



Democratic Republic of Congo

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Where is Congo located?

Congo is located in the central-western part of sub-Saharan **Africa**, along the Equator lying between latitudes 4°N and 5°S, and longitudes 11° and 19°E. To the south and east of it is the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Violent crime, such as armed robbery, armed home invasion, and assault, is common and local police lack resources to respond effectively to serious crime. ... There is an outbreak of the Ebola virus in eastern DRC, which may affect other areas in the country.

Congo is rich in natural resources. It boasts vast deposits of industrial diamonds, cobalt, and copper; one of the largest forest reserves in Africa; and about half of the hydroelectric potential of the continent.

The **Congo** Basin is the second largest tropical **rainforest** in the world, with almost 2 million square kilometers of humid **forest**- an area about the size of Mexico. Including secondary and savanna **forest**, the area equals about 3 million square kilometers, almost half the size of the continental US.



ça va?

ça va bien



Bonjour!

What language
do they speak
there?

King Leopold 2 of Belgium colonized the Democratic Republic of Congo in the late 1800's. It was then called the Belgian Congo. The language of Belgium was French.



French is still the official language of the **Congo**, while Kituba and Lingala are the country's national languages. About 30% of the **Congolese** population can fluently **speak French**. **French** is widely spoken in the European community and among African elites. However, the African elites rarely **speak French** in their homes.

Culture



- There are many famous authors
- Theatre and the arts are main features of the culture
- The country is famous by its national Congolese ballet, which specialized in traditional folk dance.
- Sculptures and masks intricately made are in many museums and helped inspire Picasso's artwork!
- Congolese music is quite calm and relaxing

[Lokua Kanza](#)



Government/ politics



The civil war in Congo (1998-2003) ended in a 'transitional group' containing members of the rebel groups, the previous government, opposing political parties etc.

- The country is divided by regions or provinces.
- Some of the parties in the transitional group are;
 - Union pour la Démocratie et le Progrès Social; UDPS'
 - Parti Démocrate Social Chrétien; PDSC'
 - Mouvement pour la Libération du Congo; MLC' – this was one of the parties representing formere rebel groups.
- The country is very corrupt and in 2019 80% of public service users paid a bribe and 80% of people think their government is doing a bad job of tackling corruption.