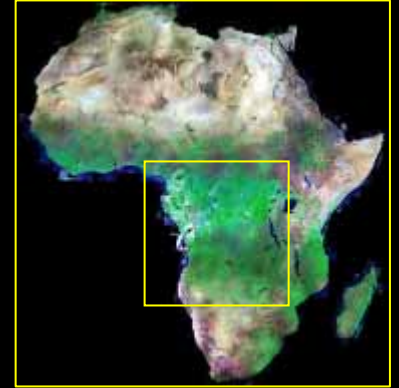


Congo Forests of Central Africa: Critical for Biodiversity Conservation



Olivier Langrand, Senior Vice President

Juan Carlos Bonilla, Senior Director Central Africa

John Watkin, Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund

Conservation International, Washington DC

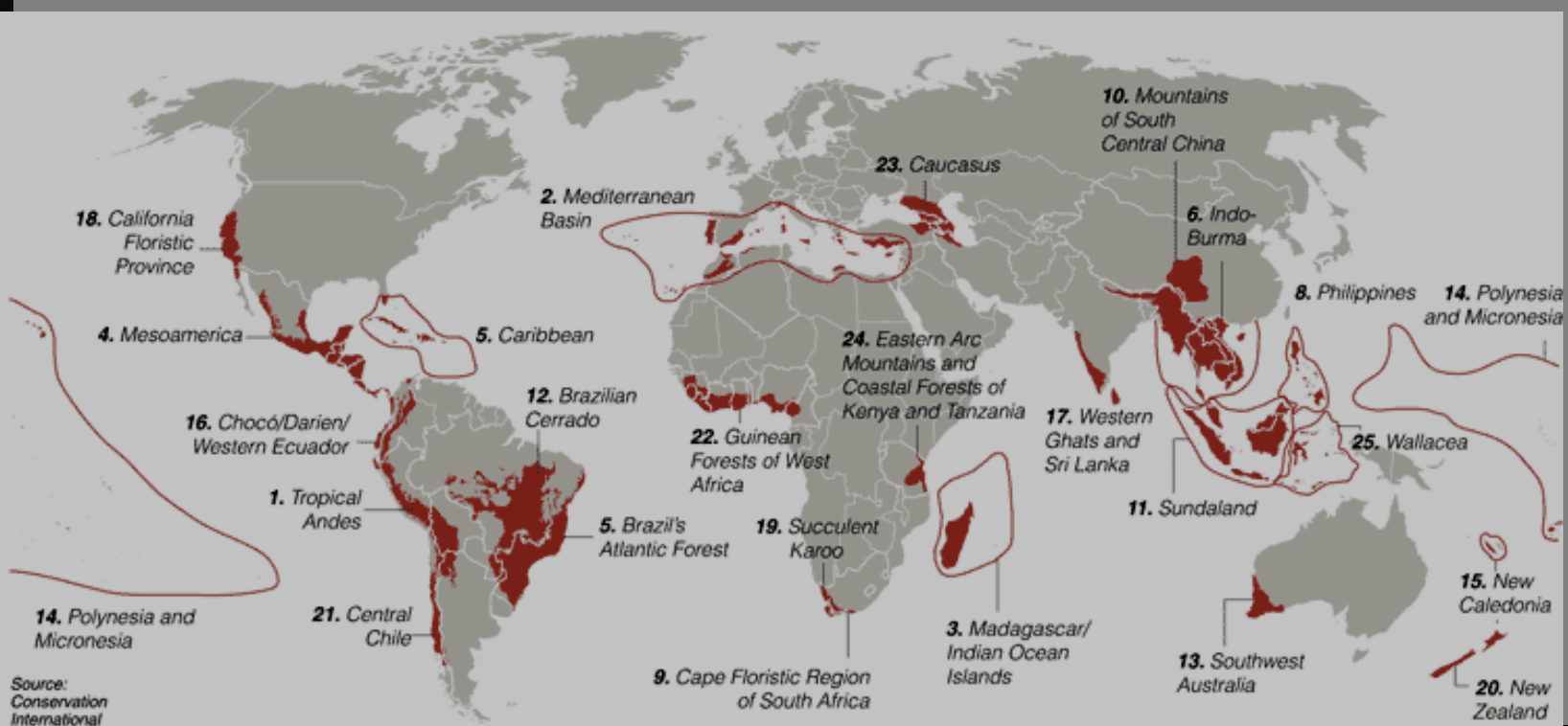
Paris, September 16, 2004





HOTSPOTS

Earth's 25 Richest and Most Endangered Ecoregions



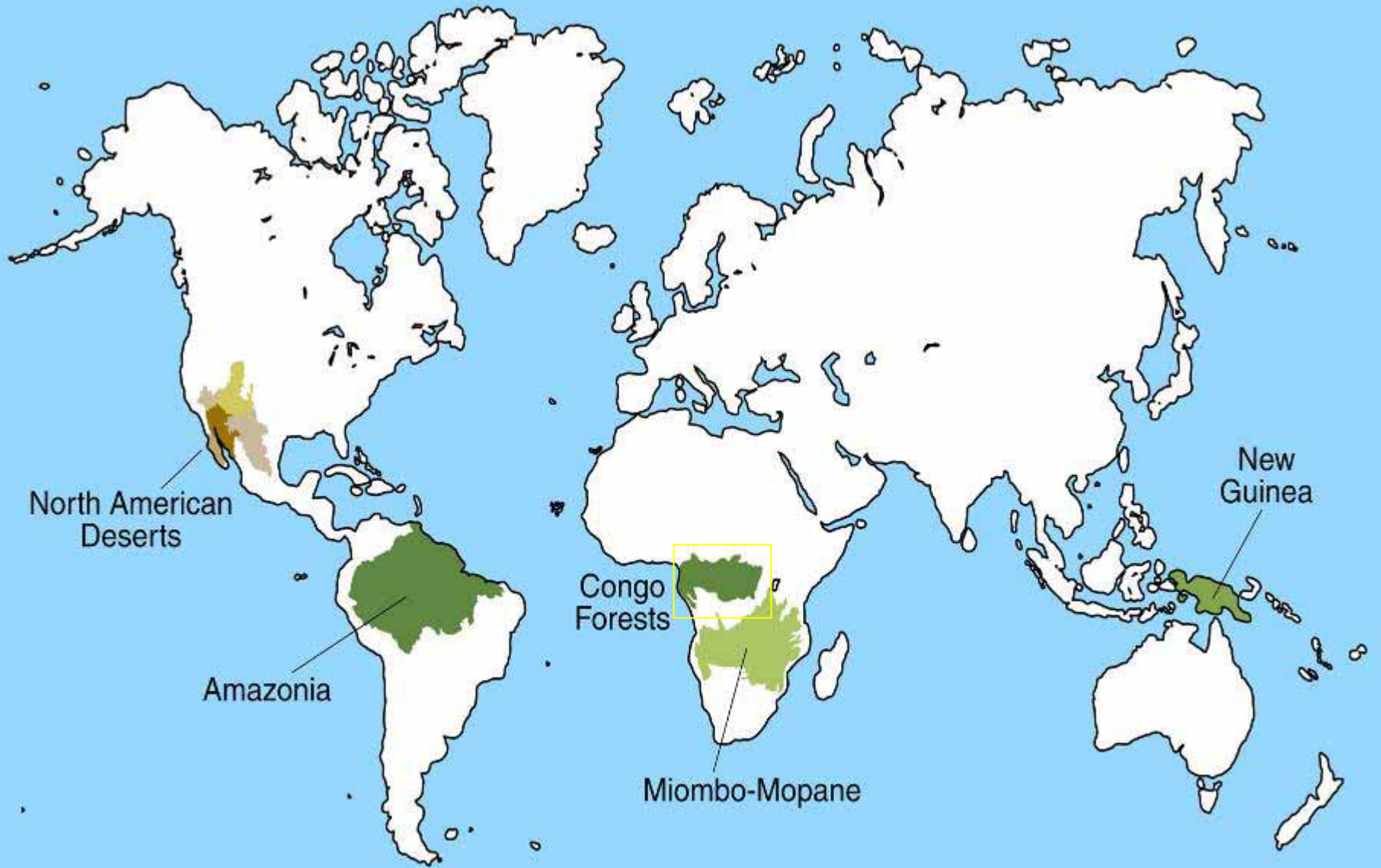
HOTSPOTS

44% of all plants

35% of all vertebrates
in

1.4% of Earth's
land surface





High Biodiversity Wilderness Areas

8.98 million km²

51,340 plant species (17.1% endemic)

2,203 vertebrate spp. (8.0% endemic)

Miombo Mopane - Congo Forests

Size: 3.7 million km² – 1.7 million km²

Plants: 8,500 spp. (4,600) – 9,750 spp (4,000)

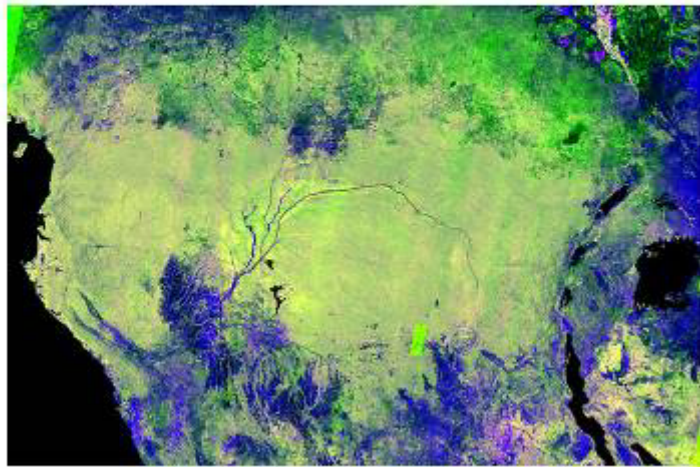
Mammals: 336 spp. (14) – 270 spp. (39)

Birds: 938 spp (54) – 708 spp. (10)





Congo







CONGO FORESTS – A WEALTH OF BIODIVERSITY

- THE SECOND LARGEST TROPICAL FOREST IN THE WORLD



- 60% OF THE FOREST LOCALIZED IN ONLY ONE COUNTRY:
THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO
- THE MOST BIOLOGICALLY DIVERSE AFRICAN COUNTRY.



- 9,750 VASCULAR PLANT SPECIES,
3,300 to 4,000 ENDEMIC
- 1,100 BUTTERFLY SPECIES
- 142 REPTILE SPECIES, 15 ENDEMIC
- 139 AMPHIBIAN SPECIES, 28 ENDEMIC

- 270 MAMMAL SPECIES, 39 ENDEMIC



IMPORTANT TECHNICAL CHALLENGE AND LIMITED FINANCIAL RESOURCES

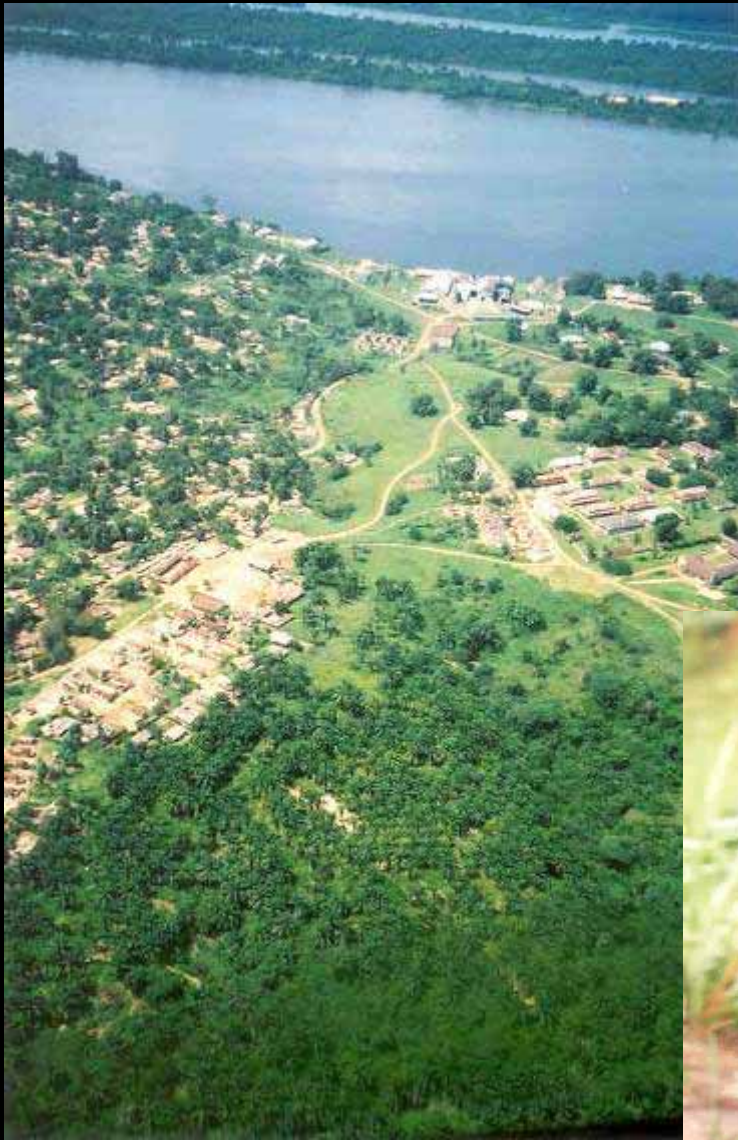
- HIGH LEVEL OF BIODIVERSITY
- HIGH LEVEL OF RISK
- FEW EXISTING OR POTENTIAL PARTNERS
- EXISTING FINANCIAL RESOURCES NOT A THE SCALE OF THE OF THE WORK TO BE ACHIEVED
- ECONOMY LARGELY BASED ON NATURAL RESOURCES EXTRACTION (including bush meat)





Seizing the Opportunity in DRC

Seizing the Opportunity in DRC: The Maringa-Wamba-Lopori Landscape



Seizing the Opportunity in DRC: The Maiko Tayna Kahuzi Biega





**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
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