Comoé National Park

SITE INFORMATION

Country:
Côte d'Ivoire
Inscribed in: 1983
Criteria:
(ix) (x)

Site description:
One of the largest protected areas in West Africa, this park is characterized by its great plant diversity. Due to the presence of the Comoé river, it contains plants which are normally only found much farther south, such as shrub savannahs and patches of thick rainforest. © UNESCO
SUMMARY

2014 Conservation Outlook

Critical

During the long period of socio-political crisis the site was practically abandoned which led to an intensification of illegal activities inside the site, such as poaching, cattle grazing and agriculture. The combination of these threats has had a severe impact on the already disturbed natural values of the site, especially on the populations of large mammals many of which have declined dramatically. The vegetation and diverse habitats of the property have suffered significant disturbance and fragmentation due to the illegal human activities, especially cattle grazing and agriculture, as well as bushfires. The stabilization of the political situation has enabled resumption of some management and control activities, but the establishment of a working management system is still in the very beginning. However, the overall state of the values of the site is still critical and might continue deteriorating as most of the threats have not yet been eliminated. The magnitude of human pressures makes it difficult to restore and conserve the critically declined populations of large mammal species. The easy accessibility of the site and the proximity of local settlements pose a threat of infiltration of the site by local people. It is still possible to conserve the fauna of site and to facilitate its recovery by improving surveillance, establishing environmental education, improving law enforcement, monitoring and research programmes and raising awareness among local people. However, the values of the site are severely compromised and the restoration of its wildlife, flora and ecosystems depends on the efficiency and urgency of the corrective measures (SOC Report, 2012).

Current state and trend of VALUES

Critical
Trend: Improving

The long period of socio-political crisis in the country has had severe consequences for the state of the site. The habitats have suffered critical
alteration and disturbance from illegal human activities, such as cattle grazing and agriculture, and associated bushfires. The aerial survey of 2010 showed a very low density of many large mammal species, including extremely low density of chimpanzee and elephants. The magnitude of human pressures makes it difficult to restore and conserve the already declined populations of large mammal species. The overall state of the values of the site is critical and might continue deteriorating as most of the threats have not yet been eliminated despite efforts to do so.

The results of the most recent aerial survey (April 2014) are not publicly available yet. But it seems that the major pressures like transhumance are under a better control, and populations of some species might have increased.

**Overall THREATS**

**Very High Threat**

Poaching for large mammals, especially elephant, kob, buffalo, hartebeest, roan antelope, hippopotamus, as well as chimpanzees has already led to a critical decline of the populations of these species and continues to pose a threat to the values of the site. Elephant numbers are now below a viable population level. For major species this decline is estimated between 50 and 80% (or complete loss, such as for lions which probably became extinct before 2010 (Henschel et al. 2010)). The western part of the site is affected by agricultural encroachment. Cattle grazing, concentrated in the northern and eastern parts of the park, is seriously degrading the site’s ecosystems. Since the political crisis of 2002, the site has been abandoned which has led to intensification of all illegal activities within the site. The licenses for mining research granted by the State party could pose a serious threat if they were brought into operation, but the current situation with the licenses is unclear. Stabilization of the political situation in the country has allowed restoration of the State authority over the site and has enabled initiation of corrective measures. However, poaching, transhumance and illegal crop fields are still present in the site (SOC Report, 2012). These threats are still at a very high level and the park needs very urgent measures to safeguard its natural values (WCF, 2008; SOC, 2011; Centre de Recherche en Ecologie, 2002b).
Overall PROTECTION and MANAGEMENT

Serious Concern

During the socio-political crisis in the country which started in 2002, the property has suffered a long period of almost complete absence of management. Activities such as monitoring, research and education programmes have been abandoned. The stabilization of the situation has enabled the re-establishment of a management system and control over the site and implementation of certain corrective measures thanks to international assistance and funding. In 2014, significant efforts have been done to restore a working management system; however, a new management is not available yet. Despite the resumption of patrolling activities, poaching is still taking place in the property, along with cattle grazing. Financially the park highly depends on international assistance. (UNESCO/IUCN Mission Report, 2006, IUCN, 2008; SOC Report, 2011; SOC Report, 2012; WCF, 2010; SOC Report, 2014).
FULL ASSESSMENT

Description of values

Values

World Heritage values

► Remarkable variety of habitats
   Criterion:(ix)

Due to its geographical location, Comoé National Park is an ecological unit of particular importance. Its geomorphology comprises wide plains with deep ridges carved by the Comoé River and its tributaries (Bavé, Iringou, Kongo), allowing humid plant growth towards the north and favoring the presence of wildlife in the forest zone. The site also contains green rocky inselbergs in the north-south line, surmounted by rocky ridges that form in the centre and the north, isolated massifs and small chains of 500m to 600m in altitude (SoUV, 2010). Besides the Comoé River and its tributaries the park contains small rivers and streams as well as lakes and temporal ponds.

► Transitional habitat from savannah to rain forest
   Criterion:(ix)

Containing savannas, wooded savannas, gallery forests, fluvial forests and riparian grasslands, Comoé National Park provides an outstanding example of transitional habitats from forest to savanna. All types of savannah occur. The forest is composed of many leguminous trees. The gallery forests are dominated by Cynometra vogelii; the patches of dense dry forest by Isoberlinia doka, Anogeissus leiocarpus, Cola cordifolia, Antiaris africana, nationally threatened Chlorophora excels, and the edible 'akee'; and the flood plains by Hyparrhenia rufa (SoUV, 2010).
Important site for the conservation of Sudano-Guinean species.  
Criterion:(x)

The site contains 36 of the 38 species of the biome of the Sudo-Guinean savanna inventoried in the country as well as resident populations of species that have become rare in West Africa, such as the Jabiru Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis.

Variety of animal species  
Criterion:(x)

A large number of species occur in the site, including mammal species with 14 species of primates (including anubis baboon, green monkey, diana monkey, mona monkey, lesser white-nosed monkey, white collared mangabey, black and white colobus and chimpanzee); 17 species of carnivores; giant pangolin, aardvark and rock hyrax; and 17 species of even-toed ungulates including bushpig, warthog, hippopotamus, bushbuck, buffalo, red-flanked duiker, waterbuck, kob, roan antelope and oribi. A set of 509 bird species have been recorded for the park. Four of the six West African stork species, and five of the six West African vulture species have been documented (SoUV, 2010). A total of 35 species of amphibians and 71 species of reptiles including one endemic snake species have been found in the park (ref. Internal Reports Comoé Research Station). During the surveys done since 2008, no signs of lions have been found anymore.

Habitat of rare and endangered animal species  
Criterion:(x)

Due to the phytogeographical situation and the crossing of the River Comoé for over 230 kilometers, Comoé National Park teems with a vast variety of animal and plant species. Several of the bird species enjoy international protection, among which the Denham’s Bustard (Neotis denhami), the yellow casqued hornbill (Ceratogymna elata) and the brown-cheeked hornbill (Bycanistes cylindricus). As concerns reptiles, three species of crocodiles are found in the Park – including the dwarf crocodile (Osteolaemus tetraspis) – which are on the IUCN Red List. The property also contains three other threatened species which are the Chimpanzee, and the Elephant Loxodonta...
Great plant diversity

Criterion: (x)

The park contains a remarkable variety of habitats and plant associations found, more often, further south, including savannah, patches of thick rainforest and riparian grasslands. The property contains around 1,200 plant species. Areas of specialized vegetation occur on the rocky inselbergs and in aquatic habitats (SoUV, 2010).

Assessment information

Threats

Current Threats

Very High Threat

Poaching for large mammals, such as elephant, kob, buffalo, roan antelope, hippopotamus, as well as chimpanzees has already lead to a critical decline in the populations of these species and continues to pose a threat to the values of the site. Elephants and hippos are most likely already below viable population numbers. Agricultural encroachment, illegal grazing of cattle within the property and transhumance lead to a significant degradation of the ecosystem of the site. The period of civil war and the consequent absence of management have lead to an intensification of all illegal activities. Stabilization of the political situation in the country has allowed restoration of the State authority over the site and has enabled the initiation of corrective measures. However, poaching, transhumance and illegal crop fields are still present within the site (SOC Report, 2012).

Other

Very High Threat
Inside site

Commercial poaching by professional poachers and illegal subsistence hunting by local population constitute one of the main threats to the values of the site. Absence of management during the period of civil unrest has resulted in intensification of poaching which lead to a dramatic decline of the populations of large mammals (UNEP-WCMC, 2011). Some studies estimate the loss of kob and elephant populations at least at around 75-80%, while the populations of buffalo, red hartebeest, sable antelope, bushbuck, hippopotamus and sacred baboon have decreased by at least 40-50% (Lauginie, 2007). During the aerial survey undertaken by the WCF (Wild Chimpanzee Foundation) in 2010 no elephants were directly observed, the report only mentions that traces of animals were seen (WCF, 2009). Illegal fishing in the Comoé river was also reported (WCF, 2010). Despite the resumption of anti-poaching control activities and implementation of other corrective measures since the normalization of the political situation, poaching is still present in the site (SOC Report, 2014).

Crops
High Threat
Inside site

The long period of civil unrest and the consequent absence of control have lead to intensification of agricultural encroachment within the site. According to the aerial survey undertaken in 2010 agricultural encroachment is widespread in the western part of the park (SOC, 2011).

Livestock Farming / Grazing
High Threat
Inside site
Outside site

The long period of civil unrest and absence of control have opened the park to local and transhumant cattle herdsmen. The aerial survey of 2010 revealed that 90% of all mammals present within the property are domestic animals and that cattle’s grazing was responsible for a significant degradation of the site’s ecosystems (SOC, 2011). The grazing is more widespread in the northern and eastern parts of the site, with large herds present in its north-eastern segment (WCF, 2010). Despite some efforts to
deal with illegal grazing activities, the pressure remains high.

▶ **Fire/ Fire Suppression**

- **Low Threat**
- **Inside site**
- **Outside site**

Bushfires reported within the site are often associated with illegal activities (poaching, illegal cattle-raising). The areas affected by the fires are found in different parts of the site, with heavy or medium degree of damage in some places, but they are concentrated within the central belt slightly shifted eastward which crosses the site from north to south (WCF, 2010).

▶ **Mining/ Quarrying**

- **Data Deficient**
- **Inside site**

Gold washing practiced by local people during the rainy season constitutes a certain threat, but the information on its impact is insufficient (Centre de Recherche en Ecologie, 2002b).

**Potential Threats**

- **Data Deficient**

The licenses for mining research granted by the State party could pose a serious threat if brought into operation. But the current situation with the licenses is unclear. The World Heritage Centre and IUCN had requested the State Party to confirm officially that no mining exploration license covering the property has been granted. The State Party has still not provided any information on this matter (SOC, 2012).

▶ **Mining/ Quarrying**

- **Data Deficient**
- **Inside site**

In 2008 three mining exploration licenses were granted. According to the State Party, any geological exploration within the site would be aimed at evaluating the site’s potential mineral resources (SOC, 2011). Later the State Party claimed that no licenses had been granted. The World Heritage
Centre and IUCN had requested the State Party to confirm officially that no mining exploration license covering the property has been granted. The State Party has still not provided any information on this matter by March 2014 (SOC, 2014).

**Protection and management**

**Assessing Protection and Management**

▶ **Legal framework and enforcement**
   Mostly Effective

Designated as a national park in 1968 (Decree N 68-81), Comoé is located in the North-East of Côte d’Ivoire across 5 administrative regions. The park is administered by the Ivorian Office of Parks and Reserves (OIPR) under the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (SP report, 2012).

▶ **Integration into regional and national planning systems**
   Mostly Effective

Comoé national Park is integrated to the regional strategic action plan of Bounkani (Bouna). This document is still in preparation and will be available at 2015. In addition, the park is integrated in the programme PAPE (Entente protected areas Program) of UEMOA/EU.

▶ **Sustainable finance**
   Some Concern

The application of corrective measures and establishment of a working management system highly depend on international assistance and funding. GEF and World Bank provided financial help of $2.54 million for the implementation of the PARC-CI project (Projet d’Appui à la Relance de la Conservation des parcs et reserves de Côte d’Ivoire). The Ivorian Government provided 200 million CFA francs for patrolling activities (SP Report, 2012). The park has also received 16.4 million CFA francs from the Rapid Response Facility. In addition, a French debt relief fund could possibly enable sustainable funding for the park (SOC, 2012).
► **Staff training and development**  
**Some Concern**

In addition to the patrols and equipment for the agents, the 2013 mission noted training in anti-poaching for forestry commandos and elements of the Côte d’Ivoire Republican Forces, training on legal procedures for staff of the management body, training in ecological monitoring for auxiliary villagers, OIPR agents and SIG agents and ecological monitoring for the MIST data base (SOC, 2013)

► **Education and interpretation programs**  
**Serious Concern**

The political crises has not allowed to start any projects of education and participation (Comités de surveillance villageois, Comités de suivi écologique, Comités d’informations, de sensibilisation, et d’éducation environnementale, Comités d’alphabétisation, Comités d’hygiène, santé, Comités des guides touristiques, Groupements et coopératives villageois) (Centre de Recherche en Ecologie, (2002a)

► **Management effectiveness**  
**Some Concern**

Due to the political crisis and civil unrest, the site has experienced a long period of absence of any management system. Since the end of the crisis, the situation has been improving. The normalization of the socio-political situation has enabled the resumption of the management activities throughout the site (SOC, 2012) The State Party report notes that the level of staffing has increased considerably and that a new surveillance strategy has been developed (State party Report, 2011). In 2014, the political and security situation seems to have improved. In 2014, the PARC-CI project (Protected Area Management Project) has contributed to the improvement of management.

► **Boundaries**  
**Some Concern**

Boundaries in some parts of the site are not clearly defined (mainly upon 8
km in the northern part where herding and transhumance pressure is higher and western part where poaching is higher). The limits of the buffer zone are not defined, especially in the western part, which leads to debates with the local population (Unesco/IUCN Mission Report, 2006). The decree for the creation of Comoé National Park makes reference to a buffer zone but does not define it (Unesco/IUCN Mission Report, 2006). Nevertheless, the Decree on creation, management and financement of parks et reserves (2002-102 of 11 February 2002) defines the buffer zone. The establishment of the zoning and the boundaries of the property was not carried out in 2013, but should be effected in 2014, with UNESCO’s financial support (SOC 2014).

► **Sustainable use**

Data Deficient

Data deficient

► **Tourism and interpretation**

Serious Concern

The civil unrest has lead to a cessation of tourism in the area and as a consequence to a reduction of associated economic benefits. The resumption of tourism activities will not be possible until the security situation has improved (Unesco/IUCN Mission Report, 2006). Since 2012, the security situation has improved and few groups (mainly teachers and pupils) have visited the park.

► **Monitoring**

Some Concern

During the period of civil unrest monitoring activities have been abandoned which had led to a lack of knowledge on the current state of the natural values. The aerial survey results of 2010 should be used as a baseline to monitor the recovery of the site’s wildlife populations over time (Unesco/IUCN, 2006). The State party report indicates that an inventory was underway in March 2012 (SOC, 2012). The last survey was undertaken in April 2014.

► **Research**

Some Concern
During the period of civil unrest the International Research Station of the University of Würzburg (Germany) has been destroyed and abandoned. Presently the station is restored thanks to German financial sources. There has been no research activity for the last 10 years (WCF, 2008; IUCN, 2008).

**Relationships with local people**

*Some Concern*

Village Conservation and Development Associations (VCDA) were established for most of the 25 neighbouring villages surrounding the property. In 2013 the villagers were involved in approximately 20% of the surveillance patrols and their involvement in the management of the property will be further strengthened in 2014 (SOC 2014). Some meetings with locals to deal with the illegal grazing activities have also been organized.

**Management system**

*Some Concern*

A new management plan is currently being finalized as indicated by the State Party, but as of March 2014, no management plan has been submitted yet (SOC Report, 2014). A surveillance strategy and emergency action plan to address poaching has been developed and implemented since 2012 is under development. Nevertheless, given the dramatic decline in wildlife populations, urgent establishment of an effective system of control and patrolling for the whole site is required. The recent deterioration in political and security situation has slowed down the implementation of the measures (SOC report, 2011). In 2014, the political and security situation seems to have improved. The management activities of OIPR have become more regular and the management is undertaken in collaboration with local authorities.

**Implementation of Committee decisions and recommendations**

*Some Concern*

The political situation makes the implementation of Committee decisions difficult mainly concerning resumption of control over the site and development of a management plan. However, certain measures have been implemented. The State Party report (2012) notes that the application of
corrective measures is supported by the implementation of two projects funded by GEF/ World Bank and by the Ivorian Government. The report also mentions the implementation of the temporary surveillance strategy developed in 2009 (SOC, 2012). Certain efforts have been made to improve security within the property. However poaching and transhumance are still taking places in the site; gold panning and the presence of crop fields were also observed (SOC, 2012). Several actions were undertaken to evict cattle ranchers from the property, including two missions and aware-raising campaigns.

In 2014, the situation seems to have improved. The local people are informed about the activities of OIPR and transhumance has significantly reduced. What concerns the development of a management plan, it has not yet been finalized and rehabilitation measures as well as monitoring seem to be behind schedule (SOC, 2014). Several projects are foreseen for 2014 to further improve the status and rehabilitation of the site (SOC, 2014)

**Overall assessment of protection and management**

**Serious Concern**

During the socio-political crisis in the country which started in 2002, the property has suffered a long period of almost complete absence of management. Activities such as monitoring, research and education programmes have been abandoned. The stabilization of the situation has enabled the re-establishment of a management system and control over the site and implementation of certain corrective measures thanks to international assistance and funding. In 2014, significant efforts have been done to restore a working management system; however, a new management is not available yet. Despite the resumption of patrolling activities, poaching is still taking place in the property, along with cattle grazing. Financially the park highly depends on international assistance. (UNESCO/IUCN Mission Report, 2006, IUCN, 2008; SOC Report, 2011; SOC Report, 2012; WCF, 2010; SOC Report, 2014).

▶ **Assessment of the effectiveness of protection and management in addressing threats outside the site**

**Data Deficient**

Information on this issue is insufficient, but one of the major threats seems to be related to the transhumant cattle
from Burkina Faso which potentially may lead to conflicts with local stock breeders and additional pressure on the national park.

State and trend of values

Assessing the current state and trend of values

World Heritage values

▶ Remarkable variety of habitats

High Concern
Trend: Data Deficient

In 2010, illegal human activities inside the property, such as cattle grazing, agriculture, and associated with these activities bushfires have generated high perturbations in the functioning of ecosystems. In 2014, there has been a certain improvement in controlling illegal human activities, but the effects of this are still to be evaluated.

▶ Transitional habitat from savannah to rain forest

Critical
Trend: Data Deficient

In 2010, illegal human activities inside the property, such as cattle grazing, agriculture, and associated with these activities bushfires generated high perturbations in the functioning of ecosystems. In 2014, there has been a certain improvement in controlling illegal human activities, but the effects of this are still to be evaluated.

▶ Important site for the conservation of Sudano-Guinean species.

Data Deficient
Trend: Data Deficient

Many species of Sudano-Guinean ecosystem are still present in the Comoé National Park. More information will be available once the results of the most recent survey have been evaluated.
**Variety of animal species**

**Critical**
**Trend: Improving**

The density of large mammals has significantly declined since the late 1970s. The recent studies estimate a decline of over 90% in the populations of duikers and kobs. The buffalo population has reduced by about 80%. The presence of lions and other Felinae depends on the abundance of bovids which constitute their favorite prey (WCF, 2010). The results of the most recent aerial survey (April 2014) still need to be evaluated, but it appears that there might have been an increase in populations of some species according to the observations of patrolling personnel (Consultation with OIPR, 2014).

**Habitat of rare and endangered animal species**

**Critical**
**Trend: Data Deficient**

The populations of many endangered species have experienced dramatic decline since the end of 1970s. The aerial survey of 2010 detected only two individuals of chimpanzee. As for the elephants, no individuals were observed, though the report notes that traces of elephants were observed (WCF, 2010). No elephants were seen during the last aerial survey either (2014), but this might be attributed to the sample method. The patrolling personnel noted signs of presence of elephants (droppings and footprints) (OIPR, 2014).

**Great plant diversity**

**High Concern**
**Trend: Improving**

Vegetation of the property has suffered from illegal human activities, especially cattle grazing, agriculture, as well as bushfires (WCF, 2010). In 2014 significant efforts have been undertaken to control illegal activities.

**Summary of the Values**
Assessment of the current state and trend of World Heritage values

Critical
Trend: Improving

The long period of socio-political crisis in the country has had severe consequences for the state of the site. The habitats have suffered critical alteration and disturbance from illegal human activities, such as cattle grazing and agriculture, and associated bushfires. The aerial survey of 2010 showed a very low density of many large mammal species, including extremely low density of chimpanzee and elephants. The magnitude of human pressures makes it difficult to restore and conserve the already declined populations of large mammal species. The overall state of the values of the site is critical and might continue deteriorating as most of the threats have not yet been eliminated despite efforts to do so. The results of the most recent aerial survey (April 2014) are not publicly available yet. But it seems that the major pressures like transhumance are under a better control, and populations of some species might have increased.

Additional information

Key conservation issues

Poaching
Local

The number of patrols is currently insufficient to stop poaching. A reinforced surveillance system needs to be developed.

Grazing of domestic cattle
Regional

The low level of control, the presence of transhumant cattle from Burkina Faso, the pressure from local cattle makes the park the ideal space for the breeding activities in dry season. That issue has to be resolved by more patrols, national action for agriculture and development of relationships with the Burkina Faso
State (including realization of international corridors for wild fauna and for cattle transhumance corridor with specific infrastructure).

► Agricultural encroachments
   Local

The low level of control added to the local pressure for land and pushed local farmers to open agricultural fields within the limits of the park. That issue has to be resolved by more patrols, synergic action for sustainable agriculture in the periphery of the park.

► Insufficiency of field control
   Local

Since a long time the administration and the control of the park are not working. The return to a normal situation should be used for re-establishment of a reinforced control of the park. This includes airplane use, restoration and opening of roads, better fire monitoring and planning.

► Absence of a management plan
   National

The Comoé National Park has no Management Plan. The last one is dating back from 2001 and the new one prepared in 2006 has never been approved. A tender for a new MP has been launched in 2010 but no precise information is available on the state of progress of that crucial point. A workshop to update the management plan has taken place, but the outcomes are not yet available (SOC Report 2014)

► Absence of a buffer zone
   National

The zoning system remains unclear both in the documents and in the field. That situation induces confusion in the actions lead by the park and makes unreadable its policy on its periphery.

► Insufficient fire management
   Local

The habitats of Comoé National Park, the greatest remaining area of Soudano-guinean ecosystem is progressively converting into arbustive savannah
because of poor bushfires use and firing planning. In addition, the elephant populations are not sufficient yet to maintain the ecological balance.

Benefits

Understanding Benefits

► Importance for research

The site could be a good place for explaining the importance of these ecosystems, their conservation and their relations with local and national daily life

► Access to drinking water

Water quality and quantity is one the main concern for local communities. The park is one of the main tool for the conservation of water resources only if all its natural values are maintained

► Outdoor recreation and tourism

Tourism was slowly developing before the civil unrest. That complementary activity to the local economy needs to re-start.

Summary of benefits

The main current benefits for local communities are found in the socio-economic development brought by the specific actions concerning the periphery of the park. The Comoé River is one of the 4 main rivers of the Côte d'Ivoire and the water for Abidjan: any change in the functioning of the ecosystems of the park will have effects on the quality and quantity of water at local and national scales. Tourism and training needs to be developed.

Projects
### Compilation of active conservation projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>№</th>
<th>Organization/individuals</th>
<th>Project duration</th>
<th>Brief description of Active Projects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>OIPR, CRE</td>
<td></td>
<td>Socio-economic study on poaching. The aim is to analyze that activity and find solutions for mitigating or stopping its impact on fauna.</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>UICN</td>
<td></td>
<td>Espace Comoé -Côte d'Ivoire-Burkina Faso: Projet 3C Cogestion et Conservation des Corridors. The aim of that project is to determine solutions for connecting fauna of different protected areas of the region.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>WCF</td>
<td></td>
<td>Evaluation rapide de l’état du parc national de la Comoé: les grands mammifères et les activités illégales humaines. The aim of the project is to assess the conservation status of the site and the main threats in order to propose a strategy for improving the situation.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>World Bank/GEF</td>
<td></td>
<td>Projet d’Appui à la Relance de la Conservation des Parcs et Réserves PARC-CI. The aim of the project is to help Ivory Coast after a long civil unrest to restore the capacities of the protected areas.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Development of an interpretation plan</td>
<td></td>
<td>The tourism to the park would be a complement to local economy but would need to define areas for observing and interpreting natural values.</td>
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### Compilation of potential site needs

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<tr>
<th>№</th>
<th>Site need title</th>
<th>Brief description of potential site needs</th>
<th>Support needed for following years</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Development of environmental education</td>
<td>Programs aimed at adults and local children need to be developed to encourage conservation values in local communities</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Community based projects</td>
<td>Alternative livelihoods need to be supported in the area to provide sustainable resource use outside of the park.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Development of an interpretation plan</td>
<td>The tourism to the park would be a complement to local economy but would need to define areas for observing and interpreting natural values.</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>Capacity building for bushfires management by IOPR and local communities</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>N.A.</td>
<td>Satellite monitoring/survey of the dynamics of habitats</td>
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## REFERENCES

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<thead>
<tr>
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<td>State of Conservation Report 2011</td>
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<td>State of Conservation Report 2014</td>
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<td>UICN, (2008), Parcs et Réserves de Côte d’Ivoire: évaluation de l’efficacité de la gestion des aires protégées, 43 p., Gland, Switzerland</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>WCF (2010) etat des ressources naturelles du parc national de la comoe et de sa zone peripherique Rapport de l’inventaire faunique par survol aérien</td>
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