



**Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP)**  
**The Belgian Facilitation (2018-2019)**

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**The Congo Basin Forest Partnership**

**Pressing for more attention, funds and technical support to save the world's second largest rainforest and benefit its population**

The Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP) was launched by former United States Secretary of State, Colin Powell, at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002 in Johannesburg as a response of the international community to Resolution 54/214 of the United Nations General Assembly which urged the international community to support efforts towards conservation and sustainable management of Congo Basin forests. The CBFP is a member of the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development. As a "Type II" partnership, it represents a multi-stakeholder partnership that allows member organizations to cooperate on a voluntary, free, non-binding basis. It currently comprises **114 members**, including **10 Central African countries** and close to a hundred partners concerned with the Congo Basin forest ecosystems: **ECCAS, COMIFAC**, Donors countries, the civil society, international NGOs, multilateral organizations, research and training institutions and private sector actors. It is the most comprehensive regional and international platform dedicated to the protection and sustainable management of Congo Basin forests. **Cooperation within the CBFP** aims to support this shared vision of the Central African Heads of State, notably by enhancing the effectiveness of the measures taken, including technical and financial support, to promote conservation of biodiversity and sustainable management of forest ecosystems, the fight against climate change and poverty reduction in Central African countries in line with the COMIFAC Convergence Plan.

**Cooperation structures of the Congo Basin Forest Partnership**

Consistent with its non-binding and voluntary nature, the CBFP does not have a formalized institutional structure. Instead it has a set of informal structures:

- **The CBFP Meeting of Parties:** The annual CBFP Meeting of Parties serves as the "General Assembly" of the Partnership. The meeting is held in one of the COMIFAC Member States and brings together all CBFP stakeholders. The Meeting of CBFP Parties is a unique event in the region, bringing together a wide range of different stakeholders at the local, national, regional and international levels to discuss and exchange views on a host of key topics relating to the protection and sustainable management of Congo Basin forests.
- **The CBFP Colleges:** CBFP members are grouped into seven colleges based on the type and role of actors. The seven colleges that make up the CBFP include: The CBFP Regional College - ECCAS, COMIFAC and Member States: Leaders: ECCAS, COMIFAC - The CBFP Civil Society College: Leaders: CEFDHAC and Community Rights Network (CRN) - The CBFP International NGO College: Leaders: AWF and WWF - The CBFP Private Sector College: Leaders: ATIBT, TFT - The CBFP Donor College: Leaders: EU and US - The CBFP Scientific and Academic College: Leaders: CIRAD and UCLA - The CBFP Multilateral College: Leaders: FAO, GVTG (alternate - UNESCO) - CBFP Private sectors include 13 members inter alia: ALPI group; ATIBT – IFIA; Forest Trends; FORM International; FSC; INTERHOLCO AG ; OLAM (CIB); PEFC; Precious Woods Holding; Society of American Foresters; The Forest Trust (TFT); Volcanoes Safaris; WIJMA Cameroun S.A.
- **The CBFP Council:** The CBFP Council is composed of two representatives of each CBFP college and is chaired by the CBFP Facilitation
- **The CBFP Facilitation:** The CBFP is led on a voluntary basis by one of its members, which serves as Facilitator and plays a key role in fostering effective dialogue and cooperation within the Partnership. **The CBFP was initially facilitated** by the U.S. from 2003-2004, by France from 2005-2007, by Germany from 2008-2010 and by Canada from 2010-12. The U.S. assumed the facilitation again, for the period 2013-15, and was succeeded by the European Union from 2016-2017. The CBFP Facilitation is currently provided by the Kingdom of Belgium for the period 2018-2019.