CONGO LAND OF OPPORTUNITIES



































ocated in Central Africa, the **Republic of Congo** represents a real land of business opportunities waiting to be developed by private partners.

It offers a wide range of opportunities for investors looking to grow their businesses, from fossil fuels, to agriculture including the service sector,



Investment protection

In recent years, the authorities have been working to create an environment conducive to investment in various fields of activity, through tax and customs advantages and facilities. The country has set up structures to promote and support investors.

Agriculture: the sector of all expectations

With an area of 342,000 km2, the Republic of Congo has ten million hectares of arable land suitable for agricultural activities and, by extension, the development of an agro-industry. The country has a dense hydrographic network with excellent rainfall throughout the country.

Agriculture is mostly practiced on a small-scale in the twelve departments of Congo. Mechanization of agriculture will increase the cultivable area and national agricultural production.

Forest: a niche of opportunity

The Republic of Congo has the advantage of sharing the forest ecosystems of the Congo Basin with other Central African countries, which is the second green lung of the planet after the Amazon. The country also has thousands of hectares of artificial forests consisting mainly of eucalyptus, acacia, fir and other species.

The Congolese forest, which represents 10% of the forests of the Congo Basin, is a mine of wealth but also of direct and indirect employment.

It is a renewable resource and is the object of sustained attention from the authorities who have put in place a policy of conservation and sustainable management of floral and faunal resources.

While some forest concessions are dedicated to exploitation, others are exclusively dedicated to the conservation of the biodiversity through the creation of protected areas that are conducive to the development of ecotourism.

Tourism: a sector of the future

All over the country there are protected areas, beautiful places and historical sites that offer the right conditions for the development of tourism and ecotourism.



In the northern part of the country, tourists are fascinated by the biodiversity and the numerous wildlife species (pachyderms, primates, birds, etc.) in the Odzala Kokoua and Nouabalé Ndoki national parks, the Léfini and Lessio Louna reserves.

In the southern part, the Conkouati Ndouli Park is a fantastic tourist hike, as are the Loufoulakari River Falls, the Imboulou Hydroelectric Dam, Loango Bay and the Slave Route, to name a few.

One of the objectives here is to increase the attractiveness of the Congo-Brazzaville destination and to improve the contribution of the tourism sector to the country's gross domestic product (GDP).

Infrastructure: other opportunities

It is worth noting that infrastructure has a prominent place in the Congolese government's investment policy.

Roads, airports and public buildings have been built in the various departments of the country, as well as communications infrastructure as part of the national telecommunications coverage project (to date, more than 1,000 km of fiber optics have been deployed).

The national telecommunications market has limited competition (two private mobile network operators) for a population that will reach 6 million by 2030.

As for the transport infrastructure (airports, river ports in the north of the country and in Brazzaville, not to mention the seaport of Pointe-Noire), it allows the country to better play its role as a transit country in the sub-region and throughout Africa within the framework of the African continental free trade zone. These and other infrastructures improve the conditions for exporting and importing products.

Mining: a promising sector

With regard to the Congolese subsoil, it should be noted that solid mines are still awaiting development. Aware of this, the government has set up a legal framework to encourage investment. The recently revised mining code grants a range of advantages to investors. The Congolese reserves are not yet evaluated, but many studies make interesting projections.

Hydrocarbons: a strategic sector

Like the mining code, the hydrocarbons code has also been revised such as the mining code, in order to align it with the changes that have occurred in the sector, which is one of the most strategic of the national economy.

The new legal framework provides facilities to investors called to engage in oil or gas blocks in the coastal basin but also in the northern part of the country where many deposits can now be exploited on land.

Oil is the country's primary export resource.



A REFERENCE ON PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

AUTONOMOUS PORT OF POINTE-NOIRE



This is the result of a private partnership between the Congolese government and Bolloré Logistics, which obtained in 2009 the concession contract for this maritime infrastructure for a period of 27 years. The activities are carried out on the ground by the company Congo Terminal, the fruit of this partnership which plans to invest up to 570 million euros.

The French company Bolloré Logistics is not the only operator

on this project, which also includes the Danish AP Moller and the Congolese SOCOTRANS. This consortium is working to make the Autonomous Port of Pointe-Noire a key player in maritime services in the subregion. The volume of goods has increased from 180,000 containers to 950,000, and 40% of this is destined for the DRC and the Central African Republic. Thanks to this project, the Congo has regained its role as a transit country in Central Africa.







AERCO is a limited company whose mission is to manage the Congo's airports. It is a public-private partnership in the form of a 25-year concession. Since 2011, AERCO has been responsible for managing the airports of Brazzaville, Pointe-Noire and Ollombo in accordance with the standards of the International Civil Aviation Organization.

This group based in Marseille, France, subscribed to an international call for tenders launched by the Congo in 2009. It is operating this contract through the company SEGAP. By





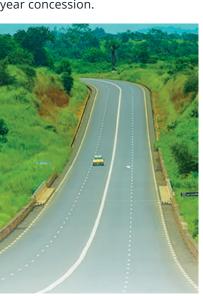


entrusting this contract to AERCO, the Republic of Congo aimed to create an air hub in Brazzaville with high-standard airports such as Maya Maya, which reached one million passengers between 2015 and 2016.





After building 535 kilometers of road between Brazzaville and Pointe-Noire, the two capitals of Congo, the authorities chose to entrust the maintenance of National Road No. 1 to a third party partner. La Congolaise des routes (LCR) was chosen following an international tender for a 30-year concession.





LCR is a Congolese company under private law whose shareholders are: the Chinese company CSCEC, the French company EGIS and the Congolese State. During the concession, LCR will be responsible for road maintenance, security and services. The most prominent activities are toll collection, weighing and traffic. In



fact, this project will involve 1,520 kilometers of road. The activities of the LCR began in March 2019, they had the merit of bringing a new culture to Congolese users, that of paying the road.





GRAND HÔTEL DE KINTÉLÉ

This hotel establishment is a sumptuous 200-room site located on the northern outskirts of Brazzaville. According to the prestigious Swiss group, Gaeur Hospitality, the Grand Hotel de Kintele is a jewel among the best in the world. Linked to the International Conference Center of Kintele, the hotel offers large accommodation capacities and even has a heliport.

In 2019, Gaeur Hospitality is taking over the Grand Hotel in Kintele in a public-private partnership. The group says it was motivated by "the assets of the establishment."













It is a hotel subsidiary of a Spanish holding company, GRUPO PEFACO, based in Barcelona, and specializes among other things in the design, construction and operation of hotels. The group employs over 3,000 people worldwide. The company currently has two luxury hotels in Brazzaville, the PEFACO HOTEL MAYA MAYA, and in Oyo, the PEFACO ALIMA PALACE. The project for a third hotel has already been validated.

In Brazzaville, the luxurious fivestar hotel was built in 2015 to be part of an attraction project at the Maya Maya International Airport. It has 158 rooms, three restaurants and two bars. In Oyo, the hotel maintains the same luxury with its 116 rooms overlooking the banks of the Alima River. Both hotels value local labor by employing Congolese staff









AVERDA CONGO



Officially named CONGO ENVIRONNEMENTAL SERVICES, this company of collection, recycling and treatment of household and industrial waste, known as AVERDA CONGO, is a subsidiary of a Lebanese group, created in 1964 in Beirut, and currently established in Dubai. In 2000, the group created AVERDA, which will develop its activities in Africa from 2010, building on its solid base in Morocco.

AVERDA's activities started in July 2015 in Brazzaville, before expanding a few years later to Pointe-Noire, then to Oyo. Armed with substantial technical and mechanical resources, AVERDA has set up a waste sorting and burial center in Lifoula, in northern Brazzaville. The company is expected to create up to 3,000 jobs.



ECO-CAMACO

The company ECO-CAMACO has the mission of assembling tractors in the industrial park of Maloukou, located 70 km north of Brazzaville. This company has a production capacity of 10 tractors per day, or 3000 units per year. According to



a commercial agreement signed in 2019 in Shanghai, China, this company is owned by YTO China-Africa Machinery Corp (CAMACO), the Congolese state, as well as a private Congolese partner ECO-OIL Energie.

The agreement establishing in September 2018 in Shanghai where the Chinese partner, Yto CAMACO, is based, was validated a year later in Brazzaville, on the sidelines of an important China-Africa summit. According to Chinese experts, ECO-CAMACO has an assembly capacity of more than 9,000 tractors per year if three teams were deployed for continuous production.



NEW VISION FOR PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

In order to clarify the missions of the Ministry of International Cooperation and Promotion of Public-Private Partnership, Minister **Denis Christel Sassou Nguesso** is emphasizing the performance and resilience of the Congo's economy. He is paving the way for a legal framework that promotes quality human resources, investment-friendly infrastructure and effective governance.



Our priority is to establish a legal framework for public-private partnership contracts to reassure investors by protecting their investments.

The Public-Private Partnership dedicates, in fact, the participation of the national and foreign private sector, alongside the State, in the implementation of projects that would be beneficial to both parties and whose main expected benefits would be undoubtedly:

- A better operational efficiency through the realization of innovative projects allowing a transfer of profitable technologies to the national public and private sector;
- A control of the investment costs and the time of realization of the projects;
- An increase in the level of qualification, performance and efficiency
 of the national private sector through its direct involvement in
 public-private partnerships or through the alliance of national
 private operators with foreign private companies within the
 framework of the implementation of projects;
- A considerable support to the national economy, through the endowment of the country with infrastructures and basic services necessary to the development of industrial and commercial activities, generating job creation.

Together we will reorganize public-private partnerships to make them more attractive, more productive and more efficient.

This is an excerpt from his speech made during a meeting with private partners who are invited to get involved in this new dynamic.







MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND PROMOTION OF PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP