

DR Congo's CAFI-Backed Payments for Environmental Services — Independent Satellite Verification at Scale

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Congo (the Democratic Republic of the)

Quality score: 33/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

DR Congo channelled \$126m through seven integrated PIREDD forest projects, then in 2024 adopted a standardised regional PES framework and introduced independent, sample-based satellite verification of results via a third-party auditor.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	1/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	1/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	1/3
Governance, certification & transferability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-09-03

Central African Forest Initiative (CAFI) / DRC Ministry of Environment — accessed 2026-09-03

Payments for Environmental Services (CAFI) — accessed 2026-09-03

Celebrating 10 years and 10 breakthroughs (CAFI, 2024) — accessed 2026-09-03

Performance-Based Financing in the DRC: CAFI's Next Phase (UNDP MPTF Office, 2024) — accessed 2026-09-03

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