

DRC's Mai-Ndombe Carbon Programme: A Seven-Year Wait, and a Programme Its Own Evaluators Doubt

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

Quality score: 27/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

DRC's Mai-Ndombe forests earned a first-ever \$19.48M FCPF Carbon Fund payment in June 2025 for 3.89M tonnes of satellite-verified reductions (2019-2020). Independent field research on the same programme found little evidence it cut deforestation, and low community consent.

Key dimensions

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

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-27

[Observatoire Satellital des Forêts d'Afrique Centrale \(OSFAC\)](#) — accessed 2026-09-27

[Forest Carbon Partnership Facility - Updates on DRC's Mai Ndombe Emission Reductions Program](#) — accessed 2026-09-27

[World Bank - Carbon Revenues Support Clean Water Access in DRC](#) — accessed 2026-09-27

[Rainforest Foundation UK - Research into Mai Ndombe REDD+ Programme](#) — accessed 2026-09-27

Cite this — Evidoria. *DRC's Mai-Ndombe Carbon Programme: A Seven-Year Wait, and a Programme Its Own Evaluators Doubt*. Persistent ID: 226bb555-cb62-4294-8b47-47fa3f5c6050.