



FONDATION
POUR LE
TRI-NATIONAL
DELTA
SANGHA

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

«SUPPORT FOR THE SANGHA TRI-NATIONAL COOPERATION
FOR THE CONSERVATION AND PROSPERITY OF PEOPLE»

18

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KFW



café

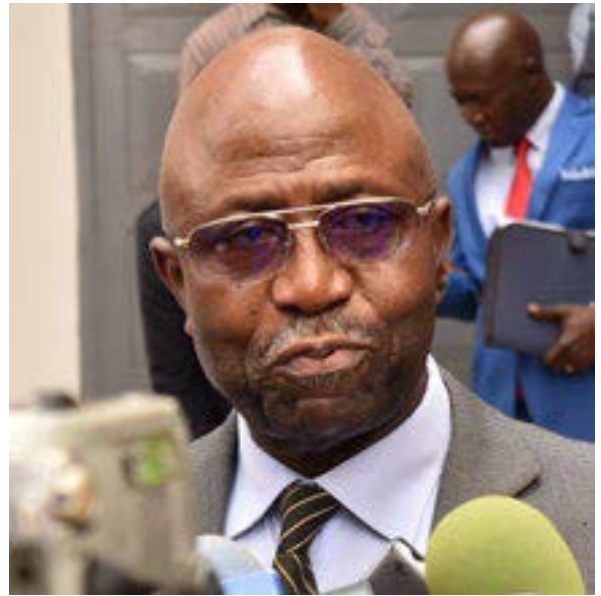


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PREFACE BY THE PRESIDENT OF FTNS' BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Samuel MAKON WEHIONG
Président, FTNS Board of directors



Created in 2007, FTNS proudly displays its 11 years of existence and can now congratulate itself on having a perceptible foundation and development of its activities. With regard more particularly to the year 2018, we can legitimately claim to have reached new levels in the development dynamics of FTNS.

It seems to us good to point out by garlic that, in the face of various anthropic pressures, the FTNS re-mains mobilized for the preservation of natural environments and the animal species that inhabit them, so that the objectives of biodiversity conservation and sustainable development are not an empty word for these countries, that wood supplies and the process of their production are more respectful of nature, that we can finally contribute to stopping, if not stopping, the destruction of our planet.

Our biodiversity and sustainability strategy is therefore deployed with concrete actions to safeguard natural environments and their species, promote sustainable socio-economic development, educate and raise awareness through concrete actions the indigenous populations and local communities of conservation areas. Anti-poaching patrols are also becoming more regular and effective, especially with the use of new technologies, although we can see, regrettably, that poachers are becoming increasingly resourceful in circumventing these measures.

In 2018, we developed several projects in favour of indigenous populations and local communities (PACL). The organization of two workshops on sustainable agriculture is an example of our ability to support the development of indigenous peoples living in and around

the TNS cross-border complex. This action, which took the form of pilot projects in seven villages around the Dzanga Sangha Protected Areas and Lobeke National Park, was made possible thanks to the financial support of our main fund leaseholders, including KFW and the Consortium African Funds for the Environmental. A network of cooperatives has been set up and members benefit from FTNS support for the development of their own businesses.

At the local level, new child relief projects have been initiated with partners in the various protected areas of the TNS. The observation is that more than 1000 students are cared for annually by FTNS; while schools and health centres are being built or planned, particularly around the Lobéké National Park and the Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park. The Dzanga Sangha Protected Areas already have a primary school, a secondary school and a health centre fully equipped by FTNS.

To stay on course, we need more support, a sign of the confidence placed in us and a condition for our success. The challenges we will face in the coming year will be those related to managing a growing organization, requiring us to have more resources to finance the various projects in the making and to meet the varied needs of the people living along the TNS. Far from being obstacles, these needs are, on the contrary, extremely stimulating challenges that we are ready to meet in order to enable our organization to grow more efficiently.

A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

Emmanuel FOURMANN
Chairman of the Investment
Committee



At the end of 2017, with the additional contribution of €25 million received from COMIFAC thanks to funding from German cooperation, the capital (endowment fund) of FTNS exceeded €50 million for the first time, placing the trust fund in the landscape of major environmental foundations in Africa.

A NEW INVESTMENT POLICY

This new dimension naturally called for a reconsideration of the investment policy adopted at the end of 2015, to learn from experience and address new investment products.

An Investment Committee meeting held in Paris in May 2018 examined the past performance and qualities of new investment vehicles that could contribute to portfolio diversification, in order to maximize returns while reducing risk. This work has led to a reshaping of the profile of our portfolio for the coming years, with places less exposed to the fluctuations of traditional financial markets (equities - bonds).

THE FTNS FAVOURS SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENTS

In addition to the existing exclusion list, which excludes any investment in companies manufacturing or marketing weapons, the members of the Investment Committee wished to give priority in the future to investment in companies committed to social and environmental aspects, and to promote what are known as

Socially Responsible Investments (SRI).

Overall, if the overall performance sought has not been modified (around 4%), it will in the coming years be less exposed to risks and richer in sustainable investments. This updated investment policy was adopted at the end of 2018 by the Board of Directors for implementation from 2019. Its deployment is in progress.

A VERY TURBULENT YEAR 2018 ON THE FINANCIAL MARKETS

Financial markets were sharply down in 2018 amid Brexit, uncertainty in the Middle East, the Sino-American trade war and tightening monetary policies. This decline affected almost all asset classes based on securities.

In this context, despite its diversification, FTNS' performance portfolio was negative. And after deductions for the financing of the three protected areas, the capital fell below the €50 million mark at the end of 2018. However, with the strong rebound observed in 2019, the financial underperformance of 2018 was almost completely erased.

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LISTE OF ABBREVIATION

AFD	French Development Agency
APDS	Dzanga-Sangha Protected Areas
BE	Executive Office
BLAB	Tri-national Anti-Poaching Brigade
BMZ	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
CA	Board of Directors
CAFE	Consortium of African Funds for the Environmental
CAWHFI	Central African Forest World Heritage Initiative
CBFF	Congo Basin Forest Partnership Central African Forest Commission
COMIFAC	Commission des Forêts de l'Afrique Centrale
CTPE	Tri-national Planning and Implementation Committee
CTS	Tri-national Monitoring Committee
CTSA	Tri-national Supervisory and Arbitration Committee
FNN	Nouabalé-Ndoki Foundation
FTNS	Sangha Tri-national Trust Fund
IRIC	Institute of International Relations of Cameroon
KFW	German Financial Cooperation
LAB	Anti-Poaching fight
MINFOF	Ministry of Forests and Wildlife (Cameroon)
MEFCP	Ministry of Water, Forestry, Hunting and Fishing (Central African Republic)
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
PEA	Operating and Development Permits
PNL	Lobéké National Park
PNNN	Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park
SINFOCAM	Société Industrielle des Forêts Centrafricaines et d'Aménagement
STBC	STBC Société de Transformation de Bois en Afrique Centrale
TNS	TNS Sangha Tri-national
FMU	Forest Management Unit
ULAB	Anti-poaching Fight Unit
WWF	World Wildlife Fund
WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society

1. WHO ARE WE ?



FONDATION
POUR LE
TRI-NATIONAL
DELTA
SANGHA



©FTNS

WHO ARE WE ?

The Sangha Tri-national Trust Fund (FTNS) was created in March 2007 with the mission of contributing to the sustainable financing of conservation, eco-development and cross-border cooperation activities in the Sangha Tri-national area (TNS). It thus supports the Convergence Plan 2015-2025 of the Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC), in its strategic axis 6, which is to develop innovative conservation financing mechanisms, in this case trust funds.

FTNS is a member of the African Consortium of Environmental Funds (CAFE), an institution that brings together 18 environmental funds in Africa and is part of the global «Conservation Finance Alliance» network. As a registered trust fund in England, FTNS is also a member of the Charity Commission, a corporate organisation.

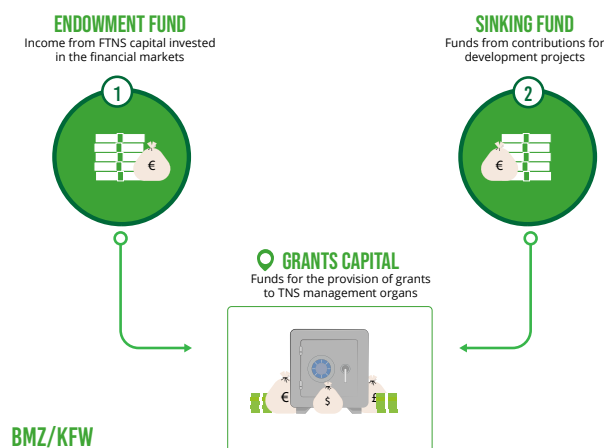
Since 2008, FTNS has signed cooperation agreements with the governments of the various States Parties to the TNS. In 2010, Trust Fund obtained an agreement from the Government of Cameroon authorizing it to establish itself in Cameroon as a foreign association, thus becoming the first trust fund in Africa with a cross-border vocation.

FTNS consists of two main governance bodies: the Board of Directors (BoD) and the Executive Office (EB) with its headquarters in Yaounde. The Board, the strategic decision-making structure of the FTNS, is composed of eleven members including representatives of the Government of Cameroon, the Government of Congo, the Government of the Central African Republic, KfW Entwicklungsbank (German Financial Cooperation), the French Development Corporation (AFD), the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and the Regenwald Stiftung, as well as three civil

society representatives from the countries concerned.

The Executive Office is responsible for the implementation the Board of Directors' decisions, the institutional development of the NSF, the mobilization of funds and the awarding of grants. It is composed of an Executive Director, a Programme Officer and an administrative and logistical staff of 3 people. This team is supported by an accounting firm and international technical assistance represented at the Executive Office by a Technical Advisor.

FTNS' FINANCING MECHANISMS



BMZ/KfW

- Sustainable forest management in the Congo Basin, Sangha Tri-national Trust Fund (FTNS). Congo and CAR component (BMZ n° 2010 67 206).
- Financial contribution to the Sangha Tri-national Trust Fund (FTNS)- n° 2016 68 581
-

EUROPEAN UNION - UNESCO

- Central African Forest World Heritage Initiative (CAWHFI) of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

GEF, GEF, GEF, MAEVA FOUNDATION (PROJECT K)

- Establishment of a Carbon Fund to reduce deforestation and improve the living conditions of the populations of the Sangha tri-national

MEMBERS FTNS' BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN 2018



M. Makon Samuel PCA
CAMEROUN



M. FROLICH Jan
KfW



M. Emmanuel FOURMANN
AFD



Dr. Thomas BREUER
REGENWALD
STIFTUNG



Dr. NJIFORTI Hanson
WWF



Dr. FOTSO Roger
WCS



M. DJOGO TOUMOUKSALA
CAMEROUN



M. ONDELE Marcel
CONGO



Mme YENGE Blanche
CONGO



M. NAMBAI Reubens
RCA



Mme Jacqueline
MADOUZEN
RCA



Directors, FTNS Executive Office staff and three TNS Park managers at the last Board of Directors meeting in November 2018 in Douala, Cameroon ©FTNS

2.

OUR COMMITMENT :

To contribute to the preservation of biodiversity and socio-economic development in the Sangha Tri-national, the first transboundary forest complex in Central Africa and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

SOME KEY TNS FIGURES

3 PARKS
COUNTRIES

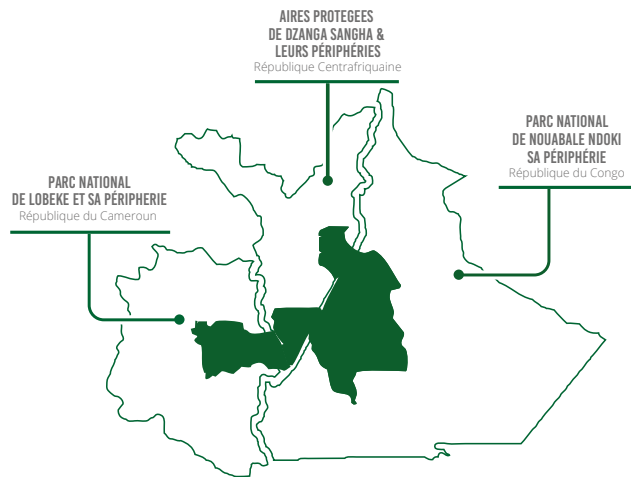
44,400 KM²
OF SURFACE
AREA

WORLD HERITAGE
SITES SINCE

2012

2. NOTRE ENGAGEMENT :

TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE PRESERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE SANGHA TRI-NATIONAL, THE FIRST TRANSBOUNDARY FOREST COMPLEX IN CENTRAL AFRICA AND A UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE.



The Sangha Tri-national (TNS) is a 44,000 km² cross-border forest complex that overlaps three Central African countries: Cameroon, the Central African Republic and the Republic of Congo. It was created in December 2000 following a cooperation agreement between the three States and is the first concrete manifestation of the desire of the Heads of State of the countries of the Congo Basin to converge towards a concerted management of transboundary protected areas.

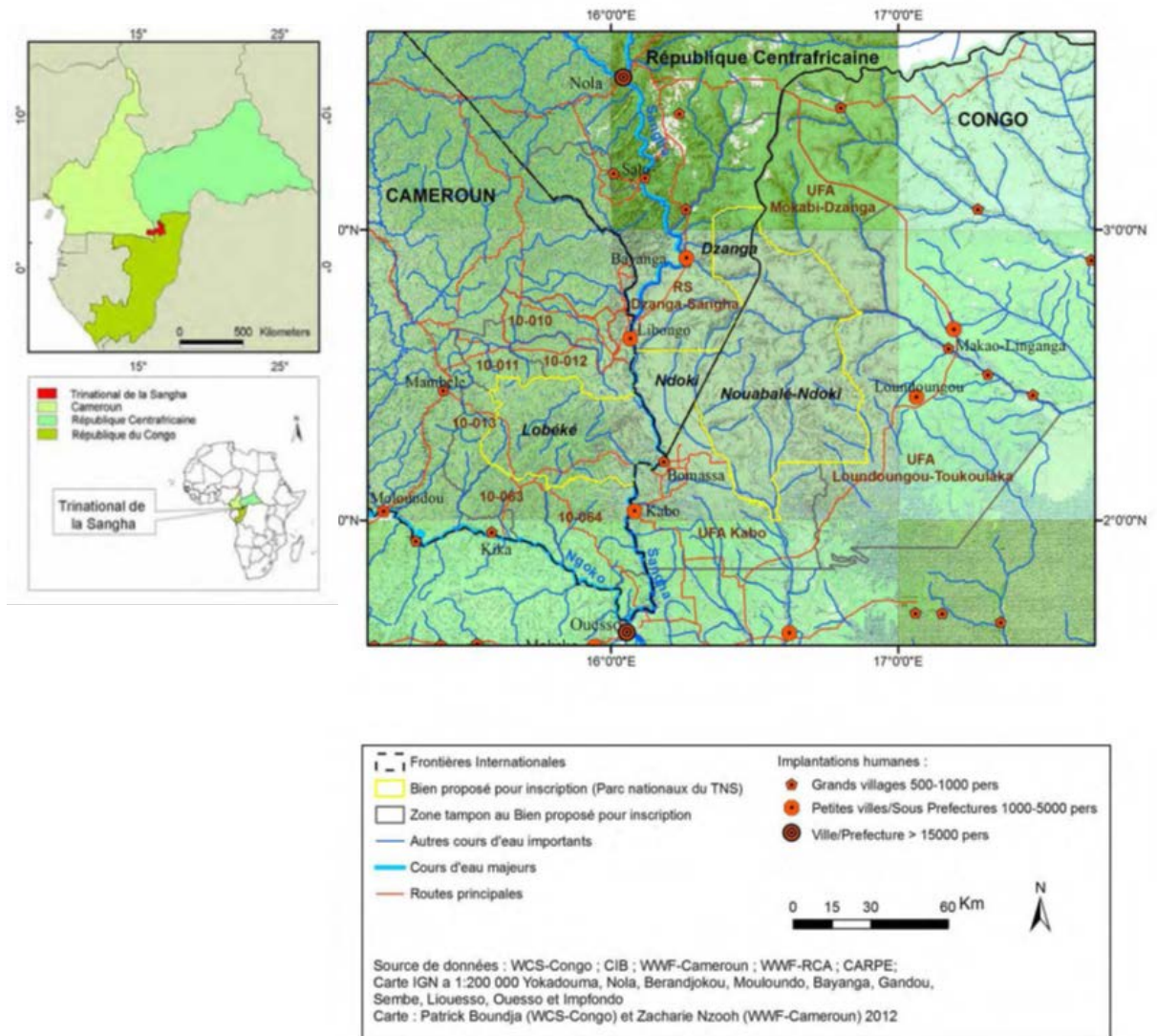
The TNS complex is composed of three attached parks: the Lobéké National Park (LNP) in Cameroon, the Dzanga-Sangha Protected Areas (APDS) in the Central African Republic and the Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park (PNNN) in the Republic of Congo. In addition, the TNS includes an area peripheral to the three parks in which participatory processes for the sustainable management of wildlife and forest resources are developed.

The operating bodies provided for in the Agreement, namely the Tri-national Supervision and Arbitration Committee (CTSA), the Tri-national Monitoring Committee (CTS) and the Tri-national Planning and Implementation Committee (CTPE), are functional. The Tri-national Scientific Committee (CST) is currently being set up.

The implementation of the TNS Cooperation Agreement resulted in the signature and entry into force of three Memoranda of Understanding between the three countries: the Memorandum of Understanding on anti-poaching, the Memorandum of Understanding on the free movement of TNS personnel and the Memorandum of Understanding on the organisation and functioning of the tri-national anti-poaching brigade (BLAB).

In terms of bio-ecology, «The Human Footprint» shows that the TNS landscape is one of the least degraded forests in all of Central Africa. Within the Congo Basin, the TNS landscape is recognized by the Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP) as one of the most important priorities for forest and biodiversity conservation. A total of 116 wildlife species belonging to 11 orders have been recorded in the TNS landscape. It is one of the few places in which a large mature population of forest elephants (estimated at more than 5000 elephants) can behave naturally, and move through the cross-border landscape along the major corridors. For all these reasons, the TNS has been identified as a crucial site for the conservation of forest elephants, and an exceptionally high priority site for the conservation of chimpanzees and lowland gorillas. The abundance and density of the latter species (estimated at over 20,000 gorillas) is unparalleled. In

accordance with principles (IX) and (X) of the 1972 World Heritage Convention, this complex was inscribed on the List of World Heritage Sites at the 36th session of UNESCO in July 2012 in St Petersburg: «Decision 35 COM 12B item 17.C». (UNESCO links whc.unesco.org/en/list/1380/). TNS thus becomes the world's first tri-national forest heritage site.



Map 1 : Location and presentation of the TNS, a World Heritage site since July 2012



3.

SOME MAJOR FACTS IN THE SANGHA TRI-NATIONAL IN 2018

A NEW MINISTER OF FORESTS AND WILDLIFE IN CAMEROON

Since March 2018, Cameroon has had a new Minister of Forestry and Wildlife in the person of Mr. Jules Doret NDONGO.

The latter now replaces his predecessor as Chairman-in-Office of the Tri-national Supervisory and Arbitration Committee (CTSA), which brings together the ministers in charge of forests and protected areas of the three TNS countries. He is responsible for ensuring that the Cameroonian side signs the two new protocols already signed by the Central African and Congolese parties: the memorandum of understanding on the movement of tourists and the memorandum of understanding on the organization and functioning of the Tri-national Scientific Committee (CST).



Monsieur Jules Doret NDONGO Ministre Camerounais des Eaux & Forêts ©FTNS

A NEW CHIEF FOR THE TRI-NATIONAL ANTI-POACHING BRIGADE

Cameroon, through Mr Anicet NGARKA, has been in charge of the Tri-national Anti-Poaching Brigade (BLAB) since September 2018. He will be supported in this task by the Conservator of APDS, Mr. NDA-DET Christian, in his capacity as president of the TNS Conservator's Collective.



Ecoguards at the BLAB base in Nyangouté ©FTNS

LAUNCHING OF A FOREST ELEPHANT TRACKING SYSTEM

A first elephant tracking operation was conducted in the APDS from 24 June to 07 July 2018. The second operation will take place in 2019 with the ultimate objective of equipping and monitoring at least 20 elephants. The data that will be collected on ringed elephants will make it possible to identify the migration corridors of these pachyderms, in order to better organize their protection at the level of the APDS and throughout the TNS complex.



Installation of collar tracking rings on elephants in APDS ©APDS

WORLD HERITAGE SITE STATUS MAINTAINED

The States Parties submitted the third report on the state of conservation of TNS to the World Heritage Committee in December 2018. It appears that despite significant pressures on resources and particularly poaching actions, the integrity of the property and biological diversity have not been significantly altered. This is as a result of the significant efforts of the States Parties and their technical and financial partners, FTNS in particular.




Un gorille dans le Parc National de Nouabalé-Ndoki ©WCS

THE SHUTTING DOWN OF THE ROUGIER GROUP'S ACTIVITIES

A major player in the TNS forestry sector, this group in financial difficulty has decided to put an end to its activities in Cameroun with the immediate effect of laying off several workers. This situation has worsened local social and economic difficulties, resulting in an increase in poaching and trade in wildlife products.



A blue and yellow bird, possibly a Blue-crowned Motmot, is perched on a bare, gnarled tree branch. The bird has a black crest, a yellow beak, and blue feathers on its body with yellow accents. The background is a plain, light grey color.

4.

FOCUS ON GOVERNANCE AND INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS OF THE FTNS

DOUALA HOSTED THE TWO SESSIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS IN 2018

During 2018, the Board met in two ordinary sessions: the May 2018 and November 2018 sessions.

The 21st session of the Board of Directors of the FTNS was held in Douala from May 16 to 17, 2018, with the participation of eleven directors. This session enabled them, among other things, to approve the statutory accounts for the 2017 financial year, to assess the performance of the asset portfolio and to provide guidance on the management of operations with the parks. Another major event was the introduction of a new director representing the Regenwald Stiftung, Mr Thomas BREUER, to replace Mrs Ilka Herbinger, who reached the end of her term of office in accordance with the articles of association of FTNS.



FTNS Executive Board Directors and staff at the 21st session of the Board of Directors meeting in Douala, Cameroon ©FTNS

The 22nd session of the Governing Council was held from November 20 to 21, 2018 in Douala. This session was attended by the managers of the three TNS parks who presented their 2019 work plan and budget to the members of the Board of Directors. As the main resolutions:

Comme principales résolution :

- ✔ Authorisation to deduct income from the FTNS investment capital to finance the operational needs of the parks and to use (less sustainable) project funds for investments.
- ✔ (2) the approval of a new granting and management procedures manual, which will come into effect in January 2019;
- ✔ (3) the admission of an administrator representing the Executive Secretariat of COMIFAC;
- ✔ (4) the review of the investment policy.

FTNS HAS STRENGTHENED ITS COLLABORATION WITH ITS PARTNERS IN THE SUB-REGION AND AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

FTNS continued its collaboration with various organs at the level of the three TNS countries, at the regional and international levels.

At the national level (TNS countries), FTNS participated in:

- the joint appropriation meeting of the modalities of intervention of the technical and financial partners (TFPs) of the forests and fauna sub-sector and the establishment of a permanent dialogue in May 2018, organized by the Ministry of Forests and Fauna of Cameroon;
- the meeting with the Governor of the East Cameroon Region and the sectoral administrations on February 21 2018 with, among other resolutions, the strengthening of cooperation between the Lobéké National Park and other administrations in the fight against poaching, the reduction of the circulation of weapons and compliance with the TNS regulations in the allocation of mining titles;
- several working sessions with the Cameroonian government to negotiate an establishment arrangement for the benefit of the FTNS in Cameroon. This status will allow the FTNS to benefit from certain tax and administrative advantages in the context of the Executive Office's operations in Cameroon.
- the conference discusses «The participation of local populations in the management of protected areas: case study and prospects in Lobéké - Cameroun National Park» organized at the International Relations Institute of Cameroon(IRIC) in October 2019. This conference was an opportunity for a team of young German researchers (SLE) to present the results of the work carried out in Lobeke National Park.



Working session between FTNS and the Governor of the East Region of Cameroon in February 2018 ©FTNS

At the sub-regional level, the FTNS participated in:

- the COMIFAC planning meeting in Kribi, Cameroon in January 2018;
- the meeting of partners of the Central African World Forest Heritage Initiative (CAWHFI) in June 2018, organised by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and of which the TNS is one of the beneficiary sites;
- the Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP) meeting held in October 2018 in Brussels in November 2018 with a significant contribution from the FTNS to various working groups (Protected Areas and Biodiversity, Wildlife Conservation Organization, etc.)



Officials' panel (IRIC, FTNS, German cooperation, Congo, CAR) at the debate-conference organized at IRIC on 19 October 2018 with the support of FTNS ©FTNS



Participants at the meeting of partners of the Central African World Heritage Forest Initiative (CAWHFI) in June 2018, organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) ©UNESCO

At the continental and international level, as a member of the African Consortium of Environmental Funds (CAFÉ) and the Charity Commission, the FTNS has been active in several events described below.

PARTICIPATION AT THE 8TH CAFÉ GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN SEPTEMBER 2018, IN KASANE, BOTSWANA.

The FTNS contributed to the review and adoption of the CAFÉ 2019-2023 strategic plan, participated in the working group on monitoring and evaluation and in capacity building sessions on innovative financing mechanisms.




Working group on monitoring and evaluation in Botswana in September 2018 with the participation of FTNS Program Officer, who is also Coordinator of the Africa Network. ©FTNS

PARTICIPATION AT THE 20TH REDLAC GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN NOVEMBER 2018 IN BOLIVIA:

As part of this event, FTNS took part in conferences and working groups on sustainable financing and monitoring and evaluation. It was also an opportunity FTNS to share its experience in setting up a carbon fund as part of innovative conservation financing mechanisms.



EO team presenting FTNS' experience at the General Assembly of the Network of Environmental Funds of Latin and Central America in Bolivia (November 2018). ©FTNS



5.

SOME COMMUNICATION AND FUNDRAISING ACTIONS CARRIED OUT IN 2018 EN 2018



WEBSITE ANIMATION AND PRODUCTION OF QUARTERLY SUMMARY NOTES

FTNS through its communication team has regularly posted information about its activities online via its website and Facebook account. Allowing several people to immerse themselves in the great events that marked the year 2018. In addition, quarterly activity summary notes were produced and distributed to nearly 100 organizations operating in the subregion.

IMPLEMENTATION OF A FINANCING MECHANISM RELATED TO THE PAYMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES (PES) IN THE TNS

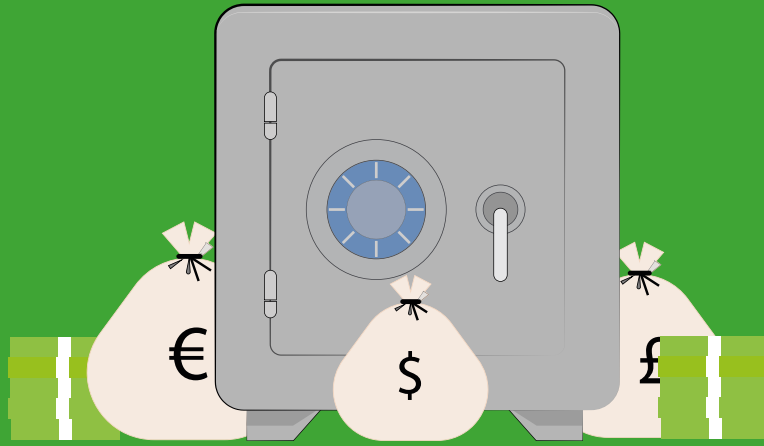
As part of its collaboration with CAFÉ and REDLAC, FTNS received financial support for the establishment of a mechanism to finance community conservation initiatives through the voluntary market for payment of environmental services. Studies have been carried out for this purpose (biomass inventories, deforestation trend analyses, basic socio-economic data, etc.) by an Expert PES project developer and local NGOs in order to develop a detailed project (PDD) under the Plan Vivo standard.



A field activity as part of the establishment of a mechanism to finance community conservation initiatives through the voluntary market for payment of environmental services ©FTNS

STRENGTHENING COLLABORATION WITH UNESCO WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE CAWHFI PROJECT

Collaboration between the FTNS and UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) for the implementation of Phase 2 of the CAWHFI project in the TNS, launched in 2016 with European Union funding, continued in 2018 with the signing of a new finance agreement of approximately USD 109,000.



6.

GRANT PROGRAMS IN 2019

NEARLY CFAF 3 BILLION IN SUBSIDIES COMMITTED IN 2018 TO TNS PROTECTED AREAS

As indicated in Table 1 below, a volume of subsidies with an overall value of **FCFA 2,914 billion** (about four decimal points 4 million euros) was awarded to the three parks, the Tri-national Anti-Poaching Brigade (BLAB), the TNS executive organs (CTPE, CTS, Groupe Sangha...) and FTNS' Executive office, via the depreciation or project accounts: German financial cooperation - KfW Regional Congo-RCA, KfW financial contribution to FTNS, CAWHFI and K project. This amount has increased by approximately 38% compared to 2017.

Tableau : Subventions octroyées aux sites du TNS (en FCFA)

		KFW RÉGIONAL FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO CAMEROUN	KFW RÉGIONAL FINANCIAL CONTRI- BUTION TO CONGO - RCA	KFW RÉGIONAL FINANCIAL CONTRI- BUTION TO FTNS	PROJET K	CAWHFI	TOTAL (IN FCFA)
BENEFICIARIES	PNL (Y COMPRIS ONG)	1 307 020 339			82 085 516	31 480 500	1 420 586 355
	APDS			719 384 866		6 026 000	725 410 866
	PNNN		523 751 464				523 751 464
	INSTANCE DE GESTION DU TNS					3 311 350	3 311 350
	BLAB					11 623 300	11 623 300
	BE FTNS	222 587 664		5 142 762		2 167 397	229 897 823
TOTAL	1 529 608 003	523 751 464	719 384 866	87 228 278	54 608 547	2 914 581 158	

SEVEN AREAS OF ACTIVITY FUNDED WITH A SIGNIFICANT SHARE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND PARK STAFF MANAGEMENT

The grants were allocated to seven areas of activity as indicated in the table below:

Table 2: Allocation of grants to activities

	PROJET KFW	PROJET K	CAWHFI	TOTAL
ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL	790 979 244			790 979 244
INFRASTRUCTURES & EQUIPEMENTS	716 276 099			716 276 099
MONITORING	465 685 319		1 000 000	466 685 319
ECOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RESEARCH	332 083 968	82 085 516	17 229 500	431 398 984
SUIVI ÉCOLOGIQUE ET RECHERCHE	156 028 414		13 701 000	169 729 414
TRANSBOUNDARY COOPÉRATION	89 103 625		20 510 650	109 614 275
FTNS EO 'S OPERATIONAL COST	222 587 664	5 142 762	2 167 397	229 897 823
TOTAL	2 772 744 332	87 228 278	54 608 547	2 914 581 157

It can be noted that the bulk of the grants (27%) were allocated to the general administration of the sites (including site maintenance and payment of salaries and staff allowances) and the improvement of infrastructure and equipment (24%). Other activities include: monitoring and antipoaching operations (16%); research activities, ecological monitoring (6%); community development and tourism activities (15%) and cross-border cooperation (4%). The operating costs FTNS' EO represented 8% of the volume of global subsidies.

Requests for park funding from FTNS are mainly directed towards staff costs, general administration and investments (infrastructure and equipment), which account for more than half of the funding needs expressed by the parks. This situation illustrates a de facto positioning of the FTNS, as perceived by the beneficiaries, for the financing of this type of needs and above all the objective sought of project funds for the improvement of basic infrastructure and the overall management of the parks.

It should also be noted that CAWHFI funds were mainly allocated to activities related to local communities, monitoring of forest resource management standards and cross-border cooperation activities, including BLAB operations.

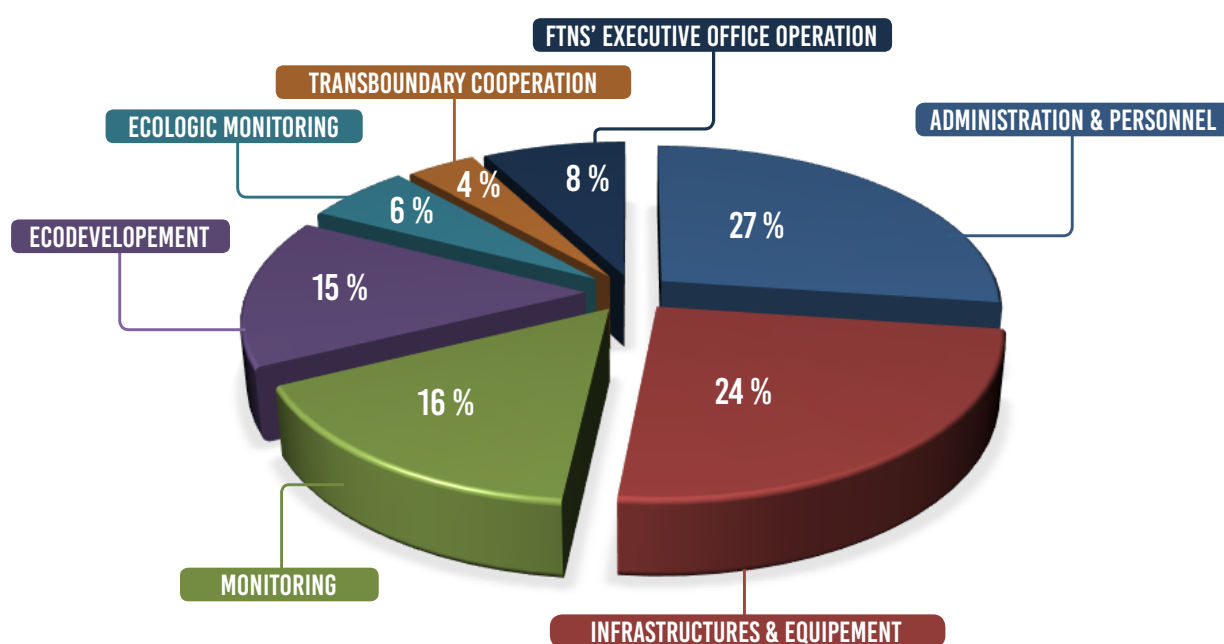


Figure: Distribution of grants by activity in 2018



7.

**FOCUS ON SOME MAJOR RESULTS
OBTAINED THANKS TO FTNS GRANTS**

2.98 BILLION FCFA
OF GRANTS PROVIDED

75 ANTI POACHING
PATROL MISSIONS

882 PATROLS ACCOMPLISHED IN THE
ENTIRE TNS SITES

©WCS

75 CROSS-BORDER PATROL MISSIONS CARRIED OUT

In accordance with the cross-border anti-poaching (AML) Memoranda of Understanding, binational missions have been carried out on both sides of the borders of the three countries. In addition, there are those of BLAB.

As indicated in the table below, a total of seventy-five (75) cross-border patrol missions corresponding to four thousand two hundred and nineteen (4,219) man-days of effort were carried out in 2018.

Table: Number of patrols accomplished in 2019

TYPE OF MISSION	NUMBER OF MISSIONS	HOMME/JOUR
BINATIONALE	11	1 386
BLAB	64	2 833
TOTAL	75	4219

Compared to 2017, patrol efforts increased by about 6% to respond to significant wildlife crime pressure within the borders of the three TNS states.

These missions made it possible, among other things, to arrest and bring to justice three poachers, seize several hunting weapons and ammunition, destroy some 50 campsites and nearly 6,500 steel cables used as traps for small scale hunting.

ENHANCED COOPERATION IN THE FRAMEWORK OF MEETINGS OF TNS MANAGEMENT BODIES

TNS management bodies meetings were organised, in particular:

- The 26th, 27th and 28th Meetings of the TNS Conservators held from March 1 to 4 2018, 18 to 21 September 2018 and November 2 to 5 2018 respectively in Nyangouté (CAR).
- The 32nd Ordinary Session of the Tri-National Planning and Implementation Committee (CTPE) in Pokola (Republic of Congo) from March 19 to 23 2018.
- The extraordinary session of the Tri-National TNS Monitoring Committee (CTS) in Bayanga (Central African Republic) from 26 to 28 April 2018
- The Workshop for the Preparation of the 3rd Report on the State of Conservation of the TNS heritage and Assessment of its Management using the EoH tool: Douala (Cameroon) from 16-19 November 2018.
- The 13th Meeting of the TNS Scientific Support Group «Sangha Group» held in Pokola, Republic of Congo, from 4 to 8 December 2018.

ENHANCED COOPERATION IN THE FRAMEWORK OF MEETINGS OF TNS MANAGEMENT BODIES

The results obtained at the end of these meetings are mainly as follows:

- The appointment of the new current president of the CTS, Mr Valeri Norbert KUELA, Divisional officer of Boumba and Ngoko in April 2018;
- The signing of 243 badges for the circulation of TNS personnel by the three CTS Prefectures
- The adoption of the CTS operational budget at its extraordinary session in Bayanga in April 2018
- The preparation and submission to UNESCO of the 3rd report on the state of conservation of the TNS Property (links)
- Updating the dynamics of change in conservation and development in the TNS as part of the Sangha Group meeting.



Participants at the CTS extraordinary session in April 2018 in Bayanga ©APDS

THE IMPROVEMENT OR REHABILITATION OF TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE TO ACCOMMODATE 531 TOURISTS IN 2018

Several actions have been carried out to ensure the availability of basic tourist infrastructure, particularly in the parks:

- Maintenance, renovation and equipment work in tourist accommodation camps: Doli Lodge and Reception Centre (CAR), Bomassa (Congo) - and Lobéké ;
- Maintenance of some 50 km of access roads to tourist sites within the park in the APDS: Dzanga Bai, Mongambe, Bai Hokou including the rehabilitation of the Mongambé bridge providing access to the primate / gorilla observation site;
- The development of new tourist attraction sites and the rehabilitation of older ones: vine bridge, Wali bai ethno botanical trail, etc.
- Campaigns to promote the sites through posts, websites and awareness raising of the authorities on administrative obstacles to tourism development in the region.

Despite a still precarious security situation in CAR, the TNS welcomed more tourists in 2018 (531) than in 2017 (441), representing an increase of about 20% in the number of visitors.



Mongambé Bridge rebuilt to facilitate access to strategic tourist sites in the APDS. ©APDS

882 PATROLS CONDUCTED IN ALL TNS SITES

During 2018, FTNS grants contributed to 882 patrols to secure resources in the three TNS protected areas. The breakdown of these patrols by protected area is shown in Table 3 below.

Tableau: Missions LAB réalisées par chacun des sites de 2014 à 2018

PROTECTED AREA	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
APDS	324	272	270	430	393
PNNN	161	269	265	301	292
PNL	55	26	91	165	197
TOTAL	540	567	626	896	882

The number of guards mobilized (man-days effort) in 2018 to carry out these patrols has increased considerably compared to the figures from 2014 to 2016 (see figure below). In 2018, there was a slight decrease of about 2% due to a process of staff restructuring in the APDS and PNNN (retirement of some staff members and recruitment and training of several others). The Lobéké National Park has continued its positive momentum by allocating more human resources to security operations (how much - also explains that these ecoguards are funded by the state).

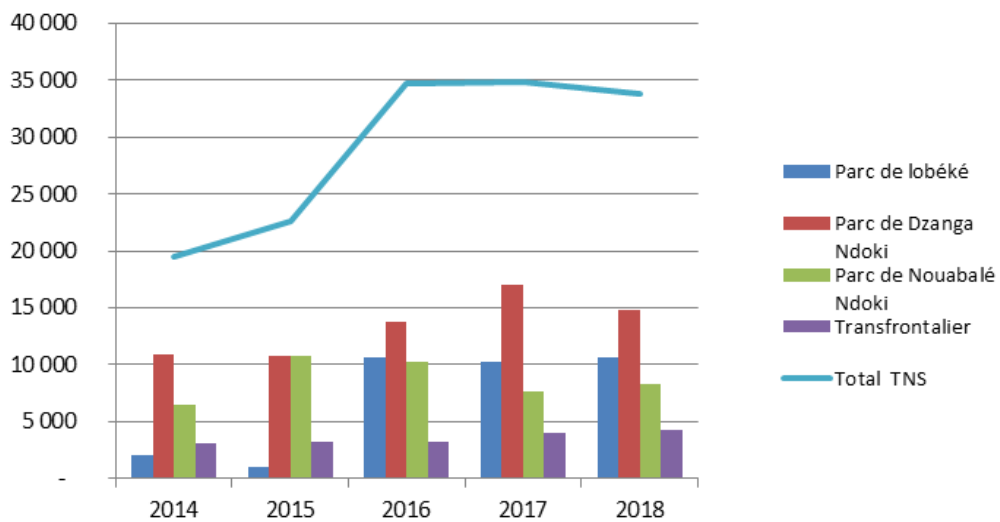
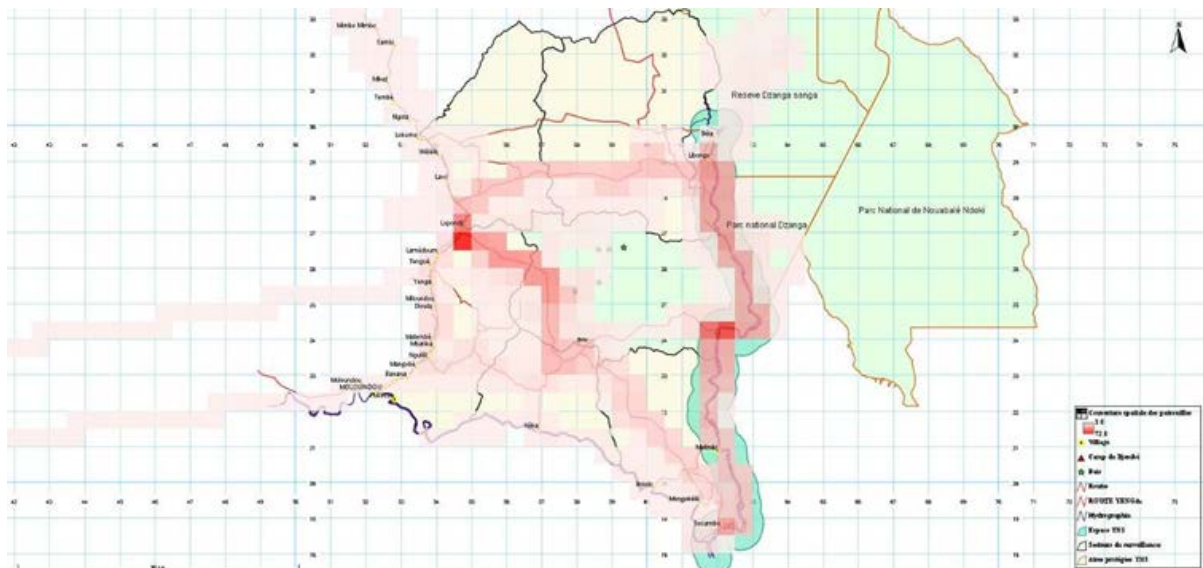
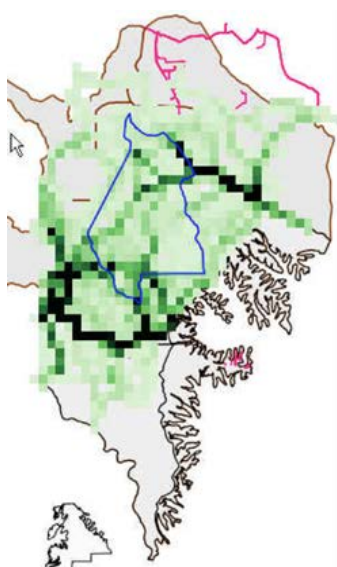


Figure: Evolution of patrol efforts (h-dd) at the three TNS sites from 2014 to 2018

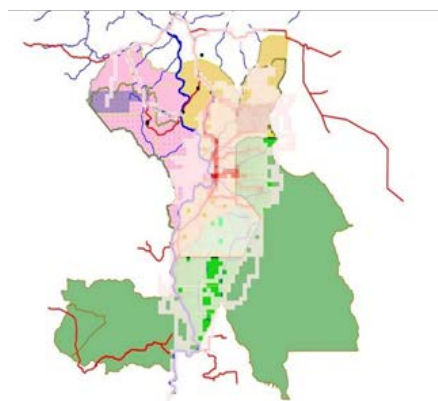
Map 3 below shows the spatial coverage of patrols in 2018. It should be noted that approximately 80% of the surface area of the three parks was covered by surveillance patrols in 2018.



Lobeke National Park









Lobeke Park National



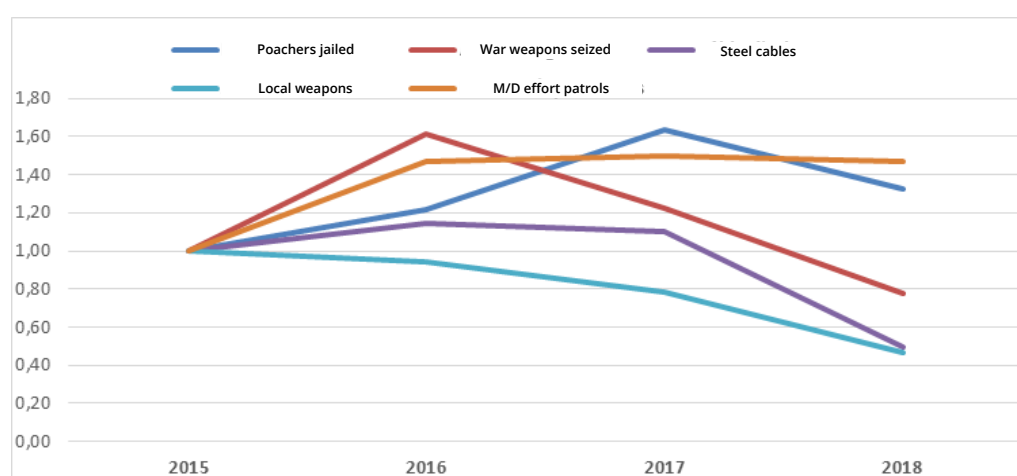
Dzanga Sangha Protected Areas

These various missions in 2018 resulted in the arrest and disposal of 98 poachers, the seizure of 95 ivory tusks and several hunting tools, including 14 weapons of war, 177 hunting rifles, 22,884 steel cables and 2,874 kg of game. The table below shows the different seizures and arrests by protected area.

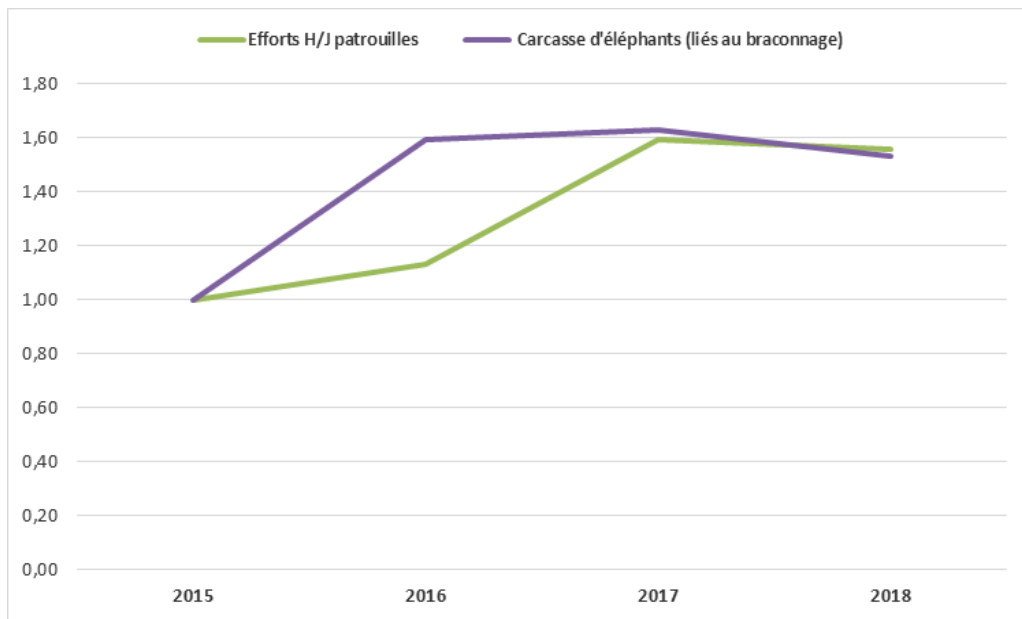
Evolution Indicielle des efforts de patrouilles et dépouilles d'éléphants dans le TNS de 2015 à 2018 (Indice de base 2015)

PROTECTED AREA						
	WEAPONS OF WAR	LOCALLY MANUFACTURED WEAPONS	IVORY TUSK	METAL CABLES	GAME (IN KG)	POACHERS ARRESTED AND JAILED
PNL	9	23	12	4 781	92	30
APDS	0	119	8	17 257	762	39
PNNN	5	35	75	846	2025	29
TOTAL	14	177	95	22 884	2 879	98

The number of war weapons and hunting rifles seized, mainly in the Central African Republic, remains high and illustrates the recurrence of large-scale poaching activities in TNS despite the increase in patrolling efforts since 2016. However, in 2018 there was an over-all decrease in poaching indices in line with the trend since 2015 (see Fig. 4), reflecting a positive result of improved anti-poaching efforts in terms of both quantity and quality. Despite these encouraging results, the challenges in protecting elephants, the flagship species of the site, remain significant, as evidenced by the trend in the discovery of elephant carcasses over the past four years (see figure 5 below). In 2018, more than 75 elephants were killed by poachers in the TNS.



Indexed evolution of patrol efforts and results in the TNS from 2015 to 2018 (Baseline Index 2015)



Indexed evolution of elephant patrol and remains efforts in the TNS from 2015 to 2018 (Baseline Index 2015)



Incineration of hunting equipment and related products by the Governor of the Eastern Region in Mambélé ©PNL

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR MORE THAN 100 ANTI-POACHING BRIGADE STAFF MEMBERS

More than 100 staff assigned to monitoring activities, including ecoguards from the three protected areas, have received training or retraining in various fields: paramilitary operations, SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool), setting up a network of informants, investigation techniques, etc. The table below shows the training courses by site.



Training session for new APDS ecoguard staff in central Kongana ©APDS

TRAINING ORGANIZED FOR TNS PROTECTED AREA STAFF

APDS	PNNN	PNL
<p>Training of 14 staff members on wildlife crime and poaching law enforcement in the Central African Republic (05-06 February 2018 in Bangui)</p> <p>Training 20 newly recruited eco-guards (including 4 Ba'aka and 1 woman) on the basic techniques of the trade.</p> <p>Recycling of eco-guard staff on various themes such as discipline, respect for human rights, forest operations, etc.</p> <p>Training of ecoguard staff on the use of inReach-Explorer (Delorme Garmin)</p> <p>Training of four ecoguards in the use of sniffer dogs with the ultimate objective of setting up a canine brigade</p>	<p>Extensive training for all park ecoguards and officials (71) on the issue of human rights, the treatment of suspects during the period of police custody, the rights and duties of ecoguards in the context of their professional activities, anti-corruption measures,</p> <p>Training of 23 new eco-guards and 6 newly assigned officials in the NNNP on the mastery of the basic techniques of the eco-guard profession.</p> <p>Training of three analysts and half a dozen readers from the Wildlife Crime Unit of Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park to professionalize them in the procedures for collecting and analyzing information obtained from informant networks.</p> <p>Training of two air observers assigned to the Aviation Program on SMART software</p>	<p>The organization of 02 training/retraining workshops for staff on techniques for using navigation and communication equipment (INREACH DELORME, CONQUEST, GPS, Compass, Map Reading) and on computer-assisted cartography (GIS).</p> <p>The holding of a session to strengthen the capacities of 40 eco-guards in the collection and management of anti-poaching data using the SMART tool</p> <p>The organization of an exchange trip to Kenya for 02 senior PNL staff on the issue of human-elephant conflict management;</p> <p>Training/recycling of 40 people, including 30 ecoguards and 10 community members, on wildlife inventory data collection techniques in Mambélé in July 2018;</p> <p>Participation of the Conservator and the Head of the Protection and Ecological Monitoring Service at the training workshop on disaster risk management in World Heritage sites in Yaoundé in October 2018.</p>

STRENGTHENING COLLABORATION BETWEEN PARKS AND LOGGING COMPANIES IN THE PERIPHERY OF PARKS

Collaboration with logging companies was mainly characterized by the monitoring of good logging practices in PEA 189 and 190 on the periphery of Dzanga Ndoki Park and mainly in the Dzanga Sangha Special Reserve.

Six monitoring missions were carried out in PEA 189 and 190 to ensure that forestry operations comply with the norms and standards prescribed for forestry companies in environmental and social terms.

These missions have helped to encourage forest operators benefiting from both permits to achieve regulatory compliance and low environmental impact logging in the provisional cutting bases granted to them.

In addition, the anti-poaching and surveillance units managed by SINFOCAM (operator of the PEA 190) and technically supported by the APDS carried out several patrols in collaboration with the eco-guards of the Nouabalé-Ndoki and Dzanga Ndoki parks.

IMPLEMENTATION OF PRIMATE HABITUATION PROGRAMMES IN PARKS

Primate habituation programmes in the three protected areas have been regularly implemented: Bai Hokou and Mongambe in the APDS; Mbeli, Mondika and Goulougo in the PNNN, Broken Bridge in the PNL. About ten ape groups are monitored daily, increasing the tourism potential and improving knowledge of wildlife population dynamics in TNS parks. At Mondika, the third newly identified group has been in the habituation process since the beginning of the year.

As major events:

- The partnership with the Robert Koch Institute in Germany for the development and implementation of a protocol for the health monitoring of primates and staff in APDS is being implemented and is manifested on the field through regular monitoring of the health status of staff, analysis of animal remains and any suspicious behaviour of a wildlife component;
- As part of the management of human-wildlife disease transmission, APDS has developed a response and response plan in case of an Ebola epidemic. This plan integrates interventions at the APDS level, at the national and international levels. As such, local care centres have been strengthened and populations are benefiting from an awareness campaign on the prevention of the transmission of zoonotic diseases;
- In Nouabalé-Ndoki, the Animal Health Program in collaboration with Rocky Mountain Laboratories has developed an iPhone application with the ability to detect Ebola in field samples in less than an hour, which will effectively facilitate the preparation of an adequate response if a positive case is discovered.
- The completion of the habituation process of the Wonga group in the APDS after approximately 11 years of unsuccessful work mainly due to a fairly large and constraining living space for operations of very difficult environmental constraint.



Training of research assistants on sampling great ape carcasses as part of epidemiological surveillance.
©FG.Mehon/WCS

SEVERAL GLADE OBSERVATION MISSIONS CARRIED OUT

In Lobéké National Park, thirty-nine missions to observe the use of clearings by the flag-ship species of the parks were carried out mainly in the five priority clearings of the park: Petite Savane, Bolo, Dangayé, Djangui and Djouloumbé. These observations were supported by the installation of several trap cameras to permanently monitor the animals' use of these clearings. These data indicate that Sitatunga (*Tragelaphus spekei*) with an overall daily observation rate of 6.03 individuals/day, buffalo (*Syncerus caffer nanus*) with a rate of 4.18 individuals/day are the most common species in these clearings.

In the APDS, five clearings were also observed in the first quarter, with the prevalence of elephants (*Loxodonta africana cyclotis*) as the main finding, particularly in the Bai Hokou 2 clearing.

In Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park, the team provided 298 days of observation at the Mbeli hut with gorilla groups, elephants and sitatungas as the main targets.



Observations of red-tailed parrots and forest buffalo in the Njangui clearing (Lobéké National Park © PNL)

CARRYING OUT INVENTORIES OF LARGE MAMMALS IN THE CONGO AND CAMEROON SEGMENTS

The wildlife inventory data collection phase in and around Lobéké National Park was completed in 2018. At the end of the data analysis phase scheduled for the first quarter of 2019, more information will be available on the evolution of priority species since 2015.

The analysis of inventory data in Nouabalé Ndoki National Park has been completed and shows a stable population of priority species. Indeed, the populations of elephants, gorillas, chimpanzees and ungulates have not changed significantly over the past five years. In addition, the study on the dynamics of elephant populations and the threat of poaching in the Park and its periphery using the acoustic method shows through the first results that the information from the acoustic monitoring of elephants is similar to the results of transect faunal inventories, both in terms of distribution and in terms of relative abundance of elephants.

LE RENFORCEMENT DE LA COLLABORATION ENTRE LES PARCS ET LES SOCIÉTÉS D'EXPLOITATION FORESTIÈRE DANS LA PÉRIPHÉRIE DES PARCS

Afin de mobiliser les populations et différentes administrations locales dans l'objectif de préservation des parcs, plusieurs activités ont été réalisées notamment :

- The organization of environmental education sessions for park residents via radio broadcasts such as Ndjoku radio in Bayanga and Bisso na bisso radio in Bomassa. The themes also deal with wildlife protection, the mission of ecoguards and respect for human rights in the context of the various park operations;
- The organization of excursions in the Dzanga Ndoki park (Dzanga Bai clearing) for the benefit of the students of APDS schools;
- The organization of awareness-raising meetings for 24 traditional authorities and 142 administrative officials in Lobéké on the regulatory texts relating to park management, the fight against poaching and the circulation of weapons of all calibres;
- The organization of training workshops for local hunters on hunting legislation and sustainable wildlife management, including 41 in the APDS and 89 in Lobéké.

These environmental awareness and education campaigns reached more than 3,000 people across the TNS each year.

The organization of training workshops for local hunters on hunting legislation and sustainable wildlife management, including 41 in the APDS and 89 in Lobéké.

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Some students from Bayanga schools during a visit to the Dzanga Bai salt clearing in APDS (CAR) ©APDS



Awareness-raising sessions for local authorities in the districts of Moloundou and Salapoumbe (Cameroon) ©PNL

SUPPORT TO INITIATIVES TO PROMOTE THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN THE MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED AREAS AND THE SUSTAINABLE USE OF FOREST RESOURCES

In Cameroon, support to the process of taking into account customary and ancestral rights and better participation of the Baka peoples in the management of the Lobéké National Park continued with the organization of a workshop in August 2018 between the various stakeholders. At the end of the work, which brought together representatives of the administration, civil society and local Baka organizations, a consensus was reached on the content of a memorandum of understanding to be signed between MINFOF and the Baka populations to organize access to Baka resource areas in Lobéké National Park and involve local Baka organizations in the management of park activities..



Représentants Baka en séance de travail pour l'élaboration d'un MoU avec le MINFOF ©PNL

In the Central African Republic, the Bayanga Human Rights Centre was established with the objective of promoting the indigenous rights of the BaAka population of Dzanga-Sangha by facilitating access to justice at the local level and improving their social, economic and political participation. As major achievements:

- The organization of several radio and interactive programmes on key themes related to legal instruments and respect for human rights;
- Legal assistance to about ten BaAka victims of abuse around the Dzanga Ndoki National Park;
Assistance for the Ba'aka in applying for and obtaining birth certificates for newborns, with more than 130 registrations as of 2018;
- Assistance to about thirty Ba'aka in the application process for recruitment opened by the APDS, resulting in the recruitment of 4 people into the ecoguards' corps;
- The organization of several summer camps to facilitate the transfer of ancestral knowledge and skills to young people by senior citizens. More than 200 young people (including about 50 girls) took this opportunity to strengthen their capacity to make handicrafts (hunting nets, traditional necklaces, backpacks, musical instruments, mats...), use medicinal plants and collect honey from trees in the forest.



Ba'aka youth in an apprenticeship session for the manufacture of art objects (Central African Republic) ©APDS

PLUSIEURS INITIATIVES DE DÉVELOPPEMENT RÉALISÉES AU PROFIT DE PLUS DE 5 000 BÉNÉFICIAIRES

Many initiatives aimed at improving people's living conditions have been carried out in the periphery of TNS protected areas. These initiatives extend to health, education, basic infrastructure, community use of forest resources, agroforestry and agriculture.

In the field of education, the payment of allowances to some 20 teachers and the allocation of school supplies to 11 (eleven) schools located on the outskirts of Nouabalé Ndoki (Bomassa and Makao) and Dzanga Ndoki (Bayanga) parks. In total, more than 2,500 primary and secondary school students received this support in 2018. A particular effort to improve the school attendance rate of Ba'aka children in CAR has been encouraged through the payment of school fees for more than 680 students and campaigns to raise awareness among their parents so that they can regularly send their children to school.

In terms of health, the financial provision for 14 staff members from the Bayanga (CAR) and Bomassa (Congo) health centres made it possible to provide more than 5,000 consultations in 2018. Health campaigns support has made it possible to administer vaccines to more than 500 children in CAR.

As far as production activities are concerned, several actions have been carried out. In the field of agroforestry and in partnership with the World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF), the neighbouring communities of the Lobéké and APDS parks have received support in the mastery of agroforestry techniques with the following main results:

- the establishment of 7 community nurseries and 6 individual nurseries for the production of cocoa and various species of fruit trees, which contributed to the production of more than 25,000 plants in 2018, including about 16,000 planted;
 - more than 100 people trained in vegetative propagation techniques, including layering, grafting and cutting;
 - support for the establishment of 27 orchards with a total area of approximately 13 ha in degraded areas on the outskirts of Lobéké and Dzanga Ndoki parks (see figure below)
- Provision of improved seed varieties and various agricultural inputs to 8 villages for the implementation of pilot fields integrating fertilizing plants;
- More than 50 members of village communities trained in beekeeping techniques, resulting in the manufacture and installation of about ten hives for honey production. In Bomassa, more than 40 litres of honey were collected and sold by the beneficiaries of the training.

In addition to this support in agroforestry, several local community organizations have received technical and material support for food production and the implementation of income-generating activities, including:

- The creation of two community sheepfolds in Lindjombo (with an initial capacity of 6 goats and 6 sheep) in CAR;
- Training and monitoring of fishermen from the Sangha and Ndoki basins on the use of Chorkors furnaces (21 furnaces built).



© FTNS



Work in the community nursery in Mossapoula (Central African Republic) ©APDS

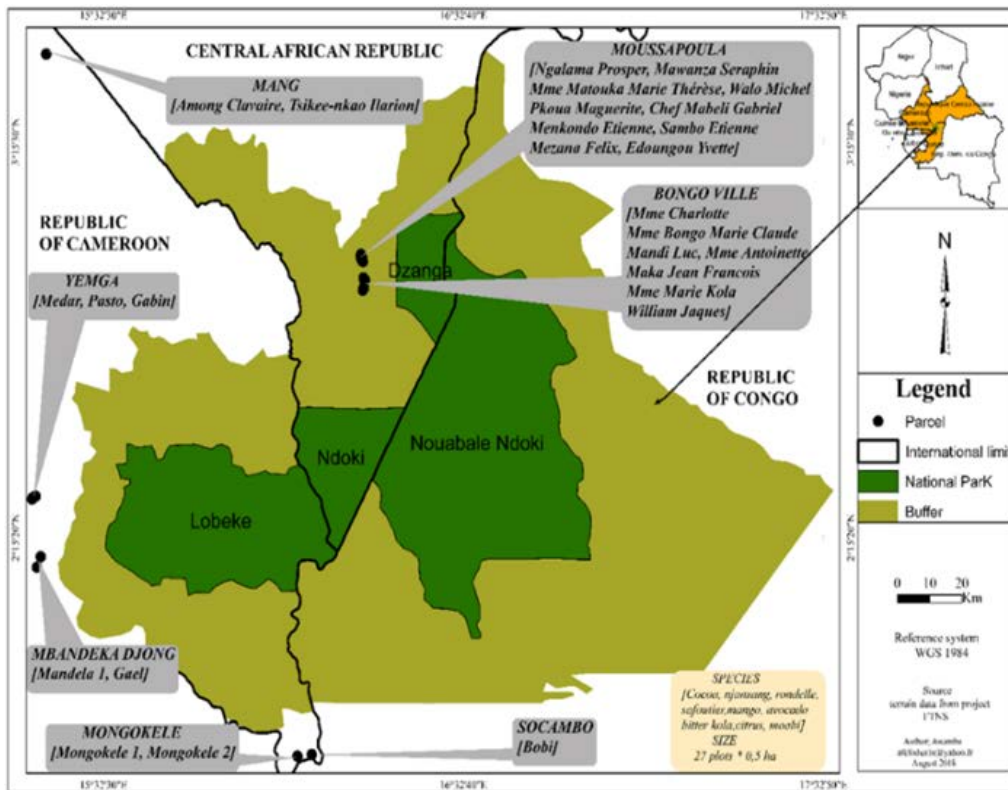


Protection uniform



Hives ready to attract bees

Training in beekeeping and hive manufacturing in Bayanga (CAR) ©APDS



Projet area with the name of cocoa plantation owners

Location of cocoa farms created and monitored as part of agroforestry activities in Cameroun and Central Africa Republic in 2018 © ICRAF

CAPACITY BUILDING OF COMMUNITIES FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE

As part of the K project, the FTNS, in collaboration with the managers of the Lobéké park, local NGOs and several national experts, conducted awareness-raising and capacity building of the four community organizations in the processes of combating climate change based on a mechanism for the payment of environmental services. As such, the main results recorded in 2018 include :

- ◎ The development of a micro-zoning plan for each of the four community forests integrating green or conservation areas;
- ◎ Assessment of biomass in each of the four community forests with initial estimates of potential benefits related to the payment of environmental services.

INVESTIGATIONS INTO ALLEGATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN THE TNS

In August 2018, FTNS received correspondence from the NGO Survival concerning complaints from some members of communities suffering human rights abuses by staff of Lobéké (Cameroon) and Dzanga Ndoki (Central African Republic) national parks during multiple operations.

Following these complaints, FTNS organised fact-finding missions to the villages and people mentioned in the letters. As a result of these investigations, it was found that the charges were not substantiated. However, to remain in line with its strategic vision of promoting better involvement and preservation of the rights of TNS local communities in park management, FTNS organized in the second half of 2018, in collaboration with German cooperation, in particular KfW, a global study on the situation of indigenous peoples in the periphery of Lobéké National Park with the aim of formulating proposals to improve the participation of these communities in park management. The preliminary results of these studies were presented at two workshops involving different stakeholders who used the opportunity to review and improve the study's recommendations.

The final report of this study, expected in 2019, will enable FTNS to undertake several actions to improve the participation of indigenous peoples in forest resource management in Cameroon and other TNS countries.

IMPROVED INFRASTRUCTURE AND BASIC EQUIPMENT FOR PARKS

FTNS grants have also been used to improve the basic infrastructure and level of equipment in protected areas as described in the table below.

Tableau : Infrastructure built and equipment acquired for the benefit of protected areas

	APDS	PNNN	PNL
Type of infrastructure	Building block for the rapid response team (a dormitory for 8 people; 1 dining room, a kitchen with running water; 2 showers and 1 modern toilet with running water). 1 building with 3 compartments (2 office rooms and an archive room) was built at the garage level 1 building for the Yobe base	Réhabilitation de l'aérodrome de Kabo Démarrage du chantier de construction du hangar à avion de Kabo	Démarrage des chantiers réhabilitations des deux bâtiments administratifs de Lobéké
Matériel de transport	4 motorcycles 1 tractor	1 building with 3 compartments (2 office rooms and an archive room) was built at the garage level	25 tires to reshoe vehicles; 02 new vehicles ;
Matériels bureautiques et de télécommunication	2 lightning rods 1 VSAT 01 Projection screen 01 camera		1 sound system battery and a 7 KVA generator set for awareness missions; 1 TV screen for the operationalization of the special unit to combat wildlife crime 1 VSAT acquired and installed 06 fixed HF radios acquired and installed 04 HF radios acquired and installed in vehicles
Installations électriques et adduction en eau	48 batteries for the solar power plant 02 tanks of 5000l + 01 water pump 01 Karcher for the vehicle wash station		1 generator set of 2.8 KVA for the electrification of Camp Kombo Finalization of the water supply project of the Lobéké life base and Kombo camp

In addition, existing infrastructure and equipment as well as trails serving the parks have been regularly maintained.



Vehicles acquired and equipped with HF radios in Lobéké © PNL



Tractor acquired for APDS © APDS



Batiments administratifs du PNL en cours de réhabilitation © PNL



Buildings of the APDS Rapid Response Team (Central African Republic) © APDS



48 batteries pack acquired for APDS solar power plant (Central African Republic) (Central African Republic) © APDS



8.

FTNS FINANCIAL SITUATION IN 2018

©MCS

STATEMENT OF ENDOWMENT /CAPITAL ACCOUNTS

At the end of December 2018, the portfolio of assets of the FTNS amounted to 49.4 million euros compared to 53.9 million euros in 2017. This decrease in funds is explained by a €750,000 levy to finance the fleets and above all a negative performance in the investment of assets with a decline of -6.86%. The behaviour of the financial markets was very unfavourable to asset returns with an average performance of -6.5% in EUR and -5.96% in USD overall.

Despite this poor performance in 2018, the trend in the mobilisation and management of the FTNS asset portfolio over the past five years remains in a positive dynamic as illustrated in the graph below.

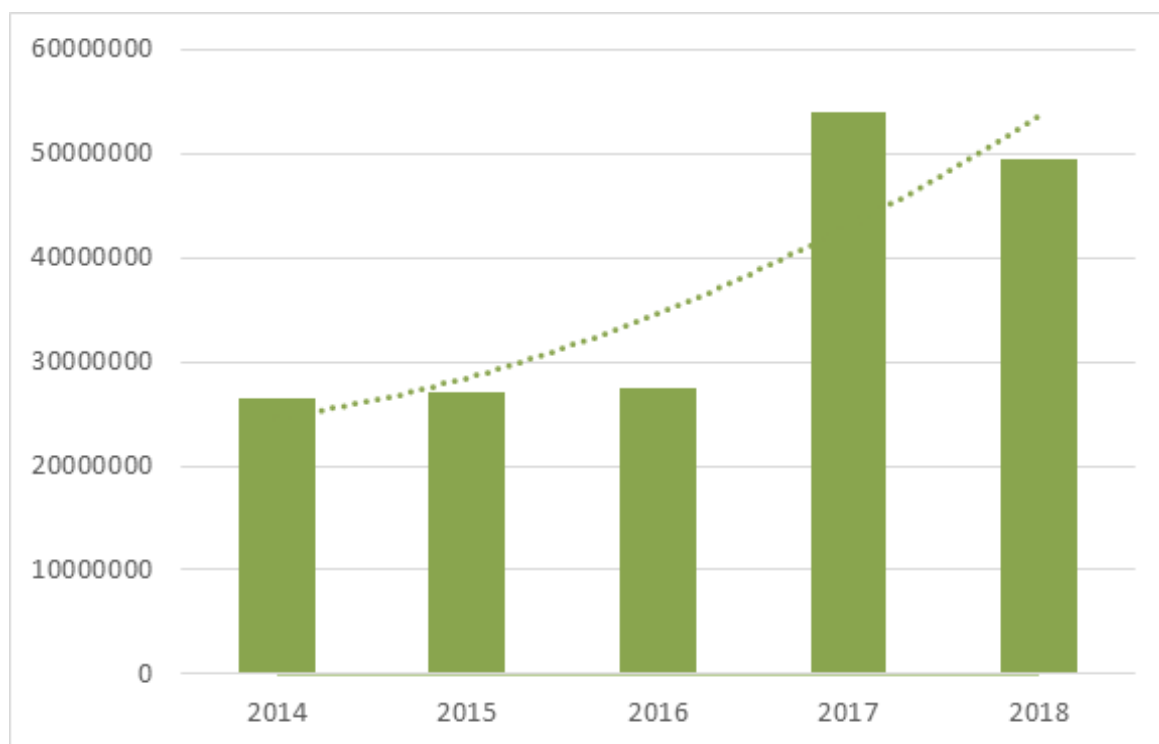


Figure : Evolution of FTNS asset portfolio in millions of euros from 2014 to 2018

The FTNS 'objective is to eventually reach a capital of about 100 million euros

As of 2019, FTNS will implement its expenditure policy, which will consist of withdrawing a maximum of 3% of the average capital over the last three years to finance the current operations of the TNS parcs.

STATEMENT OF DEPRECIATION ACCOUNTS OR PROJECT FINANCING

As at 31 December 2018, the cumulative value of expenditure via the 4 existing depreciation accounts (projects) at the NSF amounted to CFAF 8.17 billion (€12.4 million), i.e. approximately 66% of the total amounts mobilised. The budget balance is about 4.2 billion CFA francs (6.4 million euros). The KfW project financial contribution to the FTNS currently has the most important line in terms of budget availability. The RCA Segment has fully consumed its budgets in the KfW Regional Congo-RCA line.

Table : Statement of depreciation accounts as at 31 December 2018

ORIGIN OF FUNDS	AMOUNT ON LINE	EXPENSES ON 2018	EXPENSES ON 31.12.18	LEFT OVER AU 31.12.18
KFW RÉGIONAL CONGO/RCA	5 247 656 000	529 790 835	5 051 561 424	196 094 576
KFW VOLET CAMEROUN	3 607 763 500	909 531 847	1 968 195 670	1 639 567 830
KFW FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO FTNS	3 279 785 000	944 655 426	944 655 426	2 335 129 574
CAWHFI	98 393 550	16 525 123	94 980 848	3 412 702
PROJET K	120 000 000	82 085 516	115 342 011	4 657 989
TOTAL	12 353 598 050	2 482 588 747	8 174 735 379	4 178 862 671

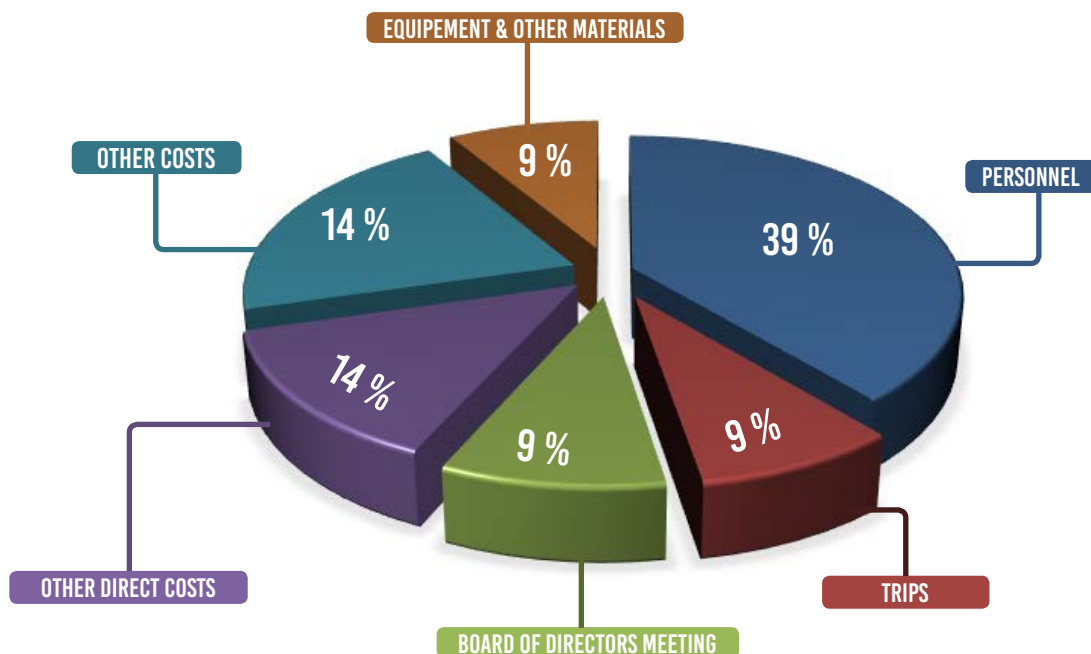
In the coming years, FTNS will use the balance of the depreciation resources to finance investment needs, technical assistance and the operating costs of the EB.

OPERATING COSTS OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE

During 2018, FTNS EO spent CFAF 229,897,823 or 350,477 euros on its current management. These expenses represent 94% of the 2018 operating budget approved by the Board of Directors and approximately 8.5% of the volume of grants allocated to the parks.

The expenses are structured as follows :

Tableau: Situation des comptes d'amortissement au 31 Décembre 2018





9.

FINDINGS AND PERSPECTIVES

©MCS



FINDINGS AND PERSPECTIVES

In 2018, FTNS further pursued and consolidated its relations with its institutional partners, in particular COMIFAC, CAFÉ, the Governments of the three TNS countries and UNESCO. Progress in the process of obtaining an establishment agreement in Cameroon is encouraging. The adoption of a new procedure manual is an indicator of the far reaching reforms in relations with beneficiaries of FTNS funds and will serve as a basis for a substantial improvement in the management of park operations in 2019.

Approximately CFAF 2,684 billion (approximately €4 million) was contributed to the implementation of the activities of the three parks in 2018 and tri-national cooperation activities. Particular emphasis was placed on improving park facilities and infrastructure, as well as better consideration of the interests of local populations and socio-economic development in the TNS landscape. The latest results of park security patrols show a relative decrease in wildlife crime rates, but the threat remains particularly high for elephant poaching. Overall, the stability of elephant and ape populations according to the latest inventories is encouraging due to the efforts of FTNS and all its technical and financial partners.

Despite the poor investment performance in 2018, FTNS' endowment fund remains relatively large (around €50 million), or half of its capitalization objectives. These funds will be sought in 2019 to provide greater support for park operations. The investment policy has been updated to contribute to the achievement of the objectives set.

While security and infrastructure challenges are about to be handled, the path to enhancing the value of park resources to contribute more significantly to socio-economic development in the TNS remains long. It would be up to FTNS and its partners to take action on several levers, particularly political ones, to encourage, among other things, the creation of a more favourable regulatory environment and the mobilization of substantial private investment. For the time being, TNS remains a World Heritage Site that continues to meet the daily needs of local populations as well as the maintenance of ecological balances.