

Cameroon: Foundation Tri-National de la Sangha / Lobéké Park

Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany
October 2007

Fund overview

The forests of Western Central Africa are among the most ecologically most valuable regions of the earth. Biodiversity is high with many endemic and/or endangered species. The economic importance of the forestry sector is high, enforcement is weak.

The cross-border protected area "Tri-National de la Sangha" covers 25.000 km² and comprises the three national parks Lobéké/Cameroon, 2.100 km² (established in 2001), Dzanga-Ndoki/CAF 1.700 km², Nouabalé/ Republic of Congo 4.500 km² and a fringe area of 17.000 km².

Germany will be the first donor to contribute to the funds, namely 5 Mio € for the "window" Lobéké Park. The funds is conceptualized as an endowment funds, meaning contribution remain untouched and only the interest returns will be used to finance investments in park maintenance and infrastructure.

It is still too early to judge since the Foundation was established no earlier than March 2007 and is becoming operational only in the second half of 2007.

Basic fund information

Operational since: 10.3.2007 (Establishment of the Foundation in Douala, Cameroon); initial activities will start in the second half of 2007.

German contribution ("seed money" for the Lobéké Park window): 5 Mio € (trust funds). Only the interests will be used to finance park management, while the capital stock will remain untouched.

Expected capital for the entire TNS foundation (all three parks including fringe areas): 30 – 40 Mio €. Donors (e.g. AfD), NGOs (e.g. WWF), and private industries have shown interest in contributing to the fund.