



# CAMEROON

## US FOREST SERVICE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

### PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

US Forest Service collaborates with the Government of Cameroon to implement Cameroon's REDD+ strategy, including the design of a National Forest Monitoring System

USFS supports the regional Central Africa Forestry Commission, COMIFAC, based in Cameroon, to implement its regional Convergence Plan for forests of the Congo Basin

USFS 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

USFS 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 forest rich in biodiversity, and with a growing population and economy, sustainable natural resource management and the balancing of conservation and economic growth are 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 US Forest Service (USFS) supports the Government of Cameroon to implement its REDD+ strategy (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) and develop a comprehensive national forest monitoring system. USFS is a world leader on forest inventory design and implementation and provides technical expertise in the forest carbon monitoring and REDD+. USFS 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) support Forest Service collaboration with partners in Cameroon as part of the larger USAID Central Africa Regional Program for the Environment (CARPE).

