

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Central Africa Regional
Program Title:	Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP)
Pillar:	Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Strategic Objective:	605-001
Proposed FY 2004 Obligation:	\$15,000,000 DA
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$750,000 DA; \$50,000 ESF
Proposed FY 2005 Obligation:	\$15,000,000 DA
Year of Initial Obligation:	FY 2004
Year of Final Obligation:	FY 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.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2004 Program:

Reduce the rate of forest degradation and loss of biodiversity through increased local, national, and regional natural resource management (\$15,000,000 DA; \$750,000 prior year DA; \$50,000 prior year ESF). Building on Phase I of the CARPE activity, as well as the Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP) Presidential Initiative, FY 2004 resources will be devoted to a range of conservation activities within Central Africa. CARPE resources will: support development of landscape-scale conservation plans, which will encompass millions of hectares of protected areas, logging concessions and village common lands; promote forest-based livelihood opportunities; provide technical assistance on sustainable forestry practices; control bushmeat harvesting; establish ecological and socio-economic monitoring systems in selected landscapes; and monitor logging activity, deforestation and forest access using remote sensing and ground-based methods. CARPE will also compile and disseminate information in forms usable by decision-makers and advocacy organizations; develop national land use and conservation policies and laws for protected areas, community-based natural resources management and logging concession management; and strengthen civil society and non-governmental sectors, specifically through a small grants program to advocate for sustainable natural resources management. It is also important to note that the CBFP, which supports conservation within 11 selected areas across CBFP designated countries, also includes matching funds from the CBFP's principal implementing partners. The \$750,000 of FY 2003 carryover DA funds will be used to support a program of remote sensing and image accessibility through an internet-enabled web site.

FY 2005 Program:

Reduce the rate of forest degradation and loss of biodiversity through increased local, national, and regional natural resource management (\$15,000,000 DA). CARPE will continue to expand support for the implementation of large, landscape-scale conservation management plans across the Congo Basin. Activities in 2005 will build on the management plans established in FY 2004 and will move to greater focus on full implementation of landscape management plans. Principal management activities will: promote forest-based livelihood opportunities; improve sustainable forestry practices; control bushmeat 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.

Performance and Results: CARPE Phase I began in 1995. Its purpose was to coordinate work on identifying and establishing the conditions and practices required to reduce deforestation and loss of

biological diversity in Central Africa. CARPE worked across the nine countries of the Congo Basin with U.S. private and voluntary organizations and other U.S. partners which have collaborated with African NGOs, research and education organizations, government agencies and private-sector consultants to evaluate threats to forests and biodiversity in Central Africa and identify opportunities for sustainable forest management. During this initial phase, African capacity has been enhanced: African institutions supported and African civil society strengthened. This groundwork has created the conditions for more intensive Department of State and USAID support. After seven years of operation, CARPE therefore shifted its strategic focus and moved its management functions from Washington to Central Africa.

The experience and results gained from the first phase of CARPE led to the U.S. decision to create the CBFP and to focus on the selected landscapes in the six Congo Basin countries. A CARPE series was published called "Lessons Learned." Two thousand French language copies were distributed in the Congo Basin to decision makers, NGO leaders and other persons involved with environmental issues. These "Lessons Learned" papers are credited with creating a policy and political environment favorable for Phase II. During FY 2003, USAID established CARPE management in Kinshasa and awarded a series of cooperative agreements to five U.S. international NGO consortia to implement the field program (led respectively by Africa Wildlife Foundation, Conservation International, Wildlife Conservation Society, World Wildlife Fund, and World Resources Institute). Additionally, interagency agreements were signed with five federal agencies to provide specialized technical support to CARPE partners (NASA, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Peace Corps and the Smithsonian Institution).

CARPE continued African capacity-building initiatives through support for an African regional forum to discuss environmental issues affecting the dense, humid forest region of the Congo Basin. This regional forum has combined with another African initiative by the regional Ministers of Environment to form the basis of a coordination mechanism for Africans to actively participate in the CBFP. CARPE's small grants program was considered by an external evaluation to be a principal factor for increasing the capacity of indigenous environmental non-governmental organizations. Therefore, this program was expanded in FY 2003.

By the end of this strategic objective, the rate of forest degradation in the eleven landscapes will be less than or equal to its current state and will serve as a proxy for biodiversity health. This will be accomplished through increased African capacity to manage both the landscape and the biodiversity therein.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Central Africa Regional

605-001 Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP)	DA	ESF
Through September 30, 2002		
Obligations	0	0
Expenditures	0	0
Unliquidated	0	0
Fiscal Year 2003		
Obligations	14,250	1,200
Expenditures	22	0
Through September 30, 2003		
Obligations	14,250	1,200
Expenditures	22	0
Unliquidated	14,228	1,200
Prior Year Unobligated Funds		
Obligations	750	50
Planned Fiscal Year 2004 NOA		
Obligations	15,000	0
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2004		
Obligations	15,750	50
Proposed Fiscal Year 2005 NOA		
Obligations	15,000	0
Future Obligations	75,000	0
Est. Total Cost	120,000	1,250