



FONDATION
POUR LE
TRI-NATIONAL
DE LA
SANGHA



ANNUAL REPORT



2021



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KFW



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WCS



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	TABLE OF CONTENTS	PG 02
2.	LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	PG 03
3.	A WORD FROM THE BOARD'S CHAIR PERSON	PG 04
4.	A WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE INVESTMENT COMMITTEE	PG 05
5.	DISCOVERING FTNS	PG 06
6.	DISCOVERING TNS	PG 09
8.	FTNS SUBSIDY BREAKDOWNS IN 2021	PG 12
10.	FOCUS ON CONSERVATION IN 2021	PG 13
11.	QUALITY LIVELIHOOD & HEALTH	PG 18
12.	PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURE	PG 20
13.	ECOTOURISM IN 2021	PG 24
14.	PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS	PG 27
15.	EDUCATION IN 2021	PG 29
16.	RESEARCH AND BIOMONITORING IN 2021	PG 32
17.	DEVELOPMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURES	PG 34

SANGHA TRI-NATIONAL TRUST FUND

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Fondation pour
le Tri-national
de la Sangha - FTNS



Fondation pour
le Tri-national
de la Sangha - FTNS



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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AFD	French Development Agency
APB	Anti Poaching Brigade
DSPAs	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	African Environmental Funds Consortium
CAWHFI	Central African World Heritage Forest Initiative
COMIFAC	Central African Forestry Commission
CTPE	Tri-national Planning and Implementation Committee
CTS	Tri-national Monitoring Committee
CTSA	Tri-national Supervision and Arbitration Committee
FNN	Nouabalé Ndoki Foundation
FTNS	Sangha Tri-national Trust Fund
KfW	German Development Bank/German Financial Cooperation
LAB	Anti-poaching campaign
MINFOF	Ministry of Forests and Wildlife (Cameroon)
MEFCP	Ministry of Water, Forests, Hunting and Fishing (Central African Republic)
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
PEA	Operating and Development Permits
LNP	Lobéké National Park
NNNP	Nouabalé Ndoki National Park
SINFOCAM	Société Industrielle des Forêts Centrafricaines et d'Aménagement
STBC	Société de Transformation de Bois en Afrique Centrale
TNS	Sangha Tri-national
UFA	Forest management unit
ULAB	Anti-Poaching Unit
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature
WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society



A WORD FROM FTNS' BOARD OF DIRECTORS' CHAIRPERSON

MR. RAYMOND MBITIKON CAR ADMINISTRATOR

I am honoured to present the 2021 annual report of the Sangha Tri-national Trust Fund. This report comes in a context marked, for the second consecutive year, by a particularly difficult economic situation. Indeed, the world is still suffering from the harmful effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The prospects for a way out of this health, economic and social crisis remain uncertain, with the resurgence of the virus and its variants, and the continued impact on economic activities around the world. Despite these constraints, the Executive Office has maintained regular communication with our three countries and the activities planned in the different parks have been implemented at 70%. I have the great honour to give you a very brief account of the progress made during the past year.

The Executive Office signed three financing agreements with the three parks for a total amount of 2,270,986,205 FCFA. This funding has, as in the past, contributed decisively to the monitoring of the parks, the development of infrastructure, but also and above all to the promotion of eco-development activities, which are essential for the nearly two hundred thousand people who live around the parks.

Despite these important efforts, the needs of our parks to continue to protect the important biodiversity of our sub-region remain important. Consequently, our Executive Office continues to advocate for an increase in funding, particularly to boost infrastructure projects and the daily fight against poaching.

RAYMOND MBITIKON

Chairperson of the Board of Directors



A WORD FROM THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

MR. BRUNO SCHOEN KFW ADMINISTRATOR

2021 was a turbulent year for the markets, dominated by a number of themes including much higher than expected inflation and the persistence of the Covid-19 pandemic. Against this backdrop, FTNS's portfolio performed particularly well, with an absolute return of +9.18% over the year (after +4.94% in 2020 and +9.19% over 2019), comfortably exceeding the 4% target set out in the Investment Policy.

The management strategy favoured by FTNS, with asset diversification and a long-term orientation, is proving its worth again in 2021. There was no new capital injection this year. The capital, which had passed the €50m mark in 2017, stood at €67.6m at the end of 2021. The total amount drawn down for the year is EUR 1.8M, to the benefit of financing the operating needs of the three parks of the Sangha Tri-national. We look forward to the influx of new capital so that FTNS can sustain the financing of its parks, protect endangered species and ensure the maintenance of biodiversity, particularly in the context of climate change.

The year 2021 was an important and busy one for FTNS' Investment Committee with the review of the Investment Policy, as required every three years, resulting in its partial revision. The Board of Directors endorsed these changes at its 27th meeting in November 2021 in Douala. The strategic allocation of certain asset classes within FTNS' portfolio was reviewed, in particular the reduction of High Yield Bonds from 15% to 10%, the liquidation of Investment Grade Bonds and the increase of the equity portion from 35% to 52.5%. In terms of SRI (responsible investment), the Trust Fund has

two objectives: (i) to ensure that its investments are compatible with its values and mission and (ii) to seek a better performance/risk ratio over the long term by taking into account extra-financial criteria (ESG) in addition to purely financial criteria. The criteria used by the Trust Fund have been substantially broadened in the revised Investment Policy, integrating both exclusionary processes (sectoral, normative) and ESG integration processes.

The Investment Committee devoted a significant part of the year to this work and all this could not have been done without the support of FTNS's Financial Advisor, Perennium SA, whose mandate was renewed at the beginning of 2021, to whom I would like to express my sincere thanks for the quality of his work. Next year will also be a busy one, with the launch of two calls for tenders (for equities and high-yield bonds); compliance with the established responsible investment criteria will be a factor in the selection made. 2022 promises to be a particularly difficult year for the financial markets.

It is hoped that the improvement in FTNS's financial management in recent years, with a revised Investment Policy, a fully functional Investment Committee, a Financial Advisor, a separation of functions between asset custody and asset management, and institutional and specialist managers, will enable the Trust fund to stay the course in these turbulent times.

M. BRUNO SCHOEN
Director of the KfW Yaounde Office



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A TRUST FUND FOR TNS!

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 trans-border cooperation activities in the Sangha Tri-national (TNS). It thus supports the 2015-2025 Convergence Plan of the Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC), in its strategic axis 6, which is to develop innovative mechanisms for sustainable conservation financing, for instance 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.

67,5 million €
OF INVESTMENT CAPITAL

1,8 million €
OF ANNUAL SUBSIDIES

13 yrs
EXPERIENCE

03 COUNTRIES
PROTECTED AREAS

TNS, A WORLD HERITAGE SITE FOR THREE

The Sangha Tri-National (TNS) is a transborder forest complex of 27,000 km² straddling 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. It is the first concrete manifestation of the will of Congo Basin countries Heads of States to converge towards a concerted management of these transborder protected areas.

Date of creation
2000

Date of inscription to the World Heritage List
Juillet 2012

Surface area
27 000 km²

Inhabitants
191 000

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 World Heritage Site.

FTNS' GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors (BoD) is the strategic, coordinating and FTNS' decision-making body. Its main internal role is to oversee the trust fund's technical, financial and contractual management. Externally, the Board acts as an FTNS ambassador and defends its interests without being compromised by conflicts of interest.

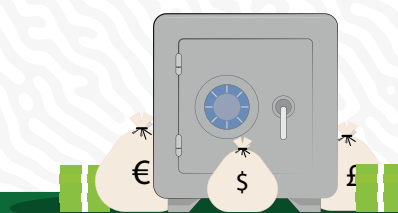
Board meetings are held twice a year in rotation in each of the three TNS member countries. The board's chair has a three (03) year mandate, renewable once.



THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE

The Executive Office is responsible for implementing the decisions of the Board of Directors, institutional development of FTNS, fundraising and grant provision to TNS parks. It is composed of an Executive Director, a Programme Officer and an administrative and logistical department made up of 3 people. This team is supported by an accounting firm and technical assistance from AGRECO-INTEGRATION represented within the Executive office by a Technical Advisor.

OUR FUNDING MECHANISM



FTNS supports park operations through two mechanisms: endowment funds, which are revenues generated by the capital invested in the financial markets, and sinking funds, which are one-off contributions from financial partners intended primarily to improve the parks' basic infrastructure. FTNS' capital of about 67,5 million euros at the beginning of 2022, is invested in the international financial markets through an internationally renowned portfolio manager, assisted by an investment advisor. The expected annual income is around 4% of the capital, of which 3% is taken to finance the operating needs of the three TNS parks as well as tri-national cooperation activities.

In 2021, FTNS' support for the operation of the parks was €1.8 million (and comes from the endowment and sinking funds). This represents only about one third of the budgets of the three parks, which face several growing threats (poaching, gradual demographic pressure, tourism infrastructure to be developed, to name a few).

FTNS PERSONNEL IN 2021



DR THÉOPHILE ZOGNOU
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



ROMAIN KANA
PROGRAMMES OFFICER



ALIX NOIRAUD
TECHNICAL ADVISOR
(AGRECO)



PETER NENGUEM
ACCOUNTANT (ARC)



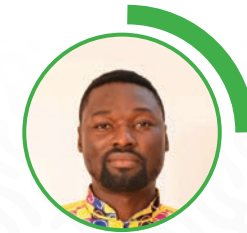
ARLETTE NGOUO
CORPORATE
ASSISTANT



MICHEL NGAE
ACCOUNTANT (ARC)



NADINE DAGHELA
ACCOUNTANT (ARC)



WATSOP EUSTACHE
COMMUNICATION EXPERT
(AGRECO)



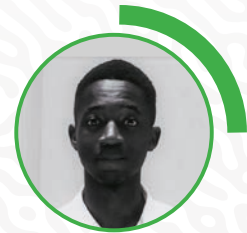
YVAN NGAMENI
CIVIL ENGINEER
(AGRECO)



CINDY JENGUE
CIVIL ENGINEER
(AGRECO)



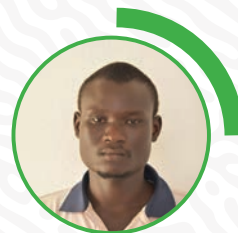
THIBAUT KOGHENE
CIVIL ENGINEER
(AGRECO)



JUNIOR BAGA
CIVIL ENGINEER
(AGRECO)



SIMON-TEZIE
CHAUFFEUR - COURIER



BERNARD LAWE
MAINTENANCE WORKER



The Dzanga Sangha Protected Areas (DSPA)

The Dzanga Sangha Protected Areas (DSPA) were created on 29 December 1990 and cover an area of more than 400,000 ha (4,000 km²). They are located in the prefecture of Sangha-Mbaere, precisely in the south-west of the CAR, and comprise two sectors: the Ndoki sector, which covers 725 km², and the Dzanga sector, which covers 495 km². As part of the State's heritage, the special reserve is placed under the supervision of the CAR's Ministry of Water, Forests, Fishing and Hunting. The area has as a geographical characteristic is a Guinean forest type climate.

The open layout of the Dzanga salt clearing allows a very good and unique visibility of the fauna, a main asset for the development of tourism in the region. The complex also contains a rich socio-cultural content and serves as a habitat for the BaAka forest pygmies and Sangha-Sangha fishermen. Dzanga Sangha also offers tourists and the scientific community several exceptional assets such as the imposing elephants of Dzanga Bai, the habituated gorillas of Bai Hokou accompanied by sublime modern infrastructures.



Nouabalé Ndoki National Park

Located in the far north of the Republic of Congo, the Nouabalé Ndoki National Park covers almost 4000 km² of primary forest. It was created in 1993 and is one of the largest reserves in the forest regions of West Central Africa. The park covers almost 2% of Congo's forests.

This virgin area, which has never been exploited by logging companies, is of botanical and biological interest. Rich in fauna and flora, this park has many species of large mammals such as elephants, western lowland gorillas, chimpanzees, panthers, bushpigs, buffaloes, etc. Also, more than 300 species of birds, 1000 species of plants and a rich diversity of forests.



Lobéké National Park

The Lobéké National Park, mainly made up of equatorial forest, is part of the Congo Basin in the far south-east of Cameroon. It covers an area of 217,854ha.

Created on 19 March 2001, the Lobéké National Park has a network of swampy clearings, particularly on the eastern side of the park. It also has a varied and very rich biodiversity of fauna and flora. Many of these species are endemic and the park has one of the highest concentrations of elephants and gorillas in the western plains of Africa.

Whether it is eco-tourism or ethno-tourism, Lobéké National Park has many attractions. Many investments have been made to convert it into an eco-tourism site. One can thus find living bases with equipped bungalows and trained guides to walk tourists through the forest.

SOME OF TNS FLAGSHIP SPECIES



Forest Elephant

Kingdom: Animalia

Class: Mammalia

Subclass: Eutheria

Order: Proboscidea

Family: Elephantidae

Genus: Loxodonta

IUCN Conservation status

Critically Endangered

The African Forest Elephant (*Loxodonta cyclotis*) is a megaherbivorous mammal of the Elephantidae family, smaller than other African elephants and typically forest-dwelling (although episodically also present in transitional savanna zones). It is one of the two species of the genus *Loxodonta* (and of the three elephant species currently existing)



Red-tailed Grey Parrot

Kingdom: Animalia

Phylum: Chordata

Class: Aves

Order: Psittaciformes

Family: Psittacidae

Genus: Psittacus

IUCN Conservation status

Endangered

The Gabon Grey or Jaco Parrot is the best talker among parrots. It weighs about 500 grams and feeds on seeds in forests and plantations. It is considered endangered and its population is decreasing due to international trade. After 35 years of regulated international trade under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) from 1981 - 2016, it is now listed in Appendix I and international trade is strictly prohibited



Western Gorilla

Kingdom: Animalia

Class: Mammalia

Phylum: Chordata

Order: Primates

Family: Hominidae

Genus: Gorilla

IUCN Conservation status

Critically Endangered

The Western Gorilla can grow up to 1.7 metres in length for the male and weigh 180 kg, while females grow to 1.3 metres and weigh 70 kg. The Western Gorilla has a life expectancy of 35 to 40 years and its global population is estimated at 80,000 to 100,000 individuals.



Pangolins

Kingdom: Animalia

Class: Mammalia

Subclass: Eutheria

Order: Pholidota

Family: Manidae

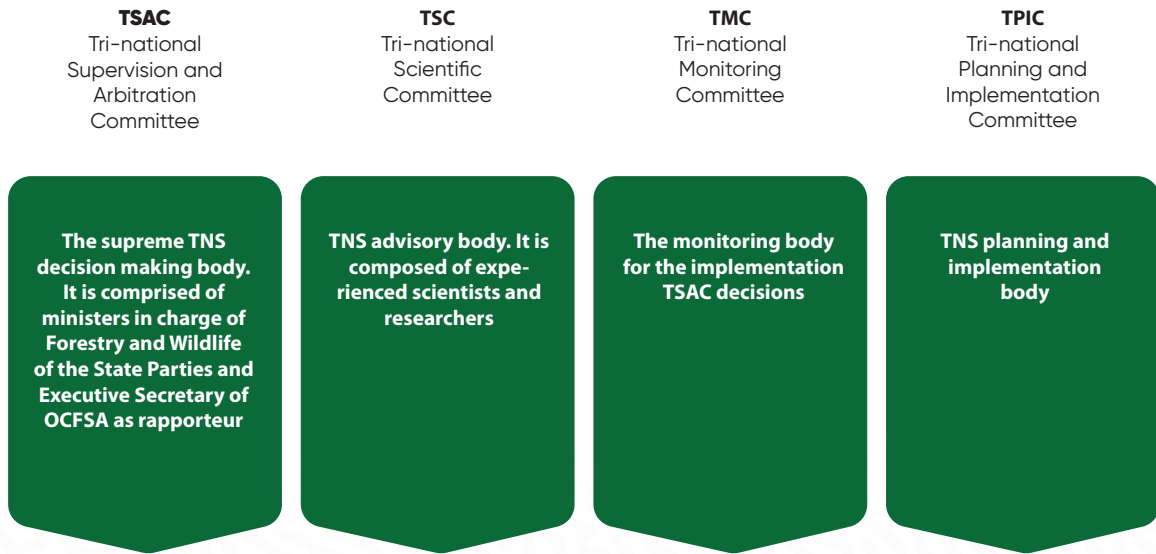
Genus: Manis

IUCN Conservation status

Endangered

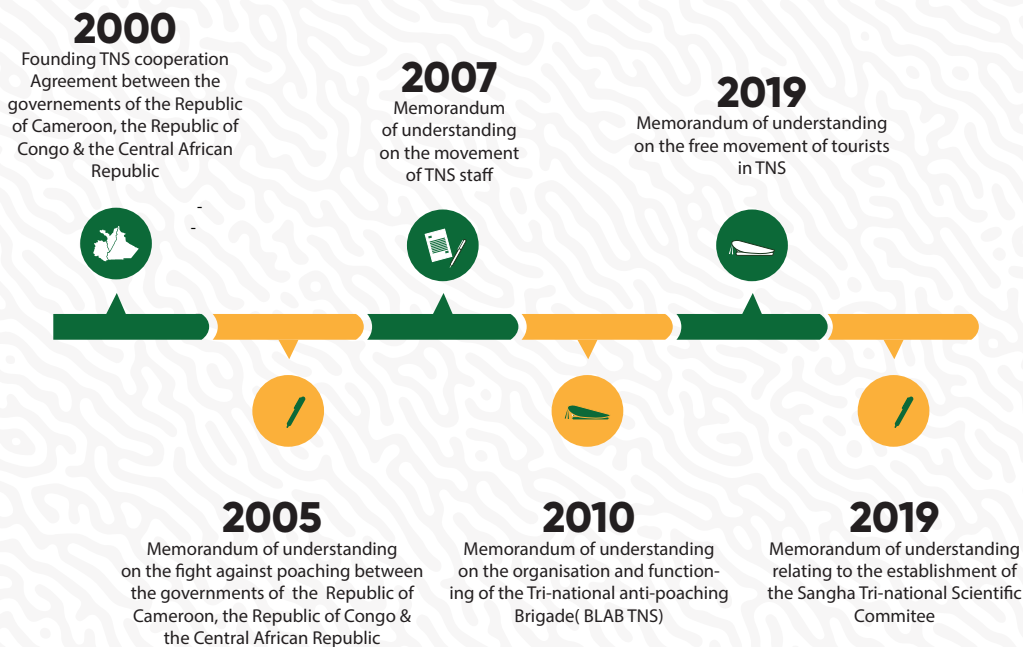
The Manidae are a family of pholidota mammals that includes all modern pangolins. The following three species are found in TNS: the Giant Pangolin (*Manis Gigantea*), the White-bellied Pangolin (*Manis Tricuspis*) and the Black-bellied/Long-tailed Pangolin (*Manis tetradactyla*).

TNS AGREEMENTS & BODIES



06 Memorandum of understanding have been ratified by TNS governments to regulate cross boundary cooperation.

HISTORY OF THE SIGNING OF TNS AGREEMENTS



FTNS SUBSIDY BREAKDOWN IN 2021

BREAKDOWN OF FUNDS ALLOCATED BY SOURCE 2021

PARC	KFW	CAPITAL INCOME	TOTAL
DSPAs	86 157 467	503 116 060	589 273 527
FNN	67 321 216	413 580 884	480 902 100
LNP	220 057 888	280 442 112	500 500 000
Total	373 536 571	1 197 139 056	1 570 675 627

BREAKDOWN OF OUTPUTS BY COMPONENT PER PARK IN 2021

PARC	DSPAS	FNN	LNP	TOTAL
Management of PAs	252 879 522	186 226 757	246 022 648	685 128 927
Monitoring/tracking of biodiversity	153 741 343	154 560 676	287 361 161	595 663 180
Promoting tourism				0
Support to local populations	136 645 278	23 817 130	7 221 110	167 683 518
Covid -19 response	13 874 058			13 874 058
Total	557 140 201	364 604 562	540 604 919	1 462 349 682

BREAKDOWN OF OUTPUTS BY COMPONENT BY SOURCE 2021

COMPOSANTE	KFW	REVENUS DU CAPITAL	TOTAL
Management of PAs	228 810 449	456 318 478	685 128 927
Monitoring/tracking of biodiversity	40 547 852	555 115 328	595 663 180
Promoting tourism	0	0	0
Support to local populations	90 304 212	77 379 306	167 683 518
Covid -19 response	13 874 058	0	13 874 058
Total	373 536 571	1 088 813 111	1 462 349 682

CONSERVATION

LOBÉKÉ NATIONAL PARK

BETTER LIVING CONDITIONS FOR FOR THE ECOGUARDS OF LOBEKE...

MBAMBA MBAMBA KEVIN, NLP CONSERVATOR

TOWARDS BETTER LIVING CONDITIONS FOR LOBÉKÉ ECOGUARDS !

This year has seen us make strategic investments in conservation. First and foremost, we have started the construction of the ecoguards' camp in Mambélé, the Park's headquarters. This investment is of the utmost importance to improve the housing conditions of these biodiversity defenders and very important to retain the ecoguards, most of whom come from towns with better housing conditions than those we have here.

THE EFFECTIVE REVIVAL OF ANTI-POACHING ACTIVITIES

As a matter of fact, the park is under very strong poaching pressure, which requires us to regularly update our anti-poaching approaches. This year, a particular priority has been placed on the advanced bases, notably the reopening of the advanced bases located to the north and south of the park. Discussions have also been held with hunting guides to ensure that their sites near the park can also be used as advanced bases. This approach supports the implementation of our integrated strategy for monitoring the park and its periphery.

The individual equipment for the ecoguards was also purchased this year. With the arrival of several new ecoguards, there was a significant need to acquire new equipment to replace the mostly degraded equipment.

FINALLY, A NEW ESTABLISHMENT AGREEMENT WITH CAMEROON

FTNS and MINREX signed an Establishment Agreement in 2021 which provides the possibility of tax exemptions in the acquisition of equipment, thus facilitating surveillance, in particular, outdoor motors, which allow us to move in depth in the park.

MAJOR CHALLENGES

The absence of a road in the park remains a real challenge, a great obstacle for our anti-poaching activities. We therefore need more than ever the rehabilitation of at least the main road linking the park entrance at Bolo to the international border at Djembe. The lack of such access has led to some thinking about the creation of a road through the park, a great threat to its Outstanding Universal Value as a World Heritage Site.

Last year we also witnessed attacks on elephants in several sites. Our findings showed that weapons of war were used in the killings. There is therefore a question of strengthening the collaboration with the law enforcement agencies, which already play a priority role in the execution of our conservation actions.

LOBÉKÉ NATIONAL PARK

SOME RESULTS IN 2021

26
patrols
carried out

02
Transboundary
patrols
carried out

1674
cable traps
seized or
dismantled

63
camps
destroyed

20
munitions
seized

03
advanced bases
restored



DZANGA SANGHA PROTECTED AREAS

RECYCLING ON THE AGENDA

CHRISTIAN NDADET, CONSERVATEUR DSPAS

In 2021, we covered almost all of the Dzanga Sangha Protected Areas through regular patrols as part of our monitoring. We also contributed effectively to cross-border patrols, including tri-national and bi-national patrols with other colleagues from the Sangha Tri-national parks. Our ecoguards also participated intensively in the activities of the BLAB TNS by providing elements for the 12 months of the brigade's operation.

In terms of achievements, we can note that in 2021, emphasis was placed on recycling former ecoguards for a period of 8 months. This action enabled us to recycle 62 ecoguards out of 90, exceptionally. The focus was placed on the theme of human rights.

It should also be noted that in order to maintain good communication between the units in the field and the headquarters, we installed HF radios in the three main research camps in the Dzanga Sangha Protected Areas (Dzanga Bai, Mongambe and Bai Hokou) in 2021. As a result, these sites are now permanently connected to the headquarters in Bayanga. These are the key activities we have focused on in 2021.

In terms of results, we carried out 81 regular patrols in all the protected areas for 1,200 efforts per day. These allowed us to seize approximately 120 fire-arms (63 of which were homemade), 25 boxes of ammunition and approximately 28,000 steel cables. Our units also participated in 9 cross-border patrols, 7 with the Nouabale-Ndoki National Park and 2 with the LNP.

CHALLENGES

Poaching is still rampant, a situation characterised by the identification of at least 14 elephant carcasses. Added to this, the working means are inadequate, especially at the paramilitary level.

The vehicles dedicated to anti-poaching are depreciated and this has an impact on the anti-poaching activities, given that the vehicles have to return to the garage for maintenance after each mission. Sometimes the vehicles break down with our units in the field, necessitating the mobilisation of another vehicle for repair in the forest. This prevents us from responding effectively to alerts from the field.

DZANGA SANGHA PROTECTED AREAS

SOME RESULTS IN 2021

342

patrols carried out

149

weapons seized

28000

cable traps seized or dismantled

44

elephant tusks seized

43KG

of pangolin scales seized

945

munitions seized

15520KG

bush meat seized



SANGHA TRINATIONAL SANGHA

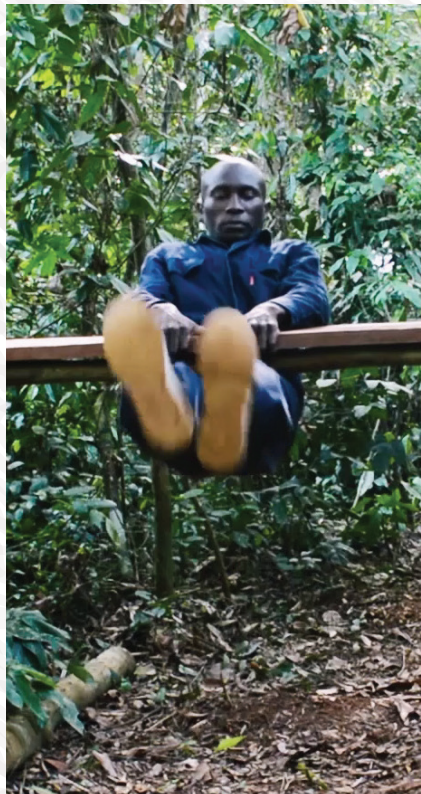
ZOOM ON THE KONGANA TRAINING CENTRE: CHRISTIAN NDADET DSPA CONSERVATOR

The Kongana Training Centre is an instruction centre built by the Dzanga Sangha Protected Areas, to regularly reinforce the capacity of ecoguard personnel in the paramilitary field, but also to ensure the training of new recruits. Located 5 km from the Congolese border, its location is very strategic.

Initially, the idea was to make this centre a training centre on the one hand, and on the other, a base that could be used for bi-national patrols between Cameroon and Congo. We were also thinking of using it for tourism purposes to relay tourists between Bai Hokou and Kongana.

There was the prospect of making it a multidisciplinary centre, and why not, a TNS training centre so that all the ecoguards assigned to TNS BLAB could be trained there in order to harmonise their preparation before going to the brigade.

FTNS funds enabled us in 2018 to rehabilitate this centre which was already in ruins for the prior to the recruitment of a new wave of ecoguards. This centre will also be used for the recruitment and training process of 25 new ecoguards in 2022.





NOUABALE- NDOKI NATIONAL PARK

MARCEL NGANGOUE, A SOLDIER HAS FALLEN

BEN EVANS NNNP DIRECTOR

It is with a heavy heart that I announce the death of our park keeper Nouabalé Ndoki, Marcel Ngangoue, who died on 16 May 2021 in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, after a short illness.

WHO WAS MARCEL?

After graduating as a forestry technician, Marcel first worked for the Ministry of Water and Forests in the Likouala region of Congo as a controller of forest concessions between 1991 and 1997. During this period, Marcel was more interested in working with logging companies than in wildlife conservation. But working closely with the neighbouring Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park, he became increasingly involved with the WCS team, including Mike Fay, Richard Ruggiero, Djoni Bourges and many others. Marcel ended up expressing his passion to become an advocate for wildlife rights, as he liked to say himself.

He started as a partner with WCS first in 1998 in the Makao station for the Nouabalé Ndoki National Park, managing the rangers, then as an anti-poaching officer for the Projet de Gestion des Ecosystèmes en Périphérie du NNNP (PROGEPP). He then went to

Garoua, a wildlife school in Cameroon for two years. On his return, he served in different conservation projects in the country and then returned to Nouabalé Ndoki National Park in 2015 where he showed his determination, commitment and passion to accomplish his mission as a leader.

After 23 years of leadership in the fight against poaching, Marcel won the 2019 African Ranger Award, which recognises and supports the achievements and efforts of rangers tackling the precipitous decline of African wildlife due to poaching, habitat loss and illegal wildlife trade. During his tenure, Marcel was responsible for the arrest of a notorious Congolese poacher who was sentenced to 30 years in prison for ivory trafficking and attempted murder of rangers in 2020.

Marcel always said that protecting wildlife is a commitment we have accepted to serve the future generation. He will be missed by his family, our WCS team and all those who had the pleasure of working and engaging with him.

NOUABALE- NDOKI NATIONAL PARK

SOME RESULTS IN 2021

249

Patrols carried out

60

weapons seized

7938

cable traps seized or dismantled

12

Elephant tusks seized

39

poachers arrested

263

illegal camps destroyed

980

munitions seized

59

ecoguards recycled

08

poached Elephants carcasses found

263KG

of bushmeat seized



SANGHA TRI-NATIONAL

AN ARRANGEMENT FOR A BETTER IMPLEMENTATION OF FTNS IN CAMEROON

WATSOP EUSTACHE FTNS COMMUNICATIONS EXPERT

For nearly 15 years, the Sangha Tri-national Trust fund – FTNS (a foreign association under English law) has positioned itself as a major player in conservation in Central Africa, and in Cameroon in particular. This is justified by the fact that it provides annual grants of around 2-3 million euros to the three parks of the Sangha Tri-national World Heritage Site.

Aware of this important ongoing contribution to the development of Cameroon and the Central African sub-region in general, the Republic of Cameroon through the Ministry of External Relations (MINREX) decided to sign an establishment arrangement with FTNS in order to facilitate the implementation of the trust fund's activities. This was materialised through a signing ceremony that took place on August 24 2021 at the MINREX headquarters in Yaoundé, under the leadership of the Minister of External Relations, H.E. Lejeune Mbella Mbella.

Thanks to this arrangement, FTNS will benefit from certain tax and customs facilities in the exercise of its functions, among others. According to the Chairman of FTNS Board of Directors, Mr. Raymond Mbitikon, "this support from the Cameroonian government is an important asset for a better efficiency of FTNS' operations in Cameroon.

Through this action, the Cameroonian State recognizes that "the objectives pursued by FTNS in Cameroon are in line with the national priorities of the Cameroonian

Government in terms of environmental protection and sustainable development; and consequently commits itself "to regulate and fix...the conditions and modalities relating to the establishment and operation of FTNS in the Republic of Cameroon and to define the facilities and advantages necessary for the execution of its missions."

The ceremony was massively attended by heads of diplomatic and ministerial departments, notably the representative of the Federal Republic of Germany and the ambassadors of TNS countries.

A joint committee composed of representatives of the Ministry of External Relations, the Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development, the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife, the Ministry of Finance and FTNS will be created to facilitate the monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the arrangement. It will meet every two years, and as needed upon invitation by the parties.

In 2020, the Lobéké National Park (Cameroon segment of TNS), benefited from nearly 476 million FCFA in grants from FTNS. These funds have facilitated the implementation of conservation, eco-development, transboundary cooperation and basic infrastructure development activities in the park.

QUALITY LIFE & HEALTH

NOUABALE- NDOKI NATIONAL PARK

HEALTH FOR ALL IN NNNP AND ITS SURROUNDINGS! YVES LONDZA ECO-DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT

In the field of health, we have supported two health centres in Bomassa and Makao. As part of this assistance, the park paid the allowances of two health centre workers in Bomassa and one health worker in Makao. Maintenance agents are also supported.

The supply and maintenance of equipment and the technical platform are also covered with the support of FTNS. Thanks to this support, we have recorded around 250 consultations per month for the two health centres. It is important to note that the consultations are free of charge thanks to the fact that the park pays the staff.

We have also set up an awareness-raising programme on all health-related issues. In this context, we have taken steps to set up collaborations between local sectoral administrations in order to regularly receive qualified agents in Bomassa and Makao to carry out campaigns on all issues.

The park also carried out an assessment of Bomassa's community pharmacy. As a result, a meeting between the park management, the community team and the village of Bomassa was held to strengthen the pro-

cedures for purchasing and managing the pharmacy fund established by NNNP.

Currently, the fund covers the allowance of a pharmacy assistant who conducts regular stocktaking and can prepare purchase orders. In a similar way to Bomassa, Makao launched its community pharmacy earlier this year. Both pharmacies facilitate the population's access to quality medicines

OUR CHALLENGES

For this year, we still have the challenge of setting up cold chains to ensure the preservation of vaccines in the health centres of Bomassa and Makao. This will allow us to have our children and pregnant women vaccinated in their locality instead of travelling to Kabo for these services.

We have a problem of insufficient health personnel. We have initiated procedures at the level of the 02 departmental directorates of these regions in order to obtain health workers to cover these 02 centres.

NOUABALÉ-NDOKI NATIONAL PARK

SOME FIGURES & RESULTS IN 2021

2896

consultations carried out

60%

of the adult population of Bomassa and Bon-Coin vaccinated against COVID-19

03

employees supported

06

evacuations to the Kabo Health Centre



©DSPAS

DZANGA SANGHA PROTECTED AREAS

AN INCREASING NEED FOR FUNDING

FRANCK MAVINGA HEAD OF ECO DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS DEPARTMENT

2021 has been characterised by a decrease in health promotion activities due to the lack of funding caused by the closure of the Bengo project. Nevertheless, a new project, the Papao project, provides a financial line for this, we are awaiting the recruitment of the medical coordinator to launch the activities.

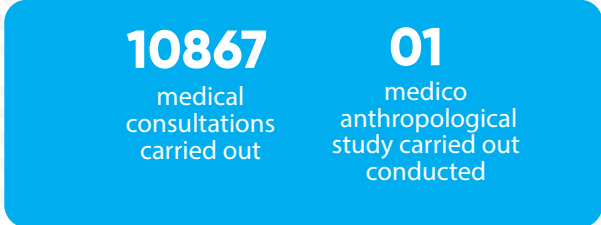
Nevertheless, we have benefited from the visit of specialists, such as the Spanish couple Hofman. They carried out a medical campaign in Bomandjoko, Monasao, Belamboke for a period of one month. This enabled more than 1000 patients to be consulted.

To make up for the lack of funding, we collaborated with the secondary hospital in Bayanga and with other partners such as FAIRMED and the SENI project (a project that provides free health care for indigenous people, particularly pregnant women and children aged 0 to 5) for the health care of the BaAka, who are generally needy. In the department, we have identified cases of BaAka who go to hospital without the financial means

to support their care.

Another difficulty encountered was the provision of food for the BaAka who came to Bayanga for medical treatment. Often very poor, the patients and their guards are often confronted with a feeding problem during their stay. We usually take care of this, but with limited funds it is not very easy.

SOME FIGURES & RESULTS IN 2021



PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURE



NOUABALÉ - NDOKI NATIONAL PARK

ELANGA BOMASSA 2.0

YVES LONDZA ECO-DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT

2021 has enabled us to make further progress with the Elanga Bomassa project, which was set up three years ago (an initiative that enabled us to fence off 4 ha of fields with an electric fence for around 60 families). We can state once again that in three years, the project has not recorded any elephant invasion to date, thus resolving the problem of the supply of basic necessities in this locality and partially alleviating the man-wildlife conflict.

TIME FOR EXPANSION AND DUPLICATION...

Despite the success of this pilot phase, the surface area is proving insufficient. To remedy this, in 2022 we plan to start thinking about expanding the field so that all the families in Bomassa will be able to benefit. Following the convincing results of this initiative, steps

are also being taken to duplicate this experience elsewhere. The localities of Kabo and Makao are being considered for the gradual realisation of these ambitions. We believe that this could contribute to addressing the human-elephant conflict, but also ensure food security in the peripheral areas of the park.

Within the framework of the Elanga Bomassa project, we also carried out consultancies, one of which consisted of training farmers on new cultivation techniques; disease control, soil enrichment, production of improved cassava cuttings, etc. The results will be applied later on in the project. .



MAMA LAURAINÉ

“ Thanks to this field I am now able to get cassava leaves without going to Kabo. Elephants are no longer a problem ”



MARLYSE

“ The field allows me to provide for my family, here I manage to grow pepper and other products which was rare in Bomassa ”

LOBÉKÉ NATIONAL PARK

BAKA COMMUNITY FARMS IN LOBEKE

HIS MAJESTY BABIS

CHIEF OF ZÉGA & MONITORING
FOCAL POINT



In order to guarantee food security and improve the living conditions of local BaAka populations, the Lobéké National Park has undertaken since 2020 the creation of 04 community farms. The village of Zéga has benefited from this experience in its locality.

The village of Zéga is located 7 km from Moloundou and has more than 500 inhabitants, the majority of whom are Baka and Bantu.

A DIVERSIFIED DIET.

This plot has an area of 2 hectares and we have planted several crops, but mainly cassava. The reason for this choice is related to the high consumption of this commodity in this area. Cassava also has a very fast growth cycle, which guarantees quick exploitation, a very important factor in motivating the Baka who are still getting used to this new plantation.

As a traditional chief, I help to facilitate the activities and accompany the people. Every Friday and Saturday we have to mobilise them to go to the farm to work. We also have to educate the villagers on the necessity and importance of these fields which are of great benefit to us. In other words, we are there to ensure the proper implementation of activities.

This community field is very useful because it will generate funds for the communities and the local Baka people in particular. We hope that these funds will help them to meet their basic needs and send their children to school.

NEEDS FOR GREATER OUTPUT

We need support to increase our production. Specifically, we need material support and capacity building to produce in quantity and quality. We think that the presence of an agricultural delegate could help us a lot in acquiring knowledge. Even though we currently grow much more for consumption, in the long run we would like to allocate a large part to sales in order to improve our living conditions in a sustainable way.

"THERE ARE MANY DIFFICULTIES."

It is not easy to coordinate group work in communities. Initially, more of us joined the initiative, but many became discouraged, especially because of doubts about the distribution of the proceeds.

We continued to sensitise and motivate them so that the work would go ahead. Today, we have these results materialised in these operational fields that make us proud.

SOME FIGURES & RESULTS IN 2021

04 Farms established

04 Baka local communities involved

2HA of cultivated space per farm



DZANGA SANGHA PROTECTED AREAS

EMPOWERING BAAKA WOMEN

FRANK MAVINGA HEAD OF ECO DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS DEPARTMENT

©FTNS

One of our activities in 2021 was to work to build the resilience of BaAka women who usually work for Bantu women to support their families. This year we opted for the distribution of seeds to motivate these women to cultivate their own farms. After consultation, the needs identified were improved cassava cuttings, groundnuts and maize. After purchase, these seeds were distributed to the BaAka women of Monasoa in Bomandjoko. In the long term, we plan to build their capacity, monitor production and processing, and evacuate their produce to enable them to generate a stable income to meet their needs and those of their families.

FISH FARMING TAKES HOLD

With regard to fish farming, we worked with the Sangha and local community members through experimental

projects in Bayanga, Babongo, Moussapoula and the commune of Salo. In total, 19 farmers were provided with fingerlings for farming.

After breeding these fingerlings for a period of 9 months, most of them are, most of them became distributors of fingerlings for pond owners in the area, giving rise to new income-generating activities.

The results have therefore been quite positive and we intend to continue the collaboration with those who have shown a real willingness. We believe that this will go a long way towards meeting the food needs in the locality and reducing the pressure on wildlife resources.

SOME FIGURES & RESULTS IN 2021

45 fish farmers supported **45** fish ponds followed up **500KG** of seed distributed



MAMA SERAPHINE

“ Thanks to DSPAs, I received cassava cuttings that allowed me to improve my plot ”



M. MABELI GABRIEL
BAAKA CHIEF OF MOUSSAPOULA 02

“ The cassava cuttings provided by the DSPAs allow us to recover the plants destroyed by the elephants. Their support has also enabled us to expand and set up our fields ”

SUCCESS STORY



MY DREAM IS NOW A REALITY M. WALO MICHEL FARMER IN MOUSSAPOULA (TNS RCA)

I am Walo Michel, the president of the Agropastoral Group of Moussapoula. I practice fruit tree farming, fish farming, bee keeping and agriculture. It all started after a sensitisation by Redd + which motivated us to start farming. As we are in a conservation area, I also chose to engage in these activities to help preserve our environment.

My learning process started with IUCN who introduced us to agricultural techniques such as grafting and layering. Then ICRAF via FTNS-funded project k took over to strengthen our knowledge and provide us with the basic means to facilitate our production.

Despite the discouragement of the other participants, I held on to this vision, which seemed very good to me. Today my family and I grow safu trees, palm trees, avocado trees, moringa, cola and other fruit trees. Thanks to

the support of FTNS and the k-project, we were able to produce our first cocoa fruits in 2020 despite our sandy soils, a first ever experience in the area. I also raise pigs, ducks, bees and fish.

My activities allow me to take care of my wife and 10 children. Without hunting or going into the forest, I manage to live better and provide for my family.

While thanking FTNS and DSPAs for their support, we still have many needs. In order for these initiatives to be more productive, we need more materials and knowledge. My dream is to see many people in my community get involved like I did and for that I suggest a continuous and close assistance to the members of our community.



ECO-TOURISM IN 2021

NOUABALE-NDOKI NATIONAL PARK

ENHANCING LOCAL SKILLS

ARNAUD LOUBOUNDA FOCAL POINT, COMMUNITY BASED ECOTOURISM PROGRAMME

We have carried out community consultation and awareness sessions to enlist and identify all the potential that we can develop in the area in terms of community ecotourism. The studies have been satisfactory and we are currently working on setting up a community campsite. This building will consist of several bungalows located along the river near the village. The site has already been identified and construction work will start next year.

A selection committee was recently organised to select the company that will be in the responsibility. An experience-sharing mission was also organised in the south of the country. This took place with Easy Congo, an NGO with extensive experience in community-based ecotourism.

Training was also organised at CIB Pokola in catering and hotel management. These activities aimed to prepare the community for the launch of the community-based ecotourism in Bomassa. The particularity of the Community Based Tourism Programme is its focus on the local community.

Through this approach, local communities will be the actors and beneficiaries of local activities and initiatives. We believe that this programme will contribute to generating income for them, while enhancing the sustainable management of wildlife and floral resources.



**THE CHIEF OF
DE BOMASSA**

“We have benefited from several training and exchange trips in ecotourism. This will create many jobs for the people of Bomassa”



**MAMA
SAÏDA**

“Thanks to the Park, I have been able to benefit from several training courses in the restaurant business. Today, I have expanded my restaurant for a larger clientele”

A photograph of a boat on a river, surrounded by dense green trees. The water is calm and reflects the surrounding foliage. The boat is in the foreground, and the river leads into the distance.

LOBEKE NATIONAL PARK

OBJECTIVE, MAKE LNP KNOWN...

JUSTIN WILLIAM VOLUNTEER, THE ECOTOURISM UNIT

MAKE NLP KNOWN TO EVERYONE!

Within the ecotourism development strategic framework, we had to think about strategies to improve the park's visibility, and in particular, its ecotourism assets.

In order to achieve this, we undertook an exchange trip with the different sectors, i.e. the Ministry of Tourism, MINAC and local tour operators.

This field work was of paramount importance because it allowed us to unseal the ecotourism potential of the park, which is not known to the general public, especially at national level. The goal was to improve the park's visibility, especially in terms of its ecotourism assets, and to exchange information with the different sectors, i.e. the Ministry of Tourism, MINAC and local tour operators.

In terms of communication, we have also set up Facebook and YouTube accounts, which are regularly updated with content from these sites. Videos of flag ship species are regularly posted.

Our collaboration with the decentralised territorial councils, also allowed us to make available a lot of information to international visitors who could be interested in the destination. In terms of communication, we have also set up Facebook and YouTube accounts, which are regularly updated with content from sites. Videos of emblematic species are regularly posted.

In collaboration with the decentralised territorial communes, we have contributed to the visibility of the

Lobéké National Park and TNS throughout the national territory. We obtained some strategic advertising panels in the city of Bertoua where we put up posters on the tourist aspects of the aspects of the park

In this same line of action, we have also worked to promote the pharmacopoeia in order to promote the socio-cultural wealth of the park's periphery. This was achieved by organising the first Baka-Bantu festival with our partners! The first ever organised by a park in Cameroon, a showcase for the indigenous peoples around the park. The event was marked by a mini Baka village located in front of the park headquarters and an exhibition of local crafts and traditional food.

Our involvement also facilitated the production of the first Lobéké national park tourism map. This map contains and presents the different tourist sites in and around the park. It also identifies the accommodation facilities around the park.

MORE FUNDS... MORE VISIBILITY

However, we need funds to continue the activities we have started in 2021. Producing posters, videos and other communication materials involves significant costs. But we believe that given the importance of eco-tourism as an essential path to the possible empowerment of the LNP, boosting the promotion and development of tourism in Lobéké is a priority to be considered.

A SUCCESSFUL POST-COVID FRESH REBOOT!

LAMBERT PADOU, DEPUTY ECOTOURISM OFFICER



158 VISITORS IN 02 MONTHS!

The year 2021 saw the relaunch of ecotourism activities in DSPAs. As a reminder, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the site was closed in March 2020 to protect wildlife from possible disease transmission. During this 18-month closure period, the majority of the staff in the ecotourism department were laid off. The main activities during this period were maintenance.

However, the year 2021 was marked by a new dawn, the official reopening on 18 October 2021 to receive our first tourists of the "Post Covid-19" era. Prior to this reopening, intense rehabilitation was carried out, particularly for the tourist infrastructure. The tracks to the tourist sites were also maintained and improved.

Among the improved facilities are the Doli-lodge and the Mirador of Dzanga Bai. With regard to the Doli lodge, a fence was built to increase the security and privacy of tourists.

A new concrete landing ramp has also been constructed to facilitate the arrival and departure of our visitors arriving by water.

From 1 October to 31 December 2021, we recorded 158 tourists! Among our visitors we count several internationals, residents, filmmakers, etc.

THE SAME DIFFICULTIES PERSIST

The security context of our country still remains a continuous challenge! The crisis that preceded the previous presidential elections brought about a negative environment for the development of tourism. This has led to the cancellation of several bookings and a poor security review for the country.

Harassment at checkpoints also persists despite the provisions made by the Central African Republic government. The distance of the site from Bangui does not facilitate an adequate follow-up of these decisions.

HUMAN RIGHTS & CULTURE

SANGHA TRI-NATIONAL

NDIMAKALI, FOR THE PROMOTION OF CULTURE IN TNS

JOSÉ BÉTOULET NDIMAKALI COORDINATOR



In 2021 we carried out several activities, including five holiday camps. The novelty this year was the village pairings; this allowed the children to get out of their village and get to know young people from other villages. Learning workshops were also organised, which allowed us to facilitate the learning of musical instrument making techniques. We also organised workshops on traditional songs, dances, stories and history.

Ndimakali also took part in workshops in Mambélé (TNS Cameroon) and in Ouesso on CLIP organised by GIZ. This allowed us to learn about the CLIP approach and its possible integration into our context and activities.

One of our major achievements was the exchange trips with other young people from the Cameroonian and Congolese TNS parks. We first began at Nouabalé National Park where we interacted with several young people to share our experience and to see to what extent it could be replicated, establishing a group of young people who could be dedicated to the cause and the promotion of their culture. We also carried out the same action with the young people of Mambélé whom we visited in return.

The idea behind this was to have a platform of young indigenous people from TNS who can meet regularly and exchange on the cultural elements of their coun-

tries and villages. We do this because we think that traditional culture is a very important tool for conservation. Our great-grandparents who lived here before the creation of the park and even before colonisation were doing conservation without knowing it, because they did not destroy the fauna and had enhancement practices. If they had not adopted these good practices, we would not have the protected areas here today. So we think it is necessary not to dissociate conservation and traditional culture.

Our vision is to have a platform that can bring together all the young people of TNS who could even participate in discussions on the margins of TNS management meetings. This would allow this generation of future leaders to be much more involved in the management of the park.

CAPACITY BUILDING & MORE FUNDS

We have long-term needs for the manifestation of our vision. Firstly we need capacity building, we think we can communicate better about our activities by ourselves! If our young people can receive training in project development and reporting, it will help us a lot. Today I am in Ndimakali, but tomorrow I could be somewhere else, but I would not like to see this association for which we have put so much effort disappear.

A NEW PSYCHO-SOCIAL COMPONENT AT BAYANGA



The human rights component has seen several improvements. We have introduced a psycho-social component to enable us to listen to people and reduce the psychological effects of the violence identified in the communities (intentional injury, early marriage, public insults, sexual violence, etc.).

Collaboration with the human rights centre has also enabled us to carry out activities to launch a new campaign against gender-based violence in Bayanga. Our priority activities at the moment are to raise awareness among the inhabitants about sexual violence. We also listen to the victims in order to initiate conciliations and then follow up the beneficiaries on a case-by-case basis.

LOBEKE NATIONAL PARK

SUPPORTING EDUCATION IN LOBÉKÉ AND ITS SURROUNDINGS

MEKE CHRISTIAN, **HEADMASTER OF THE MOMBOUE (SALAPOUMBE) PRIMARY SCHOOL**

The Momboué primary school is a full-cycle structure with three teachers, one of whom is paid by the state, and two temporary teachers. I would like to thank the park's partners for the permanent and constant support they offer us in this school.

This support includes: the payment of the temporary teachers for the current year, the payment of the Parents' Association fees for all the pupils from the Baka minority strata and the payment of the exam fees for the three pupils who are CEP candidates.

WATER FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR TEACHERS

For this year, a borehole is also being installed, which is causing a lot of excitement among the children and will solve a major problem. Because of the absence of a drinking water point in the school compound, the pupils found it very difficult to refresh themselves and were sometimes forced to consume poor quality water which made them ill.

I really want to thank our partners for this new borehole

and their constant and permanent support. In previous years, we also benefited from the construction of latrines and the installation of a tank for water reserves. This new water point will also help the resident teachers in the school by providing them with drinking water for their vital needs. I really want to thank the partners who support us in our mission.

OTHERS NEEDS

Nevertheless, some needs remain. We have a shortage of teachers supported by the state, a lack of teaching materials which limits the implementation of the new national curriculum in our area. As a result, we are lagging far behind in the new national education process, and if we could obtain these teaching materials, it would help to improve the quality of education of the children in this school.

There is also a need for playing equipment (jerseys, balls, etc.) to facilitate the children's relaxation.



BIENDE.A. JUNIOR
CM1 PUPIL

"It was difficult for us to get water to wash the classes. We had to go further to get it, but with this new water point it will be easier"



M. ROSE
CE1 PUPIL

"We thank the park for providing us with water. I'm happy because I won't be thirsty anymore during break time."

204
students
supported
in 2021

64
teacher
supported
in 2021





DZANGA SANGHA PROTECTED AREAS

GUARANTEE EDUCATION FOR ALL!

FRANK MAVIMGA HEAD OF ECO-DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS DEPARTMENT

Following previous years' model, the DSPAs has continued its policy of promoting education among local populations living near the DSPAs (from vulnerable strata). In terms of results, the BaAKa children in primary school had a 74% success rate and at secondary school level, 2 children were admitted to the top class of secondary school (one of which was a girl who obtained her brevet). At a higher level, the two BaAKa students in the Faculty of Political Law in Bangui have all been promoted to the higher level, which is very good news and means that the first university diploma in this programme will soon be obtained.

OBTAINING THE BACCALAURÉAT IN BAYANGA, WILL SOON BE A REALITY.

We have also started the construction of a new block of three classrooms for the Bayanga college thanks to the financial support of the Fondation pour le Tri-national de la Sangha - FTNS. Once completed, the new building will also have 60 table benches and a toilet block.

According to the Principal of the secondary school, Mr. Rémy NGAMA, "this building will enable the school to be upgraded into a high school at the beginning of the next academic year. This will give the opportunity to in-

digenous BaAka & Sangha children who had difficulties to move away from their parents for their studies to be able to obtain their Baccalaureate in Bayanga".

MAJOR CHALLENGES

The financial shortfall does not allow us to meet the current needs. In principle, our objective is to provide academic support to all vulnerable BaAKa children in need, which is impossible with the current financial means. We believe that priority should be given to the BaAKa, orphans and the elderly who are from very vulnerable strata. In total, we have supported 721 children for the academic year 2021.

BaAka children are very mobile and move around a lot, especially to find food! This situation makes them irregular in school and affects their academic performance. In order to enable them to have regular schooling to finish the year, it would be important to offer them meals through a school canteen project to encourage them to stay in school and finish the school year.

There is also an urgent need for clean water and latrines for the children. We have also identified some schools that have a shortage of replacement desks. These acquisitions could facilitate the education of these vulnerable children.

SOME KEY RESULTS IN 2021

565

students supported in 2021

60

teachers supported

02

BaAka university supported

24

schools supported



NOUABALÉ-NDOKI NATIONAL PARK

ENSURE FREE & QUALITY!

YVES LONDZA ASS. ECO-DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

FREE SCHOOLING CONTINUES!

In 2021 we continued to support the operation of two schools (in Bomassa and Macao). Our support consisted of the provision of school and teaching materials and the financial support of teachers. The scholarship programme to support students from secondary school onwards was also continued with 16 scholarships awarded. Other donations were made to schools, including sports equipment and teaching materials, including books, chalk, pens and pencils. Finally, to increase the students' interest in scientific studies, especially biodiversity and conservation, Bomassa students received tools to measure wind, rain and temperature.

PLACE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Club Ebobo, the environmental education programme for children, was relaunched in the third quarter. Three sessions took place in July, August and September, with a total of 50 participants in July, 25 participants in August (13 boys and 12 girls, including one indigenous person) and 36 in September (18 boys and 18 girls, including three indigenous people). The participants were educated on fully protected species in the Congo and the different reasons why the Congolese state has protected them. They were also made aware of the opportunities to address a problem and positively change the future.

Construction work on the Bomassa school is still ongoing. The finishing touches are being made and we expect the school to be available to the children of Bomassa at the start of the next school year. An identical experience will be repeated in Makao and a selection committee has already been held to select the contractor to carry out the work.

Thanks to this support, more than 500 pupils have been able to attend school free of charge thanks to the park.

SOME FIGURES & RESULTS IN 2021

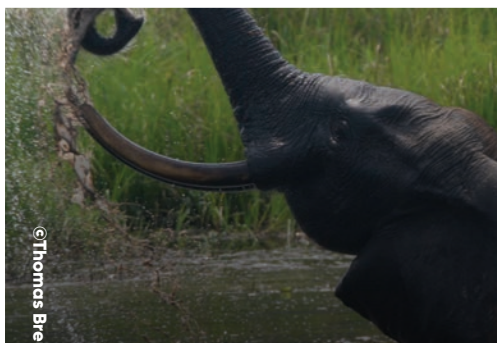
+500
pupils
supported
in 2021

07
teachers
supported
in 2021

16
students
supported
in 2021

02
university
students
supported
in 2021

BIO-MONITORING & RESEARCH



NOUABALE-NDOKI NATIONAL PARC

POST COVID-19 RESEARCH !

VICTORIA ESTIENNE, HEAD OF THE BIO-MONITORING & RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

The research and ecological monitoring department has several activities, components and projects that we work on. In general, we had very good results in 2021.

A YEAR RICH IN EVENTS

Overall, we focused on ecological monitoring, especially the SWIM (Sustainable Wildlife Management) project in northern Congo. Our role was to establish baselines for the small game hunting area for species such as rodents, duikers, porcupines, bushpigs, etc. Our support also enabled fieldwork to be carried out, which consisted of data collection in 03 peripheral areas of the park used by local communities. The analysis of the results is still in progress.

Continuation of NNNP inventory activities

This year was primarily marked by the inventory of the Ndoki Likouala landscape. During this period, we were able to carry out the preparations, notably the development of the data collection protocol, the purchase plan, the request for a research permit, etc.

In terms of effort, we set up 07 teams of 4 people, approximately 30 people. Several investments were also made in training and first aid. These were aimed at preparing the staff working in the field to be prepared for possible situations.

At the technical level, training on topics such as GIS was also provided.

Rehabilitation of research infrastructure on the agenda!

NNNP has also undertaken the rehabilitation of research site infrastructures: Mbeli Mondika and part of Goulougou, which had been largely degraded by the tropical climate and insects such as termites. This has enabled us to restore them to a suitable state to receive researchers and workers.

Elanga Bomassa 2.0

In 2021, our department continued its collaboration with the community development department in the framework of the Elanga Bomassa project. After 2 years of implementation, we still do not have any data of an elephant crossing the electric fence to enter the field, which confirms the success of the project. We also contracted an expert from Gabon to carry out a study on the cost of installation and the benefits of the project. This same expert integrated us into a group of experts working on the mitigation of human-wildlife conflicts, allowing us to participate in an online conference on this topic.

This was an opportunity for us to make a much appreciated presentation on the Elanga Bomassa project, a great success for the park. This participation also led to an exchange with the human-wildlife conflict mitigation unit of the Odzala Kokoua Park. This activity was characterised by a visit to Bomassa for a close presentation of the project.

A further step towards acoustic technology

As part of the Elephant Listening Project (ELP), we hosted a Masters student, Ana Verahrami, whose project was to develop a tool to identify different types of gunshots. Thanks to this, we can now determine when shots are fired and even whether they are burst shots or not. The trainee also conducted practical experiments in the field with different types of weapons to determine the conclusive results. This will help us a lot in the fight against poaching and around the park.

As part of the development of TNS collaboration, we sent a team of experts to the DSPAs for a training session with technicians and ecoguards. The experience of our acoustic activities was also shared with the Lobéké National Park. We have also identified a room in the ecological centre to create a mini centre for training and

analysis of bio-acoustic data. This is intended to establish Bomassa as a technical support centre for all other partners interested in Passive Monitoring Acoustic techniques. Two research assistants will soon be recruited to facilitate this.

A safe 're-opening' of the Park

For our three research sites, the priority in 2021 has been to ensure that wildlife, especially great apes, are not potentially affected by covid-19. As a result, 2021 started with a quarantine atmosphere, but once the vaccines were made available in Congo, the park made every effort to obtain them and to educate staff on the need to vaccinate. To date, almost all NNNP staff have been vaccinated, allowing us to discontinue the full quarantine and resume normal work. Nevertheless, we still carry out rapid covid-19 tests before every departure to the forest. In addition to this, 05 days of observation are ef-

fective in the camp, this short quarantine also serves as a capacity building period for the staff. Once this period has expired, a final rapid test is carried out before a work permit is obtained. Continuing our work is a priority, but ensuring the health of the apes is even more so.

CHALLENGES AND NEEDS

We face a number of challenges, including limited internet connection and power supply, which reduce communication and ease of working. In terms of cross-border collaboration, the free movement of TNS staff, despite the texts, is still not fully effective. We still face several hassles from cross-border authorities in the implementation of our activities in the other TNS parks.



INFRASTRUCTURE



LOBEKE NATIONAL PARK

THE LOBEKE ECOGUARDS CAMP: ALREADY 30% COMPLETION!

IVAN NGAMENI, FTNS FOLLOW-UP ENGINEER

The Lobeke Ecoguard Camp construction project was initiated in November 2020 and continued in 2021 by FTNS. According to the implementation schedule, the works will last for a period of 02 years.

The tasks include the construction of 32 studios and 16 toilet blocks for the ecoguards, 03 flats for the senior ecoguards, 01 flat for the conservator, 01 visitors block with several rooms, a water tower, a laundry shelter, paths, etc. The camp will be supplied by a solar power plant to be built later. From our observation, the ecoguards are very enthusiastic about the progress of the work. According to our latest assessment, the work is about 34% complete.

SAFETY AND QUALITY GUARANTEED!

In order to guarantee the safety of the employees on the site, we have introduced an EHSR (Environmental, Social, Safety and Health) component to this project.

This component includes 4 axes:

Firstly, the nuisance mitigation plan for the construction site, which includes reforestation of the site after the work, analysis of the used water, monitoring of the re-framing of the various waste from the work.

Secondly, we have the waste management plan. The execution of the works generates biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste. Our action is to take the bio-

degradable into pits and store the non-biodegradable waste in ejection stations where it can be later disposed of in a safe and secure way by the company.

The project has recruited a QHSE officer to ensure the health, safety and security of employees and an officer to manage the complaints mechanism. The latter is important to ensure communication between the company and local people. To facilitate this, the officer recruited had to be fluent in Cameroonian national languages and local languages to facilitate interactions between the different parties.

ACTIVITIES IN 2021

In July 2021 we started with the installation of the work sites for all the external personnel. We also carried out the excavation and laying of the foundations.

It is important to note that this project also involves the local population. Our objective is not only to build housing, but also to improve the skills of the population. This is why some young people from the local population were trained in clay brick production during the first phase. This second project, in order to continue the momentum, has also recruited local labour to equip them with the techniques of raising brick walls.

One of the major difficulties is the sloping topography of the land, which forced us to obtain staggered platforms as a result.

LOBEKE NATIONAL PARK

ECOGUARD CAMPS IN FIGURES

32
studios

16
toilet
blocks

04
flats for
senior staff

01
visitors
block with
several rooms

01
water
tower

01
Laundry
shelter



NOUABALE-NDOKI NATIONAL PARK

THE INFRASTRUCTURAL REVOLUTION CONTINUES!

WILLY SAFOU MAKAYA HEAD OF LOGISTICS AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT

The NNNP launched a vast operation to improve its infrastructure since 2019. As a follow-up, several new infrastructures were built in 2021, mainly with FTNS support.

IMPROVING WORKERS' LIVING CONDITIONS

Nothing can be achieved in the parks without the human resources that coordinate and implement the activities. There is therefore a need to guarantee their living conditions for optimal performance, starting with decent housing. Therefore, in 2021, we have worked to improve the dedicated space reserved to accommodate the new workers' housing. Two show houses were first built as prototypes for further construction. These buildings allowed the engineers to make the necessary assessments and adjustments for the production of the other 30 houses to come.

We have also launched a search for suppliers for the manufacture of terracotta bricks. Following the model of the Lobéké National Park, the idea is also to train the youth of Bomassa in mud brick making techniques. Several missions to identify service providers have already been organised.

The year 2021 also enabled us to equip the "VIP" house, which was delivered in 2020. As a result of these improvements, this building now enables us to comfortably house 04 important guests for a considerable period of time.

This year, we equally obtained some fuel tanks thanks to FTNS funds. Obtaining quality fuel is essential for us to ensure the durability of our vehicles. This will help us to improve the management and control of stocks in the motor pool.

REHABILITATION OF RESEARCH SITES

Several infrastructural works have also been carried out in the 03 NNNP research sites. These sites are permanently inhabited by researchers, hence the importance of maintaining them so that they are suitable for habitation.

For example, we already have three habituated groups of gorillas at Mondika that require the presence of more researchers for monitoring. Financial support from FTNS has enabled us to upgrade the infrastructure, including the installation of platforms for researchers' tent.

INFRASTRUCTURE FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

In 2021, we launched community-based ecotourism, which consists of placing local people at the centre of ecotourism activities. To achieve this, the park has decided, after consultation with local people, to build a community campsite. The process of recruiting a service provider is currently underway.

FTNS has also financed the construction of several drinking water points. Two boreholes have been

Two boreholes were constructed in Bon Coin and Bomassa respectively, providing access to good quality water for the local population. FTNS funds also facilitated the installation of a water supply system for the Bomassa ecological centre through the installation of a 3,000 litre tank.

A SCHOOL IN BOMASSA, THEN MAKAO

With the support of FTNS, we continued the construction of the Bomassa school. This structure will improve the learning conditions of the children and teachers of Bomassa. In the same perspective, NNNP has been able to obtain, with the agreement of FTNS, funds for the construction of an identical building in Makao. The selection committee for the contract has already met in Bomassa.

You too can contribute
to our mission
#SupportTNS

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OBJECTIVE: €100 MILLION TO SAVE THE TNS!

With more than 10 years of experience (2007-2019), FTNS provides annual financial support of about € 2 million to TNS parks (from endowment and sinking funds). However, this represents only one third of the budgets of these three parks, which face several growing threats (poaching, gradual population pressure, etc.).

It is for this reason that FTNS aims to increase its investment capital from €60 to €100 million. This should enable it to generate annual revenues that could cover the bulk of the operating needs of the Sangha Tri-national Parks (TNS).

Contributing to TNS capital means contributing to the sustainable preservation of TNS, one of the priority ecoregions of the Congo Basin, the second largest green lung in the world.



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