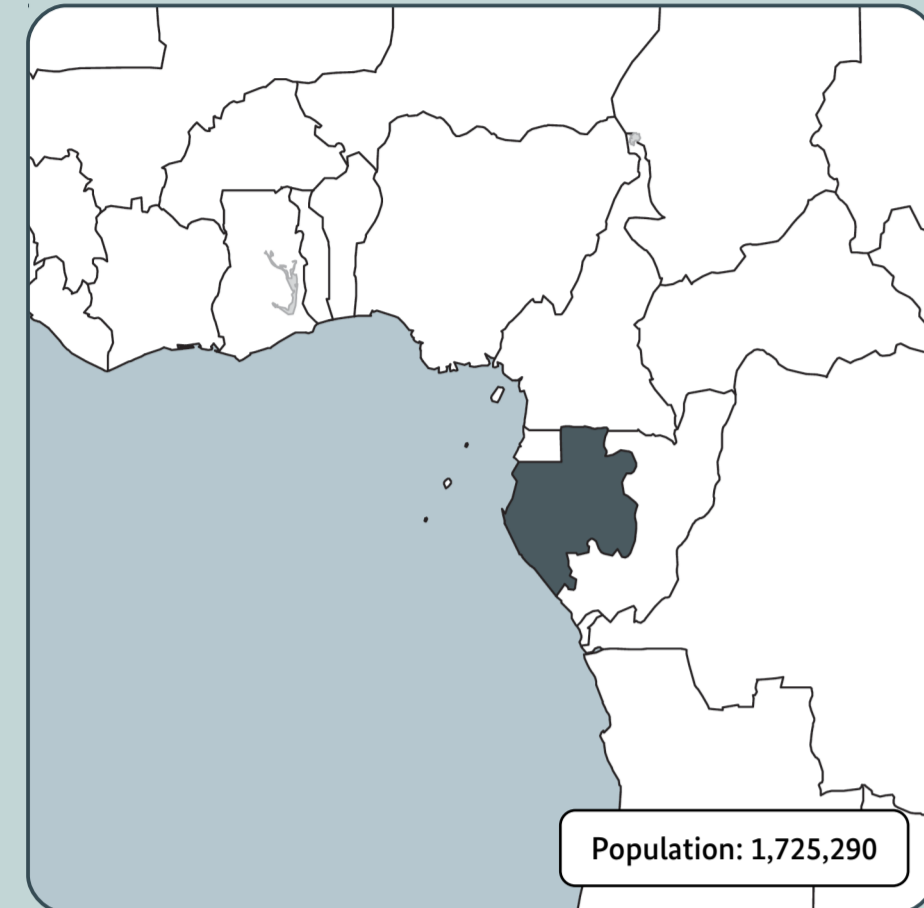


# Republic of Gabon

## Sustainable Management of Biodiversity



Gabon, located in Central Africa, crossed by the Equator, between latitudes 2° 30' N and 3° 55' S, is, par excellence, a forest country. In fact, it has a large forest area of nearly 22 (twenty-two) million hectares (85% of the territory) of which 40% remain primary (White, 1983).

The Gabonese forest has six (6) types of vegetation: flooded and swamp forests, coastal basin forests, mountain forests, inland plateau forests, northeast plateau forests and degraded or secondary forests.

The flora and fauna that we see are all the more remarkable as the equatorial forest is still well preserved. This forest ecosystem runs alongside a mosaic of natural environments (savannahs, estuaries and lagoons, mangroves, mountains), indicators of a composite bio-diversity.

The National Bio-Diversity Strategy and Plan of Action (NBSAP 2) covering the period 2016-2025 is the framework for sustainable management of bio-diversity. This Poster illustrates the efforts made by Gabon in the implementation of the 2011-2020 Biodiversity Strategy Plan and the Aichi Objectives.

Acronym	Full Name
ANPA	National Agency for Fisheries and Aquaculture
ANPN	National Agency of National Parks
ABS	Access and Benefit Sharing
GLAC	Local Management Advisory Committee
DGICBVPF	General Directorate of Industry, Trade in Wood and Development of Forest Products
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NP	National parks
SNALG	National Strategy for the Adaptation of the Gabonese Coast to the Effects of Climate Change
SNDD	National Strategy for Sustainable Development
SPAN-APA	National Strategy and Plan of Action on Access to Genetic Resources and the Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Use
SPANB-2	National 2nd generation Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans

# C

### Les 5 arbres protégés du Gabon

Ces cinq espèces forestières sont régionales pour la qualité de leur bois et ont fait l'objet d'exploitation dans le pays. Elles font également partie intégrante de la vie des communautés rurales du Gabon, tant pour leurs vertus alimentaires et médicinales que pour leur importance dans les rites rituels traditionnels.

<b>Moabi</b> <i>Podocarpus neriifolius</i>	<b>Andok</b> <i>Irvingia gabonensis</i>
<b>Ozigo</b> <i>Dacryodes butneri</i>	<b>Douka</b> <i>Tieghemella africana</i>
<b>Afo</b> <i>Pogaëlossa</i>	

Conformément à la loi, ces espèces d'arbres sont interdites d'abattage, classées non exploitables et non commercialisables depuis le 1er janvier 2009, et ce pendant 25 ans, soit jusqu'au 31 décembre 2033.

Il est interdit d'abattre, de scier, de transporter ou de vendre le bois de ces espèces.

d'après le décret n°137/PR/MEFEPA du 4 février 2009

Cependant, dans le cadre de l'exercice des droits d'usages coutumiers des communautés villageoises, cette disposition légale n'empêche pas la récolte : de fruits, d'écorces, de latex ou résine.

d'après le décret n°692/PR/MEFEPEPN du 24 août 2004

Ministère de l'Énergie, de l'Équipement et de l'Industrie / Direction Générale de l'Industrie, du Commerce et de l'Énergie / Direction Générale de l'Équipement et de l'Industrie / Direction Générale de l'Équipement et de l'Industrie / Direction Générale de l'Équipement et de l'Industrie

13% of the national territory has been transformed into national parks (NP). In addition to this category of protected areas are the Ramsar sites, the conservation series within forest concessions and the other types of protected areas (Arboretum, reserves...). The cumulative percentage can be around 18% of protected land areas. Currently, work is under way to identify marine areas. The area of marine parks thus created would be 5,998,400 ha, nearly twice the area occupied by protected land areas.

Gabon has taken steps to protect certain species

Protected Forest Species  
 5 tree species, Afo (*Pogaëlossa*), Andok (*Irvingia gabonensis*), Douka or Makore (*Tieghemella africana*), Moabi (*Bailonnetella sphaerica*) and Ozigo (*Dacryodes butneri*) are protected, i.e. prohibited from felling, classified as non harvestable or marketable for 25 years from 1 January 2009 (Decree No. 0137 / PR / MEFEPA of 4 February 2009).

# A



### Implementation of the CCGLs of the Batéké Plateau National Park

Workshops to set up CCGLs at National Park level have been organized not only to raise awareness among populations living around national parks about the usefulness of a NP, the value of biodiversity in socio-economic and ecological terms but also on the need to involve populations in the management of NPs. The workshop on the Batéké Plateau National Park was organized from 6 to 7 May 2015 in Franceville.

Creation of a website within the Directorate General for the Environment and Protection as platform for the exchange of information and creating public awareness Organization of public awareness campaigns (Conference, Focus Group.) Creation of a platform for exchange and consultation at the level of National Parks (Local Consultation and Management Committee – (CCGL-))

Consideration of biodiversity values in strategy planning documents: SNDD, Climate Plan, SPAN-APA, protected area management strategy, creation of an institutional framework (Directorate General for the Development of Forest Products – DGICBVPF), SNALG, implementation of the Gabon green program

# D



### SPAN-APA Validation Workshop

The partners (administrations, research institutes, Students, NGOs...) involved in the management of natural resources were invited to a workshop to validate the SPAN-APA and the National Project Document on APA.

The new environmental legislation (007/2014 Law of 1 August 2014) and the Framework Act on Sustainable Development (002/2014 Law of 1 August 2014) have laid down provisions on access to genetic resources and benefits-sharing. To date, Gabon has carried out a preliminary study of institutional, legal and administrative diagnosis to identify loopholes in the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol. It is currently equipped with a SPAN-APA. Its implementation began through various ongoing projects.

# B



### Low Impact Logging

Low-impact measures have been taken by forestry companies to minimize the impact of their activities on biodiversity.

Forestry legislation imposes on economic operators in the timber industry the obligation to engage in the process of sustainable management of forest concessions. It also requires that at least 10% be retained as part of the conservation series in the permits granted to them. Similarly, environmental legislation imposes and generalizes the practice of Environmental Impact Assessment to combat habitat impoverishment. Furthermore, through PAGOS, Gabon will adopt environmental safeguard measures in the tapping of NRs, a measure that is accompanied by a political will to develop a national land-use pattern.

A law on the management of aquatic ecosystems and another on water are being drawn up. They will complement the Code on Fishing and Aquaculture. ANPA was created to ensure a sustainable management of fishery resources.

Agro-processing Companies located in Gabon carried out EIEs with PGESs. These PGESs are followed up and monitored on a semi-annual or annual basis. Monitoring reports are prepared by the Environmental Administration. They set out the corrective measures that economic operators must take to safeguard bio-diversity.

# E

An Action Plan for the Management of Invasive Alien Species Has been developed. It will be integrated into the SPANB.



### Traditional dance

Traditional dances make it possible to appreciate traditional knowledge. It is one of the channels of transmission of knowledge, Innovation and Traditional Practices. It should therefore be noted that the relationship between culture and biodiversity is synalagmatic.

The process of revising and updating the SPANB document will end in December 2016 with the organization of its validation workshop and approval by the Government.

The new environmental legislation (007/2014 Law of 1 August 2014) and the Framework Act on Sustainable Development (002/2014 Law of 1 August 2014) have laid down provisions that promote and enhance traditional knowledge particularly those related to genetic resources. APA projects in the pipeline will help achieve this objective.

Gabon has an operational Forest Fund. To date, the strategy for mobilizing financial resources for the implementation of the SPANB has been developed. There are plans to create a fund dedicated to the management of biodiversity.

## AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS STRATEGIC GOALS

# A

### Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society

- Target 1: By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.
- Target 2: By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.
- Target 3: By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio-economic conditions.
- Target 4: By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.

# B

### Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use

- Target 5: By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.
- Target 6: By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.
- Target 7: By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.
- Target 8: By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity.
- Target 9: By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.
- Target 10: By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.

# C

### To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity

- Target 11: By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.
- Target 12: By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.
- Target 13: By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.

# D

### Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services

- Target 14: By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.
- Target 15: By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.
- Target 16: By 2015, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is in force and operational, consistent with national legislation.

# E

### Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building

- Target 17: By 2015 each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan.
- Target 18: By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.
- Target 19: By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.
- Target 20: By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties.



IMPRINT  
 BAYANI NGOYI Emmanuel  
 Directorate General for the Environment and Nature Protection

Ministry of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment, responsible for the Protection and Sustainable Management of Ecosystems  
 PO.Box: 3903 Libreville - Gabon  
 e.bayani1968@gmail.com

Tel. (+241) 01763905/01722700 / Fax: (+241) 01766181 or (+241) 04.13.07.39

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