



**NOUABALÉ**  
**NDOKI**  
NATIONAL PARK



# **NOUABALÉ-NDOKI**

## **NATIONAL PARK**

### **ANNUAL REPORT 2024**

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A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park (NNNP) plays a central role in biodiversity conservation in Central Africa. Located in the northeast of the Republic of Congo, its 4,300 km<sup>2</sup> of primary forest provide a vital refuge for exceptional wildlife, including western lowland gorillas, forest elephants, and many threatened species.

Listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site through the Sangha Trinational Landscape (STL) transboundary complex, the NNNP benefits from a rigorous management framework based on a partnership between the Republic of Congo's Ministry of Forest Economy (MEF), the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and the Nouabalé-Ndoki Foundation (NNF). This governance model reconciles the protection of biodiversity with the commitment of local communities to sustainable development.

Since its creation in 1993, NNNP has established itself as one of the most remarkable protected areas in Central Africa. It is home to an estimated 3,000 elephants, over 2,300 gorillas and 3,000 chimpanzees, as well as a rich birdlife of over 400 species. Its network of forest clearings, veritable sites of inter- and intra-species social encounters, testifies to the incredible diversity and dynamism of this unique ecosystem.

NNNP is not just about conservation. It is also a key player in local development, with initiatives in favor of education, health and the rural economy. Collaboration with local communities and economic players is essential to ensure the long-term viability of this protected area.

The challenges remain numerous: increasing pressure on natural resources, poaching on the periphery and within the park, and the impacts of climate change. However, we are proud to point out that no cases of elephant poaching have been recorded inside the park, confirming the effectiveness of the surveillance and protection strategies put in place. Thanks to a rigorous scientific approach and the involvement of all stakeholders, we are convinced that NNNP will continue to play a major role in preserving the natural heritage of the Congo Basin.

We would like to thank all our partners for their commitment and support in this essential mission for the planet. Together, we will continue our efforts to ensure that this exceptional forest remains a model of conservation and a symbol of pride for the Republic of Congo and Central Africa.

Guillaume Le Flohic  
**Management  
Unit Manager**



G LE FLOHIC



# NOUABALÉ-NDOKI NATIONAL PARK



## ABOUT THE PARK

Created in 1993, Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park is one of the most intact tropical forests in the Congo Basin. It is home to a significant population of iconic and threatened large mammals such as western lowland gorillas, chimpanzees, and forest elephants.

Located over 900 km north of Brazzaville, the capital of the Republic of Congo, the Park is a wild and remote high-integrity forest, covering more than 4,300 square kilometers. Nouabalé-Ndoki shelters remarkable biodiversity, including many rare botanical species, ancient mahogany trees, and some of the world's most heavily trafficked species, such as pangolins and grey parrots.

In 2017, an estimated 10,000 elephants and 50,000 great apes lived within the Park and its 34,000 km<sup>2</sup> periphery.

The Park borders Lobéké National Park in Cameroon and the Dzanga-Sangha Protected Areas (DSPA) in the Central African Republic, together forming the Sangha Trinational Landscape (STL)—a 25,000 km<sup>2</sup> UNESCO World Heritage Site dedicated to wildlife conservation, home to at least 116 mammal species and 429 bird species.

The people living near the Park are the primary beneficiaries of the positive impacts of conservation.



In terms of access to education, healthcare, and stable employment, the Park plays a vital role for nearby communities. A significant number of residents from the neighboring villages of Bomassa and Makao are employed by the Park as guides, trackers, research assistants, eco-guards, drivers, accountants, and more.

These communities were instrumental in the research and mapping efforts that led to the Park's creation in 1993. Their involvement in conservation from the very beginning has been passed down from generation to generation—along with the deep ecological knowledge that Indigenous peoples continue to transmit from parent to child.

This unique expertise has made it possible to establish permanent research sites deep within the forest. At Mondika, Mbéli Bai, and Goualougo, scientists have been collecting long-term data on the ecology and behavior of key species for over 20 years.

These research sites have trained dozens of Congolese and international researchers and have contributed to major scientific advances in our understanding of forest wildlife, while also laying the foundation for world-class tourism experiences.

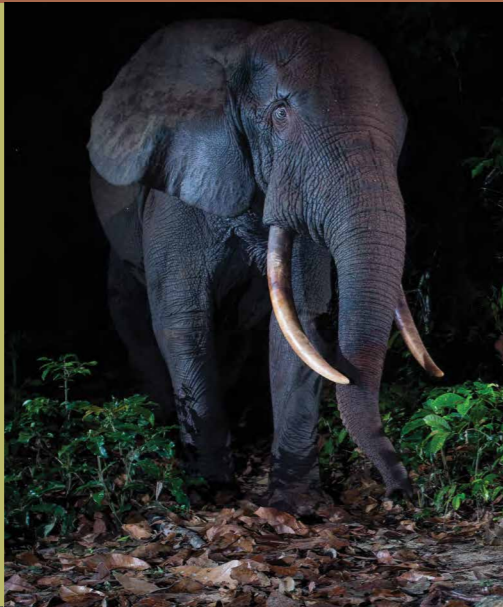
The habituation of four groups of western lowland gorillas and one community of chimpanzees to the presence of humans has allowed us to observe these primates closely—offering rare insight into behaviors that are still largely unknown.

The Park's long-term commitment to science and wildlife, rooted in strong community partnerships, is the best guarantee for a sustainable future—for this exceptional ecosystem and the people who call it home.

# THE HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024

## 1<sup>ST</sup> INTEGRITY SITE IN THE WORLD

On June 26, 2024, Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park becomes the first site in the world to be recognized for its ecological integrity according to the Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA) criteria.



## 0 POACHED ELEPHANT

Zero elephant poaching in the park for the second consecutive year. This result was achieved thanks to strategic investments in anti-poaching infrastructure, equipment and eco-guard training over many years.



## 34,000 km<sup>2</sup> SURVEY

The Ndoki-Likouala survey (34,000 km<sup>2</sup>) has been completed. A preliminary analysis showed that great ape densities and ungulate populations declined significantly in areas without conservation interventions, but that declines in elephant, great ape, and ungulate populations were less pronounced in the NNNP and its periphery.



## 1 GOLD MEDAL

The Congo stand, organized by the Ministry of Tourism (MICTAL), received the Gold Medal for International Tourism following the participation of the Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park (NNNP) in the ITB Berlin and Mondial du Tourisme Paris trade shows—significantly boosting its global visibility.



## over 100 PROTECTED PLOTS

The Bomassa electric fence protects 10 hectares and 109 plots, reducing human-elephant conflicts and improving the environment, food security for local farmers.



# COMMUNITY CONSERVATION

- Improved access to healthcare with the recruitment of a nurse in Bomassa and an ENT assistant in Makao.
- 451 hunters trained in responsible wildlife management and sustainable hunting principles.
- Extension of the Bomassa electric fence to 10 hectares, now protecting 109 agricultural plots.
- 1,649 people informed about good practices for coexisting with wildlife.
- 8,503 participants in meetings facilitating collective decision-making and the integration of local communities in park management.
- 428 copies of the illustrated book LIBOTA NA BAĬ distributed to students.

In 2024, the Community Development team (CoDev) reinforced its commitment to local populations by making significant progress in improving both access to and the quality of healthcare. In collaboration with the health departments, we strengthened our medical staffing: a qualified nurse joined the Bomassa health center and a head and neck surgeon was recruited for the Makao health center.

The Human-Elephant Coexistence (HEC) program also continued to expand in an effort to reduce human-wildlife conflict. The electric fence in Bomassa, now extended to 10 hectares, protects 109 agricultural plots, helping safeguard crops such as cassava, plantain, maize, peanuts, and vegetables. A 20-hectare extension is planned for Kabo in 2025. In parallel, 1,649 people were trained in best practices for coexisting with wildlife.

While these efforts have already shown encouraging results, continued collaboration with our partners is essential. Together, we must pursue innovative and sustainable solutions that promote responsible agriculture, strengthen ethical value chains, and contribute to the preservation of biodiversity—a challenge that calls for collective action.

The year was also marked by a strong emphasis on capacity building, with 73 training courses organized, totaling 24,140 person-hours. These sessions covered a broad range of topics—from literacy to natural resource management—benefiting both local communities and selected WCS staff.



## SUBSIDIES FOR 207 MICRO-BUSINESSES

In 2024, 191 micro-enterprises were supported, benefiting 569 households (79% Bantu, 21% Indigenous). The Village Development Fund reached FCFA 9.4 million in Bomassa and FCFA 3 million in Makao.

The funded income-generating activities (IGAs) included animal husbandry, small-scale commerce, agriculture, and pastry-making. In parallel, 40 livestock farmers received training in animal health, and 12 community agents were officially certified. These initiatives aim to strengthen the economic autonomy and food security of local communities.



## ACCESS TO CARE

### Free Medical Consultations

**1,818** patients visited the **Bomassa** health center

**1,696** patients visited the **Makao** health center

### Vaccination

**319 children (0–5 years)** vaccinated

**54 pregnant** women and nursing mothers **immunized**

Vaccines administered against: tuberculosis, tetanus, measles, varicella, rubella, diphtheria, poliomyelitis, and yellow fever

### Strengthening Health Infrastructure

Upgrade of Bomassa and Makao health centers into Integrated Health Centers

### Staff Reinforcement

1 qualified nurse assigned to Bomassa

1 ENT assistant recruited for Makao

1 qualified midwife replacing the former nursery nurse in Bomassa

1 maternal and child health officer assigned to Makao

### Community Awareness Activities

Sensitization campaigns on:

Zoonoses

Resurgence of MPOX

Infant vaccination

Family planning

Feminine hygiene

### Logistical and Financial Support

Regular supplies delivered to the Bomassa community pharmacy

3 community health relays (CHR) trained for zoonotic disease surveillance



## EDUCATION

### 502 pupils supported in Bomassa and Makao:

Bomassa: **173** pupils enrolled

Makao: **329** pupils enrolled

Success rates in 2023–2024 end-of-year exams:

Bomassa: **127 students** passed out of 173 → 73% pass rate

Makao: **291 students** passed out of 329 → 88% pass rate

Strengthening teaching staff:

**3 new teachers** assigned to Makao elementary school, **bringing** the total **to 6**

Financial support & scholarships:

**16 pupils** and students received financial aid to pursue secondary or higher education outside their home village

Access to learning materials:

**428** illustrated copies of the **book LIBOTA NA BAĬ** distributed to students



## WATER AND HYGIENE

• **Water supply system completed** at the Makao base, ensuring a stable and reliable water source

• **Rehabilitation of sanitary** facilities, including latrines and showers for both staff and visitors

• Hygiene **awareness campaigns** conducted for employees and neighboring communities

• **Feasibility studies underway** for the installation of **new water** points in Makao and Bomassa

# BIODIVERSITY RESEARCH & MONITORING

- Completion of the 4th wildlife inventory of the Ndoki-Likouala survey, covering 34,000 km<sup>2</sup>
- Construction of the Bomassa research laboratory finalized
- Progress in the habituation of a third group of gorillas: 342 days of monitoring, 876 hours of direct contact
- Special edition of the journal Primates published, celebrating 25 years of primate research at the NNNP
- 9 scientific publications and 8 research collaborations achieved in 2024



## ECOLOGICAL MONITORING: END OF FOURTH SURVEY

Data collection for the fourth iteration of the Ndoki-Likouala survey was completed in April 2024. An area of 34,000 km<sup>2</sup> in northern Congo was covered for this large-scale wildlife transect survey, which provides wildlife population estimates for this important landscape. The research team is now in the process of cleaning and analyzing the transect and camera trap data. Preliminary results suggest that the park continues to represent an important refuge for elephant and great ape populations in the landscape.



## SCIENTIFIC RECOGNITION: 25 YEARS OF PRIMATE RESEARCH

The scientific journal ‘Primates’ has published a series of 8 scientific articles in a special issue entitled “25 years of primate research in the Ndoki forest, Republic of Congo”. The series highlights the quality and continuity of the research efforts carried out at Mbeli, Goualougo and Mondika and their contribution to the conservation of Great Apes.

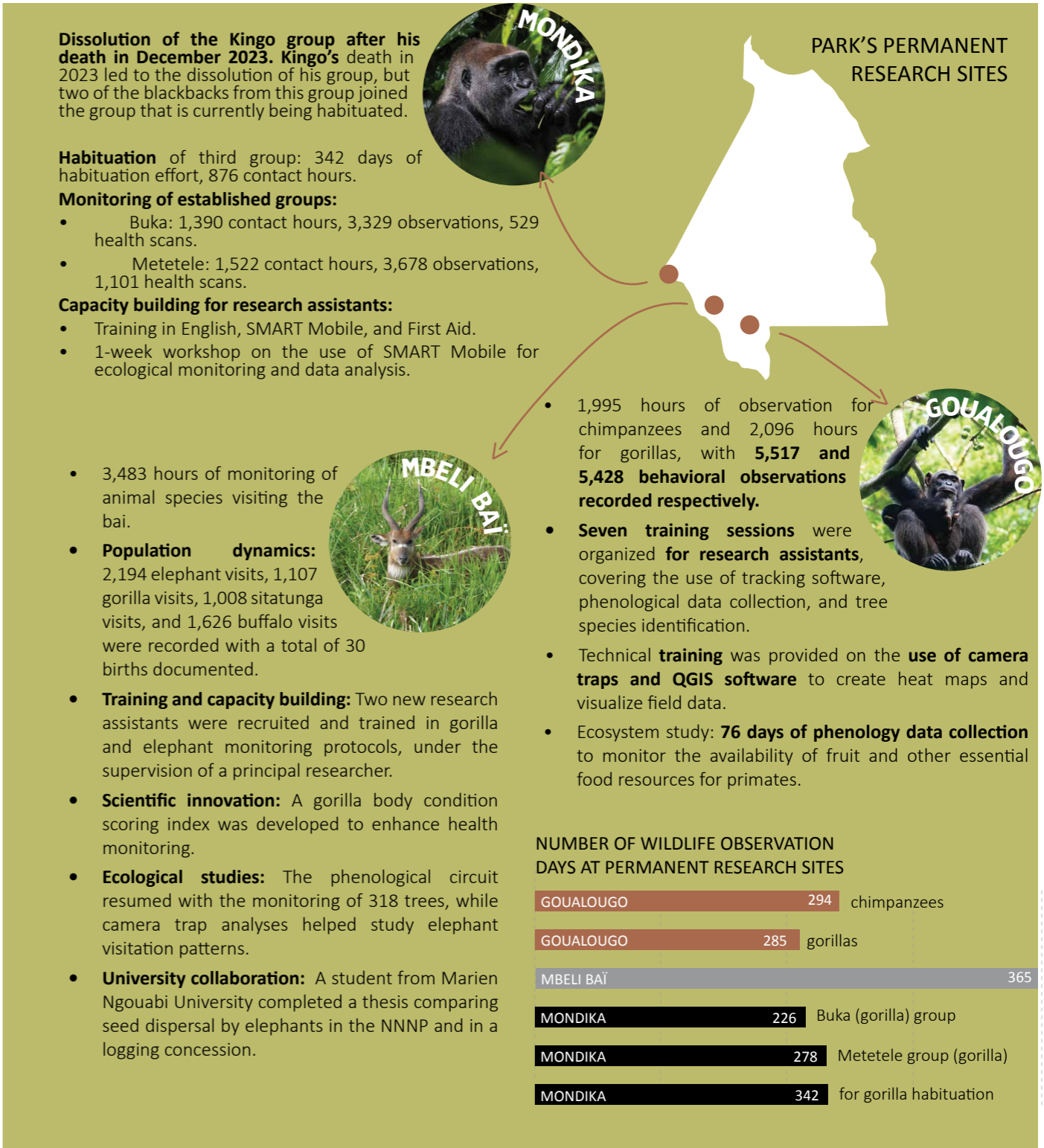


## SCIENTIFIC INFRASTRUCTURE: AN OPERATIONAL LABORATORY IN BOMASSA

Construction of the new Bomassa laboratory has been completed. It is now used to store genetic and pathological samples from the research sites before they are exported for analysis. In June 2024, a former research assistant from Goualougo was recruited as laboratory assistant, bringing his expertise on a daily basis. Once fully equipped, the laboratory will play a key role in the rapid diagnosis of diseases such as Ebola and anthrax, while helping to prevent the transmission of human diseases to habituated gorillas.

## BIOACOUSTICS PROJECT

- Elephant vocalizations: Continuous recording over 1,250 km<sup>2</sup>, analyzing activity and movements.
- Scope of network: 55 units deployed in the south and in three baïs in the north of the park.
- Monitoring Mokélé Baï: Acoustic monitoring to assess the impact of tourism.
- Threat detection: Human activity identified, but no gunshots reported.
- Training: 10-day workshop to strengthen regional expertise in bioacoustics.





[GREAT APE SURVEYS AND THE IMPLICATIONS OF LONG-TERM MONITORING IN THE DJÉKÉ TRIANGLE, REPUBLIC OF CONGO.](#)

OCTOBER 2024

The study analyzes the first systematic inventory of gorilla and chimpanzee nests in the Djéké Triangle, a 100 km<sup>2</sup> continuous forest adjacent to the Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park (NNNP). The repeated survey design showed significant changes in the density of both species between two two-year survey intervals, indicating that both populations remained stable. This monitoring of ape abundance feeds into ongoing behavioral studies, land management decision-making, ape tourism and certification standards.



[EARLY DETECTION OF HUMAN IMPACTS USING ACOUSTIC MONITORING: AN EXAMPLE WITH FOREST ELEPHANTS.](#)

JULY 2024

The impact of human activity on wildlife is often detected late by conventional methods. Passive acoustic monitoring offers a faster approach by directly analyzing behavior. This study assessed how forest elephants (*Loxodonta cyclotis*) react to different levels of human activity by measuring elephant acoustic activity. Elephants appeared to perceive logging as a relatively moderate risk, while risk avoidance persisted in areas where access to poachers was relatively easy. These results demonstrate that passive acoustic monitoring can be a powerful tool for measuring the impacts of human activities at an early stage.



[SEASONAL VARIATION AND GROUP SIZE EFFECTS IN PUTTY-NOSED MONKEYS HETEROSPECIFIC ASSOCIATIONS IN THE NOUABALÉ-NDOKI NATIONAL PARK](#)

SEPTEMBER 2024

Primates form interspecific associations to optimize protection and access to resources. This study monitored 20 groups of putty-nosed monkeys (*Cercopithecus nictitans*) over 37 months in the Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park. Among five associated species, grey-cheeked mangabeys (*Lophocebus albigena*) and crowned cercopithecines (*Cercopithecus pogonias*) were most frequent partners. Large groups of *C. nictitans* were more often associated with these two primate species during the main dry season, which is a period of increased vulnerability. These results suggest that associations of different primate species offer important protection against predators.



[A BRIEF HISTORY OF PRIMATE RESEARCH IN THE NDOKI FOREST.](#)

OCTOBER 2024

Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park (NNNP) has established itself as a model of conservation in Central Africa. This publication traces the arrival of primatologists, the establishment of research stations and advances in primate ecology and behavior. The integration of advanced technologies and analyses has strengthened research and trained a new generation of Congolese conservationists. This work has influenced protection policies, integrating the Goulougo and Djéké forests into the NNNP. Long-term conservation will also depend heavily on collaboration with local communities.



[DIFFERENCES BETWEEN POPULATIONS IN THE CALL SEQUENCE OF SPOT-NOSED MONKEYS \(CERCOPITHECUS NICITANS\)](#)

SEPTEMBER 2024

Non-human primates have limited vocal flexibility, but they structure their calls into variable sequences. This study analyzes the vocal sequences of the spot-nosed monkey (*Cercopithecus nictitans*) in three populations from : Gashaka (Nigeria), Nouabalé-Ndoki (Congo), and Taï (Côte d'Ivoire). In response to leopards, males from all three sites produce similar patterns, beginning with "pyows" and "keks." However, in response to crowned eagles, males from Nouabalé-Ndoki consistently start with "pyows," unlike the other populations. These variations offer new insights into the evolution of animal vocalizations.



[CHIMPANZEES EMPLOY CONTEXT-SPECIFIC BEHAVIORAL STRATEGIES WITHIN FISSION-FUSION SOCIETIES](#)

OCTOBER 2024

Chimpanzees in the Ndoki forests adapt their social interactions according to the types of food available to them. A six-year analysis reveals that their associations differ depending on whether they are feeding on figs or exploiting termite mounds. Social relations are more complex in the latter case, favoring cultural transmission and tool learning. This flexibility in the construction of social niches offers functional advantages and sheds light on the evolution of social behavior. The study suggests that these dynamics need to be taken into account in conservation strategies and the management of chimpanzees in captivity.



[SOCIOECOLOGICAL FACTORS INFLUENCING INTRASPECIFIC VARIATION IN RANGING DYNAMICS OF WESTERN LOWLAND GORILLAS](#)

FEBRUARY 2023

This study analyzes how resource seasonality and social dynamics influence territory size and use among western lowland gorillas in the Republic of Congo. Over eight years, the results show that these gorillas can have territories as small as those of mountain gorillas, and that their use of space is stable.



[LONG-TERM OBSERVATIONS IN THE NDOKI FOREST RESOLVE ENDURING QUESTIONS ABOUT TRUFFLE FORAGING BY WESTERN LOWLAND GORILLAS](#)

SEPTEMBER 2024

This study combines traditional and molecular analysis to elucidate the “ground scratching” behavior of Western lowland gorillas of the Congo. A study of four groups over a decade revealed that this behavior is used to unearth a species of truffle (*Elaphomyces labyrinthinus*). Scratching intensity varied between

groups, suggesting social influences in addition to truffle availability. For example, a female who changed groups adopted the scratching frequency of her new group. These results have led to changes in tourism infrastructure projects to preserve this cultural behavior.



[TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF PRIMATE RESEARCH IN THE NDOKI FOREST, REPUBLIC OF CONGO](#)

OCTOBER 2024

Over the past 25 years, primatological research in the Ndoki forest has deepened our understanding of great ape behavior, evolution and conservation. Early studies led to the establishment of three research stations - Mbeli, Goulougo and Mondika - which have become centers of study and drivers of conservation. Their discoveries influenced policy, contributing to the creation of the Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park and its integration into the UNESCO World Heritage site of Sangha Tri-National. Among the key discoveries, the study of individual primates, including the famous silverback Kingo Ya Bole, revealed complex social structures and behavioral adaptations. Kingo, an iconic figure, unwittingly advanced scientific knowledge and conservation awareness. His legacy lives on through ongoing research and conservation efforts aimed at protecting the region’s biodiversity and training a new generation of primatologists.

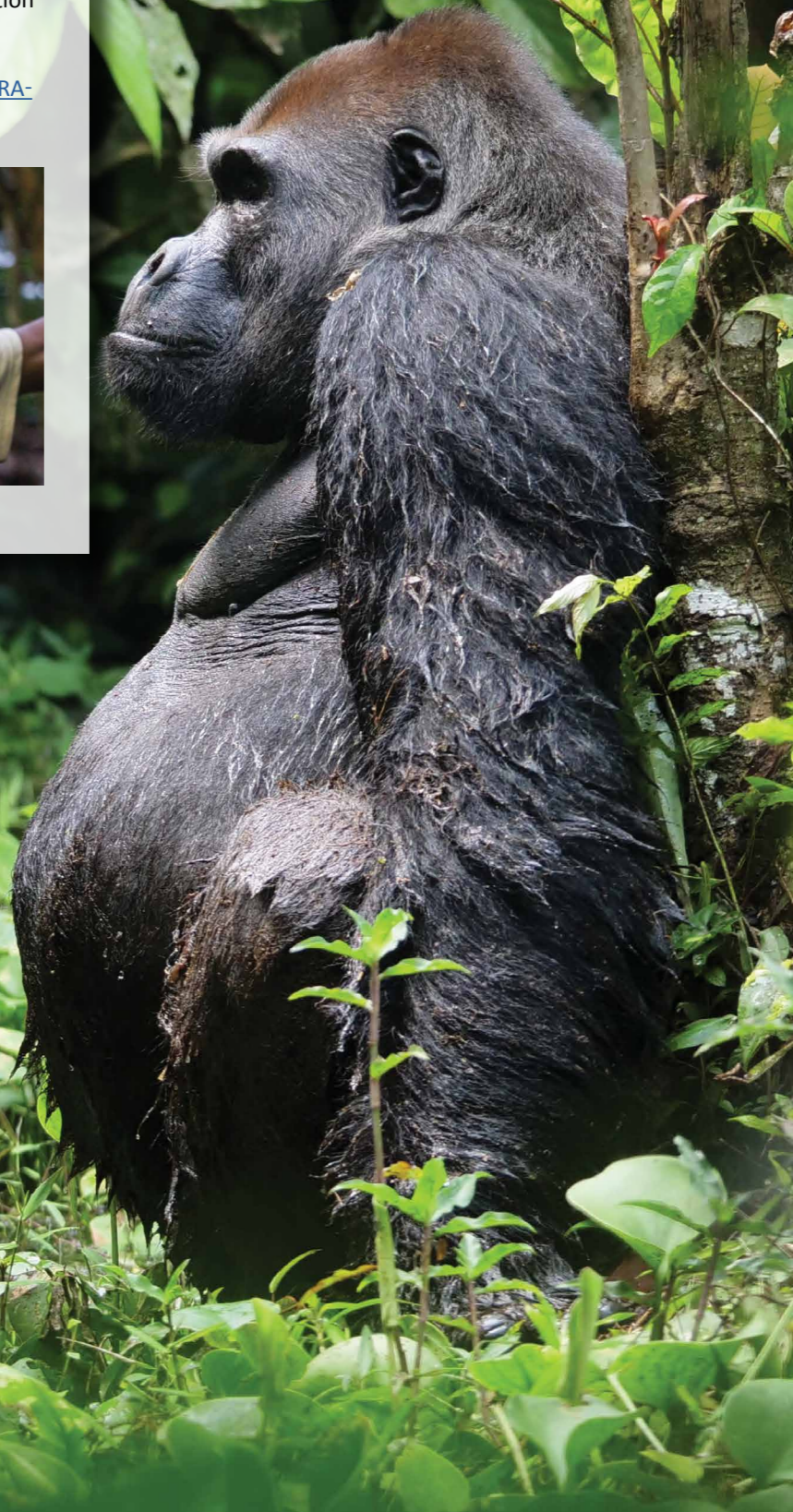


For the first time in the history of Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park, a research assistant from the park’s Indigenous communities is the lead author of a scientific publication titled:

[LONG-TERM OBSERVATIONS IN THE NDOKI FOREST RESOLVE ENDURING QUESTIONS ABOUT TRUFFLE FORAGING BY WESTERN LOWLAND GORILLAS](#)



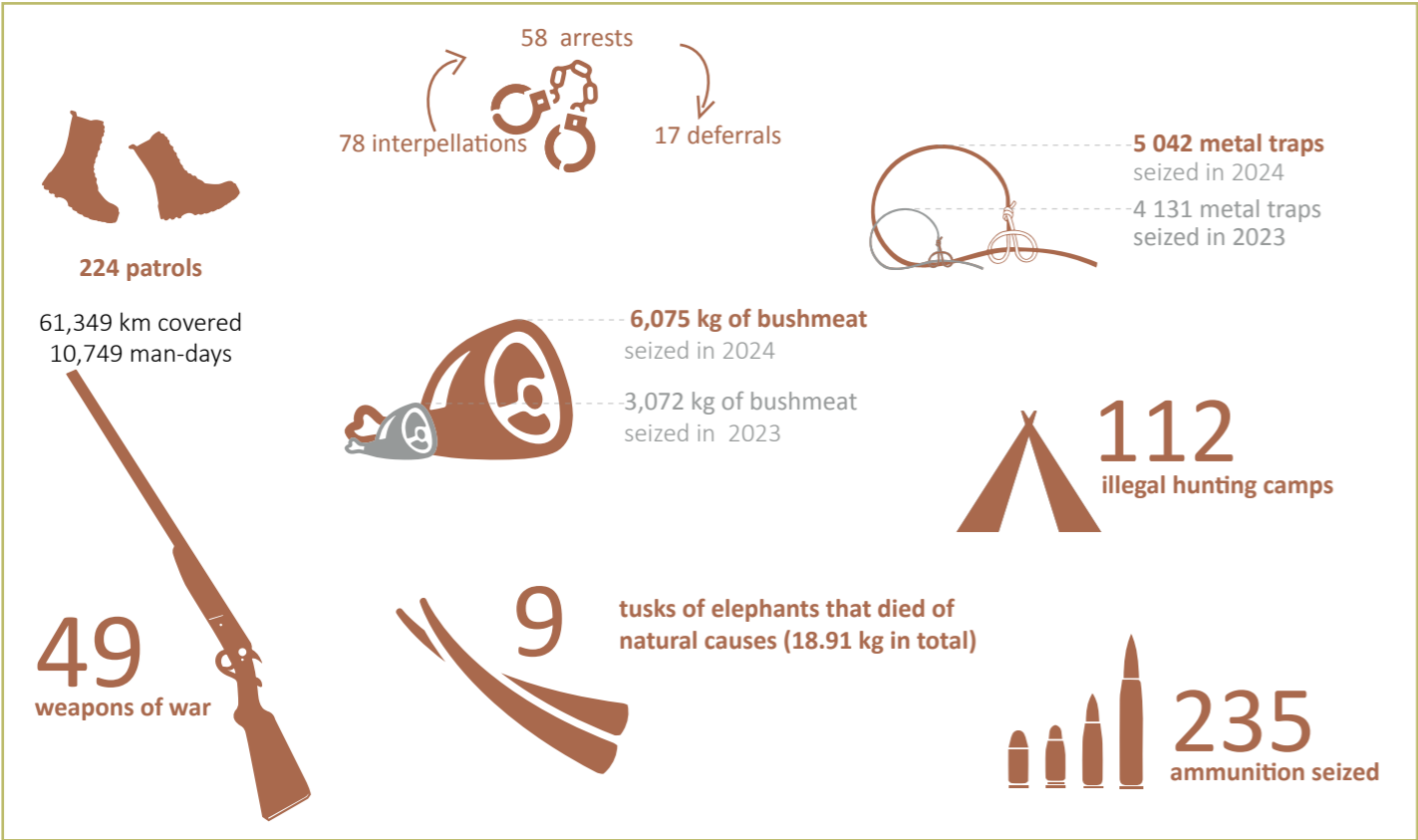
Gaston Abéa



# ANTI-POACHING

- Zero Elephant Poaching: For the second consecutive year, no cases of elephant poaching were reported in the park.
- Consolidation of law enforcement offices to improve operational efficiency
- The EarthRanger software is being used effectively to guide law enforcement patrols.

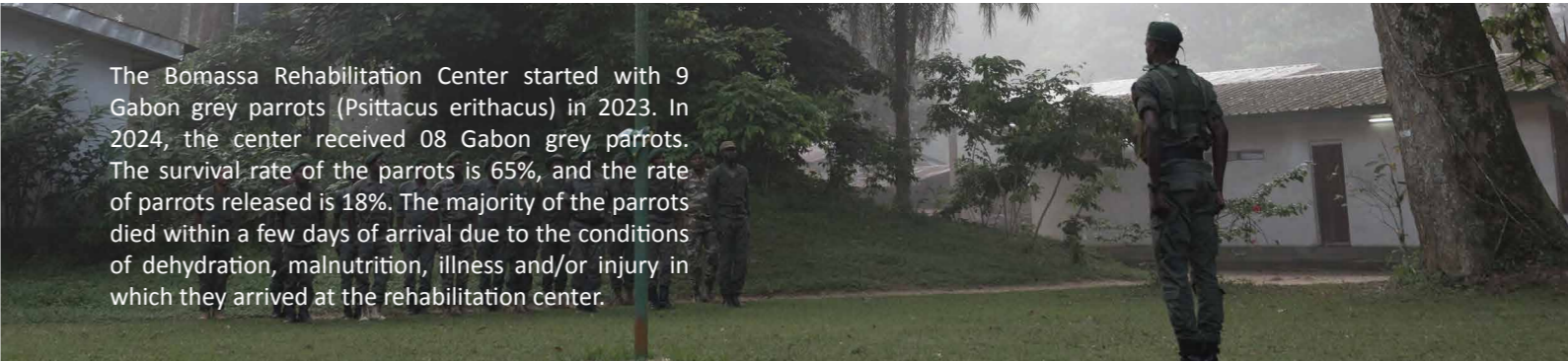
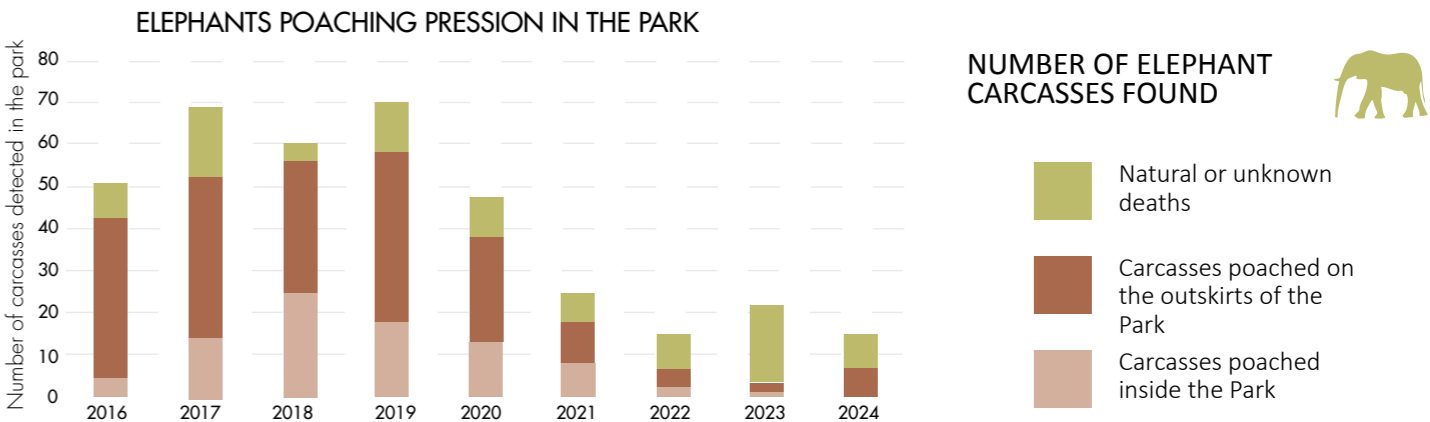
## ANTI-POACHING CAMPAIGN IN FIGURES



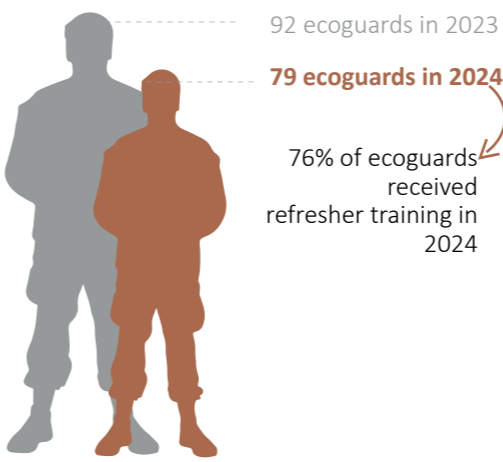
Elephant poaching in the park remains at zero. The team succeeded in keeping elephant poaching within the park at zero in 2024 too- no incidents of elephant poaching within the park's borders were recorded. This conservation success comes after almost a decade of concerted efforts to protect forest elephants from poaching. However, the number of carcasses found on the park's periphery increased in 2024. Ecoguards found 8 poached elephants in the Park's periphery, more than in 2023 (2) and 2022 (5). The law enforcement is currently analyzing the data in order to better understand the possible reasons for this increase, and

develop a strategic landscape approach that will take into account the whole of northern Congo.

The law enforcement offices have been relocated to different areas of Park HQ, bringing together all law enforcement personnel in a single building. The new premises offer ample space for a specialized control room, equipment storage and a preparatory meeting room. The move will improve operational efficiency by enhancing coordination and communication between staff members.



The Bomassa Rehabilitation Center started with 9 Gabon grey parrots (*Psittacus erithacus*) in 2023. In 2024, the center received 08 Gabon grey parrots. The survival rate of the parrots is 65%, and the rate of parrots released is 18%. The majority of the parrots died within a few days of arrival due to the conditions of dehydration, malnutrition, illness and/or injury in which they arrived at the rehabilitation center.



The EarthRanger software is being used to guide law enforcement patrols. Introduced last year, EarthRanger (ER) is now routinely used in protected area management and provides real-time updates on patrol locations and arrests.

The system has significantly reduced communication time between patrol teams and control room staff for the transmission and reception of information regarding poaching threats and other emergencies.

Park management and senior law enforcement staff have recognized the benefits of this technology in enhancing decision-making. Additionally, more NNNP staff members have been trained in the use of both the web and mobile versions of the EarthRanger application.

## SUPPORT TOOLS AND FUNCTIONING

24/7 functional control room for enhanced monitoring and decision-making.

- EarthRanger fully operational, 29 agents trained on the mobile application, 11 on the online version.
  - Fiber optic Internet connection installed in February, improving data transmission.
  - Consolidation of anti-poaching offices
- Better coordination and efficiency of interventions.

## INVESTIGATION, JUSTICE AND ANTI-TRAFFICKING

- 28 poaching networks monitored, including 9 new ones in 2024.
- Targeted trafficking: 61% elephants, worrying rise in poaching of great apes.
- 38 alerts transmitted to field teams via a secure messaging network.
- Major operations: Arrest of an ivory trafficker and dismantling a great ape trafficking network.



# SUPPORT SERVICES

- The Park contributes to community well-being by employing 212 people, and welcomed 18 new employees in 2024.
- Over 80% of the Park's infrastructure is in good condition, thanks to the complete renovation of bases, research sites and satellite camps in and around the Park.



## LOGISTICS

- **1,680** road and river movements.
- **112** technical inspections of Park vehicles.
- **561** orders processed for equipment, supplies and food
- **457** food deliveries made.



## HUMAN RESOURCES

- **73 training** courses completed.
- **24,140 person-hours** of training.
- **06 new employees** recruited.
- **06 first-aid training.**
- **08 English-language training** sessions for a total of 81 days.
- **1,209 staff medical consultations** carried out.
- **38 people** trained in first aid.

### Highlights

- Continued staff training and development, with a focus on technical skills, management, safety and the use of digital tools.
- Improved medical support for employees, with the relaunch of the recognition of procedure for the Bomassa Medical and Social Centre (MSC) and the introduction of preventive health check-ups for daily workers.
- Structuring and improving internal procedures, in particular to ensure administrative compliance and optimize the management of short-term contracts and services.



## GOVERNANCE

- Board of Directors: Two sessions held in February and September 2024 to validate the Annual Work and Budget Plan (AWBP) and approve the new Director of the NNNP.
- Regional Coordination: Participation in meetings of the STL Conservators' Collective to strengthen transboundary cooperation.
- Financial Transparency: 12 financial reports produced and an external audit conducted in October 2024.



## INFRASTRUCTURE

### Infrastructure maintenance:

- Ongoing maintenance of the Bomassa and Makao bases.
- Installation of solar-powered water system, improving self-sufficiency.
- Wifi installation in progress.
- 100% water circuit installation at Makao completed.
- 90% of the work to refurbish the ecological center realized.
- 100% completion of logistics offices.
- 90% of the base's office functional.

### Capacity building for logistics personnel :


- Two training courses organized: finance, logistics and standardized tools.
- Training drivers and mechanics in defensive driving.
- Training with Bioforce on managing the logistics of a humanitarian project.
- Recruitment of local young people for construction work.




## FINANCE


- Regular inventories (daily, weekly, monthly) and reconciliations with the accounting system are conducted to ensure the accuracy of financial data.
- Internal control measures, such as surprise inventories, have been implemented since 2020 to minimize the risk of incidents.
- Twelve financial reports were produced, including monthly, quarterly, semi-annual, and annual reports, meeting the requirements of donors and stakeholders.
- These reports are submitted to the park management, donors, and other stakeholders to ensure financial transparency and sound management.

Seven press releases were published on major events related to the NNNP, such as:

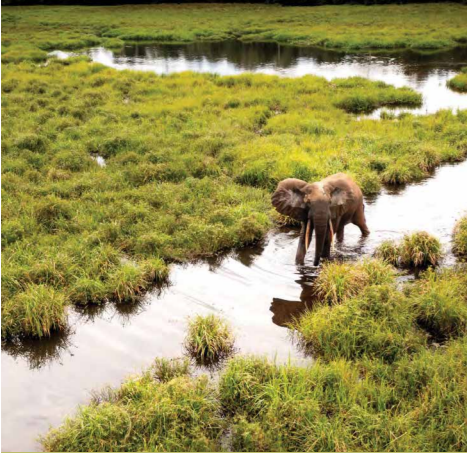



One of the World's Most Iconic Lowland Gorillas, Kingo, of the Republic of Congo, Has Died of Old Age






Pioneering Public-Private Collaboration Celebrates 25 Years of Biodiversity Conservation in the Republic of Congo





Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park becomes the first site in the world to be recognized for its ecological integrity



- Articles and Media Coverage: Media coverage by international platforms such as Le Monde, Mongabay, GEO, and IFL Science. We also hosted content creators from TF1 and Canal+, with over 20 publications across various media outlets, including national press.
- Monthly newsletters: 11 newsletters produced to keep partners and subscribers informed of the park's progress and projects. A subscription link is now available for those who wish to receive it.
- Launch of the [www.ndoki.org](http://www.ndoki.org) website.
- Digital presence and engagement on social networks: Our Facebook community has grown, with a +25% increase in followers.



[www.ndoki.org](http://www.ndoki.org)

In 2024, the Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park strengthened its appeal by further developing sustainable, structured tourism. Thanks to an updated tourism strategy, private partnerships, enhanced international visibility and local capacity building, the park aims to position itself as a flagship destination in Central Africa, combining conservation and economic development.

• Visitor numbers and accessibility

132 tourists and 182 WCS visitors explored the park, confirming its appeal

358 Sangha Trinational Landscape tourist badges were issued to tourists traveling from the Congo to the Dzanga-Sangha protected areas (DSPA) in the Central African Republic (CAR). Camp Ngolio, a community-based tourism project in Bomassa, has reached a new milestone with the securing of its financing.

Plans for the camp and bungalows have been finalized, and community consultations will continue into 2025 to ensure local governance.

• Capacity building and development

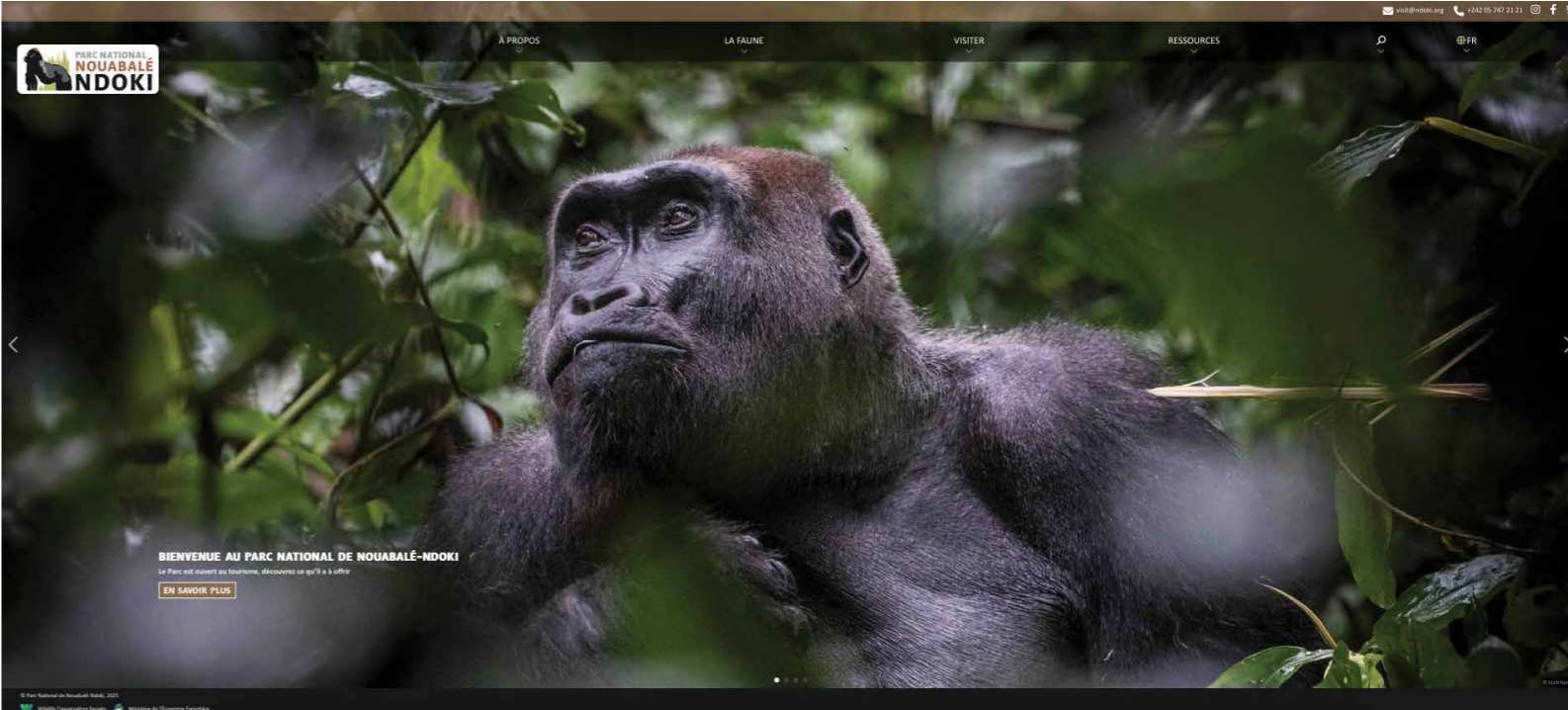
Finalization of the tourism strategy in September 2024, defining guidelines for the next decade.

35 training courses in hospitality, literacy, English, tracking, guiding and first aid were organized, mainly for local communities and indigenous peoples.

• Visibility and recognition

Participation in the ITB Berlin and Mondial du Tourisme trade fairs in Paris, marking the return of the Congo after 14 years.

Gold Medal of International Tourism, awarded in June 2024 in recognition of the efforts of the Ministry of Tourism (Ministry of Cultural Industry, Tourism, Arts and Leisure) and the Congolese stand.





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Gwen Dubourthoumieu

# THANK YOU

The conservation of Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park and its surrounding area is the result of the work of multiple partners, with the crucial support of our donors, including :

- Agence Française de Développement
- Arcus Foundation
- Bezos Earth Fund
- Birdlife International
- Cologne Zoo
- Columbus Zoo
- Cornell University
- Dutch Gorilla Foundation
- Elephant Crisis Fund
- European Union
- Global Earth Fund
- Global Environment Facility
- Harvey Bookman Foundation
- JRS Biodiversity Foundation
- Lincoln Park Zoo
- Rainforest Trust
- Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors
- Rotterdam Zoo
- Saint Louis Zoo
- Sangha Trinational Foundation
- United Kingdom Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
- United Kingdom Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office
- United Nations Environment Programme
- United States Agency for International Development
- United States Department of State - Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- United States National Institutes of Health University of Miami
- Washington University
- WildCat Foundation
- Zoo Berlin

