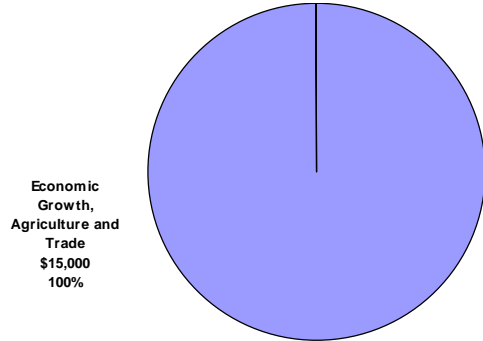
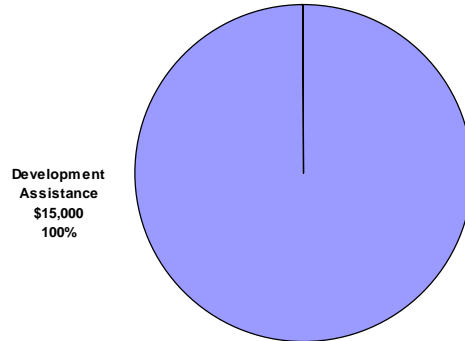


Central Africa Regional

FY 2006 Assistance by Sector



FY 2006 Assistance by Account



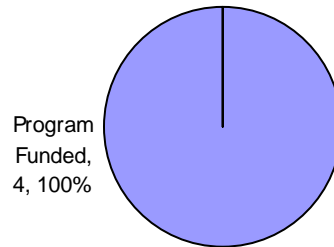
Objectives and Budget

Objective	SO Number	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP)	605-001	17,025	15,000	15,000
Total (in thousands of dollars)		17,025	15,000	15,000

Administrative Expenses and Workforce

Administrative Expenses	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006
Mission Allocation			
USDH Salaries & Benefits			
Program Funds	980	892	852
Total (in thousands of dollars)	980	892	852

2006 Workforce



Mission Director: Robert Hellyer

Central Africa Regional

The Development Challenge: Central Africa contains the second largest area of contiguous moist tropical forest in the world with dense forests that extend over 1.9 million square kilometers of Central Africa and cover almost 50% of the landmass. The countries of the Central African Congo Basin include Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Republic of Congo, Burundi, Rwanda and Sao Tome/Principe. More than 80 million people living in the region depend on the rich forests and other natural resources for their livelihoods and economic development. Despite the richness of the biodiversity of the Congo Basin, the people of the Basin are among the poorest in Africa. The challenge facing decision makers, the global community and Basin citizens alike is to strike a balance in the conservation of these natural resources to satisfy current needs while protecting the resource base for future generations. This challenge is particularly acute in the face of prolonged political instability and conflict in many of the Basin countries, weak governance institutions, seriously depleted human and institutional capacity and a rapidly growing international demand for both tropical timber products and non-timber forest resources.

Over 50% of the forest outside of protected areas, which cover just 6% of the forest, has been allocated for logging concessions. Although only one of the many threats to the Congo Basin, commercial logging poses many challenges in maintaining the overall integrity of the forest. As loggers move across the Basin they significantly increase the pressures on the forest in and around the concessions they are logging. Logging attracts immigrants looking for good paying jobs and access to social services that are not provided by the state. This leads to increased agriculture and hunting pressures on the nearby natural resources, pressures that continue after the logging companies move on. Logging roads open up pockets of forest that were previously inaccessible to hunters and motorized transportation allowing more frequent, faster, and cheaper transportation between hunting areas and urban markets, and resulting in widespread decimation of local wildlife populations.

Recently, the war in the eastern region of the Congo Basin has had a significant impact on the forest because of its effect on the distribution of human populations in the region. Rural populations and immigrants fleeing from neighboring countries have been forced into the forest to escape soldiers and armed insurgents. As displaced populations are pushed further into the forest and cut off from local markets they are forced to rely on the natural resources in the forest for survival. Conflict also exacerbates competition over natural resources such as minerals, diamonds, timber and land, increasing the illegal exploitation of these resources in the areas experiencing conflict. Success in resource management often depends at the core on successful strategies to cope with conflict.

Central African countries tend to be politically centralized yet inefficiently administered, and economically weak. Authority over most of the forest management is in the hands of a few powerful politicians and private sector actors. This results in considerable inequity in the distribution of benefits derived from forest resource use, ignores the resource use concerns of the majority, creates incentives for people to flout unpopular laws and promotes unsustainable forest resource use. Effective, efficient and equitable forest management that contributes to broad based development in the Congo Basin must be governed by mechanisms that assure inputs from a broad range of societal actors and promote a system of institutional checks and balances, and separation of powers. Prudent use and conservation of the environmental resources in the Congo will support long-term development. The challenge, however, is how to use and conserve environmental resources without jeopardizing either the future of the human population or the biodiversity ecosystem in which they live.

The Central Africa Regional Program for the Environment (CARPE) is the principal vehicle for U.S. participation in the Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP), a Presidential Initiative and international partnership. In addition to the CBFP, CARPE supports a broad range of U.S. interests, including biodiversity and tropical forestry conservation, global climate change, micro-enterprise and the Presidential Initiative Against Illegal Logging (PIAIL).

The USAID Program: The CARPE Strategic Objective (SO), to reduce the rate of forest degradation and loss of biodiversity through increased local, national, and regional natural resource management capacity,

is managed by USAID in Kinshasa, DRC. Activities supporting this objective take place across the region, both within the nine Congo Basin countries and in trans-border areas. CARPE implements the U.S.'s principal contribution to the CBFP. The U.S. contribution to CBFP is designed to promote economic development, alleviate poverty, improve governance and natural resources conservation through a network of national parks and protected areas, well-managed forestry concessions, and to provide assistance to communities which depend upon the conservation of the forest and wildlife resources of 11 key landscapes in six Central African countries. CARPE is working to improve conservation and sustainable resource management across the Basin in over 65 million hectares. Areas where important species of plants or animal habitats occur are being identified and mapped, management plans are being developed and staff trained. Key activities include protected area management, improved logging policies, rational forest use by local inhabitants and improved environmental governance. CARPE partners are working with Central African institutions to develop specific land and resources use plans in targeted landscapes.

Other Program Elements: Management of the CARPE program was transferred from Washington to USAID in Kinshasa. Since then there have been no other significant environment programs active in the region that are centrally or financially managed. As the CARPE program is focused on the Congo Basin where only two USAID offices are present, it is heavily dependent upon collaboration among a large number of U.S. private voluntary organizations (PVOs) and other U.S. partners with policy support from U.S. embassies. Activities in non-presence countries (NPCs) of the Congo Basin are coordinated by USAID in Kinshasa, but actual implementation relies upon the U.S. PVOs and their relationships to the governments and societies of these NPCs.

Other Donors: The CBFP was launched in September 2002 at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa. The CBFP partners comprise 29 members including all six Central African countries, multilateral donors including the World Bank, a number of major bilateral donors including the European Union, France, Belgium, the United Kingdom, Japan, plus a number of research organizations and international conservation non-governmental organizations. CARPE implements the U.S.'s principal contribution to the CBFP and fosters strong collaboration with the multitude of donors in the region. Key donor CBFP partners include the European Union, World Bank, Global Environment Facility (GEF), French World-Wide Fund for the Environment, German Development Cooperation, DGIS (Netherlands), International Tropical Timber Organization (Japan), and British AID (DFID) among others.

Central Africa Regional PROGRAM SUMMARY

(in thousands of dollars)

Accounts	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Current	FY 2006 Request
Development Assistance	15,000	16,000	15,000	15,000
Economic Support Fund	1,250	1,025	0	0
Total Program Funds	16,250	17,025	15,000	15,000

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE SUMMARY				
605-001 Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP)				
DA	15,000	16,000	15,000	15,000
ESF	1,250	1,025	0	0

Mission Director,
Robert Hellyer

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Central Africa Regional
Program Title:	Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP)
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	605-001
Status:	Continuing
Planned FY 2005 Obligation:	\$15,000,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$0
Proposed FY 2006 Obligation:	\$15,000,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	1993
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2010

Summary: USAID's program increases African management capacity to reduce the rate of forest degradation and biodiversity loss by strengthening sustainable forest and biodiversity management practices, improving the governance of forests and other natural resources through improved policies and resources monitoring throughout the Congo Basin. The Central African Regional Program for the Environment (CARPE) works primarily in USAID non-presence countries and therefore does not have direct formal bilateral relationships with Central African governments. Instead CARPE relies on our international NGO partners who execute direct bilateral agreements with those governments. CARPE does coordinate and work informally with regional governments and regional institutions of all types, governmental and non-governmental.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2005 Program: Improve Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Biodiversity Conservation (\$15,000,000 DA). CARPE will continue to expand support for the implementation of large, landscape-scale conservation management plans across the nine countries of the Congo Basin. Activities in 2005 will build on the management plans established in FY 2004 and will extend massive landscape management planning to full implementation of management plans over several hundred million hectares of protected areas, logging concessions and community common lands. Principal management activities will promote forest-based livelihood opportunities; improve sustainable forestry practices; control bush meat harvesting; establish and operate ecological and socio-economic monitoring systems in selected landscapes; and monitor logging activity, deforestation and forest access using remote sensing. Work will not proceed at the same pace on all landscapes or protected areas but will build on previous accomplishments according to progress and opportunities. The CARPE program reported on two indicators from the performance-monitoring plan to the USAID annual report in 2004: number of different use zones (e.g., protected areas, community areas, forestry concessions) within landscapes with sustainable management plans and number of landscapes or other focal areas with forest cover assessments. Eight total sustainable management plans were completed and operational in year one. An additional three sustainable management plans are anticipated in 2005. None of the landscapes or other focal areas completed forest cover assessments in fiscal year 2004 but it is anticipated that two will be completed in 2005. Principal contractors and grantees: African Wildlife Foundation, Conservation International, Wildlife Conservation Society, World Wildlife Fund, World Resources Institute, The World Conservation Union (IUCN), National Aeronautics and Space Administration, U.S. Forest Service, Smithsonian Institute, and the U.S. National Park Service.

FY 2006 Program: Improve Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Biodiversity Conservation (\$15,000,000 DA). In FY 2006, CARPE will continue to make progress towards achievement of the SO through support to activities that strengthen and institutionalize natural resources monitoring, improve natural resources governance at the national, regional and local level, and ensure that natural resources are managed more sustainably through the application of comprehensive land use plans within all of the focal landscapes. Mapping with higher resolution satellite data will reveal the extent of forest fragmentation and conversion in greater detail and allow for on the ground activities to be adapted in an effort to respond to the new data. Through the Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP) CARPE will continue to support the cooperation between international and local partners working in the

Basin to maintain an open dialogue and collaborative conservation and development approaches to natural resources management. Principal contractors and grantees: African Wildlife Foundation, Conservation International, Wildlife Conservation Society, World Wildlife Fund, World Resources Institute, IUCN, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, U.S. Forest Service, Smithsonian Institute, and the U.S. National Park Service.

Performance and Results: FY 2004 marked the first year of CARPE II program implementation and substantial progress was made towards achievement of the annual performance benchmarks. In all of the CARPE countries partners have developed relationships with local communities, private and public sectors and other stakeholders towards the creation of land use plans within the target landscapes. CARPE partner collaboration with the private sector has raised the standards for forest management throughout the Congo Basin. Several major logging companies are moving toward forest certification and in the process have committed to improving management practices through activities such as halting the bush meat trade associated with their concessions. It is expected that the rate of conversion of primary forest to degraded forest and agriculture in the Congo Basin will be significantly slower or halted altogether at the completion of the CARPE Strategic Objective in 2011. Another paramount achievement at the close of the CARPE program will be the maintenance of healthy populations of species such as elephants and large predators and globally threatened species such as mountain gorillas and bonobos. It is critical that these goals are achieved simultaneously. Achieving the goal of reducing the rate of forest degradation is not a viable indicator of success unless the program succeeds in maintaining biodiversity within the forest, or we run the risk of experiencing the “empty forest syndrome,” in which the trees are largely intact but the fauna are dramatically depleted.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Central Africa Regional

605-001 Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP)	DA	ESF
Through September 30, 2003		
Obligations	14,250	1,200
Expenditures	22	0
Unliquidated	14,228	1,200
Fiscal Year 2004		
Obligations	16,750	1,075
Expenditures	10,727	735
Through September 30, 2004		
Obligations	31,000	2,275
Expenditures	10,749	735
Unliquidated	20,251	1,540
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	0	0
Planned Fiscal Year 2005 NOA		
Obligations	15,000	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2005		
Obligations	15,000	0
Proposed Fiscal Year 2006 NOA		
Obligations	15,000	0
Future Obligations	75,000	0
Est. Total Cost	136,000	2,275