



## CAFI Executive Board Decision

Democratic Republic of Congo: Approval of the project document addendum for “Zero-deforestation smallholder agriculture in Kongo Central” (DRC), prepared by One Acre Fund ([Project ID : 00140885](#))

EB.2025.42

Adopted by email on 03.04.2025

### Considering:

- The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) National REDD+ Framework Strategy and the [DRC-CAFI 2021-2031 Letter of Intent](#), which both state that payment for environmental services (PES) are “the heart of the incentive system for REDD+ in the DRC”.
- [Decision EB.2024.29](#) on the approval of the project document for “Zero-deforestation smallholder agriculture in Kongo Central” (DRC), prepared by One Acre Fund;
- The National roadmap for the deployment of payments for environmental services (PES) in the DRC developed during the International interministerial conference on the deployment of PES in Central Africa (which was held in Kinshasa on 27-29 January 2025); and the inclusion, in the roadmap, of a PES demonstration project in the savannah area based on the deforestation-free agricultural development project implemented by One Acre Fund (OAF) in the province of Kongo Central.
- The need for DRC to demonstrate at COP30 in Belém that CAFI’s standardized PES mechanism is already operational and ready to be deployed on a larger scale.

### The CAFI Executive Board:

1. Approves the project document addendum for an amount of 2 104 534 USD to be used over an implementation period of 16 months (considering the effective start date (i.e. 10 December 2024), the operational closing date is projected to 31 March 2026).
2. Requests the CAFI Secretariat to sign the project document on its behalf.
3. Invites OAF to implement PES demonstration activities in the territories of Songololo in the Kongo Central Province for an amount of up to 104 534 USD.
4. Requests that these demonstration activities use the PES management tool, deploy the various PES activities, ensure the proper integration of farmers and communities into the centralized PES database, test mobile payments with selected beneficiaries, and communicate internationally

alongside the DRC government on this mechanism, for the mobilization of financing with the aim of scaling up.

5. Requests that the CAFI Secretariat works together with the DRC government and OAF to accompany the demonstration activities, analyze the experiences, develop lessons learnt and use these to inform the finalization of the CAFI PES mechanism and the PES operations manual.
6. Requests OAF to demonstrate the highest level of scrutiny (i) to ensure synergies and complementarities with the activities and operations that will be funded by the FONAREDD and the Grantham Foundation and (ii) to ensure and report on the proper management of the three sources of financing and thus avoid duplication (or double financing of the same operations).
7. Underlines that projects under the CAFI-DRC partnership are executed by implementing organizations on behalf of the government, and that implementing organizations must develop their proposals and implement their projects in close coordination and synergy with the relevant national and local government counterparts.
8. Recalls that the implementing organization will have to report on progress toward both the objectives and milestones of the Lol as well as on indicators of the National REDD+ Investment Plan and CAFI and FONAREDD results framework in accordance with CAFI guidelines and templates. In addition, it will have to provide CAFI with all reports and data (raw and analyzed) from household's surveys and other field studies including spatial information (i.e. GPS coordinates) and information on how their activities are addressing and respecting CAFI social and environmental safeguards.
9. Recalls that, while respecting its rules and regulations, the implementing organization commits to zero tolerance for fraud, corruption and sexual exploitation and abuse, protection of whistle-blowers, public disclosure, gender and social inclusion and use of adequate complaints mechanisms. In addition, the implementing organization commits to managing all other contextual and programmatic risks identified by the Executive Board with the utmost care. The implementing organization is expected to be proactive in reporting those risks to the CAFI MPTF in respect to CAFI Trust fund Terms of reference.

<b>Chair, CAFI Executive Board</b>	<b>UN Member, CAFI Executive Board</b>
<b>Signature:</b>	<b>Signature:</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>Date:</b>