



📍 CAPITAL CITY: BRAZZAVILLE

CFC COUNTRY FACTSHEET: Congo (Brazzaville)

The Congolese economy is largely dominated by oil production, which accounts for 80% of exports and 60% of domestic revenues. However, the emphasis has been put more on the mining sector recently, which attracts a growing number of investors.

In the coming years, the country is expected to play an important role in the core of the Central African region due to the modernization of its transport passageway between Brazzaville and Pointe Noire. According to IMF, France, China, the Netherlands, Mauritius and Italy are the main investors in the country.

Key Facts



POPULATION

5.9 million (2023)



CURRENT GDP

US\$ 13.3 billion (2021)



UPCOMING ELECTIONS

2026



PRIMARY EXPORT

Refined Copper
US\$ 3.2 billion (2021)



INTERESTS & CURRENCY

EXCHANGE RATES

Current Bank
Rate : 5%

Currency
Central African CFA franc
(FCFA/XAF)

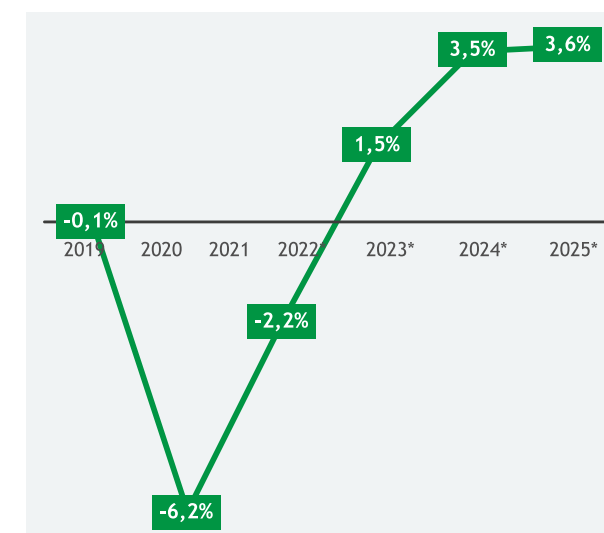
USD 1 = XAF 595.95

EUR 1 = XAF 655.84

Bank Of Central African States (BEAC), June 2023



GDP GROWTH



Source : World Bank Data, IMF

6%	Inflation (April 2023)	US\$ 3.7 billion	FDI (Net Inflows) (2021)
23%	Unemployment rate (2022)	64 YEARS	Life expectancy (2020)
2.5%	Demographic growth (2020)	US\$ 2290	GDP per capita (2021)
13.7%	Current account (2021)	81%	Literacy Rate (2022)

Source : World Bank Data, IMF

Attractive Industries in Congo

The republic of Congo has several industries that present potential opportunities for investment and growth such:



Oil & Gas: Oil production is the dominant industry, accounting for a significant portion of the country's revenue.



Mining: The Republic of Congo is rich in mineral resources, including iron ore, potash, phosphates, and diamonds.



Agriculture: The country has a vast agricultural potential due to its fertile land and favorable climate.



Leading Companies in Congo

1. Aéro-Service (Airlines)

2. Equafight (Airlines)

3. Warid Congo SA (Mobile Tel)

4. Société Nationale des Pétroles du Congo (Oil & Gas)

Congo's International Membership

- The Central African Economic and Monetary Community (**CEMAC**)
- Organisation pour l'Harmonisation en Afrique du Droit des Affaires (**OHADA**)
- Organisation of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (**OPEC**)
- Bank of Central African States (**BEAC**)
- Bank of West African States (**BCDEAO**)

What is the tax regime in Congo?

Corporate income tax rate:

- The Corporate tax is levied at a standard rate of **28%** for resident companies, including mining companies.
- The effective rate for companies performing most of their services to petroleum companies is **7.7%** of turnover.

Withholding tax (WHT):

Description of Payment	Rate for Resident	Rate for Non Resident
Dividends	15%	15%
Interest	-	0%/20%
Royalties	-	10%/20%

Personal income tax rate:

The individual income tax is levied at progressive rates from **1%** to **40%**.

Value Added Tax:

- The **standard rate of VAT is 18%**.
- A reduced rate of **5%** applies to some consumer goods listed in the VAT legislation.
- A zero-tax rate applies to exports and local sales of timber.

Tax treaties

The republic of Congo has concluded tax treaties with the following countries/ organizations:

COUNTRY	DIVIDENDS	INTEREST	ROYALTIES
CEMAC	15%	0%	0%
France	15%	0%	15%
Italy	8%/15%	0%	10%
Mauritius	0%/5%	5%	0%

Source: Deloitte Africa Fiscal Guide, 2021

Investment incentives offered in Congo

General Incentives

The Investment Charter offers a range of benefits to foreign investors, such as free enterprise, no discrimination or restrictions on the types of investment, and equal justice under Congolese law.

Tax Incentives

The Republic of Congo's investment code has set **3** regimes depending on amount of investment, location in a remote area, or in a special economic zone.

Under some conditions, the following incentives are granted :

- Company benefits from the **50%** reduction of registration fees for business foundation, increases in capital, company mergers, and transfer of company stocks and shares.
- **50%** to **100%** exemption from the tax on company earnings.
- Companies that are subject to **CIT** because of their size or activity will be exempted.
- Businesses that are liable to personal income tax because of their size or activity will be exempt from personal income tax.
- The authorization to proceed to accelerated depreciation.
- The authorization to carry forward losses for the first three tax years.
- The application of **zero-rate VAT** on exported products.
- Significant reduction of **CIT**, dividend tax and registration duties for special economic zones.

As a foreigner, do I need a work permit ?

Visa

Foreign nationals must obtain a visa from the Congolese embassy in their home country before entering Congo. This requires a letter of invitation (**LOI**) from the immigration administration in Congo.

A LOI can be obtained within approximately seven calendar days (**5 business days**).

Work permit

Work permits A distinction is made for work permit purposes between expatriate employees employed in Congo for up to six months under a contract of employment concluded outside Congo and those employed for longer than six months. The Temporary Employment Authorization (**AET**) for foreign workers is valid for a maximum of six months but AET may be renewed once for a six-month period.



Useful Links / Sources



1. [API Congo](#)
2. [Bank Of Central African States \(BEAC\)](#)
3. [African Markets](#)
4. [World Bank](#)
5. [Deloitte Africa Fiscal Guide](#)