

26th CAFI EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

PUBLIC REPORT

24 & 25 June Geneva, Switzerland



Des forêts source de vie



Des communautés rurales prospères



Un climat stabilisé

Un dialogue politique Des financements basés sur la performance



INTRODUCTION

The 26th Executive Board meeting (EB26) took place in Geneva, Switzerland, on 24 and 25 June 2025, following the agenda. The meeting was moderated by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), United Kingdom, currently the chair of the CAFI Executive Board. Ms. Agi Veres, Director of the UNDP Geneva Office, made some opening remarks. She thanked CAFI board members for their involvement and raised the positive impact of these communal efforts on the global climate challenge. She also welcomed Denmark as the latest joining Executive Board member. Finally, she emphasised the CAFI's growing engagement in national access, the commitment of the private sector, and South-South cooperation.

1. GENERAL SESSIONS

- Status of the CAFI Fund

The CAFI Fund has reached 84% of its expected contributions, with USD 820 million of deposits. Of this amount, USD 621 million has been disbursed for projects, while USD 271 million remains available.

- Annual Report

The contents of the 2024 Annual reports and its highlights were presented, as well as updates on the CAFI metrics Hub and lessons learned. The Board acknowledged the improvement in project reporting and timeliness.

Decision

A revised version of the Annual Report was adopted via <u>EB.2025.25 Decision - Adoption of the 2024 Annual Report</u>.

- Road To Belem Progress & Communication

CAFI is currently preparing a mobilization and participation plan for several key events scheduled before the end of the year, including the CBFP Conference, the UN General Assembly, and COP30, among others.

- Private Sector

An update on the CAFI private sector portfolio was made with some projects currently underway and others in development.

- Progress Governance Reform

Discussions on inclusion have taken place. A gradual approach is being prioritized, with further analyses planned.

- National Access

The Executive Board is continuing discussions on the development of a national access window within the Fund. A decision on access for national NGOs was adopted.

- Performance-based Programming

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The main provisions of the proposed Policy for performance-based programming—applicable to all Agriculture, Forestry, and Land-Use (AFOLU) projects, along with a dedicated set of measures for Payments for Environmental Services (PES) projects—were presented. Projects funded by the Fund will gradually be aligned with this policy.

Decision

The Performance-based policy was adopted as per <u>EB.2025.26 Decision - CAFI</u> <u>Policy_AFOLU_PES</u>.

2. COUNTRY SESSIONS

The country sessions began with a dedicated reprioritization session aimed at reviewing the Fund's overall portfolio and identifying priority areas. This was followed by the review of country programmes.

- Gabon

A portfolio restructuring was discussed to better align it with new priorities...

- Democratic Republic of Congo

The status of programming in the DRC was presented. Submissions received in response to the call for expressions of interest for the Kinshasa Supply Basin ("PROBAK") reviewed, <u>and decision</u> <u>adopted</u>. PES Programme were also reviewed.

- Republic of Congo

A summary of the project results in the Republic of Congo was presented, along with an update on the independent evaluation of the partnership. The session also served as an opportunity to discuss the coordination support project in the Republic of Congo with, the UNDP Resident Representative in Congo.

- Cameroon

Mr. Ernest Nnanga, Director of the Division for Prospective Studies and Spatial Planning (DPPS) and CAFI focal point at the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Development (MINEPAT), presented the progress achieved in implementing the partnership and meeting the milestones outlined in the letter of intent. The session also provided an opportunity to present the Land Use Planning Capacity Building Project, which is being implemented by GIZ.

Decision

The Land Use Planning Capacity Building prodoc was adopted via decision <u>EB.2025.28 Decision</u> <u>- Cameroon - Approval of GIZ LUP</u>.

- Session with Costa Rica

This session allowed the Executive board to welcome and discuss the new South-South partnership agreement on Payments for environmental services with Ms. Naty Vega, Head of Office, Deputy Minister of the Environment (MINAE, Costa Rica). She presented Costa Rica's interest in working with African countries. Logistical aspects such as deadlines, resources, and governance were discussed, underlining the importance of achieving concrete results. Ms. Vega stressed the need for a well-defined cooperation plan and a solid legal framework, pointing out

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that Costa Rica will provide technical expertise and its support in planning the process. Concerning the evaluation of results, she proposed structuring cooperation around concrete and verifiable products, with clear results indicators.

CONCLUSION

The 26th CAFI Executive Board Meeting marked a significant milestone in advancing the Fund's strategic priorities and operational reforms. Discussions reflected a shared commitment to improving transparency, enhancing performance-based programming, and expanding access for national stakeholders. The adoption of key decisions demonstrates the CAFI's continued focus on impact, accountability, and innovation.

The meeting also reinforced CAFI's role in global climate efforts, with preparations underway for major international events. The engagement with Costa Rica on South-South cooperation further highlighted CAFI's ambition to foster inclusive and knowledge-driven partnerships.

Looking ahead, the Executive Board will continue to refine governance structures, strengthen private sector engagement, and ensure that CAFI's programming remains aligned with evolving national and global priorities.

