

ATIBT summary table about the main data of the forest-wood sector in the Congo Basin
Update May 2021 with the contribution of OFAC and COMIFAC

Points of comparison	Cameroon	Gabon	Congo	DRC	CAR
Forest and exploitation					
Area of accessible dense rainforest (% of country)¹	18,6 millions ha	23,7 millions ha (98%)	21,278 millions ha (EDF 2010)	114 millions ha (EDF 2010)	22,2 millions ha (48%)
Area allocated to industrial operations¹	6,4 millions ha	14,7 millions ha	15,2 millions ha	14,755 millions ha	3,7 millions ha (OFAC 2018)
Total certified areas, including	3,596 millions ha	2,728 millions ha	4,952 millions ha	0,750 million ha	0 ha
FSC PAFC/PEFC	0,341 million ha	2,061 millions ha	2,989 millions ha	0 ha	0 ha
Legality+ (certif legality+FSC CW)	3,255 millions ha	0,667 million ha	1,963 millions ha	0,750 million ha	0 ha
Number of large companies	About 60	About 40	About 30	About 10	About 10
Number of small businesses and artisans²	ND	More than 100	15 SME and more than 600 artisans	In 2014 ³ : 105 artisanal licenses granted in Oriental Province 70 in Equateur Province and 47 in Bandundu In 2018: More than 1,400 operators members of ACEFA ⁴	

¹ Data from BAD / FRMi report Strategic vision and industrialization of the timber sector in Central Africa, 2018

² Companies operating semi-industrially and/or selling their products firstly on the local market

³ ITIE, 2015 - Report on the scoping study of the forest sector in DRC

⁴ Source : ACEFA

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Formal log production (m3) ⁵	2,5 Millions (2018)	2,1 Millions (2019)	1,8 Millions (2019)	0,3 Million (2019)	0,6 Million (2019)
Estimated informal production (in roundwood equivalent) ⁶	2,4 Millions	0,3 Million	0,3 Million	3,4 Million	0,1 Million
Share of the first 4 producers on the production ⁷	29% (part d'exportation 2018)	40% (2018)	46% (2017)	82% (2019)	70% (2019)
Main species used by the industry	Tali, Okan, Béli, Azobé, Naga, Dabéma, Bilinga, Nieuk, Ayous,	Okoumé (about 57%), Azobé, Béli, Tali, Padouk,	Sapelli, Okoumé, Okan, Tali, Kosipo, Padouk, Wenge, Iroko	Wenge, Aframosia, Tali, Sapelli, Acajou	Sapelli, Mukulungu, Ayous, Iroko, Doussié, Tali
Part des 3 premières essences sur la production	19% (OFAC, 2018)	70% (OFAC, 2018)	57% (OFAC, 2018)	36% (OFAC, 2018)	68% (OFAC, 2019)
Artisanally used species	Ayous, Movingui, Iroko, Sapelli, Bilinga, Moabi	Okoumé, Bilinga, Izombé	Okoumé, Limba (Sud) Sapelli, Sipo (Nord)	Aframosia, Wenge, Sapelli	
Log export (m3)⁸	554,520 (2019)	0	798,905 (2018)	139,754 (2019)	310,497 (2019)
Log export to China (m3)⁹	583,600	0	462,200	ND	ND

⁵ BAD / FRMi report Strategic vision and industrialization of the timber sector in Central Africa, 2018; Except Congo: MEF 2018.

⁶ Various CIFOR reports

⁷ BAD / FRMi report Strategic vision and industrialization of the timber sector in Central Africa, 2018, except Cameroon and CAR: OFAC 2018

⁸ OFAC 2018 and 2019

⁹ CTWPDA 2018 data. Note that Equatorial Guinea's log export to China was 1,114,700 m3 in 2018.

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Contribution of the sector to GDP ¹⁰	4,7% (2018)	3,3% (2018)	4,9% (2015)	0,15% (2016)	2,8% (2018)
Wood processing					
Number of industrial processing plants (1st to 3rd transformation) ¹¹	150	166	29	5	5
Exportations (m3) ¹²					
- of sawnwood	81,3521	51,5215	104,202	18,424	8,142
- of plywood	8,373	32,484	25,868	0	0
- of venner	83,129	393,660	28,206	312	0
Sawnwood exportations to China (m3) ¹³	134,300	524,700	38,600	ND	ND
Artisanal processing (sawnwood) ¹⁴	715,000 m ³ (2010)	50,000 m ³ (2010)	About 100,000 m ³ (2011)	About 1 million m ³ (2014)	ND
Other information	Existence of an internal wood market that is slow to develop	SEZ of Nkok 40 companies 900,000 m3 processed/year	Reflection about the creation of a SEZ and the planned implementation of a production sharing mechanism	Resources still largely undervalued	

¹⁰ OFAC data

¹¹ OFAC 2018 data, for some countries, only for 1st processing

¹² OFAC 2018 data in yellow, OFAC 2019 in white

¹³ CTWPDA data, 2018

¹⁴ Various CIFOR reports

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Public markets	Decree signed on 15/12/2020: obligation to use wood of legal origin in public procurement	ND	Reflection in progress	ND	
Socio-economic data					
Number of jobs in the industrial forest sector	13,000 ¹⁵	3,000 forest companies 10,000 wood industries ¹⁶ including Nkok SEZ 3,000 jobs In total 22% of non-oil jobs	7,500	4,523 ¹⁷	ND
Number of jobs in artisanal sawmilling	40,000	ND	2,000	9,000 à 15,000 ¹⁸ but probably much more (50,000 jobs according to Lescuyer in 2014)	ND
Indirect jobs	150,000 ¹⁵	Between 2,000 and 5,000 ¹⁵	5,000 ¹⁵	ND	ND

¹⁵ State of forests, 2013

¹⁶ FRM, 2017 – Impact of the log export ban on the forest-wood industry and economy of Gabon

¹⁷ Source : FIB

¹⁸ Nguinguiri et al., 2006

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Unions and potential partners¹⁹	GFBC (12 companies), FECAPROBOIS (200 companies and more than 1000 employees), ANCOVA (450 members in Yaoundé) intersyndicale encountering implementation difficulties.	UFIGA (15 companies), SIAG (6 companies), UFIAG (11 companies), FGBSP (about 70 companies), UAMEES (25 companies). UFIGA is the permanent secretariat of the Intersyndicale.	UNICONGO (6 companies), UNIBOIS (15 SME, including 6 active), ACM (about 100 companies, including 15 active), AMC (500 companies, including 300 in Pointe Noire), FBET (17 companies)	FIB (5 companies) ACEFA (1,400 companies) Many SMEs and VSEs are not registered in unions. Huge role and potential for FIB.	
Commitment to FLEGT	VPA signed in 2010 Slow implementation Preparatory phase for national deployment of SIGIF II and improvement of the regulatory framework by the Cameroonian side in progress	VPA not signed, Negotiation in progress since September 2010, re-launch under consideration in 2020	VPA signed in 2010 Currently being implemented Some progress in terms of transparency, civil society involvement, traceability (SIVL) and improvement of the regulatory framework	VPA not signed Negotiations slowed down since September 2011	VPA signed on November 28, 2011 Slow implementation since 2012

¹⁹ GFBC, UFIGA, UNICONGO and FIB are the 4 major unions of industrial wood exporting companies in the region. Almost all certified areas in the Congo Basin are owned by members of these unions.