

 MAPBIOMAS RÉP. DÉMOCRATIQUE DU CONGO			Description of the land cover and land use classes used in the legend of MapBiomas Democratic Republic of the Congo Collection 1.
Level 1 classes	Level 2 classes	Region	Description
Forest	Forest Formation	Humid Zone	Land covered by vegetation consisting of trees or shrubs capable of providing forest products, supporting wildlife, and having a direct or indirect effect on the soil, climate, or water regime.
		Mosaic	Evergreen rainforest is characterized by a high diversity of plant species and the presence of multiple vegetation layers. In this mid- and low-altitude region, rainfall is well distributed throughout the year, with a dry season lasting 3 to 4 months.
		Terra Firma	These are low-altitude forests on terra firme (non-flooded land).
	Mountain		Montane forests are found in eastern DRC (Ituri, Kivu, and on the slopes of the Rwenzori) at elevations ranging from 800 to 3,000 m. Three types are distinguished: (1) Montane evergreen dense humid forest. This forest has a relatively uniform canopy, with an upper tree layer ranging from 20 to 25 m in height and composed largely of shade-tolerant species, such as <i>Dracaena afromontana</i> , <i>Ficalhoa laurifolia</i> , <i>Juniperus procera</i> , <i>Podocarpus milanjianus</i> , and <i>Podocarpus usambarensis</i> . (2) Montane dense dry forest. These are dense forests with abundant lianas, a reduced understory, and sometimes a continuous grass layer. Stand height ranges from 10 to 12 m, and the main characteristic species include <i>Olea europaea</i> subsp. <i>cuspidata</i> and <i>Jasminum abyssinicum</i> . (3) Bamboo forest. This vegetation forms a distinct belt in mountainous areas, dominated by <i>Yushania alpina</i> (= <i>Arundinaria alpina</i> / <i>Sinarundinaria alpina</i>) and <i>Oxytenanthera abyssinica</i> .
	Woodland	Miombo	In the south of the country, Miombo woodlands (or Zambezian-type woodlands) are found, characterized by the dominance of trees belonging to the Detarioideae family, particularly the genera <i>Brachystegia</i> , <i>Julbernardia</i> , and <i>Isoberlinia</i> . Within the Miombo landscape (Miombo ecoregion) in the DRC, several sub-ecosystems with structures that differ considerably from the surrounding matrix can be found, including dense dry forest, gallery forest, and termite-mound vegetation. Annual precipitation ranges from 1,100 to 1,400 mm in Haut-Katanga, Haut-Lomami, and Tanganyika. In the north of the country, open woodland is mainly of the Sudanian type and is characterized by the dominance of trees belonging to the genera <i>Isoberlinia</i> and <i>Combretum</i> . Annual precipitation ranges from 600 to 1,000 mm.
		Humid Zone	A tropical vegetation formation characterized by discontinuous tree cover, with relatively small and widely spaced trees that allow light to pass through.
		Mosaic	These are forests adapted to alternating wet seasons and a dry season lasting more than four months, during which plant growth ceases. Leaf shedding occurs progressively or completely. Most woody species are deciduous, although some evergreen, light-demanding species with sparse foliage composed of small leaflets are also present.
		Terra Firma	Wooded and shrub savanna is composed of herbaceous cover dominated by a shrub or tree layer, with a canopy cover of less than 30% and a height of up to 5 meters.
		Mountain	
	Mangrove	Miombo	Formation herbeuse composée essentiellement de graminées (Poaceae). Ce groupe inclut les steppes, les savanes herbeuses, les savanes arbustives, les savanes arborées, les dembos et les prairies.
		Humid Zone	It is a unique amphibious forest ecosystem, located at the interface between land and sea in tropical and subtropical coastal areas, shaped by the rhythm of the tides.
		Mosaic	The mangrove is a natural formation found at the mouth of the Congo River. It develops in the brackish waters where the Atlantic Ocean and the Congo River meet. The species <i>Rhizophora racemosa</i> and <i>Avicennia</i> sp., with their particular morphological adaptations (stilt roots, vivipary, and high osmotic pressure), characterize this distinctive formation in the DRC.
Herbaceous and Shrubby Vegetation	Shrubland	Humid Zone	Grassland formations composed mainly of relatively tall grasses, with or without tree or shrub cover.
		Mosaic	Savannas are grassland formations composed of relatively tall grasses (Poaceae), with or without scattered trees or shrubs.
		Terra Firma	
		Mountain	
Farming	Pasture and Agriculture	Miombo	Pasture area, mainly planted, and agricultural areas associated with livestock farming and crop production activities.
		Humid Zone	
		Mosaic	
		Terra Firma	
	Forest Plantation	Mountain	Tree species planted for commercial purposes (e.g., pine, eucalyptus, araucaria).
		Miombo	
		Humid Zone	
		Mosaic	
Non Vegetated	Urban Zone	Terra Firma	Urban areas characterized by a predominance of non-vegetated surfaces, including roads, highways, and buildings.
		Mountain	
		Miombo	
		Zone Humid	
	Other uses	Miombo	Areas with non-vegetated surfaces (infrastructure, mining areas, urban areas, etc.)
		Zone Humid	

	Other non vegetated area	Mosaic	Areas with non - permeable surfaces (infrastructure, mining areas, urban expansion, or exposed soil) not mapped under the other classes.
		Terra Firma	
		Montain	
Water	River, lake and ocean	Miombo	Rivers, lakes, dams, reservoir and other water bodies
		Zone Humid	
		Mosaic	
		Terra Firma	
		Montain	
Not observed			Assigned to missing values, shadows, or other errors that may occur during the classification process.