



ANNUAL  
REPORT  
CAMEROON  
2017

# PEOPLE AND NATURE IN A WIN-WIN PARTNERSHIP



# ABOUT WWF CAMEROON

The WWF Cameroon Country Program Office (CCPO), henceforth referred to as WWF Cameroon in this report, started in 1990 as a small office with one field project (Korup Project). Twenty-seven years after, WWF has grown in scope and vision.

## Scope

WWF supports the Government of Cameroon in the implementation of the medium term development strategy, the Growth and Employment Strategy Paper, thereby contributing to progress towards the country's 2035 vision of becoming a middle-income country. WWF offers support in mainstreaming environmental sustainability in sectoral policies, strategies and programs, and supports implementation of the Forest and Environment Program. We operate from 11 field offices in five landscapes and a national office in Yaoundé.

## WWF Cameroon Vision

*A future with healthy ecosystems and thriving biodiversity supporting people and driving sustainable development in Cameroon.*

## Main Strategic Pillars

Sustainable Wildlife Management  
Sustainable Forest Management  
Food and Agriculture Practice  
Climate and Energy

## Four major field programs

### Jengi Southeast Forest Program

The program focuses on the conservation of forest and wildlife and co-management of natural resources with local communities and indigenous peoples. It has two components:

#### Jengi TNS Program (Lobeke)

This program provides technical assistance for the management of Lobeke National Park, which is the Cameroon segment of Sangha Tri-national landscape (TNS), a UNESCO World Heritage site and its surrounding zones.

### Jengi TRIDOM Program

This program focuses on the management of Nki and Boumba-Bek national parks and the Ngoyla and Dja wildlife reserves, Mengame Gorilla Sanctuary and their surrounding multiple used-zones.

### Coastal Forest Program

With head office in Limbe, the program provides technical and administrative support to the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife at the regional level and in Bakossi, Korup and Mount Cameroon national parks and the Banyang Mbo Wildlife Sanctuary. The Program also promotes promising models of sustainable natural resource management to influence policies through effective civil society, youth and indigenous people actions.

### Kudu Zombo Program

This program supports the management of Campo Ma'an National Park and focuses on the development of a gorilla habituation project in the perspective of promoting eco-tourism.

## WWF Cameroon in a few dates

- 1990: Creation in Douala as a small office with a field project
- 1992: Co-operation Agreement signed with the Government of Cameroon
- 1994: Bilateral Agreement signed with WWF Netherlands for phenomenal growth
- 2002: Regional Office for Central Africa (CARPO) is moved to Cameroon
- 2004: Government of Cameroon signed agreement to host the WWF Central African Regional Programme Office
- 2006: Partnership agreement signed with MINFOF
- 2015: Convention signed with Cameroon's Ministry of Environment.

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# PEOPLE AND NATURE IN A WIN-WIN PARTNERSHIP



**Dr. Hanson Njiforti**  
WWF Cameroon  
Country Director

*"WWF and Plan International have partnered to implement a project to strengthen the rights of Baka"*

It is amazing what, together with you and our partners, we were able to achieve in 2017. After deep reflections on the new direction WWF Cameroon country Program Office should take, we reviewed our country strategy to stay in tune with local, national and international realities, and deliver with greater efficacy. Our new vision is to ensure that "A future with healthy ecosystems and thriving biodiversity supporting

people and driving sustainable development in Cameroon." Our new strategy puts people more at the center of our actions. We have aligned our strategic axis to the UN, WWF and national goals with emphasis on wildlife, forest, food/agriculture and partnership between people and nature.

In 2017, we signed a number of partnership agreements with one government Ministry, development agencies, other NGOs and local communities. In this vein, WWF and Cameroon's Ministry of the Economy, Planning and Regional Development (MINEPAT) signed a partnership agreement to ensure respect for environmental and social norms in the implementation of a Program for the Management and Integrated Development of the Dja Mining Belt and Adjacent Border areas in the South and East Regions of Cameroon, known as PADI DJA. Through this partnership, we will advise the government on issues related to environmental best practices and respect of indigenous people's rights. We also signed partnership with GiZ (German technical Cooperation) to conduct a REDD+ feasibility studies in the South West Region of the

country.

A vibrant and democratic civil society is critical to the work that we do. In 2017, we stepped up our engagement with civil society organizations as well as communities to improve biodiversity conservation and scale up promising models for sustainable natural resource management. These includes community-based models for beekeeping, NTFP development and reducing the ecological footprint of the palm oil sector.

We advocated the implementation of best practices in both forestry and agribusinesses. We supported the organization and structuring of six palm oil smallholder cooperatives in an effort to establish win-win partnerships with agro-industries. We hope this model will not only increase production but will curb the quest for further expansion into primary forest.

## Rights of indigenous peoples

We worked towards enhancing greater respect for the rights of indigenous peoples. In the first collaboration of its kind, WWF and Plan International have partnered to implement a project to strengthen the rights and increase role of the Baka communities in the management of natural resources in Southeast Cameroon. We have also increased collaboration with Cameroon social affairs Ministry and entered into agreement with some local NGOs to implement activities aimed at improving the wellbeing of Baka. Through our Baka education project, hundreds of children have received scholarships and are now attending school in the east of Cameroon.

We worked with partners to put in place a human rights abuse complaint mechanism for Baka and other indigenous peoples. The mechanism has started yielding fruits as some five Baka families have received justice for abuses they suffered. In the same light, there will be greater respect for human rights of indigenous peoples by the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife staff following the publication of a "Manual on human rights, indigenous people's rights and good practices applicable during anti-poaching operations." WWF, in collaboration with the Cameroon Bar Association, the National commissions for Human Rights and the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife produced the manual. We brought the debate on ivory trafficking and wildlife criminality to the national and international scenes following our publication of results of a wildlife survey conducted in and around some protected areas in Cameroon. Cameroon Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife and WWF have begun implementing some of the recommendations emanating from the findings of the surveys.

The unrelenting trafficking of ivory and pangolin scales sobered us. Rangers, customs officers and the police seized 424 ivory tusks and five tons of pangolin scales in 2017.

*"We joined six other international NGOs to sign a declaration calling on the Cameroon government to intensify fight against wildlife crime."*

The number of wildlife suspects arrested stood at 144, twice higher than 2016 figures. We joined six other international NGOs to sign a declaration calling on the Cameroon government to intensify fight against wildlife crime.

#### **WWF and Roger Milla**

In July 2016, Cameroon ratified the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. We worked with the government and other partners to build a climate resilient economy for the country. WWF and Roger Milla, Africa's football legend, rallied some 60000 students in the city of Douala to raise awareness on climate change under the auspices of the 2017 Earth Hour campaign. In October 2017, we received salutary news that a Cameroonian youth, Monique Ntumngia, had won the WWF Africa Youth Award for her exceptional effort to fight climate change and empower girls.

As we roll out our new strategy in 2018, we remain thankful to you for your continuous support. We intend to achieve our goals through greater synergy with all key actors and effective involvement of local and indigenous communities in all our actions. We understand the challenges are daunting, but together everything is possible.

# L'HOMME ET LA NATURE EN PARTENARIAT GAGNANT-GAGNANT

Ce que nous avons réalisé en 2017 avec vous, est tout simplement formidable. Après de profondes réflexions sur la nouvelle direction que le bureau du WWF Cameroun devrait prendre, et pour être davantage efficace, nous avons revu notre stratégie de conservation pour nous arrimer aux réalités locales, nationales et internationales. Notre nouvelle vision est de veiller à ce que « les paysages exceptionnels du Cameroun soient gérés de manière durable pour une biodiversité florissante, un air pur, des moyens d'existence et une croissance économique verte pour les générations actuelles et futures. » A travers cette vision, nous voulons mettre l'homme encore plus au centre de nos actions et garantir les partenariats gagnant-gagnant entre l'homme et la nature. Pour y parvenir, nous avons aligné notre axe stratégique sur les objectifs de WWF international et la politique nationale du Cameroun en mettant l'accent sur la faune, les forêts, l'alimentation / l'agriculture et le partenariat entre l'homme et la nature.

## Partenariats

En 2017, nous avons négocié et/ou signé un certain nombre d'accords de partenariats avec un ministère, des agences de développement, la communauté urbaine de Yaoundé, les ONG et des communautés locales. Dans ce contexte, le WWF et le Ministère de l'Economie, de la planification et de l'aménagement du territoire (MINEPAT) ont signé un accord de partenariat pour le respect des normes environnementales et sociales dans la mise en œuvre d'un Programme d'Aménagement et de Développement Intégré de la Boucle Minière du Dja et de la zone frontalière adjacente connu sous le nom de PADI DJA. Grâce à ce partenariat, nous allons

conseiller le gouvernement sur les questions liées aux meilleures pratiques environnementales et au respect des droits des populations autochtones. Nous avons également signé un partenariat avec GiZ (Coopération technique allemande) pour mener des études de faisabilité REDD+ (Réduction des émissions dues à la déforestation de la dégradation des forêts et incitation à la conservation; à la gestion durable des forêts et à l'accroissement du carbone sur les terres forestières.) dans la région du Sud-Ouest du pays.

## Engagement avec la société civile

Une société civile dynamique et démocratique est essentielle au travail que nous faisons. En 2017, nous avons intensifié notre engagement avec les organisations de la société civile ainsi que les communautés pour améliorer la conservation de la biodiversité et intensifier les modèles prometteurs pour la gestion durable des ressources naturelles. Cela inclut des modèles communautaires pour l'apiculture, le développement des PFNL (produits forestiers non-ligneux) et la réduction de l'empreinte écologique du secteur du palmier à huile.

Aussi, avons-nous préconisé la mise en œuvre des meilleures pratiques dans les secteurs de la foresterie et de l'agroalimentaire. A cet effet, nous avons soutenu l'organisation et la structuration de six coopératives de petits producteurs d'huile de palme, dans le but d'établir des partenariats gagnant-gagnant avec les agro-industries. Nous espérons que ce modèle permettra non seulement d'augmenter la production, mais aussi et surtout de freiner la poursuite de l'expansion des grandes plantations industrielles au détriment de la forêt primaire..



Pour promouvoir les droits, nous avons œuvré pour l'amélioration et le respect des droits des populations autochtones. C'est dans ce cadre que pour la première fois, le WWF et Plan International se sont associés pour mettre en œuvre un projet visant à renforcer les droits et à accroître le rôle des communautés Baka dans la gestion des ressources naturelles dans le sud-est du Cameroun. Cela nous a permis également de renforcer la collaboration avec le ministère camerounais des affaires sociales, et conclu des accords avec cinq organisations non gouvernementales (ONG) locales pour mettre en œuvre des activités visant à améliorer le bien-être des populations et des communautés Baka. Grâce au projet d'éducation Baka, des centaines d'enfants ont reçu des bourses et sont scolarisés dans la Région de l'Est Cameroun.

En étroite collaboration avec les autres partenaires, nous avons mis en place un mécanisme de plainte pour des cas de violation des droits de l'homme concernant les communautés Baka et les autres populations autochtones qui a commencé à porter ses fruits. En effet, quatre familles Baka ont été rétablies dans leurs droits grâce à ce mécanisme. Dans le même esprit, le personnel du Ministère des Forêts et de la Faune s'est engagé à respecter davantage les droits des populations autochtones suite à la publication d'un « Manuel sur les droits humains, les droits des populations autochtones et les bonnes pratiques applicables aux opérations anti-bracognage ». Ce manuel a été produit en collaboration avec le barreau du Cameroun, la Commission Nationale des droits de l'homme et le Ministère des Forêts et de la Faune (MINFOF).

### Criminalité faunique

Nous avons porté le débat sur le trafic d'ivoire et la criminalité liée à la faune sauvage sur les scènes nationales et internationales suite à la publication des résultats des inventaires fauniques menés dans, et autour de certaines aires protégées au Cameroun. Le MINFOF et

le WWF ont commencé à mettre en œuvre certaines des recommandations émanant de ces inventaires.

Le trafic incessant et croissant de pointes d'ivoire et d'écaillés de pangolin nous préoccupent sérieusement. En guise d'exemple, les éco-gardes, les douaniers et la police ont saisi en 2017 plus de 400 pointes d'ivoire et cinq tonnes d'écaillés de pangolin. Le nombre de braconniers arrêtés était de 144, soit deux fois plus qu'en 2016. Nous nous sommes associés à six autres ONG internationales pour signer une déclaration appelant le gouvernement camerounais à intensifier la lutte contre la criminalité faunique.

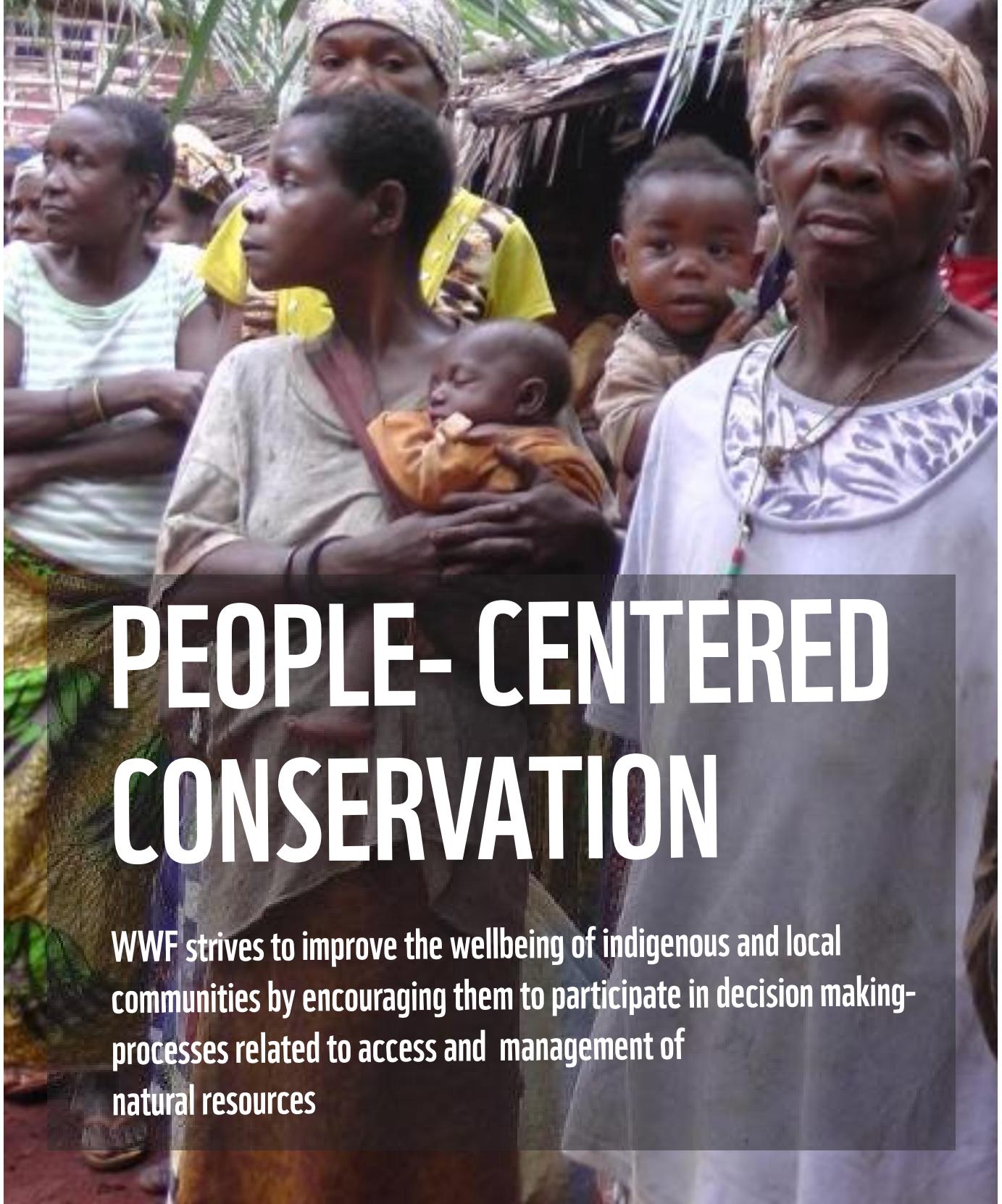
Nous avons beaucoup contribué à la mise en œuvre des initiatives novatrices et porteuses d'espoir. En effet, en juillet 2016, le Cameroun a ratifié l'Accord de Paris sur les changements climatiques. Dans le cadre de la mise en œuvre de cet accord, nous avons travaillé avec le gouvernement et d'autres partenaires pour bâtir une économie résiliente au changement climatique pour le pays.

### Engagement avec Roger Milla

Le WWF et le footballeur africain du siècle, Roger Milla, ont rassemblé quelque 60000 élèves dans la ville de Douala pour les sensibiliser aux changements climatiques à travers la campagne Earth Hour 2017. En octobre 2017, nous avons reçu des bonnes nouvelles concernant une jeune camerounaise, Monique Ntumngia, qui a remporté le prix WWF African Youth Award pour ses efforts exceptionnels dans la lutte contre les changements climatiques.

Tout en déployant notre nouvelle stratégie à partir de 2018, nous vous remercions de votre soutien continu. Nous avons l'intention d'atteindre nos objectifs grâce à une plus grande synergie avec tous les acteurs-clés ainsi qu'à une implication effective des communautés locales et autochtones dans toutes nos actions. Nous savons que les défis sont énormes, mais ensemble, tout est possible.





# PEOPLE-CENTERED CONSERVATION

WWF strives to improve the wellbeing of indigenous and local communities by encouraging them to participate in decision making-processes related to access and management of natural resources



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# LEADING THE CHANGE FOR PEOPLE-CENTERED CONSERVATION

WWF Cameroon will launch a 5-year project aimed at building sustainable relationship between human beings and nature in a bid to fight poverty in 2018. Christened Leading the Change: Civil Society, Rights and Environment, the project will be implemented in parts of South West and East Regions of Cameroon. WWF Sweden and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) support the project.

Leading change posits that rapid deforestation and forest degradation, poaching and illegal trade in wildlife, and a wide range of other social norms and habits are decreasing the possibilities for people to use their surrounding natural resources in a sustainable way to reduce poverty. These and other vices compromise traditional tenure rights, which local communities and especially indigenous groups rely on to access forest resources.

Local community organizations like Village Forest Management Committees play important roles in rural communities, but they do not always have the interest or the capacity for management of forests or protected areas, and restrictions push them into conflicts. There are community-based organizations (CBOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) with high capacity in the targeted program areas, not least amongst the partners of WWF, and interesting coalitions have been formed during recent years within the context of the just ended WWF Cameroon Civil Society Project.

The project seeks to take this work and initiatives further and find ways to scale up promising models of sustainable natural resource management and to influence policies through effective civil society, youth and indigenous people action.

## Project activities

There will be ongoing capacity development to strengthen NGOs and to promote their role as advocates for sustainable management and sustainable investments. The supported NGOs will work to empower local rural communities and local committees and enhance their capacity to manage and benefit from natural resources. The support to communities will include human-wildlife conflict controls, ecotourism development,

wildlife law enforcement, renewable energy development and support for sustainable livelihood initiatives to improve food security, promote sustainable agriculture and reduce ecological footprints.

The project also includes the initiation of a REDD+ mechanism in the South West Region and education at different levels in society to raise awareness on climate issues and resilience. The project will use the inclusive approaches of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and continue to collaborate with schools to reach the youth.

## Civil society strategy and partner organizations

WWF Cameroon currently works with four partner NGOs. During this project phase, two new organizations will come onboard through a planned process for stakeholder mapping and organizational assessment. This will be followed by development and implementation of demand-driven NGO-specific institutional and technical capacity development plans to strengthen the role of the NGOs to play an active role in civil society and the environmental sector. WWF Cameroon will engage directly with the six NGOs with contracts, and indirectly with CBOs, civil society coalitions and platforms via the six NGOs. As the capacity development evolves, the partnership will gradually shift to collaboration as allies in joint advocacy works.

Apart from technical capacity development, there will be a large focus on fundamental organizational issues, such as values, identity and leadership. The project will actively seek to promote equal participation by addressing structural causes of discrimination and, when needed, incorporating positive discrimination measures for social groups such as women/girls, children/youth, indigenous peoples and ethnic minorities, people with low socioeconomic status and people with physical or mental disabilities.

**By Dr. Philip Forboseh**  
*Senior Programs Coordinator*  
*WWF Cameroon*

# CCPO UPTURNS SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT FOR CONSERVATION (SD4C)



Most of the world's ecosystems and areas rich in biodiversity are home to local communities and indigenous peoples whose livelihoods and cultures depend wholly on them. The Congo Basin, which is the second largest tropical rainforest in the world, is also home to about 75 million people and 150 distinct ethnic groups. As WWF works to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which people live in harmony with nature, success depends on the extent to which conservation contributes not solely to the maintenance and preservation of ecosystems and biodiversity but also to the well-being of the people that depend on these ecosystems for survival. Ensuring an integrated livelihood and conservation nexus is of utmost importance to WWF's priorities for environment and social safeguards. Social development therefore, has a central role in WWF's conservation agenda ranging from gender, human-wildlife conflict, human rights, indigenous people etc. In line with WWF's commitment to strengthen the social dimensions of its project, programmes and policy work, WWF social principles are fundamental to

creating effective, lasting and equitable solutions to today's environmental and social challenges. These principles are intended to strengthen conservation results, outcomes and ensure their sustainability into the future. WWF currently has four social policies (Indigenous People, Poverty and Conservation, gender and Human rights) that are intended to guide the integration of social dimensions in its conservation work. The need to incorporate social issues into WWF's practices, strategies and our work is pressing more than ever before. It is in this light that WWF Cameroon Country Program Office integrated social indicators in its reviewed strategic plan. The indicators include institutional capacity for resource governance, conflict over natural resource use and access to resources. The goal of this is to improve its contributions to social development and better measure its social impact in WWF supported areas for the benefit of people.

**By Fideline Mboringong**  
*Business and Industries Assistant  
WWF Cameroon*

# ACTIONS FÉDÉRATRICES POUR AMÉLIORER LE BIEN-ÊTRE DES BAKA

Travailler mieux avec les Baka en vue d'améliorer leur bien-être est le leitmotiv qui a guidé nos actions en 2017. Dans cette logique, des consultations ont été menées auprès des communautés autochtones, des organisations de la société civile et des administrations afin d'identifier les outils de travail culturellement adaptés aux Baka, ainsi que des partenariats noués pour améliorer nos interventions en faveur de ce groupe cible.

Une synergie a été nouée avec Plan International Cameroon pour mieux adresser les problèmes d'accès à l'éducation des populations autochtones et accompagner les Baka au développement des activités génératrices de revenus culturellement viables. Le projet conjoint WWF/Plan International a été officiellement lancé en septembre 2017 et est en cours de mise en œuvre dans les villages Baka de Mboli, Assumnde, Ndimako, Mabam, Yenga dans la Région de l'Est Cameroun avec l'appui des organisations de la société civile.

Un dialogue avec le RACOPY (Réseau Recherches Actions Concertées Pygmées) a été initié pour informer des projets en faveur des populations autochtones et obtenir l'appui conseils du RACOPY sur la démarche méthodologique à suivre et les outils adaptés de travail avec les Baka. Le RACOPY s'est engagé à poursuivre la consultation des communautés Baka sur ces questions. Les résultats de cette consultation orienteront notre stratégie d'intervention en faveur de ces populations.

Avec les administrations la réflexion a consisté à cartographier les droits reconnus aux populations autochtones dans les projets de conservation et d'identifier les actions à conduire pour promouvoir ces droits et garantir leur respect. Un atelier multipartite a été organisé à cet effet par le Ministère des Affaires Sociales (MINAS), une feuille de route élaborée. Le MINAS prévoit de faire un suivi régulier de l'effectivité de ces droits autour des aires protégées où le WWF intervient. Avec le Ministère des Forêts et de la Faune (MINFOF) la réflexion a consisté à faciliter l'accès des populations autochtones dans les aires protégées (parcs nationaux et réserves) pour mener leurs activités à travers la signature des accords de cogestion entre les services de conservation et les communautés Baka. Un atelier de renforcement des capaci-

tés des parties sur le contenu d'un MoU et les modalités de signature de cette convention s'est tenu avec les services centraux du MINFOF. Ils permettront au Baka de continuer à accéder dans le parc et exercer librement leurs activités.

Une salle de classe a été construite dans le village d'Assumnde l'arrondissement de Ngoyla afin de faciliter l'accès des enfants Baka de ce village à l'école. De même, les enseignants des écoles qui accueillent les enfants Baka dans l'arrondissement de Ngoyla ont été formés à l'Education pour le développement durable (ESD) et bénéficient d'un accompagnement pour la mise en œuvre dans leurs écoles des plans d'action ESD. De certains enfants Baka ont bénéficié des bourses scolaires dans le cadre de l'appui à la mise en œuvre de la stratégie d'éducation innovante des peuples autochtones.

## Quelles perspectives pour 2018 ?

Le soutien à l'éducation des enfants Baka va se poursuivre, et avec le partenariat avec Plan International, ces actions vont être renforcées.

Il est prévu dans le cadre de ce partenariat, la construction dans le village Mboli des salles de classes aménagées avec des points d'eau et des latrines, et la formation des enseignants qui encadrent les enfants Baka à l'éducation inclusive. Les communautés autochtones riveraines des parcs nationaux de Boumba-Bek, Nki, Lobeke, Campo Ma'an et la Réserve de Faune de Ngoyla seront accompagnées dans le processus de signature des accords de co-gestion avec les services de conservation afin de faciliter leur accès dans ces espaces et l'exercice libre de leurs activités.

Des activités génératrices de revenus culturellement adaptées seront développées en faveur des Baka pour améliorer leur bien-être, ainsi que l'appui à la foresterie communautaire.

Le défi reste la bonne exécution de ces actions sur le terrain, et la mutualisation des forces avec d'autres acteurs afin de provoquer le changement escompté.

Par Moise Kono

*Indigenous Peoples Coordinator*



Baka children display school fee receipts

# SUPPORTING BAKA STUDENTS AND THEIR DREAMS



*"School dropout rate among Baka has reduced significantly"*

The Baka are one of the many indigenous communities living in Cameroon. Historically marginalized, the community faces several challenges in an ever-changing Cameroon but in recent years, improved access to school education is helping create change.

"I am going to school so I can become a gendarme (police) officer," states Ngongo Inyas as his schoolmate Mirreille chimes in "I dream of becoming a teacher." Ngongo and Mirreille are two of the 700 Baka children in eastern Cameroon who have received school scholarships sponsored by WWF.

As a conservation organization, education is not traditionally an activity WWF is involved in but the decision to create and fund the scholarship was taken on the request of the Baka themselves.

An estimated 26,000 Baka live in Southeast Cameroon, in and around the country's forests, which are a lifeline for indigenous communities like theirs. WWF, which has been present in Cameroon since 1990, works closely with the Baka and other indigenous peoples to identify how conservation can help protect and promote their rights and improve access to services such as education and healthcare.

With the Baka expressing an interest in sending their children to school, WWF launched the Baka education project in 2013. Today, the project supports Baka children in primary and secondary schools in three districts - Yoka-douma, Salapoumbe and Mo-loundou - in the Boumba and

Ngoko Division of eastern Cameroon, covering school fees, uniforms and books. Enrolment fees for public exams are also covered by the scholarships provided.

"Thanks to this grant, WWF takes the burden off the shoulders of Baka parents by enabling their children to attend school. That is why this gesture is commendable," says the Director of Government Primary School Koumela that counts over 40 Baka children among 150 students.

Data by local NGO, CEFAID, an implementing partner on the project, indicates that between the school years of 2013-2014 and 2014-2015, enrolment of Baka children rose from 267 to 318, while the number of them admitted to write public exams climbed from 118 in 2014 to 170 in 2015.

"We are pleased that our support is motivating more Baka parents to send their children to school. We have noticed that the school dropout rate among Baka has reduced significantly and are committed to continuing to work with the Baka community to address the challenges they face," states Olivier Njounan, Collaborative Management Officer, WWF-Cameroon.

WWF works with key partners like CSOs and the Ministries of Basic and Secondary Education and Social Affairs, to help support indigenous communities like the Baka through conservation activities.

**By Ernest Sumelong**  
*Communications Officer  
WWF Jengi Program*

# CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

## TWO SIDES OF A COIN

Conservation and development are often viewed as distinct and at times conflicting objectives. However, we simply cannot successfully address economic or environmental challenges in the world, unless we consider them together.

From the conventional approach, it is not usually in the interest of key private sector stakeholders in Cameroon to relate with conservation issues, because the needs of the people are just too many. This false and even dangerous dichotomy; does not acknowledge the importance of biodiversity to human survival and prosperity. When we fail to strike a balance between biodiversity conservation and economic development, human beings suffer most.

The United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs), which is based on sustainable management of natural resources, has opened the door to policies that address environment and development as related issues. Such an agenda, which establishes direct relationships between these areas, had never been achieved before. Wildlife and forests contribute in a substantive manner, to the growth of our economy through tourism and other related industries. Elephants, lions and other wildlife sustain the health and resiliency of our ecosystems, by their respective roles as "landscape architects", tree seed dispersers and apex predators.

Cameroon can boast of extraordinary natural capital, admired and envied by many. However, this capital remains vulnerable. The country is undergoing rapid, large-scale and, in most cases, irreversible transformation; thus adversely affecting the ecological footprint. Infrastructure development and increased trade are changes pregnant with promises of greater prosperity for all. When poorly conceived and managed, rapid development is achieved at the expense of both the population and biodiversity; gradually eliminating the more

vulnerable communities, degrading landscapes and exploitation of many species, to the brink of extinction.

It is therefore imperative to be more rigorous in choosing strategies, planning and mapping economic growth, and, when necessary, to rethink and redesign infrastructure projects; so that any negative impacts are mitigated and benefits to local communities are enhanced. Government must continue drafting economic and trade development blueprints, which include biodiversity conservation protection, in the national planning process.

At the level of the continent, the African Union's 2063-development plan has as obvious ambition, to protect Africa's wildlife and natural resources, alongside its development vision. There is a need to completely secure buy in and implementation support, from private sector and corporate leaders. Businesses can be transformed through suitable practices to become locomotives of green growth, by developing technologies that enable others drive their sustainability agenda. The objective to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improve energy efficiency by industries, should not be restricted to their operations, but should be extended to the entire supply chain.

Conservation is not just about saving wildlife. It is also the interface between wildlife and human beings. The balanced investment approach, whereby all funds spent on conservation in a park or reserve, are also funds spent beyond protected areas to improve the quality of human lives, is key to ensuring that the people, who live near wildlife, consider it as an important economic asset. This would give true meaning and bring to life our vision, whereby humans live in harmony with nature.

*"When poorly conceived and managed, rapid development is achieved at the expense of both the population and biodiversity"*

**Estelle Mandeng**

*Fundraising, Legal & Policy Officer*

# NOUVEAUX PARTENARIATS, NOUVEAUX HORIZONS



Dans le cadre de la mise en œuvre de son plan stratégique 2018-2022, le WWF a opté pour un modèle basé sur le partenariat, la sous-traitance de certaines activités par les partenaires et les firmes privées, la communication à tous les niveaux. A cet effet, de nouveaux partenariats ont été renforcés notamment avec la COMIFAC dans le cadre du Fonds vert sur le climat, la GIZ pour la promotion de

la REDD+ dans le Sud-Ouest Cameroun, le partenariat Mondial pour l'eau afin de permettre la facilitation des actions, le Ministère de l'Economie et de l'Aménagement du Territoire (MINEPAT) pour la prise en compte des questions environnementales dans les projets structurant et Plan international pour la promotion des populations autochtones et locales.



## WWF, Plan International conjuguent leurs efforts pour le Baka

Améliorer l'éducation des jeunes Baka et les services socio-économiques de base ; WWF et Plan International conjuguent leurs efforts. Grâce à l'appui financier de la loterie Nationale de la Suède, WWF et Plan Internationale mettent ensemble de façon conjointe un projet qui a pour objectif de renforcer les capacités des communautés Baka pour améliorer les conditions de vie et leur permettre de participer dans les processus de décisions d'ici 2019. Cela sera réalisé à travers 3 actions phares que sont (a) Améliorer l'accès et la qualité de la formation des populations Baka pour les enfants âgés de 6 à 15 ans, (b) améliorer l'accès des bénéficiaires du Projet aux services socio-économiques de base dans la zone du Projet et (c) promouvoir

les droits des populations autochtones dans la région de l'Est Cameroun dans le respect de la loi. Dans la mise en œuvre de ces activités, WWF a déjà signé des conventions de collaboration avec les ONG locales qui ont une certaine expertise dans les domaines d'intervention.

Le WWF en étroite collaboration avec ses partenaires est engagé à renforcer le partenariat permettant de mettre en œuvre les programmes dans le respect des engagements avec eux et des principes de respects mutuels. Les différentes parties envisagent de capitaliser les leçons apprises des différents projets pour développer des programmes conjoints à long terme.

## GIZ et WWF s'engagent pour la promotion de la REDD+

Dans le cadre de la promotion de la REDD+ au Cameroun, la GIZ Pro PSFE et le WWF ont signé un accord de collaboration pour la mise en œuvre conjointe d'une étude de faisabilité sur la REED dans 4 communes du Sud-Ouest Cameroun (Bangem, Mundemba, Nguti et Toko). Les deux parties se sont engagées à mettre ensemble leurs moyens financiers et de suivre conjointement les activités techniques durant toutes les étapes de l'étude de faisabilité. Après l'étude de faisabilité, une proposition de Projet suivant les standards reconnus internationalement sera élaborée sous la conduite des deux parties.



Accord parfait entre le WWF et la GIZ

# Les engagements conjoints du MINEPAT et de WWF



©Fidellis Manga/WWF

Pour une meilleure prise en compte des questions environnementales dans la boucle Minière du Dja : Les engagements conjoints du MINEPAT et de WWF.

La Convention signée entre le MINEPAT et le WWF sur la prise en compte des questions environnementales dans la mise en œuvre des projets dans la boucle minière du Dja a précisé les rôles respectifs de chaque partie. Ainsi, le WWF apportera son assistance à travers son expertise en matière environnementale, des appuis conseils au PADI Dja notamment dans le choix des sites concernés par le

développement des infrastructures, la préparation des dossiers des marchés, l'évaluation des offres et la contribution au renforcement des capacités des staffs. Quant à l'Etat du Cameroun à travers le MINEPAT, il s'est engagé à prendre en compte les populations autochtones et locales dans tous les programmes notamment dans les travaux des routes, impliquer effectivement les populations autochtones dans les actions de développement et garantir un développement participatif.

## Partenariat avec GWP

Faciliter les activités du Partenariat Mondial pour l'eau (Global Water Partner, GWP) au Cameroun et dans les autres pays du bassin du Congo. Désormais, l'eau douce fait partie des priorités stratégiques de WWF au même titre que les forêts, la faune sauvage, l'agriculture, les océans, l'énergie et les changements climatiques. Des stratégies pour ces thématiques ont été validées. Le WWF Cameroun a signé une convention avec le GWP, convention pour abriter le GWP. Dans un premier temps, le WWF s'occupera de la gestion administrative et financière des activités de GWP et des projets mis en œuvre en collaboration avec les autres partenaires. Les 2 parties comptent ensuite développer des programmes et projets conjoints prenant en compte la gestion de l'eau et la conservation de la biodiversité dans les aires protégées pour le bien être des communautés.

## COMIFAC et le WWF

Le réseau WWF œuvrant au niveau national, continental et mondial a eu beaucoup de négociations avec le Secrétariat Exécutif de la COMIFAC pour sa participation effective dans la facilitation des projets à soumettre au Fonds Vert sur le climat soit comme gestionnaire des projets comme Agence accréditée soit comme Agence d'exécution des Projets. Après analyse approfondie et 3 mois de négociations, le WWF a proposé à la COMIFAC de ne pas s'engager comme Agence accréditée pour gérer le Projet dans les 10 pays de la COMIFAC mais de travailler comme Agence d'exécution dans les pays où elle a sa présence physique effective.

**Par Cleto Ndiukumagenge**  
*Directeur de la conservation  
WWF Cameroon*



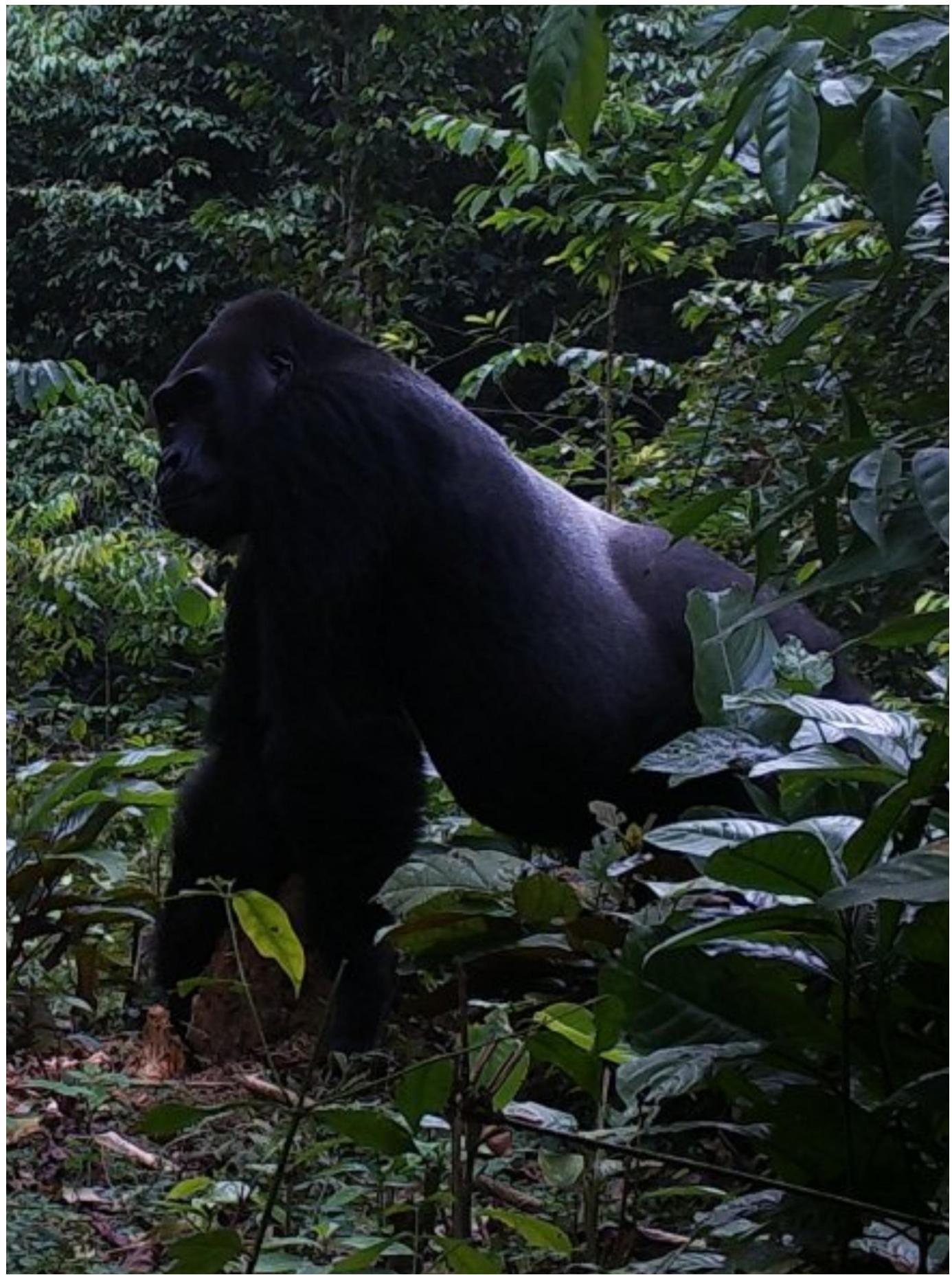
Après signature de partenariat avec GWP

# WILDLIFE

WWF supports the protection and conservation of elephants and great apes (gorillas and chimpanzees), through effective protected areas system and best practices so that their populations remain the same or increase.

© Camera trap Boumba-Béï/WWF







A close-up photograph showing several large elephant tusks and smaller pangolin scales. The tusks are heavily marked with red numbers such as '91R', '91K', '101', '10K', and '9'. Some tusks also have handwritten markings like '402' and '403'. The scales are smaller, light-colored, and also have some markings.

# WILDLIFE CRIME RECORD HIGH IN 2017

Some 450 elephant tusks and 05 tons of pangolin scales were seized from poachers in 2017



The number of seizures and wildlife crime cases soared in 2017 despite improvement in law enforcement. Elephants and pangolins were hardest hit. As per WWF's records, wildlife and law enforcement officers seized 424 ivory tusks and 5 tons of pangolin scales in Cameroon in 2017. This is almost double the number of ivory tusks seized in 2016, which stood at 255.

There was an increase in the number of poachers arrested and prosecuted in 2017 too. Rangers arrested 144 suspects in connection with ivory trafficking in 2017 compared to 44 in 2016.

Out of the 144 poachers and traffickers prosecuted in the last semester of 2017, the courts sentenced 32 of them to various prison terms ranging from one month to three years. The courts also awarded damages and fines in favor of Cameroon's wildlife administration to the tune of FCFA 237 million (US\$ 450,000).

The increase in the number of elephant tusks seized came at the backdrop of a ban on the said products in international trade pursuant to the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES) of Wild Flora and Fauna of 1973 ratified by Cameroon in 1981.

The rise in wildlife crime cases is testimony of the improvement in law enforcement efforts. Voluntary denunciation of wildlife crimes activities by local community members led to successful targeted anti-poaching operations.

Collaboration between Cameroon's Wildlife and Forestry Ministry, the country's customs department and local communities yielded some positive results. In March 2017 customs officers in Bertoua, East Region of Cameroon seized 162 ivory tusks. MINFOF agents in

the Dja Biosphere Reserve seized 216 ivory tusks in a military vehicle assigned to a colonel of the national gendarmerie thanks to voluntary denunciations by local people.

### Corruption the biggest challenge

Corruption remains a serious threat to the fight against ivory trafficking. "Wildlife crime and particularly ivory trafficking is carried out by sophisticated networks comprising local poachers, middlemen (either prosperous business people in town or some high ranking officials) and Chinese sometimes as "secondary buyer" or at the end of the chain," explains Alain Bernard Ononino, WWF Wildlife Law Enforcement Coordinator for Central Africa.

"These gangs are financed by white-collar poachers, who use corruption as a modus operandi with the capacity to easily recruit poachers from local communities," adds Ononino.

Cameroon has become a transit for trafficking of ivory because of its access to the Atlantic Ocean and proximity with Nigeria where wildlife products are smuggled to Asia and China in particular. The biggest part of the ivory collected in Minkebe National Park in Gabon are gathered in Djoum south of Cameroon before they are smuggled to Douala. "Out of 13 tons of ivory seized from 2012-2014 in Togo, 74% was from Central Africa" (Wasser and al, Zeigler and al 2017). Ninety five percent of these came from Gabon, Congo, and the remaining 5% from Cameroon. Statistics show that ivory coming from Central Africa transits through Cameroon.

#### Par Luc Evouna

*Wildlife Law Enforcement Officer  
WWF Cameroon*



# QUEL ÉTAT DES LIEUX POUR LES ÉLÉPHANTS ET LES GRANDS SINGES EN AFRIQUE CENTRALE ?

De juillet 2014 à juin 2016, le WWF a réalisé des inventaires fauniques dans plus de 45 sites couvrant une superficie totale de 5 850 000 ha dans trois paysages (TNS, TRIDOM et Campo Ma'an) étendus sur quatre pays (Cameroun, République Centrafricaine, Congo et Gabon). C'était la première fois que des inventaires de faune couvrent une zone aussi vaste incluant les aires protégées et leurs zones périphériques, dans un intervalle de temps aussi réduit. La superficie couverte au Cameroun (3 378 000 ha) représente 58% de la couverture totale. Outre les rapports techniques spécifiques issus des inventaires, le WWF a publié un rapport régional en octobre 2017.

Les résultats des inventaires ont confirmé l'état des lieux catastrophique des éléphants de forêt en Afrique centrale, comme rapporté précédemment par d'autres études ; 66% de réduction de leur population sur 6 millions d'hectares, de 2008 à 2016 (soit sur une période de moins de 10 ans). Cette diminution drastique est attribuée principalement au braconnage de l'ivoire.

Il a également été établi que la pression du braconnage est plus élevée en dehors des zones protégées, ce qui en fait un véritable refuge pour la faune, en particulier pour les éléphants. Le taux de braconnage est deux fois plus élevé en dehors des zones protégées qu'à l'intérieur et les densités d'éléphants sont plus élevées dans les zones protégées. Les inventaires ont révélé que la pression sur les grands singes est actuellement moins forte dans la plupart des sites car leur population reste plus ou moins stable ; et leur densité est la même à l'extérieur et qu'à l'intérieur des zones protégées.

Les résultats donnent ainsi, de nou-

velles estimations de référence pour les grands singes et les éléphants dans de nombreux sites d'intérêt dans la région sur près de 6 millions d'hectares. Les estimations globales sur la zone couverte sont les suivantes : Eléphants : 9 500 individus (variant de 7 000 à 13 500 individus) et Grands Singes : 59 000 individus sevrés (variant de 50 500 à 72 500 individus) dont 75% sont des gorilles.

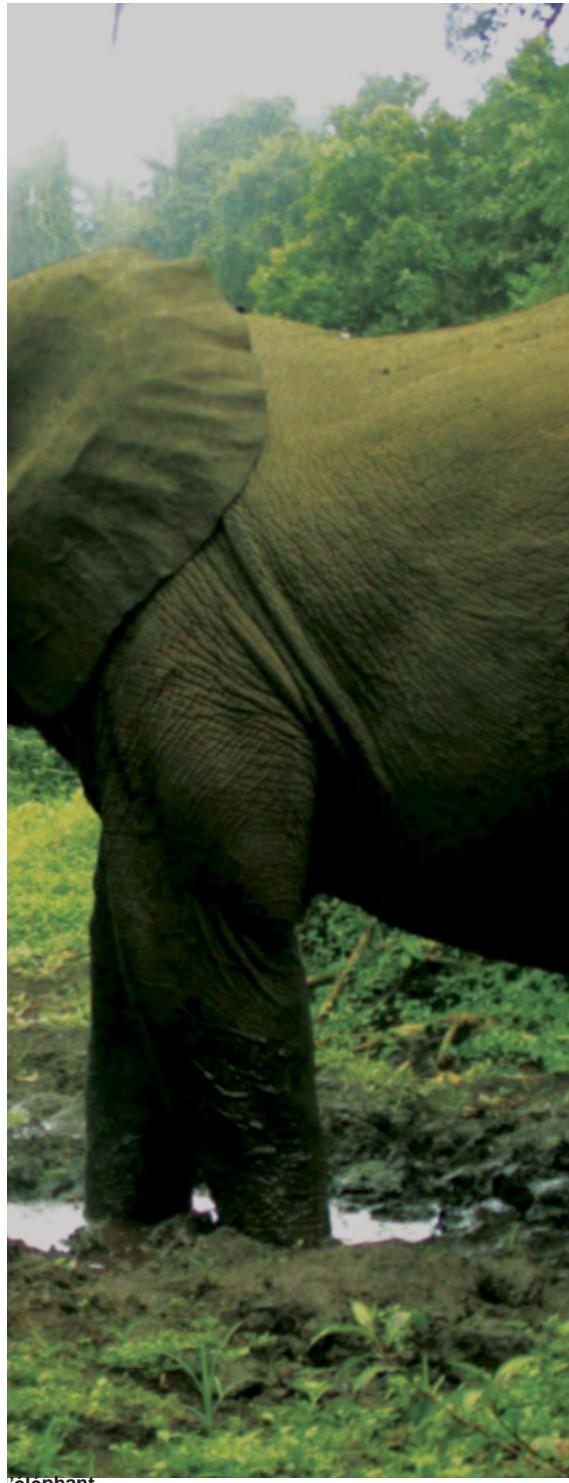
Ces études représentent une étape très importante dans les activités de conservation car elles donnent un aperçu des ressources à mobiliser pour conduire des inventaires fauniques visant à suivre et évaluer les impacts des activités de conservation. L'étude dans son ensemble a mobilisé plus de 33 000 hommes-jours et a coûté 575 000 EUR. Elle a révélé qu'il existe encore des populations de grands singes viables et des populations d'éléphants à préserver dans le bassin du Congo ; une grande partie de ces populations étant plus menacée en dehors des aires protégées. Il ressort que seulement 18,6% des grands singes et 28,4% des éléphants de forêt se trouvent à l'intérieur des aires protégées de la zone inventoriée.

Des mesures de conservation adéquates doivent être prises et les ressources nécessaires doivent être mobilisées par les gouvernements, les ONG locales et les communautés, ainsi que par les institutions internationales pour lutter contre la criminalité faunique afin de sauvegarder les espèces fauniques et leur habitat en général, et les populations restantes d'éléphants en particulier.

**Dr. N'GORAN K. Paul**  
Coordinateur de Biomonitoring  
pour le Bassin du Congo  
WWF ROA-Centre de Yaoundé



# WILDLIFE SURVEY RESULTS: ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE GROUND



Elephant

Ever since WWF and Cameroon's Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF) published results of wildlife censuses of large and medium sized mammals carried out in three major conservation areas in 2014 and 2015, they have taken a number of actions to stop the rapid decline of forest elephants. WWF shared results of the surveys with stakeholders in charge of the management of different used zones as well as donor communities to, respectively, ensure implementation of actions and seek support for sustainable management of wildlife.

To improve anti-poaching effort, the Cameroon Government has increased the number of eco-guards in national parks and transferred those who have spent more than 5 years working in the same area. In Lobeke National Park in East Cameroon, the number of eco-guards has increased from 35 in 2015 to 51 in 2017 (including two additional forest and wildlife engineers). The government has transferred 15 eco-guards to the newly created Ngoyla Wildlife Reserve.

WWF and MINFOF now organize high-level joint field monitoring visits to assess technical and financial progress towards implementation of management activities. They carried out two field visits in 2016 and 2017 that resulted in the adoption of code ethics for eco-guards of national parks to improve governance and combat corruption. There is improvement in the use of SMART device to monitor the effectiveness and efficiency of law enforcement activities.

With the support of WWF Sweden and Netherlands, USFWS and FTNS, WWF Cameroon has

put in place a permanent protection system for wildlife hotspots such as forest clearings within three national parks (Lobeke, Boumba-Bek and Nki) coupled with the use of camera traps. This system is producing interesting results with impressive pictures showing wildlife species in forest clearings (leopard, giant pangolin, gorillas, chimpanzees, buffaloes and forest hogs).

Wildlife officials have been trained on the application of the wildlife law and respect of human rights in anti-poaching operations.

To improve engagement of local communities, WWF organized awareness raising campaigns in different landscapes with the participation of administrative authorities. Information provided by local and IPs populations has led to seizure of AK47 rifles (15 in December 2016 around Lobeke).

The level of engagement of donors to improve wildlife management is increasing. Lobeke and Campo Ma'an national parks have received support from USFWS and KfW.

However, there are still many challenges. Engagement with local communities has to be consistent. The level of responses, particularly anti-poaching efforts, remains far below the minimum required, due to lack of funding (especially in the Cameroon segment of the Tri-national Dja-Odzala-Minkebe trans-boundary conservation landscape, known as TRIDOM), insufficient coordination amongst stakeholders and corruption still bedevil efforts on the ground.

**Dr. Zacharie NZOOG DONGMO**  
*Biomonitoring and Wildlife Management Coordinator  
WWF Cameroon*

# PARC NATIONAL DE NKI: OBSERVATION SPECTACULAIRE DES GRANDS MAMMIFERES DANS LA CLAIRIERE IKWA

Le Parc National de Nki, situé dans le Sud-Est Cameroun, occupe une place sensible dans les échanges biologiques au niveau du bassin du Congo. Cet écosystème, présente une variété d'habitats clés parmi lesquels, se trouvent plusieurs clairières sur sol hydromorphe, abritant une végétation semi-aquatique. C'est le cas de la clairière Ikwa.

Cette clairière située en plein cœur du Parc National de Nki, exerce une attraction évidente sur plusieurs espèces de grands et moyens mammifères (Gorilles de plaine, sitatungas, buffles et éléphants de forêt, colobes guérézas, etc.). Ikwa, de par le microclimat créé par le ruisseau qui l'arrose, sa composition floristique, constitue un lieu de villégiature, de breuvage et d'alimentation et met en évidence différents types d'interactions faune-faune, flore-flore et faune-flore.

Menacée par le braconnage depuis des années Ikwa est mieux sécurisée grâce à la permanence instaurée sur ce site par le Service de la Conservation du parc et le Programme WWF Jengi-TRIDOM. Depuis février 2017, des observations spectaculaires des grands et moyens mammifères sont directement effectuées tant dans la clairière et le long des sentiers fauniques qui mènent vers ces sites. Plusieurs images ont été capturées par les cameras-piège. Les résultats issus des missions de suivi écologique couplées à la surveillance montrent que :

Les éléphants de forêts et les gorilles de plaine sont présents dans la clairière, le nombre de gorilles, de buffles de forêt, de sitatungas, de colobes guérézas observés est en augmentation dans le site, on a noté la naissance des nouveau-nés dans les groupes. La forte présence des colobes noir et blanc dans la clairière est un indi-

cateur de calme apparent sur le site.

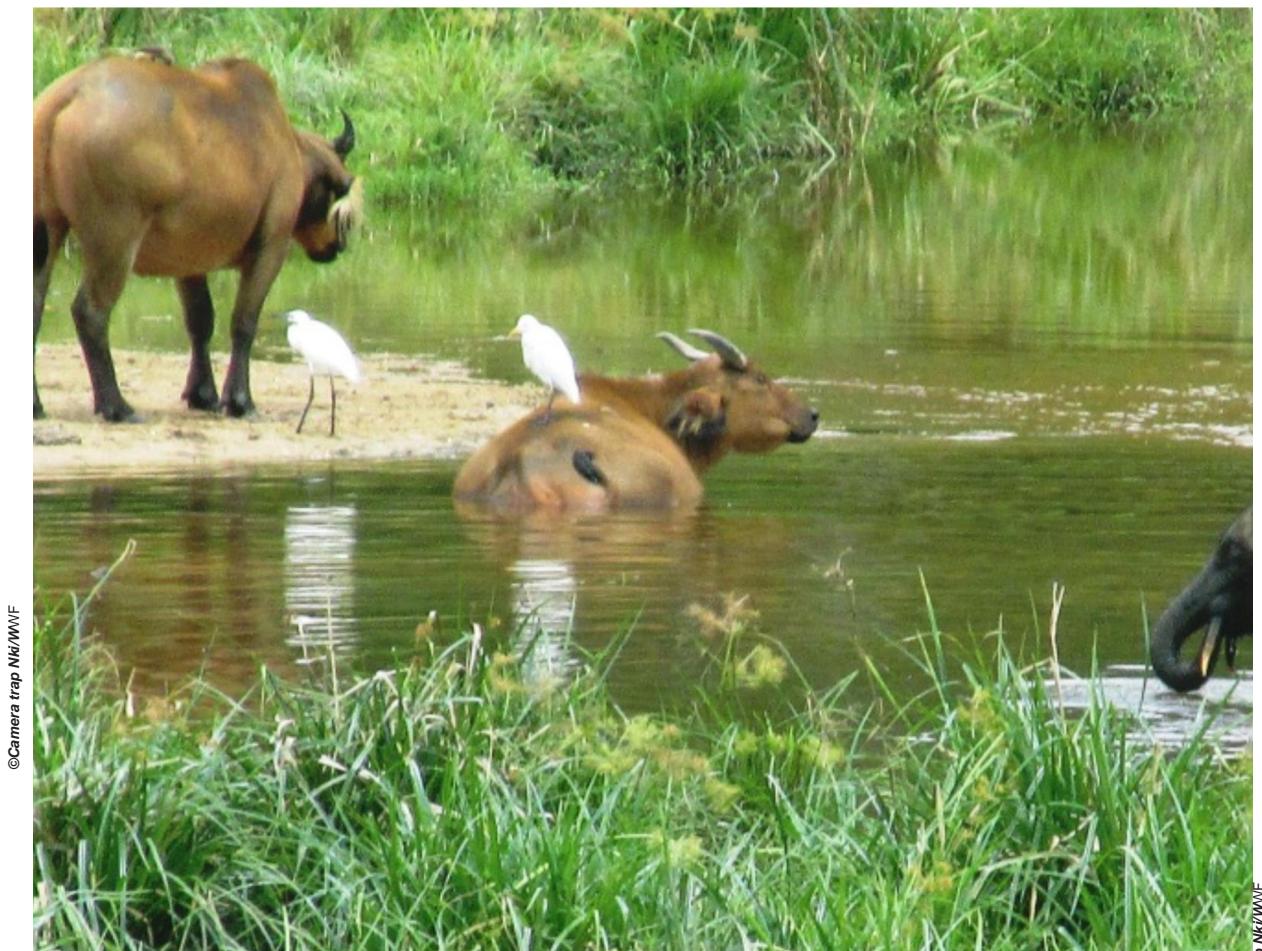
A travers la cartographie des pistes mise en place autour de la clairière, les images capturées par les cameras-traps montrent une forte activité des grands et moyens mammifères sur les pourtours de la clairière Ikwa. De février à novembre 2017, 625 espèces ont été filmées. Ces images illustrent une forte activité diurne et nocturne des éléphants, on note une présence permanente des primates dans la zone, plusieurs carnivores ont été filmés de jour comme de nuit en l'occurrence des panthères, une hyène à cou tachetée a été filmée en février 2017.

Les aménagements entrepris à Ikwa en début janvier 2017, à savoir la construction d'un nouveau mirador, la présence d'un kit solaire et accessoires, les matériels de terrain (camera-piège, tentes...), la rénovation de la base vie permettent aux équipes de suivi écologique et de lutte anti-braconnage de se mobiliser fortement dans la zone grâce aux financements de WWF Pays Bas et WWF Suède.

La permanence à Ikwa est arrivée à point nommé, pour le déploiement efficace des équipes de suivi. Non seulement elle crée la dissuasion, mais aussi elle est susceptible de garantir la fréquentation du site par la faune sauvage. Cependant, elle doit être maintenue à long terme pour contre-carrer toute anthropisation du site et ceci ne sera faisable que si les efforts sont conjugués au quotidien des deux côtés du WWF et du Service de la Conservation du parc pour la promotion de l'écotourisme dans ce

**Par BELINGA Jean Paul**

*Junior Wildlife Biologist  
WWF Jengi TRIDOM*



©Camera trap Nki/WWF

©Camera trap Nki/WWF



# PARC NATIONAL DE BOUMBA-BEK LES MERVEILLES DE PONDO

Dix-sept espèces fauniques ont été observées entre janvier et décembre 2017 dans la Clairière dénommée Pondo dans le Parc National de Boumba-Bek situé au Sud-Est Cameroun. Cela était possible grâce une stratégie particulière mise en place par le Fond Mondial pour la Nature (WWF) en collaboration avec le service de la conservation. Cette nouvelle stratégie est basée sur la surveillance du milieu et la collecte des informations dans le temps sur la faune et des activités anthropiques afin de mesurer la dynamique de la faune dans ces milieux.

Le WWF et le Service de la Conservation du Parc National de Boumba-Bek ont ciblé Pondo, site composé de plusieurs poches de clairières, constituant ainsi un complexe pour expérimenter cette gestion adaptive. Quatre clairières retenues ont fait l'objet de ce suivi mensuellement. En 2017, la tendance des résultats du suivi écologique révèle une forte fréquentation des espèces dans les différentes clairières. « Essentiellement 6 espèces de primates, 5 espèces d'ongulés, 1 espèce de reptile et 5 espèces aviaires, ont été observées », explique Gilles Etoga, chef du programme WWF Jengi TRIDOM. « La forte fréquentation des colobes guéréza communément appelés magistrat est un indicateur très important qui exprime un environnement paisible et serein pour les animaux », a-t-il ajouté. Les gorilles ont marqué leur présence même si cela était rare. Les ongulés tels que les buffles, les potamochères, les hylochères et les chevrotains aquatiques ont fortement fréquentés les clairières surtout pour s'alimenter, s'abreuver ou se reposer.

Au-delà des observations directes, plusieurs espèces et particulièrement les primates ont été régulièrement entendus. Il s'agissait fréquemment des hocheurs, des chimpanzés et des

cercocèbes à joues grises.

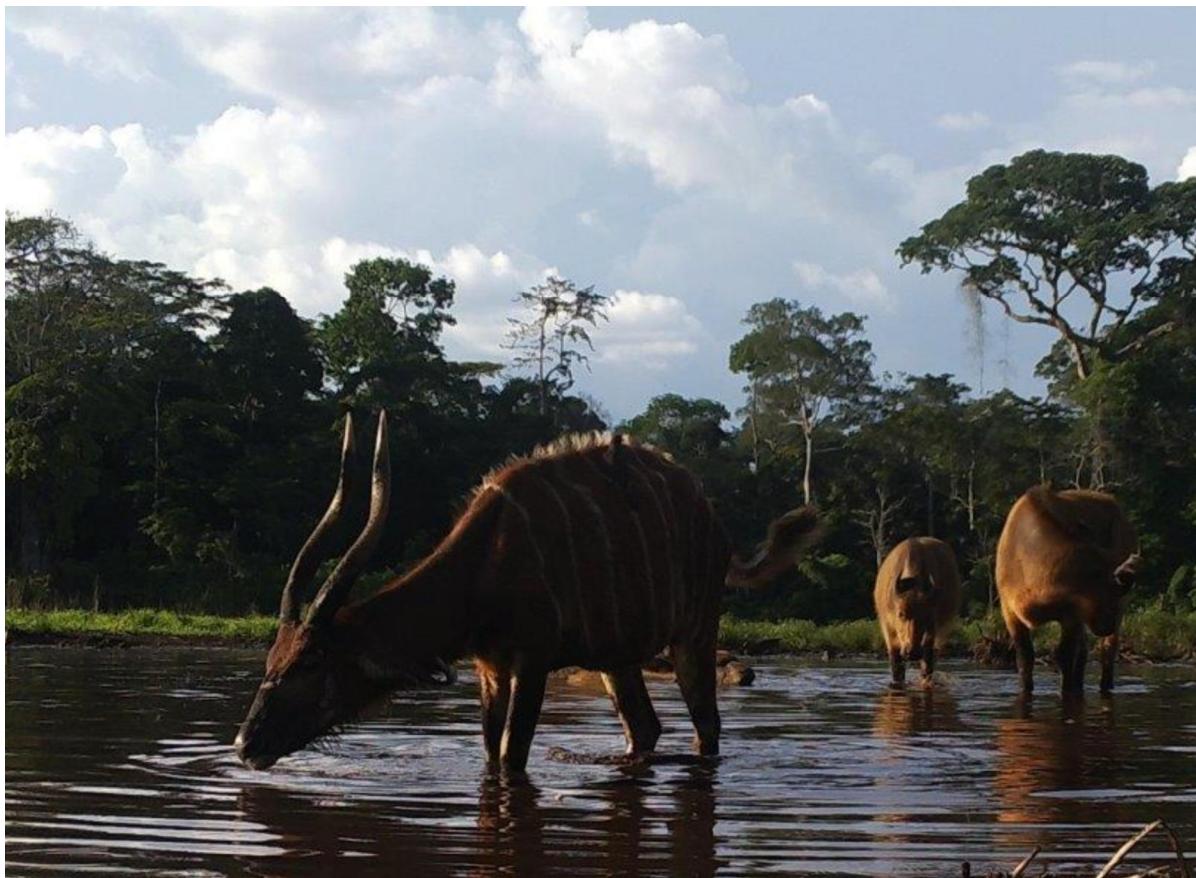
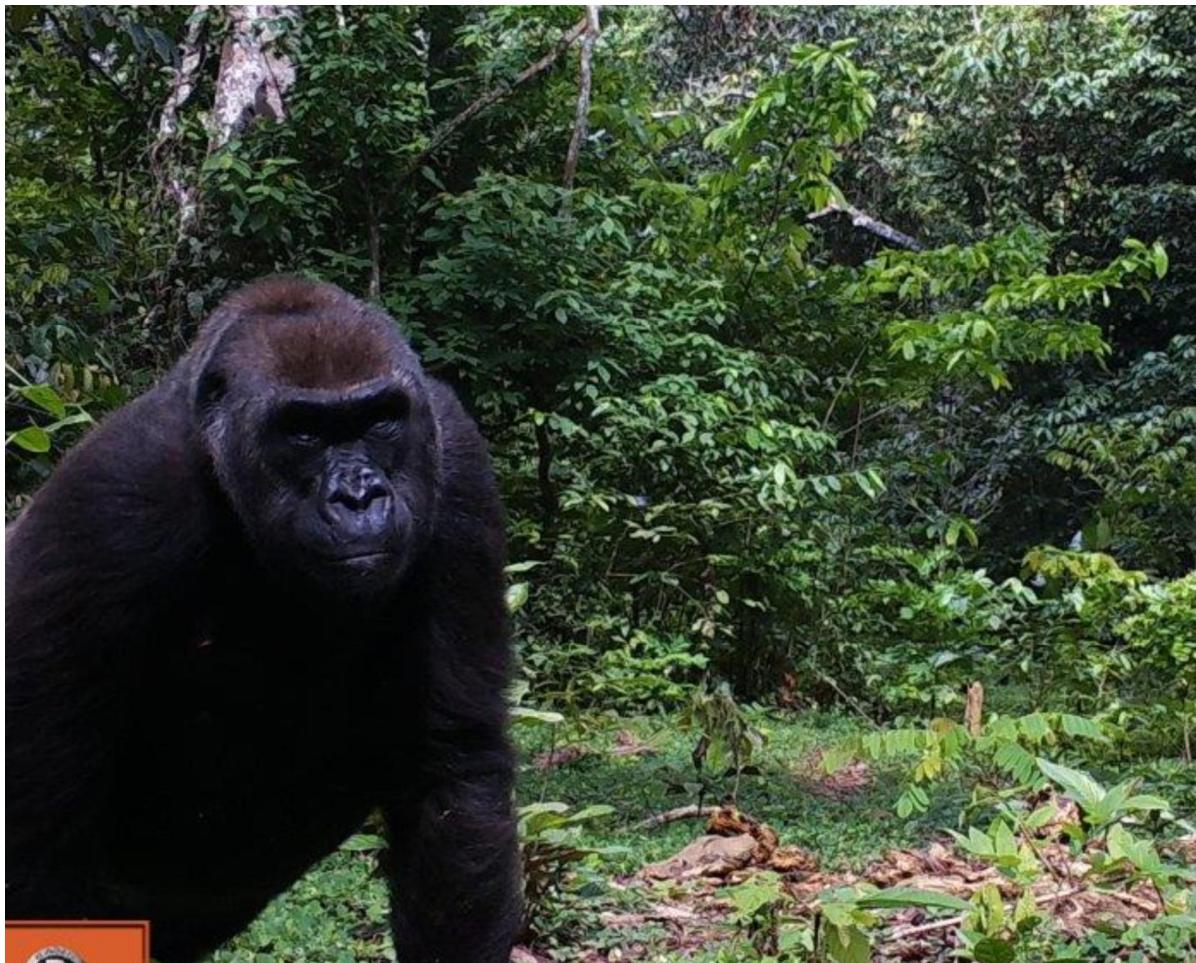
« Ce résultat découle des efforts et sacrifices consentis par l'ensemble de l'équipe du suivi écologique et de surveillance, bravant le cours d'eau Bek, combattant les moucherons, les aléas climatiques (pluies, vents) », explique René Meigari, assistant technique du Parc National de Boumba-Bek. Au début les équipes dormaient sous les tentes et se sont fait fabriquer des perchoirs dans les cimes des arbres aux abords de chaque clairière pour faire les observations avant de se faire confectionner un mirador rustique en matériaux végétaux. Depuis septembre 2017, il leur a été doté un mirador construit à la saline et un camp au bord de la Bek tous construit en planches et tôlés.

Boumba-Bek et sa zone périphérique renferment des zones à hautes valeurs de conservation favorables au développement et à l'éclosion de l'écotourisme. Les potentialités fauniques sont toutes aussi variées avec la présence de 34 espèces de grands mammifères donc, 11 espèces de primates, 12 espèces d'ongulés, 4 espèces de carnivores. Le milieu regorge de multiples espèces d'oiseaux et de poissons.

Malheureusement, l'exploitation illégale des ressources forestières et fauniques constitue la menace qui pèse le plus sur la biodiversité dans et autour du parc. Plusieurs espèces fauniques à l'instar des éléphants et des grands singes et essences forestières sont menacées de disparition dans un avenir proche. Au cours de ces dernières années, ce site a connu une pression de braconnage, dont la principale cible reste à ce jour, l'éléphant de forêt pour le trafic de ses défenses.

**Par René Meigari**

*Assistant Technique  
WWF Jengi TRIDOM*



# MANUEL DES DROITS DE L'HOMME, LES DROITS DES PEUPLES AUTOCHTONES

Un manuel sur les droits de l'homme, les droits des populations autochtones et des bonnes pratiques applicables dans les activités de lutte anti-bracconage a été conçu et officiellement lancé le 31 juillet 2017. L'initiative fait suite à des efforts conjoints entre le WWF, le Ministère des Forêts et de la Faune (MINFOF), la Commission Nationale des Droits de l'homme et des Libertés (CNDHL) et l'ordre des Avocats du Barreau du Cameroun.

Ce manuel a été lancé dans le cadre de l'appui à la mise en œuvre de la politique du gouvernement à travers la prise en compte des intérêts des communautés locales et autochtones.

L'idée de ce manuel remonte en 2016 où une recommandation avait été formulée à cet effet lors d'un atelier de renforcement des capacités des éco-gardes organisé par le WWF en collaboration avec le MINFOF, la CNDHL et la Commission des droits de l'homme du Barreau. L'ouvrage vise à répondre à l'un des plus grands défis de la lutte contre le braconnage, qui est celui de l'équilibre entre la protection de la faune et le respect des droits de l'homme et particulièrement ceux des communautés locales et des populations autochtones. Les éco-gardes ont d'une part, la responsabilité de protéger les ressources fauniques, et d'autre part, celle de respecter les droits fondamentaux des êtres humains et donc d'éviter les abus et les violations de toutes sortes qui peuvent se produire.

Selon Maître Simon Pierre Eteme Eteme, Président de la Commission de droits de l'homme de l'Ordre des Avocats du Cameroun, « L'être humain doit toujours être considéré à l'avant-garde dans la lutte contre la criminalité faunique. L'homme dans son être, qu'il s'agisse d'un trafiquant ou non, possède des droits inhérents auxquels les circonstances sont inviolables. Le lien de

discorde n'est pas de protéger le trafiguant, mais l'homme derrière le trafiguant », déclare-t-il.

Ce manuel est un outil pour garantir le respect des droits de l'homme de la personne poursuivie dans la lutte contre le braconnage. Les éco-gardes sont la principale cible pour l'utilisation de ce manuel étant donné l'exercice de leurs fonctions où ces droits sont plus susceptibles d'être violés. Il s'agit notamment de voir la rédaction d'un procès-verbal de constatation d'infraction et les mesures de garde à vue au cours desquelles le non-respect de la loi pourrait ruiner les efforts de répression. La protection de la faune passe donc par le respect de la procédure sans laquelle de nombreux cas de nullité pourront entacher le processus d'application de la loi.

Le manuel met également l'accent sur les droits d'usage des populations autochtones vivant autour des aires protégées, ainsi que leurs droits prévus à tous les niveaux de la procédure judiciaire. M. Victor Sinsai de la Commission Nationale des Droits de l'homme et des Libertés (CNDHL) fait remarquer que « le manuel contribue énormément pour sensibiliser les éco-gardes sur les droits des peuples autochtones souvent violés pendant l'exercice de leurs fonctions ».

Le Directeur de la Faune et des Aires Protégées au MINFOF, M. Joseph Lekealem a toutefois réitéré que, « Nous nous efforcerons de réviser les éditions suivantes pour insérer d'autres idées novatrices si le besoin se fait sentir. » Disponible en français et en anglais, le Manuel a été mis à la disposition des éco-gardes le 31 juillet 2017 lors de la célébration de la journée mondiale des éco-gardes.

**Par Nancy Amabo**

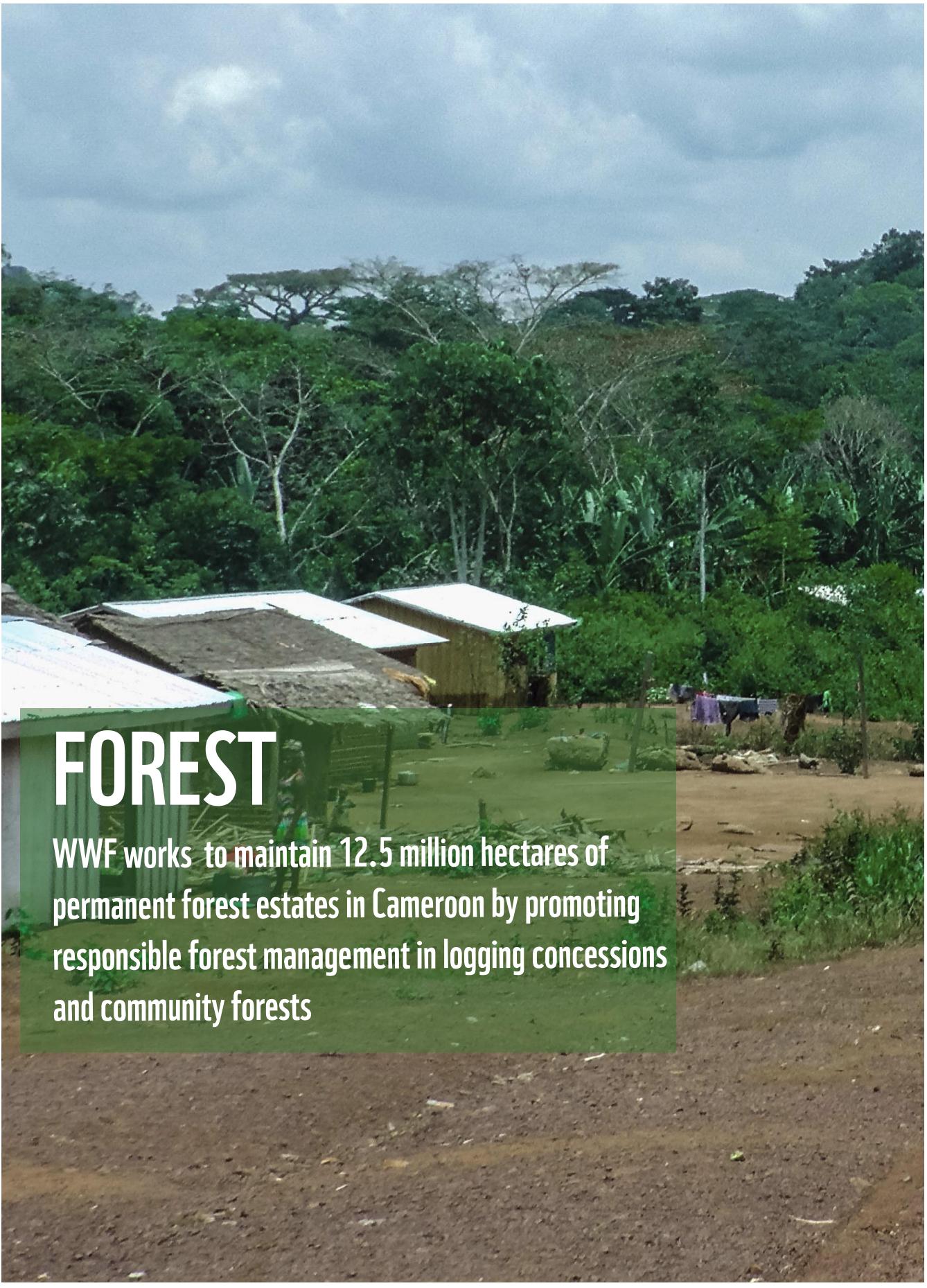
*Law Enforcement Consultant*



# MANUEL SUR LES DROITS DE L'HOMME, LES DROITS DES PEUPLES AUTOCHTONES ET LES BONNES PRATIQUES APPLICABLES DANS LES ACTIVITÉS DE LUTTE ANTI-BRACONNAGE



gíz



# FOREST

WWF works to maintain 12.5 million hectares of permanent forest estates in Cameroon by promoting responsible forest management in logging concessions and community forests



©JEsther Grace Ngo Kanga/WWF

# LUEURS D'ESPOIR POUR LES COMMUNAUTÉS ET LES FORÊTS

A quelques kilomètres d'altitude, j'ai aperçu pour la première fois le Parc National de Lobéké au Sud-Est Cameroun. De l'avion, tout ce que je voyais était un vaste paysage s'étendant au loin, couvert d'arbres verdoyants à travers lesquels serpentent de rivières argentées. Cela a immédiatement évoqué dans mon esprit des images de forêts profondes remplies de vie - des éléphants majestueux, des singes qui sautent des branches en branches et des oiseaux qui gazouillent.

Au sol, la terre semblait tout aussi belle mais étrangement silencieuse. La faune que j'espérais voir était là, m'a-t-on dit, mais en nombre très réduit, car les magnifiques espèces de la forêt étaient la proie de groupes criminels de plus en plus organisés et militarisés. Selon un recensement du WWF, 1 400 éléphants auraient été tués par des braconniers entre 2006 et 2015 à Lobéké.

La révélation était un sombre rappel des défis auxquels les communautés locales et les organisations de la conservation sont confrontées dans la protection et la préservation des ressources naturelles inestimables du Cameroun pour les générations futures.

Dans un pays doté de mers, de montagnes et de forêts tropicales humides, mais aux prises avec des défis socio-économiques profondément enracinés, les pressions de la croissance durable et de la construction d'un avenir où les gens et la nature s'épanouissent ensemble sont nombreuses. C'est quelque chose que les populations autochtones du Cameroun comme les Baka, Bagyéli, Bakola et Bedzang connaissent très bien.

Vivant dans et autour des forêts depuis des siècles, ces communautés ont

conservé leur mode de vie traditionnel, leurs coutumes et leur culture pendant des générations. Cependant, à mesure que le pays et le paysage autour d'eux changent de manière irrévocable, leurs efforts pour préserver leur identité et leur savoir intergénérationnel ont besoin d'un plus grand soutien.

Je crois fermement en notre travail pour la conservation de la nature car, au WWF cette responsabilité va de pair avec notre investissement pour le bien-être de l'homme. L'homme et la nature sont intrinsèquement liés - nous dépendons de la biodiversité pour la nourriture que nous mangeons, l'eau que nous buvons et l'air que nous respirons - d'ailleurs, ce lien entre la santé et un environnement sain est connu des communautés autochtones depuis des siècles.

C'est pourquoi nous travaillons avec les communautés locales, dans le paysage du programme Jengi au Cameroun et ailleurs, pour protéger l'environnement naturel et les ressources dont ils dépendent pour leur vie et leurs moyens de subsistance. Comme l'exploitation illégale et le braconnage menacent de vider les forêts qu'ils vénèrent, nous faisons de notre mieux pour aider, à préserver ces écosystèmes vitaux pour les personnes et la faune. Nous aidons les communautés à acquérir et à gérer durablement les forêts communautaires et à développer des initiatives de paiement pour les services environnementaux (PSE). Nous incitons également les sociétés forestières de plus en plus présentes dans la zone, à respecter les meilleures pratiques environnementales et socio-économiques ainsi que les normes de certification crédibles.



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Fred Kumah, Directeur du WWF Afrique, accueilli par une mascotte de la communauté locale du village Mambele

En outre, nous sommes déterminés à faire de notre mieux pour promouvoir les droits des communautés autochtones grâce à la conservation. Nous le faisons à travers le renforcement des capacités et le soutien à la gestion communautaire des ressources naturelles et aux activités génératrices de revenus - c'est le développement durable comme nous le voyons.

Oui, les défis persistent et le changement ne peut avoir lieu du jour au lendemain, mais aux yeux des gens que j'ai rencontrés - des dirigeants locaux Baka aux élèves Baka qui fréquentent

l'école avec le soutien du WWF – personnellement, j'ai vu la seule chose qui nous fait avancer, l'espérance. Un proverbe libérien dit: « une petite pluie chaque jour remplira les rivières jusqu'au débordement », et j'espère que nos actions et nos efforts collectifs permettront de voir les forêts et les communautés du Cameroun prospérer dans les années à venir.

Par Fred Kumah  
Directeur du WWF Afrique

# LES FORÊTS COMMUNAUTAIRES GÉNÈRENT DES 'FRUITS'



Ernest Sumeleng/WWF

*"Dans les 17 FC,  
les travaux  
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généré 289 271  
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quant à lui a  
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000 FCFA aux  
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impliquées"*

La Loi forestière camerounaise de 1994 offre aux communautés rurales l'opportunité d'acquérir un maximum de 5000 ha d'espace dans le domaine forestier non permanent, pour une exploitation durable du bois et des produits forestiers non ligneux. Depuis 1997, année d'attribution de la première forêt communautaire (FC), on compte plus de 500 initiatives de FC, représentant environ 1,8 million d'hectares. Pour le WWF, la foresterie communautaire pourrait constituer un important levier pour le développement local et pour la conservation de la biodiversité si les ressources et les efforts nécessaires sont réunis pour valoriser les ressources forestières et assurer leur exploitation de manière durable. C'est fort de ceci que le WWF s'est engagé depuis 2003 auprès des communautés locales, les accompagnant dans toutes les étapes du processus d'acquisition et de gestion des FC.

WWF a soutenu la création de près d'une centaine de FC avec une bonne partie concentrée dans la Région de l'Est Cameroun en général et dans le département de la Boumba et Ngoko. Depuis 2015, un protocole est mis en place, conjointement par les services locaux du Ministère des Forêts et de la Faune (MINFOF) et le WWF, pour suivre les revenus générés par les FC ainsi que l'utilisation de ces revenus par les communautés. L'année 2015 ayant été l'année test, le protocole n'a été effectivement utilisé qu'en 2016.

Le revenu issu de la vente du bois constitue un revenu communautaire et utilisé par les communautés dans la réalisation des investissements communautaires. Les 17 FC ont généré 86 310 325 FCFA de revenu communautaire, soit en moyenne 5 077 000 FCFA par FC.

Ce revenu est investi dans la construction des salles de classes, la fabrication des tables bancs, la prise en charge de certains enseignants (primaire et secondaire), l'achat du matériel didactique, l'assistance financières aux étudiants et élèves, l'appui au fonctionnement des centres de santé, la construction des infrastructures communautaires (puits d'eau, hangars), achat du matériel agricole (machettes et limes), soutien financier aux personnes âgées et personnes victimes de maladies graves et accidents.

Il est à noter qu'en plus du revenu direct issu de la vente du bois, les FC génèrent une masse financière importante pour des personnes impliquées dans les activités salariales et le petit commerce qui se développe dans les chantiers d'exploitation. Dans les 17 FC, les travaux rémunérés ont généré 289 271 500 FCFA et le petit commerce quant à lui a procuré 58 585 000 FCFA aux per-

sonnes y impliquées.

La foresterie communautaire présente un grand potentiel pour la contribution à l'économie et au développement locaux. Toutefois, le grand défi subsiste au niveau de l'utilisation des revenus issus de la vente de bois. Ce défi est d'autant considérable que les imbrications sociales au sein des communautés ne favorisent la sanction des pratiques de mauvaise gouvernance qu'on rencontre dans les forêts communautaires.

**Norbert Sonne**

*Coordonnateur du Programme Forêt  
et*

**Alphonse Ngniado**

*Senior Forest Officer WWF Cameroon*

# UN OUTIL POUR MESURER LA QUALITÉ DE LA GOUVERNANCE FORESTIÈRE

Le WWF a développé un outil d'évaluation rapide pour mesurer la qualité de la gouvernance qui affecte la performance du secteur forestier dans un contexte donné (par exemple un pays, une région, voire un village).

L'outil est destiné à évaluer systématiquement le niveau de «favorabilité» de l'environnement pour la gestion des forêts et le commerce responsable. En outre, cet outil va aider à identifier les opportunités de plaidoyer et de développer des stratégies globales autour des domaines clés. L'outil pourrait être aussi utilisé pour le suivi dans le temps l'évolution de l'état de la gouvernance dans le secteur forestier.

Selon Norbert Sonne, Coordonnateur du programme Forêt au WWF Cameroun, son organisation a reconnu l'importance de lutter contre l'exploitation forestière illégale qui va à l'encontre de la gestion durable des forêts. « Le WWF soutient la gouvernance forestière basée sur les principes fondamentaux de la transparence, l'équité, la participation, la responsabilité, la coordination et le renforcement des capacités des parties prenantes », explique Norbert.

Pour se rassurer de l'applicabilité de cet outil

au niveau du Cameroun, il a été testé par un groupe d'experts lors d'un atelier de réflexion organisé par le WWF en Septembre 2017. Les experts, qui venaient de la société civile, du secteur public, du secteur privé des organisations sous-régionales telle que la COMIFAC ont conclu que l'outil s'applique bien dans le contexte Camerounais. Les experts ont été impressionnés du fait que le résultat global obtenu après renseignement du formulaire ait reflété la réalité quotidienne. « En remplissant l'outil, on se rend compte qu'on a souvent fait des plaidoyers non appropriés. Maintenant avec cet outil on peut définir les propositions à faire à l'Etat en réaliste », déclare Victorien MBA, Directeur de l'ONG APED.

Selon Leste NYENGAH du Centre pour l'Environnement et le Développement (CED), « l'outil pousse à la réflexion et d'avoir les détails permettant de bien comprendre l'environnement de la gouvernance forestière ».

**Par Fidelis Pegue Manga**

*Communications Coordinator  
WWF Cameroon*

# WWF ASSESSES CHANGES IN MANGROVES FORESTS

WWF is conducting a study to assess changes in the Ndongere Mangroves Forests in the South West Region of Cameroon for the past three decades in a bid to contribute to climate change mitigation. The study is carried out within the framework of the Observation Spatiale des Forêts d'Afrique Centrale et de l'Ouest (OSFACO) project funded by the French Development Agency through the Institut de recherche pour le développement (IRD). Stakeholders hope the results of the study will improve knowledge on past and current dynamics of mangroves forest cover in Cameroon.

Researchers are collecting biophysical data using space-based technology (remote sensing techniques) coupled with ground trothing. They will analyze carbon stock and drivers of degradation and deforestation of Ndongere mangroves forest in Cameroon.

According to Gaston Buh, GIS Coordinator for WWF Cameroon, the project's results will contribute to advocacy for the integration of mangroves forest segment into Cameroon's national REDD+ strategy and ensure avoidance of potential leakage that may occur in the mangroves zones of the country."

The first period of this action-research work has been characterised by acquisition of biophysical and socio-economic datasets in the mangroves zone. WWF also shared information with stakeholders on the project through workshops, including exchange of information with the other organisation undertaking

mangroves work under the OSFACO project in the mangroves segment of Douala-Edea.

SPOT satellite images of 1990, 2000, 2010, and 2016 are been used in viewing the project area and undertaking change detection analysis. These images were obtained from the Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development (MINEPDED), donated by the French Development Agency-AFD through a collaborative agreement with the government of Cameroon. Biomass inventory on the above ground, below ground and soil carbon are also sampled. Sensitization of local population around the mangroves and an understanding of the drivers, pressure, impact and current response approach through administration of questionnaire is also ongoing.

Cameroon is one of the few countries in the world harboring the tropical and sub-tropical restricted salt water-mangroves forest. Studies show mangroves have both biological and socio-economic potentials. They contribute to coastal production of resources and significantly to climate change mitigations. The Ndongere mangroves forest segment faces threats including population growth, rural/urban development, pressure from extractive industries and local demands for natural resources. Infrastructure and agricultural development have resulted in the loss of mangroves through clearing.

**By Buh Gaston**  
*GIS Coordinator*  
*WWF Cameroon*



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# FOOD

WWF promotes sustainable agriculture and production systems to ensure biodiversity conservation, resilience to climate change and benefits to vulnerable rural communities

# HOPE FOR SUSTAINABLE PALM OIL DEVELOPMENT IN CENTRAL AFRICA

*ECCAS has validated a Regional Strategy for Sustainable Development of palm oil Sector in Central Africa*

The eleven countries of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) recently validated a regional strategy document for sustainable development of palm oil sector in Central Africa region during a ministerial conference held in July 2017 in N'Djamena, Chad. The strategy was developed as part of the implementation of a convention signed between WWF and ECCAS in 2016. The convention aimed at guiding member states in decision making towards responsible and sustainable development of the palm oil sector in the sub-region.

The strategy falls within the framework of ECCAS's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), which seeks to build regional consensus for the modernization and transformation of agriculture in Central Africa. It incorporates the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm (RSPO) standards with the aim of reducing the impact of oil palm development on the environment and improving welfare of rural populations. According to ECCAS, this strategy shall not only contribute to make the region a sustainable palm oil producing basin but also to the socio-economic development and prosperity especially of the rural population of member states.

According to Honore Tabuna, Biodiversity and Green Economy Experts at ECCAS, Central African countries need palm oil for food security, economic development, job creation and the improvement of living standards. However, "this must be done in line with protection of the forest and fight against climate change," he says.

In anticipation of the elaboration of the strategy, WWF had earlier conducted a study in five Central African countries to identify suitable areas for palm oil development based on sustainability principles (RSPO). "The countries included Cameroon, Gabon, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo and the Republic of Congo," says Ludovic Miaro, Regional Palm Oil Program Coordinator, WWF Regional Office for Africa, Yaoundé Hub. "The

study also produced a map that will guide decision makers to better plan future oil palm development in the five countries," he adds. This "No and No-go" study was one of the several studies sponsored by WWF to inform the Regional Strategy.

The agricultural sector constitutes an important source of wealth for people in the region that the Congo basin intact tropical forest, which constitutes about 20% of the world tropical forest. The region has about 261 million arable land; 135.5 million pasture, still largely under exploited. There is also a variety of agro-ecological zones favourable to a wide range of agricultural products such as the production of palm oil.

Palm oil development has huge potentials to contribute to the rural development of the sub region. However, Central Africa suffers about 50% deficit in palm oil production. ECCAS members have resorted to importing palm oil from South Asia to satisfy national demand. To reverse this trend, the strategy shall help produce an estimated six million tons of crude palm oil to meet the regional demand by 2035 and the implementation cost for the next 20 years is estimated is estimated at FCFA 34,215 billion.

Some of the key strategic axes aim at reinforcing the capacities of agro-industries by putting in place a mechanism that will ensure a rational access to land outside primary and high conservation value forest areas, seek ways to encourage and attract foreign investments, build relations and support palm oil smallholders for better productivity through replanting of aged plantations and improving research for improved seedlings that will boost production. They also seek to restore old and abandoned plantation following the RSPO standards and the creation of a second-generation smallholders plantations.

By Fideline Mboringong  
*Business & Industries Assistant*  
*WWF Cameroon*

# COOPERATIVES AS SUSTAINABLE OPTION TO REDUCE PALM OIL PRODUCTION COSTS



Major stakeholders in the palm oil sector in Cameroon unanimously agree that a better organization of palm oil smallholders into farmers' groups like cooperatives is a good option to reduce production costs and obtain better prices based on collective bargaining and negotiations. A modelling game facilitated in Cameroon by WWF has confirmed this assertion. The game draws from the setting of the palm oil value chain in Cameroon showing the interactions, dynamics and trade-offs by stakeholders from decision makers, corporate actors, smallholders and communities that characterize the sector.

"We studied the impact of the game on participants four months after and results show 29% of the stakeholders' attitudes and opinions toward the oil palm supply chain changed," says Durrel Halleson, WWF Cameroon Policy Coordinator for Business and Industries. "They now believe that smallholder cooperative is the best approach in the palm oil production process which will help them optimize the benefits from production," he adds.

Thanks to the game, smallholders in

some production localities like Dibombari in the Littoral Region of Cameroon have initiated discussions to put in place a cooperative that will help them effectively engage with SOCAPALM, a palm oil producing company. For other smallholders, according to feedback, the game gave them an opportunity to acquire knowledge or inspire new management techniques. "Through this game, we have learnt how to reduce production costs while making profits," says John Tsewele of MITFUND, a smallholders microfinance institution and palm oil producer.

According to Godswill Ntsefong, a researcher, "The game was very pragmatic. We usually participate in seminars that are largely focused on theories but the game helped us see the direct link with the field realities."

Despite these positive outcomes, some stakeholders are still to see how the outcomes are translated into concrete actions. "For the past two years, the game has been tested five times in three palm oil producing regions in the country (Southwest, Centre, and the Littoral)," says Durrel.

This game is used as participatory modelling approach within the context of the implementation of the Oil Palm Adaptive Landscape (OPAL) project. It helps local stakeholders navigate and explore possible alternatives and make decisions that are more informed. In this case, WWF is using the game outcomes to inform its interventions in the development of Cameroon's national sustainable palm oil strategy as well as its engagement with palm oil agro-industries and other stakeholders. It is contributing to creating a greater synergy amongst the stakeholders, breaking age-old barriers especially between the smallholders and the agro-industries.

**Micresse Gaingne Kamto**

WWF Cameroon

# WWF ENGAGES CHINESE COMPANIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

WWF Cameroon and WWF China have engaged Chinese companies executing huge infrastructure projects in Cameroon to respect environmental and social best practices.

Chinese companies undertake over 50% of infrastructural projects in Cameroon, with many around protected areas posing threats to biodiversity and affecting lives of local communities.

In 2014, WWF Cameroon commissioned a study to examine the social and environmental trends, challenges and perspectives of Chinese investments in Cameroon. While most projects complied with the legislations, the report highlighted the need for concerted effort for an effective consideration of both environmental and social concerns in the implementation of projects.

To guide the work of Chinese companies worldwide, China International Contractors Association (CHINCA) developed a Guideline of Sustainable Infrastructure for Chinese International Contractors that integrates respect for social and environmental norms where they operate.

It is in this vein that WWF China and

WWF Cameroon collaborated with CHINCA to organize a national awareness-raising workshop in Cameroon in December 2017 for Chinese infrastructure and investment companies operating in Cameroon.

"As a Conservation organization, WWF is concerned about the impact of infrastructural development on the natural environment that provides us water, food and oxygen," says Laurent Some, WWF Policy and Partnership Director for Africa. "Our main concern is that infrastructural development should be sustainable. This does not apply only to Chinese companies but to all other companies carrying out infrastructural development in Cameroon," he adds.

On the field, local people complained their rights are not respected and that they are sidelined in important decision-making leading to avoidable conflicts.

While presenting the Guidelines of Sustainable Development for Chinese International Contractors, Shang Shangpin, Deputy Director of CHINCA, underscored the commitment of the Association and Chinese companies to respect environmental and social regulations where they operate.

WWF is collaborating with the government of Cameroon to ensure respect for environmental norms in execution of giant projects with potential threats to the environment. In August 2017, WWF signed a partnership accord with Cameroon's ministry of Planning and Regional Development (MINEPAT) to monitor the execution of huge projects.

**By Ernest Sumelong**

*Communications Officer  
WWF Jengi Program*



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CHINCA members, partners and WWF staff after concertation

# THE SCRAMBLE FOR DROPS OF WATER



©Janet Mukoko/WWF

As she tussles to fetch water from a public stand tap, Dorothy Ebangha, 30, who resides in the city of Buea, South West Region of Cameroon is full of regrets and disbelief. "I come to this tap 3 to 4 times a day just to check if by some luck water is flowing. Often I go back with no water and this is new because it wasn't the case a few years back," says Dorothy.

In the days of yore, the cold, foggy, forested city was characterised by fast flowing streams that took their rise from the active volcanic mountain. Today the story is different. Many of the streams have gone dry. It has become rare to see water flowing down the slopes of the mountain washing sown debris from volcanic rocks.

Buea residents now go for miles in search of water. "It is worrisome that Buea should be cited amongst the places that suffer from water scarcity," says Reverend Pastor Mary Nduma Wose a clergy. "In the past fast flowing streams were abundant and made life easier for women and children who had the duty of fetching water for household needs," she adds.

## Blaming climate change

A local traditional ruler, whose village used to have abundant water sources

decades ago, says deforestation and climate change are to blame for the water shortage. "Climate change and its effects should not only be a thing for the media and big conferences. It is right here at our doorsteps. Our water resources are drying up. We caused it and it is not late to fix it," declares HRH Chief Kaka Daniel Esowe, Chief of Bokwai Village in Buea.

Water scarcity is not the only manifestation of climate change in the Buea municipality. It was common to have continual rainfall for over 21 days in August, keeping everyone masked in warm clothing, trapped indoors and drinking hot tea. Today the story is different. "We now experience very long dry seasons," says Chief Kaka.

Volcanic eruptions, deforestation and other human activities may explain the prevailing effects but climate change has contributed enormously too. The Bokwai community perceptions of climate change impacts are consistent with predictions of the 4th Assessment Report of the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change that changes in precipitation could affect the discharges of rivers feeding the coastal lagoons.

On the ground, WWF is testing its approach to build resilience, including awareness raising, notably through the Earth Hour campaign. WWF is building the capacity of natural resource managers to assess vulnerability and adapt management strategies to respond to the expected climate change impacts. Initial vulnerability assessments and adaptation planning point to the need for mangrove protection, reforestation with "climate-smart species," integrated land-use as well as activities to improve resource use technology.

"For us who grew up in the village every place was green and fresh. Very big trees, which served as caves were almost everywhere. My mother used to harvest very big cocoyams from the slopes of the mountain. It is indeed worrying that today all these seem to be tales to our own children," regrets Reverend Mary Nduma.

**By Janet Mukoko**  
Digital Communications Officer  
WWF Cameroon

# ESD MODEL LESSON NOTES MANUAL UNDER DEVELOPMENT

A Model Lesson Notes Manual for the teaching of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in schools is under development in Cameroon. ESD is an educational strategy whose focus is to build action competences in learners. Cameroon's Basic and Secondary Education Ministries adopted ESD in 2011. These two ministries are systematically re-orientating their curricula with the technical support of WWF Cameroon. They are conducting nation-wide training sessions on the Competence Based Approach (CBA), targeting from National Pedagogic Advisors to Class Teachers.

WWF, and its partner, Environmental Governance Institute (EGI) a civil society organisation, have been working with five ESD pilot schools in the Bakossi landscape that cuts across the South West and Littoral Regions of Cameroon, on the development of the manual. The schools include Ecole Publique Nsoung, Government Bilingual High School Melong, Government High School Nyasoso, Government Teacher Training College Bangem and Government Teacher Training College Nkongsamba. Divisional, Regional and National Education authorities were also involved in the process which involved technical orientation, school-by-school work assignment and backstopping by WWF Cameroon.

## Presentation of the manual

The 118-page manual focuses on five subjects namely, Mathematics, English,

French, Sciences (Environmental Education, Health Education or Biology). Topics are drawn from the Locally Relevant Themes (LORETs), local curriculums of the ESD pilot schools - linked to the national curriculums - that serve to address local development challenges albeit with a recommendation to also include Chemistry and Physics for Secondary Education to tackle issues related to waste and energy. The manual is structured into two parts. Part 1 contains ESD model lesson notes for Basic Education while Part 2 contains notes for Secondary Education.

This manual will help make the capacity building efforts in the CBA even more practical by providing critical examples on how lesson notes can be developed to ensure that teaching is conducted in a manner that builds relevant competences in learners. The effort is to ensure that teaching cultivates in learners competences that will help them grow into agents and instruments of nation building, conservation and sustainable development.

With each lesson note including activities that learners must carry out to impact the community, the manual clearly illustrates how the school can more meaningfully connect to the community and make education even more relevant. It also illustrates the evolution of teaching methods, from teacher-centred to learner centred.

## How the manual will be used

Once translated into French and published as a Bilingual manual, it will be distributed to the ESD pilot schools for effective teaching of their LORETs. Copies will also be donated to the Ministries of Basic and Secondary Education for distribution to all the Regions of Cameroon. Teachers will be encouraged to not only teach the lesson notes contained in the manual but also draw inspiration from these to develop and teach better lessons based on topics of various subjects in the national syllabuses.

**By Ekpe Inyang**

*ESD & Youth Capacity Building Advisor*



Manual will enhance teaching of ESD in schools

# ROGER MILLA JIGGLES TO PROTECT NATURE

Albert Roger Milla, Cameroon's Roving Ambassador, became famous in 1990, after scoring four vital goals for the Indomitable Lions, thereby enabling the country and Africa to get to the quarterfinals of the FIFA World Cup for the first time. His peculiar jigs in celebration of his goals reverberated across the world. Since then, the African Footballer of the century has been employing these jigs to rally the masses to protect the environment.

The Roving Ambassador has mobilised and sensitised some 60000 students in the Southwest, Littoral, Centre and East Regions of Cameroon. Milla and some former footballers of Cameroon indomitable lions have planted over 1000 trees in Yaounde and Douala in a symbolic action to save "Mother Earth".

Milla has found in the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) a chiming partner. Since 2016 WWF and Milla have been working together to raise awareness on climate change and environmental protection. Milla who heads a foundation called *Fondation Coeur d'Afrique de Roger Milla*, has taken active part in WWF-organized global grassroots campaign called Earth Hour which aims at raising awareness and calling for action against climate change and biodiversity loss.

During one of the campaigns with WWF Milla said, "For the past 50 years, scientists have been warning of a possible destruction of planet earth. We are watching helplessly as our environment is being negatively transformed. Through my voice, sports men and women have decided to mobilize and commit to fighting climate change," he declared.

According to Milla, "Every minute that passes by, a football field is destroyed." He is "strongly appealing to the national and international communities to find lasting solutions to problems besetting the planet."

An indefatigable campaigner, Milla in October 2016 launched another campaign known as Sports for Nature on the sideline of the female African Cup of Nations hosted by Cameroon. His recent project to transform plastic wastes to be used for the construction pavements in the city of Yaounde is a bolder effort to protect the environment.

Dr. Hanson Njiforti, WWF Cameroon Country Director says, "Icons like Milla represent the omniscient voice that can rally people across all boundaries and color lines to lend a hand to this troubled world. There is an urgent need for the peoples of the world to get together, speak with one voice and make the right decisions to save planet earth," Dr. Njiforti adds.

Ambassador Milla knows the challenges are numbering sand. However, as he puts it, "Our passivity and inaction will have disastrous consequences on current and future generations."

**By Fidelis Pegue Manga**  
*WWF Communications Coordinator*





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Roger Milla (fourth from left) cuts carpet with students and teachers during Earth Hour event in Douala



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For the past three years Earth Hour events in Cameroon have been marked partly by dancing



©Ernest Sumelong/WWF

# THE SELF-EFFACING LOUIS NGONO

After one of the trainings he organized with local communities in eastern Cameroon, Louis Ngono was stunned when an old man walked up and asked him: "My son where did you learn all these?"

The old man must have been awestruck by the passion and knowledge Ngono exuded. Ngono, 53, has been WWF Cameroon's collaborative management officer for 15 years now. Imbued with the spirit of self-sacrifice, Ngono has spent most of these years away from his wife and six children supporting communities living deep inside the forest wilderness of eastern Cameroon.

He has reached out to over 150 communities touching more than 100000 lives. Today Ngono looks back proudly at what he has achieved. Several water sources rehabilitated in communities, classrooms and houses for teachers constructed, school grants awarded to hundreds of pupils and students particularly Baka children, fishponds and community farms created with his support. "I get a sense of satisfaction when villagers are happy about the impact our activities have had in their communities," he says.

Ngono's concern for the health of the population, especially within communities around Lobeke National Park, saw thousands of people spared of HIV/AIDS thanks to awareness raising campaigns on correct use of condoms; reduction in diarrhea cases, and prevention of malaria through distribution of hundreds of treated mosquito nets.

A congenital lover of people and the environment, Ngono took a diploma course in Community Development from the Pan African Institute for

Development- Central Africa, besides his vocation as a natural sciences teacher.

Through his untiring work with the local committees for the management of wildlife revenues, known in French as COVAREF, revenues given to communities increased from FCFA 3 million (\$6000) in 2002 to 40 000 000 FCFA (\$80 000) in 2008, improving the living conditions of the beneficiary communities.

One of the major challenges he faced was ensuring effective representation of Baka and women within targeted communities. Through concerted efforts with local administration and concerned communities, Ngono got a 15 percent quota representation for each of the marginalized groups. Baka representation (for instance) moved from 14 to 43 within the COVAREFs.

## Difficult moments

One incident that still haunts Ngono dates back to 2011 when poachers assassinated an eco-guard during a patrol mission in the buffer zone of Lobeke National Park. "I cannot forget the day game rangers arrested a trafficker and seized 29 elephant tusks while I was acting interim Programme Manager for Jengi TNS.

Fifteen years on, Ngono keeps on with his work of organizing and empowering local communities. For him, his love of working with local communities keeps him going. He remains an unassuming "Community Man".

**By Ernest Sumelong**

*Communications Officer  
WWF Jengi Program*

# THE TESTAMENT OF CLAUDE MBENGONO, BEST WWF STAFF 2017

*In an outburst of emotion Mr Claude Mbengono, Logistics Officer at WWF Cameroon received the prestigious 2017 Best Staff Performance Award. A committee to assess staff performances selected him based on rigorous criteria. Claude has come a long way. For his 20 years in WWF he has exuded diligence, sangfroid tirelessness, values that have led to his success story. How does it feel to be the best among the over 80 staff in WWF Cameroon? Claude has the answer. Excerpts:*

Interviewer: You have been declared best staff in WWF Cameroon for 2017. What is your first impression?

Claude Mbengono: Honestly speaking, I lack words. I least expected it would be me. When the Human Resource Manager started talking about the award, I was not even paying much attention because I knew it was something for the very top-level staff. The pronunciation of my name swept me off my feet and it is only by some luck that I did not drop to the floor. I could not hold back my tears.

For how long have you been working for WWF Cameroon?

Since 1997. 2017 marks 21 years working tirelessly for this reputed organization

What have been your key responsibilities?

I was employed as a driver in 1997. I served as personal driver to three Regional Representatives: Steve GATLAND (of blessed memory) from 1997 to 2000, Laurent Magloire SOME from 2001 to 2008, and Natasha Quist from 2009 to 2010. In 2010, I cumulated the position of driver and assistant logistic officer. Between 2011 and 2014, management promoted me to full time assistant logistics officer. From 2014, I had another promotion as full time logistics officer. A position that I hold till date. My responsibilities include among others: purchasing of office equipment, managing office

insurance, inventories and a lot more.

What has been some of your high moments in your job?

The fact that I have a very dynamic and dedicated team makes me excited to get to the office each day. I acknowledge the total support of my direct line manager and top-level managers of WWF Cameroon. These people make work enjoyable and I am challenged by their support to achieve even greater results.

Have you experienced moments when you thought of quitting?

Life in itself has never been a bed of roses. One must experience low moments but it takes maturity and self-control to overcome obstacles at the workplace. Accepting my mistakes and striving to perform better without always being on the defensive is what keeps me going. I also have an open mind and listen to advice from staff at all levels.

What are some of the skills you have acquired throughout your work with WWF Cameroon?

WWF is a training ground. If you keep your mind open, you will acquire diverse knowledge and skills. About conservation, I am not blank, when it comes to human resources, finance, policy issues, communication, administration, etc. Our staff meetings give us the opportunity to know what staff are doing in their various departments.



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We have monthly and yearly publications that summarize key actions and achievements in the field, we have internet at our disposal where we can browse and receive timely information about ongoing conservation activities as well as other happenings around the world. When I was a driver, I had the opportunity to drive very top-level managers and could learn so much from their conversations. Above all, being respectful and focused is a treasure I have acquired working for WWF.

What does teamwork mean to you?

Exactly why I have this award. It is entirely due to teamwork. Teamwork to me does not mean you are "all knowing." Working as a team requires some level of respect, friendliness, ability to listen, show of sympathy, supporting weaker people, and cleaning up all mess that could jeopardize results. People who work as a team have

never experienced failure. Lead your teams without expecting to have all the credits to yourself. This is my appeal to all teams at various levels.

What is your advice to younger staff?

When I started in 1997, I was young. I will advise the younger staff to be committed and passionate in their jobs. They should always strive to grow in their profession. Some youths of today want fast promotion and quick huge salaries. I want to let them know that in as much as everyone seeks to be at the top, there are stages and only positive results will naturally move you from one stage to another until you get to the top. Youths should shun all mischiefs and focus on their job only and the results will be thrilling at the end.

**Interviewed by Janet Mukoko**  
*Digital Communications Officer  
WWF Cameroon*

# CAMEROONIAN WINS WWF AFRICA YOUTH AWARD



Monique Ntumngia (middle) brandishes award

A Cameroonian, Monique Ntumngia is winner of the WWF 2017 Africa Youth Award. Monique beat runners up John Magiro from Kenya in the coveted award that featured initially 80 contenders from the continent. Monique received the award during a colourful ceremony WWF organized in Arusha, Tanzania late last year.

WWF designed the Youth Award to recognize and celebrate young adults throughout Africa who have developed innovative projects, practices, activities and solutions to the sustainable development challenges facing the continent. The award aims at giving Africa's youth a platform to engage with thought leaders in conservation and building a movement of young people who are engaged in conservation.

While presenting the award to the winner, WWF Regional Director for Africa, Fred Kwame Kumah stated his commitment to work with the youth and promised to build a WWF Youth platform in Africa in the coming years.

Monique, 27, is founder of the Green

Girls organization that trains women and girls on how to generate biogas from waste and energy from the sun. The organisation has trained 672 girls from 23 communities in three regions of Cameroon. "Our organisation empowers these girls and women on how to promote sustainable development and become financially independent,"

Monique says. "I believe that renewable energy is the solution to the energy problem that Africa and the world is facing and also a solution to combatting climate change and promoting sustainable living," she adds. Monique wants to expand her project into other Central African countries in 2018.

Runners up John Magiro, 26, is the founder and director of Magiro Mini Hydro Power Project, a project to harness and sell hydro-electric power to the residents of his home village in Central Kenya.

Africa is the most youthful continent with about 65% of the total population below the age of 35 years. By 2020, it is projected that out of four people, three will be on average 20 years old. The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) seeks to empower youth all over Africa through the Pan-African youth transformational program. The future of conservation in Africa will be determined by the networks of informed youngsters rising and making a change in their lives and those around them towards creating a better Africa.

The African Youth award is open to young people aged between 18 and 35 and WWF offices in Africa nominates the candidates.

# SUMMARY OF WWF CAMEROON INCOME (2015 to 2017)

From 2015 to 2017, WWF received an estimated budget of XAF 12,006,401,353 (€ 18,303,640.87). These funds have been spent on the implementation of WWF CCPo conservation activities across six landscapes and 10 protected areas in the country. Our key activities include support to local communities on sustainable revenue management and livelihood activities, technical assistance to the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife for anti-poaching and surveillance activities, support to Cameroon's Ministry of Social Affairs and Environment on environmental policy and conservation-related programmes including human rights trainings etc. We thank our donors for the invaluable support they have given to our work.

## CCPO EXPENSES BY LANDSCAPE

YEARS	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	Total
<b>1 CORE</b>	- 45,551,627	198,796,925	49,233,286	202,478,584
<b>2 Tri-National de la Sangha</b>	245,769,759	139,325,334	190,511,288	1,671,618,860
<b>3 TRIDOM</b>	45,187,789	62,958,424	84,999,482	1,089,129,570
<b>4 Northern SAVANNAH</b>	45,243,903	123,296,786	114,757,637	683,298,326
<b>5 Coastal Forest Programme</b>	379,198,146	901,299,465	648,481,374	2,159,118,436
<b>6 Kudu-Zombo Programme</b>	136,705,033	37,673,175	113,094,596	687,472,804
<b>7 Yaoundé</b>	851,277,396	921,188,633	1,441,796,013	4,614,262,042
<b>8 Ngoyla Mintom</b>	252,046,064	120,404,115		552,450,179
<b>9 Others (Truly Global)</b>	207,436,657	139,135,895		346,572,552
<b>Total</b>	2,117,313,120	2,644,078,752	2,642,873,675	XAF 12,006,401,353 (€ 18,303,640.87)

## THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS



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# WWF Cameroon Strategic Pillars

## WILDLIFE

WWF will work to stabilise or increase populations of great apes and elephants in Cameroon

## FOREST

Contribute to protect 12.5 million ha of permanent forest estate and 1.8 million ha of community forests



## CLIMATE & ENERGY

Contribute to roll out of National Adaptation Plan that builds socio-ecological resilience to climate risk and impacts

## FOOD SYSTEMS & FOOD SECURITY

Adopt food production systems that balance agricultural development and natural capital



### Why we are here.

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony and nature.

<http://wwf-congobasin.org> / [www.facebook.com/WWFCameroon](http://www.facebook.com/WWFCameroon)

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