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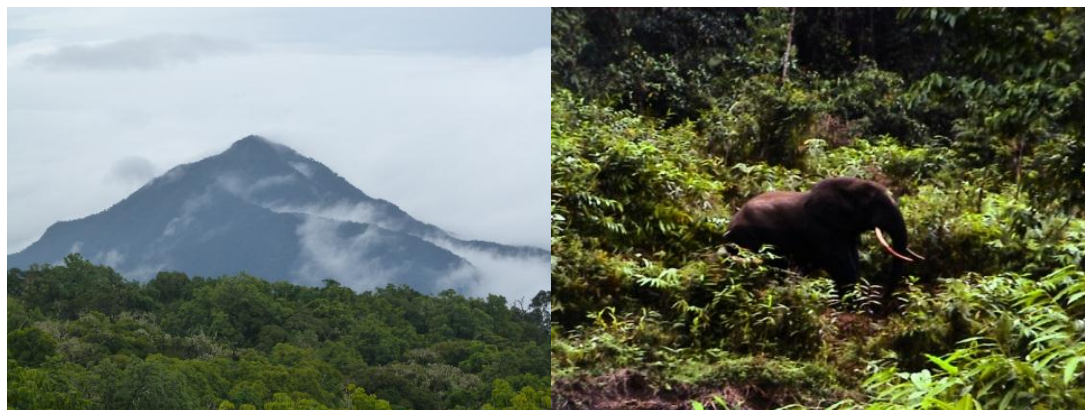


REPUBLIQUE DU CAMEROUN
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MINISTÈRE DES FORETS ET DE
LA FAUNE

THE MANAGEMENT PLAN OF THE MOUNT CAMEROON NATIONAL PARK AND ITS PERIPHERAL ZONE

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FOREWORD

Increasingly, Cameroon enjoys wide recognition by politicians, media, local population and civil society for the importance it attaches to forests as a viable contributor to social, cultural, environmental and economic welfare of the population. Forests have been recognised as having potentials to generate income, employment, support the health and diet of humans, and provide places for amenity, tourism and spiritual welfare. All of the above is true for the Mount Cameroon National Park (MCNP). In recognition of this truth, the Government of Cameroon emphasizes the sustainable management of national parks for biodiversity conservation, local and national development, and contribution to global climate stability.

Sustainable management of national park begins with a management plan elaborated in conformity with the national directives. These directives prescribe the active participation of the local community and other stakeholders in the processes of elaborating and validating the management plan, which describes the situation in and out of the park and measures to fulfil the objectives of creating the park.

For the past three months, Government and partners have been consulting with local communities and stakeholders at local, divisional, regional and national levels with the view of producing a management plan for Mt Cameroon National Park. This visionary and innovative management plan seeks to transform the park to a world class tourist destination. It prescribes bold initiatives to conserve biodiversity and alleviate poverty at local level. Furthermore, a sustainable funding model has been advanced to achieve these objectives.

The information used to prepare this management plan was collected with the collaboration of the local communities over a period of 15 years of research work with financial and technical support of various organisations and actors in the area. These include the Limbe Botanical Garden, the Limbe Wildlife Centre, the Mount Cameroon Projects, the Global Environmental Facilities (GEF), World Wild Fund for Nature (WWF), GIZ, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Environmental Research Programme (ERP), the Program for the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, South West Region, Cameroon (PSMNR-SWR), Competitive Value Chain Project (PCFC), and independent researches.

I wish to thank the local communities for their participation in the collection of relevant data used to elaborate this plan and their valuable contributions during the different stages of validation. I will also thank our technical and financial partners for their contribution to this important achievement for the management of the Mt Cameroon National Park. I am confident that their participation in the implementation and monitoring of this management plan is assured.

It is on this assurance that I have no doubts that the management vision for the Mount Cameroon National Park will be attained.

His Excellency, the Minister of Forestry and Wildlife

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Mt Cameroon National Park was created through Decree No. 2009/2272/PM on the 18th December 2009. The park which falls within the IUCN Category II protection status has a total surface area of 58,178 ha and is located between 4.055° - 4.378° N and 9.031° - 9.294° E. This park is a biodiversity hotspot with a rich and diverse flora and fauna. It also hosts diverse ecotourism potentials.

Aware of the threats to conservation of this unique and rich ecosystem, the Government of Cameroon (GoC) in collaboration with Development and Conservation Organisations identified three main objectives to guide the management of this park:

- To conserve biodiversity,
- To promote ecotourism,
- To support community development.

Since its creation, the implementation of park management objectives is supported by the KfW-sponsored Programme for the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, South West Region, Cameroon (PSMNR-SWR); Competitive Value Chain Project (PCFC) and World Wide Fund for Nature. PSMNR-SWR is a Development Programme of the Republic of Cameroon, co-financed by the Federal Republic of Germany through KfW, in cooperation with GIZ. Moreover, in conformity with the with the National Directives for the elaboration of management plan, the management of National Park should be guided by a management plan elaborated in a participatory manner with the involvement of all stakeholders at different levels: local (Sub division), Divisional, Regional and National.

Based on this requirement, the process of elaborating and validating the management plan of the Mt Cameroon National Park was officially launched through Decision No 0385/MINFOF/SG/DFAP of 12 August 2014, putting in place the Technical Committee for the elaboration of the management plan. Considering the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and constraints, the management vision of the Mt Cameroon National Park is *"By 2025, the Mt Cameroon National Park ecosystem, biodiversity, environmental services and its integrity will be managed effectively with the participation of all stakeholders and will be recognised as a worldwide ecotourism destination"*. Its main objective is to conserve the mountain ecosystem and its environmental services through collaborative management while promoting ecotourism.

To attain the above vision and global objective, the management plan for the Mt Cameroon National Park is articulated around six (06) management programs:

1. Administration and Finance;
2. Park protection and surveillance;
3. Collaborative management and local development;
4. Ecotourism Development;
5. Research and Monitoring;
6. Sustainable finance mechanism.

Considering the fact that support from PSMNR-SWR and PCFC will come to an end before the implementation phase of this plan (PCFC in 2016 and PSMNR-SWR in 2017), the Sustainable finance mechanism program is intended to identify and implement sustainable funding options necessary to ensure the sustainability of Park management measures beyond current funding.

This plan that was elaborated in a participatory manner, was validated at all levels with the involvement of relevant Government Services, Conservation and Development Organisations, Members of Parliament, Mayors, Traditional Leaders, Civil Society Organisations, Religious Authorities, Press medias and members of the Village Forest Management Committees. At different levels, the resolutions and recommendations made were used to enrich the management plan.

For effective implementation of this plan, a total of **4,969 billion** FCFA is required to be provided mainly by the GoC, PSMNR-SWR, PCFC and other local and international partners. With the strong commitment of the stakeholders especially the local communities and the concerted implementation of these management programs, there is no doubt that the contribution of this plan to the attainment of the above vision will be significant.

RESUME EXECUTIF

Le Parc National du Mount Cameroun a été créé par Décret No 2009/2272/PM du 18 Décembre 2009. Avec une superficie totale de 58.178 ha, ce parc qui s'étend entre les latitudes 4.055° - 4.378° N et les longitudes 9.031° - 9.294° E, fait partie de la catégorie II de l'UICN. C'est une zone à haute valeur de conservation de la biodiversité avec une richesse floristique et faunique diversifiée. Le parc est également doté d'un potentiel écotouristique important.

Conscient des menaces et des contraintes liées à la conservation de cet écosystème unique, le Gouvernement du Cameroun en partenariat avec les ONGs de Conservation ont identifié trois principaux objectifs en vue d'assurer la gestion durable de ce parc, à savoir :

- Conserver la biodiversité ;
- Promouvoir l'écotourisme ;
- Promouvoir le développement des communautés riveraines.

Depuis sa création, la mise en œuvre de ces objectifs a été possible grâce à l'assistance financière et technique du 'Programme for the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, South West Region, Cameroon (PSMNR-SWR)', du Projet de Compétitivité des Filières de Croissance (PCFC) et de WWF. Le PSMNR-SWR est un programme de la République du Cameroun, cofinancé par la République Fédérale d'Allemagne à travers la KfW et en collaboration avec la GIZ. Par ailleurs, la gestion d'un parc national doit être guidée par son plan d'aménagement qui doit être élaboré de manière participative avec toutes les parties prenantes en conformité avec les prescriptions des Directives nationales en matière d'élaboration des plans d'aménagement qui exigent la prise en compte des différentes étapes de validation (locale, départementale, régionale et nationale).

C'est ainsi que le processus d'élaboration et de validation du plan d'aménagement du Parc National du Mt Cameroun a débuté avec la signature de la décision No 0385/MINFOF/SG/DFAP du 12 Aout 2014, portant création du Comité Technique chargé de son élaboration. Compte tenue des atouts, forces, faiblesses et contraintes liées à l'aménagement du parc, la vision de ce plan d'aménagement est : *"A l'horizon 2025, la biodiversité, les écosystèmes, les services environnementaux et l'intégrité du Parc National du Mt Cameroun sont gérés de manière durable avec la participation de toutes les parties prenantes, et le parc reconnu mondialement comme une destination écotouristique"*. L'objectif global poursuivi à travers l'aménagement de ce parc est d'assurer la conservation des écosystèmes montagnards et leurs services environnementaux à travers une gestion participative tout en promouvant le développement de l'écotourisme.

Afin d'atteindre cette vision, six (06) programmes d'aménagement ont été identifiés, à savoir :

1. Programme administratif et financier;
2. Programme de protection et de surveillance du parc;
3. Programme de gestion participative et développement local;
4. Programme de valorisation et développement de l'écotourisme;
5. Programme de recherche et du suivi écologique et socioéconomique;
6. Programme de financement durable.

Sachant que les financements du PSMNR-SWR et PCFC vont s'achever avant la fin de la période d'exécution de ce plan d'aménagement (PCFC en 2016 et PSMNR-SWR en 2017), le programme de financement durable a pour objectif d'identifier et obtenir les financements nécessaires pour la réalisation des activités après le départ de ces deux bailleurs de Fonds.

Ce plan d'aménagement a été validé à tous les niveaux avec la participation des administrations concernées, les ONGs de conservation et de développement, les députés, les maires, les chefs traditionnels, les membres du Comité Paysans Forêts, les autorités religieuses, la société civile, les ONGs locales et les medias. Les résolutions prises et les recommandations faites à tous les niveaux de validation ont été prises en compte tout au long du processus d'élaboration de ce plan.

La mise en œuvre effective de ce plan nécessite près de **4,969** milliards de FCFA qui proviendront du Gouvernement, du PSMNR-SWR, du PCFC et des autres potentiels bailleurs de fonds locaux et internationaux. Avec l'engagement des parties prenantes et des communautés locales en particulier, l'exécution des différents programmes va permettre d'atteindre de manière significative la vision d'aménagement définie dans ce plan.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ASEA	Agro-Socio-Ecological Assessment
asl	Above sea level
BFR	Bomboko Forest Reserve
CAMCOF	Cameroon Mountains Conservation Foundation
CDC	Cameroon Development Cooperation
CF	Community Forest
COMIFAC	Commission des Forêts d'Afrique Central
CREMA	Community Resource Management Area
DfID	Department for International Development
DO	Divisional officer
EBA	Endemic Bird Area
ER	Encounter Rate
ERP	Environmental Research Programme
FESP	Forest and Environment Sectorial Program
GEF	Global Environmental Facility
GFA	GFA Consulting Group GmbH, Hamburg / Germany
GIS	Geographical Information System
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH
GoC	Government of Cameroon
GPS	Global Positioning System
GTZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit GmbH
HWC	Human-Wildlife Conflict
IGA	Income Generating Activities
IRAD	Institute pour la Recherche en Agronomie et le Développement
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
ITTO	International Tropical Timber Organisation
KfW	KfW Entwicklungsbank, German Development Bank
MCF	Mount Cameroon Foundation
MCP	Mount Cameroon Project
MINEPAT	Ministry of Economy, Planning and Regional Development
MINFOF	Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife
MINTOUL	Ministry of Tourism and Recreation
MOCAP	Mount Cameroon Prunus Management Group
MP	Management Plan
Mt	Mount
Mt CEO	Mount Cameroon Ecotourism Organisation
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NTC	National Tourism Council
NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Product

ONADEF	Office National de Development des Forêts (now ANAFOR)
PAMETT	Protected Areas Monitoring and Effectiveness Tracking Tool
PCFC	Projet de Compétitivité de Filières de Croissance (Competitive Value Chains Project)
PGDRN	Programme de Gestion Durable des Ressources Naturelles
PM	Prime Minister
PNDP	Programme National de Développement Participatif
PSMNR-SWR	Program for Sustainable Management of Natural Resources Cameroon – South-West Region
RD	Regional Delegation/Regional Delegate
REDD	Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation
SDO	Senior Divisional Officer
SOWEDA	South West Development Authority
Spp	Species
SSFOF	Stratégie du Sous-secteur Forêt et Faune
SWR	South-West Region
ToR	Terms of Reference
TOU	Technical Operational Unit
VDP	Village Development Plan
VFMC	Village Forest Management Committee
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Mount Cameroon is the highest mountain in West and Central Africa with a unique unbroken altitudinal vegetation gradient from evergreen lowland rainforest at sea level through sub montane and montane forest to alpine grassland near its summit at about 4100 m asl. It is a biodiversity hotspot with many endemic flora and fauna species. Furthermore, it is an active volcano erupting approximately every 20 years.

Efforts to conserve this unique and rich ecosystem started in the 30s with the creation of the Bomboko Native Authority Forest Reserve in 1939. In the 90s, the procedure for the creation of the Mt Cameroon National Park was initiated through the former Mt Cameroon Project and subsequent support of the GTZ-sponsored "Programme de Gestion Durable des Ressources Naturelles" (PGDRN). The Mt Cameroon National Park (MCNP) was finally classified through Prime Ministerial Decree No. 2009/2272/PM on the 18th December 2009 with the technical and financial support of the Programme for the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources – South-West Region (PSMNR-SWR), funded jointly by the Governments of Cameroon and Germany through KfW. The park that falls within the IUCN Category II protection status has a total surface area of 58,178 ha and is located between 4.055° - 4.378° N and 9.031° - 9.294° E.

Since creation, the park is managed by a conservator and the implementation of park management activities is supported technically and financially by PSMNR-SWR. Within the institutional set up of the Program, the MINFOF Regional Delegate for the South-West Region is the coordinator and he is assisted by the Program Consultant GFA-DFS. GIZ and the non-governmental organisation WWF play a prominent role for the implementation of the collaborative management approach. Additional support for development of Ecotourism and elaboration of park Management Plan (MP) is also provided by the World Bank-sponsored Competitive Value Chain Project (PCFC).

The elaboration and validation of the Management Plan (MP) was guided by Decision No 0289/D/MINFOF/SG/DFAP of 21 July 2009 on the Directives for the elaboration and implementation of MPs for Protected Areas (PAs). Based on this decision, the MCNP Management Plan Elaboration Committee was put in place following Decision No 0385/MINFOF/SG/DFAP of 12 August 2014. This management plan which is articulated around six management programmes is intended to guide management interventions within the park and its peripheral zone. Two additional management Programmes from the four initially foreseen in the Management Plan directives have been added to address MCNP specificities to ensure the full development of its ecotourism potential and the sustainable financing of Park Management.

2.0 MOUNT CAMEROON NATIONAL PARK AND ITS PERIPHERAL ZONE

2.1 Background presentation of the Republic of Cameroon

2.1.1 Overview

The Republic of Cameroon stretches from latitude 2° to 13° N and longitude 8° 25' to 16° 20' E. It has a total surface area of c. 475,650 km square and is bordered by Chad, Nigeria, Congo, Central African Republic, Gabon and Equatorial Guinea, as well as possessing a 350 km stretch of coastline with the Atlantic Ocean. The population is currently estimated at 20 million people giving a density of 39 people per km², and an annual growth rate of c. 2.7%. The ethnic composition of Cameroon is quite diverse with about 250 different ethnic groups and 24 major languages. Most people depend primarily on natural resources like timber/wood and Non Timber Forest Products (NTFPs), wildlife and farming for their livelihood. This strong dependence on natural resources both at the local and national levels has in recent times significantly increased the pressure on these resources.

2.1.2 The biological importance of Cameroon

Aside from South Africa, with its Cape region, Cameroon is the most biologically rich country on the continent (Davis *et al.* 1986). The country encompasses an intricate mosaic of diverse habitats; with moist tropical forest predominating in the south and south-east, montane forest and alpine savannah in the highlands, and sub-sahelian savannah in the far north (Letouzey 1985). These diverse habitats harbour over 9,000 species of plant (160 endemics), 320 species of mammals (14 endemics), 920 species of birds (8 endemics and 150 migratory species), 542 species of fresh and brackish water fish, 260 species of amphibians (63 endemics), 297 species of reptiles and 1500 species of butterflies (FAO 2005; .IUCN, 2010; The majority of the endemic taxa are concentrated around Mount Cameroon and the other highland areas of Cameroon. Cameroon also contains a high percentage of threatened or endangered species including 18 mammals, 16 birds and 5 reptiles (WRI 1990, Alpert 1993, WCMC 1994, Birdlife International, 2000).

2.1.3 Economy

The gross domestic product of Cameroon (9,675 billion FCFA, MINEPAT 2011) is derived from a relatively diversified product pattern dominated by crude oil, agriculture and timber. Industrial development is mainly concentrated in the coastal zone around Douala. The main cash crops in the forest zone are cocoa, coffee, rubber, bananas and palm oil; with cotton, groundnuts, maize and livestock production being predominant in the north.

The forest sector contributed 2.7% to the GDP between 2008 and 2010, which is higher than the mining sector except for oil (0.18% to GDP in 2010). However, it remains strongly behind the agricultural sector which increased from 15% to 17.5% between the same period (Eba'a Atyi *et al.* 2013). Timber production contributes significantly to the GDP of Cameroon. The economic value of non-timber forest products (NTFP) was estimated to contribute 76.3 billion FCFA per annum, out of which 14 billion FCFA was home consumed by the gatherers. Bush meat in the rural areas is estimated to have a commercial value of around 16.1 billion FCFA annually and accordingly contributes significantly to the rural economy (Eba'a Atyi *et al.* 2013). Visits to national parks by tourists provided revenue of more than 1.8 billion FCFA in 2008 which increased to 2.1 billion FCFA the following year, consisting almost entirely of park entry fees (Eba'a Atyi *et al.* 2013).

2.2 International and sub-regional conservation initiatives

The wise use of forest and wildlife resources is of priority concern to the government of the Republic of Cameroon. This concern is manifested in national-base, international and sub-regional efforts.

National efforts include policy reforms, laws and implementation of relevant measures through the respective services and institutions.

International and sub-regional efforts include signatory/ratification of relevant conventions and execution of accompanying measures. In this respect, some of the conventions to which Cameroon is signatory are:

- The Convention on Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (Alger, 1968);
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Flora and Fauna Species (CITES) (1973);
- The Convention on the Protection of the Ozone Layer (Vienna, 1985);
- Convention on Climate Change (Rio, 1992);
- The Convention on the Conservation of Biological Diversity (1992);
- Conservation and protection of Wetlands (RAMSAR Convention);
- The Yaoundé Declaration on Central African Forest Ecosystems Conservation (1999);
- The Treaty on Conservation of Central African Forest Ecosystems (Brazzaville, 2005);
- International Tropical Timber Agreement (2006) ;
- Voluntary Partnership Agreement APV-FLEGT (2011).

The Central African Forests Commission (COMIFAC) was created at the sub regional level to follow up the implementation of the Yaoundé Declaration through the Convergence Plan that defines the prioritized actions. Cameroon is the main contributor to conservation initiatives within the Congo basin being part of: Commission des Forêts d'Afrique Centrale (COMIFAC), Organisation pour la Conservation de la Faune d'Afrique Centrale (OCFSA), and Réseau des Aires Protégées d'Afrique Centrale (RAPAC).

2.3 Legal and institutional framework

2.3.1 National conservation efforts

The new forestry policy enacted by law 94/01 of 20th January 1994 laying down forestry, wildlife and fisheries regulations and its decrees of application, enriched by the 1996 National Environment Management Plan defines the government political and strategic orientations articulated around the following main axis for biodiversity conservation:

- Ensure protection of National Forestry Estates, contribute to environmental management and biodiversity conservation through the creation of a network of PAs covering at least 30% of the National territory and which is representative of its diverse ecosystems;
- Improve contribution of forest and wildlife resources to the National economy;
- Promote involvement of communities in the sustainable management of natural resources.

One of the major innovations of this new forestry policy is the recognition of the important role of community participation in the sustainable management of natural resources. In order to ensure their effective participation a legal regulatory framework which promotes their active involvement at all levels including access to resources, benefit sharing and participation in decision making have been developed. The implementation strategy of the above policy is being achieved through the following programmes: Environmental Management Plan (EMP), PAFN, PRGIE, PCGBC and Forest and Environment Sector Program (FESP).

Following the new financial law promulgated in 2007 which lay emphasis on Result-Based Management (Budget programme) beginning from January 2013, MINFOF was selected as a pilot ministry for implementation. With respect to this, the 04 components of Forest and Environment Sectorial Program (FESP) were transformed into programmes. Component 3 known as 'Biodiversity conservation and valorization of wildlife resources' became Programme 2. During the implementation of this programme, MINFOF elaborated and validated the « *Stratégie du Sous-secteur Forêt et Faune (SSFOF)* » which has 4 programmes. The second programme titled 'Securing and Enhancing of

Wildlife Resources and Protected Areas' then replaced Programme 2 of FESP. Its main axes of interventions include:

- Management of hunting zone ;
- Valorisation of wildlife resources ;
- Creation, securing and management of PAs ;
- Valorisation and promotion of PAs ;
- Institutional development and sustainable financing of wildlife and PAs.

These policies are contributing to the implementation of the Growth and Employment Strategy Paper (GESP/DSCE) that predicts a development horizon at the year 2035 with important objectives such as an increased importance dedicated to the forest sector to combat rural poverty and the enabling environment created for local communities for rural development. This document also stresses the need to develop a national scheme for sustainable management and a zoning plan of its territory.

2.3.2 Legal Framework

Cameroon is a signatory to many international, regional and sub-regional conventions regulating the use of forests, forest resources and nature protection.

The following main legal texts regulate the use of forest resources in the national territory:

- The Law 2011/008 of 06 May 2011 for orientation on Territorial management and sustainable development in Cameroon,
- The law 94/01 of 20th January 1994 to lay down forestry, wildlife and fisheries regulations,
- The law 96/12 of 5th August 1996 on Environmental management,
- The decree 95/466/PM of 20th June 1995 to lay down the conditions for the implementation of wildlife regulations,
- The decree 95/531/PM of 23 August 1995, to determine the conditions of implementation of forestry regulations,
- Decree 95/413/PM of 20 June 1995, regulating fishery management,
- Decree 2009/2272/PM of 18 December 2009 on the classification of the Mt Cameroon National Park.

In addition to these texts, there are a number of Ministerial decisions and administrative letters addressing specific questions of resource use in the national forest estate.

Cameroon has created a network of protected areas of which national parks are the most important ones. A National Park as defined by the Cameroonian Forestry Law and the Decree No. 95/466/PM is an: "*uninterrupted area whose fauna, flora, soil, subsoil, atmosphere, waters and natural environment as a whole are of special interest and should be preserved from any natural deterioration and protected against any human interference likely to alter their outlook, composition and evolution*". Human activities like farming, mining, hunting, burning, fishing and any other activity that might adversely affect its biodiversity are prohibited by the law. The National Parks have therefore the highest protection status in Cameroon.

2.3.3 Institutional Framework

Management of forest and wildlife resources up to the early 1990s was integrated in the then Ministry of Agriculture. However, with increasing importance and the need to enhance the management of natural resources, the need for political and institutional reforms became necessary. In this respect, the policy guiding the management of forest and environment sectors was reviewed while the Ministry of Forests and Environment (MINEF) was created and charged with the coordination of activities within the two sectors: forest and environment. However in 2004 with the increasing need for efficiency in

government action MINEF was divided into two Ministries: Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF) and Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection (MINEP).

The mission of MINFOF is to elaborate, implement and evaluate government policy for the forestry and wildlife sector. To accomplish this mission, MINFOF is comprised of a central administration and decentralised services (Regional & Divisional Delegations and Forestry and Wildlife Posts). MINFOF Department of Wildlife and Protected Areas (DFAP) is charged with the implementation of Programme 2 dealing with securisation and valorisation of wildlife resources and Protected Areas. Coordination of activities related to management of National Parks is through DFAP while the direct day-to-day management of parks is under the charge of the Conservation Service headed by a Conservator. To enhance the implementation of a holistic approach to the management of Protected Areas (PAs), Technical Operations Units (TOUs) have been institutionalised to ensure harmonisation of the actions of the different actors within a landscape.

2.4 Local context of the South-West Region

Mt Cameroon National Park is one out of the four (04) and eighteen (18) national parks in South West Region and Cameroon respectively. It is one of the main biodiversity hot spots in the country. The creation of the park in 2009 is the product of joint efforts of the Government of Cameroon together with her conservation and development partners to ensure that this unique ecosystem is sustainably managed. The Mt Cameroon is part of the Cameroon mountain range that also includes Mt Kupe, Bakossi, Manenguba and Bamboutos mountains and the Bamenda Highlands. This chain of mountains extends into Fernando Po and Sao Tome and Principe.

The MCNP together with Korup, Takamanda and Bakossi National Parks constitute one of the most important and threatened centres of biodiversity and endemism, in Cameroon in particular and in Africa in general. They support a number of forest and wildlife habitats that host significant number of globally threatened and endemic species while providing important watershed function and a wide range of ecosystem services locally, nationally and globally. Despite the uniqueness of this ecosystem there are number of activities that threatened the integrity of these protected areas and their connectivity. They include uncontrolled land occupation, large scale agro-industry, illegal timber and NTFP exploitation, poaching, uncontrolled wild fires. The creation of TOUs by prime ministerial decrees facilitates the implementation of a holistic approach integrating relevant stakeholders to mitigate land and resource use conflicts around these PAs.

The South West Region is characterized by a high proportion of tropical rainforest, due to high annual rainfall reaching over 10,000 mm at the coast. Mt Cameroon is characterized by a rich and fertile soil that have favoured the establishment of large agro-industrial plantations (palm oil, banana, rubber, tea and cocoa) which cover large areas, thus contributing to local and national economy. The Mt Cameroon National Park as well as other PAs also offer a wide range of eco-touristic attractions in the Region though underexploited. MCNP is the most easily accessible Ecotourism sites in the region and therefore attracts many tourists especially during the annual Mt Cameroon Race of Hope.

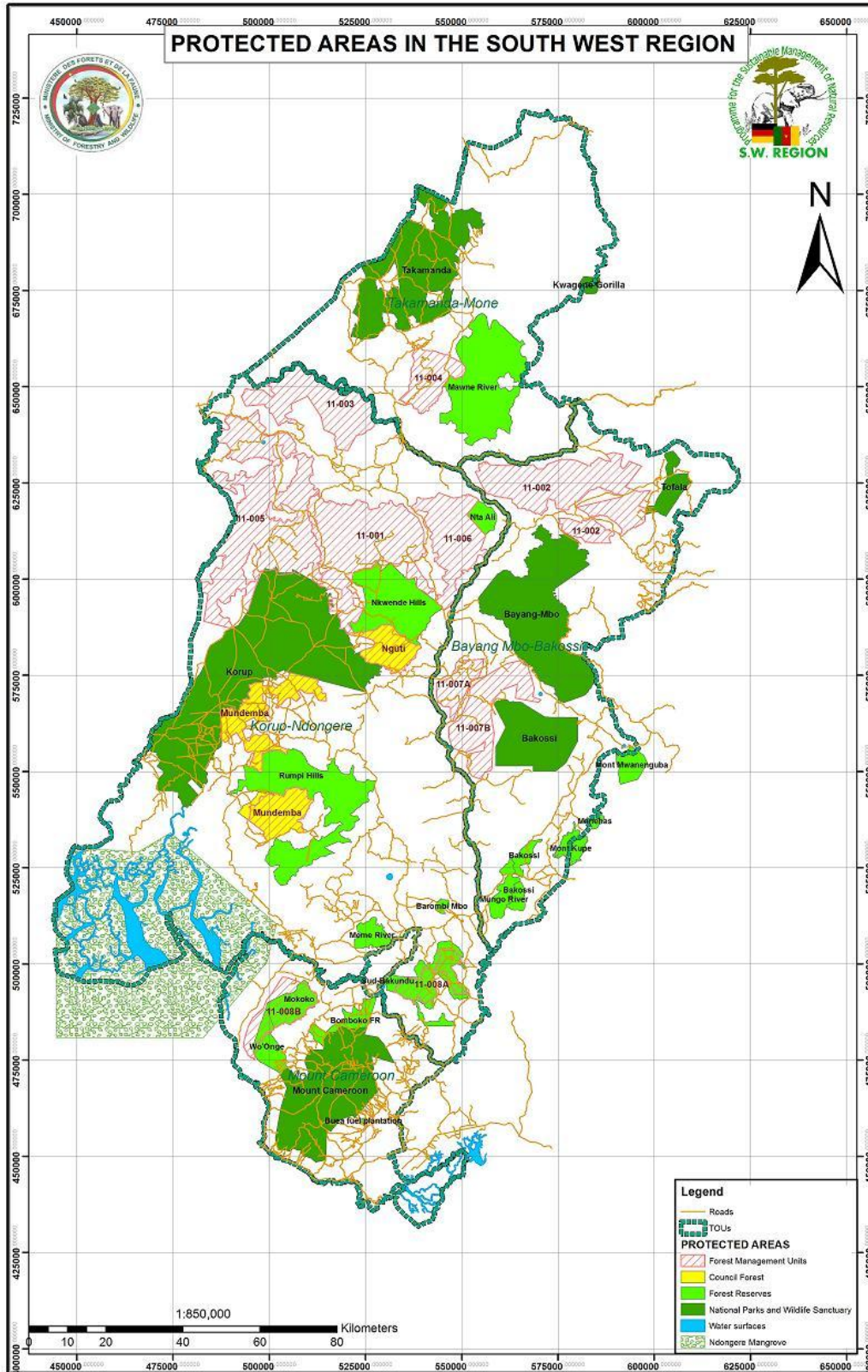


Figure 1. Map of protected areas in the South West Region

3.0 DESCRIPTION OF MOUNT CAMEROON NATIONAL PARK AND ITS PERIPHERAL ZONE

3.1 General information

The Mt. Cameroon area supports forests known to be of exceptional scientific, economic and social value, containing a great variety of endemic and endangered flora and fauna species, supplying many commercial and subsistence forest products, as well as providing valuable ecosystem services such as watershed protection. Mount Cameroon is a biodiversity hotspot and is the most diverse ecosystem in Cameroon and is presented as the 10th most conservable places in the world (IUCN 1994). The area harbours the last near isolated and threatened population of the forest elephant in the region.

The rich volcanic soils, coupled with the accessibility of the area by road and waterway partly accounts for increasing immigration into the area. The area is densely populated by a population of about 450,000 persons, with about 75 % dependent on exploitation of land and forest resources for their livelihood. Only 23% of the population is indigenous: Bakweri and Bomboko.

3.2 Geographic location

Mount Cameroon lies on the coast, in the Gulf of Guinea, between 3°57'- 4°27' N and 8°58'-9°24'E. It is a huge volcanic mass with its long axis (about 45 km long and 30 km wide) running SW to NE. The main peak is at 4°7'N, 9°10'E at an altitude of about 4,100 m asl and is the highest mountain in West and Central Africa with the peak just about 20 km inland from the Atlantic coastline. Mt Cameroon is an active volcano. The last eruption occurred in 1999, which probably continued and led to minor tremors and lava flows in 2000 (Wantim *et al.* 2011).

The Mt Cameroon National Park is located in the Fako and Meme Divisions, South West Region between 4.055° - 4.378° N and 9.031°- 9.294° E. It covers an area of 58,178 ha and shares external boundaries of 128.73 km in length with five Sub-divisions: Buea Sub-Division (46.79 km), Limbe 2 Sub-Division (???), Muyuka Sub-Division (19.82 km), Idenau Sub-Division (24 km) and Mbonge Sub-Division (38 km). The southern boundary is about 2 km from the sea. Four protected areas are in closest proximity to the park: the Mokoko Forest Reserve (FMU 11-008B), the remnant of Bomboko Forest Reserve, the Southern Bakundu Forest Reserve (including FMU 11-008A) and Meme River Forest Reserve (MRFR). Furthermore, three community forests also share direct boundaries with the park: Etinde (4,976 ha), Bakingili (905 ha) and Woteva (1,865 ha).

The park is bordered by forty-one (41) villages whose activities affect (directly or indirectly) the management of the park. Also, the MCNP shares boundaries or is in close proximity with large scale oil palm and rubber plantations belonging to the Cameroon Development Cooperation (CDC), as well as privately owned plantations, some of which are up to 50 ha. The establishment of oil palm plantations is a major contribution to forest clearance in the Mt Cameroon area.

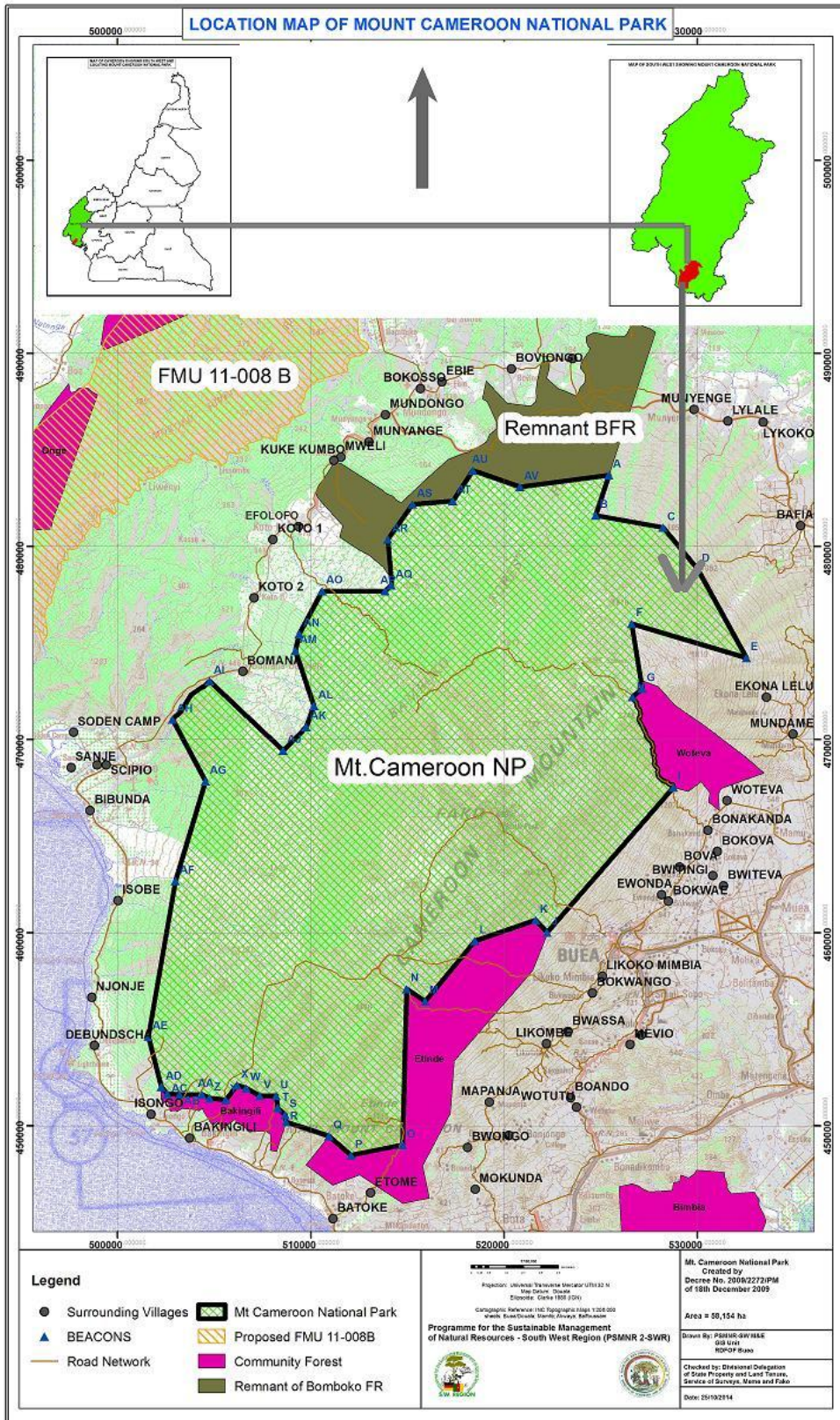


Figure 2. Map of Mount Cameroon National Park used for gazettement

3.3 Historical review

Efforts to protect forests on Mt. Cameroon started in 1927, which culminated to the final classification of the Bomboko Native Authority Forest Reserve in 1939. Since then, several expeditions and research missions to the mountain have confirmed the uniqueness of the ecosystem in the region and the need for protection recommended. In 1988, United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID) launched the Mount Cameroon Project (MCP) to encourage the conservation and sustainable use of forests, which was later supported by German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) and German Development Service (DED). During the land use planning (Plan de Zonage) Phase V process, several types of protection units were proposed for Mount Cameroon, buttressing further the need for protection. A section of the mountain that includes Mount Etinde was proposed to be gazetted as a flora and fauna sanctuary, while the wettest part with its unique plant species and its important wildlife habitat was proposed to be gazetted as an integral ecological reserve (MINEF 2001, Forboseh *et al.* 2007).

The biodiversity richness of the Mt Cameroon area has been threatened over the years mainly as a result of the rich volcanic soils which attracts the development of agro-businesses. In a bid to safeguard a representative portion of this ecosystem, conservation efforts over the years have been directed to the then Bomboko Forest Reserve (BFR). However, by early 2000, studies revealed that:

- Parts of this BFR have been largely turned into agricultural holdings;
- There exist other important forest areas out of the BFR worth conserving;
- One of the main flagship species (the forest elephant) feeds beyond the boundaries of the Bomboko Forest Reserve;
- The forest reserve status does not really enhance conservation of biodiversity.

The above revelations ignited a new thinking on the best way to enhance the management of resources within the Mt Cameroon area. The GoC, with the support of PSMNR-SWR seeing the need to extend management beyond the BFR, in collaboration with the local communities, proposed the Mt Cameroon National Park. Following the MINFOF classification procedure for PAs and in agreement with all stakeholders, the Mt Cameroon National Park (58,178 ha) was created by Prime ministerial decree No. 2009/2272/PM of 18th December 2009.

3.4 Biophysical characteristics

The location of Mount Cameroon NP, its volcanic nature and altitude have significantly influenced the soils, climate, vegetation and biological diversity of the region. The Mt Cameroon region hosts the second wettest place on earth and has a rich volcanic soil. Natural vegetation remains largely unbroken on its western slopes from sea level to the sub-alpine zone at the summit (Cheek *et al.* 1994, Thomas 1994). By comparing the present day biological richness (plants, birds, mammals, amphibians, butterflies) of large parts of the West Cameroon rain forest with other parts of the African rain forests, several bio-geographers have concluded that during dry periods and the Last Arid Maximum, an important refugium existed in West Cameroon. The Lake Barombi Mbo pollen record clearly shows that from ca. 24,000 yr B.P. until the present time, the rain forest persisted with limited variations, thus confirming that this region was a refuge area (Hamilton 1982; Maley 1989, 1993 & 1996).

3.4.1 Climate

Most of this region has a distinctly seasonal pattern of rainfall, related to the north-south movement of the Inter-tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ). The climate of the Mount Cameroon region is characterised by its seasonal nature. The seasons are very well defined. There is a period of heavy rains occurring between the months of June and October, and a dry period extending from November to May. At lower altitudes, the annual rainfall ranges from over 10,000 mm at Cape Debundscha

(second wettest place in the world) to less than 2,000 mm in the north-east of the massif around Munyenge Metombe. Mean annual rainfall decreases with altitude to approximately 4,000 mm at 1000 mm and to less than 3,000 mm above 2,000 m (Payton, 1993).

The temperature falls with increasing elevation. For each 100 m ascent, the average temperature drops by about 0.6°C. The temperature on the top of Mount Cameroon would be a chilly 4°C when in Limbe at the base it is 32°C. Payton (1993) pointed out that the humidity remains at 75-85% due to the marine influence and the incidence of mist and orographic cloud formation. Tchouto *et al.* (1997) described a "zone of greatest mistiness" between 1,200 m and 2,000 m, especially from 1,500 m to 1,800 m, and considered that the highest overall humidity on the mountain occur there. The greater part of the mountain is permanently under cloud cover during most parts of the year.

3.4.2 Soils

Soils of Mount Cameroon are principally of recent origin, mostly on young volcanic rocks and are fertile, though often with poor water retaining capacity. By contrast the surrounding foothills and Mount Etinde ("Small Mount Cameroon", about 1,715 m high) on the south and southwest flanks are mostly of older Tertiary lava, which are different in composition to the underlying Holocene basalt of Mount Cameroon (Payton 1993). Along the coast in the Boa Plain, Onge and Mokoko estuaries soils are composed of a mean texture of sandy clay loam dominated by sand. The north-east flank is characterised by metamorphic volcanic formations and deep soils, favourable for growth of gregarious flowering plants. However, it is worth mentioning that the fertile nature of the soil has largely contributed to the expansion of agricultural activities at the expenses of most of the lowland forests.

3.4.3 Hydrology

In spite of the abundant precipitation, the Mt Cameroon area is characterised by a low hydrological network with a number of rivers, seasonal and permanent streams, springs, lakes and waterfalls. Main rivers include Lokange, Mokoko, Ebié and Onge, most of which empties into the Atlantic Ocean. Most of the rivers, streams are found at the lower slopes of the mountain. There are no permanent rivers/streams at the upper slopes of the mountain. The main spring is found at Ma'an Spring. Key waterfalls are located in Bomana, Mbakossi, Ekoumbe, and Ombe.

The chemical composition of surface and groundwater is controlled by many factors that include composition of precipitation, mineralogy of the rocks covering the watershed and aquifers, climate and topography as well as anthropogenic influences such as urban, industrial, and agricultural activities. These factors combine to create diverse water types that change spatially and temporally. Quality assessment shows that, in general, the spring waters are suitable for drinking and domestic uses and are commercialized by bottling companies such as Supermont and Seme (Ako *et al.* 2012).

3.4.4 Vegetation and Flora

Vegetation Types

The western slope of the Mt Cameroon is probably the most diverse and richest area of the mountain and appears to be the only area in West and Central Africa where there is an unbroken vegetation gradient from evergreen lowland rainforest at sea-level, through montane forest, to montane grassland and alpine grassland near its summit. This link between ecosystems largely accounts for the biological diversity of the region. Past surveys of plant species had led to the identification of 6 main vegetation types (Table 1) on the mountain with their key characteristics (Thomas and Cheek 1992).

Table 1. Vegetation types of Mount Cameroon and their main characteristics

Vegetation types	Elevation (m)	Main characteristics
Lowland rainforest	0 – 800	Species-rich, evergreen forest with tall continuous canopy (25 – 35 m) and large emergent trees, rich in lianas, and non-woody climbers. Buttressing and cauliflory are common.
Submontane forest	800 – 1,600	Species-rich, evergreen forest with closed or discontinuous canopy (20 – 25 m), frequently cloud covered, very rich in bryophytes, ferns and vascular epiphytes. With patches of meadows and scrubland dominated by tall Acanthaceae, tall herbs with scattered shrubby trees and tree ferns. Lianas buttressing, and cauliflory are less common or rare.
Montane forest	1,600 – 1,800	Species-poor, open forest with fairly discontinuous canopy of medium sized trees (up to 20 m high), large strangers, dense epiphytes cover and few climbers.
Montane scrub	1,800 – 2,400	Species-poor, poorly developed open forest with discontinuous canopy of small sized trees (1 – 15 m), and open layer of small shrubs, herbs, climbers and ferns underneath in fire protected hollows.
Montane grassland	2,000 – 3,000	Species-poor, rich in temperate genera, dominated by tall tussock grasses, with scattered stunted and dwarf shrubby fire resistant trees.
Sub-alpine grassland	3,000 – 4,100	Species poor, dominated by short tussock grasses, with isolated patches of dwarf and gnarled shrubby trees and thick crust foliose and fruticose lichen.

Flora

Mount Cameroon is known for its exceptional plant diversity and high number of endemic species. Evidence of this richness is that over 2,435 species of plants in more than 800 genera and 210 families, 49 plant taxa (species, subspecies, and varieties) are strictly endemic (only occurring on Mount Cameroon) and 50 near endemic plant species (also occurring in Bamenda Highlands, Oku, Kupe, Korup, Obudu Plateau and Bioko) are found in the area (Cable and Cheek 1998, Cheek *et al.* 1994, Tchouto 1994). Cheek *et al.* (1996) argued that almost all of the plant families endemic to tropical Africa such as Huaceae, Medusandraceae, Lepidobotryaceae, Octocknemataceae and Hoplestigmataceae are found on Mount Cameroon and the surrounding foothills. Of the 49 endemic species, 11 occur in lower montane (also referred to as “submontane” or “cloud”) forest between 800 and 1,800 m, and 29 in lowland forest (see annexe).

Letouzey (1968) characterized the lowland forest in this area (his “Biafran forest”) as having a high species richness of Caesalpinioideae. Concerning large tree endemics, three are caesalpinoid legumes restricted to lowland forest: *Crudia bibundina*, *Daniellia oblonga* and *Microberlinia bisulcata*. Thus, lowland forest contains the largest number of endemics, followed by the lower montane forest, which deserve special attention as they are the most threatened. The explanation for the high level of endemic plant species and the fascinating pattern of vegetation stems from the fact that Mount Cameroon forms most likely part of an important Pleistocene refuge (Maley 2002). Indeed, Maley and Brenac (1998) found peaks of caesalpinoid pollen in Lake Barombi Mbo sediments corresponding to the wetter climate phases of the last 28,000 years.

Mt Cameroon is also known for its high habitat diversity and exceptional ecological features. It has a wide range of habitats including lowland evergreen rainforest, submontane forest, montane forest, grassland and recent lava flow communities. Because of the heavy cloud cover and the consequent

high humidity that envelop the forest at higher altitudes, the submontane and montane forests are also called “Cloud or Mist Forest”. The cloud forest is very rich in epiphytes and trees are intensively covered with mosses, lichen and vascular epiphytes.

Mushroom biodiversity is rich in Cameroon, and remains poorly explored. Richness is demonstrated by the fact that at least some 133 macrofungi are known for Mt Cameroon. Tonjock *et al.* (2011) identified at least 15 different species to be edible among the Bakweri people. Species used for ethnomedicine among the Bakweris belonged to several genera, including *Termitomyces*, *Auricularia*, *Agaricus*, *Daldinia*, *Dictyophora*, *Pleurotus*, *Russula*, *Trametes*, *Chlorophyllum*, and *Ganoderma*. Mushrooms are also used as love charms, for dispelling evil spirits, and as part of cultural festivals (Tonjock *et al.* 2011).

Forest cover and change

PSMNR made an assessment of the forest area and the deforestation/ forest degradation trend over the last two decades, for Mount Cameroon National Park and the remnants of the BFR (Maschler 2011). The area located within 10 km to Mount Cameroon National Park and the Former Bomboko Forest Reserve (FR) as well as the Southern Bakundu FR and Mokoko FR were also included. The study revealed that the dominant land cover class in 2010 was an agroforestry mosaic covering about 31%, followed by lowland forest, which covers 20% of the area. The agroforestry mosaic is forming a belt around the mountain being most dominant on the northern part; the south-western and southern part is hardly affected since palm and young palm plantations are dominant.

As for deforestation, the proportion between forested and agricultural land in 1987 are almost inverse in comparison to 2010. Here the lowland forest covers 36% of the area and the agroforestry mosaic only 19%, open agroforestry mosaic covers 3% and palm and tree plantations in each case 2%. Looking only at lowland forest, 21,580 ha were lost between 1987 and 2002, which is about 1,440 ha per year and contributes most to deforestation. About the same area, 22.600 ha, were lost between 2002 and 2010. Since this interval is shorter, the annual lost is about 2,825 ha per year. However, it must be stated that most of the deforestation took place outside today's Mount Cameroon National Park boundaries. So most of the human pressure is seen on the lowland forest and might contribute to the isolation of MCNP from its surrounding environment. In addition this lowland forest is most vulnerable since here the greatest plant diversity is seen with many endemic plant species.

3.4.5 Fauna

Mount Cameroon is home to a wide range of habitats that host many endemic, rare and threatened wildlife species (see annexe).

Mammals

Wildlife surveys carried out in the MCNP revealed the presence of some endangered and threatened primates species such as drill (*Papio leucophaeus*), chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*), putty-nosed monkey (*Cercopithecus nictitans*), mona monkey (*Cercopithecus mona*), red-eared monkey (*Cercopithecus erythrotis*), red-cap mangabey (*Cercocebus torquatus*), Preuss' guenon (*Cercopithecus preussii*) and crowned guenon monkey (*Cercopithecus pogonias*). It was also shown that the population of drills and chimps is fast dwindling due to hunting pressure and habitat loss.

The forest elephant (*Loxodonta cyclotis*) is one of the flagship species of the MCNP. A survey carried out in 2003 indicates a population of 176 individuals in the Mt Cameroon area (Ekobo 2003b). To get an understanding of ranging behaviour and seasonal movement patterns five forest elephants were collared with satellite emitters on Mount Cameroon since 2007 (Loomis 2007). Preliminary analysis of data from collared elephants showed that all five elephants essentially stayed within the boundaries of the Mt. Cameroon National Park (WWF 2010). The elephant population on Mt. Cameroon seems to be divided into two separate and distinct populations.



Figure 3. Land cover map of the TOU of Mount Cameroon (Source PSMNR-SWR 2014)

In 2013 PSMNR commissioned a large mammal survey that confirmed the presence of ten (10) species of large mammals within the MCNP (Eno Nku 2013). Amongst other the presence of forest elephant (*Loxodonta cyclotis*), chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*), red river hog (*Potamochoerus porcus*), bushbuck (*Tragelaphus scriptus*), bay duiker (*Cephalophus dorsalis*), blue duiker (*Cephalophus monticola*), yellow-backed duiker (*Cephalophus sylvicultor*). The total forest elephant population was estimated at 118 individuals. There was a very high encounter rate of chimpanzee nest sites especially around the Mt. Etinde area surveyed. Due to the limited spatial distribution of chimpanzee in Mt Cameroon NP, stratification was made and the total population was estimated to be around 130 individuals.

As shown in Table 2 based on surveys conducted between 2003-2013, it's becoming obvious that both forest elephant and chimpanzee are the most frequently encountered large mammals. Overall, forest elephant densities are stable, and chimpanzee densities increased. However, almost all other monkey species are disappearing at an alarming rate as they were either no longer encountered (i.e. drill or red-eared guenon) or at extremely low rates for the last 10 years. A response to the hunting pressure seems to be that encounter rates were highest at mid-altitudes and mostly absent at low altitudes. Most of the species are even only found at high altitudes or at the forest/montane savannah boundary (transition forest).

Considering small mammals, there are at least 22 species of bats present. Most of them are confined to the lowland and lower montane rainforest up to 1000 m. Only *Miniopterus inflatus* and *Rhinolophus alticolus* are found up to the elevation of Mann's Spring at 2260 m asl where insects are still to be found. Small mammals which are strict endemic to the mountain are Eisentraut's Shrew (*Crocidura eisentrauti*), Arrogant Shrew (*Sylvisorex morio*) and Mount Cameroon Brush-furred Rat (*Lophuromys roseveari*); another near-endemic is the Cameroon Praomys (*Praomys morio*) (Fotso *et al.* 2001, Birdlife International 2014, IUCN 2014).

Birds

The sub-montane and montane habitats are part of the Cameroon Mountains Endemic Bird Area (EBA). Twenty of the 28 restricted-range bird species of the EBA have been recorded on Mt Cameroon, including the two strictly endemic species *Francolinus camerunensis* and *Speirops melanocephalus* (IUCN/WWF, 1994). So far a total of 210 species of birds has been recorded from the on-going surveys. Out of these, eight are threatened. These include the Mount Cameroon Francolin (*Francolinus camerunensis*), the Black capped Speirops (*Speirops lugubris*) and the Mount Cameroon Rough-Wing Swallow (*Psalidoprocne spp.*). All these birds are unique to the Mt Cameroon Region. The Cameroon Blue-headed Sunbird (*Nectarinia oritis*) is endemic while the Grey-necked Picathartes (*Picathartes oreas*) is rare (Hořák 2014).

Reptiles and amphibians

Eighty-six (86) reptile species, representing more than one third of the reptile fauna known in Cameroon, are found in the Mt Cameroon area, making this site among the richest in the country. Lowland forest had the greatest number of species (58), followed by submontane forest (45), montane forest (21), and marine (4) species. A number of rare or little known reptiles are there to be found like the skink *Lacertaspis gemmiventris* and the blind snake *Typhlops decorosus*. Mt. Cameroon appears not to have any strictly endemic reptile species, but it hosts two regional montane endemics *Chamaeleo montium* and *Lacertaspis gemmiventris* (Gonwouo *et al.* 2007). The reptiles represent about 30% of the estimated Cameroon reptile fauna out of 283 species.

Table 2. Comparison of results from 2003, 2007 and 2013 wildlife surveys as for species mean encounter rates (ER) signs km⁻¹, and density (D) individuals per km² (based on Ekobo 2003a, Eno-Nku & Ekobo 2007, Eno-Nku 2013) and the recce of 2004 at Etinde forest noting present (p) or absent (a) (Forbeseh et al. 2007)

	2004	2003 study		2007 study		2013 study	
Sampling effort	Recce	45.7 km (n=20 transects)		63.05 km (n=36 transects)		46.87 km (n=31 transects)	
Species		N	Mean ER (D)	N	Mean ER (D)	N	Mean ER (D)
Forest elephant (<i>Loxodonta cyclotis</i>)	a	115	5.2		2.15 (0.25)	118	5.67 (0.27)
Chimpanzee (<i>Pan troglodytes vellerosus</i>)	p		0.1		0.65 (0.47)	130	1.21(0.67)
Drill (<i>Mandrillus leucophaeus</i>)	p						
Mona monkey (<i>Cercopithecus mona</i>)	a				0.02	1	0.02
Preuss' guenon (<i>Cercopithecus preussi</i>)	a			-	-	5	0.10
Red-eared guenon (<i>Cercopithecus erythrotis</i>)	p						
Crowned guenon (<i>Cercopithecus pogonias</i>)	p				0.01		
Greater white-nosed monkey (<i>Cercopithecus nictitans</i>)	a		0.04				
Putty-nosed monkey (<i>Cercopithecus nictitans</i>)	p			-	-	3	0.01
Red-cap mangabey (<i>Cercocebus torquatus</i>)	a		0.02				
Red duiker ¹ (<i>Cephalophus dorsalis</i> , <i>C. ogilbyi</i>)	p		1.8		0.29	39	1.25
Blue duiker (<i>Cephalophus monticola</i>)	p		1.2		0.17	32	0.79
Yellow-backed duiker (<i>Cephalophus sylvicultor</i>)	a				-	1	0.05
Bush buck (<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>)	a		0.7		0.13	37	1.05
Red river hog (<i>Potamochoerus porcus</i>)	a		0.3		0.07	6	0.24
Brush-tailed porcupine (<i>Atherurus africanus</i>)		-	1.2				
Totals				371	7.94	369	10.4
					3.18		3.17

¹Bay and Ogilby's duikers (*Cephalophus dorsalis* and *Cephalophus ogilbyi*) are clumped together and referred here as Red duikers

Amphibian species of conservation concern include an endemic toad (*Werneria preussi*) and near-endemics, such as the four-digit toad (*Didynamipus sjostedti*), Tandy's small tongue toad (*Werneria tandyi*) and a frog (*Arthroleptis bivittatus*) (Birdlife International 2014, IUCN 2014). Recently a frog species collected in 1906/7 by O. Rau and C. Feldmann at Bibundi was re-examined and named *Hylambates rufus aubryioides* (Köhler 2009). The species has not been recorded after this record.

Aquatic fauna

Brummett *et al.* (2010) investigated the ornamental fish potential at Mount Cameroon and surroundings. In total, 35 species of fish representing 22 genera and 14 families were captured. There were no significant differences in numbers of individual fish or numbers of species among stream order or season, reflecting the stability of these ecosystems throughout the year. During the 21 months study period between 2003 and 2005, none of the sampled streams ran dry or flooded. Chiambeng and Dumont (2005) investigated the plankton Branchiopoda (Crustacea: Anomopoda, Ctenopoda and Cyclestherida) in freshwater of the rainforest environment of Mt Cameroon. A total of 22 species were encountered including one of only two endemic species of Cameroon, *Bryospilus africanus*.

Insects

A total of 70 species of butterfly have been recorded on Mt Cameroon including 3 endemic species, i.e. *Charaxes musakensis* is known from nowhere else (Fotso *et al.* 2001). At least one endemic spider species *Triaeris fako* is known to occur in the Mount Cameroon in the goblin spider genus *Triaeris* (Platnick *et al.* 2012).

3.5 Socio-economic characteristics

3.5.1 Demography

The population in the Mt Cameroon area is estimated to about 450,000 people of whom two-thirds live in urban and peri-urban areas, while the rest in villages. The settlement pattern forms a closed ring around the foot of the mountain with no permanent settlements on altitudes above 1500 m. The people indigenous to the area are Bakweri, Bomboko, Bakolle, Balong, Isubu and Wovea (Laird *et al.* 2011). In all the villages the population is expanding from both natural increase and immigration. While indigenes are dominant in small villages, large settlements are characterised by a high concentration of non-indigenous population which comprises: Cameroonians from other Regions, Nigerians, Ghanaians and other nationals (Ardener *et al.* 1960, Ardener 1996, Konings and Nyamnjoh 2003).

In the 60s indigenous groups accounted for about 30% of the population in the area (Ardener 1996). A more recent study estimated that the indigenous population made up less than 25% of the population in the Mount Cameroon region (Schmidt-Soltau 2003), and this percentage is falling as the population increases. The presence of Cameroon Development Corporation (CDC) and Pamol industrial agro-plantations in the Mt Cameroon area has attracted workers with their family members into the area. In order to sustain their livelihood, family members engaged in small scale agriculture.

3.5.2 Main sources of income

Agriculture is the most important source of livelihood in the Mt. Cameroon area accounting for about 80% of household income in most villages. Other sources of income include hunting, timber and NTFP exploitation, petty trading, livestock, and few cases of salary earners. Small scale farm sizes range between 0.25 ha to more than 10 ha. Cocoa, plantains, cocoyam and cassava are the most important cash crops. Cocoa is the most important crop in the Bomboko and Muyuka clusters for men and cassava for women. The yield of cocoa can reach 700kg/ha each season, which is far above the national average of 300kg/ha (Akombi 2011). When all crops are ranked, cocoyam, plantains and cassava are the most important food crops while cocoa remains the most important cash crop (Tanjong 2014).

Local inhabitants are engaged in alternative income-generating activities, but beside the various forms of livestock rearing, only beekeeping, cassava processing, fuel wood sales and timber harvesting have any relevance for the rural population. Livestock rearing is practised for subsistence, cultural events or for sale. Common species include goat, sheep, pig and fowl. Cattle rearing have recently been introduced into the area, mainly grazing in oil palm plantations.

3.5.3 Timber and firewood

Before the creation of Mt Cameroon NP small scale timber exploitation was carried out in the lowland and submontane forests, sometimes up to 1,000 m asl using powered chain saw. Nowadays, most of the timber and firewood for household use comes from the surrounding communal forest. Illegal commercial timber and firewood exploitation is common in the area, most of it exploited in the forest reserve to supply nearby towns of Buea, Limbe and Muyuka. Actual earnings from these activities are not available, because exploiters are reluctant to provide reliable figures since the activity is illegal.

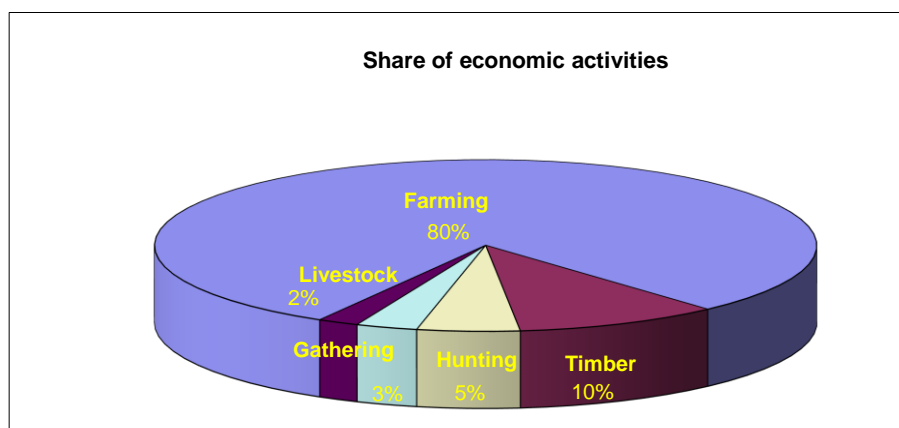


Figure 4. Comparative importance of economic activities in the area (Schmidt Soltau 2003)

Fuel wood is the main source of energy used for cooking and many households rely on it. Although fuel wood is used mainly for domestic consumption, there is a high demand from fishing communities, cocoa producers who need supplies for their processing activities. Common species frequently used are *Anthonotha macrophylla* and *Albizia zygia* for tea drying, *Syzygium guineensis var littorale* for fish-smoking, and *Lophira alata* and *Staudtia stipitata* for cooking and charcoal production (Tchouto, 2005). With the increased demand of firewood in the rural and urban communities, there has been a shift from domestic uses to commercial uses which has led to deforestation and forest degradation. In Buea and Limbe the daily consumption of fuelwood is around 0.72 kg/person and around 0.05 kg/person for charcoal (Eba'a Atyi et al. 2013).

3.5.4 Hunting and bush meat

In West and Central Africa wildlife hunting has, for long, been part of people's culture (Wilkie & Carpenter 1999), because bush meat was often the most accessible and sustainable source of protein (Fa & Brown 2009). In the last few decades however, accelerating human population growth, advances in hunting techniques, such as cable snaring and shotgun hunting, and increased accessibility to remote forest areas, caused by infrastructure developments like roads, settlements, forest concessions and industrial plantations, has greatly increased hunting pressure on forest wildlife (Noss 1998, Barnes 2002, Fa et al. 2006, Laurance et al. 2006, Fa & Brown 2009). Unsustainable hunting can lead to animal stock depletions (Jimoh et al. 2013) and might even drive species to extinction, as documented for Asian forest species by Bennett & Rao (2002). Today, overhunting is one of the greatest threats to biodiversity and the problem is most acute in West and Central Africa (Fa & Brown 2009).

Although a wide range of taxa are hunted, mammal species are targeted most often (Fa *et al.* 2006; Fa & Brown 2009). Among mammals ungulates, rodents and primates are the most hunted groups. For example, mammals represented over 90% of all bushmeat carcasses sold in 100 sites within the Cross River - Sanaga River region, of which 40% were ungulates (duikers and pigs), 30% rodents and 15% primates (Fa *et al.* 2006). Though some approximations do exist on the impact of hunting on wildlife populations in some West- and Central African forests, robust estimates of changes in species abundance over time, are not available for most species and sites (Linder & Oates 2011).

Bio-monitoring of some mammal species and regular bush meat markets monitoring should provide a clearer picture of hunting activities around Mt. Cameroon and the impact on targeted animal populations. Aware of the decrease in wildlife populations in the Mt Cameroon area as a result of unsustainable harvest, the Mt Cameroon Project together with the local communities piloted a Community Wildlife Management Model in West Coast (Kristin *et al.* 2001) to ensure control in the use of wildlife resources within the area. However, the end of the project also marked an end to this interesting idea. Financial sustainability and the cost of managing the strategy constituted the main challenges (Akums 2003). Some type of collaborative wildlife management in the peripheral zone of the park should be explored.

Eno-Nku & Ekobo (2007) noticed that trapping was more common than using shotguns for hunting on the mountain. The use of wire snares is an illegal hunting method which is relatively cost and time effective. Although it is commonly used, trappers spend 3-6 days per week at hunting sites, checking and resetting their traps daily and smoking carcasses.

3.5.5 Fisheries

There are few streams in the MCNP area. Coastal artisanal fisheries are mainly carried out in the sea and provide Limbe, Buea and other towns with fresh and dried fish. This catch is also transported as far as Douala, Yaounde and Bamenda. However, the fishermen of the delta-mangrove region between Mount Cameroon and the Nigerian border are predominantly Nigerian. Most of their catch, by some estimates at least 85%, is smoked, dried and exported to Nigeria.

3.5.6 Non-timber forest products

Mt Cameroon area has an enormous variety of Non-timber forest products that contribute to all aspects of rural life providing food, fuel, medicine, craft material and other household items (Tchouto *et al.*, 1999). The magnitude of resource extraction depends on the floristic composition of the forest, the nature and intensity of harvesting, and the particular species under exploitation.

Forest foods contribute significantly to the diet of local people. These include fruits, seeds, green vegetables, spices, vegetable oil, roots, mushrooms, nuts, palm wine, which are gathered from the forest, farm and fallow (Tchouto 1996). Common fruits, seeds and nuts obtained from the forest included: *Cola acuminata* (cola nut), *C. pachycarpa*, *C. ficifolia*, *C. lepidota* (monkey cola), *Elaeis guineensis* (oil palm), *Garcinia Kola* (bitter cola), *Tetracarpidium conophorum* (cashew) and *Dacryods edulis* (bush plum). Wild species of vegetable such as *Gnetum africanum* (eru), and *Heinsia crinita* (atama) are widely used. Many wild species of spices such as *Aframomumhanburyi*, *A. citratum* (mbongo), *A. limbatum*, *A. melegueta* (alligator pepper), *Afrostryax lepidophyllus* (country onion or bush onion), *Piper guineensis* (bush pepper), *Ricinodendron heudelotii* (njangsanga), *Tetrapleura tetraptera* (esekeseke), *Monodora myristica*, and *M. brevipes* are commonly used for local consumption or for sale (Tchouto *et al.* 1999, Tchouto 2005).

The Mt Cameroon forest is highly valued as a source of natural medicines and many species are harvested with little impact on the forest resources. However, *Prunus africana* (Pygeum), an important commercial value medicinal plant which is harvested in the submontane and montane forests, and exported for the preparation of drugs to treat prostatitis was before the creation of the park done unsustainably. This important commercial interest rendered the species vulnerable to over-

exploitation, in recognition of which it has been listed in CITES Appendix II and classified as vulnerable species in 1995 (Cunningham *et al.*, 1997; IUCN, 2006).

In 2007 the European Union (EU) imposed a ban on the importation of *Prunus africana* bark. With the creation of the Mount Cameroon National Park in 2009 and the lifting of the ban on the exploitation of *Prunus* in 2010, MINFOF and partners facilitated the elaboration and implementation of a *Prunus* Management Plan to ensure its sustainable management and to generate benefits to support the livelihood of surrounding communities. A management plan which includes a Benefit sharing mechanism was approved in 2011 and is being implemented.

Presently the Park Service is working in partnership with the local communities, represented by the Mount Cameroon *Prunus* Common Initiative Group (MOCAP CIG) for the implementation of the management plan. The Park and its peripheral zone are considered as a single “*Prunus* Allocation Unit” (PAU).

3.6 Social infrastructure

This includes education (schools), health facilities, water supply, electricity, government administrative services, and existence of common initiative groups in the villages (Schmidt Soltau 2003).

3.6.1 Education

There are more than 259 educational facilities in the MCNP area – ranging from nursery schools to Universities - with a total enrolment of 87,858 pupils and students. More than half of the schools in the area are run by private institutions and the various missions. Private schools have more teachers and more classrooms per child and the standard of infrastructure is also better than in government schools.

3.6.2 Health

The MCNP area has a significant higher number of physicians (19 per 100,000 people) than the overall country (7 per 100,000 people) but their services are limited to the towns (Buea, Limbe, and Muyuka). The buildings of village health centres are mostly in good conditions, but do not have sufficient staff and are often under equipped. In addition to governmental health care, there also exist a high number of private health facilities, but with limited number of qualified staff and infrastructures. Apart from formal health facilities, in most settlements, traditional healers also offer some health services.

3.6.3 Electricity and potable water supply

Overall, about 51% of the settlements around MCNP are connected to the national electricity grid. However, Bova-Bomboko had some electrification through solar panels, while Bokosso had no such facilities. West Coast cluster shows that Etome has no electricity, while in Njonji there is electricity supply from AES-SONEL throughout. In the Buea cluster Bwassa was connected to the ENEO former AES-SONEL electricity grid (Tanjong 2014).

About 9% of the settlements do not have any water supply at all. Pipe born water is available in 57% of the villages, but the standard is very low. The statistics here provided attributes to villages around the towns of Limbe, Buea, Muyuka, while the situation is significantly different in most of the Bomboko villages. PSMNR-SWR is investing heavily in water supply projects in villages like Bova-Bomboko, Bokosso, Muelli, Mundongo and Bomana (Tanjong 2014). In the Mount Cameroon area at least two mineral water bottling plants are operational, exploiting mineral water from the Mount Cameroon springs and using the Mt Cameroon image for marketing. These water companies could be potential partners in the sustainable management of the MCNP.

3.6.4 Accessibility and communication

Accessibility to the area by road is generally possible through the ring-road running from Mutengene, Limbe, Idenau, Munyenge, Muyuka, Buea back to Mutengene, though very rocky in some sections. Also, the MCNP area can be reached from the Douala International Airport by a tarred road and by water-way through the Atlantic Ocean.

3.7 Traditional and cultural organisation

3.7.1 Chiefs, chieftaincy and other village institutions

Each village in the Mount Cameroon area is autonomous, with its own chief, usually designated by the King Makers. The chieftaincy institution is recognised and empowered by the Government through enacted laws describing the functions and obligations of a Chief. The Chiefs act as an auxiliary to the administration, represented at the village level. In the Mt. Cameroon area, the chieftaincy institution is generally considered hereditary along the paternal lineage except otherwise determined by the King Makers.

3.7.2 Village Traditional Councils (VTC)

The village traditional council is the executive organ of a village and is present in all the villages of the area. They ensure the day-to-day running of the village, ensures discipline and maintenance of law and order in the village. Their composition varies from village to village, but generally consists of representatives of different family groups in the village and King Makers. A Chairman, appointed by the Chief heads the village traditional council. A Chief may not necessarily be a member of the traditional council, but acts as an adviser and usually present during council sessions.

3.7.3 Traditional societies

Traditional societies constitute a major aspect of the culture and tradition of the Bomboko and Bakweri people. Most young males, in the traditional set-up, are usually initiated into the “Malle” (elephant dance society), while the females are initiated into Malova, Liengu. On the Mount Cameroon, the elephant and « Wato wa njoku » (those of the elephant) form part of the Bakweri culture as it forms part of the initiation in the elephant cult (Lemoigne 2010). The elephant is a strong symbol, with the prime idea that one designates also such persons in the initiation society of the elephant.

There is a very strong solidarity and communication system between members of the traditional societies. Annual and periodic group come-together are organised, where members meet to celebrate. The traditional societies play an important role in law reinforcement and maintenance of peace and order in the villages. These societies could also play a vital role in re-enforcing park management rules.

3.7.4 Religions

Originally, the people of the area rely more in traditional believes, but from colonial times and increased immigration into the area, Christianity has proliferated into the area. It is now common to see Catholic, Presbyterian, Baptist, Apostolic, Full Gospel Christians and church buildings in the villages. In urban areas there also exist mosque and other religious structures.

3.7.5 Structured and legalised groups

The culture of association for development purposes is becoming popular in the area. People are gradually moving from doing things by themselves to doing things in a group, a situation where group effort becomes more remunerable. In the last few years a number of common initiative groups have been created as a result of the interventions of GoC policy and development organisations in the area. Unions, cooperative organisations, common initiatives groups, associations and development committees have been created in several villages with the intention to promote unity and to define a shared development vision in the villages.

3.8 Present management of the MCNP

MCNP was classified in December 2009 with the technical and financial support of PSMNR-SWR. Since its creation the Park interventions centred on implementing the Collaborative Management (CM) approach which includes: community mobilisation, local development and immediate Park management. Under community mobilisation and local development, the following main activities have been implemented: Village Forest Management Committees (VFMC) formed and capacitated, cluster platforms formed and animated, Collaborative Management Activities (CMA) planned and executed, Conservation Development Agreement (CDA) negotiated and signed, agreed Village Development Measures (VDM) under implementation. For immediate Park Management, the following main activities have been implemented: Patrol strategy developed and under implementation, restructuring of Ecotourism activities, management of *Prunus*, boundary opening and surveys. In order to ensure the sustainability of those interventions supported by PSMNR-SWR, sustainable financial mechanisms have been identified and are under development.

With the appointment of the Conservator in September 2010, day-to-day park management responsibilities are assured by the Conservator with the technical support of WWF and GIZ. The Conservator is charged to coordinate the planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting of park management activities. He is assisted in his task by five (05) Unit heads (administration and finance, collaborative management, park protection, ecotourism development, monitoring and research). Presently a total of 28 civil servants, 8 PSMNR technical support staffs and 4 community recruited staff are involved to facilitate park management activities. Additionally the Park has established long term collaboration with community based organisations (MOCAP, MTCEO...), economic operators (AFRIMED) and research institutes (IITA-ICRAFT-Universities...). The park is also animating platforms to coordinate ecotourism activities and management of *Prunus*. It is foreseen to enlarge this collaboration with other stakeholders to strengthen intervention in the support zone under the Mt Cameroun Foundation (Council/PNDP, Community forests, *Prunus* domestication, bottling companies...).

3.9 Contribution of the park to collaborative management and local development

With the technical and financial support of PSMNR-SWR, the MCNP is implementing a Collaborative Management (CM) approach in collaboration with GIZ and WWF in order to reconcile conservation with development. The co-management approach supported by PSMNR is expected to create the enabling environment, needed for shared governance aiming at preserving the integrity of the National Parks and supporting the development of the local population.

The collaborative management approach is implemented under four (04) main pillars:

- Community Mobilisation and Participation;
- Immediate Park Management (patrols, ecotourism, *Prunus* management, Research---);
- Implementation of Conservation Incentives System;
- Negotiation and implementation of Conservation Development Agreements (CDA).

The basis and entry point for collaboration at community level is through the Village Forest Management Committees (VFMC), which have been created and functional in all 41 peripheral zone villages of the MCNP. VFMCs are created based on decision N 1354/D/MINEF/CAB of 26 November 1999 to fix the procedure of classification of permanent forests. These committees facilitate the efforts for sustainable natural resource management at community level. To facilitate park management, MCNP is divided into four (04) Cluster Conservation Zones (CCZ). Clustered villages are co-responsible of the management of their portion of the Park. They met on a six monthly basis during cluster platform meetings to plan, implement, monitor and evaluate Collaborative Management Activities (CMA) within their respective CCZ and discuss on park management. CMAs are

remunerated or non-remunerated activities executed by villagers independently and/or together with the park service. Those activities range from boundary or trail opening, participation in research or eco-tourism activities, to the monitoring and reporting of illegal activities. A conservation incentive system has been developed and is being implemented to evaluate and reward community conservation efforts.

Additionally Village Development Measures (VDM) are being implemented to promote Alternative Income Generation Activities (IGAs) and Infrastructure measures which are compatible with park management objectives. The support proposed to a community is based on the outcome of a rapid agro-socio-economic assessment, the technical and financial feasibility, guided by a predefined list of possible interventions.

These interventions which are carried out within the park and its peripheral zone are guided by Conservation Development Agreements (CDA). The CDA is a written agreement between the Park services and a village to define roles and responsibilities related to conservation and development. CDA principles should guide interventions of all stakeholders within the park and activities earmarked outside the park which have a direct link with park management. According to its twofold objectives, the CDA should contribute to park management and to the consolidation of MCNP buffer zone by promoting sustainable natural resource management and livelihood improvement through green IGAs, socio-economic infrastructure, regeneration and rehabilitation measures, participatory forest management, and watershed management. To ensure long term commitment to the agreements, CDAs will be closely monitored and their implementation will be coordinated with Councils and other relevant stakeholders.

Since the collaborative management approach is guided by the management plan prescriptions, the CDA duration corresponds to the same period covered by the MP. Terms of agreements can be amended if required and additional commitments can be annexed into a separate MoUs.

The implementation of the approach is also guided by other elements which include:

- **Cluster Facilitator (CF):** This is a community member recruited by the park service to ensure the animation and coordination of VFMCs, Cluster Platform and facilitates communication between park service, the villages and the cluster platform.
- **Conservation Credit (CC):** This is a virtual coupons generated by the community through the participation in CMAs. This money can be used by a village to contribute for the execution of a development project.
- **Conservation Bonus (CB):** It is a fixed amount per village per year rewarding community' efforts in collaborating actively in conservation efforts. CB is evaluated yearly and discussed during cluster platform meetings. Funds from CB can be used to support village development measures which meets criteria set by the park services during the cluster platform meetings.

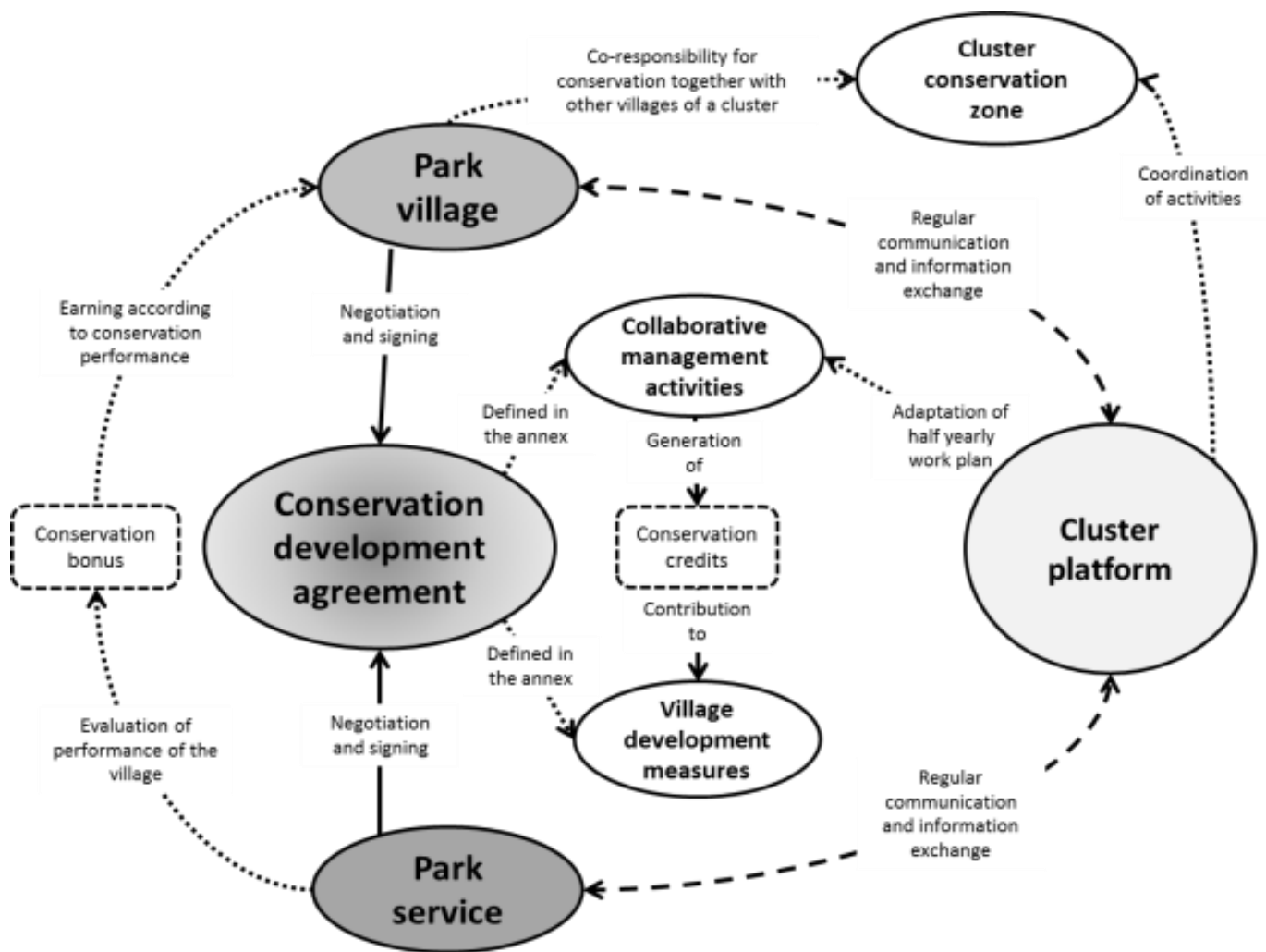


Figure 5. Diagram of the collaborative management approach

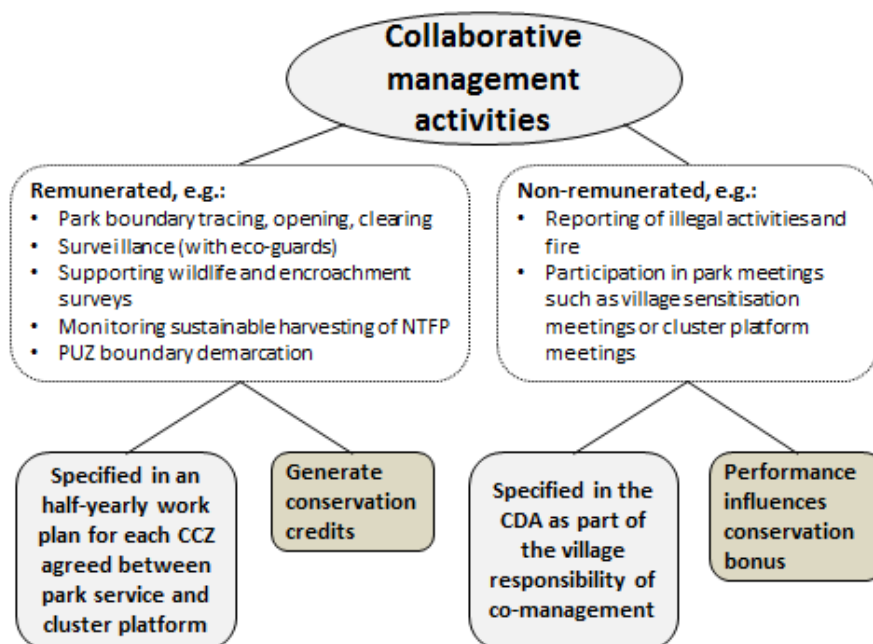


Figure 6. Overview of collaborative management activities

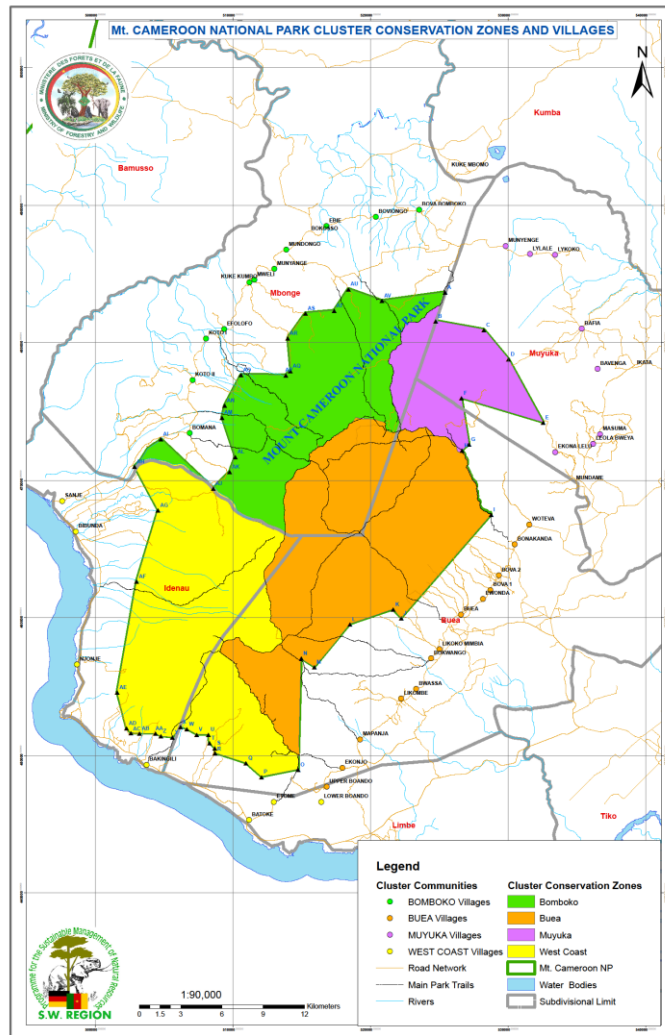


Figure 7. Cluster conservation zones with surrounding villages of Mount Cameroon National Park

Table 3. Distribution of villages per cluster

cluster	Park villages	cluster	Park villages	cluster	Park villages	cluster	Park villages
Buea (13 villages)	Upper Boando	Bomboko (12 villages)	BovaBomboko	Muyuka (9 villages)	Mundame	West Coast (7 villages)	Sanje
	Ekonjo		Boviongo		EkonaLelu		Bibunde
	Mapanja		Ebie		Liola-Buea		Njonji
	Likombe		Bokosso		Masuma		Bakingili
	Bwassa		Mondongo		Bavenga		Etome
	Bokwango		Munyange		Bafia		Batoke
	LykokoMembia		Mueli		Lykoko Mile 14		Lower Boando
	Buea Village		KukeKumbu		Lilale		
	Ewonda		Efolofo		Munyenge		
	Bova 1		Kotto 1				
	Bova 2		Kotto 2				
	Bonakanda		Bomana				
	Woteva						

3.10 Ecotourism

Mt Cameroon is the highest mountain in West and Central Africa and one of the main biodiversity hot spots in the country. It stretches from near sea level to an altitude of close to 4,100 m asl. It offers therefore a wide range of ecosystem and a large panel of touristic attraction for trekkers, birdwatchers, wildlife lovers. It hosts the annual Mt Cameroon Race of Hope that brings national and international participants and visitors. Located at a one hour drive from Douala international airport and within the vicinity of two important towns, Buea and Limbe, it could constitute a world-class nature and culture-based touristic destination. However these assets are under-leveraged; around 1,000 tourists (mainly resident expatriates and Cameroonians) a year choose to visit Mt Cameroon and mostly limited to weekends and seasonal holiday periods. Despite its wildlife, trekking, scenic, and other attractions, lack of ecotourism infrastructure, planning and marketing currently inhibit MCNP from fulfilling its tourism potential.

The main touristic potentials of the park and its surrounding include;

- The highest peak (4,100m) of West and Central Africa;
- A continuous gradient of vegetation which stretches from the lowland forest at sea level, through sub montane and montane forests to alpine savanna at its peak;
- A highly diverse and beautiful landscapes;
- The rich and diverse endemic flora and wildlife species including threatened animals such forest mountain elephants, chimpanzee, *Francolinus camerunensis*, *Picathartes oreas*, drill and other endangered apes and birds;
- Proximity to the beautiful and unique volcanic sandy coastal beaches at the foot of Mt Cameroon;
- Diverse cultures and cultural sites (traditional dances, Bimbia old slave village...);
- Picturesque nature sites such as old larva flows, crater lakes, craters, lakes, caves and waterfalls;
- Availability of some high standard touristic infrastructures (hotels, restaurants...);
- Local tour operators;
- The presence of a Botanical and Zoological garden in Limbe;
- Proximity to International airport and road network.

The Government of Cameroon has initiated several attempts to reinvigorate the tourism sector. Currently, the Government strengthens several value chains through investment in infrastructure and capacity building with the financial support of World Bank and other partners. Mt Cameroon is one of the four target sites for World Bank support to the expected tune of US\$ 2 million (World Bank 2010). The pre-requisites for implementation of Ecotourism infrastructures are the execution of Environmental Social Impact Assessment (ASEA) which has been conducted by PCFC (PCFC 2014). Additionally PSMNR has commissioned the elaboration of an ecotourism strategy to define interventions and investments aimed at enhancing ecotourism development in and around MCNP (PSMNR 2014).

In the South West region, the Mt Cameroon Ecotourism Organisation was formed in 2000, whose status was changed in October 2002 as the MOUNT Cameroon Inter-Communal Ecotourism Board (MOUNT CEO). The main objectives of this organisation centred on the promotion of biodiversity conservation, development of ecotourism for the improvement of the living standards of the local communities.

Over the years, through the support of the former GTZ and German Development Service (DED), WWF, MOUNT CEO had been able to develop both ecotourism packages and capacity building to promote Ecotourism in the Mt Cameroon area. Between 2000 and 2009, MTCEO facilitated the visit of 7,377 tourists into the Mt Cameroon area, amounting to a total revenue of about 135 million FCFA

(MOUNT CEO 2010). MOUNT CEO signed on 18th July, 2006, a Partnership Agreement with the ministry of Tourism. Although MCNP constitutes an integral part of the area for the implementation of the agreement, no allocation of entry fees was foreseen for park management because the agreement was signed before the creation of the park.

With the creation of the park and the technical and financial support of PSMNR-SWR, the Park Service undertook the responsibility to facilitate and better organise the management of Ecotourism activities within the park in conformity with the regulations governing park management. The collection of park entry fees was initiated in November 2012 with 06 main local tour operators. So far more than 10 million FCFA has been generated and paid as prescribed by the Finance Law (55% paid to National Treasury, 45% paid to Special Wildlife Fund). Unfortunately this revenue is not contributing to the implementation of direct park management measures as in other parks, Botanical and Zoological Gardens. There is an overwhelming consensus amongst stakeholders that this revenue be managed by the park service.

At present, the following entrance fees are applied as guided by the finance law:

- 5.000 FCFA/per day for non-resident foreigners;
- 3.000 FCFA/per day for resident foreigners;
- 1500 FCFA/per day for nationals.

The following areas of intervention are planned through PCFC:

- Elaboration and validation of the Mt Cameroon management plan;
- Provision of technical assistance to the Park Service and MOUNT CEO;
- Establishment of reception and parking areas;
- Rehabilitation and expansion of ecotourism infrastructures (MINEPAT 2010).

PSMNR and PCFC are working together since 2011 to implement agreed measures to promote ecotourism in the MCNP and its surrounding and fulfil above mentioned areas of interventions. Furthermore, the Park Service in collaboration with the main local tour operators and other stakeholders has agreed on procedures to guide visits in the park. Most of these tour operators offer standard or customized hiking and trekking packages from half-day to 5 days. The Mt Cameroon Race of Hope trail is the most used hiking trail in the park although many other trails exist in the Park.

So far, Mt Cameroon Race of Hope is the most popular event carried out in the park that attracts thousands of visitors before, during and after the race and offers visibility through medias. Visits into the park are more favorable from November to May which corresponds with the dry season.

In the MCNP, the most popular routes are:

- Route 1: Buea-Summit - Buea (2 days/1 night);
- Route 2: Bokwango/Buea - Mann's Spring – Bokwango/Buea (2 days/1 night);
- Route 3: Buea-Summit - Mann's Spring - Bokwango/Buea (3days/2 nights).

The number of visitors into the MCNP has been on a steadily increased reaching a peak with more than 1,300 visitors in 2013.

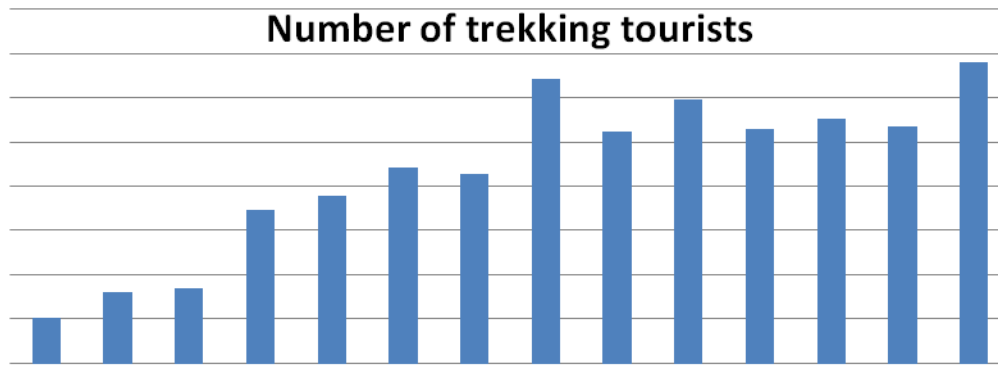


Figure 8. Visitor trend in the MCNP: 2000-2013 (Source: MCNP and MTCEO)

For multiple-day trekking, a stay in one of the huts is most often followed by a night spend at Mann's Spring close to a number of active volcano cones at the forest-alpine vegetation boundary. Mann's Spring at 2,250 m altitude is one of the few spots on the mountain with permanent natural flowing water (spring). So far the current ecotourism package is not adapted to the whole visitor profiles and is limited to residents and occasional visitors. Therefore it is important to develop trekking axis and adapted infrastructures to enlarge trekking potentials.

In order to revitalize ecotourism development the joint contribution from PSMNR-SWR and PFCF will help in the construction of Ecotourism infrastructures such as:

- The construction eco-lodges at Ma'an Spring, P and T station, Huts 1, 2, & 3;
- The construction of viewing tower (Miradors) at the elephant opening/lake;
- The construction of a tourist information centre (reception, tourist services) and parking areas
- Provision of innovation grants for private investment in eco-lodges and restaurants in and around the Park

4.0 MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

This section describes the main strengths, constraints, weaknesses and opportunities regarding the management of the MCNP and its periphery.

4.1 Strengths

The main strengths to park management are:

The existence of a legal framework

The creation of the park and the availability of a management plan offer opportunities for investment in the management of this high price ecosystem. This will further help to enhance and ensure the sustainable management of the unique biodiversity of the park.

The rich biodiversity and endemism of the area

The wider Mt Cameroon area is considered to be a Pleistocene refugia area which even during glacial periods contained rainforest leading to extreme biodiversity of both flora and fauna with many endemics present. The presence of enigmatic animals such as forest elephants with a high probability of encounter (especially around waterholes) are of great value, while the chance to observe some of the restricted-range bird species on Mt Cameroon are also present.

Unique altitudinal vegetation gradient and landscape

Mt Cameroon is the highest mountain of West and Central Africa. It is an active volcano with regular outburst every two decade or so. Due to its closeness to the sea, it also offers a rare opportunity to observe an almost intact altitudinal vegetation gradient from the sea level through the lowland rainforest to montane forest and alpine grassland.

Strong cultural link with this landscape and the natural resources

There exists a strong link between the people and the mountain. The mountain is sacred to them with a number of shrines present on its flanks. The elephant is like a totem to them and figures in masks and traditional dances. The mountain offers a wide variety of food and medicine of which some are exploited internationally like *Prunus africana*.

Provision of environmental services

The Mt Cameroon NP offers a number of environmental services which include water, carbon sequestration, medicines, foods etc. The importance of the Mt Cameroon as a watershed and a source of clean water which is bottled and commercialised in the sub region cannot be over emphasized.

Accessibility of the park and the high potential for Ecotourism development

The Mt Cameroon NP area is generally accessible by a road network, though the Bomboko section experiences some greater difficulties during the rainy season. Mt Cameroon is located close to Douala, the economic capital of the country, with good road networks. Tourism infrastructure (hotels and restaurants) exists especially along the coast between Limbe and Idenau, in Buea and Kumba.

The international recognition of the MCNP

Mt Cameroon is internationally recognised as a biodiversity hot spot. The mountain is used annually for the organisation of the annual Mt Cameroon Race of Hope, which attracts international participation.

Peace, safety and hospitality

Cameroon is one of the most peaceful countries in Africa. This peace transcends to the MCNP area, where the population is characterised by its legendary hospitality. Visitors to the area have always enjoyed the peaceful and safety environment.

4.2 Weaknesses

There is a high population pressure with around 100,000 inhabitants living in 41 villages located at the vicinity of the park. Since the area holds one of the most fertile soils of the country, it attracts a constant flow of migrants which are engaged in agriculture and leads to uncontrolled land acquisition. The presence of large agro-industrial plantations along the west coast has led to even more land scarcity and the need for coordinated land use planning.

Competitive land use types

The decree 95/531/PM of 23 August 1995, regulates not only forest management, but also validates a zoning plan based on a national forest inventory carried out in the early 1990s. However, numerous inter-sectorial conflicts persist or are nascent because of competitive land utilisation types. These conflicts present themselves by:

- The overlap in permanent forest estate (including protected areas) and mining areas;
- The pressure on land seen between agro-industrial complexes and the growing human settlements;
- Intrusion of protected areas by farmers, loggers and mining companies.

All these intrusive activities can be seen at Mt Cameroon NP and its surroundings which form a threat to the protected area. There is a lack of coordination between several sectors and the need for land use planning.

Natural resources decline

The ever increasing population has led to uncontrolled and unsustainable use of natural resources within the Mt Cameroon NP and the peripheral zone. This has led to encroachment into the park and fragmentation of wildlife habitats, isolation of wildlife populations, resulting to increase deforestation and forest degradation. There is a need to create connectivity with other forest areas to facilitate gene flow and mobility of wildlife. The increased demand for protein and more specifically bush meat has led to unsustainable wildlife off-take. As a result very low population densities have been observed for some key wildlife species like elephant, chimpanzee and drill.

Uncontrolled bush fires

Fire is traditionally used for hunting and collection of honey. This practice has encouraged annual fires leading to the reduction of the montane forest ecosystem.

Limited and inadequate ecotourism facilities

The Ecotourism potential of the MCNP is presently underdeveloped. Basic ecotourism infrastructure such as eco-lodges, park offices, information centre, trekking routes, tourist camping equipment, etc are not yet available. The absence of an emergency plan to evacuate injured visitors or staff remains a challenge in this difficult terrain. There is therefore a need to develop these facilities and infrastructures to ensure an effective development of ecotourism.

Limited park staff, funds and infrastructure

The operational capacity of the park is still insufficient in quality and number. Presently the park has 22 eco-guards and 05 senior staff including the conservator. The capacity of most of the staff especially the eco-guards is low and basic park infrastructure is absent making patrols and other park management activities difficult. Support from PSMNR-SWR and PCFC is foreseen to end in the next 3

years. The current GoC support is not enough to cover the implementation of park management activities, thus the need to develop and implement a sustainable financing mechanism by 2017.

Research and monitoring

Since the creation of the park, baseline studies have been conducted to provide necessary information to orientate park management measures. However, the need to execute further studies aimed at answering direct needs for bio monitoring, vegetation assessments and socio-economic impact of park management is a priority. Furthermore, it is also imperative to elaborate and implement a research protocol which will contribute to park management.

Active volcano

Mt Cameroon is an active volcano erupting about every 20 years. The Park Service should liaise with the seismic monitoring units at Ekona and in University of Buea to exploit available reports for park management.

4.3 Opportunities

Status

Long term protection is ensured for this unique mountain ecosystem and landscape since Mt Cameroon became a National Park, and one out of the 12 rainforest national parks found in Cameroon. With time the status of World Heritage site under UNESCO could be aimed for, as apart from the unique mountain ecosystem and landscape, the wider region boosts cultural and tourism attractions such as shrines, crater lakes, waterfalls, slave trading posts and German colonial architectural heritage.

Ecotourism development opportunities

The fact that Mt Cameroon is the highest mountain and only active volcano of West Africa could be better promoted as this is hardly known in the world. With improved tourism infrastructures and services as well as proper marketing, visitor numbers could increase significantly.

Local community involvement

The participation of the local communities during the process of creation of the Park and the elaboration its MP confirmed their commitment and involvement for Park management. This active participation will strengthen the implementation of collaborative management approach promoted by MCNP. The management of the park is perceived as a window of opportunities for community development by the local inhabitants, elites and traditional authorities. Accompanying community development measures like infrastructure such as a reliable water supply and income generating activities by MCNP contribute to enhancing local support and collaboration in park management activities. Local communities around Mt Cameroon NP are already organised in VFMCs and are engaged in CDA. The park has clear and well defined external boundaries which are well known by the adjoining communities and they are involved in boundary demarcation and maintenance.

Partnership

The Mt Cameroon region throughout the years has already attracted conservation and development partners to the area amongst which German Cooperation, WWF, DFID and others. Working through partnerships in conservation is part of a much broader trend in steering societies, in which governments increasingly share the responsibility for policy development and implementation with other societal actors. Involvement of other stakeholders such as MINTOUL, councils, private economic operators, civil society and universities could reinforce the management of MCNP.

Environmental awareness and the effect on the biodiversity

Conservation and environmental education programmes initiated in the 1990's by the Mt Cameroon Project has contributed to raise the awareness of the population of the area on environmental issues and the negative effects of destructive use of forests and forest resources. The presence in Limbe of a Botanical Garden and a wildlife centre and its possible future extension at the foot of Mt. Cameroon, are providing direct opportunities for environmental education.

Community forests

The presence of community forests contiguous with the southern and south eastern borders of the park, as buffer zones, offers an opportunity for sustainable management of NR for community development. The need for park management to support the sustainable management of these community forests cannot be over-emphasised. These could also be considered as potential corridors for wildlife.

Research

The MCNP due to its uniqueness offers a wide range of research fields from wildlife, botanical, ecological, geology, socio-economic, ethno botanic... which has attracted National and International researchers. The presence of the University of Buea and international interest to conduct research on the mountain could be guided to answer some key Park management questions.

The assurance of medium term funding

PSMNR-SWR is going to support financially key investments and Collaborative Park management activities until mid-2017. PSMNR-SWR and the World Bank Project will finance major ecotourism investments. A study has been commissioned by PSMNR in 2012 to analyse various Sustainable Financing Mechanisms (SFM) options for SWR PAs and in 2014 to investigate the possibility to create a Foundation dedicated to MCNP and its peripheral zone.

Preliminary contacts have been established with economic operators such as CDC, Supermont, SONARA, which in future could be persuaded to make payments for environmental services on a voluntary basis. Councils have been approached as well to identify how they could contribute to the Management of MCNP and to the preservation of its environmental services.

Additionally Cameroon is developing its ER-PIN to participate in the Carbon Finance Mechanism (or 'Carbon Fund'), through which the Forest Carbon Partnership Fund (FCPF) will pilot incentive payments for REDD+ policies and measures. It would be of interest to see the Mt Cameroon NP REDD+ initiative form part of the ER-PIN. The upcoming KfW climate change project which intends to link land use planning and REDD+ also constitutes an opportunity to consolidate interventions within the peripheral zone of MCNP and finance participatory corridors management initiatives.

4.4 Management constraints

A number of key management constraints must be overcome to enhance conservation in the Mt Cameroon NP. These include:

Financial constraints

Effective management of protected areas is seriously compromised by inadequate funding and government support. The German Government has indicated that its 10-year technical and financial support to PSMNR-SWR will come to an end in June 2017. As a result, the need for an exit strategy cannot be over-emphasized to sustain on-going park management activities. Therefore different sources of funding should be exploited to finance investment and operational costs for Mt Cameroon NP.

Socio-economic constraints

The main threats to the conservation of biodiversity in the area are human-linked and constitute the basis of the livelihood support system of the local population. The main drivers of deforestation are land clearance for commercial and subsistence agriculture, large-scale development projects, unsustainable commercial logging. Other illegal activities include poaching, uncontrolled burning, unauthorised commercial fuel wood collection.

The location of the park, surrounded by forest areas almost completely converted to farm land will definitely lead to increase pressure on the remaining forest within the park and result to its progressive isolation. At the moment there is no land use plan to address this situation.

Increasing human population

The increasing population is a function of both indigenous population increase as well as increase due to immigration into the area. This increasing population into both the villages and surrounding towns will mean that either more land is put under agriculture or more people in the towns are expected to be fed from the products of agriculture within and around the area. Aware of the difficulties of controlling population increase in the area, park management must be able to elaborate and implement strategies which enhance optimum agricultural production per unit area.

The presence of large-scale agro-industrial plantations

The Park is surrounded by large scale agro-plantations that attract many workers that rely on the MC natural resources for their livelihood. The management of these plantations should be made to adopt and implement employee policies which will reduce the impact of their private activities on the MCNP environment.

Low income and high dependence of local communities on forest resources

The socio-economic studies show that most of the surrounding communities are poor and highly dependent on the forest for farming, timber and NTFPs collection as well as bush meat. Most of which are exploited in an uncoordinated manner and illegally.

5 MANAGEMENT MEASURES

5.1 Management vision

By 2025, the Mount Cameroon National Park ecosystem, biodiversity, environmental services and its integrity will be managed effectively with the participation of all stakeholders and will be recognised as a worldwide ecotourism destination.

5.2 Management objectives

5.2.1 Global objective

The global objective is to conserve the mountain ecosystem and its environmental services through collaborative management while promoting ecotourism.

5.2.2 Specific objectives

The specific objectives to be achieved are:

- Objective 1: To ensure proper administrative and financial management;
- Objective 2: To assure optimum protection and surveillance;
- Objective 3: To promote collaborative management and local development;
- Objective 4: To promote ecotourism development;
- Objective 5: To facilitate research and monitoring;
- Objective 6: To develop sustainable financing mechanisms.

5.3 Expected results

1. Proper administrative and financial management are assured:

- Staff recruited, trained and properly managed for optimum performance;
- Relevant park infrastructures developed and properly maintained;
- Equipment and material procured, well managed, maintained and renewed;
- Funds are properly managed;
- Public relations with all stakeholders maintained.

2. The protection and surveillance of Mt Cameroon NP are ensured

- Park is managed according to the law and regulations governing PAs;
- Access rules defined in the MP are respected;
- Patrol strategy is implemented;
- Participation of local communities for the protection of the park reinforced;
- Park boundaries are regularly maintained;
- Illegal activities reduced;
- Offences are identified and prosecuted;
- Human-wildlife conflicts mitigated;
- Fire management plan elaborated and implemented;
- Wildlife habitat and ecosystems are preserved;
- Large mammals and other key wildlife species population have increased.

3. Collaborative management and local development ensured

- Communities are organised, capacitated to participate in park management;
- Collaborative management approach is operational and institutionalised;
- Collaborative agreements on resources use, and access and benefit sharing mechanisms are negotiated and implemented;
- Interventions in the peripheral zone are planned and coordinated with all stakeholders;

- Socio-economic infrastructure and income generating activities are implemented according to CDA;
- The collaborative management of the remnant of Bomboko FR is supported;
- Main corridors are identified and management options supported to ensure connectivity of the park with other forest entities.

4. The ecotourism potentials of the park and its surrounding are developed, valorised and enhanced to contribute to the local and national economy:

- Ecotourism potentials of the park and support zone are well known, developed and promoted;
- The ecotourism strategy is implemented;
- Necessary services and infrastructure are put in place and maintained;
- Required staffs recruited, trained and properly managed for optimum performance;
- Key stakeholders initiatives are supported.

5. Research and monitoring protocols are implemented

- Management-oriented research priorities are defined and validated;
- Agreed research protocols developed and implemented;
- Long term bio-monitoring implemented;
- Research partnerships secured
- Internship and volunteer initiatives are managed;
- VDMs and other interventions in the peripheral zone monitored;
- Human activities inside and outside the park are monitored.

6. Sustainable financing mechanism for park activities implemented

- Funding sources are identified and potential contributors mobilised;
- Long term financing mechanisms are elaborated, implemented and monitored;
- Mt Cameroon NP foundation created and functional.

5.4 Management programmes

Based on the specific objectives for managing the park as stated above and their corresponding expectations, six programmes have been proposed to guide management. These programmes are: Administration and finance, Park protection and surveillance, Collaborative management and local development, Ecotourism development, Research and monitoring, and Sustainable financing mechanism.

5.4.1 Administration and finance

This programme is concerned with the day-to-day management of the park with the collaboration of all stakeholders. It assures transparent use of funds allocated for park activities, management of staff, procurement and management of equipment, proper use of park infrastructures and maintains a link with other institutions. An internal and external management support is vital in order to effectively fulfil its missions. This programme is considered the “back bone”, upon which the activities of all other programmes revolve and are coordinated.

The main areas for intervention for this programme include:

- Administrative management;
- Financial management.

5.4.1.1 Administrative management

Organise/strengthen the MCNP service

To efficiently conduct the measures scheduled in the present management plan, there is need for organizational and institutional strengthening of the conservation service to reinforce this service and reorganise the mandates of the two Committees (management and scientific committees).

The proposed reinforced structure of the conservation service includes the provision of the following positions:

- **Conservator:** Under supervision of the Regional Delegate, she/he will be in charge of implementation of all the activities planned in the current management plan and the management of general administration of the conservation service.
- **Heads of Units:** There will be five heads of units assisting the conservator. They will respectively be in charge of :
 - surveillance and law enforcement activities (protection unit) ;
 - sensitization, environmental awareness and support to the socioeconomic development of local communities (collaborative management unit) ;
 - scientific research and ecological monitoring (research and monitoring unit);
 - management and development of ecotourism (ecotourism unit);
 - eventually, the conservation service will have support staff that comprise of an administrator/accountant, driver(s), one secretary and watchmen (Administration and Finance unit).

In addition to these units the Conservator will work in close collaboration with the Mount Cameroon Foundation (MCF) for the management of the Sustainable Financing Mechanisms (SFM).

- **Eco-guards:** Eco-guards will be deployed to assure the day to day protection of the Park and the surrounding.

The following activities will be implemented:

Activity 1.1: Follow up personnel management at Park level

An additional 08 eco-guards and 05 senior staff are required for the effective implementation of park activities. The list of the available and required staff with their respective responsibilities is attached in annex.

Activity 1.2: Conduct training need assessment and provide training and refresher courses for senior staff

The conduct of a training need assessment will facilitate the identification of relevant training needs for the various units. Long, medium and short term training are envisaged. The following themes are relevant: park management, bio-monitoring, GIS, data analysis, ecotourism, resource and financial management.

Activity 1.3: Organize workshops, seminars, exchange-visits and team building exercises for all staff

A number of workshops, seminars and team building exercises are required to facilitate communication, maintain staff morale and raise levels of environmental and tourism awareness. Exchange visits to other National Parks and other Protected Areas in and out of Cameroon are required.

Coordination and planning

Effective co-ordination, internally and externally with various NGOs, donors and GoC services working in and around the park, TOU staff and others is essential for successful management. Park management committees will be created following a ministerial decision.

Activity 1.4: Assure planning and coordination of Park management activities

Effective management of Park activities requires regular monthly, half-yearly and yearly planning and coordination meetings.

Activity 1.5: Assure day-to-day running of park management activities

Day-to-day management of park activities like participation in planning meetings, public relation, coordination meetings, management of correspondences, human and material resources management will be facilitate.

Activity 1.6: Facilitate he creation of Park Committees.

In order to ease the effective management of the park, the creation of park committees which include the management committee, the scientific committee and the local consultative committee is necessary.

Activity 1.7: Organise sessions for the MCNP Management Committee

The committee should validate annual work plans, annual budgets and annual reports of MCNP. It will also increase levels of participation, facilitate communication, raise awareness and increase levels of local support.

Activity 1.8: Organise sessions of the Scientific Committee

This Committee, in line with MINFOF procedures will orientate research activities in the park. The deliberations of this committee will provide data necessary for decision making by the management committee.

Activity 1.9: Organise sessions of the Local Consultative Committee.

The local consultative committee identify and examine local problems and concerns and make necessary recommendations to the management committee for final decisions.

Activity 1.10: Organise General Assembly of Clusters (GAC)

A general assembly made cluster representatives will be meeting annually to discuss issues link to collaborative management at global level for harmonization.

Activity 1.11: Mainstream HIV during implementation of Park activities

During implementation of all park related activities a clear message concerning HIV prevention and mitigation should be addressed systematically to all stakeholders.

Activity 1.12: Evaluate and revise management plan

The evaluation of the implementation of the MCNP management plan (MP) will be done during the mid-term review and at least 06 months to the expiration of the MP. Recommendations and lessons learnt from these evaluations will be used to update and revise the current MP.

Management of partnerships

Formal and functional relations have to be established between the park service and the other stakeholders of the park. The need to have a coherent action by stakeholders of the MCNP is imperative to minimize institutional conflicts and facilitate park management. Therefore the following activities are planned:

Activity 1.13: Create and manage platforms of collaboration with partners.

Areas of partnership with relevant line ministries, councils, universities, research institutions, conservation and development organisations, civil society organisations will be exploited. This will help to create platforms of collaboration with identified partners to coordinate their interventions in MCNP and its peripheral zone. A number of meetings and workshops are required to facilitate communication and arrive at describing a common goal and harmonise activities with park service and other partners.

Park infrastructure, equipment and material

Professional and effective protected area management requires quality, well designed and well located infrastructure to enhance management activities. Protected area headquarters and sub headquarters are needed to facilitate the coordination of park activities. It should have sufficient office space and provision for auxiliary services. Effective PA management requires the construction of strategic liaison offices, eco-guard patrol posts/camp to facilitate patrol coverage with minimum resources.

Activity 1.14: Procure vehicles, renew and maintain adequate field and office equipment

The park service has been provided with some equipment. However, there is still a need to procure additional equipment for patrol, camping, research, communication and offices, as well as 02 4-Wheel drive vehicles and 04 motorbikes. List of available and required additional equipment is attached in Annex. All these equipment require regular maintenance.

Activity 1.15: Construct and equip MCNP Head Quarters

The Park Head Office is located in Limbe, the Senior Divisional Officer for Fako has proposed a site. However, the holding of the Land Consultative Board Meetings and formalisation of the allocated site is still pending. . With the planned support of PSMNR-SWR to construct and equip the Park Sub Office at Buea by end 2017, resources will have to be mobilised to construct the Head Office. With the foreseen construction of a Wildlife Release Centre in the park and eminent increase in ecotourism activities, the construction of the Head Office is indispensable for the proper management of the park.

Activity 1.16: Build, rehabilitate and maintain park infrastructures

The park head quarter in Limbe will be built following the MINFOF guiding plan for park head quarter. Based on accessibility to the park, the need to promote ecotourism and facilitate day-to-day coordination of park management activities, the construction of a sub quarters in Buea is foreseen with support from PSMNR-SWR. The building plans include the construction of liaison offices, control posts and camps.

5.4.1.2 Financial management

The government contributes around 20% of the total budget of Mt Cameroon NP. The main donor KfW has announced that their funding comes to an end in 2017 which would imply that the operational budget from government's side for Mt Cameroon NP should be increased to maintain the current park operations. To fill the expected financial gap other complementary sustainable financing mechanisms should be envisaged.

Activity 1.17: Elaborate, budget and implement annual work plans

Annual work plans and budgets will be prepared and submitted to MINFOF and concerned donors on time to ensure release of funds. Ensure timely disbursement of field allowance and budget activities.

Activity 1.18: Implement accounting system linked to the budget (MINFOF and Donor specific).

Park activities are presently funded mainly through GoC, PSMNR-SWR and PCFC. Additional source of funding are foreseen with the creation of the MCF. Each of these funding sources will be implemented in accordance to their respective accounting systems.

Activity 1.19: Implement internal and external auditing

An annual internal and external auditing will be carried out following agreed auditing systems.

Activity 1.20: Ensure park entry fees and other fees are used to implement park activities.

Develop a technical note to justify the need to use directly park entry fees to finance the Park management. Liaise with MINFI to obtain an authorisation to manage park entrance fees.

Activity 1.21: Follow up the management of revenues generated from the Park and conservation incentives

The Park generates revenues from ecotourism, *Prunus* exploitation and research that should be managed and followed up. Agreed fees should be collected and benefit sharing mechanisms implemented. Elaborate and implement a mechanism to manage revenues generated from ecotourism infrastructures. Furthermore the payment of conservations incentives will be assured and monitored.

5.4.2 Park Protection

This programme ensures that the park is used in a way that it can maintain its integrity and fulfil its ecological functions. It guards against unsustainable use of natural resources and ensures protection of Park environmental services and infrastructures. It is implemented under three main areas of intervention that will help to protect the integrity of the park:

- Management of patrols;
- Maintenance of park boundaries;
- Management of fire.

5.4.2.1 Patrol and surveillance

A patrol strategy for the park has been elaborated and is currently being implemented. Generally every, ecoguard is entitled to 15 man days of patrol per month.

Activity 2.1: Implement patrol strategy

All agreed types of patrols (impromptu and planned) will be implemented in the 04 clusters as described in the patrol strategy. Impromptu patrols are those patrols executed solely by ecoguards while planned patrols are executed jointly with members of VFMCs. The regularity of patrols for each cluster will be guided by the park management zones. Patrol data will be regularly updated and analysed to orientate patrol plans.

Activity 2.2 Establish and manage a functional intelligence network of informants

An informal network is required to gather information regarding illegal activities, especially poaching, encroachment and illegal logging, for prompt action.

Activity 2.3: Identify and monitor areas of encroachment

Regular patrols are required to locate encroached sites and for proper monitoring. This will help to stop further encroachment into the park.

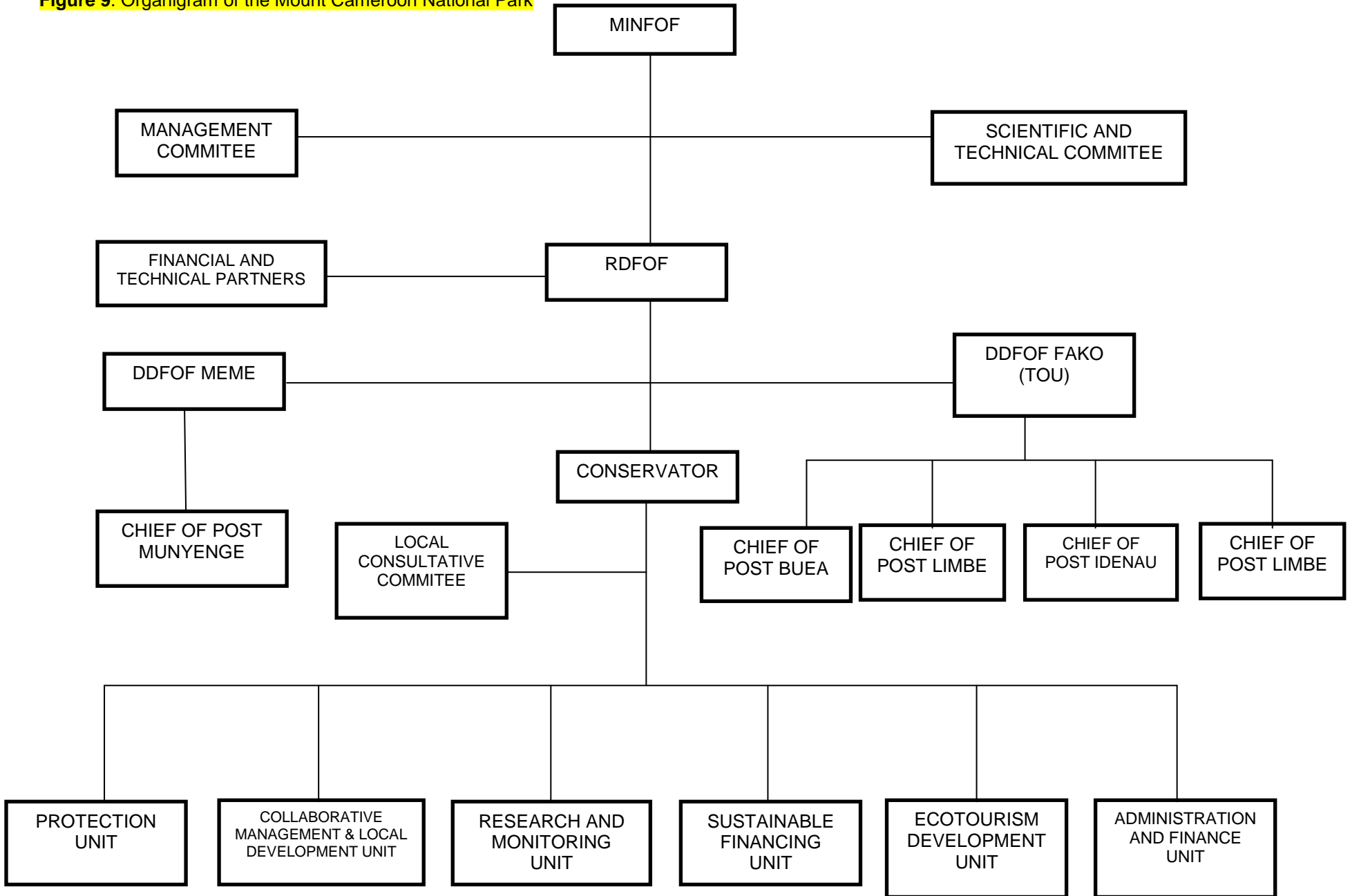
Activity 2.4: Follow-up litigations and prosecution of offences

Prosecution of offences will be regularly followed and documented. Offence statements will be prepared and evidence gathering will be done following legal standards. The contribution of MINFOF and other relevant ministry services will be solicited.

5.4.2.2 Park boundaries

Original boundary point coordinates for Mt Cameroon NP are based on GPS coordinates collected in the field.

Figure 9. Organigram of the Mount Cameroon National Park



Activity 2.5: Open, maintain and geo-reference park boundaries

With the completion of the demarcation of the park boundaries, regular maintenance is necessary. The regular maintenance of these boundaries is planned to be coordinated in collaboration with VFMCs. Durable clearly worded sign posts will be positioned at strategic locations along the boundary.

Activity 2.6: Produce, install and maintain signposts

Signposts are placed at the limits of the Park and shall be placed along footpaths where the limited access zone ends and the core protection zone begins.

Activity 2.7: Compile necessary documents and follow up land registration process

Conduct the necessary surveys with the relevant administration and mobilise the land consultative board for validation.

5.4.2.3 Fire management

In collaboration with the Research and Monitoring Programme a fire management plan will be developed and implemented.

Activity 2.8: Elaborate and implement a fire management plan

A fire management plan will help to orientate park management decision with regards to anthropogenic causes and subsequent management options.

5.4.3 Collaborative management and local development

This programme promotes the involvement of local communities in the management of the park and supports community development initiatives. The intervention of the park service in and around the National Park is guided by a collaborative management approach.

5.4.3.1 Community mobilisation and participation

Activity 3.1 Ensure proper functioning of VFMCs and Cluster Platforms (CP).

VFMC and CP functionality are the keys pillars to the success of MCNP collaborative management approach. VFMCs have been formed in all 41 villages, 04 CPs formed and 04 Cluster Facilitators recruited. Regular meetings should be organised to sensitise members and agree on CM activities to be carried out in each cluster.

Activity 3.2 Negotiate and implement CM action plan

Villages are clustered to ease the implementation of collaborative management activities to improve Park management. Those activities are plan on a half yearly basis during the cluster platform meetings. It entails remunerated and non-remunerated activities which contribute to generate conservation incentives to the benefit of the communities.

Activity 3.3 Build capacity of VFMCs and Cluster Platform members

VFMCs and CP need to be empowered in order to ensure their effective contribution to park management activities. Necessary areas for capacity building include: basic elements of the forestry law, importance of biodiversity conservation, conflict management, conservation and development.

Activity 3.4 Sensitize and build the capacity of other community members and stakeholders

Organise sensitisation meetings, seminars, events to enhance their understanding on issues related to biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of NP and its peripheral zone.

Activity 3.5 Implement Education for Sustainable Development

Sensitization and capacity building for youth and other stakeholders on environmental education and related themes such as biodiversity conservation, protection of nature, etc is indispensable for the

sustainability of conservation measures. School curricula for schools around the park will be adapted and assisted through the provision of necessary didactic material and teaching guides, formation of environmental clubs and organization of environment related events.

5.4.3.2 Conservation and development agreement elaboration and implementation

CDAs are elaborated using the following steps: cluster sensitisation, village sensitisation, negotiation guided by ASEA findings, signing, and implementation. The following IGAs (cassava production, processing and marketing, plantain and yam production, multipurpose nursery, bee farming), and infrastructure projects (water supply) will be funded through PSMNR-SWR.

Activity 3.6 Negotiate, elaborate and sign CDAs

In each of the 41 villages, CDAs will be negotiated, elaborated and signed with clear agreements on the type of IGA and infrastructure project to be support by the park service.

Activity 3.7 Implement, monitor and evaluate agreed measures in CDAs

CDA stipulates roles and responsibilities of the Park and local communities to ensure collaborative management. Several commitments and negotiated measures are captured in this document which need to implemented, monitored and evaluated.

Activity 3.8 Implement and monitor agreed Green IGAs

A set of green IGAs are supported by the MCNP because they contribute to community development and Park management objectives (low environmental impact, high yield and market value). Agreed IGAs will be implemented and monitored following the MOU established between the park service and the beneficiary villages.

Activity 3.9 Implement and monitor agreed infrastructure projects

Prioritized infrastructure measures which contribute to community development and Park management objectives (low environmental impact, water, access roads...). Agreed IS will be implemented and monitored following the MOU established between the park service and the beneficiary villages.

5.4.3.3 Management of the natural and cultural resources within the park

Activity 3.10 Implement *Prunus* management plan

A *Prunus* management plan has been approved by MINFOF (2011) to ensure the sustainable harvesting and management of *Prunus* within the park. Implement, monitor and follow up *Prunus* MP prescriptions. Support MOCAP on the following areas: organisational development, business management, exploitation techniques ...

Activity 3.11: Elaborate, implement and monitor guidelines for the use of the Limited access zone

A limited Access Zone has been identified within the park in order to allow the communities to exercise their user's rights and cultural beliefs. However, these rights will be limited to the exploitation of certain NTFPs and medicinal plants for subsistence. Hence there is a need to elaborate and implement guidelines for the sustainable management of this zone.

5.4.3.4. Community forests management

The MCNP is flanked by 03 Community Forests (CF), Bakingili CF (905 ha), Etinde CF (4,800 ha) and Woteva CF (1,846 ha). Two of these CFs (Bakingili and Woteva) have approved Simple management plans (SMP). The sustainable management of these CFs will definitely reduce dependence of the villages on the resources of the park as well as offer development opportunities to the concerned villages. In line with the management of the park's support zone, support to CF management cannot be undermined. It is in this respect that the following activity is planned:

Activity 3.12: Provide technical assistance to community forests in the peripheral zone

The park service will participate in the implementation of the existing Simple Management Plans (SMP) of Woteva and Bakingili, follow-up elaboration and implementation of the Etinde community forest SMP. Contribution to the regeneration of *Prunus* and other timber and NTFP species will be supported to provide a steady source of timber and NTFPs to communities.

5.4.3.5 Management of remnant Bomboko Forest Reserve (BFR)

The 6,175 ha of the remnant of the Bomboko Forest Reserve (BFR), excluded during the classification of the MCNP, is presently an object of disagreement with some communities, who thought that the exclusion of this area from the park meant surrendering it to them. However, based on the resolutions of 2009 related to the classification of the park, and those of 2014 on the restitution of the results of an encroachment survey of the remnant, this area remains a forest reserve to be managed in conformity to relevant regulations. The management of this remnant has direct consequences on the park especially as it host part of the elephant habitat.

Activity 3.13: Contribute to a detail land use survey in the remnant BFR

This survey done in collaboration with the DDFOF Meme and the Mt Cameroon TOU will provide baseline information necessary for elaboration of a management option.

Activity 3.14: Contribute to the elaboration and implementation of a participatory management plan for the remnant BFR

Based on the findings of the baseline survey, meetings and seminars will be organised to prepare and implement a participatory management option for the remnant.

5.4.3.6 Human-wildlife conflict

In the MCNP, human-wildlife conflicts (HWC) are generally related to destructions from elephants, monkeys and chimpanzees. Elephant destructions are mostly reported in Bomboko cluster. To maintain the confidence and collaboration with local communities, reported cases of destruction must be assessed and the procedure for compensation initiated. However, access of local communities to this compensation is difficult, making it necessary to exploit the possibility of integrating the management of human-wildlife conflicts in the proposed Sustainable Financing Mechanism Program below.

Activity 3.15: Sensitise communities on human-wildlife conflicts

Sensitisation meetings will be organised to educate community members farming practices, movements in national parks.

Activity 3.16 Organise on-farm assessment of animal destructions

In conformity with the law, the park service will facilitate assessments of wildlife destructions and forward reports to hierarchy.

Activity 3.17 Implement Human Wildlife Conflict strategy

The existing national strategy on Human Wildlife Conflict is implemented to address the situation of recurrent HWC. Based on the identified hot spots, mitigating measures will be organised following the national strategy. The FAO toolbox on HWC will be piloted in the Bomboko Cluster and scaring mission conducted if required.

5.4.3.7. Corridor management

The up-coming land use planning process in SWR (KFW co-financed) offers the opportunity to identify potential corridors for connectivity and develop concepts of participatory corridor management between PAs. The park will contribute to this process.

Activity 3.18: Participate in the survey of potential major corridors between MCNP and other forest entities

Collection of baseline data (Permanent Forest Domain/Non-Permanent Forest Domain) and satellite image interpretation. A study of presence of wildlife in the potential corridors will be central.

Activity 3.19 Participate with other stakeholders in the definition and management of corridors.

A concept for sustainable management of Mokoko FR (FMU 11008 B) and the potential corridor between Mt Cameroon NP and Mokoko FR is needed. Activities to be implemented have to be identified and a road map developed to save this high-value conservation area.

5.4.3.8. Watershed management

The MCNP is a big watershed supplying most of the support zone villages with water and commercial bottling companies. The implementation of water supply projects is one of the key infrastructure project executed through the on-going CDA activities. However, heavy deforestation as a result of agricultural activities is currently reducing the value of this watershed and catchments thereby jeopardizing its potential. There is therefore the need to implement activities aimed at preserving and restoring this asset.

Activity 3.20: Support the elaboration and implementation of watershed management plan

Support the creation of water management committees at villages in the peripheral zone with support of the councils. Develop a simple water catchment management plan for streams and lakes to mitigate the negative impacts of water catchment degradation at villages supported by the park service. A study can investigate the viability whether downstream users could pay upstream land managers to change land use practices to increase flows and reduce sediment. For example, land use planning and water catchment protection can improve the provision of water services, erosion control and carbon sequestration services provided.

Activity 3.21 Carry out conservation and development activities within the peripheral zone.

ERUDEF will provide support to conservation and development activities within the peripheral zone and management of corridors.

5.4.4 Ecotourism Development

This programme aims to develop, valorise and enhanced the management of ecotourism potentials within the Park and its periphery in collaboration with all stakeholders. In order to be competitive and to attract an increasing number of national and international visitors, the challenge for the MCNP will be to develop and maintain quality facilities and services. It should be done in coordination with the development other touristic attractions in the area to constitute a consistent package to attract visitors and allowing them to remain a certain time (trekking, beach, cultural sites...).

Within the present context of developing and exploiting the ecotourism potentials of the MCNP as outlined in section 3.6 above, the expectations of park management are twofold:

1. Ecotourism within the NP is managed to contribute financially to the conservation of biodiversity and the ecosystem values of the park;
2. Development of ecotourism will contribute to poverty alleviation especially within the support zone communities of the park.

In this respect park management will among others ensure that the park as an ecotourism site is managed in conformity with the regulations in force, all stakeholders are participating and the benefits equitably shared. Trekking will form the core tourism product as it is a nature-tourism product compatible with the purpose and philosophy of a protected area and can be managed with Park Office resources. In principle, trekking takes place within the National Park where the National Park Office holds the exclusive management mandate.

The main areas of intervention are:

- Development and management of ecotourism infrastructure;
- Ecotourism management;
- Ecotourism planning and implementation;
- Promotion and marketing;

5.4.4.1 Park ecotourism infrastructure and equipment

There are at present three permanent huts on the Buea side of the mountain. Hut 2 was destroyed by fire while Hut 1 was partly renovated with support from PCFC. To better exploit opportunities in trekking tourism, an adequate infrastructure and quality services must be put in place. The Government has recognized the tourism potential of MC and declared it a priority region for tourism development in the World Bank financed 'Projet compétitivité des filières de croissance (PCFC) whose main focus has been put on infrastructure investment. The project proposes the reconstruction and rehabilitation of existing and new accommodation and refuge units. It foresees also the rehabilitation and construction of several access roads to potential tourist sites and animal observation watchtowers. PSMNR will finance complementary investments such as: Park infrastructures, Information centre in Buea together with sub-headquarter, Hut 2, Mann's spring and P&T Station ecolodges. For a full overview of the planned ecotourism infrastructure investment plan see Table 3.

Activity 4.1: Develop guidelines for infrastructure development and maintenance in the MCNP to ensure sustainability

These guidelines will be developed based on the following principles:

- Creating an ambience for visitors consistent with the philosophy and mission of the protected area;
- Develop infrastructures in accordance with future demand and utilization ;
- A long-term financing plan for the upkeep of each infrastructure element that is put in place by PCFC or PSMNR funds (responsibility, adequate funding, quantification of maintenance costs) ;
- Minimizing the impact on the visual and esthetic integrity of landscape and environment, in particular with respect to location, size, design and building materials;
- Minimizing the ecological impact during construction and operation by using environmentally-friendly materials and technology, especial in the field of energy, solid and liquid waste.

Elements of the ESIA and ecotourism strategy must be considered while developing such concept. PSMNR will finance the support of one international expert on ecotourism to assist in this task and one architect to make the designs.

Activity 4.2: Elaborate ecotourism infrastructures construction implementation and monitoring plan
MCNP partners will plan interventions for the ecotourism infrastructure to be constructed in the Park and in Buea. MCNP will secure land for construction in Buea with the local administration.

Activity 4.3 Construct the sub-headquarter-based for information, education, monitoring and management

Based in Buea, preferably on the premises of the sub-headquarter office, the Mt Cameroon Visitor Centre functions as the central place for visitors to obtain information and register for entry to the Park. For visitors/tourists, students, the Centre is the central place to learn about the Park through exhibitions and audio-visual presentations. The Visitor Center acts as the National Park's unit for tourism promotion. Design of the Center will be developed with the support of an architect and will express the particular identity of the Mount Cameroon NP.

5.4.4.2 Field based infrastructure for tourist accommodation

Activity 4.4 Construct, rehabilitate and maintain ecolodges, refuges and campsites

At present, accommodation inside the National Park is limited to very basic campsites for tents. The investment program will create new, additional and upgraded accommodation space in form of eco-lodges and camp sites. The decision for firm buildings such as eco-lodges or camp sites depends on expected demand, investment, operational and maintenance costs. The high daily fluctuation as well as the arrival of large school groups requires an additional buffer capacity which can be provided by campsites.

MCNP propose a step-by-step approach to develop first some eco-lodges at strategic locations within the Park and camp sites at an initial low-cost investment which can be replaced later by firm structures if demand is sufficient. For practical reasons, Buea operators shall continue to rent out tents and other camping gear to tourists, but that equipment could be stored at the lodges which would facilitate transport of other materials.

The total newly created accommodation capacity will be as follows:

- 40 bed places in firm structures at Eco-Lodge 2, P&T and Mann's Spring;
- 12 (simple) bed places at Crater Lake and Elephant opening;
- 36-72 places on camp sites;
- Accommodation for guides, porters and eco-lodge staff in firm structure.

The architectural style of the proposed eco-lodges depends usually on the climate, local building traditions, building and maintenance costs and the difficulty to transport the required materials to high altitudes.

Eco-Lodge 2, P&T and Mann's Spring Eco-Lodges shall consist of:

- A central building for kitchen, meals, meeting and rest purposes with three bedrooms in an annex for staff, guides and porters and toilets/shower;
- The accommodation buildings;
- The campsite.

Hut 1 was recently revamped, but needs further improvement, especially the refurbishment of the water source catchment zone and basin. Hut 1 is the destination of many day visitors and receives the largest number of tourists. It is planned to install an outdoor picnic area such as a 'paillette' on the compound.

Activity 4.5 Construct viewing platform/accommodation at Crater Lake and Elephant Opening and other sites to be identified

Both sites are 'hot spots' for viewing forest elephants because of their central location in the elephants' living area. Visitors need to spend at least several hours there, if not a day or two, to have a good chance of observing the animals. The provision of accommodation space is therefore a requirement for giving visitors the opportunity to see forest elephants. On both sites shall be constructed observation towers which provide additional space for accommodating up to 6 peoples.

Activity 4.6 Maintain, plan and construct tourism trail and road network

A trail network will allow access for management, research, monitoring and tourism, as well as enhancing the safety of park users. With the construction of an eco-lodge at P&T station the old all-weather road leading up to P&T station should be renovated to allow for 4WD passage to allow for regular food supplies and other logistics. The trail network leading up to the Mt. Cameroon summit from Buea and from Bakingili to the Mt. Cameroon summit will be improved (see Fig. 12). An extension of the trekking route network will not only draw new trekking target groups to the Park but

attract visitors to come back and try out unexplored trails. An extensive trail network is indispensable for catching the attention of overseas trekkers.

Works on extending the trail network will be undertaken step-by-step with the following priority:

- Clearing, stabilizing and signing existing and currently used trails(axis 1,2 and 3);
- Axis 7 (P&T Station-Elephant Opening);
- Axis 10 (Elephant Opening-Mann Spring);
- Axis 6: (P&T Station-Summit);
- Axis 5 (Elephant Opening –Summit) ;
- Axis 8a (Bomana-elephant Opening) ;
- Axis 9 (Kuke Kumbu-P&T Station);
- Axis 8b and c(Bomana-Elephant Opening).

New trails oriented to the northern section of the park will connect the summit with P&T station and the Elephant Opening; a ring circuit will allow circling the mountain in a 5-6 day trek. Altogether, the trail network permits numerous trekking variations in distance, time, altitudes and difficulties. Trekking operators can henceforth offer many more tailor-made packages to clients.

Activity 4.7: Contribute to the realisation of a Release Site

The Limbe Wildlife Center was created in 1993 and mainly houses endemic species. Visited by 50,000 visitors (of which 8% resident and non-resident foreigners) in 2013, the Wildlife Center has turned into a major tourist attraction which contributes significantly to the operation of the Wildlife Center. Abandoned and confiscated animals, primarily primates (15 different species present) find a new home here waiting for later release into the nature, if possible. Managed by MINFOF in cooperation with the Pandrillus Foundation, the Wildlife Center has reached its limits of available space and capacity and is seeking space for extension. To this end a Limbe Wildlife Extension Center is foreseen near Etome at the foot of Mount Etinde where primates could be released in enclosures (see Fig. 10).

5.4.4.3 Ecotourism management platform

Staffing and capacity building

In its current state, the Park Office is not fully operational yet and avails limited resources, both human and financial to adequately conduct its mission. With respect to tourism management, the Ecotourism Unit Chief position is about to be filled, but additional staff needed to cover all relevant tasks is not yet foreseen. It is estimated that a pool of 4-5 qualified managers and technicians are necessary to execute the proposed program. That pool can be gradually built up and achieve its full force in about 3 years, at the latest after completion of infrastructure works.

Activity 4.8: Staffing and capacity building of unit

Recruitment of the following staff: one staff for Visitor and Discovery Centre, including registration of visitors; one staff for monitoring, maintenance of infrastructure and supervision of lease concessions; one staff (or alternatively hosted by future Mt Cameroon Foundation) for communication and promotion, liaison with operators, organization of events (Race for Hope); one staff for guide training and registration, safety, community relations.

Activity 4.9: Build staff capacity on ecotourism awareness and customer care

Training courses for all park staff, not just frontline staff, need to be developed and carried out. They will need both theoretical and practical training in tourism in general, in mountain tourism and their respective fields of work in particular. Staff should also be fully updated on the tourism programme, policies and developments in Mt Cameroon NP when fully operational. These courses should also be provided to other tourism operators (hotel, travel agency and trekking operators and their staff).

Activity 4.10: Develop and implement tourism administration and information systems

As tourist numbers increase, tourism administration systems need to be developed that support and inform Mt Cameroon NP tourism management actions. Computerised revenue collection, tourist management, visitor evaluation and satisfaction surveys, regulation enforcement systems and tourist movement monitoring will be developed as a basis for efficient and adaptive tourism management. Visitor surveys and feedback collected as part of tourism provision and infrastructure monitoring must be taken into account in order to improve the quality of the Mt Cameroon NP tourism experience. This information will be collated and annual reports disseminated to relevant stakeholders.

5.4.4.4 Partnership

Presidential decree 99/112 of 27th May 1999 created a National Tourism Council (NTC) to coordinate and manage tourism development in Cameroon. NTC was to effectively communicate and collaborate among public (MINTOUL, MINFOF, other supporting ministries and public institutions), private (e.g. associations of tourism, hotel and restaurant, travel agents, airline companies, town councils) and civil society (local community groups and NGOs) stakeholders. The platform MINTOUL/MINFOF n°0161 of 11 August 2014 for managing ecotourism in the parks will facilitate collaboration between these two ministries. Also, the involvement of the councils will equally be integrated.

Activity 4.11: Develop and implement an annual work plan for the MINTOUL/MINFOF platform

Clear activities, responsibilities, sources of funding and a monitoring plan will be developed and executed with concern stakeholders.

Activity 4.12: Organize meetings with Local Tour Operators and other stakeholders

These quarterly meetings will provide a forum for the park service and local tour operators to evaluate the implementation of Ecotourism activities in the park.

Activity 4.13: Provide tourism awareness training and publicity campaigns for the local communities in and around park

A 'Tourism Awareness' programme for the communities in and around Mt Cameroon NP will be instigated in partnership with MINTOUL and others. Working with community leaders, youth and women's groups will help to stress traditional values and attitudes. In addition, publicity should cover topics to increase understanding of the lives and origins of tourists and how to deal with cultural differences.

Activity 4.14: Develop and implement lease concession procedures, standards and agreements for private activities

Standard procedures to develop tourism concessions, whether for communities or private investors, need to be developed with the relevant environmental, socio-cultural and business communities. Prototype agreements with guidelines and a checklist of issues that need consideration and inclusion will be drawn up. In addition, development standards that ensure minimal environmental impact will be finalised and integrated environmental management implemented.

Activity 4.15: Elaborate and implement MOU with councils (Buea, Idenau, Mbonge, Limbe 2, and Muyuka) for ecotourism development

The support of the MCNP to the development of ecotourism will be guided by MOUs prepared and implemented with the respective councils. The model MOU elaborated by MINFOF will be used as a guide.

Activity 4.16: Develop and implement partnership with international tourism and athletic institutions.

The park service will sought and establish partnerships with known tourism and athletic organisations to assist the park service in training on thematic areas to promote tourism and exchange visits.

Table 4: PCFC/PSMNR joint tourism infrastructure investment plan

Investments	Site	Activities	Resp.	Recommendations
Rehabilitation and construction of lodges and refuges	Hut 1 eco-lodge and picnic area	Construction of solid building with guest rooms, kitchen, toilets; heating, water and energy supply; water recycling, garbage collection, covered picnic area	PCFC	Plan available, need to look at the design together with PSMNR. Look at the function, lodging or more a restaurant, recreational area. Existing structure to be used by ecoguards/storage Cribbing of water source and basin noticed,
	Intermediate Refuge	Renovation of refuge, construction of toilets	PSMNR	
	Hut 2	Construction of ecolodge and campsite, Site manager, guide, porter and eco-guards accommodation; Installation of power and water supply system; water recycling facility; garbage collection system	PSMNR	Hut 2 is completely destroyed. Instead of simple reconstruction, a modern eco-lodge shall be built
	Refuge 3	Renovation of refuge and construction of toilets, garbage collection system	PSMNR	Basic investments required
	Summit/MSC intermediary refuge	Construction of refuge, picnic area and toilets, garbage collection system	PSMNR	Long distance to be covered, necessity to develop a intermediary refuge and picnic area
	Mann's Spring Camp	Construction of solid building with guest rooms, kitchen, toilets and accommodation for staff, guides, porters and eco-guards; heating, water and energy supply; water recycling, garbage collection, develop campsite	PSMNR	
	P&T station resort	Construction of an eco-lodge with guest rooms, kitchen, toilets; heating and energy supply; garbage collection system Develop campsite.	PCFC	Recommended to develop the site to receive daily visitors Site manager, guide, porter and eco-guards accommodation not foreseen maybe need to adjust amount; Develop a camp ground for tents, Fixing of water source at Nitele and pipe system to P&T is required; Parking at Bonakanda;

Investments	Site	Activities	Resp.	Recommendations
				Plan available, need to look at the design together with PSMNR.
Construction of two observation towers with basic accommodation	At Crater Lake and at Elephant Opening	Two platforms with basic accommodations	PCFC	Observation towers shall contain accommodation space either covered or open for tents. Capacity up to six persons
Construction/rehabilitation/preparation of roads	Bonakanda-P&T Station/17 km	Upgrade road, drainage, signage	PCFC	Construction according road standards/ESIA Develop a management concept Parking at Bonakanda;
Opening and improvement of main tourist trail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buea-Summit • P/T Nitele • Nitele/Elephant opening • Elephant opening/MS • MS/Bakingele • MS/Bokwango 	Marking, enlargement, cleaning up	PCFC	The development of tourist trails should respect guidelines developed by WWF and involve as much as possible communities
Organization of tourist activities	Tourist information centre	Construction of TIC on the site of MtCEO to receive tourist and provide information on MC and its surrounding	PCFC	A platform of tour operators, Council, MINTOUL/MINFOF should be constituted to animate the TIC.
	Discovery centre	Construction at the site of the sub-head quarter to provide information on MCNP and register tourists	PSMNR	Park Office has to ensure management, operation and supervision of IS within MCNP.

Activity 4.17: Support tourism initiatives in the neighbourhood of the MCNP

The geographical size and the variety of tourism products make the MCNP a stand-alone destination in Cameroon, but certainly not for overseas markets. Long-distance holiday trips take at least 10 days, sometimes even 3 weeks. The MCNP is not in the position to offer packages with this duration and it is therefore necessary to a) expand the product offering in the neighborhood together with LBG and LWC, Councils and communities and b) associate with tour operators and other regions in Cameroon to combine destinations. So far the respective Councils are already developing MoUs with tour operators to promote such initiatives.

Benefit sharing and fees

At present, the National Park, receives entrance fees in the following amounts: 5,000 FCFA/per day for non-resident foreigners, 3,000 FCFA/per day for resident foreigners and 1.000 FCFA/per day for nationals. Visitor expenditure in Mount Cameroon is relatively low compared to trekking destinations worldwide. The present practice which requires the park service to transfer all revenues from Ecotourism to the State treasury and Special Wildlife Funds makes it difficult for the park service to respond promptly to immediate Ecotourism needs. During the Local Validation Meetings, it was proposed that the park service should be given the responsibility to management revenue in collaboration with stakeholders.

Activity 4.18: Develop a Benefit Sharing Mechanism for ecotourism revenue

The future budget mechanism (under the NP Agency) should consider aspects such as autonomy, motivation, success and entrepreneurship. The development of necessary infrastructure is primordial and therefore necessitates the contribution of all stakeholders. It is in this context that a benefit mechanism will be developed based on the responsibilities of each stakeholder. The management of this revenue will be integrated in the Sustainable Financing Mechanism Program of the park.

5.4.4.5 Ecotourism planning and management

The creation of an Ecotourism Unit will reflect the Park's commitment to promote ecotourism. Presently the capacity to manage Ecotourism activities is not sufficient. This plan must be integrated with tourism development in the wider zone and region, particularly with strategies and actions of MINTOUL. A community stakeholder analysis for tourism must be incorporated to identify well placed and interested communities, beneficiary groups and potential partners, so that priority areas for community tourism development can be identified within the plan.

Activity 4.19: Develop and implement Ecotourism action plan

Key stakeholders, including Mount CEO, MINTOUL, local communities, potential private sector investors and donors and tourism agents must be consulted and included where necessary. The developed plan will lay out guidelines and regulations on permitted tourism activities and types of accommodation according to the Park Zoning Scheme. This plan should respect the prescriptions of the ESIA and ecotourism strategy.

Activity 4.20: Set up and implement a waste management system within the Park

Notwithstanding the obligation of operators to return the waste produced by their clients, the National Parks Office needs to ensure the cleaning of trails and rest areas.

Activity 4.21: Organise training of guides and porters

For a professional delivery of that service, adequate theoretical training and practical field experience is imperative. It is recommended that the National Parks Office takes on responsibility to centrally organise the training of tour guides in the NP in order to ensure regularity, quality and broad participation. Tour guides from all operators should be entitled to participate in the training. Additionally the Park service will register guides and porters and allows only registered guides and porters to accompany tourists into the Park.

Activity 4.22: Set up and manage a safety and rescue system

With the growing number of visitors, the likelihood of serious injuries and illnesses increases. A safety and rescue system must be put in place involving all stakeholders. It is also required to equip campsites with communication equipment to communicate at any time and point with Park service which can then organize assistance or evacuation. Basic emergency kit and fire extinguisher should be available at each campsite.

5.4.4.6 Mount Cameroon National Park marketing plan developed and implemented

Cameroon and Mt Cameroon in particular is relatively unknown and does not have a place on the world tourism map. Tourism marketing is generally the responsibility of government authorities, where the technical expertise is placed and strategic development planning is with MINTOUL. The ability of Mt Cameroon NP management to direct and develop marketing is limited, however the development of innovative publicity materials targeting appropriate markets are key. Initially the 'target market' (i.e. the likely tourists that will be attracted to Mt Cameroon NP) must be identified.

Activity 4.23: Define and implement a marketing plan for MCNP and its peripheral zone with all stakeholders

This marketing plan must focus on developing a tourist market that is compatible with the purpose and ethos of Mt Cameroon NP. This will also require close cooperation with tour operators, travel agents, guide books, travel magazines, airlines and other appropriate tourism sites as well as with other commercial and government marketing organisations.

Activity 4.24: Develop promotional materials

Appropriate promotional materials will be developed such as guide book, documentaries...; Mt Cameroon NP may also need to produce material for tourism and trade fairs, as part of broader tourism promotional activities.

Activity 4.25: Develop MCNP website

Mt Cameroon NP website must be created and regularly updated to incorporate marketing materials and links to other websites and other efficient distribution channels must be identified and developed.

Activity 4.26: Create and use Mt Cameroon NP's corporate image and tourism message

A corporate and marketing image for Mt Cameroon NP must be created and once defined, must be used consistently in all forms of communication, such as uniforms, signs, literature and the website (under development). Activities under this action must therefore be carried out in conjunction with activities under the park operations and other programmes.

Activity 4.27: Contribute and participate in the organisation of the Mt Cameroon Race of hope

MCNP will actively take part in the organisation of the race and will seize this occasion to organise events to promote its intervention (distribution of promotional material, entertaining activities related to conservation, media coverage, prizes, stand....).

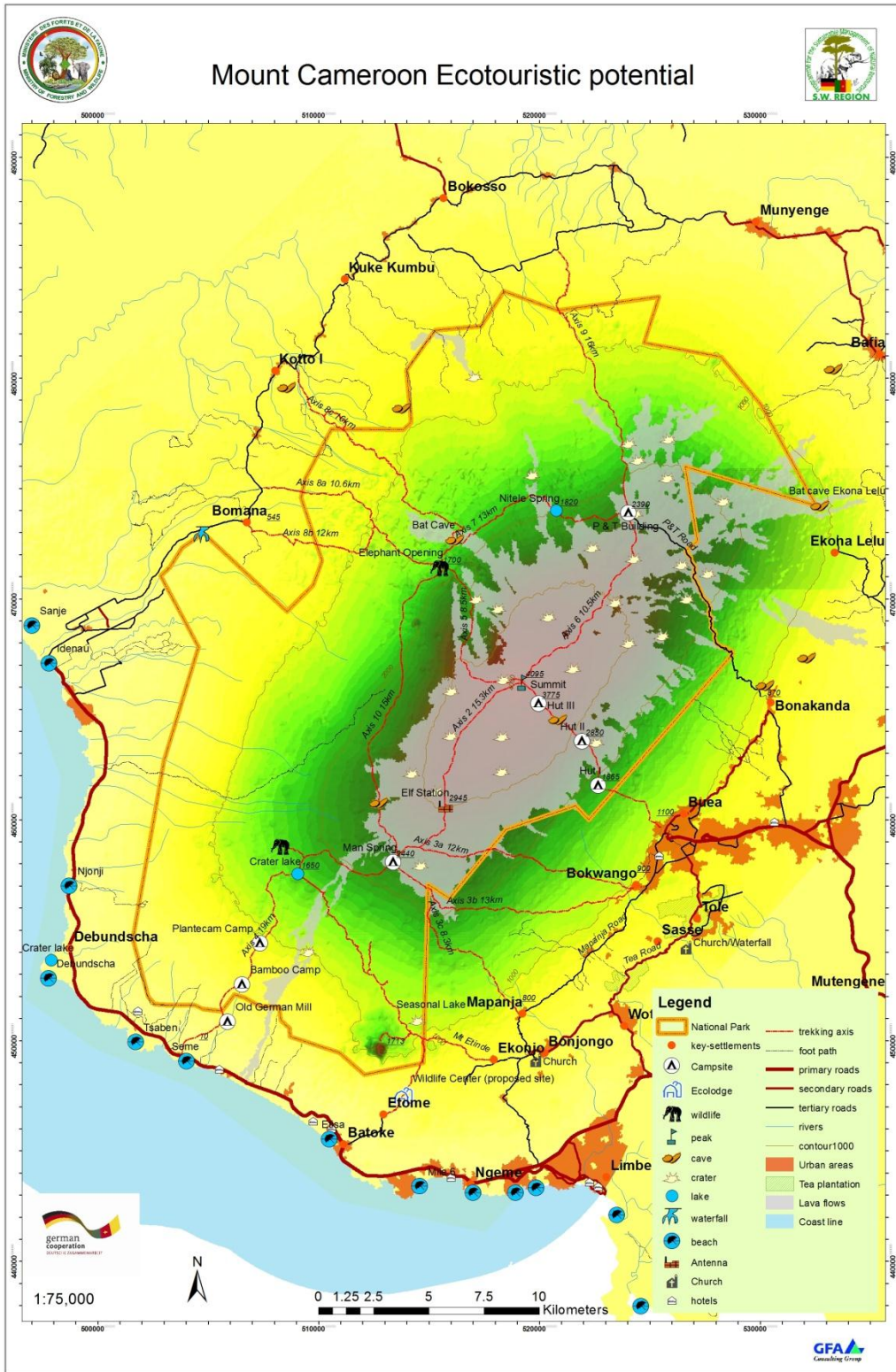


Figure 10. Ecotourism potential for the park

5.4.5 Research and Monitoring

This programme is expected to orientate research activities envisaged in the Park to address key management measures and follow up their impacts. Research and monitoring is important to collect management oriented scientific information necessary to formulate sound management decisions. It enables management to appreciate the impact of management actions to both biodiversity conservation and socio-economic development of the adjoining communities. Therefore it is important to identify key research areas and work with relevant research institutions. The main areas of intervention for this programme will therefore be:

- Identification of priority research areas;
- Elaboration of guidelines for research and monitoring in conformity with existing regulations;
- Identification of priorities for bio-ecological and socio-economic monitoring;
- Implement the PAMETT/SMART monitoring plan.

5.4.5.1 Research

Activity 5.1: Follow up creation and make functional MCNP Scientific and Technical Committee (STC) Following the decision creating this committee, a meeting will be organised to kick start their activities and prepare their road map.

Activity 5.2 Elaborate guidelines for research and monitoring for the MCNP

Guided by the proposed areas for research and existing baseline data, the committee will elaborate a research guideline for the park that will take into consideration biological, ecological and socioeconomic aspects. Monitoring procedures will also be developed.

Activity 5.3 Implement and follow-up research activities

Key research topics will be implemented as prescribed in the guidelines in collaboration with national and international researchers. The committee will evaluate, approve and monitor all research carried out in the park in collaboration with the park service. An effective platform of collaboration will be created with universities, research institutions and individuals to animate and facilitate research.

Activity 5.4: Research, develop and implement an elephant and great apes conservation program

Earlier studies on elephants and great apes have widen understanding on the ecological requirements for managing these species. The elephant collaring program has contributed greatly to elephant ecology and management in the MCNP. The need to continue with these and other related studies cannot be over emphasised.

Activity 5.5: Create, maintain and update the databases

All reports and data produced by researchers will be centrally stored in appropriate databases and archived for easy accessibility. A functional GIS database will be created, maintained and used to facilitate park management decisions.

5.4.5.2 Monitoring

Monitoring is necessary to evaluate the attainment of park management objectives. Based on the monitoring guideline, priority will be given to the monitoring of key species, vegetation cover, encroachment into the park, fire and the contribution of park management to livelihood. The following activities are earmarked for regular monitoring:

Activity 5.6: Implement protected areas management tools (PAMETT, SMART...)

PAMETT is a tool essential to provide proof of efficiency of the management programmes and activities implemented in the Park to conserve biodiversity as well as to maintain the vegetation cover. Bio-monitoring of animal communities can be used to detect changes over time in terms of species distribution, species abundance, and community structure. This can be incorporated in the evaluation of conservation efforts and subsequently provide recommendations to adjust conservation efforts. To this effect at least two workshops will be organised to analyse field data from PAMETT and SMART, and provide recommendations.

Activity 5.7: Install and monitor camera traps

A camera trap monitoring survey will be set up in Mt Cameroon NP forming part of a network of camera trapping in all four PAs in the Region. A camera trap array consisting of 30 locations will be deployed at Mt Cameroon NP taking into consideration elevation gradient, vegetation type and proximity to the village. This data will contribute to collect real evidence of the presence of wildlife species.

Activity 5.8: Implement ranger based monitoring using cybertrackers and other tools

Ranger based monitoring can be an effective means of collecting data from all parts of the park on an ad hoc basis while eco-guards are on patrol by using cybertracker. Relevant data will be collected by eco-guards on animal carcasses, timber exploitation, fire, wildlife sightings, etc. Eco-guards will be trained in basic data collection techniques and management.

Activity 5.9: Monitor wildlife populations

Mammal surveys will be conducted every five years in the park following agreed protocol to estimate wildlife populations and the effect of human activities on wildlife and their habitat over time.

Activity 5.10 Monitor illegal activities in Park

Using patrol data, information from VFMCs and informants the MRU will monitor trends of IAs within MCNP. The introduction of SMART will render this activity more systematic and results more reliable for patrol management.

Activity 5.11: Monitor encroachment in the park

Vegetation encroachment monitoring is particularly important as a preventive measure especially to ensure that the vegetation remains intact within the park. Farm encroachment surveys will be organised yearly to complement observations made during regular patrols.

Activity 5.12 Monitor implementation for the fire management plan

The occurrence of fire and its characteristics will be recorded in a systematic manner into a basic database from direct observation and field data collection sheets filled by partners.

Activity 5.13: Monitor the effect of Village Development Measures on livelihood.

Within the framework of CM, a series of VDMs will be implemented at village level. Therefore it is necessary to monitor their effect on the livelihood of the beneficiary community following the monitoring protocol.

Activity 5.14: Monitor and evaluate Prunus management activities

Carry out regular monitoring and evaluation of Prunus management activities at all levels (exploitation inventory, harvesting, and domestication) in order to ensure that the activities are carried out in a sustainable manner and do not jeopardise the integrity of the park. In addition, research on bark yield, bark recovery and the effect of harvesting on tree health will be carried out to guide management decision during the revision of the Prunus simple management plan.

Activity 5.15: Monitor the implementation of the participatory management option for the remnant of the BFR

Activities earmarked to ensure the sustainable management of the remnant of the BFR will be monitored and evaluated on a regular basis.

Activity 5.16: Monitor ecotourism activities and the implementation of the recommendations of the ESIA study

Following the ESIA study for ecotourism development, recommendations were made to mitigate the impact of ecotourism activities within the park. The implementation of these recommendations required regular monitoring and evaluation.

Activity 5.17: Monitor NTFP off takes (User's right) and other regulated activities carried out in the Limited Access Zone (LAZ)

LAZ is one of the park management zones in which the surrounding communities are allowed to exercise their user's right by collecting NTFPs for subsistence (food and medicine) and perform their traditional rites. In order to ensure that these activities are in line with regulations guiding park management, regular monitoring and evaluation is imperative.

Activity 5.18: Monitor the implementation of agreements between MCNP and other partners:

Several MoUs, conventions, agreements are signed between the Park service and other administration, institutions, communities, technical and financial partners, economic operators which need a regular monitoring and evaluation.

Activity 5.19: Monitor out breaks of wildlife-related diseases and implement preventive measures

Due to the growing threats of contamination of populations getting closer to wildlife habitat/species precautionary measures should developed with relevant stakeholders and its implementation monitored.

Activity 5.20: Liaise with University of Buea (UB) and Ekona Geological Centre to exploit seismic data for park management

Mt Cameroon is an active volcano. Following the establishment of seismic monitoring units at Ekona and in UB, the park service will liaise with and exploit available reports for park management.

5.4.6 Sustainable financing

This programme is intended to identify and implement sustainable funding options necessary to ensure the sustainability of Park management measures beyond current funding.

The establishment of a financing mechanism is most important for ensuring the sustainability of the conservation and co-management efforts that have been undertaken since the creation of MCNP. Efforts to increase revenue generation will be internal, external or through innovative sustainable financing initiatives. Internally efforts will be made to increase government budget allocation by justifying the increased commitment to safeguard the total ecosystem value. Other internal mechanisms will include better use of funds and improved financial management systems. Nevertheless it is still extremely likely that core budget will be insufficient. Thus additional funding must be sought from a variety of sources and capacity increased to identify, secure and manage these funds. Under the given circumstances and the time perspective of PSMNR II ending by 09/2017, the establishment of a Mount Cameroon Foundation (MCF) as sub-initiative under an existing structure appears to be the most realistic approach. Its role will be to support and facilitate the eligible activities of relevant government and non-governmental organizations.

Studies have been commissioned by PSMNR in 2012 to analyse various Sustainable Financing Mechanisms (SFM) options for SWR PAs and in 2014 to investigate the possibility to create a

Foundation dedicated to MCNP and its peripheral zone (Landreau, 2012 & Kupper 2014). On average, between 2017 and 2022, total bottom-line expenses to cover MCNP management costs (operating costs, collaborative management approach and excluding investments) were estimated at FCFA 260 million per year with a financial gap of 200 million FCFA. Approximately 6 to 8 million Euros would be required in capital to cover 100% of the identified financial gap through an endowment trust fund. The capitalisation of such endowment fund could be achieved over several "phases" that could take place over the years to come. The MCF should therefore capitalise on the availability of several potential source of funding to operate as an "umbrella fund" encompassing various funding portfolios (Endowment, sinking and revolving funds from PES, Ecotourism, NTFPs...).

The MCF should involve companies that benefit from the services and the image rendered by the Mt Cameroon National Park (Supermont, Seme, SONARA, Guinness...). Setting up Payments for Environmental Services (PES) agreements or agreements on voluntary basis with yearly contribution to a sinking fund represent the best options for securing additional source of funding. Financing the collaborative management approach through such agreements could constitute a form of formal recognition of the environmental services rendered by forest owners/users that directly contribute to the protection and improvement of the environment of the MCNP and its peripheral zone. The main objective would be to win the full consent of local communities (villages) and to encourage their long term participation in collaborative management activities and in the preservation of carbon stocks and water quality.

According to the twofold objectives of the MCNP, the envisaged MCF should consist of two funding windows. A "*parks fund*" that serves to support PA operations, PA investments, co-management and research activities. Grant proposals must follow the MP directives/ the annual operational plan (AOP) and are to be approved by the board members against a set of grant eligibility and funding prioritisation criteria. While, the "*grants fund*" shall contribute to the consolidation of MCNP buffer zone by promoting sustainable natural resource management and livelihood improvement through green IGAs, socio-economic infrastructure, reforestation and rehabilitation measures, participatory forest management, and watershed management. The grant proposals should follow the framework of the CDAs, and should be coordinated with the council development plans. The approval by the management board and disbursement of funds should be based on well-defined eligibility and selection criteria. Considering the assumed funding commitments, the MCF would aim to overcome the average annual financing gaps with a volume of FCFA 120 million for the Park Fund and FCFA 80 million for the Grant Fund.

The MCF should be a light structure which would play the role of financial manager of diverse sources of funding like trust fund, biodiversity offsets, PES, REDD, and of some revenues generated by the Park. The GoC budget complemented by the endowment fund would cover immediate Park management activities while other source of funding would contribute to finance part of the collaborative management approach and activities/social realisations in the peripheral zone of the Park. The MCF should provide a trustworthy local financial mechanism at the centre of PA financial operations and serve as an efficient collector/distributor of funds on behalf of MCNP. Financial management of the endowment fund should be delegated to bigger initiatives (FTNS, FEVAC, RAPAC or ONAP at a later stage).

PSMNR is intending to support the creation of MCF under existing structures and run its operation for a certain period to build its capacity, federate initiatives and raise funds. Several options have been assessed and the most promising one would be to develop MCF as sub-initiative under CAMCOF. It would require introducing necessary structural changes and controlling mechanisms to demonstrate in a pilot phase that the foundation can serve as efficient structure for the PSMNR exit strategy. In the perspective of the creation of a National foundation, MCF could be used as a pilot window which could later on aggregated to National Agency for Protected Areas (NAPA/ONAP).

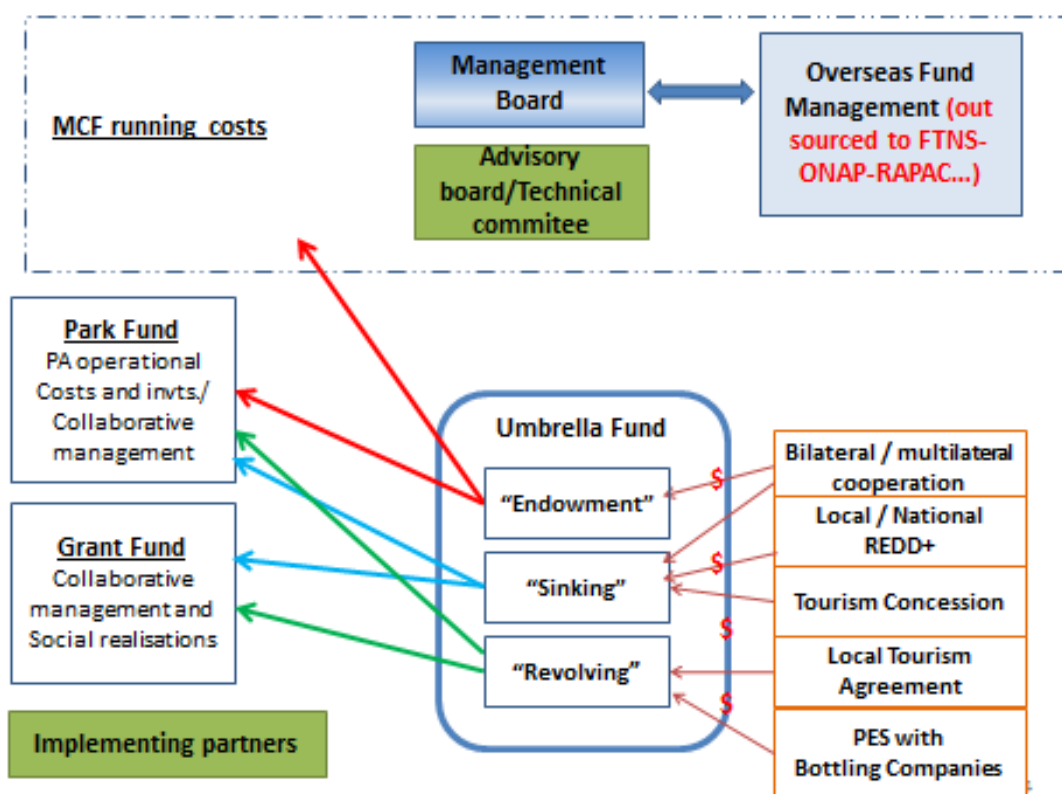


Figure 11. General Framework of the Mount Cameroon Foundation

The following activities are proposed:

Activity 6.1: Define a joint vision and road map

Meetings have to be organised to create a joint vision and understanding within PSMNR partners and other stakeholders on the exit strategy and planned foundation set-up. Hereby, it is necessary to clarify: which investments, including staff positions, investments in infrastructure/ equipment, costs for management plan programme activities and collaborative management, will run out by the end of PSMNR II. It has to be determined which costs will be taken over by MINFOF and which measures need to continue to ensure the sustainable operation of Mt Cameroon NP and the collaborative management approach and therefore require continued funding. It is necessary to coordinate with current Management Board on the proposed process and conditions for PSMNR support to the

Activity 6.2: Mobilise and Negotiate MCF set up with stakeholders

- Develop MCF communication strategy and MCNP corporate image;
- Organize meetings and events with potential contributors to MCF;
- Obtain approval letters and conclude financing agreements for pilot phase.

Activity 6.3: Agree on the status MCF and develop its manual of procedures

- Establish an interim management board/ steering committee for technical guidance on foundation set up and policy formulation;
- Nominate an interim director for the management of the transition phase;
- Revise the Articles of Association and refine the foundation strategy. Elaborate project cycle, grant selection procedures and time plan for pilot phase.

- **Table 5** : Possible funding sources for the MCF and implementation partners

	Target area	Ref. doc.	Supported measures	Target groups	Implementation partners	Possible funding sources and mechanisms
PARKS FUND	Park Management	MP, BP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investments in PA infrastructure and equipment Park protection, Ecotourism, research and monitoring activities etc. 	MCNP Administration	MINFOF Conservation partners and research institutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GoC, Multilateral / Bilateral cooperation, Endowment fund, Basket fund, Royalties from resource extraction, International conservation NGOs, Conservation foundations
	Co-Management	MP/BP CDA, NTFP guidelines/ MP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CMA: joint patrolling, boundary maintenance, etc. Tourism development Sustainable NTFP harvesting Watershed management Etc. 	MCNP Administration Adjacent communities and specified user groups	MINFOF/Local communities/CBOs Cons. Partners Private sector service providers or NGOs NTFP/medical plants traders Tour operators and local guide services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corporate contributions, sponsorship or PES schemes through Water utilities (CAMWATER, CDE) and Water bottling companies/ breweries (Source du Pays "SUPERMONT", Seme Mineral Water Plc, SEMC "SOURCE TANGUI", Guinness Company...) Park entry fees Sustainable biodiversity-based enterprises for processing and trade of NTFPs/ medical plants and tourism local REDD+ VER Buyer and FCPF
GRANTS FUND	Conservation /development	CDA/CDP Land use plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> green Income Generating Activities (IGAs), NTFP marketing Socio-economic infrastructure development participatory forest management watershed management afforestation, reforestation, rehabilitation Corridor Management 	Adjacent communities and specific target groups	MINFOF and other partner Ministries Councils Local communities/CBOs Private sector service providers or NGOs - traders of NTFP and medical plants (Afrimed, MOCAP) - tourism agencies and local guide services - agribusiness (Telcar/ Cargill, ICRAF, IITA) Projects/ACEFA...	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GoC through MINEPAT, MINADER, MINEPDED, MINTOUL... Multilateral / Bilateral cooperation Councils, Corporate contributions, Agro-industry/ trading companies (e.g. CDC, Green Valley, TELCAR Cocoa Ltd./ CARGILL....) Sustainable biodiversity-based enterprises related to the processing and trade of NTFPs and tourism dev. Foundations that support green IGA/ IS, (e.g. The Africa Coca-Cola Foundation, World Cocoa Foundation/ Cocoa Livelihoods Program etc
MCF	Establishment & operation	Legal Decree, Articles, management guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operation of the foundation based on transparent procedures and as independent structure 	Management Board, Advisory Board	e.g. CAMCOFF/ FTNS through MINFOF and stakeholders (NGOs, civil society, eco operators...)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bilateral support to foundation set-up through PSMNR and later on endowment fund

Activity 6.4: Execute Mount Cameroon Foundation pilot operations

The piloting of grant projects must be implemented while PSMNR is still running to accompany the integration of the collaborative management approach and to ensure proper hand over, knowledge transfer and capacity building. The Park service should provide an AOP and budget following MP principles to the board members for approval. MCF will announce, select and implement pilot projects under the “grants fund” with very clear and limited focus so that the first grant cycle can be conducted within 12 months.

Activity 6.5: Evaluate and monitor Mount Cameroon Foundation implementation

- PSMNR partners to assist MCF to perform its tasks and in raising funds
- Independent monitoring and evaluation of the pilot phase.
 - Define a monitoring framework to measure the impacts that the two funding windows intend to achieve;
 - Review performance of CAMCOF as mechanism for Mount Cameroon sub-initiative;
 - Review the status of other options to integrate MCF and the need to get an independent decree.
- Consolidate MCF operations
 - Based on demonstrated success, approach a wider circle of funding partners for the promotion of MCF.
 - Establish full board of directors and mobilize support staff.
 - Review / revise policy document as necessary to integrate evaluation results, including set-up, management procedures, project cycle, and monitoring system.

Activity 6.6: Conduct in-depth feasibility study

The feasibility study will contribute to:

- Assess government commitment/ political will for supporting a public-private sector partnership by re-designing the foundation as an independent structure;
- Assess financial sustainability and respectively donor commitment. Liaison with possible future funding partners, board members and implementation partners, assessment of their interest and capacity to contribute to MCF;
- Assess modalities for the integration of collaborative management approach/ CDAs with the foundation set-up, road map for the transition process and capacity needs for proper hand-over of responsibilities from PSMNR to the later sub-initiative under CAMCOF;
- Update of financial gap analysis of MCNP and estimate the costs to sustain the collaborative management approach;
- Assess environmental services and best practices;
- Review of legal and financial framework conditions.

Activity 6.7: Develop mechanisms for long term financing (done concurrently with MCF operationalization)

Assess what financing mechanisms (e.g. market based mechanisms, compensation schemes, business investments, corporate contributions/ sponsorship, fiscal instruments) can be successfully applied under the given conditions to generate the identified fund flow. These requires the consideration of feasibility criteria as e.g. the practicality of the mechanism in terms of available resources and capacity, viability in terms of institutional and legal framework conditions, or achievability within the given time frame and assess potential financing sources. The development of local mechanisms (PPP, REDD, PES, Ecotourism, NTFP...) will be done concurrently with the operationalization of the MCF. MCNP will then investigate the possibility for payment for environmental services for such a water catchment scheme and others. MCNP and its partners should follow-up the development and implementation of the REDD+ project for Mt Cameroon NP and assess further potentials at the voluntary market and the different public funds available.

5.5 Zoning

The zoning plan intends to facilitate more focused management in order to reach the set objectives of the National Park, taking into consideration the specificities of the different areas. The park is comprised of lowland rainforest, sub montane forest, montane forest, montane grassland and sub-alpine grassland vegetation. Two levels of zoning are important for proper management; local macro zoning and micro level zoning.

5.5.1 Local macro zoning

The holistic approach to natural resources management presupposes that management measures have to be considered beyond the immediate environment (landscape approach). Within this context, and in contribution to the elaboration of Plan de Zonage Phase V, the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife together with her development and conservation partners, considering ecological importance, mapped out four blocks call Technical Operations Unit (TOU) in the whole South West Region: Mount Cameroon, Korup-Ndongere, Takamanda-Mone, and Bakossi-Banyang-Mbo. Each TOU is comprised of various land use types which include: national parks, forest reserves, community forests, council forests, sanctuaries, forest management units and other unclassified forests. The local macro zoning for Mt Cameroon TOU focuses on areas which have both a direct and indirect impact on the management of the park as well as constitute a management link to other forest areas. The Mount Cameroon TOU consists mainly of following entities:

- Forest reserves: (Remnant of Bomboko Forest Reserve, Buea fuelwood plantation, Southern Bakundu Forest Reserve, Meme Forest Reserve);
- FMU: FMU 11-008B² (16,823 ha), FMU 11-008A (10,649 ha)
- Community forests: Etinde (4,976 ha), Bakingili (905 ha) and Woteva (1,865 ha);
- CDC plantations and leasehold (c 40,000 ha);
- Communal land.

The peripheral zone includes land units in closest proximity to the boundaries of the park. It is the area were most agricultural activities of the surrounding communities are carried out and therefore the source of pressure on natural resources and the National Park.

The management of this zone is justified for the following reasons:

- It is the area that hosts the life-support endeavours of the surrounding communities, 58 communities. This area is considered the pivot of community life around the park;
- The sustainable/unsustainable use of this area has direct effects on the management of the park resources. Pressure is exerted on park resources when the resources within this zone cannot support community life, reason why most community support programs are directed to this zone;
- Local participation in park management partly depends on how well this zone supports community expectations.

Objective

The main objective of managing this zone is to ensure that community development activities are sustainably carried out in this zone and do not extent into the park. Since the local communities are predominantly agricultural, the need to optimise yield per unit area will be pursued.

² Formerly Mokoko Forest Reserve

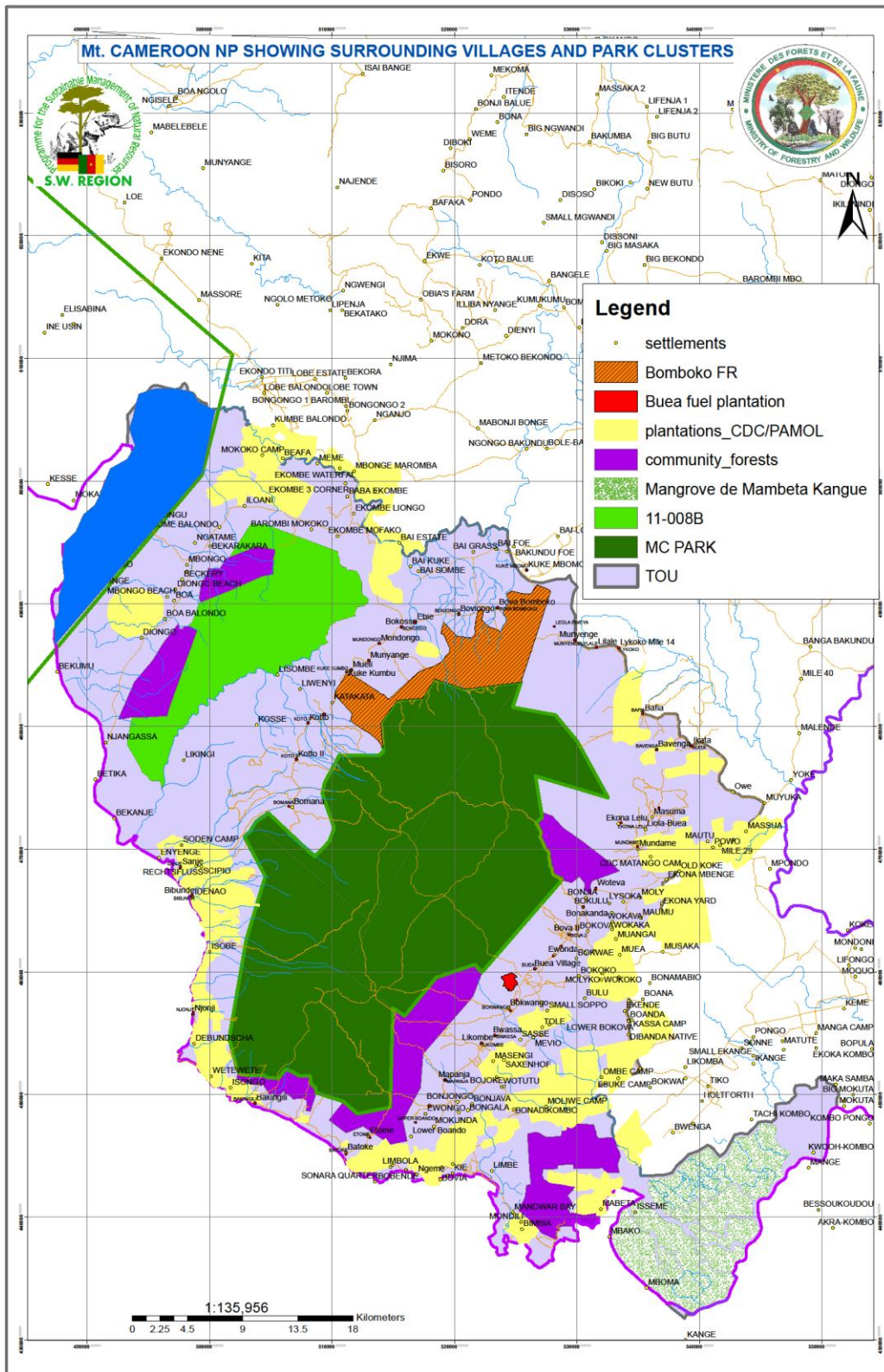


Figure 12. Map of Mt Cameroon Technical Operation Unit

Management interventions

- Support to development of peripheral zone communities;
- Support to the establishment and management of community forests;
- Facilitate the sustainable management of remnant of the BFR;
- Support to income generation activities;
- Elaboration and implementation of CDA;
- Environmental education for local communities and other stakeholders.

5.5.2 Micro Level Zoning

The park zoning plan is an indispensable element as it provides a proper orientation for planning, implementation and monitoring of park activities. The zoning plan provides a framework for protecting the natural resources of Mt Cameroon NP while allowing the use of these resources by communities and tourists. Here, the park is zoned, principally, based on vegetation types, topography and degree of disturbance, animal distribution, distribution of NTFP and extend of human activities. Four zones with associated prescriptions have been designated: (i) Core Conservation zone (CoCZ), (ii) Limited Access Zone (LAZ), (iii) Fragile Ecological Zone (FEZ) and (iv) Peripheral Zone (PZ).

5.5.2.1 Core conservation zone

This is the area of the park that hosts the biodiversity hot spot in the park. It is considered as the reservoir (maternity) for wildlife population increase to supply other zones in the park and beyond. It is located in the north-south central axis of the park. It is host to the flagship fauna species like elephants, chimpanzees, drills and flora like *Prunus africana* and other endemic species. This zone is delimited using information from elephant tagging, drinking points, wildlife surveys, poaching signs. This zone is defined to accommodate the ecological integrity of the park and vegetation gradation.

Description

This zone has a total surface area of about 26, 028 hectares.

Starting from point N of the park limit where the tract from Bokwoango and Mapanja crosses the park limit, moving along the park limit (through points N-O-P-Q-R-S-T-U-V-W-X) to point X. From point X, moving northwards along the Bakingili-Lake Keita tract for 2km into the park to a point along the tract. From the point, following a distance of about 45km, based on a 2 km buffer of the park limit, inwards to the junction of the tract AV-Nitele and A-Nitele. From the junction, following the Mondongo-Nitele tract to Nitele spring. From Nitele spring, moving along the montane forest-Savanna edge in a southwesterly direction for a distance of about 5km to a crater located 2km west of elephant opening. From the crater, moving in a westerly direction along the montane forest-savanna edge for a distance of 11.3 km to a point on the Nitele-manns' spring tract, 1.5km north of manns' spring. It follow the Nitele-Manns' spring tract to Manns' spring. From Manns' spring, the limit follows the mapanja-bokwoango tract to point N, the start point.

Management objective

The main management objective is to protect the remaining forest and elephant habitat.

Rules for use

- Collection of medicinal plants (*Prunus africana*) following agreed guidelines;
- Visits to sacred sites;
- Wildlife viewing allowed following eco-tourism plan.

Management measures

- Regular patrols;
- Research and bio-monitoring;
- Monitoring of human impact;
- Development of eco-tourism facilities.

5.5.2.2 Fragile ecological zone

This montane/grassland forest transition ecosystem is very conspicuous in the park. It is very visible from Buea looking upwards into the park and is the site of bush fires during the dry season (December – March). Management of uncontrolled fires is one of the main envisaged activities in this zones to reduce the regression of the forest line.

Description

Block 1

From point N, following the innermost boundary of the core conservation zone, passing through Manns' spring, the crater, Nitele to the junction of the tract AV-Nitele and A-Nitele. From junction of the tract AV-Nitele and A-Nitele, moving on a south easterly direction following a 2km inner buffer of the park for about 9km to a point along the park limit 1.5 km from point D towards point E. From the point, it follows the park limit passing through points E-F-G-H, and down the P&T road to a point 800m to point I. From the point along the P&T road the limit moves in a south westerly direction for a distance of about 9.7km along the montane forest savannah interphase to point K. From point K, the limit follows the park limit (along points K-L-M-N) to point N, the start point.

Block 2

Starting from point AQ of the park limit moving in an easterly direction 2km inwards into the park to the Core conservation zone limit. Following the innermost limit of the core conservation zone for a distance of 9.3km to the junction of the tract AV-Nitele and A-Nitele. From the junction of the tract AV-Nitele and A-Nitele, moving along tract to point A of the park limit. From Point A the limit follows the park limit (A-AV-AU-AT-AS-AR-AQ) to point AQ the start point.

Management objective

The main objective is to ensure that the fragile areas of the park are well monitored to reduce the negative effects of human activities. The degraded portions of the park are managed for rehabilitation to restore the ecosystem functions.

Rules for use

- Climbing and trekking following eco-tourism plan;
- Collection of honey following agreed guidelines.

Management interventions

These interventions include;

- Patrols;
- Monitoring of ecotourism activities;
- Management of bush fires;
- Implementation and monitoring a collaborative farm withdrawal strategy;
- Monitoring reconstitution of vegetation cover and wildlife population in restoration areas.

5.5.2.3 Limited access zones

This zone is mainly made of the lowland rainforest with its rich biodiversity. It also include regenerating lands earlier disturbed through farming (encroachment), Non Timber Forest Products like *Prunus africana*, *Ricinidendron heudelotti*, oil palm and other medicinal plants.

Description

Block 1

This zone is based on a 2km buffer into the park. Starting from point X of the park line following the park limit (through X-Y-X-AA-AB-AC-AD-AF-AG-AH-AI-AJ-AK-AL-AM-AN-AO-AP-AQ) to point AQ. From point AQ moving in an easterly direction for a distance of 2km to the inner limit of the core conservation zone. The limit follows the inner limit of the core conservation zone for a distance of about 39km to point X, the start point.

Block 2

This is based on an 800m buffer of the park limit between points I and J of the park limit. Starting from point I of the park limit, along the Bonakanda P&T road, moving along the park limit to point K, through point J. from point K, the limit follow the inner limit of the fragile ecological zone to a point located 800m to point I along the Bonakanda-P&T road. From the point along the Bonakanda-P&T road moving downwards for a distance of 800m to point 1, the start point.

Management objective

The main objective of managing this zone is to allow resources use, limited to flora NTFPs for home consumption, and should be integrated in the CDA process. Jointly with the park administration, the boundaries of the limited access zones shall be determined, the type of resources to be harvested, quantities and duration of access specified. Also, a joint monitoring and evaluation programme will be implemented.

Rules for use

- Collection of NTFP for subsistence by inhabitants of the frontline³ villages according to collaborative guidelines;
- Regulated visit to sacred sites;
- Wildlife viewing and visits to waterfalls allowed following eco-tourism plan.

Management interventions

- Joint patrols;
- Monitoring harvesting of NTFPs;
- Research;
- Boundary maintenance;
- Ecotourism development.

³ These are villages which share direct boundaries with the national park.

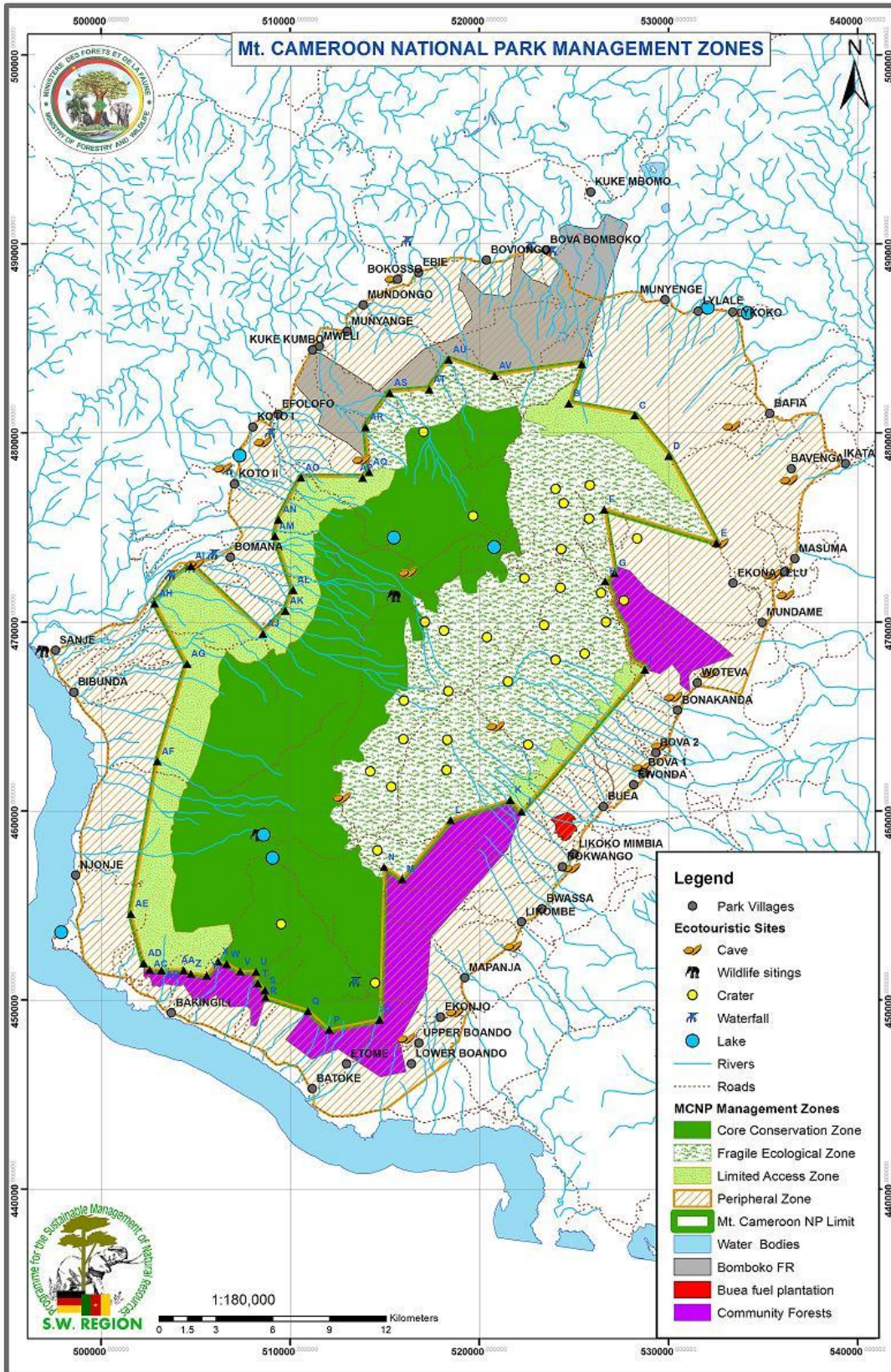


Figure 13. Zoning plan for the park (Source PSMNR-SWR 2014)

Table 6. Descriptive features of management zones

Management Zone	Main vegetations	Surface area (ha)	Cover (%)	Key features	Main management measures
Core Conservation Zone (CoCZ)	continuous vegetation cover from lowland through sub montane to montane/savanna forest edge	26, 028.93	45	Main elephant habitat, water points, lakes,	Research, patrols, Prunus exploitation, eco-tourism
Fragile Ecological Zone (FEZ)	Forest/savanna transition , savanna grassland, shrubby savanna	21, ,194.93	36	Old lava sites, gallery forest sites, areas prone to fire, highly degraded areas	Research, Prunus exploitation, ecotourism, patrols
Limited Access Zone (LAZ)	Lowland rainforest, secondary forest,	10,954.13	19	abandon farms, main waterfalls, watersheds	Research, ecotourism, patrols, collection of medicinal plants for subsistence, Sacred sites
TOTAL		58,178	100		
Peripheral Zone (PZ)	Lowland rainforest, secondary forest and farmlands	53,000.8		Communal land around the park	CDA elaboration and implementation, community forests, remnants of BFR, catchment management, traditional hunting

5.5.2.4 Peripheral Zone

For management purpose, the peripheral zone accommodates the area between the park boundary and the Ring Road linking the support zone villages. It is the area close to the park boundary (communal forest) meant for the execution of community support activities (infrastructure and IGAs), community forest management, traditional hunting, construction materials and other management schemes for national and community interest.

Description

The support zone is the distance from the village to the park limit of all the 41 park communities (the distance from the ring-road linking all park villages to the park limit).

Management objectives

The main objective of managing this zone is to allow resources use, including sustainable wildlife off-take and the harvesting of vegetable NTFPs, and should be integrated in the CDA process.

Rules for use

- Collection of wildlife and vegetable NTFPs by inhabitants of the frontline villages according to collaborative guidelines;
- Harvesting of allowed timber yield and other forest products in community forests.

Management interventions

- Monitoring harvesting of wildlife and NTFPs;
- Assist in the management of community forests bordering the park.

6 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN

6.1 Logframe

Table 7: Logframe with planned activities and budgets

Activity Number	Management Activities	Indicators	Source of verification	Resp.	Partners	Priority	Budget (x 1000FCFA)	Years				
								1	2	3	4	5
Programme 1:ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE												
Organise and strengthen Park management												
1.1	Follow up personnel management at Park level (recruitment, deployment, management)	Number of required staff are in place and functional by 2016 -13 park and support staff	List of personnel and contract for non MINFOF staff	MINFOF /PC	PSMNR-GIZ-WWF and others	A	281,418	x	x	x		x
1.2	Conduct training need assessment and provide training and refresher courses for staff (short, medium, long term)	At least 02 trainings organised annually respecting assessed needs and knowledge, skills applied.	ToR, attestations, certificates, Report	MINFOF /PC	GIZ-WWF and others	A	12,500	x	x	x	x	x
1.3	Organize workshops, seminars, exchange-visits and team building exercises for all staff	At least 02workshops and at least 01exchange visit annually.	ToR, attestations/ reports	PC/ MINFOF	GIZ-WWF and others	B	25,000					
Coordination and planning												
1.4	Assure planning and coordination of Park management activities (monthly, half yearly and annually)	Planning and coordination meetings are organized and resolutions followed up	Reports and minutes	PC	MINFOF	A	10,500	x	x	x	x	x
1.5	Assure day-to-day running of park management activities	Park service manage couriers, attend	Reports, courier	PC	MINFOF, GIZ, WWF,	A	9,000	x	x	x	x	x

Activity Number	Management Activities	Indicators	Source of verification	Resp.	Partners	Priority	Budget (x 1000FCFA)	Years					
								1	2	3	4	5	
		administrative meetings and other park initiatives	register, minutes of meetings		PSMNR-SWR								
1.6	Facilitate the creation of Park Committees	03 Park committees created by 2015	Decision	MINFOF /PC		A		x					
1.7	Organise sessions for the MCNP Management Committee	At least 01 session organised annually.	Reports	PC	, WWF, GIZ	A	8,000	x	x	x	x	x	
1.8	Organise sessions of the Scientific Committee	At least 01 session organised annually	Reports	PC	WWF, GIZ	A	13,000	x	x	x	x	x	
1.9	Organise sessions of the Local Consultative Committee	At least 01 session organised annually	Reports	PC	WWF, GIZ	A	8,000	x	x	x	x	x	
1.10	Organise General Assembly of Clusters (GAC)	One session per year	Report	PC	WWF, GIZ	A	10,000	x	x	x	x	x	
1.11	Mainstream HIV/AIDS during implementation of Park activities	HIV risk analysis for MCNP activities and target groups is realized by 2016 and at least 70% of mitigation measures are implemented	Reports	FP	GIZ/SP	A	0,203	x	x	x	x	x	
1.12	Evaluate and revise management plan	Mid-term and final evaluation conducted and management plan revised in 2019	Evaluation reports/revised MP	MINFOF PC	WWF, GIZ	A	50,000			x			x
Management of partnerships													
1.13	Create and manage platforms of collaboration with partners	Contracts, conventions and MoUs are executed according to their provisions	Contracts, conventions MoUs, reports	PC/ MINFOF	IITA, ICRAFT, ERUDEF	A	5,500	x	x	x	x	x	
Park infrastructure, equipment and material													

Activity Number	Management Activities	Indicators	Source of verification	Resp.	Partners	Priority	Budget (x 1000FCFA)	Years				
								1	2	3	4	5
1.14	Procure vehicles,, renew and maintain adequate field and office equipment (vehicle, bikes, tents, camping...)	List of equipment in good conditions	Inventory report/list of identified needs, manual of procedures.	PC/ MINFOF	PSMNR- PCFC and others	A	253,250	x	x	x	x	x
1.15	Construct and equip MCNP Head Quarters	Head quarter constructed and equipped	Reception report, Head quarter and equipment	MINFOF /PC	WWF,	B	270,000	x	x	x	x	x
1.16	Build, rehabilitate and maintain park infrastructures	Planned IS constructed/ rehabilitated and maintained (See Business Plan in annex)	Reception reports and infrastructure	PC/ MINFOF	PSMNR, WWF and others	A	893,850	x	x	x	x	x
Financial management												
1.17	Elaborate, budget and implement annual work plans	Annual work plan and budget are elaborated and implemented	AOP and reports	PC/FAU	Donors	A	2,000	x	x	x	x	x
1.18	Implement accounting systems linked to the budgets (MINFOF and Donor-specific)	Periodic financial reports submitted as required. .	Financial reports	PC/FAU	Donors	A	0,870	x	x	x	x	x
1.19	Implement internal and external auditing	Annual internal and external audits conducted and recommendations implemented	Audit reports	PC/FAU	Donors	A	2,000	x	x	x	x	x
1.20	Ensure Park Entry Fees and other fees are used to implement park activities.	-Technical Note forwarded to MINFOF by 2015. -Authorisation granted to Park service by 2016 and revenue used for Park management	Technical Note, Ministerial decision and financial reports	PC	MINFI/ MINFOF	A	0,330	x	x	x	x	x

Activity Number	Management Activities	Indicators	Source of verification	Resp.	Partners	Priority	Budget (x 1000FCFA)	Years				
								1	2	3	4	5
1.21	Follow up the management of revenues generated from the Park and conservation incentives (CI)	Financial reports.	Financial and CI evaluation reports,	PC	VFMCs, Cluster Facilitators and others	A	p.m.	x	x	x	x	x
Programme 2: PARK PROTECTION AND SURVEILLANCE												
Patrol and surveillance												
2.1	Implement patrol strategy	At least 15 days patrol effected monthly and 75% of patrol strategy implemented.	Patrol strategy and reports, cybertracker/SMART database	PC	Administration, WWF and others	A	269,455	x	x	x	x	x
2.2	Establish and manage a functional intelligence network of informants	At least 01 informant per cluster functional.	Informant management strategy, reports	PC/PU	WWF and others	B	6,700	x	x	x	x	x
2.3	Identify and monitor areas of encroachment	At least 01 encroachment survey conducted yearly. annually.	Encroachment survey protocol, survey and patrol reports and geo-database	PU	RDFOF	A	1,785	x	x	x	x	x
2.4	Follow-up litigations and prosecution of offences	Litigations and offences followed up	Offence statements, Court judgements, Contracts, transactions, reports	MINFOF /PC	WWF, LAGA,	A	6,350	x	x	x	x	x
Park boundaries												
2.5	Open, maintain and geo-reference park boundaries	At least 30km opened and maintained annually.	-Boundary opening pillars -Beacons installed, Reports, GIS	PC/PU	Administration, WWF, VFMCs, CFs	A	52,500	x	x	x	x	x

Activity Number	Management Activities	Indicators	Source of verification	Resp.	Partners	Priority	Budget (x 1000FCFA)	Years					
								1	2	3	4	5	
			Data base										
2.6	Produce, install and maintain signposts	Signposts produced and installed at key strategic sites	-Sign posts installed, reports	PC	PSMNR/MIN FOF	B	16,800	x	x	x	x	x	
2.7	Compile necessary documents and follow up land registration process	Application for a land certificate submitted by 2015	Application, Land certificate, Technical note for tax exoneration	PC/ MINFOF	MINCAF	B	1,100	x	x				
Fire management													
2.8	Elaborate, and implement and fire management plan	-Fire management plan is available by 2016 -At least 20% of the plan implemented annually.	Plan, reports, database	PU	Administration, VFMC	B	18,200	x	x	x	x	x	
Programme 3:COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT													
Community mobilisation and participation													
3.1	Ensure proper functioning of VFMCs and Cluster Platforms (CP)	VFMCs have the capacity to plan and coordinate conservation efforts within their CCZ	VFMCs and Cluster platform meetings reports	CMU/ CF	PSMNR and others	A	84,000	x	x	x	x	x	
3.2	Negotiate and implement Collaborative Management action plan	At least 80% of the CMA action plan is implemented yearly	CMA action plan and reports	CMU	VFMCs/CF	A	3,000	x	x	x	x	x	
3.3	Build capacity of VFMCs and Cluster Platform members	At least 02 trainings, sensitisation workshops organised yearly	Reports	CMU	VFMCs/CF and others	A	22,500	x	x	x	x	x	

Activity Number	Management Activities	Indicators	Source of verification	Resp.	Partners	Priority	Budget (x 1000FCFA)	Years				
								1	2	3	4	5
3.4	Sensitize and build the capacity of other community members and stakeholders	At least 1 event per cluster organised annually	Reports	CMU	CF and others	B	1,000	x	x	x	x	x
3.5	Implement Education for Sustainable Development	At least 02 sensitisation meetings per cluster annually.	Reports	CMU	MINEPDED, MINEDUB, MINJEC,NG Os	B	30,000	x	x	x	x	x
Conservation and development agreement elaboration and implementation												
3.6	Negotiate, elaborate and sign CDAs	At least 80% of the park villages signed CDAs by the end of Dec. 2015	CDAs and reports	PC/TC	GIZ , WWF	A	4,900	x				
3.7	Implement, monitor and evaluate agreed measures in CDAs	At least 80% of agreed measures in CDAs implemented, monitored and evaluated by 2017	Contracts, CDA follow reports, reception reports, evaluation reports	CMU/ TC	GIZ/SP/WWF, Councils and others	A	27,750	x	x	x	x	x
3.8	Implement and monitor agreed Green IGAs	At least 80% of agreed IGAs are implemented by 2017	MoUs, reception, monitoring and evaluation reports	CMU/ SP	GIZ/WWF, MINADER	A	222,600	x	x	x	x	x
3.9	Implement and monitor agreed infrastructure projects	At least 80% of agreed village infrastructure measures constructed by 2017	CDP, MoUs, reception, monitoring and evaluation reports	CMU/ IS	WWF, SP, Councils, MINMEE, MINEPDED		201,000	x	x	x	x	x

Activity Number	Management Activities	Indicators	Source of verification	Resp.	Partners	Priority	Budget (x 1000FCFA)	Years				
								1	2	3	4	5
Management of the natural and cultural resources within the park												
3.10	Implement Prunus Management Plan	Agreed annual quotas harvested and benefit shared according to agreed mechanisms	Management plan, reports, payment vouchers	MRU	RDFOF, MOCAP, Economic operators/others	B	36,800	x	x	x	x	x
3.11	Elaborate, implement and monitor guidelines for the use of the limited access zone	Guidelines elaborated by 2015 and user's rights respected	Guidelines, Patrol reports	MRU/CMU	WWF, VFMCs, CF	A	1,000	x	x	x	x	x
Community forests management												
3.12	Provide technical assistance to CF in the peripheral zone	At least one activity implemented per CF annually	reports	CMU/MRU	MINFOF, Council community, and others	B	15,000	x	x	x	x	x
Management of remnant Bomboko FR												
3.13	Contribute to a detail land use survey in the remnant BFR	Baseline information provided by 2015	reports	MRU	TOU, Council, TC	B	0,165	x	x	x	x	x
3.14	Contribute to the elaboration and implementation of a participatory management plan for the remnant	Technical assistance provided for the elaboration of the management plan	Management plan	PC	MINFOF, Council, TC	B	0,165	x	x	x	x	x
Human-wildlife conflicts												
3.15	Sensitise communities on human-wildlife conflicts	At least one sensitisation meeting organised per Cluster annually	Reports	CMU	WWF, VFMC/CF, TOU	B	3,850	x	x	x	x	x
3.16	Organise on-farm assessment of animal destructions	On farm assessments conducted when required and reports forwarded for action	Reports and database	CMU	MINATD, MINADER, VFMCs	A	1,200	x	x	x	x	x
3.17	Implement Human Wildlife Conflict strategy	At least 70% of planned mitigation measures implemented	Reports	PC/CMU	MINATD, WWF, TOU, VFMCs	B	6,440	x	x	x	x	x

Activity Number	Management Activities	Indicators	Source of verification	Resp.	Partners	Priority	Budget (x 1000FCFA)	Years				
								1	2	3	4	5
Corridor management												
3.18	Participate in the survey of potential major corridors between MCNP and other forest entities	Technical assistance provided for the survey of potential major corridors	Reports	MRU	WWF, CDC, TOU and other stakeholders.	B	4,465	x	x	x	x	x
3.19	Participate with other stakeholders in the definition and management of corridors	Technical assistance provided for the elaboration of corridor management plan	Reports	PC/ MRU	MINEPAT TC, TOU, CDC, , Council and others	B	0,225	x	x	x	x	x
Watershed management												
3.20	Support the elaboration and implementation of watershed management plan	-List of watershed identified and percentage of management plan achieved per site.	Watershed management plan, monitoring reports, CDAs	PC	Council, communities, MINEPDED , MINMEE, EOs, water supplying companies	B	10,960	x	x	x	x	x
Local NGO and CSO support												
3.21	ERUDEF support to conservation and development activities within the peripheral zone and management of corridors	Community forest and corridor management initiatives are supported annually	Reports	PC/ ERUD EF	Community forest, TOUs	B	150,000	x	x	x	x	x
Programme 4: Ecotourism Development												
Park ecotourism infrastructure and equipment												
4.1	Develop guidelines for infrastructure development and maintenance in the MCNP to ensure sustainability	Guidelines available by 2015	Guidelines	PC	PSMNR/PCF C, SP	A	p.m.	x				
4.2	Elaborate ecotourism infrastructures construction implementation and	Implementation and monitoring plan available	plans	PC	PSMNR/ PCFC, SP	A	p.m.	x				

Activity Number	Management Activities	Indicators	Source of verification	Resp.	Partners	Priority	Budget (x 1000FCFA)	Years					
								1	2	3	4	5	
	monitoring plan	by 2015											
4.3	Construct sub-headquarter-based information, education, monitoring and management centre	A functional sub-headquarter-based infrastructures in used by 2016	Reception report, Head quarters, contracts.	PC	PSMNR, SP	A	p.m.	x	x				
Field-based infrastructure for tourists accommodation													
4.4	Construct rehabilitate, and maintain eco-lodges, campsites and refuges	02 eco-lodges, 03 campsites and 02 refuges are constructed/rehabilitated and are operational by 2016	Lodges, contracts, camp sites, Reception reports	PC	PCFC/ PSMNR, SP	A	250,000	x	x	x	x	x	
4.5	Construct viewing platforms and accommodation at Crater Lake and Elephant Opening and other sites to be identified	04 Watch towers (Mirradores) are constructed and operational by 2015	Reception reports	PC	PCFC, SP	A	30,000.	x					
4.6	Maintain, plan and construct ecotourism trail and road network	At least 50 km of trails and 20 km of road are operational by 2016	Reception reports	PC/SP	PSMNR/PCF C	A	50,000	x	x				
4.7	Contribute to the realisation of a Release Site.	Feasibility study conducted by end 2015	Report	MINFOF	PSMNR/PCF C, Pandrillus	B	11,000	x					
Ecotourism management platform													
4.8	Staffing and capacity building of unit	At least 02 support staffs are recruited and operational by 2017	Contracts	PC	MINTOUL PSMNR/ Council/ Economic operator	A	p.m.		x	x			
4.9	Build staff capacity on ecotourism awareness and	At least one training organised annually	Reports/ certificates	PC	MINTOUL, SP/Council/Ec	B	0,920	x	x	x	x	x	

Activity Number	Management Activities	Indicators	Source of verification	Resp.	Partners	Priority	Budget (x 1000FCFA)	Years					
								1	2	3	4	5	
	customer care				onomic operator								
4.10	Develop and implement ecotourism administration and information systems (see Ecotourism strategy)	Ecotourism administration and information systems operational by 2016	reports	PC/EDU	MINTOUL, PSMNR	A	3,000	x	x	x	x	x	
Partnership													
4.11	Develop and implement an annual work plan for the MINTOUL/MINFOF platform	An annual operational plan is validated and implemented	AOP, reports	PC	MINTOUL/MIN FOF	A	10,000	x	x	x	x	x	
4.12	Organise meetings with Local Tour Operators and other stakeholders	At least 02 meetings organised annually and resolutions implemented.	reports	PC/EDU	MINTOUL, stakeholders	A	1,400	x	x	x	x	x	
4.13	Provide ecotourism awareness training and publicity campaigns for the local communities in and around park	At least one ecotourism awareness campaign conducted annually	reports	EDU	Medias, economic operators...	B	0,500	x	x	x	x	x	
4.14	Develop and implement lease concession procedures, standards and agreements for private activities	Lease concessions and agreements signed and implemented	agreements, reports	PC	PSMNR, economic operators (EO)	A	p.m.	x	x	x	x	x	
4.15	Elaborate and implement MOUs with councils (Buea, Idenau, Mbonge, Limbe UC, Muyuka) for ecotourism development.	MOUs signed with each of the councils	MOU, reports	PC	Council, MINTOUL,	A	10,000	x	x	x	x	x	
4.16	Develop and implement partnership with international tourism and athletic institutions.	At least 01 convention/MOU signed and implemented.	MOU, Convention, reports	PC	MINREX, WWF, Concerned Administration and Institutions	B	5,000	x	x	x	x	x	

Activity Number	Management Activities	Indicators	Source of verification	Resp.	Partners	Priority	Budget (x 1000FCFA)	Years				
								1	2	3	4	5
4.17	Support ecotourism initiatives in the neighbourhood of the MCNP	At least 02 ecotourism initiatives supported by 2016	MoUs, reports	PC	PSMNR/Council/ EO	A	7,000	x	x	x		
4.18	Develop a Benefit Sharing Mechanism for Ecotourism revenue	Agreed benefit sharing mechanism developed and implemented by 2016	MoU, reports	PC	MINTOUL/MIN FOF, Council, TCs, EO	B	0,200	x	x			
Ecotourism planning and management												
4.19	Develop and implement Ecotourism management plan	Ecotourism management plan implemented	ESIA, strategy, plan, reports	PC/EDU	MINTOUL, PSMNR/Council/ EO and others	A	p.m.	x	x	x	x	x
4.20	Set up and implement a waste management system within the Park	A waste management system is operational by 2016	ESIA, reports	EDU	VFMCs, EO, Council...	A	p.m.	x	x	x	x	x
4.21	Organise training of guides and porters	Guides and porters are trained and successful ones registered	Certificates, register, reports	EDU	MINTOUL, Council/ EO and others	B	p.m.	x	x	x	x	x
4.22	Set up and manage a safety and rescue system	A safety and rescue system functional by 2017	reports	EDU	Communities, stakeholders	A	p.m.	x	x	x	x	x
Mt Cameroon NP marketing plan developed and implemented												
4.23	Define and implement a marketing plan for MCNP and its peripheral zone with all stakeholders	A marketing plan developed by 2015 and implemented	Plan, reports	PC	PSMNR, SP	A	5,000	x	x	x	x	x
4.24	Develop promotional materials	01 guide book, newsletter, leaflet, documentaries and other promotional materials available by 2016	materials	PC	PSMNR, SP	A	10,000		x	x	x	x
4.25	Develop MCNP website	A functional website is available by 2015	Contracts, website	PC	PSMNR, WWF, WCS, SP	B	1,500	x				

Activity Number	Management Activities	Indicators	Source of verification	Resp.	Partners	Priority	Budget (x 1000FCFA)	Years				
								1	2	3	4	5
4.26	Create and use Mt Cameroon NP's corporate image and ecotourism message	Corporate image of the park is recognised nationally and internationally	Logo, medias...	PC	MINTOUL, OAPI stakeholders	B	p.m.	x	x	x	x	x
4.27	Contribute and participate in the organisation of the Mt Cameroon Race of hope	-Partnership agreement signed with Athletic Federation, -Events are organised during the annual MC race of hope	Technical Note for MOU with Athletic Federation, Agreement, reports, medias	PC	MINSEP, MINTOUL, medias, EOs...	A	10,000	x	x	x	x	x
Programme 5: Research and Monitoring												
Research												
5.1	Follow up creation and make functional MCNP Scientific and Technical Committee (STC)	Committees created and functional by 2015	Decision, reports	PC	MINFOF	A	p.m.	x	x	x	x	x
5.2	Elaborate guidelines for research and monitoring for the MCNP	Guidelines elaborated by 2016	Guidelines	PC	MINRESI, WWF, Research institutions, universities	A	0,113	x	x			
5.3	Implement and follow-up research activities	Planned research activities implemented and regularly followed up	Reports, publications	MRU	WWF, STC , Universities, and researchers	A	15,525	x	x	x	x	x
5.4	Research, develop and implement an elephant and great apes conservation program	Elephant and great apes management strategy developed by 2016	Strategy, reports. Databases.	PC	WWF and others	A	50,000	x	x	x	x	x

Activity Number	Management Activities	Indicators	Source of verification	Resp.	Partners	Priority	Budget (x 1000FCFA)	Years					
								1	2	3	4	5	
		-At least 20% of strategy implemented by 2019											
5.5	Create, maintain and update the databases	GIS and other agreed databases developed, maintained and regularly updated	Databases	MRU	WWF, STC and researchers	A	p.m.	x	x	x	x	x	x
Monitoring													
5.6	Implement protected areas management tools (PAMETT, SMART...)	PAMETT, SMART and other agreed management tools implemented	Reports	PU/MRU	WWF, research institutions	A	1,470	x	x	x	x	x	x
5.7	Install and monitor camera traps	At least 01 array of camera traps installed and monitored by 2017	Camera traps, reports	MRU	WWF, research institutions	B	12,000	x	x	x			
5.8	Implement ranger based monitoring using cybertrackers and other tools	Cybertrackers used for regular monitoring	Cybertrackers, reports	MRU	WWF, research institutions	B	2,148	x	x	x	x	x	x
5.9	Monitor wildlife populations	Agreed flagship species are monitored every 5yrs	Reports	PC	WWF, research institutions	A	24,000	x	x	x	x	x	x
5.10	Monitor illegal activities in the park	Illegal activities are regular monitored	Reports, SMART	PU/MRU	VFMCs, CF, CFWP	A	p.m.	x	x	x	x	x	x
5.11	Monitor encroachment in the park	Encroachment monitored in accordance to protocol	Reports	PU/MRU	VFMCs, CF, CFWP	A	15,000	x	x	x	x	x	x
5.12	Monitor implementation for the fire management plan	Fire occurrence is regularly monitored	Database, reports, MP	PU/MRU	VFMC, CF, TC	A	0,500	x	x	x	x	x	x
5.13	Monitor the effect of VDMs on livelihood.	Effect of VDMs on livelihood evaluated at the end of each project	reports	MRU	GIZ	A	20,000	x	x	x	x	x	x

Activity Number	Management Activities	Indicators	Source of verification	Resp.	Partners	Priority	Budget (x 1000FCFA)	Years				
								1	2	3	4	5
5.14	Monitor and evaluate Prunus management activities	Prunus activities are evaluated annually	Reports, MP	MRU	MINFOF, MOCAP	A	1,125	x	x	x	x	x
5.15	Monitor the implementation of the participatory management option for the remnant of the BFR	Planned measures are followed and monitored	reports	MRU	Council, VFMC, TC	B	p.m.	x	x	x	x	x
5.16	Monitor ecotourism activities and the implementation of the recommendations of the ESIA study	Ecotourism activities and the implementation of the recommendations of the ESIA are monitored annually	ESIA, ecotourism strategy, MCNP MP, reports	MRU/ EDU	MINFOF/MIN TOUL, MINEP DED, Councils, Eos...	A	p.m.	x	x	x	x	x
5.17	Monitor NTFP off-takes (user's right) and other regulated activities carried out in the Limited Access Zone (LAZ)	NTFP off takes are regularly monitored within the LAZ	Guidelines, MCNP MP, reports	MRU	MINFOF	A	0,300	x	x	x	x	x
5.18	Monitor the implementation of agreements between MCNP and other partners	Terms of agreements are monitored annually	MoUs, reports	PC	partners	A	p.m.	x	x	x	x	x
5.19	Monitor out breaks of wildlife related disease and implement preventive measures.	-List of wildlife diseases identified -Preventive measures implemented	reports	PU	MINSANTE, MINEPIA, MIN RESI, stakeholders	B	8,000	x	x	x	x	x
5.20	Liaise with University of Buea and Ekona Geological Centre to exploit seismic data for park management	Updated seismic data provided and recommendations integrated into park management.	MOUs, Data, Reports	PC	MINATD, UB, EGC, MINRESI.	B	1,000,	x	x	x	x	x
Programme 6: Sustainable financing												
6.1	Define a joint vision and road map	A joint vision and road map available by 2015	Strategic document	PC	MINFOF/PSM NR, WWF, and GIZ, WCS	A	1,160	x				

Activity Number	Management Activities	Indicators	Source of verification	Resp.	Partners	Priority	Budget (x 1000FCFA)	Years					
								1	2	3	4	5	
					stakeholders								
6.2	Mobilise and negotiate MCF set up with stakeholders	Approval letters and financing agreement are available by 2016	Letters, agreements, reports	PC	Stakeholders	A	95,555	x	x				
6.3	Agree on the status MCF and develop its manual of procedures	MCF status and manual of procedures developed and agreed upon in 2015	Status and manual	PC/MCF	WWF, Stakeholders	A	p.m.	x					
6.4	Pilot MCF operations (identify what will be covered from BP/activities concerning park fund and grant fund, costs coaching, staff, equipment...)	Park activities are financed through MCF in accordance to manual of procedures	AOP, manual of procedures, reports	PC/MCF	PSMNR and MCF partners	A	5,000		x	x	x	x	x
6.5	Evaluate and monitor MCF implementation	MCF operations are evaluated and monitored on quarterly basis	Manual of procedures, reports	PC/MCF	PSMNR and MCF partners	A	10,000		x	x			
6.6	Conduct in-depth feasibility studies to develop diverse funding portfolio	Relevant meetings organised and studies conducted by 2016	Reports,	PC/SP	PSMNR, MINEPDED and others	A	0,110		x	x			
6.7	Develop mechanisms for long term financing (done concurrently with MCF operationalization)	Mechanisms developed by 2016	Reports, PDD, agreements	PC/MCF	PSMNR, MINEPDED and others	A	10,000.		x	x	x	x	x
	Grant total						4,969,000						

6.2 Plan implementation committees

In order to ensure the participation of all stakeholders in park management, three Committees will be facilitated:

6.2.1 Park Management Committee

This is the main decision making body which will meet twice per year. Those to participate in this committee are: relevant administrations, local elected officials, donors, elites, representative of traditional rulers, representative of youth associations, representative of women associations, main NGOs. This committee will:

- Examine and approve proposed management activities, annual work plans, budgets and reports;
- Study and approve recommendations and proposals of the Park scientific and technical committees;
- Ensure proper implementation of this management plan.

It will be comprised of:

President :

1. Secretary General MINFOF ;

Vice-President :

2. Director of Wildlife and Protected Areas
MINFOF (DFAP)

Rapporteur :

3. Conservator, MCNP ;

Members :

4. Governor, SWR ;

5. SDO (Fako & Meme) ;

6. 02 Members of National Assembly (Fako & Meme);

7. DAG MINFOF ;

8. DCP MINFOF ;

9. Sub-Director Conservation

10. Sub-Director Protected Areas ;

11. Regional Delegate MINFOF SWR ;

12. Regional Delegate MINEPDED SWR ;

13. Regional Delegate MINEPAT SWR ;

14. Regional Delegate MINADER SWR

15. Regional Delegate MINEPIA SWR;

16. Regional Delegate MINTOUL SWR ;

17. 01 Representative of Civil Society
Organisations;

18. 02 Representatives Economic Operators;

19. 01 Representative each active funding,
conservation and development
organization;

20. 02 Representative of traditional rulers.

6.2.2 Park Scientific and Technical Committee

This is a consultative committee and is an auxiliary of the management committee. The committee will propose key areas to promote scientific research in the Park, approve research protocols, monitor and evaluate the implementation. It will give orientation for cooperation between the Park service on one hand, national and international research institutions and universities on the other hand. This committee will:

- Examine the scientific quality of research and monitoring activities;
- Validate results of research carried out in the park and its periphery;
- Facilitate the publication and dissemination of research results;
- Promote partnerships with universities and research institutions;
- Search for funds for research activities.

It will be comprised of:

1. President: DFAP, MINFOF;

2. Rapporteur: Conservator MCNP

Members:

3. Director of Research MINRESI

4. 01 Representative, School of Forestry,
University of Buea.

5. 01 Researcher IRAD Ekona

6. 01 Researcher Metrological Centre Ekona

7. 01 Representative WWF

8. 01 Lecturer Garoua Wildlife School

9. 01 Focal Point CITES Flora (ANAFOR)

6.2.3 Local Consultative Committee

This committee brings together local stakeholders within the Sub-Division to enhance their participation in park management. It will normally hold annually or otherwise as the need arises within the Sub-division. It will be composed of relevant local administrations, traditional institutions, community representatives, municipal council, local NGOs. The modalities for the functioning of these committees will be sanctioned by a decision of MINFOF. At village level there exist VFMC platforms for discussion of interaction between park management and the local communities which meet regular. Its organisation and functioning should ensure that sector-specific problems are discussed.

1. SDO Fako
2. SDO Meme
3. Conservator MCNP
4. 05 DOs (Buea, Idenau, Mbonge, Muyuka, Limbe 2)
5. 05 Mayors (Buea, Idenau, Mbonge, Muyuka, Limbe 2)
6. Divisional Delegates MINFOF Fako and Meme
7. Divisional Delegates MINMI Fako and Meme
8. Divisional Delegates MINADER Fako and Meme
9. Divisional Delegates MINEPDED Fako and Meme
- 10.
11. Divisional Delegates MINEPIA Fako and Meme
12. Divisional Delegates MINTOUL Fako and Meme
13. 01 Representative each active funding, conservation and development organization
14. 04 Representatives traditional rulers
15. 04 Representatives of Women groups
16. 02 Representatives GACs
21. 01 Representative Civil Society Organisation;
17. 02 Representatives of local NGOs

6.3 Financial summary and viability

PRODUCT OF THE BUSINESS PLAN

7 MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REVISION OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN

7.1 Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation of the management measures/activities is a key element necessary to measure changes on both the resources and the local communities, brought about by management interventions.

The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) system will be implemented at two main levels: the activity and impact levels. Activity monitoring and evaluation is aimed at assessing the rate, efficiency, effectiveness of activity implementation as well as the accompanying effects on the target. This tries to assess the closeness between planned activities and actual implementation in the field. It enables management to appreciate lessons learnt and put in place corrective measures for subsequent activities. Activity monitoring and evaluation will be done concurrently with implementation and will form an important basis for the preparation of the monthly, bi-monthly, semester and annual reports as required.

Monitoring of impact of programme measures to the socio-economic and ecological components on the other hand will be integrated in the long term plan of managing the park. To be able to capture the impact, the first year of implementation of this management plan will be considered as the base year. As a result, reliable baseline data on the socio-economic and ecological environment must be made available at the start of implementation of this plan.

Different services will be involved in M & E at different levels. These include; the park service, Regional Delegation MINFOF Buea, *Direction des Faunes et des Aires Protégées* (DFAP), Development and conservation organisation, and Donors. Day-to-day monitoring of activities shall be the direct responsibility of the park services in collaboration with the local communities and conservation and development organisations involved in park management. Meanwhile evaluation of measures at different stages of implementation on the other hand will involve the other services above as and when necessary.

The results of the M&E, at both levels shall provide useful information for the revision of the plan.

7.2 Impacts of Management Plan implementation

7.2.1 Positive impact

The implementation of this management plan is expected to contribute positively to biodiversity conservation as well as improvement of the livelihood of the local communities.

7.2.2 Negative impacts and mitigating measures

Some negative impacts attributed to the implementation of this management plan include:

- Trampling of vegetation by visitors. To minimise the impact, the carrying capacity of all zones will be assessed and measures taken to ensure respect of agreed frequency of visits;
- Likelihood of uncontrolled fires caused by visitors. Fire management measures will be implemented at fire prone areas during the relevant seasons;
- Increase in wildlife population in the future could lead to an increase in the human-animal conflicts. To address this, a strategy to manage human-animal conflicts is integrated into this management plan and will be implemented as required.

The negative socio-economic impacts associated with the present Management Plan are mostly linked with the access and the use of natural resources. The approach to mitigate them consists of carrying out actions that involve communities and other local groups in the support zone or inside the park. Mitigating measures include actions taken in the various management programmes of the Management Plan.

7.3 Review of the Management Plan

The evaluation of the implementation of the Management Plan should be done twice:

- A mid-term evaluation, and
- A final evaluation six (06) months to the expiration of the plan.

The evaluation reports at different stages of the plan implementation will form the basis for revision. The review process will follow the MINFOF Directives and essentially, it will involve:

- An evaluation of the implementation of the present MP, including lessons learnt;
- Constitution of the MP Review Committee;
- Preparation of the draft;
- Organisation of validation workshops at different levels;
- Transmission of the plan for approval.

9.0 CONCLUSION

The elaboration and validation of this management plan was done in a participatory manner with the contribution of local communities and other stakeholders at all levels. The management vision which seeks to reconcile conservation and development and foresees the transformation of the Mt Cameroon National Park to a world class tourist destination is articulated around six (06) management programs. The concerted implementation of these programs will definitely enhance the attainment of this vision.

This guiding document will equally provide opportunities for fund raising as well as the mobilisation of economic operators, conservation organisations and donors, to contribute to the management of this high value ecosystem through the Mt Cameroon Foundation to be set up. It will also offer opportunities for the empowerment of existing initiatives in the management of mountain ecosystem.

Funds and technical assistance for the implementation of this plan will be provided by GoC, KfW – supported Program for the Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, South West Region, Cameroon (PSMNR-SWR), World Bank supported Competitive Value Chain Project (PCFC), WWF and other local and international donors.

Considering the high level of commitment of the local communities and other stakeholders, and the availability of piloted approaches and strategies for park management, there is high hope that the implementation of this management plan will contribute significantly to the realisation of the vision for the park.

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ANNEXES

Annex 1: MCNP Classification decree

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DÉCRET N° 2009/2272 /PM DU 10 DEC. 2009
portant création du Parc National du Mont Cameroun.

PRESIDENCY OF THE PREMIER MINISTRE, CHEF DU GOUVERNEMENT,

Vu la constitution ;
Vu la loi n° 94/01 du 20 janvier 1994 portant régime des Forêts, de la Faune et de la Pêche, complétée par l'ordonnance n° 99/001 du 31 août 1999 ;
Vu le décret n° 92/089 du 04 mai 1992 précisant les attributions du Premier Ministre, modifié et complété par le décret n° 95/145 bis du 04 août 1995 ;
Vu le décret n° 95/466/PM du 20 juillet 1995 fixant les modalités d'application du régime de la Faune ;
Vu le décret n° 95/531/PM du 23 août 1995 fixant les modalités d'application du régime des Forêts, modifié par le décret n° 2000/092/PM du 27 mars 2000 ;
Vu le décret N° 2004/320 du 08 décembre 2004 portant organisation du Gouvernement, modifié et complété par le décret n° 2007/268 du 07 septembre 2007 ;
Vu le décret N° 2009/ 222 du 30 juin 2009 portant nomination d'un Premier Ministre, Chef du Gouvernement ;
Vu l'Avis au Public n° 0178/PN/MINFOF/SG/DFAP du 10 mars 2006 portant déclaration d'utilité publique, une partie du Mont Cameroun,

DECRETE :

ARTICLE 1^{er}.- Il est créé dans la Région du Sud-Ouest, départements de la Meme et du Fako, arrondissements de Muyuka, Mbonge, Buea et Idenau, un Parc National dénommé « Parc National du Mont Cameroun », d'une superficie de 58 178 (cinquante huit mille cent soixante dix huit) hectares.

ARTICLE 2.- Les limites du « Parc National du Mont Cameroun » sont fixées ainsi qu'il suit :

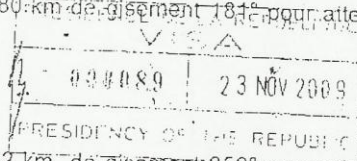
- le point A (UTM 032 N- 527 418 m ; 483 697 m), dit de base est situé sur la limite des Communes Mbonge-Muyuka.

A l'Est :

- du point A, suivre la droite AB = 2,200 km de gisement 190° pour atteindre le point B, (524 734 ; 481 608) ;
- du point B, suivre la droite BC = 3,548 km de gisement 100° pour atteindre le point C (528 225 ; 480 978) ;
- du point C, suivre la droite CD = 2,800 km de gisement 140° pour atteindre le point D (530 017 ; 478 529) ;
- du point D, suivre la droite DE = 5,244 km de gisement 151° pour atteindre le point E (532 535 ; 474 230) ;
- du point E, suivre la droite EF = 6,193 km de gisement 286° pour atteindre le point F (526 603 ; 476 002) ;
- du point F, suivre la droite FG = 3,409 km de gisement 171° pour atteindre le point G (526 603 ; 476 010) ;
- du point G, suivre la droite GH = 0,71 km de gisement 229° pour atteindre le point H (526 644 ; 472 200) ;

- du point H, suivre la route des Postes et Télécommunication en direction Nord-Sud-Est jusqu'au point I (528 758; 467 528) ;
- du point I, suivre la droite IJ = 9,956 km de gisement 221° pour atteindre le point J (522 229 ; 460 010) ;
- du point J, suivre la droite JK = 0,886 km de gisement 317° pour atteindre le point K (521 637 ; 460 642) ;
- du point K, suivre la droite KL = 3,326 km de gisement 251° pour atteindre le point L (518 489 ; 459 567) ;
- du point L, suivre la droite LM = 4,040 km de gisement 219° pour atteindre le point M (515 917 ; 456 450) ;
- du point M, suivre la droite MN = 1,150 km de gisement 303° pour atteindre le point N (514 957 ; 457 083) ;
- du point N, suivre la droite NO = 8,080 km de gisement 181° pour atteindre le point O (514 740 ; 449 017).

Au Sud :



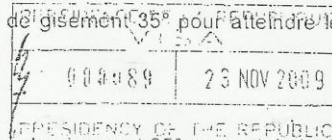
- du point O, suivre la droite OP = 2,722 km de gisement 259° pour atteindre le point P (512 070 ; 448 471) ;
- du point P, suivre la droite PQ = 1,505 km de gisement 311° pour atteindre le point Q (510 939 ; 449 465) ;
- du point Q, suivre la droite QR = 2,353 km de gisement 289° pour atteindre le point R (508 705 ; 450 191) ;
- du point R, suivre la droite RS = 0,377 km de gisement 356° pour atteindre le point S (508 675 ; 450 564) ;
- du point S, suivre la droite ST = 0,537 km de gisement 313° pour atteindre le point T (508 283 ; 450 929) ;
- du point T, suivre la droite TU = 0,619 km de gisement 353° pour atteindre le point U (508 205 ; 451 544) ;
- du point U, suivre la droite UV = 0,850 km de gisement 270° pour atteindre le point V (507 354 ; 451 550) ;
- du point V, suivre la droite VW = 0,817 km de gisement 299° pour atteindre le point W (506 641 ; 451 951) ;
- du point W, suivre la droite WX = 0,483 km de gisement 287° pour atteindre le point X (506 181 ; 452 093) ;
- du point X, suivre la droite XY = 0,949 km de gisement 218° pour atteindre le point Y (505 598 ; 451 344) ;
- du point Y, suivre la droite YZ = 0,849 km de gisement 276° pour atteindre le point Z (504 754 ; 451 435) ;
- du point Z, suivre la droite ZAA = 0,428 km de gisement 295° pour atteindre le point AA (504 366 ; 451 618) ;
- du point AA, suivre la droite AAB = 1,163 km de gisement 27° pour atteindre le point AB (503 203 ; 451 618) ;
- du point AB, suivre la droite ABAC = 0,634 km de gisement 273° jusqu'au point AC (502 570 ; 451 655).

A l'Ouest :

- du point AC, suivre la droite ACAD= 0,463 km de gisement 318° pour atteindre le point AD (502 263 ; 452 002) ;
- du point AD, suivre la droite ADAE= 2,691 km de gisement 345° pour atteindre le point AE (501 584; 454 606) ;
- du point AE, suivre la droite AEAF= 8,190 km de gisement 10° pour atteindre le point AF (502 993; 462 675);
- du point AF, suivre la droite AFAG= 5,391 km de gisement 16,5° pour atteindre le point AG (504 549; 467 837) ;
- du point AG, suivre la droite AGAH= 3,629 km de gisement 332° pour atteindre le point AH (502 839, 471 039) ;
- du point AH, suivre le cours d'eau Sanje° pour atteindre le point AI (504 760, 473) ;
- du point AI, suivre la droite AIAJ = 5,231 km de gisement 133° pour atteindre le point AJ (508 569; 469 432) ;
- du point AJ, suivre la droite AJAK = 1,696 km de gisement 44° pour atteindre le point AK(509 752 ; 470 648) ;
- du point AK, suivre la droite AKAL = 1,168 km de gisement 20° pour atteindre le point AL (510 159 ; 471 742) ;
- du point AL, suivre la droite ALAM = 3,010 km de gisement 341° pour atteindre le point AM (509 198; 474 595) ;
- du point AM, suivre la droite AMAN = 0,895 km de gisement 13° pour atteindre le point AN (509 394; 475 468) ;
- du point AN, suivre la droite ANAO = 2,516 km de gisement 28° pour atteindre le point AO (510 577 ; 477 689) ;
- du point AO, suivre la droite AOAP= 3,260 km de gisement 90° pour atteindre le point AP (513 837 ; 477 680),
- du point AP, suivre la droite APAQ=0,453 km de gisement 47° pour atteindre le point AQ (514 169 ; 477 987);
- du point AQ, suivre la droite AQAR = 2,385 km de gisement 355° pour atteindre le point AR (513 981 ; 480 365) ;
- du point AR, suivre la droite ARAS = 2,221 km de gisement 35° pour atteindre le point AS (515 266 ; 482 176),

Au Nord :

- du point AS, suivre la droite ASAT = 2,090 km de gisement 85° pour atteindre le point AT (517 519 ; 482 357) ;
- du point AT, suivre la droite ATAU = 1,888 km de gisement 33° pour atteindre le point AU (518 384; 483 936) ;
- du point AU, suivre la droite AUAV = 2,585 km de gisement 109° pour atteindre le point AV (520 822; 483 936) ;
- du point AV, suivre la droite AVA = 4,638 km de gisement 82° pour atteindre le point A dit de base.



ARTICLE 3.- Le « Parc National du Mont Cameroun » a pour objectifs de :

- sauvegarder les espèces animales, végétales et leurs habitats ;
- réguler le régime des cours d'eau de la zone et leurs sources ;
- sauvegarder les forêts de montagne ;
- promouvoir les sources potentielles des revenus à travers l'écotourisme ;
- contribuer à l'amélioration du bien être socio-économique des populations riveraines ;
- promouvoir l'emploi par le recrutement de nouveaux écogardes pour la surveillance, le contrôle et la gestion du Parc ;
- de contribuer à la promotion de l'image de marque de notre pays en matière de préservation de la biodiversité.

ARTICLE 4.- Toute activité humaine susceptible de porter atteinte aux objectifs du « Parc National du Mont Cameroun » ne peut être entreprise qu'au terme des études d'impact environnemental dûment approuvées par l'administration compétente.

ARTICLE 5.- (1) Les droits d'usage des populations riveraines seront définis d'une manière participative dans le cadre du plan d'aménagement du « Parc National du Mont Cameroun ».

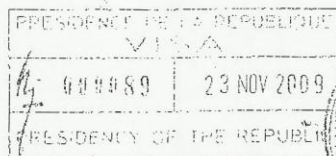
(2) La zone périphérique du « Parc National du Mont Cameroun » ainsi que les mesures d'accompagnement visant à soutenir les activités socio-économiques devant être engagées au profit des populations riveraines seront précisées dans le cadre du plan d'aménagement visé à l'alinéa 1 ci-dessus ou par tout autre texte du Ministre en charge de la faune.

ARTICLE 6.- Le siège du « Parc National du Mont Cameroun » est fixé à Limbo, dans le département du Fako.

ARTICLE 7.- Les modalités de fonctionnement du « Parc National du Mont Cameroun » seront définies par un texte particulier du Ministre en charge de la faune.

ARTICLE 8.- Le présent décret sera enregistré, puis publié au Journal Officiel en français et en anglais. /-

Yaoundé, le 18 DEC 2009



LE PREMIER MINISTRE,
CHEF DU GOUVERNEMENT,

Philemon Yang
PHILEMON YANG

Annex 2: Present staff list

No		Sex	Status)	Grade	Function
1	Besong Simon Bessem	M	Contract	IEF, MSc	Conservator
2	Tanyi Betika Besong	M	Contract	CCA (BSc)	Finance/ Administration
3	Ettagbor Hans E nukwa	M	Contract	CCA MSc	Collaborative Management Unit
4	Mbeng Handerson Tanyi	M	Contract	CCA (BSc)	Monitoring and Research Unit
5	Amabo Jude Niba	M	Civil servant	TSEF	Ecotourism Development Unit
6	Ekpew Solomon Enow	M	Civil servant	TSEF	Eco-guard
7	Nelson Ikomey Epie	M	Civil servant	TSEF	Eco-guard
8	Boseme Grace Motutu	F	Civil servant	TEF	Eco-guard
9	Tamachambi Christopher Mbih	M	Civil servant	TEF	Protection Unit
10	Tiku Andrew Obi	M	Civil servant	TEF	Eco-guard
11	Jennete Nkonbu Fonge	F	State Agent	SA	Secretary
12	Yontang Patrice	M	Civil Servant	ATAEF	Staff
13	Sone Nkede Gideon	M	Civil Servant	ATEF	Eco-guard
14	Ndaghu Sidonnie	F	Civil Servant	ATEF	Eco-guard
15	Gnintedem Rachel		Civil Servant	ATEF	Eco-guard
16	Kome Samuel Kome	M	Civil Servant	ATAEF	Eco-guard
17	Neediasong Relindis	F	Civil Servant	ATAEF	Eco-guard
18	Nkweta Vitalis Nembo	M	Civil servant	ATAEF	Eco-guard
19	Assokeng Ouamba Pierre	M	Civil servant	ATEF	Eco-guard
20	Njingwang Pauline Lambe	F	Civil servant	ATAEF	Eco-guard
21	Kolwe Victor	M	Civil Servant	ATAEF	Eco-guard
22	Essoh Robert	M	Civil Servant	ATAEF	Eco-guard
23	Bam Geoffrey	M	Civil Servant	ATAEF	Eco-guard
24	Djonga Lamra Laisso	M	Civil Servant	ATAEF	Eco-guard
25	Emadion Njile Louis	M	Civil Servant	ATAEF	Eco-guard
26	Atabe Arnaud	M	Civil Servant	ATAEF	Eco-guard

Annex 3 : List of additional materials to purchase

Description	Quantity available	Additional Needs
Toyota Land Cruiser(IT 18298)	2	2
YAMAHA AG	1	4
JIALING MOTO BIKE (MT CA 7880C & MT CA7881C}	02	0
Desktop computers	07	03
Laptop computers	07	3
Laser jet printer (M1212nf MFP)	01	1
HP Laser jet P1102	01	1
HP Desk jet 1050	01	1
HP Laser jet Pro CM1415	01	0
Panasonic camera	01	3
Digital Cameras	04	5
Sony video cameras	02	2
GPS Units	04	10
Compass	12	0
Back Gauge	0	10
Diameter Tapes	0	10
Back packs	5	30
Sleeping mats	35	10
Inflatable mattresses	10	30
Tents (single multiple)	30	20
Cyber trackers	3	5
Money Safe	01	1
THURAYA	2	4

Annex 4: Endemic plant species of the Mount Cameroon National Park (Cable and Cheek 1998)

Scientific names	Habitat	
<i>Bulbostylis densa</i> var. <i>cameroonensis</i> (Cyperaceae)	Montane grassland	
<i>Habenaria obovata</i> (Orchidaceae)		
<i>Hypseochloa cameroonensis</i> (Gramineae)		
<i>Silene biafrae</i> (Caryophyllaceae)		
<i>Anigraecopsis cryptantha</i> (Orchidaceae)	Montane grassland/ forest ecotone	
<i>Genyorchis macrantha</i> (Orchidaceae)		
<i>Helichyrum biafranum</i> (Compositae)		
<i>Isoglossa nervosa</i> (Acanthaceae)		
<i>Myosotis</i> sp. nr. <i>vestergrenii</i> (Boraginaceae)	Sub-montane and montane forest	
<i>Bulbophyllum modicum</i> (Orchidaceae)		
<i>Afrardisia oligantha</i> (Myrsinaceae)		
<i>Disperis kamerunensis</i> (Orchidaceae)		
<i>Impatiens grandisepala</i> (Balsaminaceae)		
<i>Impatiens</i> sp. nov. 1 (Balsaminaceae)		
<i>Impatiens</i> sp. nov. 2 (Balsaminaceae)		
<i>Oxygyne</i> sp. nov. (Burmanniaceae)		
<i>Plectranthus dissitiflorus</i> (Labiatae)		
<i>Polystachys albescens</i> subsp. <i>angustifolia</i> (Orchidaceae)		
<i>Pteris ekemae</i> (Fern)		
<i>Xiphopteris villosissima</i> var. <i>laticellulata</i> (Fern)		
<i>Ardisia schlechteri</i> (Myrsinaceae)		Lowland forest
<i>Asplenium</i> sp. 8 (Fern)		
<i>Asplenium</i> sp. 9 (Fern)		
<i>Begonia quadrialata</i> subsp. <i>dusenii</i> (Begoniaceae)		
<i>Beilschmiedia preussii</i> (Lauraceae)		
<i>Cola praeacuta</i> (Sterculiaceae)		
<i>Cola</i> sp. nov. 1 aff. <i>philipi-jonesii</i> (Sterculiaceae)		
<i>Cola</i> sp. nov. aff. <i>flavo-velutina</i> (Sterculiaceae)		
<i>Crudia bibundina</i> (Leguminosae-Caesalpinoideae)		
<i>Eugenia kameruniana</i> (Myrtaceae)		
<i>Gastrodia aficana</i> (Orchidaceae)		
<i>Genyorchis platybulbon</i> (Orchidaceae)		
<i>Isolona</i> sp. nov. (Annonaceae)		
<i>Oxygyne triandra</i> (Burmanniaceae)		
<i>Piptostigma</i> sp. nov. (Annonaceae)		
<i>Polyceratocarpus</i> sp. nov. (Annonaceae)		
<i>Psychotria</i> sp. nov. 1 aff. <i>dorothae</i> (Rubiaceae)		
<i>Psychotria</i> sp. nov. 2 aff. <i>bidentata</i> (Rubiaceae)		
<i>Ancistrocladus</i> sp. nov. (Ancistrocladaceae)		
<i>Rutidea</i> sp. nov. (Rubiaceae)		
<i>Sacosperma</i> sp. nov. (Rubiaceae)		
<i>Salacia</i> sp. nov. 2 (Celastraceae)	Lowland forest	
<i>Salacia</i> sp. nov. 1 (Celastraceae)		
<i>Sibangea</i> sp. nov. (Euphorbiaceae)		
<i>Stelechantha</i> sp. nov. (Rubiaceae)		
<i>Synsepalum brenanii</i> (Sapotaceae)		
<i>Trichoscypha bijuga</i> (Anacardiaceae)		
<i>Trichoscypha camerunensis</i> (Anacardiaceae)		
<i>Trichoscypha</i> sp. nov. (Anacardiaceae)		