted that, once again, the decision was taken by the CAFI Board of Directors in August 2022 (EB.2022.16) as part of the fast-track process due to the importance of developing this project. The review and operationalization of this project took 2.5 years.

## Lesson 2: Importance of countries taking the lead in program planning for projects supporting the achievement of milestones (national implementation of reform-related support)

Since the launch of the first partnerships, the governments of partner countries have expressed concern and frustration (RoC, DRC, Gabon) that:

- governments and authorities make commitments at the highest level and are accountable for them;
- but the arrangements for implementing certain projects under the CAFI Fund do not allow them to steer project activities at the program level; they find it regrettable that, for a number of projects, they are not informed at the level of the authorities and administrations and do not have authority over the development and implementation of work plans and activities. Project teams have been set up, sometimes even with focal points designated by the authorities, but these arrangements do not allow for ownership by the authorities and administrations concerned, which feel poorly mobilized and informed and, de facto, do not steer the activities.

This has been strongly and repeatedly expressed by partner authorities, for example:

- during the partnership assessment conducted by the DRC in 2021 prior to the signing of the Letter of Intent, then during the negotiation of the fast-track process in the DRC (hence the decision to set up the PAAJ project led by the UNDP in support of sectoral administrations)
- during the selection of agencies and then the review of the partnership in 2023 in the Republic of Congo;
- during the annual reviews held with Gabon, including the last one in 2025;
- upstream of the selection of agencies and the expected non-objection from MINEPAT in 2023 within the framework of the AMI.

When it comes to supporting reforms, governments—authorities and administrations—need to steer the process and activities, as these are national prerogatives. They request national execution of activities (i.e., the implementing organization is responsible at the programmatic and fiduciary levels, but delegates the execution of certain activities to the national part) particularly at the programmatic level, according to its rules and procedures.

It should be noted that the nationally executed projects that have been approved and mentioned above (PAAJ, coordination support project, etc.) have enabled significant progress to be made in a short period of time.

## Lesson 3: Complexity of Letters of Intent in terms of the number of pillars, the number of milestones, and therefore institutional arrangements in terms of multisectoral coordination

The complexity of the Letters of Intent due to the very high number of milestones (more than 70-80 in the DRC and RoC) and the number of sectors involved (up to 8-10 sectors, with many additional government entities—e.g., Congolese Environment Agency, EITI, etc.) requires institutional arrangements, complex coordination and monitoring mechanisms, and multisectoral arbitration – which any country in the world would find difficult to operate, sometimes even between two ministries.

Furthermore, even when the entities in charge of coordination and their authorities are highly mobilized in the implementation and monitoring of commitments made (e.g., MINEPAT Cameroon), it turns out that sectoral ministries can be very difficult to mobilize to maintain a commitment to the entire process of achieving the milestone (e.g., NDC developed and validated in 2025, but not submitted to the UNFCCC by the ministry in

charge). When a government makes commitments, it can be difficult to differentiate between the responsibilities of the various ministries involved.

The very large, even excessive, number of ministries and government entities, as well as decentralized entities, involved can dilute the chain of accountability.

To mitigate these risks, it is important to try as much as possible to:

- target priority pillars and sectors;
- reduce the number of milestones to ensure that the government can focus its efforts in terms of coordination and monitoring<sup>3</sup> ;
- avoid overly complex institutional arrangements that are not aligned with existing coordination frameworks within the country. For example, in the Republic of Congo, a 2020 decree established a high-level governance framework for the CAFI-RoC partnership, creating multiple bodies, two of which require the participation of the Prime Minister and several relevant ministers. This was done (i) to monitor the implementation of a Letter of Intent for USD 60 million, with project implementation experiencing numerous delays, and (ii) without CAFI being represented at a high level or, where applicable, by ambassadors who did not have decision-making authority with regard to the CAFI Fund (see Lesson 9).

#### Lesson 4: Need for high-quality expertise and technical assistance, which is difficult to mobilize in the region

As stated above, the milestones cover a multitude of sectors on complex topics, often multisectoral and sometimes even highly innovative (HVC, HCS, peatlands, links between investment projects, impact studies, forest cover, etc.), with little expertise available at the global level.

Partner countries sometimes have little expertise at the national level; specialized expertise needs to be mobilized, but this is rare, even more so when the scope of research is restricted to the French-speaking world.

The CAFI secretariat has therefore noted that:

- at its level, it is already difficult to mobilize appropriate expertise capable of mastering such issues, which requires knowledge of international networks and the ability to mobilize them;
- partner countries sometimes have difficulty mobilizing such expertise, not because of a lack of will or flaws in the recruitment process (e.g., Climate Plan in Cameroon, etc.); as a result, some of the documents and deliverables produced do not meet expectations, including those of the national party, requiring additional time for revision work, etc.

#### Lesson 5: Lack of clarity on the roles and responsibilities for monitoring Letters of Intent

As stated above, monitoring Letters of Intent requires a significant amount of coordination, project monitoring, deliverables, and evidence collection, involving many responsible parties (several projects per country supporting milestones, several ministries, etc.).

This is time-consuming work that should be standardized in order to:

---

<sup>3</sup> For example, an effort to target milestones was made under the Cameroon LOI; nevertheless, over a two-year period, i.e., a short and condensed period, MINEPAT must push for the launch and monitoring of a significant number of milestones (33) with a risk of dispersion, particularly given the lack of technical capacity in objectively complex areas.

- clarify roles, responsibilities, and procedures in the collection of data and evidence between the entity in charge of coordination, the projects, and the CAFI secretariat;
- provide common methodologies for monitoring progress on milestones across all countries (see section 1.2 methodology).

The CAFI secretariat has developed the Power Bi milestone tracking tool to provide an overview.

Annual reviews were supposed to monitor implementation on an annual basis; partnership evaluations were supposed to submit data.

Technology makes it possible to significantly compress and accelerate the monitoring work.

### Lesson 6: Strengthen ownership by seeking public co-financing.

It is important to align the commitments made in the Letters of Intent with existing priorities, mechanisms, and funding mechanisms in order to strengthen ownership. This requires preliminary work to understand the "national landscapes" and adjust the commitments made to them.

To move away from the "aid-recipient" relationship and build genuine win-win partnerships as desired by partner countries, it is essential not to impose commitments, but to engage in partnerships aimed at achieving concrete results (a concern shared by partner countries) by explaining that success will depend on joint mobilization of funding. If commitments are *truly* aligned with countries' priorities and not imposed and then negotiated, partner countries will work to gradually mobilize domestic financing, which is essential to the sustainability of results.

### Lesson 7: Ensure that funds are disbursed to implementing agencies based on results achieved (performance-based) rather than in the form of traditional grants.

Many projects aimed at achieving milestones have underperformed (e.g., LOI 1 in the DRC, or LOI in the Republic of Congo), sometimes tying up substantial funding. Partner country governments deplore this (Gabon, DRC, RoC) and have little or no leeway in decision-making, which is the responsibility of the CAFI Board of Directors and the CAFI legal framework.

However, it appears that decisions to close and/or reallocate funding are sometimes delayed.

The decisions taken by the CAFI Board since 2024 to transition to results-based programming (independent verification, adopted policy, etc.) and the management and monitoring tools put in place by the CAFI Secretariat will enable better-informed decision-making on underperforming projects.

(See session EB27 on performance management).

### Lesson 8: Use impact measurement, reporting, and verification of key performance indicators (KPIs) according to detailed methodologies agreed upon in advance, rather than vaguely defined milestones.

Letters of Intent are political in nature and set out generalized ambitions. Milestones have often been formulated in light of these ambitions, resulting in lengthy, complex, sometimes vague, and unrealistic formulations.

In order to rigorously monitor milestones, it is essential, as stated above, to link them closely to programming and to formulate them in such a way that they can be verified.

It is therefore proposed that, in the future, commitments reflect the objectives and targets negotiated in the project documents (using the methodologies developed in the context of independent verifications).

### Lesson 9: Lack of high-level representation on the CAFI side in monitoring Letters of Intent and the partnership, with a lack of clarity on mandates

Finally, it should be noted that while some members of the CAFI Board of Directors seem to deplore a lack of high-level and general commitment on the part of the governments of partner countries—a view not shared by the CAFI Secretariat<sup>4</sup>—in the monitoring of partnerships and Letters of Intent, the governments of partner countries have long lamented the lack of equivalence in political dialogue, including in the context of other political dialogue processes such as the CBFP, for example, or the FCLP (e.g. in the RoC).

This has been raised repeatedly and emphatically; for example:

- during the 2022 and 2023 annual reviews in the DRC by the Ministers of Finance and Environment, as well as during bilateral discussions with CAFI members, during which the authorities expressed their desire to be able to engage with CAFI representatives at their level and, above all, to be able to engage with the CAFI Board of Directors; as the Ambassadors do not have this mandate. This was particularly raised when decisions had to be made on complex issues (programming priorities on energy and family planning);
- during the annual review and Steering Committees of the partnership, as well as during bilateral discussions in the Republic of Congo, some authorities emphasized that the Prime Minister and several ministers were involved and regretted the lack of equivalent representation on the CAFI side to engage the Fund.
- during discussions held on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in September 2025: meetings during which the authorities of the partner countries expressed their appreciation for being able to exchange views with the Directors on a regular basis, if possible, on the Fund's main strategic issues.

## 1.2 Methodology for preparing CAFI country profiles

### General principles

- The country profiles provide an analysis of the progress made on milestones, country by country.
- They are based on analyses from the milestone tracking tool developed by the CAFI Secretariat, in particular the Power BI dashboards.
- This tool is regularly updated with data from various national sources, which vary from country to country (see below).
- The data is updated regularly, based on available and validated information.
- A common methodology is applied to all countries analyzed.
- The aim is to provide a clear, factual, and up-to-date overview of the progress made on the commitments made under CAFI partnerships.

---

<sup>4</sup> Presence of the relevant authorities and ministers on each occasion (annual reviews in the DRC, RoC, Gabon; Kinshasa conference on PSEs in 2025, side event at the United Nations in 2025, regular follow-up calls with the secretariat), with the exception of one ministry in one country for 2.5 years.



## Scope of analysis

- In the four countries analyzed, the CAFI partnership is structured around milestones formalized in Letters of Intent signed between the Government and CAFI.
- The CAFI Secretariat consolidates the information collected through:
  - policy dialogue (annual reviews, regular exchanges with government partners responsible for coordinating the partnership in the countries, with evidence of work carried out—workshops, etc.—and exchanges, where applicable, with the project focal point(s) responsible for coordinating the partnership)
  - project monitoring and evaluation (data provided in project reports)<sup>5</sup>.

## Analysis of milestone status

- Monitoring is based on the analysis of the progress status of milestones.
- Status categories may vary slightly depending on the country or national tools, but they generally correspond to the following :
  - Achieved: the milestone has been achieved in accordance with the defined requirements, based on evidence collected and reported;
  - Partially achieved/in progress: significant progress has been made on the milestone (based on evidence collected and reported<sup>6</sup>), but it has not yet been fully achieved (e.g., technical work is advanced but political validation is lacking);
  - Delayed/not achieved: the milestone has not been achieved within the planned timeframe or has not made sufficient progress.
- The status selected aims to reflect the actual state of progress, based on the information available at the time of analysis.

### *Graph: Categories for assessing the levels of progress of milestones proposed by country*

| DRC | Gabon | Cameroon | RoC |
|-----|-------|----------|-----|
|-----|-------|----------|-----|

---

<sup>5</sup> It should be noted that this is a considerable amount of work carried out by the CAFI secretariat, which is not included in the Fund's ToR and is not covered (or only partially covered) by the CAFI secretariat's budget. This work should be carried out in a more standardized manner by government partners supported by dedicated projects with a designated focal point for collecting evidence and monitoring milestones.

<sup>6</sup> Evidence refers to the documents provided to attest to the level of achievement (studies, TORs and workshop reports, decrees, etc.). For the DRC and the RoC, they are all available and entered into the Power BI tool. For Cameroon and Gabon, evidence is collected—additional efforts are needed to standardize transmission—but is not yet entered into the Power BI tool.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                        |                    |           |                                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| Achieved: the milestone has been achieved in accordance with the defined requirements, based on evidence collected and reported;                                                                                                                    | Achieved               | Achieved           | Achieved  | Achieved                              |
| Partially achieved/in progress: significant progress has been made towards the milestone (based on evidence collected and reported), but it has not yet been fully achieved (e.g., technical work is advanced but political validation is lacking). | Progress               | Partially achieved | Progress  | Progress and Results <sup>7</sup>     |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                        |                    |           | Progress and Programming <sup>8</sup> |
| Behind schedule/not achieved: the milestone was not achieved within the planned timeframe or did not see sufficient progress.                                                                                                                       | Deadlines              | Not achieved       | Postponed | No progress                           |
| Postponed: When institutional conditions no longer allow the milestone to be achieved                                                                                                                                                               | Postponed <sup>9</sup> | n/a                | n/a       | n/a                                   |

### Analysis of sectoral pillars

- Milestones are classified by sector pillars, as defined in the Letters of Intent, and differ from country to country.
- Analysis by pillar makes it possible to:
  - identify sectors where progress is most significant;
  - identify pillars experiencing structural delays;
  - provide a cross-cutting view of reform dynamics by sector.

### Analysis by year

- Where information is available, milestones are also analyzed by reference year.
- The year corresponds to the target year for achieving the milestone, as set out in the Letter of Intent schedule.

---

7 Concrete intermediate results achieved: activities implemented or in progress with concrete deliverables enabling the milestone to be achieved.

8 Demonstrated existence of planning and mobilization of resources carried out as part of the programming to support the achievement of the milestone.

9 This situation results from an assessment (e.g., feasibility study) demonstrating the non-feasibility, particularly at the institutional level, of achieving the milestone.

- This approach makes it possible to:
  - visualize the timing of commitments;
  - identify periods when milestones are concentrated;
  - assess delays or slippage over time.

## Sources of information by country

### Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

- 2023 annual review of the CAFI-DRC partnership
- Exchanges, at least monthly, with national milestone monitoring officials, in particular the official responsible for monitoring the progress of the Milestone Achievement Support Project (PAAJ)

### Cameroon

- Monthly exchanges with the CAFI focal team at MINEPAT
- Information from operational project monitoring

### Gabon

- Information from data submitted by projects to the CAFI Secretariat as part of the programmatic monitoring of the Gabon-CAFI partnership.

### Republic of Congo (RoC)

- Annual review held in October 2023
- Quarterly meetings organized by the Permanent Secretariat at the Prime Minister's Office in charge of monitoring the partnership, with representatives of sectoral ministries, project representatives in charge of milestones, as well as their technical partners, civil society, and the CAFI Secretariat (see *Project monitoring meetings* established by the decree of September 4, 2020, creating the bodies responsible for managing the implementation of the letter of intent). The data presented is updated based on the meeting held in July 2025. A final meeting was held on January 23, 2026, but the report has not yet been finalized.
- The assessment of milestones presented in this document is based on the above-mentioned data, validated with all parties. It should be noted that these data differ from those presented by the evaluators in the Interim Report of the Independent Mid-Term Evaluation of the Partnership between the Republic of Congo and CAFI (2025), which mentions, for example:
  - The achievement of three milestones instead of six already considered to have been achieved by all parties during the annual review held in 2023 (based on evidence), without providing evidence of non-achievement;
  - Conversely, the achievement of a greater number of intermediate milestones, without the evaluators sharing the evidence in the interim report.

# II Monitoring of milestones: Letter of Intent Cameroon-CAFI 2025-2035

## Start-up phase 2025–2027

### 2.1 Introduction – Context of the partnership

*This section aims to provide an overview of the CAFI-Cameroon partnership framework, the status of reviews, and key national milestones during the period under review.*

#### Important stages of the partnership:

- October 2024: signing of the Letter of Intent with milestones set for 2025-2027
- Annual review scheduled for the end of the second half of 2026 (date to be determined with Germany to ensure synergy with bilateral dialogue)
- December 2024: Field mission by members of the Board of Directors in December 2024.

#### Next steps planned:

- February 13 or 20, 2026: joint launches of projects (i) *Support for intersectoral and multi-level coordination* (GIZ), (ii) *Project to support sustainable agricultural intensification and agroecological transition – PAIDATA* (IFAD/FODECC), (iii) *Integrated Landscape Management Project in Grand Mbam* (KfW), and (iv) *Capacity Building Project in Land Use Planning* (GIZ), organized at the initiative of MINEPAT and the coordination project, before the actual start of field activities.
- 1<sup>st</sup> semester 2026: Independent verification of the Cocoa and Coffee Sector Development Fund (FODECC) window system.
- June 2026: Review of the complete RACINE project proposal by the Green Climate Fund.
- 2026: First review of the partnership.

To support the implementation of the milestones, several CAFI-funded projects have now received their first disbursements:

- UNDP–MINEPAT preparation grant: final disbursement of \$2.216 million on August 26, 2025, totaling \$4.01 million, project ongoing until December 31, 2026.

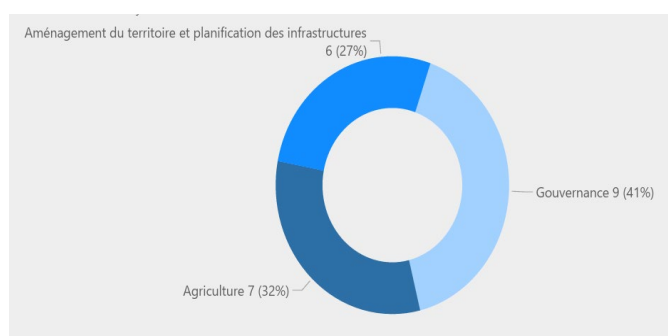
#### CAFI-Cameroon Letter of Intent

- **Date of signature:** October 8, 2024
- **Location:** Hamburg, Germany
- **Signatory parties**
  - (i) For the Government of Cameroon: His Excellency the Minister of Economy, Planning, and Regional Development (MINEPAT)
  - (ii) For CAFI: Her Excellency the Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany
- **Period covered:** 2025–2035 with milestones defined for the **start-up phase 2025–2027**
- **Number of milestones:** 33
- **3 priority areas:**
  1. Governance
  2. Agriculture (transition to sustainable agriculture without deforestation)
  3. Land use planning

- GIZ – Coordination: disbursement of \$5.7 million on October 10, 2025.
- IFAD–PAIDATA: disbursement of \$19 million on November 18, 2024.
- KfW – Grand Mbam: disbursement of \$15.48 million on October 14, 2025
- GIZ – Land use planning (AT): disbursement of \$4.62 million on December 11, 2025

Following these disbursements, and at the instigation of MINEPAT and the coordination project, the Coordination, PAIDATA, Grand Mbam, and AT projects agreed to organize a joint launch workshop in the second half of February.

**Chart 1: Number of milestones per pillar for 2025-2027**



## 2.2 Progress and Analysis

*This section presents a qualitative analysis of progress made in implementing the LOI milestones, based on monitoring data (see standard chart).*

### Update on the status of the 13 milestones planned for 2025

**1 milestone achieved:** "At least 300,000 producers are registered on the FODECC's digital management platform, enabling them to access various direct agricultural subsidy mechanisms (electronic vouchers, co-financing of business plans, co-financing of agroecological transition plans) by the end of 2025."

**10 milestones in progress,** including the NDC, the joint plan for resource mobilization with/thanks to the submission "Development of a joint Cameroon-CAFI plan by 2025 for the mobilization of resources (domestic, international, public, and private) for the scaling-up phase" thanks to the submission of the Racine project to the Green Climate Fund.

#### 2 milestones behind schedule:

- "Finalization and validation of the national forest inventory methodology for Cameroon by the end of 2025, as well as the financing plan for its implementation."

### Main strategic objective

Support the development of Cameroon's value chains (agricultural, forestry, and mining) to make them inclusive, competitive, and free from deforestation. To this end, the aim is to work collectively on the basis of substantial, additional, new, and predictable funding to:

- Halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation;
- Compensate for residual forest cover losses through natural regeneration, afforestation, reforestation, and agroforestry
- Preserve the functioning of wetlands and peatlands by managing them sustainably, preserving them as far as possible, and restoring areas that have already been drained
- Ensure and promote the development of sustainable, competitive, inclusive, and job-creating agricultural, forestry, and mining value chains that will enable Cameroon to emerge by 2035.

- *"Establishment of the national and regional coordination platforms by the end of 2025 for opening up agricultural production basins, and implementation of the provisions of the Methodological Guide for Prioritizing Road Interventions to Open Up Access, a tool of the platform for CTDs."*

This slight delay in achieving this level of progress is mainly due to the late start of the portfolio projects, as well as delays by certain ministerial departments in monitoring activities.

## General trends

- The year 2025 corresponds to a phase of project approval and launch.
- The preparation grant has largely offset the delay in the operational start-up of projects and has supported the advancement of milestones in this first phase.

## Most advanced pillars

**The Governance pillar is the most advanced.**

Thirteen milestones have already been achieved in 2025, mainly thanks to the preparation grant, including, for example:

- the development and submission of the National Climate Plan as required by the IMF; however, it should be noted that follow-up was to be carried out by MINEPDED to incorporate comments aimed at improving the quality of the document
- the updating of the NDC,
- the launch of work on the Forest-Wood Plan,
- the integration of forest-related criteria into public investment planning and maturation tools.
- Integration of criteria relating to forest impacts into the decrees governing the project maturation process and public investment committees.

**Progress on the agriculture and land use planning pillars is slower, mainly due to the late start of the structural projects** that support them (IFAD, Grand Mbam, AT project), which are scheduled to launch in February 2026:

- Most milestones are "in progress" (operationalization of FODECC windows, implementation of land use planning tools or regional planning mechanisms (Regional Land Use and Sustainable Development Plan – SRADDT and Local Land Use and Sustainable Development Plan – PLADDT). Nevertheless, six milestones have been initiated thanks to the preparation grant, enabling preparatory work to begin (development of strategic frameworks, recruitment of consultants, launch of technical studies, preparation of financial mechanisms, pending the actual start of investment projects).

## Key explanatory factors

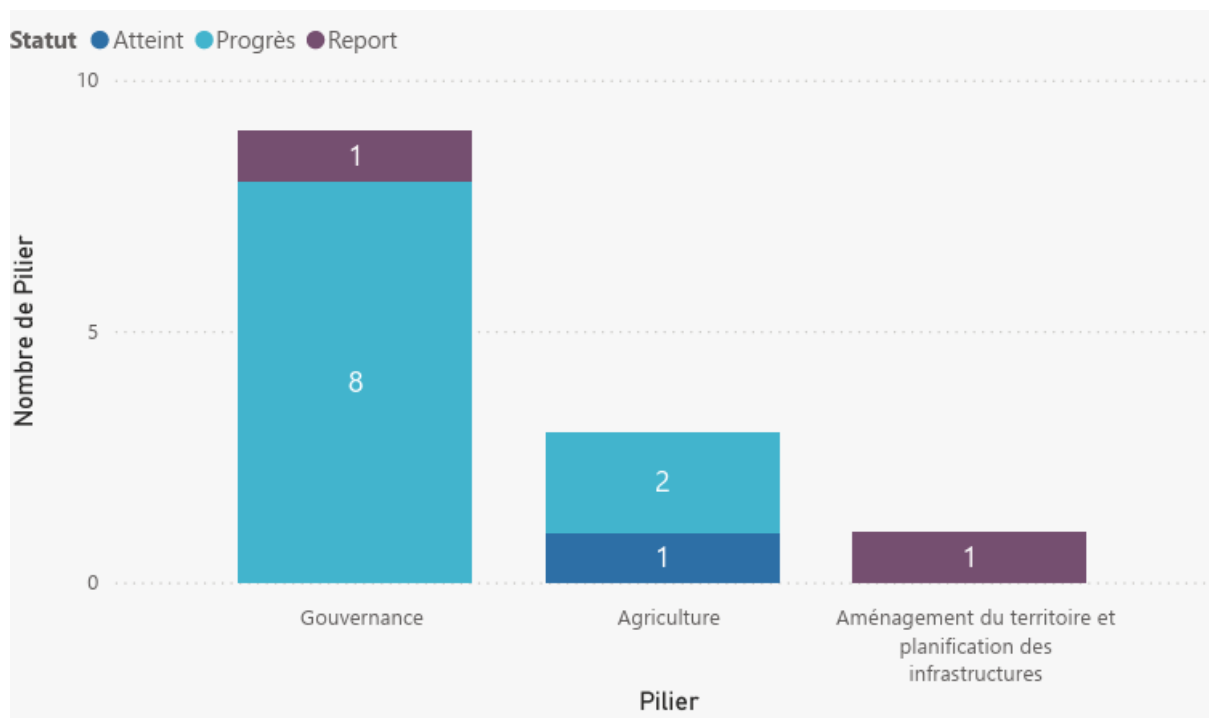
- Programmatic: delays in signing the PRODOCs, setting up teams, and making initial disbursements.
- Key positive factor: the preparation grant played a central role, financing studies, recruitment, and technical work, which made it possible to launch numerous milestones pending the actual start of the projects.

## Total financial commitment

In its decision EB.2023.08 of March 22, 2023, the CAFI Board of Directors approved an **initial allocation of USD 60 million** from the CAFI Trust Fund to support the achievement of the milestones set out in the Protocol for the CAFI-Cameroon start-up phase.

For the partnership's scaling-up phase until 2035, the Government of Cameroon and CAFI plan to implement concerted actions to achieve the objectives set out in Section I relating to the purpose of the partnership. In order to finance these actions, the Government of Cameroon and CAFI intend to make joint and concerted efforts to gradually mobilize an estimated amount of US\$2.5 billion.

Graph 2: Breakdown of milestones by pillar and status / For the period 2025-2027



## 2.3 Milestones behind schedule and potential challenges

*This section aims to identify milestones that have not been achieved or are behind schedule, analyze the level of existing support, and propose concrete next steps to strengthen their implementation.*

- As indicated, there are few delays to note for the 2025 milestones. The 2026 and 2027 milestones are progressing slowly.
- For almost all milestones, project support already exists (AT projects, IFAD, Grand Mbam, Coordination, preparation grant).
- In most cases, support is considered sufficient, provided that projects actually start as planned in 2026 and that high-quality technical assistance can be mobilized.
- The preparation grant plays a central role in 1) maintaining progress on many milestones despite the late start of investment projects and 2) providing the MINEPAT focal team with the means to act, demonstrating leadership in monitoring milestones and coordinating partners.
- Specific point of attention relating to the pilot phase of the national forest inventory, which does not receive any financial support through the projects.
- Overall, the delays observed are related to the project start-up schedule and not to a lack of institutional framework or commitment.
- The operational launch of the projects, scheduled for early 2026, is a major lever for securing these milestones on time.

*Graph 3: Milestones not achieved or delayed over the period 2025-2027*

| Milestone not achieved/delayed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Existing project support (if yes, specify)         | Sufficient support? |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Drafting of implementing regulations for the 2011 Law on Land Use Planning and Sustainable Development by 2027.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | AT project                                         | Yes                 |
| Establishment of a national platform and regional coordination platforms by the end of 2025 to open up agricultural production areas, and implementation of the provisions of the Methodological Guide for Prioritizing Road Interventions to Open Up Areas, a tool provided by the platform for local authorities.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Support FODECC IFAD Project Support G Mbam Project | Yes                 |
| Finalization and validation of the National Land Use Plan for Cameroon and harmonization with the finalized SRADDTs (South and East) and the Regional Land Use and Sustainable Development Plans (SRADDTs) currently being finalized (Center, Littoral, West, Adamaoua, etc.).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | AT Project                                         | Yes                 |
| Finalization and validation by 2027 of the SRADDTs for the Center, Littoral, West, and Adamaoua regions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | AT Project                                         | Yes                 |
| Finalization by 2027 of Local Plans for Land Use and Sustainable Development (PLADDT) in at least three municipalities.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | AT Project                                         | Yes                 |
| Creation, within a national financial institution, of a window for co-financing structural investments in municipal plans (PLADDT/PDC-CU) and regional plans (SRADDT/PRD), conditional on the achievement of targets for conservation, sustainable management, reforestation, and restoration of forest ecosystems ("municipal financing mechanism based on ecological performance").<br>NB: This financial mechanism must include an advisory support service for municipalities and regions to assist them in prioritizing their structural transition investments | FODECC IFAD Project Support G Mbam Project Support | Yes                 |
| Creation or alignment of interprofessional organizations in agricultural sectors linked to deforestation in accordance with the terms of the 2021 law on interprofessional organizations (at least: cocoa, coffee, palm oil, rubber).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | MINADER (through the preparation grant)            | Yes                 |
| Development of a strategy for the sustainable management and renaturation of wetlands and peatlands                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | UNDP-PAPRINS Preparation Grant                     | Yes                 |
| Finalization and validation of the national forest inventory methodology for Cameroon by the end of 2025 and finalization of a financing plan for the implementation of the national forest inventory                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | AT Project (GIZ)                                   | Yes                 |
| Conducting a pilot phase of the national forest inventory, following the chosen methodology, in the municipalities targeted by CAFI.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | No                                                 | No                  |
| Establishment of a national monitoring system for industrial and semi-mechanized mining, including monitoring of mining companies' compliance with environmental obligations in terms of reforestation, restoration of forest ecosystems, and minimization of their impact on forests.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Project Coordination (GIZ)                         | Yes                 |



|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                            |     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----|
| Design of a national mechanism for the restoration of abandoned mining sites                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Project Coordination (GIZ) | Yes |
| Development of guidelines for structuring at least one loan for sustainable development, in consultation with CAFI and at least one international financial institution                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | UNDP PAPRINS               | Yes |
| Review and update national biodiversity strategies and action plans in accordance with Article 6 of the Convention on Biological Diversity, following the guidelines provided in Annex I, aligned with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and its goals and targets, including those related to means of implementation, and submit these documents through the clearing house | Preparation grant          | Yes |
| Finalization of a plan for the establishment and sustainable financing of national capacities, including research institutes, on monitoring agricultural and forest land use, providing robust, consistent, and annually published data                                                                                                                                                        | Preparation grant          | Yes |

## 2.4 Conclusions: points for attention and prospects

- Effectively operationalize projects supporting the achievement of milestones: IFAD, Grand Mbam, Land Use Planning, and Coordination.
- Numerous technical advances that require validation, finalization, and submission at the political level, particularly by MINEPDED (FREL, CDN, Climate Plan, etc.).
- Find a support solution for the pilot phase of the national forest inventory.
- Effectively launch the FODECC windows, which are essential for the Agriculture pillar.

### Main risks for the coming period

- Further delays if projects continue to take significant time.
- A heavy workload for institutions, with several projects starting at the same time.
- Persistent delays in administrative procedures (decrees, validations) due to the difficulty of mobilizing certain key ministries, even when the technical work is ready.

### Outlook

- Most of the delayed milestones are covered by existing projects.
- The launch of projects in early 2026 is a key moment for the partnership and should enable much more visible progress, particularly in the areas of agriculture and land use planning.
- Additional projects, including those supporting the private sector, have been approved (IDH) or are under review for approval in 2026 (RACINE, PAMOIL with KfW) in line with the strategic objective set out in the letter of intent for deforestation-free agriculture by 2035. In accordance with the guidelines set out in the Letter of Intent on the commitment phase, these projects make it possible to mobilize substantial co-financing from both other international sources and domestic sources. During the 2026 annual review (on

the sidelines of the bilateral dialogue with Germany, tbc), an annex to the LOI could be discussed and agreed upon with the Government, to set out in a document:

- The amount of additional funding mobilized by the parties in 2026 and to be secured for the domestic part;
- The objectives, targets, results, and disbursement conditions set out in the project documents aimed at achieving the Belem Call to Action (X ha of sustainable oil palm and cocoa production, etc.)
- Possibly 2-3 targeted government commitments
- Reminder: private sector commitments (e.g., disbursement conditions for the IDH project).

# III Follow-up on the milestones of the Gabon-CAFI Letter of Intent 2017–2025 . 3

## 3.1 Introduction – Partnership context

*This section aims to provide a summary overview of the CAFI partnership framework, the status of reviews, and key national milestones over the period in question.*

**Latest annual partnership review**, October 27–28, 2025 (Libreville):

- Uneven progress across projects, with recurring challenges in disbursement, procedural burdens, and cross-sector coordination.
- Highlights: need to accelerate structural instruments (PNAT, certification); need to strengthen operational impact, particularly for parks; and preparation of a new generation of more integrated programs (CAFI 3).

**Next review scheduled** for 2026 (date to be confirmed):

- follow-up on 2025 recommendations, consolidation of 2025 results
- framing/validation of new program developments in close coordination with national priorities.

## 3.2 Progress and Analysis

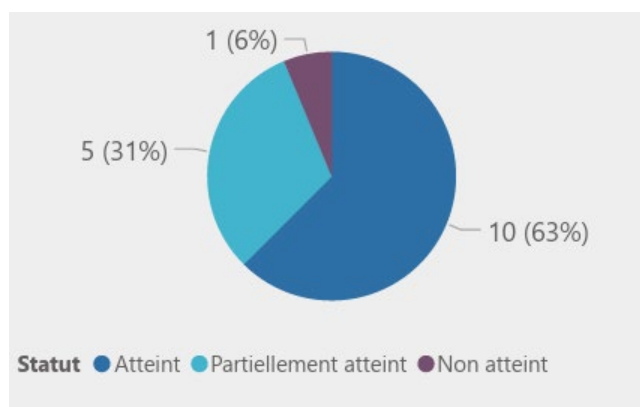
*This section presents a qualitative analysis of progress made in implementing the LOI milestones, based on monitoring data (see sample graph).*

Of the 16 milestones planned for the period:

- Achieved: **10** (63%).
- In progress/partially achieved: **5** (31%).
- Not achieved: **1** (6%).

### CAFI-Gabon Letter of Intent

- **Date signed:** June 27, 2017
- **Location:** Paris (France)
- **Signatory parties**
  - (i) For the Government of Gabon: His Excellency the Minister of Economy, Prospective, and Sustainable Development Planning
  - (ii) For CAFI: His Excellency the Norwegian Minister of Climate and Environment
- **Period covered:** 2017–2025 (structural milestones of the LOI until 2023, monitoring and acceleration in 2023–2025; alignment with the CAFI 3 National Investment Framework, which defines the strategic funding priorities for results-based payments.
- **Number of milestones:** 16
- **2 priority areas:**
  - Land use planning
  - Forest cover monitoring/observation
- Forest governance



*Graph 4: Status of the 16 milestones over the entire 2017-2023 period*

### General trends

- 2017–2023: structuring of instruments (land use planning framework, SNORN architecture) and launch of programs.
  - 2022: resumption of face-to-face dialogue during the annual review (July 7–8, 2022) and focus on accelerating milestones.
  - 2023–2025: Continuation of the partnership despite political transition, with consolidation of the CAFI 3 portfolio and launch/advancement of operational initiatives (parks, HVC, HEC) and innovative instruments (PSE). However, the 2025 annual review highlights challenges in disbursement and procedures, with varying impacts on the ground.
  - Overall, significant progress was made in 2025, despite challenges associated with government transitions and slow disbursement of funds by implementing organizations.
- **Pillar 1 – Land use planning:** Significant progress has been made in structuring land use planning tools, including the production of spatial data, participatory mapping, and national technical capacity building, although the full operationalization of the framework remains ongoing.
  - **High Conservation Value (HCV) Forests:** Substantial progress has been made in Gabon in the protection and management of high conservation value forests. This includes operational support to national parks and the ANPN (ecoguards, equipment, management), the integration of HVC/HCS approaches into land use planning, the strengthening of sustainable forest management and certification, the progressive development of community forests, and integrated landscape approaches aimed at reducing pressures on sensitive ecosystems, particularly through human-elephant conflict management.
  - **Pillar 2 – National Forest Resource Observation System:** the development and gradual deployment of the national observation system (SNORN) has improved the availability and quality of data on forests, carbon, and land use, contributing to better monitoring of national and international commitments.

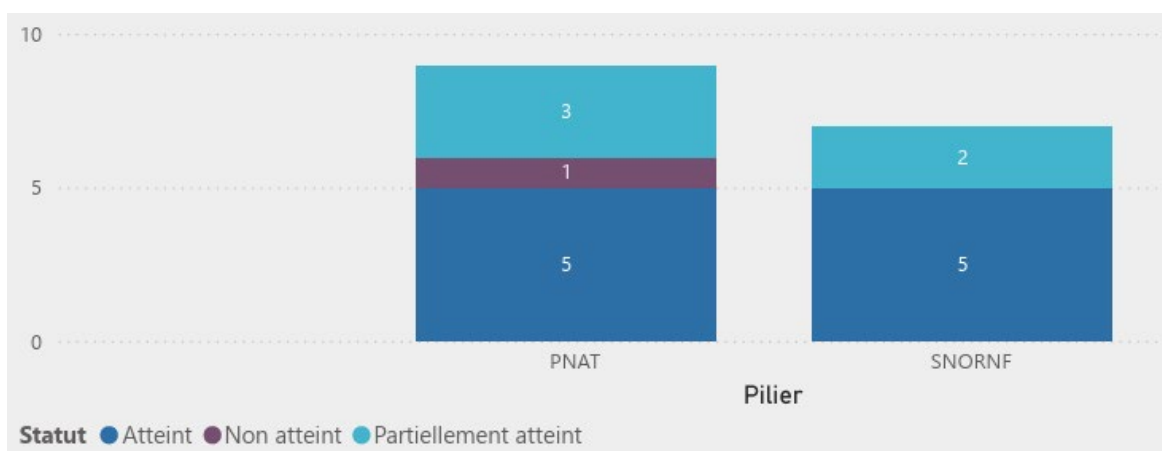
### Main strategic objective

Prevent the conversion and degradation of high carbon stock and high conservation value forests, while optimizing land use to meet development needs by ensuring conservation/protection and biodiversity objectives (PNAT, SNORN, forest governance).

### Total financial commitment

- US\$18 million (CAFI 1)
- US\$ 12 million (CAFI 2);
- Potential performance-based payments (up to \$150 million over the life of the partnership, subject to independent verification and applicable conditions (CAFI 3).
- Current CAFI 3 programs total \$17 million. An additional \$10 million has been allocated in 2025 to promote peaceful coexistence between humans and elephants.
- **Total investment to date: ~\$58 million**

- **Pillar 3 – Forest governance:** Progress has been made in forest governance, particularly through the strengthening of sustainable management frameworks, forest certification efforts, and the improvement of institutional capacities responsible for forest sector management and control.



Graph 5: Status of milestones by pillar over the entire 2017-2023 period

### Key explanatory factors (policy, institutional, financial)

- Policy: maintaining strong commitment to HFLD leadership; need to ensure alignment of CAFI support with national priorities and government planning.
- Institutional: intersectoral complexity (land allocation) and multiplicity of actors; variable capacities at the decentralized level; need for enhanced coordination.
- Financial/fiduciary: procedural burdens and disbursement rates; importance of anticipating project closures and adjusting modalities to maximize impacts.
- Technical: acceleration required on structural projects related to the operationalization of the PNAT, forest monitoring (SNORNF), and certification and control mechanisms.

## 3.3 Delayed milestones and potential challenges

*This section aims to identify milestones that have not been achieved or are behind schedule, analyze the level of existing support, and propose concrete next steps to strengthen their implementation.*

Graph 6: Milestones not achieved or delayed over the period 2017-2023

| Milestone not achieved/delayed                                                                                                 | Existing project support (if yes, specify)                   | Sufficient support? (Yes/No)                                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1.a: Signing of the Marrakesh Declaration on Sustainable Palm Oil Production under the African Palm Oil Initiative (APOI)      | No                                                           | Yes. Political decision. Does not require additional financial support. |
| 1.b: Finalization and adoption of the National Action Plan of the Marrakesh Declaration on Sustainable Palm Oil Production     | No                                                           | Yes. Policy decision. Does not require additional financial support.    |
| 1.d: Development, adoption, and implementation, in accordance with the stated principles, of a policy on carbon neutrality for | CAFI 1 – National Land Use Planning (NLUP); CLOSED; CAFI 2 – | Yes. Financial support was sufficient. There remains ~\$4–4.5 million   |

|                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| the conversion of non-HSC/HVC forests to other uses:                                                                                                                            | Expansion of protected areas for high-value areas. CLOSED.                                                                                                                                  | unspent from the CAFI 1 program. The government is requesting that these funds be reallocated to achieve the remaining milestones. Funds earmarked to support HVC work for park expansion also remained in the closed UNDP project.                                                                           |
| 1.i: Progress report on mapping activities related to land suitability for agricultural use, mining, conservation, climate vulnerability, and sustainable natural resource use. | CAFI 1 Land use planning - Closed; CAFI 2 Expansion of protected areas and optimization of agriculture - Closed; Short-term financing; Emergency financing from CNC-ADAG through UNOPS TAF. | Yes. Financial support was sufficient. There remains ~\$4-4.5 million unspent from the CAFI 1 program. Funds to support work on HVCs for park expansion also remained in the closed UNDP project. The government is requesting that these funds be reallocated to the completion of the remaining milestones. |
| 2.c: Submission of an updated biennial report indicating results based on the analysis carried out by SNORNF and in accordance with IPCC guidelines                             | CAFI 1 – National Land Use Planning (PNAT); AGEOS/SNORNF support; participatory mapping and drones; inter-ministerial technical assistance. CLOSED. ~                                       | No. The CNC has not had consistent access to CAFI 3 funding for the coordination of this work - ProDoc currently being reviewed by UNDP.                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2.e: Report on activities related to strengthening law enforcement following alerts communicated by SNORNF to the implementing ministry or agency in charge                     | CAFI 1 – National Land Use Planning (PNAT); AGEOS/SNORNF support; participatory mapping and drones; inter-ministerial technical assistance. CLOSED.                                         | Yes. Financial support was sufficient. There remains ~\$4-4.5 million unspent from the CAFI 1 program. The government is requesting that these funds be reallocated to the completion of the remaining milestones                                                                                             |

### 3.4 Conclusions: points for attention and outlook

The government submitted its report to ART TREES in January 2026; it is currently being reviewed by the ART TREES secretariat.

### Critical short-term milestones

- Finalize and operationalize the PNAT; consolidate SNORNF mechanisms to support optimized land use.
- Support the governance of the National Land Use Council and the implementation of the National Land Use Plan, in particular by strengthening intersectoral coordination mechanisms, supporting decision-making procedures, clarifying institutional roles, and effectively using spatial data to guide land use.
- Strengthen work on High Conservation Value (HVC) forests and High Carbon Stock (HCS) areas in priority landscapes.
- Complete the last 50 plots required for field data quality assurance and MRV monitoring.
- Consider funding the completion of community mapping for the last 500 villages.
- Complete soil and agricultural suitability analysis, with support from the Gabonese Agricultural Development Agency and the Ministry of Agriculture, to inform land use planning and agricultural activity guidance.

### Main risks for the coming period

- Delays in disbursement and cumbersome project procedures limiting impact on the ground.
- Risks related to intersectoral coordination and policy coherence (agriculture–forestry–conservation), particularly in sensitive areas.
- Risks to financial sustainability for park management and maintaining operational capacity.
- Transition opportunity/risk: imminent development of new programs (CAFI 3); importance of co-construction between the government and partners to ensure detailed alignment with national priorities and effective implementation.

# IV Monitoring of milestones in the DRC-CAFI Letter of Intent 2021–2025

## 4.1 Introduction – Partnership context

This section provides an overview of the implementation framework for the CAFI–DRC partnership, the status of joint reviews, and progress on national milestones over the period under review.

This progress report assesses the progress made between 2021 and 2025 with the support of the PAAJ project <sup>(10)</sup> in addition to other sectoral and integrated programs in the FONAREDD-CAFI portfolio.

The gradual achievement of milestones aims to consolidate structural reforms, strengthen governance in the sectors concerned, and ensure sustainable management of forest resources, in line with the DRC's national priorities and international commitments.

### Important milestones in the partnership

- February 23, 2023: First annual review of milestones and the Partnership
- March 18, 2024: [Second annual review of the CAFI-DRC partnership](#) and [the 2021-2022 milestones](#).

### Next steps planned

- May 2026: Next annual review
- Independent evaluation of the first phase of the CAFI-DRC partnership 2021-2031
- Evaluation of FONAREDD

## 4.2 Progress and Analysis

This section presents a qualitative analysis of progress made in implementing the LOI milestones, based on monitoring data (see standard graph).

### 2<sup>nd</sup> CAFI-DRC Letter of Intent

- **Date signed:** Nov. 2, 2022
- **Location:** Glasgow, UK
- **Signatories**
  - (i) For the Government of the DRC: His Excellency the President of the Republic
  - (ii) For CAFI: His Excellency the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
- **Period covered:** 2021–2031 with milestones defined for 2021–2026
- **Number of milestones:** 90
- **3 priority areas:**
  - Governance
  - Agriculture
  - Forests
  - Energy
  - Land use planning
  - Land
  - Mining & hydrocarbons
  - Demographics

---

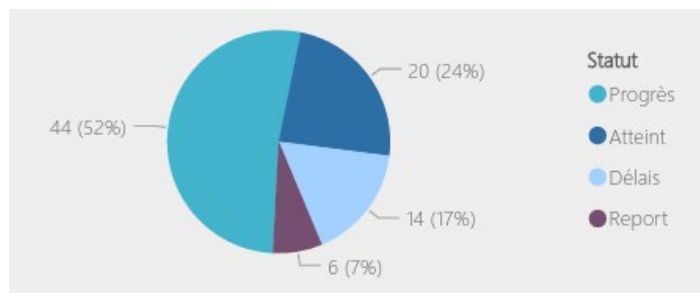
<sup>10</sup> Decided as part of the fast-track process by Decision EB.2022.16 of August 16, 2022, following the joint observation by the DRC government and CAFI of the need for dedicated support with national implementation modalities for administrations. However, the FONAREDD review process took time and the project was approved by decision COPIL FONAREDD 01 of November 27, 2024, and the project became operational on March 18, 2025, with the holding of the first project steering committee meeting.



The internal assessment by the CAFI and FONAREDD secretariats shows that, as of January 31, 2026, for the 84 milestones for 2021-2025:

- 24% of the 84 milestones for the 2021-2025 period had been fully achieved;
- 52% of the 84 milestones for the 2021-2025 period are on track

**Graph 7: Milestones not achieved or behind schedule for the period 2025-2027**



## Summary of the achievement of the 84 milestones 2021-2025

76% show positive progress, with a total of 24% fully achieved.

Since the last annual review held on March 18, 2024, significant progress has been made on several pillars in terms of public policy reforms, including:

- **Land use planning:** Promulgation of [Law 25/045 on land use planning on July 1, 2025](#), and start of its nationwide dissemination;
- **Energy:** Publication of a regulatory framework for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) on May 12, 2025.
- **Land:** [Land Law 25/62 promulgated on December 31, 2025](#)
- **Forestry:** Adoption on July 28, 2025, of the [National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2025-2030](#) (SPANB 2025-2030) aimed at ensuring the effective protection of 30% of the national territory by 2030
- [Creation of the Kivu-Kinshasa green corridor](#) by Decree 25/01 of January 15, 2025, paving the way for greater alignment in the implementation of climate finance.
- [First draft of the 2025-2035 forestry policy](#) published for consultation in November 2025 after presentation to the CCNF.
- [Roadmap for the revision of Law 011/2002](#) on the Forest Code presented to the CCNF on December 30, 2025.
- Operationalization of the project to support the revision of the NDC and climate finance in 2025, with the development of a national carbon registry and submission of the revised NDC in 2026.
- **Mines and Hydrocarbons:** launch of the project to support the upgrading of the regulatory framework for socio-environmental impact studies in April 2025. Systematic publication of impact studies from 2026.

## Main strategic objective

Halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation by 2031, while ensuring sustainable development and promoting inclusive rural transformation:

- Cap losses at the 2014-2018 average (0.567 Mha/year);
- Offset residual losses through natural regeneration, afforestation/reforestation, and agroforestry
- Place 30% of forests under protection by 2030
- Define and protect high-value forests and peatlands by not granting any industrial agricultural concessions within them
- Place 5 Mha of community forests under sustainable management
- Restore 8 Mha of degraded forests
- Reduce wood energy consumption by at least 50% in major urban centers

## General trends

Over 2021-2025: differentiated progress depending on the pillar of intervention.

- On energy and demographics: all milestones are progressing or have been achieved.
- On land use planning, land tenure, mining, and hydrocarbons: nearly all milestones achieved or progressing, with only one milestone per sector not yet started or behind schedule.
- However, in governance (46%), agriculture (30%) and forestry (14%): a larger number of milestones are behind schedule or have not been started.

## Most advanced pillars

The most advanced pillars are demography, energy, and land, with public policy reforms completed and national committees endorsed by the government or in the process of being endorsed.

Three sectoral policies incorporating the commitments of the Letter of Intent have been formulated: agriculture, energy, and land.

Two major laws have been revised, on land use planning and land tenure, and two are currently being revised: on agriculture and forestry.

## Key explanatory factors

Since its launch in 2025, the Milestone Support Project (PPAJ) has significantly accelerated the mobilization of government officials to achieve milestones. Ministerial task forces have been established and energized, budgeted work plans have been developed for each ministry, and the project has demonstrated excellent collaboration with CAFI.

Prior to this, for the most neglected pillars (agriculture/forestry/governance), either there were no support projects (agricultural sector) or the structuring project was subject to institutional and operational blockages (forestry). In the governance pillar, despite numerous attempts to revive it, there is still no real strategy for mobilizing domestic public and private resources to implement the country's climate commitments.

## Key results of the partnership in terms of public policy reform expected in 2026:

- Formulation of the national forestry policy validated by the CCNF
- Start of the revision of the Forest Code and its first draft, the establishment of colleges, and the recruitment of dedicated multidisciplinary expertise
- Publication of the revised NDC
- Operationalization of the ARMCA, the national authority designated to manage the DRC's national carbon registry
- Promulgation of the agricultural law
- Publication of the national energy policy
- Publication of the first ESIA impact studies for the extractive sector.

## 4.3 Delayed milestones and potential challenges

Seven milestones are not covered by any funding earmarked by the CAFI program framework (Table 1). At present, funding is secured for all other milestones, notably through the PAAJ project, with operational and mobilized ministerial task forces.

*Graph 8: Milestones not achieved or delayed over the period 2021-2025*

| Pillar                                  | Commitments and policy milestones                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Deadline |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 8. Governance and resource mobilization | Plan for mobilizing private investment defined and adopted by [end of 2022] to contribute to implementation LAW.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 2022     |
| 8. Governance and resource mobilization | A <b>legal review of exploration permits and mining and hydrocarbon contracts</b> will be carried out by 2023 in consultation with various stakeholders.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 2023     |
| 8. Governance and resource mobilization | A pilot model for special economic zones and a plan for mobilizing domestic and foreign resources will be defined and adopted by the end of 2023.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 2023     |
| 8. Governance and resource mobilization | A <b>review of legal texts on inclusive governance at the local level</b> will be carried out by the end of 2023 under the coordination of the Ministries of Planning and Rural Development, in order to clarify institutional aspects, the coordination of activities, and the role and responsibilities of structures representing stakeholders in local governance (including CLAT, CARG, CLD, etc.), while preserving the sectoral inclusiveness of local processes and the representativeness of stakeholders. | 2023     |
| 5. Land                                 | The priority regulatory texts of the National Land Observatory will be identified, drafted, and adopted by [end of 2024].                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 2024     |
| 8. Governance and resource mobilization | <b>Test a special economic zone model</b> aimed at supporting agricultural, energy, and other investments, as well as the development of their value chains with reduced impact on forests and ecosystems, and in favor of local communities and indigenous peoples, accompanied by a set of rules and measures facilitating these investments by the end of 2025.                                                                                                                                                  | 2025     |
| 8. Governance and resource mobilization | And its results are published and implemented by the end of 2025.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 2025     |

# V Monitoring of milestones in the Republic of Congo-CAFI Letter of Intent 2019–2025

## 5.1 Introduction – Partnership context

*This section aims to provide a summary overview of the CAFI partnership framework, the status of reviews, and key national milestones over the period under review.*

### Last review held on October 30, 2023

→ on the 2019–2023 milestones, with the following main observations:

- 6 (18%) milestones achieved and met;
- 14 (41%) milestones with interim results;
- 9 (26%) milestones for which support has been programmed with resources mobilized;
- 5 (15%) milestones with no progress

### Risks raised during the review that could affect the achievement of milestones

- Delays in programming
- Milestones related to securing rural land not fully covered by the schedule
- Lack of visibility on the planned procedures for developing the agricultural cadastre, posing a risk to the achievement of the milestone on the cross-referenced land cadastre
- Lack of coordination of all commitments made on the environment and sustainable management of natural resources
- Lack of consultation with the private sector on incentives for sustainable natural resource management

Key recommendations whose implementation depends on the implementation of projects, with little progress noted to date, according to the latest reports submitted by the project

### CAFI-Roc Letter of Intent

- **Date of signature:** Sept. 3, 2019
- **Location:** Paris, France
- **Signatory Parties**
  - (i) For the Government of the RoC: His Excellency the President of the Republic
  - (ii) For CAFI: His Excellency the President of the French Republic
- **Period covered:** 2019–2025
- **Number of milestones:** 52
- **8 priority areas:**
  - Land use planning
  - Rural land
  - Environmental and social control
  - Agriculture
  - Forest governance
  - Mining, hydrocarbon, and infrastructure governance
  - Sustainable wood energy and energy

### Main strategic objective

Improve the use and sustainable management of resources, reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, and protect peatlands and HSC and HVC areas<sup>1</sup>.

### Total financial commitment

US\$65 million, including US\$45 million from the CAFI Trust Fund and US\$20 million from additional bilateral funding. Financial commitment exceeded with more than US\$53.9 million mobilized from the CAFI fund and co-financing totaling US\$60.5 million.

- Provide for the establishment of an agricultural land registry and specify the services responsible for its implementation and the support arrangements.
- Map the mechanisms for recourse and resolution of land disputes and the needs related to their operation and consistency.
- Provide information on the results of work undertaken to secure land and investments
- Map existing governance mechanisms for coordinating the implementation of international agreements on climate and sustainable forest management with a view to proposing relevant mechanisms to ensure, as a first step, effective information sharing and communication.
- Analyze barriers to private sector investment in sustainable natural resource management with a view to unlocking investment potential far greater than CAFI to finance a green development trajectory for the Republic of Congo.

### Structural decisions

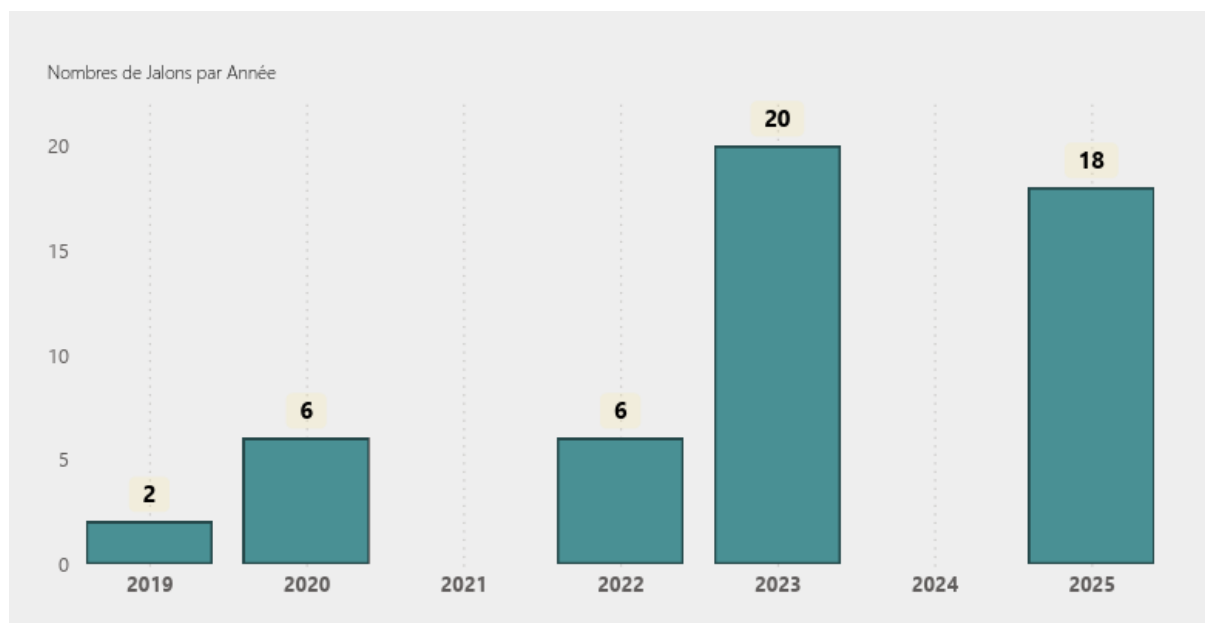
- Support for the private sector mobilized and launched as part of the TAF project (UNOPS) with a view to developing a portfolio of investments with low impact on forests and biodiversity.

**Independent evaluation of the ongoing partnership:** Launched in July 2025 with the final report due at the end of March 2026.

### Next review scheduled for May 2026, with the following main issues:

- Expiration of the MoU on December 31, 2025, with delays in programming and therefore a low level of progress to date in achieving milestones;
- Future of the CAFI-Congo partnership:
  - What are the priorities? The government's desire to deploy PSEs; if there are additional or different priorities, what funding will be available?
  - Continuation of current programming with extension of projects until 2029?
- CAFI governance and institutional arrangements for monitoring the partnership, particularly with regard to monitoring CAFI representation (government requests).

*Chart 9: Number of milestones per year / For the period 2019-2025*



## 5.1 Progress and Analysis

*This section presents a qualitative analysis of progress made in implementing the LOI milestones, based on monitoring data (see standard chart).*

### Status of milestones

- 7 (13%) milestones **achieved and respected**;
- 26 (50%) milestones with **interim results**;
- 12 (23%) milestones for which support has been planned with resources mobilized;
- 7 (13%) milestones with no progress

### General trends (acceleration, slowdown)

- 2019–2023: little progress justified by the launch of programs during the same period;
- 2024–2025:
  - progress made on policy milestones thanks to government efforts and the contribution of the TAF project (see below)
  - significant progress on milestones thanks to the acceleration of program implementation activities.

### Most advanced pillars or sectors

- **Environmental and social control** (without support from the dedicated GIZ project, for which the Prodoc was signed on January 14, 2026)
  - Promulgation on November 17, 2023, of Law No. 33-2023 on sustainable environmental management
  - Validation by the Council of Ministers and adoption by Parliament of texts on classified facilities, environmental and social impact studies, and the National Environment Agency:
  - Decree No. 2025-316 of July 23, 2025, establishing the conditions and procedures for conducting the study and preparing the environmental and social impact statement.

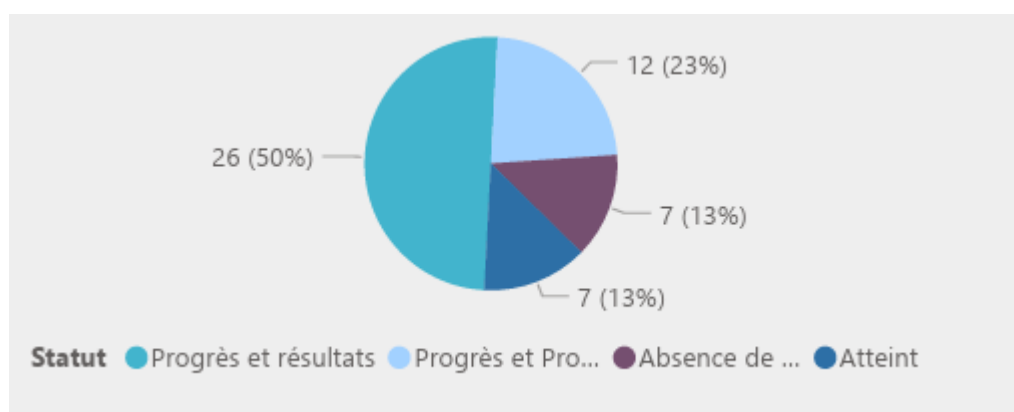
## Promotion of wood energy and renewable energies

- Implementation of a national initiative to develop plantations covering an area of 1 million hectares, part of which is allocated to wood energy production: PRoNAR;
  - Delimitation of wood energy supply basins for the cities of Brazzaville and Pointe Noire and land use maps + Agricultural diagnosis in wood energy supply basins;
  - Study on domestic gas;
  - Several companies operating in the country to market gas.
- **Sustainable forest management:**
  - Validation of CDN 3.0 taking into account NERF 2024 (TAF UNOPS support);
  - Promulgation of the new forest code in 2020 and adoption of several texts for its implementation. These include those related to the production sharing regime in timber exploitation;
  - Continuation of independent monitoring activities and publication of reports related to their missions.
- **EITI**
  - Publication and dissemination in 2024 of the 2022 and 2023 EITI reports

## Key explanatory factors (political, institutional, financial)

- **Policy**
  - Lack of ownership of certain milestones because they are not aligned with the national priorities defined after the signing of the letter of intent, in particular:
    - Agriculture pillar: Legal reform launched with the submission of a bill to Parliament, without taking the LOI into account.
    - Land Use Planning Pillar: Reform launched without a framework for consultation with other operational ministries as provided for in the LOI, and allocation of land without prior consultation with stakeholders.
    - Mines and Hydrocarbons: Allocation of titles in protected areas without prior environmental assessment.
  - Political decision impacting commitments made in the LOI: allocation of mining permits in parks;
- **Institutional:** Institutional structure heavily criticized by the government, particularly due to weak representation on the CAFI and the complexity of these arrangements, and a need to strengthen intersectoral coordination to support the government's vision in achieving the objectives of the Law;
- **Financial and operational:** Delays in the launch and implementation of programs supported under the Lol. The government also criticizes the institutional and/or operational structure of certain programs, indicating its desire to be able to steer the implementation of certain activities at the programmatic (rather than fiduciary) level.

*Chart 10: Number of milestones per year and status / For the period 2019-2025*



## 5.2 Delayed milestones and potential challenges

*This section aims to identify milestones that have not been achieved or are behind schedule, analyze the level of existing support, and propose concrete next steps to strengthen their implementation.*

**Chart 3: Number of milestones not achieved or late/ For the period 2019-2025**

| Milestone not achieved/delayed                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Existing project support (if yes, specify) | Sufficient support?                                                                         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Not achieved                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                            |                                                                                             |
| 4.2 A national strategy to support the artisanal sector, with a view to ensuring the legality of operations and its economic and environmental sustainability, is defined and implemented. The strategy and associated legal framework include clear provisions on the development, allocation, management, and monitoring of domestic logging permits. Domestic logging permits will be allocated in accordance with the HCS and HVC forest management and conservation standards to be adopted, the requirements of the PNAT, SNAT, and SDAT, and the FLEGT process. | PI-<br>PUDT/KOPEKOBA                       | Yes                                                                                         |
| 4.4 The General Inspectorates of Finance and Forest Economy monitor illegal activities revealed by the SIVL and publish the results.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | No                                         | A program is being implemented with EU funding to support issues related to this milestone. |
| 6.2 Prospecting and exploitation activities are carried out in accordance with the principles defined in milestone 3.1, in particular the provisions relating to compensation for biodiversity and carbon impacts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | GIZ/<br>Environmental monitoring           | Yes. Project activities are scheduled to start in the first quarter of 206                  |



|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                     |                                                                                                                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6.3 Guidelines and standards for low-impact exploration and mining in forests and peatlands are defined within the consultation framework, adopted, and implemented. These standards will define the procedures for planning, exploring, and exploiting mining and hydrocarbon activities when they take place in forest or peatland areas, in order to reduce their direct and indirect impact on these areas. They will be prioritized according to the following approaches: (i) avoid impacts; (ii) minimize impacts; (iii) mitigate impacts; (iv) compensate for impacts.                                                                                                | GIZ/<br>Environmental<br>control    | Yes. Project activities are scheduled to begin in the first quarter of 206                                                                     |
| 6.4 A regulatory text on the application of standards for low-impact mining and oil exploration and exploitation is being developed within the established consultation framework (milestone 6.3), adopted, and published.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | GIZ/<br>Environmental<br>monitoring | Yes. Project activities are scheduled to start in the first quarter of 206.                                                                    |
| 8.1 Regulatory texts on the composition of community development management committees and the operating procedures of Local Development Funds (FDL) and Community Development Funds (FDC), including guidelines on the types of projects to be financed and the procedures and instruments for financing projects, are defined and adopted. These funds contribute to the implementation of sustainable forest management projects and zero-deforestation economic activities for the benefit of communities.                                                                                                                                                                | PI-<br>PUDT/KOPEKOBA                | Yes.                                                                                                                                           |
| 8.3 A mechanism for coordinating the implementation of international climate and environmental agreements and conventions is defined and operational. This will involve, in particular, the establishment of high-level governance mechanisms, including the ministries responsible for finance, planning, land use, land tenure, forests, agriculture, and mines, as well as those responsible for monitoring and acting as focal points for the various commitments made in relation to land use and sustainable management of natural resources (UNFCCC, NDC, REDD+, CBD, Desertification, FLEGT VPA, EITI, etc.) and related financing (CAFI, GCF, Blue Fund, GEF, etc.). | No                                  | No                                                                                                                                             |
| Behind schedule                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                     |                                                                                                                                                |
| Milestones 2020                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                     |                                                                                                                                                |
| 4.11 A study of the social, economic, and environmental impacts on the production sharing regime provided for in the draft new forestry law will be carried out.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | PUDT                                | Yes. But the scope of the study has been completely changed. It is impossible to achieve this milestone under the current implementation plan. |
| 2020 milestones                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                     |                                                                                                                                                |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |      |                                                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2.6 A cross-referenced land registry (mining registry, oil registry, agro-industrial registry, forestry registry) is developed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | PUDT | No. No budget line to support the establishment of the agricultural cadastre.                                                 |
| 5.3 A transparent procedure for the allocation of agricultural and agroforestry land, in accordance with milestone 5.1, which is subject to assessment by an interministerial committee, is defined and adopted.                                                                                                                                                                                   | PUDT | Yes. Late start to the project and ongoing agricultural reform without the involvement of other stakeholders outside the APRM |
| 5.4 Provisions requiring agro-industrial companies holding agricultural land allocation titles in forest areas to submit annual forecasts of areas to be deforested and areas that have been deforested, accompanied by a cartographic document, to the forestry and agricultural administrations are included in an implementing text of the law regulating agriculture and the new forestry law. | PUDT | Yes. Not taken into account by the agricultural reform.                                                                       |
| Milestones 2023                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |      |                                                                                                                               |
| 1.7 New allocations, across all sectors, will be made from 2020 onwards, in a transparent and concerted manner, with prior monitoring of land use to avoid incompatible overlaps in rural areas.                                                                                                                                                                                                   | PUDT | Yes                                                                                                                           |
| 1.8 A national map of all "land use contracts" (cadastre) is produced and made available to the public. This map will eventually take into account customary territories that overlap with private and public domains. The map is updated annually to take into account progress made in conflict resolution and new land allocations.                                                             | PUDT | Yes                                                                                                                           |
| 2.2 A specific regulatory text specifying the procedures for recognizing and securing the customary land rights of Indigenous Peoples, in accordance with Articles 31 and 32 of Law 05 of February 25, 2011, on the promotion and protection of the rights of Indigenous Peoples in the Republic of Congo, is adopted and implemented by 2023.                                                     | PUDT | Yes                                                                                                                           |
| 2.4 In the specific case of individual, community, and industrial agroforestry plantations in natural forest areas and/or in the DFP and savanna areas, land security and management measures are being tested for integration into the regulatory frameworks relating to land use planning, land tenure, and the forestry and agricultural sectors.                                               | PUDT | Yes                                                                                                                           |
| 2.5 A pilot initiative to identify and delimit a land reserve for oil palm development in savanna areas is being conducted. The process of identifying the land reserve will be developed on the basis of preliminary mapping of village terroirs and finages and following a CLIP process. The lessons learned                                                                                    | PUDT | Yes.                                                                                                                          |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |      |                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| will be capitalized on in the work on drafting the implementing provisions of the land law.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |      |                                                                                                                                  |
| 2025                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |                                                                                                                                  |
| 1.1 The SNAT is revised, and the PNAT and SDAT are developed, validated, and implemented using a participatory approach.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | PUDT | Financial support is very adequate. However, technical capacity is weak.                                                         |
| 1.4 The legal framework (intersectoral and sectoral codes) for the allocation and resolution of conflicts over overlapping "land use contracts" in rural areas is revised, harmonized, and adopted. It ensures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The non-conversion and sustainable management of HSC and HVC, as well as the limited, carbon-neutral conversion and sustainable management of non-HSC and non-HVC forest areas;</li> <li>- The absence of overlapping conflicts between land use titles and other land titles, DFP forests, and "land use contracts";</li> <li>- The recognition and respect of customary and modern land rights.</li> </ul>                                                                                    | PUDT | Yes. Weaknesses in terms of technical capacity to support its implementation and intersectoral coordination                      |
| 5.1 - The agricultural law and its implementing regulations are drafted and adopted, taking into account: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the non-conversion of HCS and HVC forests;</li> <li>- the limited conversion of non-HVC and HCS forest areas in accordance with the ceiling set (milestone 1.6);</li> <li>- the absence of conflicts of overlapping titles with other land titles, DFP forests and "land use contracts," the requirements of the PNAT, SNAT, SDATs, and the land law;</li> <li>- recognition and respect for customary and modern land rights.</li> </ul> The agricultural law and its implementing regulations are subject to a transparent consultation process involving all stakeholders prior to their adoption. | PUDT | Yes. The government is moving forward with the law-making process without involving the program and intersectoral consultations. |

### 5.3 Conclusions: points for attention and prospects

- Letter of intent expired in December 2025;
- No progress in achieving key milestones of the Lol, mainly due to delays in program implementation;
- Progress made with dedicated support from the UNOPS technical assistance facility: development of CDN3.0, support for EITI, support for the private sector, and monitoring and coordination of the partnership.
- Define priorities with the government on the milestones of the Lol and the orientation or reorientation of programming;
- Importance for the Government to discuss CAFI governance, the deployment of PSEs, and the simplification of institutional arrangements and milestones with regard to financing, project implementation modalities, and CAFI's level of representation
- Risks of cross-sectoral coordination and policy coherence (land use planning, land tenure, agriculture, forestry, mining, and hydrocarbons), particularly in sensitive areas.

- Complete the last 50 plots required for field data quality assurance and MRV monitoring.
- Consider financing the completion of community mapping for the last 500 villages.
- Complete soil and agricultural suitability analysis, with support from the Gabonese Agricultural Development Agency and the Ministry of Agriculture, to inform land use planning and agricultural activities.

# Appendices

## *Detailed monitoring of the 84 milestones for 2021-2025 by sectoral pillar , DRC*

### Agriculture pillar

The launch of the process to revise the agricultural law and the completion of a study to map the potential for sustainable agricultural production in four provinces of the DRC are the major achievements of the agriculture pillar.

A total of 10 milestones are aligned for the 2021-2025 period in the agricultural sector in LOI2. Table 3 below shows the level of progress in achieving these milestones. Three milestones in the agricultural sector are behind schedule or have not yet been started. These milestones are nevertheless aligned with the PAAJ and some tasks have already been completed, with the rest to be completed in 2026.

*Table 11: Progress in achieving the 2021-2025 milestones for the Agriculture pillar*

| Political commitments and milestones                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Deadline | Status      | Funding secured/planned | Observations/Evidence                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The <b>Agricultural Policy</b> will be adopted [by the Council of Ministers] by [the end of 2022], incorporating the principles of land use planning and the preservation of forests and peatlands, and promoting the development of commercial agriculture in savanna areas. | 2022     | Achieved    | Yes secured             | February 17, 2023: Sustainable Agricultural Policy (PAD) adopted by the 87th Council of Ministers, following a strategic environmental assessment. It enshrines the principles of preserving peatlands and high-value forests, recognizes the importance of land use planning, and guides industrial agriculture in savanna and degraded forest areas. |
| The <b>National Advisory Council on Agriculture</b> is in place and will be operational by [end of 2022].                                                                                                                                                                     | 2022     | Achieved    | Yes assured             | Dec. 9, 2022: Validation of the draft decree establishing the CCNA at the 80th meeting of the Council of Ministers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Agricultural concession contracts</b> are published at least annually on the sectoral ministry's website, accessible to the public.                                                                                                                                        | 2023     | Not started | Yes, assured            | Acquisition of computer equipment for data collection. Provisional lists of agricultural concessions. Training of                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

| Political commitments and milestones                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Deadline | Status      | Funding secured/planned | Observations/Evidence                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |          |             |                         | teams of trainers for the start of data collection in the provinces.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| A <b>map of sustainable agricultural production potential</b> , incorporating the preservation of forests and peatlands, is produced for key cash crops [e.g., coffee, cocoa, oil palm, rubber, etc.] by [end of 2023], based on the agricultural potential study carried out under the Land Use Planning Pillar.                                                                                                                                                             | 2023     | Progress    | Yes, assured            | A consultant has been recruited and a study has been carried out in four of the six planned provinces; agricultural production potential maps have been produced.                                                                                                                                                                 |
| A participatory process of reflection and <b>definition on medium-scale agriculture</b> , its specific needs, and how to support it in order to reduce its impact on forests while meeting the country's needs, in line with the objectives of this letter of intent, based on the specific context of the DRC and informed by national and international good practices in similar countries.                                                                                | 2023     | Progress    | Yes, assured            | A consultant has been recruited. A framework note has been produced, a study has been launched in three provinces, and a draft report has been produced and is awaiting final validation.                                                                                                                                         |
| The sectoral ministry formally notifies development partners and provincial governors to ensure <b>consistency</b> between, on the one hand, <b>official development assistance programs</b> and provincial programs, including public and private investments, and, on the other hand, the guidelines of the National Agricultural Policy and the requirements of the AT Schemes/Plans [in particular those developed within the framework of the PIREDD], by [end of 2023]. | 2023     | Not started | Yes ensured             | Activity 2.5.1, PAAJ/Agriculture aligned in 2026, delay in transfer of funds                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| A <b>plan or roadmap</b> to gradually increase domestic <b>budget allocation and execution</b> for the agriculture sector is adopted by [end of 2023].                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 2023     | Progress    | Yes, insured            | As part of the PAAJ, discussions took place between the SG's finance unit and the budget and finance departments; government support for farmers during the 2025 agricultural season                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Translate the guidelines of the National Agricultural Policy into law</b> , incorporating in particular the principles of land use planning and sustainable management of forests and peatlands, and taking into account the opinions of the National Advisory Council on Agriculture; adopt the revised agricultural law [by the end of 2024].                                                                                                                            | 2024     | Progress    | Yes                     | A consultant has been recruited to integrate the guidelines. The guidelines of the national agricultural policy have been translated into the draft law. A consultation meeting between the task force, the cabinet, and the SG to validate the content of the revised law, workshop to validate the policy guidelines in the law |
| <b>The agricultural law is adopted by 2025 and defines transparent procedures for the allocation of agro-industrial concessions</b> , incorporating the reduction of impacts on                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 2025     | Progress    | Yes                     | A consultant has been recruited to integrate the guidelines. The national agricultural policy guidelines have been translated into the draft law. A consultation meeting between the task force, the cabinet, and the SG                                                                                                          |

| Political commitments and milestones                                                                | Deadline | Status      | Funding secured/planned | Observations/Evidence                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| forests and, in particular, the preservation of high-value forests, peatlands, and the environment. |          |             |                         | to validate the content of the revised law, workshop to validate the policy guidelines in the law |
| Adopt the priority <b>implementing provisions</b> of the law by [end of 2025].                      | 2025     | Not started | Yes, assured            | Start of the revision of the law and implementation measures launched                             |

## Energy pillar

For the period 2021 to 2025, six milestones have been set for the energy pillar. One of these milestones has been achieved. It is: "The legal, regulatory, and fiscal framework for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) will be adopted by [2023]." Major advances in the energy sector include obtaining a favorable opinion from the Congolese Environment Agency (ACE) on the environmental and social assessment (EEA) of energy policy and the adoption of the decree on LPG. The Energy pillar is among those that have made the most progress by the end of 2025.

*Table 12: Progress in achieving the 2021-2025 milestones for the Energy pillar*

| Commitments and policy milestones                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Deadline | Status   | Funding secured/planned | Observations/Evidence                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The <b>National Energy Policy</b> will be developed and approved by the Council of Ministers by [end of 2022], incorporating clean cooking with a view to reducing the impact on natural forests.                                         | 2022     | Progress | Yes secured             | Favorable opinion available from the SEA report, Study Report submitted to the Minister for presentation to the government secretariat. Retreat to finalize the drafting of the energy policy.         |
| An <b>intersectoral coordination mechanism</b> on the issue of sustainable energy, which includes clean cooking, is defined by a legal act and made operational by the end of 2023, with at least two meetings per year starting in 2022. | 2023     | Achieved | Yes assured             | The National Energy Council has taken into account the recommendations of the milestone (since the Zongo retreat).                                                                                     |
| (...) and clarification of the respective mandates and necessary synergies by the end of 2023.                                                                                                                                            | 2023     | Progress | Yes                     | An interministerial decree has been submitted to the Minister of the Environment; this clarification is specified in the decree.                                                                       |
| <b>Energy policy recognizes the importance of establishing master plans</b> for wood energy supply, with clear multi-stakeholder institutional support for steering their implementation.                                                 | 2023     | Progress | Yes                     | This policy includes, in its wood energy sub-sector, a priority area specifically dedicated to the development of sustainable wood energy supply master plans in each supply basin (p. 24 of the PNE). |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |      |          |              |                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|----------|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The <b>legal, regulatory, and fiscal framework for liquefied petroleum gas (LPG)</b> will be adopted by [2023].                                                                                                 | 2023 | Achieved | Yes, assured | The amendment to the decree on hydrocarbons, which now explicitly includes the liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) sector, signed in April 2025. Decree on LPG in the DRC signed in April |
| A plan or roadmap is adopted by [end of 2023] aimed at gradually increasing the allocation and execution of the national budget in support of the implementation of this letter of intent in the energy sector. | 2023 | Progress | Yes assured  |                                                                                                                                                                                     |

## Forest pillar

The Forest pillar has 22 milestones for the period 2021-2025. Of these milestones, 23% have been achieved (5 milestones), 14% are on schedule (3 milestones), and 64% are in progress (14 milestones). For 2025, one milestone has been achieved for the Forest pillar. This is: "Develop in a participatory manner and adopt a Plan by [the end of 2022] to ensure the effective protection of existing protected areas and extend areas under protection status to 30% of the national territory by 2030."

Other milestones in progress, such as the definitions of concepts and the national forest policy, are awaiting final technical validation before they can be achieved.

*Table 13 : Progress in achieving the 2021-2025 milestones for the Forest pillar*

| Commitments and policy milestones                                                                                                                                                                                  | Deadline | Status   | Funding secured/planned | Observations/Evidence                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The conditions for <b>launching the Sustainable Forest Management Program</b> will be met by January 31, 2022                                                                                                      | 2022     | Achieved | Yes secured             | - Letter dated June 7, 2023, from the MEDD to the MinFin requesting the authorization of the National Program Director and Senior Technical Assistant in accordance with the project document; ( <i>awaiting authorization from the MinFin</i> )- Dec 2022: SFM Program launch workshop (minutes)                                                                                                                                                           |
| The <b>legal review of industrial logging concessions</b> will be finalized by mid-2022 in consultation with stakeholders; results published;                                                                      | 2022     | Achieved | Yes assured             | - Independent legal review finalized (see: deliverables)- Published on 03/05/2024: / Publication on the MEDD website Final report of the Interministerial Review Commission Establishment of the concession evaluation commission and presentation of the report on its work. Notification to companies of the validation of titles. Final table of forest concessions in good standing pending + canceled concessions also pending (expected deliverables) |
| Forest concessions deemed illegal under national legislation, canceled by [end of 2022]. This milestone must be reached before any new allocation or reallocation of industrial forest concessions can take place. | 2022     | Progress | Yes, assured            | - April 2022: establishment of a Ministerial Commission for the Review of Contracts by Decree 016/1 of the MEDD March 2023: presentation of the Commission's provisional report to the Council of Ministers and validation of the                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |



| Commitments and policy milestones                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Deadline | Status   | Funding secured/planned | Observations/Evidence                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |          |          |                         | roadmap for the next steps (processing of appeals from companies, consultations, particularly within the framework of the CCNF)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <i>(Including the 2020 audit report of the General Inspectorate of Finance, to be published before the end of 2021)</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 2021     | Achieved | Yes, assured            | Report published in April 2022                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| The forestry sector is clearly and strongly integrated into <b>the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI)</b> and, as such, all <b>industrial exploitation and conservation concession contracts</b> , including audit reports, review reports, and observation mission reports, are published on a publicly available website by [end of 2022].                                                                                                                           | 2022     | Progress | Yes, assured            | - 2015: <a href="#">The EITI-DRC Executive Committee decided to extend EITI reporting to the forestry sector; Publication of the Forestry Sector Framework Report in February 2023</a> ; - Delays due to the lack of funding made available by FONAREDD/CAFI to EITI DRC: Two activities: (i) raising awareness among delegates from affected communities and (ii) forestry operators on the EITI Standard and the integration of the forestry sector into the EITI, held in December 2025; Start of data collection on forestry concessions.                                             |
| <b>The decree formalizing the lifting of the moratorium</b> will only be adopted after the completion, on the basis of a consultative process, of a geographical program for future allocations in accordance with Presidential Decree No. 05/116 of October 24, 2005, financed by CAFI by the end of 2022.                                                                                                                                                                              | 2022     | Progress | Yes                     | Establishment of the commission on geographical programming, production of initial geographical programming maps, holding of a workshop to present the approach and results related to geographical programming, several meetings of the geographical programming commission. Drafting of the first draft decree lifting the moratorium.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Develop in a participatory manner and adopt <b>a Plan</b> by [end of 2022] <b>to ensure the effective protection of existing protected areas and extend areas under protection status to 30% of the national territory by 2030.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 2022     | Achieved | Yes, assured            | Diagnosis of protected areas produced and technically validated.<br><a href="#">SPANB 2025-2030 validated on July 28, 2028</a><br><br><a href="#">Document available here</a><br><br>Creation of Vouloir vert Kivu-Kinshasa on January 15, 2025 ( <a href="#">decree 25/01</a> ) to extend areas under protection status in the DRC                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Deforestation and forest degradation data</b> generated at the national and provincial levels by the SNSF, as well as [key] data from the national forest inventory, are updated annually and gradually improved, following the adoption of a single methodology for the DRC, taking into account new technologies and standards available, with attention to comparability between periods; It is made available on the Terra Congo platform by [the end of 2022] and then annually. | 2022     | Progress | Yes, assured            | - MEDD Decree No. 023 of May 6, 2022 establishing the biennial assessment and dissemination of statistical data on deforestation and forest degradation and entrusting the DIAF with publication- 2015-2020 data available (but not published on the National Forest Monitoring System (SNSF) website, which is not functional)- Within the framework of PAAJ, expertise for the validation of botanical identification and the establishment of a national forest inventory database in preparation for data publication, identification work and inventory data preparation in progress |

| Commitments and policy milestones                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Deadline | Status      | Funding secured/planned | Observations/Evidence                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The <b>Reference Level of Forest Emissions</b> for the Reduction of Emissions from Deforestation in the DRC (NERF) will be updated by the end of 2022 and submitted to the UNFCCC.                                                                                                                                    | 2022     | Not started | Yes, assured            | Dec. 3, 2018: Publication of <a href="#">the DRC's NERF</a> on the <a href="#">UNFCCC website</a> . - The NERF will be revised in 2023 (it is therefore proposed to postpone the progress assessment until 2023). - Planned in the PAAJ Prodoc and preliminary work in progress                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| The <b>concept of degraded forest</b> will be defined and identified for the various types of forests in the DRC, as part of a participatory and multi-sectoral national process, by the end of 2023.                                                                                                                 | 2023     | Progress    | Yes, assured            | Commission set up by the SG for expert support in the definition and participatory process<br>Consultation meetings held on the variables/parameters and their thresholds to be considered in the definition<br>Consultation meetings held on proposals for defining the concept.<br>1 workshop for technical validation of concepts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| The <b>concept of high-value forests and peatlands</b> is defined through a participatory and multisectoral process, taking into account local, national, and international best practices on the consideration and valuation of carbon stocks and biodiversity values by [end of 2023].                              | 2023     | Progress    | Yes, assured            | Initial draft definition, Provincial consultations on proposed definitions of concepts<br>1 workshop for technical validation of concepts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Assess the effectiveness of forest control and, on this basis, develop provincial strategies</b> for prioritizing controls based on the risk of illegality in order to ensure more efficient use of the limited resources of the MEDD's central, devolved, and decentralized services dedicated to forest control. | 2023     | Progress    | Yes, assured            | Strengthen the effectiveness of forest control through the production and implementation of provincial control strategies in the four provinces covered by the PGDF by the end of 2024.<br>Progress: Production of four documents:<br>1. Guide for the IO;<br>2. Evaluation report and development of modalities for implementing the IO's mandate;<br>3. Roadmap for the IO<br>4. Specifications for the Independent Observer<br>This milestone is progressing slowly at the PGDF level, which is currently developing provincial control strategies to feed into the national proposal. |
| At the same time, initiate a reflection on the role of mandated and non-mandated independent observation within the framework of the Forest Advisory Council to strengthen civil society support for forest monitoring, in coordination with the central, devolved, and decentralized services of the MEDD.           | 2023     | Progress    | Yes, assured            | See above                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

| Commitments and policy milestones                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Deadline | Status      | Funding secured/planned | Observations/Evidence                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The <b>forestry policy</b> is developed and adopted by [end of 2023], resulting from a participatory and transparent process involving all parties and incorporating (i) the principles of land use planning and the preservation of high-value forests and peatlands, as well as (ii) local and community-based forest management models.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 2023     | Progress    | Yes assured             | Provincial consultations conducted in 26 provinces on V1; final version produced, technical validation process; launch of SEA study.                                                                                                                                     |
| The <b>Forest Code</b> is revised by [end of 2023] to incorporate (i) strategic forest policy directions, including advances and challenges related to REDD+, industrial, artisanal, and community forest management; (ii) strengthening penalties for forestry and wildlife offenses; and (iii) new dynamics in conservation, biodiversity protection, and nature-based solutions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 2023     | Progress    | Yes, assured            | Harmonization sessions and consolidation of the roadmap for the revision of the Forest Code;<br>CCNF organized for validation of the final roadmap.<br>Expertise to support the revision of the Forest Code through the establishment of a multi-stakeholder task force; |
| In the context of <b>the allocation of new industrial forest concessions</b> , effective evaluation measures, quality standards, and procedures provided for in the Forest Code and its implementing measures (in particular <i>Decree No. 08/09 of August 8, 2008, establishing the procedure for the allocation of forest concessions, and Decree No. 011/25 of May 20, 2011 amending Decree No. 08/09 of August 8, 2008</i> ) in terms of, in particular, (i) tendering, (ii) prior public inquiry, (iii) negotiation of social clauses with communities as part of the specifications, and (iv) independent observation of the process, are respected, in accordance with the regulatory framework. | 2023     | Progress    | Yes assured             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress:</li> </ul> Roadmap for forest macro-zoning and geographic programming produced.                                                                                                                                         |
| Develop and adopt a good practice guide by the end of 2023, with a view to reaching <b>a total of 5 million hectares of Local Community Forest Concessions (CFCL)</b> by the end of 2031.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 2023     | Not started | Yes, assured            | Activity included in the PGDF.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Updated biennial reports</b> (BURs) are submitted to the UNFCCC, incorporating the most up-to-date data from the national REDD+ process, taking into account the revised NDC.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 2023     | Progress    | Yes, assured            | First Biennial Updated Report in June 2022. Report currently being reviewed by PAAJ support (review workshop organized in December 2025)                                                                                                                                 |
| The <b>revised NDC</b> is aligned with the most recent data from the REDD+ process before being submitted to the UNFCCC, and the country meets its reporting commitments to the UNFCCC on a regular basis.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 2023     | Progress    | Yes, assured            | 2021 or 2022 NDC submitted and revised. The UNDP Climate Finance project plans to support this activity.                                                                                                                                                                 |
| A <b>legal review of conservation forest concession titles</b> is finalized by [end of 2024], taking into account agreements on social clauses, management plans,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 2024     | Not started | Yes, assured            | Activity budgeted under PAAJ with USD 100,000 for 2026, a first provisional list of concessions produced pending legal review                                                                                                                                            |

| Commitments and policy milestones                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Deadline | Status   | Funding secured/planned | Observations/Evidence                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| and taxation, in consultation with various stakeholders, including civil society; results published as soon as the review is complete.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |          |          |                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>The National Forest Advisory Council</b> is operational and functional, holding at least two sessions per year, and Provincial Forest Advisory Councils are functional in PIREDD provinces by [end of 2024], holding at least two sessions per year.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 2024     | Achieved | Yes assured             | March 2023: adoption by the Council of Ministers of the revised CCNF Decree published in March 2023 in the Official Journal (Decree No. 23/11 of March 3, 2023, amending and supplementing Decree 08/03 of January 26, 2008, on the composition, organization, and functioning of the National Forestry Advisory Council) |
| <b>By 2025, through a participatory and multisectoral process</b> , define: (i) the concepts of "high-value forests" and "peatlands"; (ii) assign them legal protection status (iii) develop associated rules for their use and management, aimed at conserving forest cover and carbon stocks, differentiated according to sector (agriculture, mining, hydrocarbons, etc.) and stakeholder (local communities, large-scale private sector, etc.); (iv) identify them spatially. This process will take into account local, national, and international best practices on the consideration and enhancement of carbon stocks and biodiversity values. | 2025     | Progress | Yes, assured            | Consultations (national and provincial) on proposed definitions of concepts; draft definitions, technical validation of concepts                                                                                                                                                                                          |

### Standards pillar: Mining and hydrocarbons

Unlike in 2024, the mining and hydrocarbons pillar has seen progress. Of the six milestones for this pillar, five milestones that count for 2023 and were delayed in 2024 have moved forward thanks to the launch of the project to support the achievement of the milestones. These milestones are being implemented by the ACE, the ministries of mining and hydrocarbons, and the EITI.

*Table 14: Progress in achieving the 2021-2025 milestones for the Mining and Hydrocarbons pillar*

| Commitments and policy milestones | Deadline | Status | Funding secured/planned | Observations/Evidence |
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
|-----------------------------------|----------|--------|-------------------------|-----------------------|

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |      |             |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| All mining and hydrocarbon concession contracts will be published, in accordance with agreements between the DRC government and the EITI, by the end of 2022.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 2022 | Achieved    | Yes secured  | - Publication on December 1, 2022, of the Ventura-DRC Agreement (February 2022 agreement to recover Gertler's mining assets) - October 13, 2022: DRC achieves a high overall score (85.5 points) in the implementation of the 2019 EITI Standard (see: EITI Board Decision and Validation Report)- 100% of hydrocarbon contracts published: Home   e-hydro (gouv.cd) '- 92% of mining contracts published (half of those not published due to technical constraints – See Publication Tracking Table): <a href="https://www.itierdc.net/carte-de-la-rdc-cliquable/contrats-miniers/">https://www.itierdc.net/carte-de-la-rdc-cliquable/contrats-miniers/</a> |
| Demonstrate the <b>implementation of legal obligations to carry out environmental and social assessments</b> by operators in the forestry, mining, hydrocarbons, agriculture, infrastructure, and energy sectors, etc.                                                                                                                                                                                        | 2023 | Progress    | Yes, assured | Capacity building in environmental and social assessments, monitoring, and controls (Hydrocarbons and Mining Management System) Annual monitoring/assessment missions with reports to be published (hydrocarbons). Dissemination of relevant legal and regulatory texts to stakeholders by ACE; Consultation meeting to define the needs and scope of the assessment.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Comply with the ban on all mining and hydrocarbon activities incompatible with conservation objectives <b>in protected areas</b> , in accordance with the legal framework in force.                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 2023 | Not started | Yes, assured |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Conduct an <b>analysis to determine the extent to which mining and hydrocarbon titles overlap with and/or impact protected areas, high-value forests, and peatlands</b> , with a view to supporting land-use planning processes, <b>adopting appropriate prevention or mitigation measures, and publishing and implementing the resulting findings by the end of 2023.</b>                                    | 2023 | Progress    | No           | Identification of land use conflicts and production of conflict maps in areas close to protected areas, Counter-verification mission on environmental impact                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Make all <b>mining and hydrocarbon investments in the buffer zone of protected areas</b> conditional on their having no negative impact on the protected area, and subject these investments to a prior environmental and social impact assessment, accompanied by a duly approved management plan, in accordance with the legal framework in force                                                           | 2023 | Progress    | Yes, assured | Cross-checking of field data by the relevant departments through the establishment of permanent environmental monitoring brigades throughout the country, particularly in the forest provinces covered by ACE (Mai-Ndombe, Equateur, Mongala, and Tshopo).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>REDD+ standards</b> are developed in a participatory manner, adopted and integrated into the Operations and Procedures Manual for environmental and social assessments, taking into account national and international best practices in relation to the prevention, mitigation and compensation (in order of priority) of the direct and indirect negative impacts of mining and hydrocarbon investments, | 2023 | Progress    | Yes, assured | As part of the PAAJ project, drafts of the operations manual and procedures for environmental and social assessments (draft report available) and the draft National Hydrocarbons Plan have been produced,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

|                                                                                        |  |  |  |                                                                                                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| by the end of 2023. REDD+ standards are accompanied by an independent audit mechanism. |  |  |  | in collaboration between the PAAJ project and GIZ Standards through mining, hydrocarbons, and ACE. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## Land use planning pillar

The Land Use Planning pillar has 10 milestones by the end of 2025, three of which are aligned solely in 2025. One milestone of the land use planning pillar for 2022 will be achieved in 2025: "The Land Use Planning Act will be promulgated by the President by the end of 2022."

The land use planning pillar is making progress in 2025. For example, eight milestones are on track, while only one of the five milestones scheduled for 2024 remains on track. All three milestones scheduled for 2025 are progressing thanks to the activities carried out by the PAAJ (Land Use Planning) project. The only milestone currently on schedule has seen progress, as the National Council for Land Use Planning has been adopted and is awaiting only the Prime Minister's signature and the appointment of its team. This milestone consists of holding the first meeting of the CNAT and training its members.

*Table 15: Progress in achieving the 2021-2024 milestones for the Land Use Planning pillar*

| Political commitments and milestones                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Deadline | Status      | Funding secured/planned | Observations/Evidence                                                                                                                                                         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The Land Use Planning Act will be promulgated by the President by the end of 2022;                                                                                                                                                               | 2022     | Achieved    | Yes secured             | AT Law promulgated on July 1, 2025.                                                                                                                                           |
| The <b>National Council for Land Use Planning (CNAT)</b> is established by mid-2022 through a legal act, which also defines its role as a consultative body, ensuring synergies with other bodies including the National Land Reform Commission. | 2022     | Progress    | Yes, assured            | The draft decree was adopted at the 63rd Council of Ministers meeting.                                                                                                        |
| An initial meeting of the CNAT will be organized by [the end of 2022], with at least one meeting held annually thereafter.                                                                                                                       | 2022     | Not started | Yes, assured            | The draft decree was adopted at the 63rd Council of Ministers meeting, pending the appointment of council members to hold the first meeting.<br>Presidence.cd/link/0ADerEG7tq |
| Provincial and Local Land Use Planning Councils (CPAT and CLAT) shall be established by legal acts in at least two pilot provinces by [end of 2023], and in all other PIREDDs by the end of 2026.                                                | 2023     | Progress    | Yes, assured            | As part of PAAJ, the draft decree sent by the ministry to the governors of the provinces concerned. PIREDD KORLOM, 1 decree in 2025 (Eastern Kasai)                           |

| Political commitments and milestones                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Deadline | Status   | Funding secured/planned | Observations/Evidence                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A <b>national directory of natural resources in the soil and subsoil</b> , in terms of inventories of renewable and non-renewable natural resources, will be produced by the end of 2023 based on information provided by the sectoral ministries by 2022, enabling the development of a <b>preliminary draft of the Land Use Planning Atlas</b> , bringing together the cartographic representation of the data in the Directory and existing and planned sectoral allocations. | 2023     | Progress | Yes, assured            | On Tuesday, January 18, 2022, the Prime Minister launched work on the development of the National Directory of Renewable and Non-Renewable Natural Resources of the DRC (Ministry of Land Use Planning, Mines, Agriculture, and Environment). A draft of the directory is available and awaiting validation. A series of maps is being produced as part of two baseline studies on forest capital and agricultural potential, which will be capitalized in the Atlas. ONAT and the Directorate of Renewable and Non-Renewable Natural Resources are expected to play this role. Consultant for updating/consolidating data with sectoral ministries within multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder thematic groups. |
| In the context of <b>existing land use conflicts</b> , an <b>arbitration process</b> is initiated, in accordance with the law, by the competent authority concerned (Prime Minister, Provincial Governor, Local Authority) based on guidelines proposed by the land use planning council at the relevant level (national, provincial, or local) for at least [2-5] land use conflicts in priority protected areas.                                                               | 2023     | Progress | Yes                     | Conflicts identified and mapped, awaiting designation of CNAT for the arbitration process, mission in Kasai scheduled for arbitration by CPAT Kasai                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| All <b>land use contracts (agriculture, forests, mines, hydrocarbons) are centralized and published transparently</b> and updated at least once a year on an internet platform accessible to all, in collaboration with the relevant sectoral ministries.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 2023     | Progress | Yes                     | The process of collecting and consolidating data from sectoral ministries (including georeferenced data) has begun, and a consultant is being recruited to create and publish an online georeferenced database of all land use contracts for the annual updating of the online database.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Finalize the <b>National Land Use Plan and provincial and local land use plans</b> in key areas in a participatory and inclusive manner, and ensure that these tools are ready for implementation by 2025 and that they integrate high-value forests and peatlands.                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 2025     | Progress | Yes                     | Workshop to validate the final stages of the national land use plan<br>Workshop on the selection of TA options, consultancy launched for the integration of options into the National TA Plan.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Implement the mechanisms provided for by law to make intersectoral trade-offs</b> and rule on conflicting land uses, prioritizing protected areas and provinces with PIREDDs, by the end of 2025                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 2025     | Progress | Yes, assured            | Report identifying land use conflicts and overlapping uses in three areas, preparatory arbitration workshop planned pending signed CNAT decree.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

| Political commitments and milestones                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Deadline | Status   | Funding secured/planned | Observations/Evidence                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Develop, adopt, and publish priority implementing regulations for the Land Use Planning Act</b> by the end of 2025 in order to provide a legal basis for land use planning bodies (including CNAT, CPAT, and CLAT), tools (including SNAT, PPAT, PLAT, and PSAT), and intersectoral arbitration. | 2025     | Progress | Yes                     | Establishment of a working committee; workshop to identify options for implementing measures.<br>CNAT adopted and CPAT established |

## Land pillar

The Land Pillar has a total of seven milestones for the period 2021-2025, as in the previous year. Two milestones have been achieved, one of which was achieved in 2025. This is the milestone: "A land law will be adopted by the end of 2023."

Similarly, one milestone has been postponed. This is the milestone: "A legal act is adopted and published by (the end of 2024) transforming CONAREF into the National Land Observatory, responsible for evaluating and monitoring the implementation of national land policy, with at least two annual meetings of its Steering Committee." This last milestone has been postponed because the feasibility study transforming CONAREF into an Observatory emphasized that this change should not be made in the short term.

*Table 16 : Progress in achieving the 2021-2025 milestones of the Land pillar*

| Political commitments and milestones                                                                    | Deadline | Status   | Funding secured/planned | Observations/Evidence                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A national <b>land policy</b> is adopted by [end of 2022];                                              | 2022     | Achieved | Yes secured             | - April 15, 2022: The Council of Ministers, at its 49th meeting, approved the Land Policy document- The preliminary draft Land Law was submitted to the National Assembly for its May 2023 session     |
| Land policy accompanied by a national land implementation plan, adopted and published by [end of 2023]. | 2023     | Progress | Yes, assured            | The National Land Policy was approved by the government on November 17, 2022. The plan has been developed and is awaiting approval by stakeholders before being presented to the Council of Ministers. |
| A <b>land law</b> is adopted by the end of 2023.                                                        | 2023     | Achieved | Yes, assured            | Law promulgated by December 31, 2025.                                                                                                                                                                  |



|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |      |             |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The Land Information System (LIS) and its tools for application in rural and urban areas will be developed and adopted by [end of 2023], taking into account vulnerable people, including indigenous peoples and women.                                                                        | 2023 | Progress    | Yes, assured | The Land Information System (SIF) and its operational tools are being tested in the territories of Mambasa in Ituri and Inongo in Mai Ndombe. Tool presented on April 19, 2023, at a workshop for stakeholders in the reform process. Work remains to be done to review, consolidate, and validate the tools by all stakeholders in order to consider their endorsement by ministerial decree. |
| <b>Land allocation procedures</b> take into account pre-existing rights and the country's current land use planning requirements, as well as environmental obligations as defined by law. In particular, as defined in the draft land policy, strengthen the preliminary investigation regime. | 2023 | Progress    | Yes, assured | Included in the policy document adopted by the government in 2015. These principles are expected to be reinforced in the law currently being drafted and followed by enforcement measures to be developed by PARF 2.                                                                                                                                                                           |
| A legal act is adopted and published by (end of 2024) transforming CONAREF into the National Land Observatory, responsible for evaluating and monitoring the implementation of national land policy, with at least two annual meetings of its Steering Committee.                              | 2024 | Postponed   | Yes          | The pre-feasibility study for the transformation of CONAREF into an observatory will be carried out in 2024. However, there is a need for further analysis of CONAREF's strengths and weaknesses and the possible options for a potential transformation, accompanied by a business plan to support each proposed model in order to inform the political authority's decision.                 |
| Its priority regulatory texts will be identified, drafted, and adopted by [the end of 2024].                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 2024 | Not started | No           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

## Demographics pillar

The Demographics pillar has a total of nine milestones for the period 2021-2025, including one added in 2025 compared to the previous year, 2024. Of these milestones, four have been achieved and five are in progress. The major advances recorded in 2025 as part of the project to support the achievement of milestones are mainly the launch of the process of developing the national population policy with provincial consultations on the demographic diagnosis, the production and validation of the demographic profile report, and the production of the first draft of the national population policy.

Another advancement concerns the holding of meetings of the National Population Committee bodies, including the functioning of the permanent secretariat and the holding of two meetings of the interministerial technical committee on population (CTIP). These meetings provide an opportunity to continuously evaluate the process of developing the population policy.

*Table 17: Progress in achieving the 2021-2025 milestones of the Demography pillar*

| Commitments and policy milestones                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Deadline | Status   | Funding secured/planned | Observations/Evidence                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The <b>National Population Committee</b> (CONAPO), including its Technical Secretariat, will be revitalized by the end of 2022.                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 2022     | Achieved | Yes secured             | - Sept 2022: Organization of a CONAPO awareness-raising session- Nov 2022: Ministerial Decree No. 02106 /CAB/MINETAT/MIN.PLAN/CMNK/2022 of November 10, 2022, on measures to implement the ordinance creating CONAPO- 2023 budget for CONAPO's operations: \$300,000 instead of \$60,000 in the 2022 budget                                      |
| The new multisectoral <b>strategic family planning plan</b> for the period 2021-2025, with a view to 2030, will be adopted by [early 2022] to help accelerate the transition to demographic change through a rights-based approach.                                                                                                                      | 2022     | Achieved | Yes assured             | - April 2022: Adoption of the National Strategic Plan with a multisectoral vision for family planning 2021-2025                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| To maximize internal and external advocacy, the <b>national coordination of the Permanent Multisectoral Technical Committee (CTMP)</b> for family planning is revitalized and operational by the end of the first quarter of 2022, in accordance with its internal regulations.                                                                          | 2022     | Achieved | Yes                     | - Nov 2022: Government participation in the International Family Planning Conference in Thailand- April 2023: Establishment of a new team, permanent office: Coordinator (UNFPA), Co-coordinator (CHAI), 2nd Secretary (ABEF-ND) Adjutant (CHAI), 2nd Secretary (ABEF-ND)- Transmission of the DRC's commitments to the FP2030 Global Initiative |
| <b>Provincial and local committees</b> are revitalized and/or established in at least six target provinces by the end of 2023,                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 2023     | Progress | Yes assured             | Letter from the Minister of Planning to the Minister of the Interior instructing governors to issue the CPPO decree to facilitate the SG Plan's establishment mission; Draft CPPO decree for 5 provinces                                                                                                                                         |
| A <b>national strategy for raising awareness of sexual and reproductive health</b> is developed, incorporating elements of the National Communication Strategy for the Promotion of Family Planning (adopted in 2021), taking into account the associated socio-cultural context and population and development issues, and is adopted by [end of 2023]. | 2023     | Achieved | Yes, assured            | Link to the national strategy.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| A memorandum of understanding has been signed between the Ministry of Health and technical and financial partners to support the implementation of the 2025 Multisectoral Strategic Plan for Family Planning, with a view to facilitating a substantial increase in family planning services through public and private approaches.                      | 2023     | Progress | Yes                     | The strategic plan is implemented by all FP partners through projects. PROMIS 2 includes the implementation of strategic plans in its activities.                                                                                                                                                                                                |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |      |          |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|----------|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A <b>plan to advocate</b> with the government to (i) gradually increase the allocation and execution of <b>the domestic budget</b> for family planning, in accordance with the existing government decision, and to (ii) allocate a substantial line of credit to CONAPO, is adopted by [end of 2023].                                                                                                                                      | 2023 | Progress | Yes, assured | (1) An advocacy plan to increase the budget line was developed in 2023 and resulted in the signing of the COMPACT in 2025. The COMPACT has already been signed by the sectoral minister (Minister of Health) and has been sent to the Minister of Finance for final signature. NB: The COMPACT is a commitment document signed by governments with UNFPA in which they commit to financing the purchase of contraceptives with government funds (mobilization of domestic government resources for the purchase of contraceptives). |
| The <b>National Population Policy</b> is updated and adopted by [end of 2024], including the demographic component, with a view to accelerating the demographic transition, seizing the demographic dividend, and better assessing and optimizing the impact of population growth on all areas of development, including economic emergence, the fight against poverty and inequality, and the sustainable management of natural resources. | 2024 | Progress | Yes, assured | Consultant recruited to support the development of the national population policy<br>Workshop to launch the formulation of the NPP organized<br>Consultation missions completed on demographic diagnosis.<br>First draft of the assessment or demographic profile of the DRC.<br>Draft of the national population policy                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| And at least four more by the end of 2025, to oversee the development of the policy, ensure coordination, and oversee multisectoral planning in terms of the link between population issues and sustainable development, namely its economic, social, and environmental dimensions, with the aim of making the DRC a middle-income country by 2035.                                                                                         | 2025 | Progress | Yes          | Two meetings of the Interministerial Technical Committee on Population were held in 2025, including one to support the process of developing the national population policy.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

## Governance and Resource Mobilization Pillar

The Governance and Resource Mobilization pillar has a total of 13 milestones for the period 2021-2025, two more than in 2024. Of these milestones, three have been achieved, four are in progress, and six have not yet been achieved. One milestone will be achieved in 2025: "At least three PIREDD provinces are supported in defining, through an open, participatory, and inclusive process, provincial and local development plans that integrate the priorities of this letter of intent in accordance with the national REDD+ strategy, with a view to consolidating the response to the drivers of deforestation and guiding land use planning processes at the various corresponding levels." Provincial development plans have been produced in several PIREDD provinces, including Bas Uélé, Kwilu, Sub-Ubangi, and Kasai Oriental.

However, the governance pillar has several milestones that have not yet been addressed and for which no resources have been allocated. Some of these milestones require specific studies, such as the milestone entitled: "A review of the legal texts on inclusive governance at the local level will be carried out by the end of 2023 under the coordination of the Ministries of Planning and Rural Development, in order to clarify the institutional aspects, the coordination of activities, and the role and responsibilities of the structures

representing stakeholders in local governance (including CLAT, CARG, CLD, etc.), while preserving the sectoral inclusiveness of local processes and the representativeness of stakeholders."

*Table 18: Progress in achieving the 2021-2025 milestones for the governance and resource mobilization pillar*

| Commitments and policy milestones                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Deadline | Status      | Funding secured/planned | Observations/Evidence                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|-------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A <b>mechanism for monitoring and evaluating</b> stakeholder <b>participation</b> (women, indigenous peoples, youth, local communities, and others) is defined and implemented by the end of 2022.                                                                                                                            | 2022     | Progress    | No                      | <a href="#">Note on the definition of beneficiaries, first draft used in 2024, draft 2 to be used in 2025. This will provide information on beneficiary categories by gender, sex, and province.</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| A <b>Domestic Resource Mobilization Plan</b> is defined and adopted by the end of 2022 to contribute to the implementation of this letter of intent. This plan will inform the development of a new Medium-Term Revenue Mobilization Strategy (MTRMS) in partnership with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. | 2022     | Progress    | No                      | <a href="#">On August 20, 2025, the SE FONAREDD sent a memorandum to the Minister of Finance identifying possible sources of domestic financing that could contribute to the implementation of the REDD+ investment plan.</a>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| In 2022, the Government will propose <b>to the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank</b> that certain commitments in this Letter of Intent be integrated into the monitoring mechanisms of these partners in order to ensure consistency in the implementation of reforms.                                           | 2022     | Reached     | No                      | - 2021-2022: Negotiation by the Government of <b>two Development Policy Operations with the World Bank, concluded in June 2022 and March 2023, for a total of USD 750 million</b> . In its third pillar, this series of DPOs supports the forest and climate change reform program, aligned with the 2022 key milestones of the Letter of Intent signed between the DRC and CAFI. October 2022: DRC request to enter into negotiations with the IMF to access the IMF's Resilient Sustainability Trust (RST); negotiations initiated in April 2023 and possibly not concluded in June 2023. |
| Plan to mobilize private investment defined and adopted by [end of 2022] to contribute to the implementation of the LOI.                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 2022     | Not started | No                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| A <b>legal review of exploration permits and mining and hydrocarbon contracts</b> is carried out by 2023 in consultation with various stakeholders.                                                                                                                                                                           | 2023     | Not started | No                      | The mining cadastre has carried out a mission to recover mining blocks outside the legislation. See mining cadastre.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Payment tools for environmental services will be piloted in at least three PIREDDs by the end of 2023.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 2023     | Progress    | Yes, assured            | The Mai Ndombe, Equateur, and Kwilu PIREDDs have experimented with PES through programs already underway during LO1. The piloting of PES tools is planned as part of the World Bank's OPERPA program, in synergy with CAFI's regional                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |             |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------------|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |      |             |              | PES program and the PIREDDs currently being implemented.<br>Mobile payment experimented with in Mai Ndombe                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| By the end of 2023, at least three PIREDD provinces will be supported in defining, through an open, participatory, and inclusive process, <b>provincial and local development plans</b> that integrate the priorities of this letter of intent in accordance with the national REDD+ strategy, with a view to consolidating the response to the drivers of deforestation and guiding land use planning processes at the various corresponding levels.                                                               | 2023 | Achieved    | Yes          | Provincial development plans have been produced in several provinces, including Bas Uélé, Kwilu, Sub-Ubangi, and Kasai Oriental, which are PIREDD provinces.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| A pilot model for special economic zones and its plan for mobilizing domestic and external resources will be defined and adopted by the end of 2023.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 2023 | Not started | No           | See ANAPI                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| A <b>review of legal texts on inclusive governance at the local level</b> will be carried out by the end of 2023 under the coordination of the Ministries of Planning and Rural Development, in order to clarify institutional aspects, the coordination of activities, and the role and responsibilities of structures representing stakeholders in local governance (including CLAT, CARG, CLD, etc.), while preserving the sectoral inclusiveness of local processes and the representativeness of stakeholders. | 2023 | Not started | No           | Not included in the PAAJ. To be followed up with the Ministry of Planning. A letter was sent by the SG Plan to the SE FONAREDD on this milestone of pillar 8 in order to raise it, but no response has yet been received.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Innovative non-domestic resources</b> are being mobilized to implement REDD+ priorities, in the form of direct contributions, co-financing, and alignment.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 2023 | Progress    | Yes, assured | Interministerial decree on the sharing of benefits (state share) from the sale of carbon credits published in 2023.<br>As part of the CDN-Carbon Market project scoping study, the UNDP will work with the Ministry of Finance to facilitate the development of the domestic resource mobilization plan and with the Ministry of Planning to ensure its integration into the DRC's 2024-2028 National Strategic Development Plan, which is currently being drafted, by allocating budgets for this purpose within the framework of the project. |
| <b>The Indigenous Peoples Act</b> is finalized and adopted, and its priority implementing regulations are approved.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 2023 | Achieved    | Yes assured  | Law No. 22/030 of July 15, 2022, on the protection and promotion of the rights of indigenous peoples, promulgated by the Head of State and published in the Official Journal.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Test a special economic zone model</b> aimed at supporting agricultural, energy, and other investments, as well as the development of value chains with reduced impact on forests and ecosystems, and in favor of local communities and indigenous peoples,                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 2025 | Not started | No           | Special economic zones have been created by the government. Plans are underway to create seven more economic zones. These zones are developing agro-industrial activities.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

|                                                                                               |      |             |    |  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|-------------|----|--|
| accompanied by a set of rules and measures facilitating these investments by the end of 2025. |      |             |    |  |
| And its results are published and applied by the end of 2025.                                 | 2025 | Not started | No |  |

### *Strategic role of the Milestone Achievement Support Project (PAAJ) in the DRC*

The Milestone Achievement Support Project held its first steering committee meeting in April 2025, during which the 2025 Annual Work Plan and Budgeted Work Plan (PTBA) were approved by the steering committee members. After April, the signing of letters of agreement between the UNDP and the relevant ministries or entities enabled the implementation of activities.

After eight months of implementation, the Milestone Achievement Support Project (PAAJ) is positioning itself as a major support in the implementation of the second Letter of Intent (LOI2) of the CAFI-DRC partnership. Funded to the tune of USD 8 million for a period of 18 months, this project aims to accelerate the achievement of 36 policy milestones set by LOI2 for the period 2021–2026.

The PAAJ works with eight key institutions: six sectoral ministries (Land Use Planning, Agriculture, Forestry, Planning, Mines, Hydrocarbons) and two specialized entities (EITI and ACE). These structures are supported through sectoral sub-projects aimed at strengthening their capacities, producing the expected reforms and strategic documents, and formalizing the legal frameworks essential for REDD+.

For the first period of PAAJ activities, the following table shows the progress of milestones for each ministry and entity concerned. Overall, 6% of milestones have been achieved, 69% are in progress, and 25% have not been started. The eight milestones that have not been started are scheduled to begin in 2026 with the second phase of the project; most of them were not aligned in the first year.

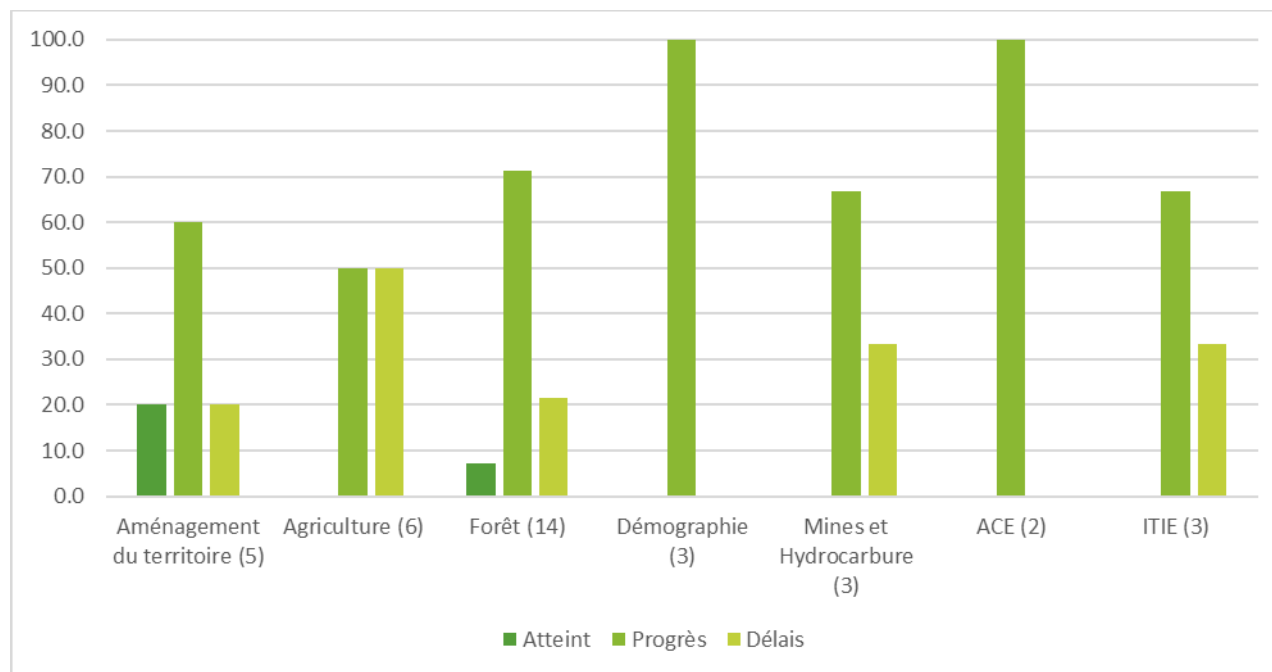


Figure 19: Status of 2021-2025 milestones supported by the PAAJ by entity



Table e 20: Level of progress of milestones aligned under PAAJ by sector

| Sector/Institution     | Number of milestones covered by the PAAJ | Milestone titles                                                                                                                     | Status of milestones under PAAJ                                     |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Land use planning      | 5                                        | Finalization and dissemination of SNAT, implementation of legal framework, intersectoral arbitration                                 | 1 achieved, 4 in progress (except for 1 <sup>st</sup> CNAT meeting) |
| Agriculture            | 6                                        | Revision of the Agricultural Code, implementation of the Sustainable Agricultural Policy, piloting of the agricultural land registry | 3 in progress, 3 not yet started.                                   |
| Forests / MEDD         | 14                                       | Forestry Policy, Revision of the Forestry Code, lifting of the moratorium, review of the legality of concessions                     | 1 achieved, 10 in progress, 3 not started                           |
| Plan / Demographics    | 3                                        | Development of Population Policy, relaunch of CONAPO                                                                                 | 3 in progress                                                       |
| Mines and Hydrocarbons | 3                                        | Socio-environmental standards, publication of contracts, capacity building                                                           | 2 in progress, 1 not started                                        |
| ACE                    | 2                                        | Validation and monitoring of PGES, socio-environmental compliance control                                                            | 2 in progress.                                                      |
| EITI                   | 3                                        | Integration of the forestry sector into the EITI, publication of contracts and sector reports                                        | 2 in progress, 1 not started                                        |
|                        | 36                                       |                                                                                                                                      | 2 achieved, 26 in progress, 8 not started                           |