



# ICCF Forum on U.S. role in CBFP

*Celebrating U.S. Congressional Leadership in  
Launching the Congo Basin Forest Partnership and  
its successes as an international partnership*

**September 29, 2009 • Washington, D.C.**

HOSTED BY THE

**INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION CAUCUS FOUNDATION**

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## **ICCF Conservation Council**

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## **GENERAL**

The International Conservation Caucus Foundation (ICCF) is hosting a Forum in Washington D.C on the role of the United States in the Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP) to coincide with the opening of the U.N. General Assembly (UNGA) and the Corporate Council on Africa (CCA) U.S.-Africa Business Summit. The purpose of the September 29 U.S. CBFP Forum is to reenergize U.S. Congressional and Administration support for the CBFP and celebrate the CBFP's continued successes as a broad based international partnership.

## **FORUM PARTICIPANTS**

The Forum will bring together Heads of State and/or Senior Ministerial Representatives of the Central African country members of CBFP, Washington Ambassadors of CBFP member countries, US Government officials, and representatives of multilateral agencies to discuss the overall progress of the CBFP and to present a vision for the U.S. engagement in the partnership for the future. The Forum will be designed to include leadership of the U.S. Congressional International Conservation Caucus (ICC) and other key Members of the U.S. Congress and the Obama Administration. The Forum Advisory Committee includes four of the most important international conservation NGOs, and the Forum Partners (still to be determined) potentially will include American universities and other international NGOs working in the Congo Basin and on related issues.

### **CENTRAL AFRICAN MEMBER COUNTRIES of CBFP**

Burundi  
Cameroon  
Central African Republic  
Chad  
Democratic Republic of Congo  
Gabon  
Equatorial Guinea  
Rwanda  
Republic of Congo  
Sao Tome and Principe

### **OTHER MEMBERS OF CBFP**

Belgium  
Canada  
European Commission  
France  
Germany  
Global Environment Facility  
Italy  
Japan  
Netherlands  
Norway  
South Africa  
Spain  
United Kingdom  
United States of America

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**FORUM PARTNERS (TBD)**

Other NGOs  
University Partners

World Bank

**FORUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

African Wildlife Foundation  
Conservation International  
Wildlife Conservation Society  
World Wildlife Fund

**FORUM GOALS**

This event will also be the occasion for the International Conservation Caucus (ICC) Bi-cameral Hearing. While there are many achievements to celebrate, this is a critical juncture for maintaining and increasing long-term U.S. support for the CBFP. The Forum will raise the profile of the CBFP in the United States, as U.S. programs progress from landscape planning to full implementation, while meeting new challenges and opportunities. Specific goals include:

1. highlight the successes of the CBFP as a regional forest conservation partnership fostering sustainable natural resource use, peace, and stability in the region, and to provide an honest appraisal of progress on the ground;
2. provide an opportunity for these Heads of State and/or Senior Ministerial Representatives to present their vision for the years ahead to the US Congress and the Obama Administration, touching on identified needs for future technical assistance to address priority issues in the forest sector;
3. raise support for future investment and commitment from current as well as new partners.

**CENTRAL AFRICAN REGIONAL PROGRAM FOR THE ENVIROMENT**

The Central African Regional Program for the Environment (CARPE), is a long-term initiative by USAID to promote sustainable natural resource management in the Congo Basin by supporting increased local, national, and regional natural resource management capacity. CARPE is the U.S. Government's primary means of administering and funding its contributions to the CBFP activities. Under the CBFP program, 294,000 square miles, an area larger than Texas, of terrestrial, freshwater, and marine habitats of biological significance are under improved management, and the rate of biodiversity loss in these areas is being greatly reduced.

**FORUM HOST - ICCF**

The ICCF is the strongest association of public and private sector representatives in the U.S. dedicated to international conservation. Inspired by a belief that conservation is



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necessary for sustainable development and fundamental to poverty alleviation, conflict avoidance, good governance, and regional security, ICCF believes it is in America's interest to expand its leadership in the world to promote sound, long-term policies of sustainable land, water, and biodiversity management.

The ICCF works closely with the leadership of the U.S. Congressional ICC and other policy makers around the world, educating with good science and demonstrations of how successful models of public-private partnerships in conservation can successfully protect biodiversity and conserve natural resources while, most importantly, still providing economic and social benefits to people that rely on them for their survival.

## **PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

Partner Roundtable Discussion

*September 29, 1:00 – 3:00 pm*

*U.S. House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee Hearing Room  
Longworth House Office Building*

International Conservation Caucus (ICC) Bi-cameral Hearing

*September 29, 4:00 – 5:30 pm*

*Location TBD (potentially House Foreign Affairs Committee Room)*

Congressional Reception Honoring Heads of State of CBFP Partner Nations

*September 29, 6:00 – 8:00 pm*

*Cannon Caucus Room, Cannon House Office Building*