



CAMEROON

U.S. FOREST SERVICE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The U.S. Forest Service collaborates with the Government of Cameroon in tandem with SilvaCarbon program partners to implement Cameroon's REDD+ strategy, including the design of a National Forest Monitoring System.

The U.S. Forest Service supports the regional Central Africa Forestry Commission, COMIFAC, based in Cameroon, to implement its regional Convergence Plan for forests of the Congo Basin.

The U.S. Forest Service sponsors Cameroon government officials to continue their education through scholarships for master's degree programs, and US seminars focused on climate change and protected area management.

The U.S. Forest Service is partnering with the University of San Diego, and the Carbon Institute to build capacity of university professors and ministry technicians on cutting-edge carbon accounting methods.

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PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Cameroon is endowed with extraordinary ecological diversity, including volcanoes, deserts, savannahs, varied coastal zones, and, most significantly, a vast portion of the Congo Basin rainforest, the second largest in the world. With over 40% of Cameroon's land area covered in rich forests and abundant biodiversity, and with a growing population and economy, finding a balance between sustainable natural resource management and economic growth is a challenge for the Government of Cameroon. The country's immense forest resources, growing economy, and strategic port contribute to the country's importance as a key regional and global player in facilitating regional trade, conserving biodiversity, and combatting climate change.

In light of Cameroon's increasing environmental pressures and land-use changes, the U.S. Forest Service provides support to the Government of Cameroon in the implementation of its REDD+ strategy (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) and development of a comprehensive national forest monitoring system. It does so, in part, through the USAID-funded SilvaCarbon program, a U.S. interagency technical cooperation program which builds capacity of selected countries to measure, monitor, and manage forest and terrestrial carbon. The U.S. Forest Service is a world leader on forest inventory design and implementation and provides technical expertise in forest carbon monitoring and REDD+. The Forest Service also provides ongoing training and educational program scholarships in forestry and climate change issues for ministry staff and other specialists from the region. The U.S. State Department, and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) through the U.S. SilvaCarbon program, support U. S. Forest Service collaboration with partners in Cameroon.



*Korup National Park, Cameroon, 2014.
Photo courtesy of the U.S. Forest Service.*

