



ISANGI REDD+ FOREST CONSERVATION

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

**Protecting the rainforest ecosystems
of the Congo Basin and enriching
local communities**



At the confluence of the Congo and Lomami Rivers in the central northeast of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Isangi REDD+ protects 187,571 hectares in one of Earth's most biodiverse rainforests. The project also helps alleviate local poverty by promoting sustainable economic development in a remote part of one of the world's poorest nations.

The Context

The Democratic Republic of Congo is home to vast swathes of Africa's rainforests. With its population growing at 3 percent a year, the threat of deforestation from industrial and agricultural expansion looms large. Deforestation is a significant climate challenge, releasing carbon, impairing forests' ability to act as carbon sinks, and damaging ecosystem biodiversity.

The Project

The Isangi REDD+ project operates across 187,571 hectares of rainforest, preventing its conversion into subsistence agriculture and conserving the immensely biodiverse area around the Congo Basin. The project also improves the livelihood of forest-dependent local communities, simultaneously addressing a major driver of deforestation in the area through sustainably intensifying existing agricultural practices and implementing land-use planning.

The Benefits

By stopping the conversion of rainforest into land for agriculture, the Isangi REDD+ project reduces deforestation rates dramatically. Not only does this displace 280,224 tonnes of CO₂ on average annually, it conserves the habitat of diverse local species thereby preserving ecosystem biodiversity and functioning. The project also has a range of local community benefits; it alleviates poverty by promoting sustainable economic development, improves public health, funds new local education programs, and helps maintain traditional cultural and spiritual identities while promoting understanding of biodiversity in the project zone and the wider Congo Basin.

Through rainforest conservation, the project not only prevents carbon emissions from deforestation; it also empowers local communities by providing education and employment opportunities



5
tilapia fish farms

have been built



7
teachers

were employed, teaching 104 students



30
jobs

created, with 20 individuals given technical training in project implementation



280,224
tCO₂e

mitigated on average annually



1104
caterpillar trees

planted to farm caterpillars as a protein replacement for unsustainable bushmeat deforestation



187,571
ha

of land protected, conserving local ecosystem biodiversity in the Congo Basin

For more information on the UN Sustainable Development Goals, please visit: <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

Official name: Isangi REDD+ Project | **UNFCCC/markit/VCS link:** https://mer.markit.com/br-reg/public/project.jsp?project_id=103000000007689 | **UNFCCC/markit/VCS ID:** 103000000007689