



Système Normalisé
Observation Indépendante Externe



Forêts et Développement Rural
Pour un Monde meilleur



Presumed illegal logging perpetrated in a non-functional community forest and in the National Estate Forests in the South region of Cameroon

April 2020



Indices of a presumed illegal logging have been observed in the GIC DA Community Forest (CF) located in the Ekanga village and in the National Estate Forests (NEF), around Ndjabilobé and Fenda villages, in the South region. The denunciation report of these facts presumed as forest illegality was produced by the organization Centre pour l'Environnement et le Développement Local et Alternatif (CeDLA); in November 2019. A copy of this denunciation report was submitted to the Minister of Forests and Wildlife and to the Regional Division of the Ministry in the South region. In the community forest for which the GIC DA is the beneficiary, the current logging activity is being done in violation of the law. In fact, logging activity in this Community Forest has been stopped for several years, because it does not appear in the list of valid titles of October 25, 2019 and therefore cannot have an Annual logging Certificate (ALC) for the year 2019. Consequently, the presumed authors of this exploitation, would have engaged in

*Standardized External Independent Monitoring System (SNOIE) is an independent forest monitoring approach ISO 9001: 2015 certified since April 2018 and implemented by the organizations FODER, PAPEL, CEDLA, ECODEV and TI-C.

an unauthorized logging in violation of the provisions of article 156¹ of law 94/01 of January 20, 1994. In the NEF located in Djabilobé village and surrounding areas, the presumed authors of illegal logging are also presumed guilty of the offense of unauthorized logging in National Estate Forest (NEF). Indeed, the geographic coordinates of the operating site recorded with the GPS and projected on the topographic map have confirmed that the NEF is the site where the sawing of timbers took place.

During the Independent Forest Monitoring (IFM) activity led by CeDLA, it was observed in the CF of GIC-DA, a large stock of wood logs bearing no marks and several unmarked timbers, stumps and logs of various species (Padouk, Tali, Pachy, Azobé, Bilinga, Dabéma, Sapelli, Bibolo...). These woods found on the site of the presumed illegal logging, could be estimated to a volume of 449.37 m³ (or 372.23 m³ of sawn timber and 77.14 m³ of unmarked logs and non-skidded timber of various species).

In the National Estate Forest (NEF) two hundred and seventy-eight (278) boards of various species including 137 pieces of EkopBeli, 116 pieces of red Doussié, 17 pieces of Pachy and 8 of Bubinga, representing a total volume of 19.46 m³ was found in a park along the Kienké river. These facts constitute an unauthorized



logging in an NEF, in violation of article 53 (1)² of law 94/01 of January 20, 1994 on the regime of wildlife forests and fishing, repressed by the article 156 (4)³ of the same law, and article 128 (6)⁴ of law 81/013 of November 27, 1981 related to the regime of wildlife, forests and fishing.

The authors of this presumed illegal logging were not identified during the investigation mission, but based on interviews with the community of Akanga's village during this mission, a company called TALIFAM arrived in the village three (03) months ago with the objective of creating a community plantation.

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1. Article 156: Is punished with a fine of 200,000 to 1,000,000 CFA francs and imprisonment from one (1) month to six (6) months or one of these penalties only. one of the following offenses (...).
 2. Article 53 (1) of Law 94/01 of January 20, 1994 on wildlife and fishing forests, which states that:
 - "The exploitation of National Estate Forest is carried out by sale of cut , by permit or by personal cutting authorization ".
 3. Article 156 (4) which stipulates that "Is punished with a fine of 200,000 to 1,000,000 CFA francs and imprisonment of one (1) month to six (6) months or one of only these penalties the perpetrator of one of the following offenses:
 - The exploitation by sale of cut in a National Estate Forest beyond the limits of the demarcated cut off base and / or the period granted, in violation of the articles 45 above without prejudice to damages and interest on the timber exploited as provided for by article 159 below ".
 4. Article 128 (6) of law _81 / 013 of November 27, 1981 which provides that:
 - "Is punished with a fine of 500,000 FCFA to 2,000,000 FCFA and imprisonment for 3 months to 2 years or 'only one of these two penalties, the one who proceeds with a fraudulent exploitation'.

A month after arriving in the village, this company began to cut-down trees in farms, where the border just begins behind people houses into the forest. Several farms were destroyed during the trees cutting-down, the passage of the machines (Bulldozers) and during the skidding. Currently, there are about twenty logs of various species (Padouk, Pachy, Azobé, Bilinga, Dabéma, Bibolo) stored in a park behind a big hill and awaiting loading.

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List of exploited species observed during this presumed illegal logging

| Type of species concerned by the presumed illegal logging | Number of observed pieces | cubing of woods |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| In the forest of the national domain | | |
| EkopBeli | 137 pieces | 19,46 m ³ |
| Doussié rouge | 116 pieces | |
| Bubinga | 8 pieces | |
| Pachy | 17 pieces | |
| In the community forest: GIC - ADA | | |
| Tali | 5 | 449,37 m ³ |
| Padouk | 06 | |
| Pachy | 03 | |
| Azobé | 03 | |
| Movingui | 01 | |
| Bilinga, | 01 | |
| Dabéma | 02 | |
| Sapelli | 01 | |
| Bibolo | 01 | |
| Onzabili K | 03 | |
| Eyong | 02 | |
| Ilomba | 01 | |
| Total volume of cubed wood | | 485,83 m³ |

Download the following forest monitoring report

https://oiecameroun.org/images/documents/rapports/014_RO-SNOIE_CeDLA_Ndjabil.pdf

All the opinions expressed in this publication are those of FODER. They do not absolutely match the point of view of donors and technical and financial partners.

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Organisation des Nations Unies
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Suède
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from the British people

Designed by: Freedefo / 672 17 22 22 / kingfotie@gmail.com



For more information on this
Briefing news please contact

Christelle KOUETCHA
Tel : 674672577 / 695576397
E-mail : christellekouetcha@gmail.com

BP. 11417 Yaoundé
Tél: 00237 242 005 248
www.oiecameroun.org
www.forest4dev.org
snoiecameroun@gmail.com

