

# DJA LANDSCAPE PROJECT

**Strengthening Governance and Ecosystem Connectivity for Sustainable Biodiversity Management and Improved Livelihoods in the Dja Landscape**

## ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Dja Landscape Project is a GEF-8 funded initiative by the Cameroon government through the Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development (MINEPDED), Led by UNEP. It is part of the GEF funded **Congo Basin Integrated Programme** focusing on critical biomes like the Amazon and the Congo Basin.

The project collaborates with national institutions, civil society, and international partners to protect a vital tropical landscape.

### OBJECTIVE

*To strengthen governance and ecosystem connectivity for the sustainable management of biodiversity, while improving livelihoods in the Dja Landscape.*

## PROJECT COMPONENTS



### Component 1 – Local Governance

- Establish inclusive municipal commissions and Landscape Management Boards
- strengthening frameworks for sustainable land and forest management.



### Component 2– Protected Areas and Connectivity

- Improve protected area management,
- restore 10,000 hectares of forests, and
- integrate Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures (OECMs) with natural capital accounting.



### Component 3 – Green Enterprises and Livelihoods

- Promote Non-Timber Forest Products and cocoa value chains,
- support women and youth-led Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs) and cooperatives,
- mobilize carbon and biodiversity finance mechanisms for sustainable income, and
- engage the private sector in conservation-compatible supply chains.



### Component 4 – Knowledge Management

- Advance applied research to guide nature-based solutions for biodiversity and climate,
- disseminate knowledge products on gender integration and equity, and
- strengthen monitoring, evaluation, and learning systems at local, national, and regional levels.



### Sustainable Finance

Carbon and biodiversity credit mechanisms create sustainable revenue for local livelihood improvements and conservation efforts.



### Institutionalisation

Landscape Management Committees (LMCs) in municipal councils promote local ownership, secure funding, and maintain authority.



### Replication

Successful initiatives like the Ebony Project link communities with private partners, such as Taylor Guitars, through large-scale agroforestry.



### Regional Links

Collaboration strengthened by the TRIDOM transboundary landscape, COMIFAC Convergence Plan, and Congo Basin Integrated Programme.



**SUSTAINABILITY AND SCALE-UP**

# THE DJA LANDSCAPE AT A GLANCE

**4,000,000 HA**  
Total landscape area

**526,004 HA**  
Dja Biosphere Reserve

**156,672 HA**  
Ngoyla Wildlife Reserve

**26,000 HA**  
Mengame Gorilla Sanctuary



## REMARKABLE BIODIVERSITY

**50+** large mammal species  
**300** Bird species  
**121** Fish Species  
**215** Butterfly species.

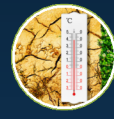
- Diverse flora featuring Moabi and Terminalia superba.
- Significant global genetic resources and medicinal plants.



## KEY THREATS AND CHALLENGES



**Governance Gaps**



**Climate Change**



**Habitat Fragmentation**



**Mining Pressure**



**Unsustainable Practices**



**Poaching and Wildlife Trade**



*The Dja Landscape Project integrates governance, conservation, and livelihoods to support global climate, biodiversity, and UN Sustainable Development Goals.*

**A TRIPLE WIN FOR NATURE, PEOPLE AND THE PLANET**

## EXPECTED ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL BENEFITS

**708,000+ HA**  
Protected areas under improved management

**10,000 HA**  
Degraded forests restored

**1,000,000 HA**  
Landscape under improved land-use practices

**45M+ TONNES**  
CO<sub>2</sub> eq. emissions reduced

**12,500+**  
Direct beneficiaries (50% women)

**~1,250**  
Indigenous peoples benefiting

**FOR MORE ON THE PROJECT, CONTACT: [contacts@minepeded.gov.cm](mailto:contacts@minepeded.gov.cm)**

## ABOUT THE CONGO BASIN LANDSCAPES INITIATIVE (CBLI)

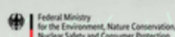
This UNEP-led multi-partner and multi-country initiative includes the GEF-funded Congo Forest Integrated Programme (CFIP) and the IKI-funded Congo Basin Peatlands project.

The GEF-funded CFIP, being delivered under the UNEP-Led CBLI, comprises of two flagship initiatives, including the GEF-7 a Congo Basin Impact program (2021-2026) and the GEF-8 Congo Critical Forest Biome Integrated Programme (2025-2032).

The CBLI collaborates with governments and partners to protect the Congo Basin rainforest and peatlands by implementing transformative landscape approaches in partnership with local communities, forest-dependent individuals, and the private sector, ensuring benefits for all stakeholders.



Led by:



Based on a decision of the German Bundestag

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