



FONDATION
POUR LE
TRI-NATIONAL
DELTA
SANGHA



SUPPORT TO THE SANGHA TRI-NATIONAL COOPERATION FOR
THE PRESERVATION AND PROSPERITY OF PEOPLE

ANNUAL REPORT

2017



KFW



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FONDATION
POUR LE
TRI-NATIONAL
DE LA
SANGHA

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Fondation pour le Trinational de la Sangha-FTNS

WORD FROM THE BOARD CHAIR PERSON



Mr. Samuel MAKON
FTNS Board of Director's
Chairperson

From January 1st to December 31st 2017, the report may take a long time to develop, so varying and numerous are the actions! What then is worth remembering among the multitude of projects implemented in the transboundary TNS complex ?

FTNS can legitimately be proud of the battles fought through these projects, alone or in collaboration with other actors of the civil society. She believes that she has contributed to the conservation of forest biodiversity in Cameroon, in the Central African Republic and in the Republic Congo, trying to improve on the fate of elephants and great apes among the very rich Sangha Tri-National wildlife facing threats by human actions. We will keep in mind the important mobilization made for the conservation and sustainable management of forest ecosystems in the Congo Basin, the fight against poaching and the indiscriminate exploitation of timber resources, but also the considerable efforts of the international community in favor of FTNS, in particular those of the German cooperation which, through the KFW, put at the disposal of our trust fund an endowment of 30 million euros at the end of the year 2017 of which

25 million as additional contribution to FTNS' capital and 5 million for the direct financing of the field activities of TNS' CAR and Congo segments.

However, FTNS is also aware that more than 50% of large mammals have disappeared in the TNS within 20 years, that the current fate of elephants is critical, that the forest complex UNESCO heritage of about 4.4 million hectares, is threatened, that the populations of elephants and great apes are the subject of intense poaching, that the indigenous peoples of the TNS express an enormous need of our support for their development, in short, there is still a lot for us to accomplish.

We remain mobilized, to the rescue of the natural environments and the species which populate them, with the public authorities, so that the ecological transition of which one speaks so much, is not a vain fantasy; to companies so that their supplies, their production processes are more respectful of nature; with the people who live in and around these protected areas so that we always show our refusal of the destruction of our planet.

That is why FTNS remains hopeful, because the future it wants

to create with other stakeholders, is not that of fear and renunciation but that of responsibility and harmony with nature, innovation and resource mobilization. If the challenges to be met are immense and may cause concern, there is also room to look at the progress that is being made. The ecological transformation of our societies is an opportunity, a chance to deploy new talents, to develop new activities compatible with a more rational use of forest lands. Taking care of nature also means caring for human beings and thus offering a more desirable future.

This activity report once again fills me with a sense of urgency in trying to save what can still be, but it also gives me hope to see the changes to come and live the happiness of building together.

Lets move forward!

WORD FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE INVESTMENT COMMITTEE



M. Emmanuel FOURMANN
Chairman of the Investment
Committee

The year 2017, represented financial wise, an important and remarkable milestone for FTNS, marked by a near doubling of its financial capital following a contribution of 25 M € from the German cooperation and a record yield of the invested portfolio, the best financial performance since the creation of the Foundation in 2007. These two developments are encouraging for FTNS to ensure its significant and sustainable contribution towards funding conservation in the three parks of the Sangha Tri-National, in support to the efforts of its three member countries, Cameroon, the Central African Republic and Congo.

In particular, capital growth has been driven by continuous improvement in administrative and financial management. The Trust Fund now has an operational investment policy, a fully functional investment committee, a financial advisor and a effective asset manager. And in the end, the good performance of 2017, while also reflecting the favorable evolution of the financial markets, is above all the result of a gradual and resolute construction of an efficient

and diversified investment policy, taking full advantage of opportunities while taking measured risks.

With a capital exceeding € 50m, FTNS is now a reference financial institution that can act regularly and significantly to finance the national parks of the area. In addition to the national financing and project aid available to finance certain investments, FTNS is now able to ensure part of the operation of the three parks. Thus, in 2017, the Foundation was able to sign agreements with the Lobéké National Park in Cameroon, the Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park in Congo and the Dzanga Sangha Protected Areas in CAR for a total amount of 1.9 billion CFA francs, ie equivalent to € 2.9 million.

For the future, the challenges are to consolidate the gains on the financial counters and nature conservation aspects. There is a need to continue to improve the quality of FTNS' management, the relationship with park managers and the monitoring of their field results, be it wildlife protection, the development of local communities, fight against poaching,

or the hosting of researchers and tourists. This quest of excellence in all areas is an indispensable step to deserve the trust of the people, the TNS states, the current and future donors of the Foundation, but also an obvious obligation towards future generations.

The virtuous dynamic must therefore be maintained at the service of FTNS' missions and a strategic vision of "a just world that values and conserves nature". The investment committee will continue in 2018 to play its role in the best interests of the Foundation, by reviewing the investment policy and proposing levels of capital levies compatible with its development.

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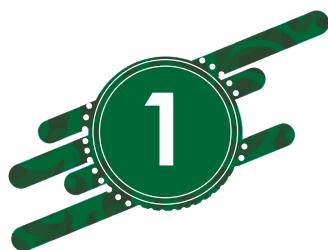
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List of Abbreviations & acronyms

AFD	FRENCH DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
APDS	DZANGA SANGHA PROTECTED AREAS
EO	EXECUTIF OFFICE
BLAB	TRI-NATIONAL ANTI-POACHING BRIGADE
BD	BOARD OF DIRECTORS
CAFE	CONSORTIUM OF AFRICAN FUNDS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT
CAWHFI	CENTRAL AFRICA WOLD HERITAGE INITIATIVE
COMIFAC	CENTRAL AFRICA FOREST COMMISION
CTPE	COMITÉ TRI-NATIONAL DE PLANIFICATION ET D'EXÉCUTION
CTS	COMITÉ TRI-NATIONAL DE SUIVI
CTSA	COMITÉ TRI-NATIONAL DE SUPERVISION ET D'ARBITRAGE
FNN	NOUABALE NDOKI FOUNDATION
FTNS	SANGHA TRI-NATIONAL TRUST FUND
KFW	GERMAN FINANCIAL COOPERATION
LAB	ANTI-POACHING EFFORT
MINFOF	MINISTRY OF FORESTRY & WILDLIFE
MEFCP	MINISTÈRE DES EAUX, FORÊT, CHASSE ET PÊCHE (RÉPUBLIQUE CENTRA- FRICAINE)
MOU	MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
PEA	PERMIS D'EXPLOITATION ET D'AMÉNAGEMENT
PNL	LOBEKE NATIONAL PARK
PNNN	NOUABALÉ NDOKI NATIONAL PARK
SINFOCAM	SOCIÉTÉ INDUSTRIELLE DES FORÊTS CENTRAFRICAINES ET D'AMÉNAGE- MENT
STBC	SOCIÉTÉ DE TRANSFORMATION DE BOIS EN AFRIQUE CENTRALE
TNS	SANGHA TRINATIONAL
UFA	UNITÉ FORESTIÈRE D'AMÉNAGEMENT
ULAB	UNITÉ DE LUTTE ANTI-BRACONNAGE
WWF	WORLD WILD LIFE FUND
WCS	WILD LIFE CONSERVATION SOCIETY



WHO ARE WE?



The Sangha Tri-National Trust Fund (FTNS) was created in March 2007 with the mission of contributing to the sustainable financing of conservation, ecodevelopment and cross-border cooperation activities in the Sangha Tri-national area (TNS). It thus supports the 2015-2025 Convergence Plan of the Central African Forests Commission (COMIFAC) in its strategic axis 6, which is to develop innovative mechanisms for financing conservation, in this case trust funds.

Since 2008, FTNS has signed cooperation agreements with the governments of the different TNS States Parties. In 2010, FTNS obtains an agreement from the Cameroonian Government that allows it to establish itself in Cameroon as a foreign association, thus becoming the first trust fund in Africa for cross-border purposes.

FTNS consists of two main governance bodies: the Board of Directors (BD) and the Executive Board (EO). The Board is the strategic decision-making structure

of FTNS. It is comprised of eleven members including representatives of the Government of Cameroon, the Government of Congo, the Government of the Central African Republic, the KfW Entwicklungsbank (German Financial Cooperation), the French Agency Development Agency (AFD), the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and the Regenwald Stiftung, as well as three representatives of the civil society from the countries concerned.

The Executive Office is responsible for the implementation of the Board's decisions, the institutional development of FTNS, the mobilization of funds and the dispensation of grants. It is composed of an Executive Director, a Program Officer and an administrative and logistic staff composed of 3 persons. This team is supported by an accounting firm and international technical assistance represented in the Executive Office by a Technical Adviser.

FTNS gives grants to TNS governance organ through two mechanisms: income from invested capital (en-

dowment fund) and project-type funds (sinking fund). The grants awarded by FTNS in 2017 were partly raised from its capital and mostly from the sinking funds of which in 2017:

KfW

Sustainable Forest Management in the Congo Basin, Sangha Tri-National Trust fund (FTNS). Congo and RCA component (BMZ n ° 2010 67 206).

Sustainable Management of Forests in the Congo Basin Sangha Tri-National Trust fund (FTNS): Cameroon Component (BMZ n ° 2011 67 071)

EUROPEAN UNION-UNESCO

Central Africa World Heritage Forest Initiative (CAWHFI) of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

FEM, FFEM, MAEVA Foundation

Establishment of a Carbon Fund to reduce deforestation and improve the living conditions of the tri-national Sangha populations

FTNS is a member of the Consortium of African Funds for the Environment (CAFE), an institution that brings together 17 environmental funds in Africa and is part of the global network "Conservation Finance Alliance". As a trust fund registered in England, FTNS is also a member of the Charity Commission, a corporate organization.

Members FTNS' Board of Directors in 2017



M. Makon Samuel PCA
CAMEROUN



M. FROLICH Jan
KfW



M. Emmanuel FOURMANN
AFD



Dr. ILKA HERBINGER
REGENWALD STIFTUNG



Dr. NJIFORTI Hanson
WWF



Dr. FOTSO Roger
WCS



M. DJOGO TOUMOUKSALA
CAMEROUN



M. ONDELE Marcel
CONGO



Mme YENGE Blanche
CONGO



M. NAMBAI Reubens
RCA



Mme Jacquéline
MADOZEIN
RCA

FTNS' PERMANENT EXECUTIVE OFFICE PERSONNEL



Dr. Théoplie ZOGNOU
Executive Director



Mr. Romain KANA
Programmes Officer



Dr. Pascal CUNY
Technical Adviser



Ms Arlette NGOUO
Corporate Assistant



Mr. Ledoux KENFACK
Administrative & logistics
Assistant



Mr. Simon TEZIE
Driver-mechanic

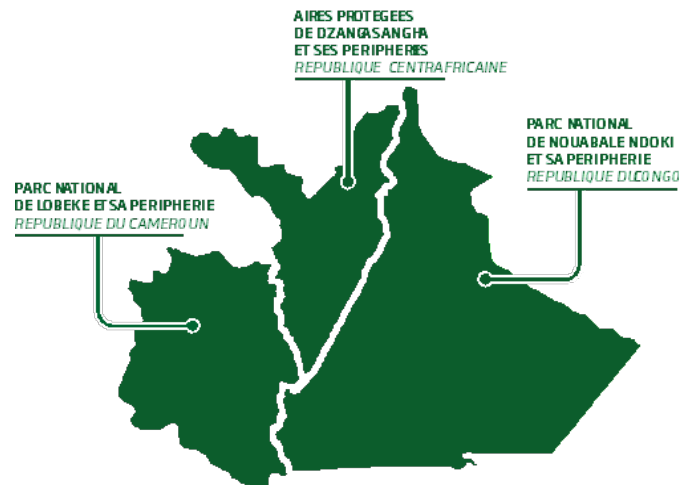


Mr. Bernard LAWE
maintenance & cleaning
personnel

FTNS' Administrators, Executive Office staff, and park managers of the three TNS parks during the last Board meeting in November 2017 in Brazzaville



OUR COMMITMENT: CONTRIBUTE TO THE PRESERVATION OF TNS, THE FIRST TRANSBOUNDARY COMPLEX IN CENTRAL AFRICA AND A UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE



The Sangha Tri-National (TNS) is a forest complex of 44 000 km² crossing about the three Central African countries of: Cameroon, the Central African Republic (CAR) and the Republic of Congo. It was created in December 2000 as a result of a cooperation agreement between the three states and is the first concrete manifestation of the Heads of State of the Congo Basin countries to converge towards a concerted management of transboundary protected areas.

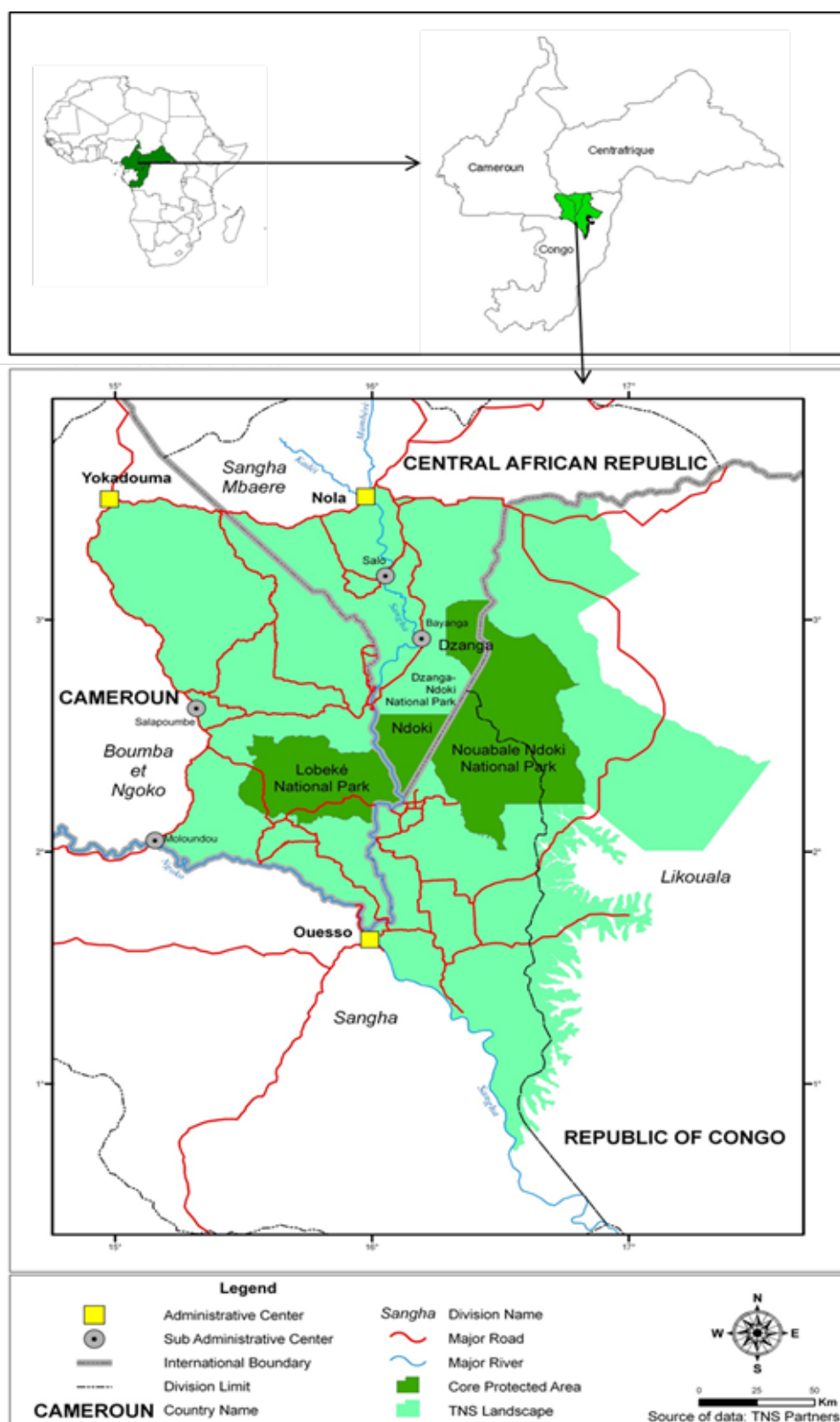
The TNS complex is made up of three adjacent parks: the Lobéké National Park in Cameroon, the Dzanga-Ndoki National Park in the Central African Republic and the Nouabalé Ndoki National Park in the Republic of Congo. In addition to this, the TNS also includes a peripheral area to these parks in which the participatory processes for the sustainable management of wildlife and forest resources are developed.

The operating bodies provided for in the Agreement are namely the Tri-National Committee for Supervision and Arbitration (CTSA), the Tri-National Monitoring Committee (CTS) and the Tri-National Committee for Planning and Execution (CTPE) are functional. The Tri-national Scientific Committee (CST) is in the process of being set up.

The implementation of TNS' Co-operation Agreement resulted in the signing and implementation

of three protocols between the three countries, namely: the Protocol on Anti-poaching, the Protocol on the free movement of TNS personnel and the Protocol on the organization and functioning of the Tri-National Anti-poaching Brigade (BLAB).

Ecologically, the TNS complex has outstanding universal values. Thus, in view of the principles (IX) and (X) of the 1972 World Heritage Convention, this complex was inscribed on the List of World Heritage Sites at the 36th session of UNESCO in July 2012 in Saint Petersburg: "Decision 35 COM 12B item 17.C".



Maps 1: Location and presentation of the TNS



SOME MAJOR FACTS IN THE SANGHA TRI-NATIONAL IN 2017



Signature of new texts governing the management of the TNS

Preceding the third session of the Tri-national Committee of Supervision and Arbitration (CTSA), bringing together the ministers in charge of forests and protected areas of the three TNS countries, two new texts were officially signed by the Central African and Congolese parties: the Protocol on the circulation of tourists and the Protocol on the organization and functioning of the Tri-national Scientific Committee (CST). With Cameroon's signature still awaited, these two new texts will strengthen the cooperation between the three countries in the promotion of tourism and research in the TNS.



Photo 1: The three TNS Ministers in Charge of forest during the signing of new texts governing the transboundary forest complex ©FTNS



Aerial shot of the Motaba River during a surveillance flight over the forest clearings and rivers in the north of the Park.
©JP Sagette/WCS

Arrival of new operators in the mining and hunting sectors in the Cameroonian and Central African TNS segments

Benefiting from three exploration permits, Mongokele Mining Company started operations in the outskirts of the Lobeke National Park. In the Central African Republic, the Yobe Mining Cooperative is awarded a semi-industrial exploitation permit in a temporary logging area at the outskirts of Dzanga Ndoki Park. In addition, two hunting licenses were granted to operators in the Dzanga Sangha reserve. Although favorable for the socio-economic growth of the region, the arrival of these operators creates new challenges for the sustainable exploitation of resources in the TNS landscape.

Initiation of an air monitoring program in Nouabalé Ndoki

In April 2017, the aviation program for the Nouabalé Ndoki Park started with the acquisition and use of a Cessna aircraft, which helps to improve surveillance capabilities in the TNS. Between May and December 2017, this program conducted approximately 24 surveillance flights and supported some of the park's logistical operations.

Closure of the Congo Basin Forest Ecosystems Conservation Support Program (PACEBCO)

PACEBCO officially closed in June 2017 after more than five years in the TNS. This program helped to improve the state of park and village infrastructures in the TNS with the construction of administrative buildings as well as classrooms, water points and health centers.

Arrest and conviction of a legendary elephant poacher

Benjamin Mbondo aka "Benz", a notorious poacher and ivory dealer in the region, was sentenced to five years in prison thanks to the efforts of wildlife crime control units in the Nouabalé Ndoki National Park.

FOCUS ON FTNS' GOVERNANCE AND INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS



Kribi and Brazzaville hosted the two sessions of the Board of Directors (BD) in 2017

In the course of 2017, the Board met in two ordinary sessions: the May 2017 session in Kribi, (Cameroon) and the November 2017 session in Brazzaville (Republic of Congo).

The 19th session of FTNS Board was held in Kribi from May 16 to 17, 2017, in the presence of ten members of the Board of Directors. This session allowed the directors, among other things, to examine the annual accounts of the parks and FTNS on the basis of audit reports, to assess the performance of the asset portfolio, to discuss the structuring files of FTNS and the support to the three TNS parks. It was also an opportunity to welcome a new director in the person of Mrs. YENGUE Blanche, appointed by the Government of Congo.



Photo 1: FTNS Board members and staff of the Executive Board during the 19th session of the Board in Kribi, Cameroon

The 20th session of the Board of Directors was held from November 21 to 22, 2017 in Brazzaville. This session was attended by the managers of the three TNS parks who presented their work plans and budget for 2018 to the members of the Board of Directors. It was also an opportunity to welcome a new director representing civil society, Mr. ONDELE Marcel from the Republic of Congo. Important decisions were taken

during this session including: the establishment of a statutes review commission to integrate a representative of the Executive Secretariat of the Central African Forests Commission (COMIFAC) into the Board of Directors, the approval of a 2.8 billion FCFA (approximately € 4.2 million) global financing program for the three parks and the functioning of the Executive Office for the year 2018.

FTNS has been present at several events organized by its partners in the sub region and internationally

At the national level (TNS country), FTNS took part:

- A working session with Mrs. Rosalie MATONDO, Minister of Forest Economy of Congo, organized in February 2017 to strengthen collaboration within the management of funds granted to the Nouabalé Ndoki National Park;
- At the Board of Directors of the Nouabalé Ndoki Foundation in Brazzaville, Congo in February 2017
- At the tripartite meeting organized by the Ministry of Forests and Wildlife in August 2017 to review the level of collaboration between MINFOF, WWF and FTNS under the Memorandum of Understanding on National Park Management Support. from Lobeke;

At the sub-regional level, FTNS participated:

- At COMIFAC's planning meeting in Sangmélima, Cameroon in February 2017;
- several monthly technical coordination meetings at the Executive Secretariat of COMIFAC;
- CAWHFI project coordination meetings in June and December 2017, organized by the United Nations Organization for Science and Culture (UNESCO), of which TNS is one of the beneficiary sites;
- at the meeting of the Congo Basin Forest Partnership organized in October 2017 in Douala, Cameroon with a major contribution from FTNS to different working groups (Protected Areas and Biodiversity, OCFSA, ...)



Photo 2: FTNS presentation as part of the "Protected Areas and Biodiversity" working group held in October 2017 on the sidelines of the CBFP meeting. ©FTNS

At the continental and international level, as a member of the Consortium of African Funds for the Environmental (CAFE) and “Charity Commission”, FTNS has been active in several events described below.

- Reception in March 2017, with funding from the CAFE / REDLAC, a delegation (6 people) from the West African Savannah Foundation (FSOA) as part of a project to exchange experiences. A series of meetings was successively held at the Executive Office headquarters where the delegation of WASF exchanged with FTNS’ team composed of FTNS Board Directors resident in Yaoundé, some resources people and KFW’s projects manage in Frankfurt. Field trips were then organized to allow the FSOA team to interact with the actors on the ground.
- Organization of an Executive Office mission to Germany with a working session with teams of researchers, visits to the botanical garden of the University of Rostock, the island of Rugen and its history museum in order to appreciate concrete experiences in valuing biodiversity and cultural wealth.



Photo 3: Working session between the FSOA delegation, FTNS BE and some TNS actors.



Photo 4: FTNS’ EO team, GFA and Rostock University visit Botanical Garden in Germany.

- Participation, from October 9 to 14, 2017 in Nouakchott (Mauritania), at the CAFE General Assembly (Consortium of African Funds for the Environment) organized by the le Fonds Fiduciaire du banc d’Arguin et de la Biodiversité Côtière et Marine (BACoMaB Trust Fund). The discussions focused on the difficulties and prospects of the various trust funds and on the innovative financial mechanisms ;
- Participation at the workshop on monitoring and evaluation processes organized in as a preparation to the general CAFE meeting in Mauritania in October 2017



Photo 5: FTNS EO during a Working Session at the 7th CAFE General Assembly in Mauritania ©CAFE

SOME COMMUNICATION AND FUNDRAISING ACTIONS CARRIED OUT IN 2017

TNS visit by the German ambassador to Cameroon

FTNS facilitated from January 24 to 30, 2017 the visit of the German Ambassador to Cameroon, Dr. Hans-Dieter Stell, and his delegation to the Lobéké National Park and the Dzanga Sangha Protected Areas. This visit was characterized by exchange meetings with park managers, meetings with community organizations, visits to infrastructures and tourist sites inside the parks. It helped to restore the image of the

TNS as a unique site to preserve.

Following this visit, this same sites also witnessed in May 2017 visits of Mr. Auer, Germany's Ambassador to Côte d'Ivoire, Mr. Frolich, the National Director KfW Cameroon and Mr. Waitkuwait, Technical Adviser of the DFAP-MINFOF (Cameroon).



Photo 6: The German Ambassador to Cameroon visiting the Lobéke National Park ©FTNS



Photo 7: The German ambassador to Cameroon and his wife interact with Mambéle women's associations ©FTNS

Animation of communication space during regional or national events

FTNS hosted an exhibition stand at the CBFP meeting in October 2017 in Douala, Cameroon. More than 300 visitors had the opportunity to discover FTNS and to interact with some staff members of the Executive Office. FTNS was also represented at the open day organized by the German Cooperation of Cameroon in November 2018.



Photo 8: FTNS' Stand during the 17th meetings of the Congo Basin's Partners (CBFF) d'octobre 2017



Photo 9: FTNS space during the German cooperation's open day on November 17, 2017

Signature of a € 30 million funding agreement for FTNS

A new € 30 million funding agreement was signed in November 2017 with KfW and COMIFAC. These funds were mobilized to strengthen FTNS' capital (25 million euros) and to improve the infrastructure of the national parks of Dzanga Ndoki (RCA) and Nouabalé Ndoki (Congo) for an amount of 5 million euros.



Photo 10 : FTNS, COMIFAC and KfW representatives during the signing of the 30 millions euros agreement

As part of its collaboration with CAFE and REDLAC, FTNS received \$ 200,000 as funds to support the establishment of a mechanism for funding community-based conservation initiatives through the voluntary payment market for environmental services. Its launching workshop was

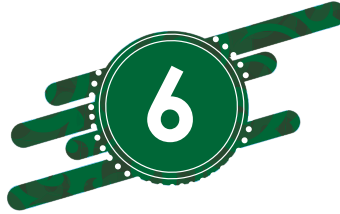
As part of its collaboration with CAFE and REDLAC, FTNS received \$ 200,000 as funds to support the establishment of a mechanism for funding community-based conservation initiatives through the voluntary payment market for environmental services. Its launching workshop was held in March 2017 with the participation of TNS park managers, representatives from several jurisdictions, community organizations and members of the civil society.



Photo 11 : Group picture of participants at project k's launching workshop from april 16 to 17 at Bertoua ©FTNS

Strengthening collaboration with UNESCO within the scope of the CAWHFI project

The collaboration between FTNS and UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) for the implementation of CAWHFI project's second phase in the TNS. Initiated in 2016 with funding from the Union European Union, the project continued in 2017. It equally benefited from an extension to December 2017 with a financing agreement of € 150,000.



BOOSTING THE SUBSIDY PROGRAM

Nearly 2 billion CFA francs of subventions granted in 2017 to TNS protected areas

As shown in Table 1 below, FTNS has developed a grant programme with a total value of CFAF 1,941 billion (approximately € 2.96 million) in support to TNS' three parks, the Tri-National Anti-poaching Brigade (BLAB) and the organization of the TNS decision-making organs (CTSA) meetings, this via its sinking accounts (German Financial Cooperation - KfW Regional Congo-RCA, KfW component Cameroon, CAWHFI and K project) and its capital account. This amount has seen an increase of about 9% as compared to that of 2016.

Table 1: Grants awarded to TNS sites (in FCFA)

	ORIGIN OF FUNDS						Total (In FCFA)
		KfW Ré- gional Volet Cameroun	KfW Regional Volet Congo RCA	FTNS/ Capital	Projet K	CAWHFI	
Beneficiaries	PNL (includ- ing NGO's	770 190 356		671 790 000	5 460 000	15 472 700	791 123 056
	APDS					8 982 500	680 772 500
	PNNN		427 723 512				427 723 512
	CTSA					6 165 500	6 165 500
	BLAB					35 641 245	35 641 245
TOTAL		770 190 356	427 723 512	671 790 000	5 460 000	66 261 945	1 941 425 813

The Lobeke National Park was the main beneficiary with an overall volume of FCFA 791 123 056 (about 1.2 million euros), followed by the Dzanga Sangha protected areas (about 1 million euros), the Nouabalé Ndoki National Park (652 000 euros), the Tri-national Anti-poaching Brigade (54 335 euros) and the CTSA. The Sinking funds have been the main sources of funding to the protected areas (about 65%) and according to this scale, KfW's funds represent about 61% of the global funds.

Five areas of activity financed with a significant share for infrastructures and the management of park staff

Grants were allocated to 5 areas of activity as indicated in the table below:

Table 2: Allocation to subventions to activities

	CAWHFI/ PROJECT K	CAPITAL	PROJET KFW	MONTANT (VALEUR EN FCFA)
Transboundary Cooperation	44 806 745	15 400 000	26 088 500	86 295 245
Monitoring	2 000 000	119 590 000	148 754 500	270 344 500
Research and Biomonitoring	1 000 000	27 000 000	139 677 576	167 677 576
Ecodevelopment & tourism	21 915 200	78 100 000	140 671 888	240 687 088
Administration & personnel		337 900 000	320 156 141	658 056 141
Infrastructures & equipment	2 000 000	93 800 000	422 565 263	518 365 263
Total	71 721 945	671 790 000	1 197 913 868	1 941 425 813

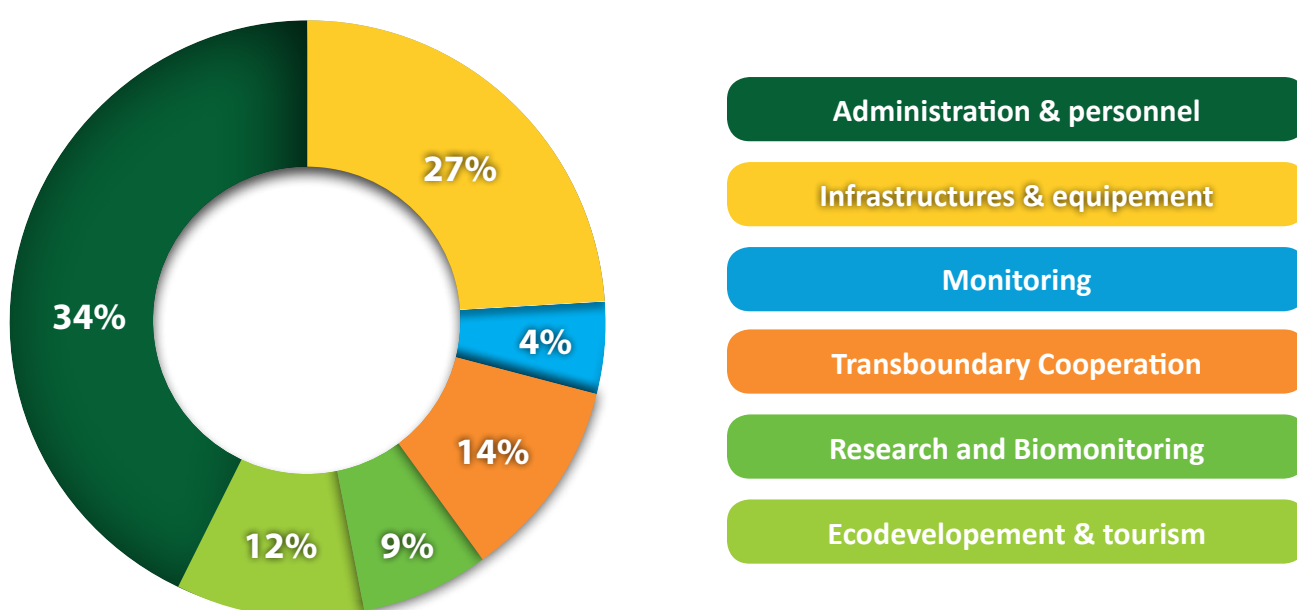
It can be noted that the bulk of subsidies (34%) went to the general administration of the sites (including site maintenance and payment of salaries and allowances for staff); infrastructures and equipment improvement (27%) of surveillance and anti-poaching operations (14%); research activities, ecological monitoring (9%) community development and tourism activities (12%) and cross-border cooperation (4%).

The funding requests from the parks to FTNS are mainly geared toward staff costs, general administra-

tion and investments (infrastructure and equipment), which account for more than 61% of their funding needs. This situation illustrates a factual representation of FTNS's positioning as perceived by the beneficiaries for the financing of this type of needs in the parks.

Let's equally take note of the specificity of CAWHFI's funds which were mainly allocated (67%) in cross-border cooperation activities, particularly to BLAB operations.

Figure 1: Allocation of subventions per activity in 2017



FOCUS ON SOME MAJOR RESULTS ACHIEVED THANKS TO FTNS GRANTS

Protected area management tools for TNS parks were developed

The activities and budget planning sessions for the Lobéké, Dzanga Sangha and Nouabalé Ndoki sites were organized in October 2017 and resulted in the drafting of 2018 annual budgeted work plans (PTAB) for each of the sites. FTNS' contribution for the financing of 2018 activities of the three parks is estimated to about 2.5 billion FCFA, or 3.9 million euros.

An expert was also mobilized by FTNS to support the parks in the implementation of monitoring and evaluation systems and tools.

83 cross-border patrol missions completed

In accordance with the anti-poaching protocols (LAB) missions have been carried out on both sides of the borders of the three countries at trans-boundary level, bi-national and tri-national. Added to this is that of the Tri-national Anti-Poaching Brigade (BLAB).

As indicated in the table below, a total of 83 cross-border patrol missions corresponding to three thousand nine hundred and fifty-nine (3,959) man/days of effort were accomplished in 2017.

Type de patrouilles	Nombre de missions	Homme/jour
Binationale	9	891
Tri-nationale	3	246
BLAB	71	2 822
Total	83	3959

Compared to 2016, patrol efforts have increased by approximately 20% to respond to significant wildlife crime pressure at the borders of the three TNS states.

These missions made it possible, among other things,

to seize a dozen hunting weapons, to destroy about thirty camps and more than 7,000 steel cables.



Photo 8 : Eco-guards on mission at the BLAB ©BLAB

Enhanced cooperation in the meetings of TNS management bodies

The meetings TNS management organs were organized, particularly:

- The 24th TNS Conservators Meeting, at the BLAB-TNS Headquarters in Nyangouté from 5-9 April 2017;
- The 30th Ordinary Session of the TNS' Tri-National Committee for Planning and Execution (CTPE) in Bayanga from May 09 to 13 2017;
- The 5th Ordinary Session of TNS' Tri-National Monitoring Committee (CTS) held on May 21, 2016 in Yokadouma, Cameroon;
- The 25th TNS Conservators Meeting from August 22 to 24 2017 in Nyangouté;
- The 3rd Ordinary Session of the Trinational Committee of Supervision and Arbitration (CTSA), organized on October 26, 2017 in Douala, Cameroon

- The 31st meeting of the CTPE in Moloundou in November 2017.

The results obtained from these meetings are mainly the following:

- the inauguration of the Conservator of the Lobéké National Park as the Chairman of the TNS Conservators party in April 2017;
- the installation of Mr. Ghislain BAKEBILA in August 2017 designated by Memorandum No. 0122 / ACFAP-DAF in his new position as Head of the Sangha Tri-National Brigade to replace Mr. David BOLOUM, victim of an accident from the public highway to Libongo on August 5, 2017;
- filling of the Enhancing our Heritage (EoH) forms to evaluate the management of TNS;
- review and planning of cross-border and BLAB patrols;
- the signing of two new protocols at the CTSA meeting, one on the circulation of tourists in the

TNS and the other on the organization and functioning of the Tri-National Scientific Committee (TSC).



Photo 9 : Transfer of service between outgoing (Marcel Ngangoue) and incoming (Achile Mengamenya) presidents in April 2017 in Nyangouté



Photo 10: Mr. Ngole Ngwese, Cameroon's Minister Forestry and Wildlife, pronouncing the opening remarks at the third ordinary session of the CTSA in Douala in October 2017©FTNS

Improvement or rehabilitation of tourist facilities to accommodate 441 tourists in 2016

Several actions were carried out so as to ensure the availability of basic touristic infrastructures at the level of the parks notably:

- maintenance, renovation and equipment of tourist accommodation camps: Doli Lodge and the Welcome Center (RCA), Kombo Camp (Cameroon), Mbeli (Congo);
- the maintenance of about fifty kilometers of access paths to touristic sites within the parks (Dzanga bai, Mongambe, Bai hoku in the APDS);
- development of new tourist attraction sites: Golghotta waterfall, liana bridge, community handicraft center, Wali Bai ethno botanical paths, etc.
- Website promotion campaigns of sites and sensitisation of the authorities on administrative obstacles to tourism development in the region.

Malgré une situation encore précaire en RCA caractérisée par quelques exactions de bandes armées, le TNS a accueilli plus de touristes en 2017 (441) qu'en 2016 (266), soit une augmentation d'environ 65%.



Photo 11: Clearing of paths leading to tourist sites by local communities ©APDS

The completion of 896 patrols in all TNS sites

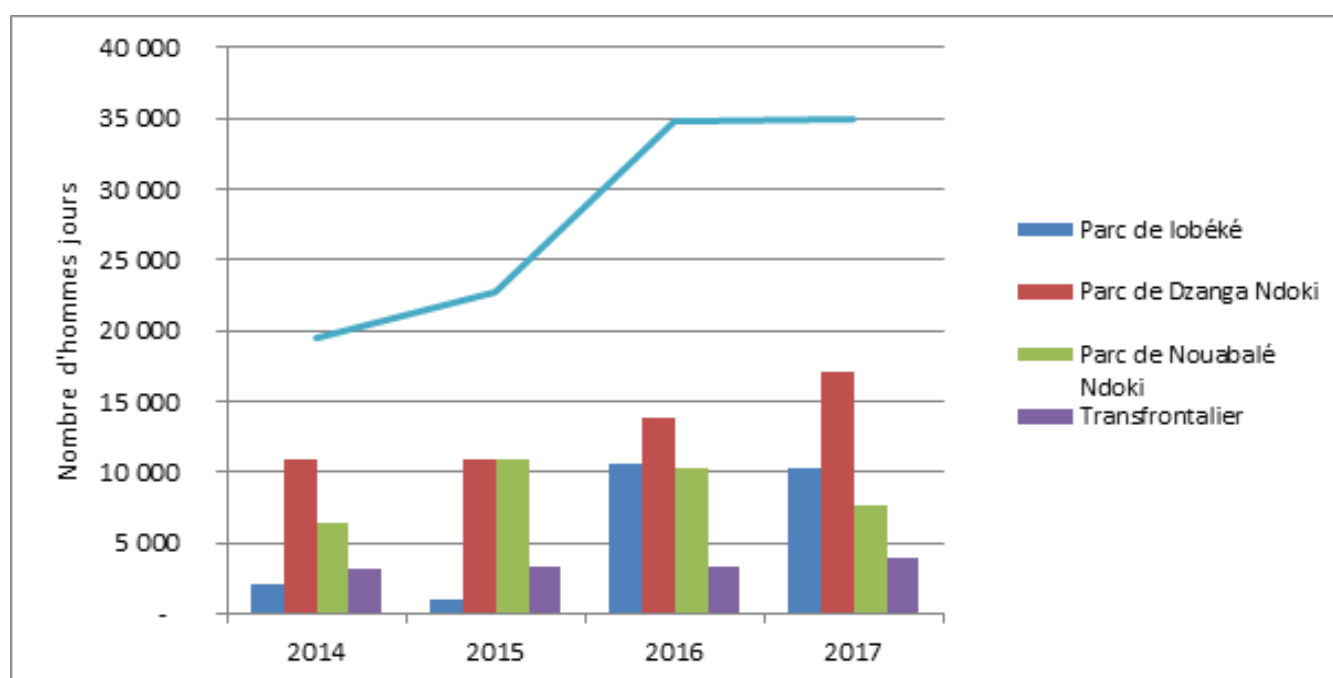
In the course of 2017, FTNS grants helped to carry out 896 patrols aimed at securing the resources of the three TNS protected areas, an increase of 10% respectively compared to the achievements of 2016 and 58% compared to 2015 results. The breakdown of these missions per protected area is shown in the table below.

Table 3: LAB missions carried out by each of the sites between 2014 and 2017

PROTECTED AREA	2014	2015	2016	2017
APDS	324	272	270	430
APDS	324	272	270	430
PNL	55	26	91	165
Total	540	567	626	896

The number of guards mobilized in 2017 to carry out these patrols also increased significantly compared to 2015 and 2016 (see figure below). In terms of relative value, there was an increase of 50% between 2017 and 2015 and 2% between 2017 and 2016. This is the result of an increase in the number of ecoguards in the different parks and particularly in the APDS and in Lobéké, thus allowing greater coverage of the parks by these patrols.

Figure 2 : Evolution of patrol efforts (h-jr) in the three TNS sites between 2014 and 2017



These various missions in 2017 resulted in the arrest and trials of 121 poachers, the seizure of 95 ivory tusks and several hunting tools including 22 weapons of war, 296 shotguns, 50,829 cables of steels and 1824 kg of game. The table below presents the different seizures and arrests per protected area.

Table 4: Seizures made during LAB missions in the three TNS sites

Protected Area	Nature of seizures					Poachers arrested and jailed
	War Weapons	hunting fire arms	ELephant Tusks	Cables	Game(in kg)	
PNL (Cameroun)	07	20	15	9 241	149	17
APDS (CAR)	7	225	25	43 632	1 282	65
PNNN (Congo)	8	47	51	3 394	0	50
(Congo)	8	50	62	4 182	330	44
Total	22	296	95	50 829	1 824	121

The number of weapons of war and hunting rifles seized, mainly in the Central African Republic, remains high and illustrates the recurrence of high poaching activities in TNS despite increased patrol efforts. An increase patrolling efforts generally leads to greater results in terms of seizures of poaching tools, but it has not yet succeeded in reversing the trend of elephant poaching if we consider the evolution of the number of elephant carcasses slaughtered and discovered during patrols between 2015 and 2017 (figure below). In the course of 2017, more than 76 elephants were slaughtered in the TNS.

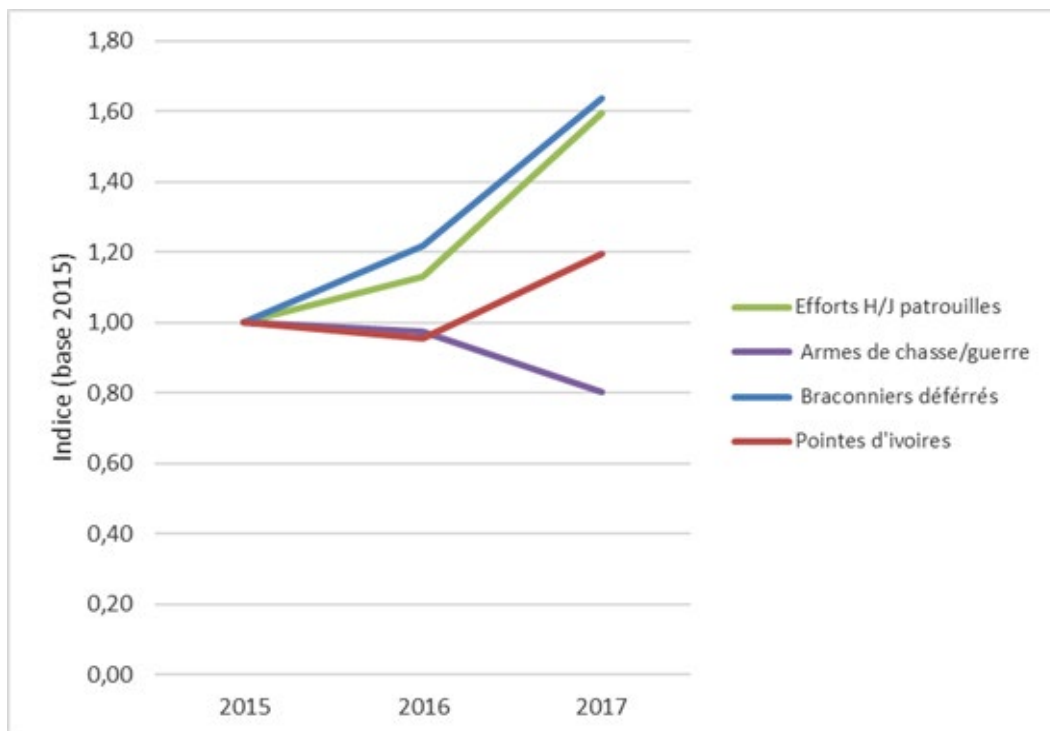


Figure 3: Evolution of efforts and results of patrols in the TNS between 2015 and 2017

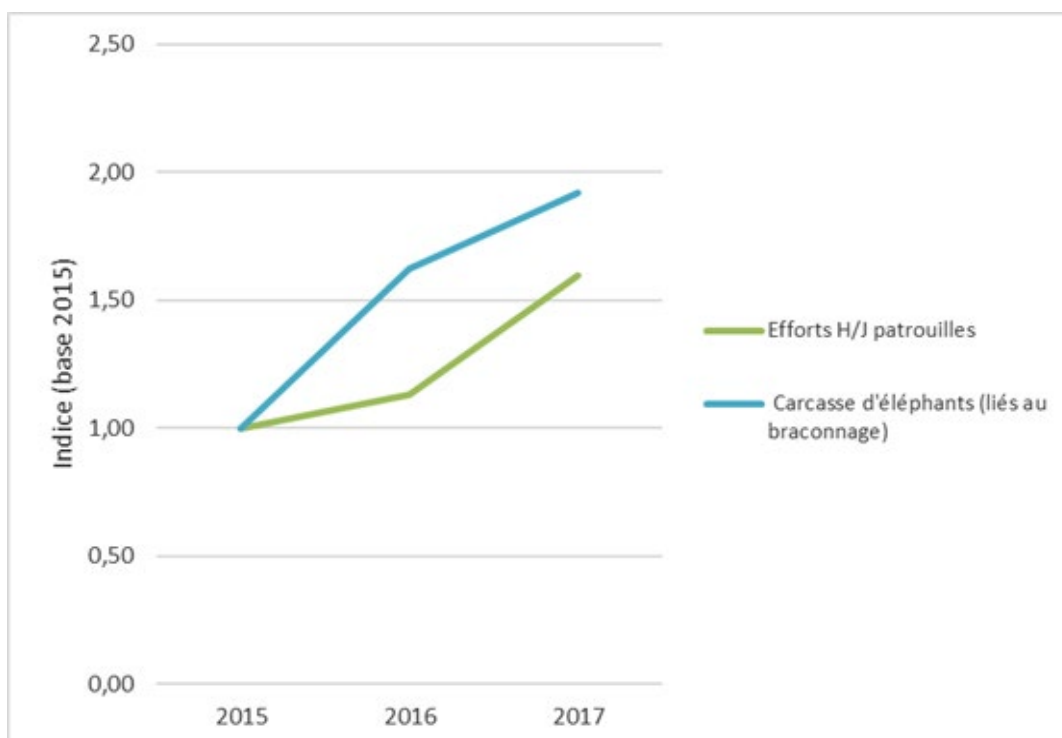


Figure 4: Evolution of patrols and elephant carcasses in the TNS between 2015 and 2017



Photo 12 : Release of parrots seized in Lobéké

Capacity building of more than 100 staff dedicated to the LAB

More than 100 persons involved in monitoring activities, including eco-guards from the three protected areas, received training or recycling in various areas: paramilitary operations, Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART), networking informants, techniques of investigations, ... The table below shows the training per site.



Photo 13: APDS eco-guard staff training session on SMART data collection protocols ©APDS

APDS	PNNN	PNL
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patrol Team Leaders and their assistants benefited from training on SMART Field Data Collection Protocols from March 21-23, 2017. • Participation of the Conservator at the Risk Prevention Training for sites in Africa from October 09 -18 2017 in Yaoundé (Cameroon). • Training provided to 4 eco-guards on the collection of wildlife data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling training on human rights and regulations governing the detention of persons and property was organized in August 2017 for 17 agents of the Conservation & Biodiversity Service. • A 10-week training course was organized between October and December 2017 for the benefit of three analysts and half a dozen collectors from the Wildlife Crime Unit at the Nouabalé Ndoki Park to professionalize them in the procedures for collecting and analyzing information obtained from networks of informants. • The 11 eco-guard contingent leaders were trained on the use of Garmin / Delorme InReach™ devices and the different protocols that have been put in place at the Control Room. • A new women's unit of four eco-guards benefited from an introductory 2-week eco-design course, followed by a second, more practical training phase 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The organization of a training session for the Lobeke ecoguards on the shooting, handling and maintenance of newly acquired weapons in December 2017. • The training of 24 officers of the park in techniques of investigation and preparation of the minutes on the observation of offenses in environmental management with the swearing in of 19 agents as judicial police officer with special competence for wildlife in July 2017. • Training more than 25 park eco-guards in data collection and navigation techniques; • The participation of the Conservator at the training workshop on the adaptive management and use of the MIRADI software for the elaboration of conservation projects in July 2017; • Participation of the Conservator and the Chief of the Protection and Ecological Monitoring Department at the training workshop on disaster risk management in World Heritage sites held in Yaounde in October 2017

Several public education and awareness campaigns organized

In order to mobilize the populations and various local administrations with the objective of preserving the parks, several activities have been carried out, in particular:

- the organization of environmental education sessions for more than 2,500 students in schools surrounding the parks supplemented by excursions to animal populated sites;
- support to the creation of three new environmental clubs in schools located in APDS including Jolie-soir, Mossapoula and Babongo;
- the organization of awareness workshops on regulatory texts on park management and TNS operations for local authorities and administrations accompanied by excursions inside the parks;
- the organization of awareness campaigns in surrounding villages of the parks on various themes concerning wildlife laws, park management, sustainable use of forest resources and good farming practices.



Photo 14: Central African Republic students visit the Dzanga-Bai clearing ©APDS



Photo 15: Exchange sessions on the management of Lobeke Park with the new Divisional Officer of Boumba and Ngoko (Cameroon) ©PNL



Photo 16: Working sessions with local governments on the texts governing the TNS in Bayanga (Central African Republic) ©APDS

Strengthening collaboration between parks and logging companies in the periphery of the parks

Collaboration with logging companies was mainly characterized by monitoring good logging practices in PEA 189 and 190 on the outskirts of Dzanga Ndoki Park and mainly in the Dzanga Sangha Special Reserve.

Nine monitoring missions were carried out in PEA 189 and 190 to ensure that logging complies with the norms and standards prescribed to forestry companies in environmental and social terms.

These missions have helped to encourage loggers

who are beneficiaries of both licenses to achieve regulatory compliance and low environmental impact logging on the provisional logging sites they have been granted.

In addition, the monitoring and anti-poaching units supported by the logging companies carried out several patrols in collaboration with the ecoguards of the Nouabalé Ndoki and Dzanga Ndoki parks.

The implementation of primate habituation programs within the parks

The primate habituation programs in the three protected areas have been regularly implemented: Bai Hoku and Mongambe in the APDS; MBeli, Mondika and Goualogo in the PNPN, Pont Cassée in the PNL. This represents about 10 groups of great apes that are monitored daily to increase the tourism potential and improve knowledge on the dynamics of the wildlife population of TNS parks. In Mondika, two potential groups have been identified and a new group has been integrated into the habituation program.

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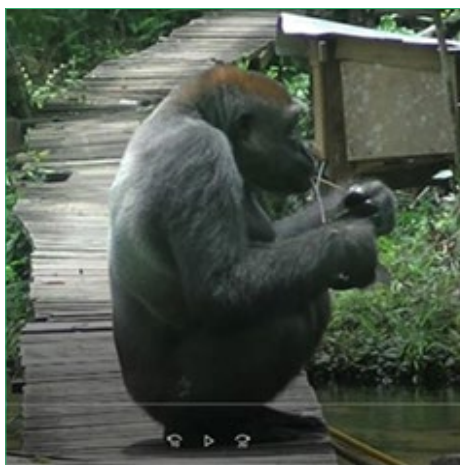


Photo 17: Balema, a habituated gorilla in Mondika relaxing on the camp's bridge © I.Kienast/WCS

Several missions to observe the clearings realized

Some fifty missions to observe the use of clearings by the flagship species of the parks were carried out mainly in the five clearings of Lobéké National Park: Petite Savane, Bolo, Dangayé, Djangui, Djaloumbé. These observations were supported by the installation of several camera traps allowing to follow permanently the attendance of these clearings by the animals. These data make it possible to have a better

knowledge of the attendance of the clearings in order, among others reasons, to guide tourists within the park.

In addition, the APDS technical team, with the support from the project, has acquired about 10 camera traps, which it will place in the high conservation value zones of the park and in the PEA 190 logging platform.



Photo 18 : Night elephant views by camera traps in the Lobeke National Park ©PNL

Completion of large mammal inventories in the Congo segment

Initiated in early 2016, the large mammal inventory effort in the Congo segment of the TNS ended in April 2017. A preliminary report was produced while awaiting official validation of the data. Preliminary results are generally positive for the PNNN. In fact, elephant,

gorilla, chimpanzee and ungulate populations have not changed significantly in the last five years.

Establishment of sustainable hunting quotas in the Congo segment

Inventory work carried out by the Nouabalé Ndoki National Park in the Kabo FMU made it possible to estimate the population of Bongo, the main target of sport hunting, and to determine a maximum harvest threshold per year to ensure the sustainability of this species. The results and recommendations of the report presented to the Forestry Administration have

helped to reduce the bongo's harvest quota from 15 to a maximum of 3 individuals per year. Quotas for other species, namely buffaloes, duikers, sitatungas and bush pigs, have also been revised downwards through a ministerial decree.

Support for initiatives to improve access rights to resources for local populations

In the Central African Republic, 77 members of the 11 Management Committees of the Community Hunting Zone (ZCC), as well as 3 free auditors received training on associative management, wildlife, laws implemented and the development of the simple plan management of the ZCC. In addition, the Association of Legal Holders of Hunting Arms (ADLAC) has received training on the legal aspects of hunting in APDS.

In Cameroon, a sensitization campaign and consultation of the target communities for the signature of a MOU related to the exploitation of the community area of Lobéké National Park was organized. In addition, a training workshop on forest law, benefit-sharing and management of logging revenues was organized for 12 members of the Baka community, 4 counsellors, 2 community forest representatives and 4 representatives of the Wildlife Resource Development Committee.

In the Congo, several sensitization meetings were organized for 7 hunting associations, gun owners and hunters from villages bordering the Nouabalé Ndoki park (Bomassa and Makao).



Photo 19 : The hunters' association after a training workshop in Bayanga in 2017 ©APDS

Several development initiatives for the benefit of more than 5,000 beneficiaries

Many initiatives aimed at improving the living conditions of the population have been carried out in the periphery of the protected areas of the TNS. These initiatives extend into the areas of health, education, basic infrastructure, community forestry, agroforestry and agriculture.

In terms of education, the payment of compensation to about twenty teachers and the allocation of school supplies to 11 (eleven) schools located at the out-

skirts of Nouabalé Ndoki (Bomassa and Makao) and Dzanga Ndoki (Bayanga). In 2017, more than 2,500 primary and secondary school students benefited from these supports. A special effort to improve the school enrollment rate of Ba'aka children in CAR was enhanced by providing tuition fees for more than 500 students and the awareness campaigns for their parents to send their children regularly to school.

In terms of health, the sponsoring of 14 staff mem-

bers of the health centers of Bayanga (CAR) and Bomassa (Congo) made it possible to ensure more than 5,000 consultations in 2017. Support for health campaigns has delivered vaccines to more than 400 children in CAR.

With regards to production activities, several actions have been carried out. In the field of agroforestry and in partnership with the World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF), communities surrounding the Lobéké and APDS parks have been supported in the mastery of agroforestry techniques with the following main results:

- the establishment of 7 cocoa production nurseries and various fruit tree species that contributed to the production of more than 20,000 shoots in 2017;
- more than 100 people trained in vegetative propagation techniques including layering, grafting and cuttings;
- support for seeds and various agricultural inputs to 8 villages for the establishment of pilot fields integrating fertilizing plants;
- more than 500 village community members sensitized on agroforestry techniques related to the adoption of sustainable practices in agriculture.

In addition to these agroforestry supports, several local community organizations have received technical and material support for food production and the implementation of income-generating activities including:

- support to the Women Health and Conservation Society Association for the purchase of 1 000 pineapple discards for the extension of the Mambélé Community Sanctuary;
- the subsidy of a butcher from the community of Mambélé to supply the local community with beef and frozen fish;
- the training of eleven members of the Bomassa United Women's Association for Biodiversity (AFUBB) in the practice of beekeeping;
- The training, within the framework of the Fisheries program, of fishermen of the Sangha and Ndoki basins on the construction and use of Chorkors ovens (21 ovens built).



Photo 20: A fish drying oven built in Bomassa©WCS



Photo 21: Launching of a vaccination campaign by the Bayanga Sub Divisional Officer ©WCS



Photo 22: View of a Baka community nursery in Lobéké©FTNS



Photo 23: Young plants from the layering of high value trees in rehabilitation at a community nursery ©FTNS

Capacity building of communities for their participation in the fight against climate change

As part of Project K, FTNS, in collaboration with Lobeke Park managers, local NGOs and several national experts, has been raising awareness and capacity building of the four community organizations in climate change processes based on a payment mechanism for environmental services. As such, we can note as the main results recorded in 2017:

- the organization of a training workshop on climate change and the development of environmental service payment projects;
- the organization of a training workshop on carbon credit sales standards in voluntary markets;
- The implementation of participatory micro-zoning in four community forests;
- identification of catalysts and agents of deforestation in four community forests;
- training community forest managers on biomass inventory and threat zone delineation techniques;
- the acquisition of satellite images of the target community forests.



Photo 24: Young Baka leaders during a training session for biomass inventory operations in their community forest



Photo 25 : Measuring trees as part of biomass inventory work in a community forest ©FTNS

Infrastructure and basic equipment of improved parks

Subsidies were also used to improve the basic infrastructure and equipment level of protected areas as described in the table below.

Tableau 6: Infrastructure and Equipment acquired for Protected Areas

INFRASTRUCTURE TYPE	APDS	PNNN	PNL
Constructions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building for the Anti-poaching staff training center in Kongana • Rehabilitation of the radio room of the Command Center • 2 new sentry boxes at the headquarter 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electric fence around Mbeli camp 	
Transportation and equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 moto bike 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 motorcycles • 01 75 HP outboard engine, • 02 hulls for river navigation

Office and telecommunications equipment

- 16 trap cameras
- 02 woofers and 02 mobile microphone devices
- 03 printers
- 08 computers
- 04 external hard disk
- 28 USB Flash Drives
- 06 Director chairs
- 10 ceiling fans.

Electrical installations and water supply

-
- 1 generator

- launching of the water supply project for the Lobeke life base

In addition, existing infrastructure and equipment as well as paths leading to the parks have been regularly maintained.



Photo 26: New gatehouse built at APDS headquarters ©APDS



Photo 27: Food Stock Store at APDS Headquarters Food Stock Store at APDS Headquarters ©APDS



FINANCIAL SITUATION OF FTNS IN 2017

Status of endowment accounts

At the end of December 2017, the asset portfolio of FTNS amounted to € 53.9 million compared to € 27.4 million in 2016. This sharp increase is particularly the consequence of the new KfW capital contribution of 25 million in December 2017 and the net profit related to the investment of the assets in the same year.

In terms of asset portfolio management, FTNS recorded its largest historical performance with a return of + 8.39%, or more than 2.2 million euros generated in 2017. This performance is twice higher than the annual yield projected by FTNS as part of its investment policy of 4%.

Approximately € 774,000 has been withdrawn for the

financing of APDS and the payment of certain management fees in 2017. Overall, FTNS' portfolio over the last five years is in a positive dynamic such that as shown in the graph below.

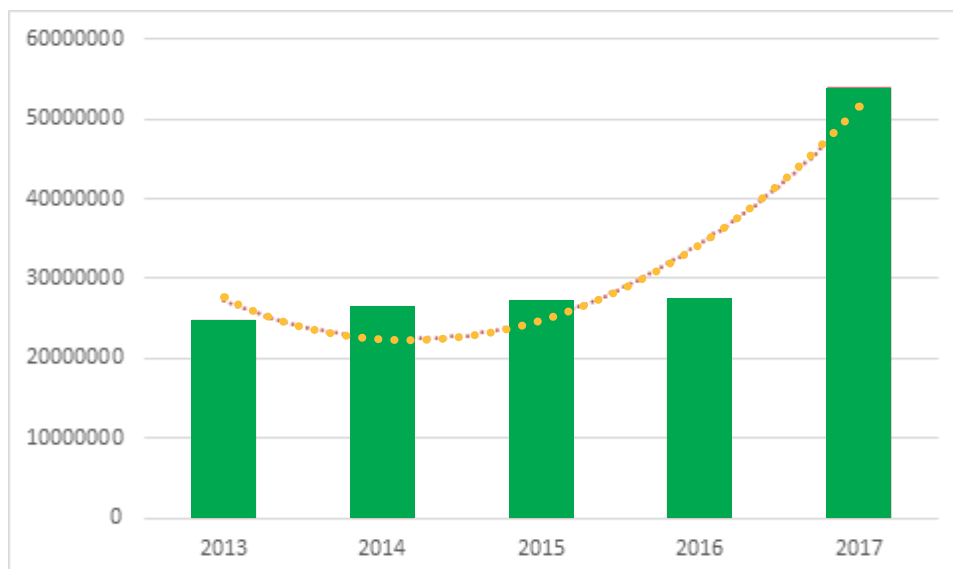


Figure 5: Evolution of FTNS asset portfolio in millions of euros from 2013 to 2017

With accordance to this new positive results, FTNS' new objective is obtain a capital of about **100 millions d'euros**

Situation of sinking accounts

As of December 31, 2017, the cumulative value of expenditures via the 4 existing FTNS sinking accounts (projects) to FTNS amounted to 5.5 billion FCFA (8.5 million euros), or about 62% of the total amounts mobilized. The Cameroon segment currently has the most important line in terms of budget availability in the depreciation account, although its absorption

capacity remains relatively low. The RCA Segment has fully consumed its budgets in the KfW Regional Congo-CAR line. The CAWHFI and K projects made a significant contribution (2% of total sinking fund expenditures) to park operations.

Table 7 : Statement of sinking funds as at December 31, 2017

Origin of Funds	Line amount	Expenditure cumulated by 31.12.17	Balance by 31.12.17
KfW Régional Congo/RCA	5 247 656 000	4 521 770 589	725 885 411
KfW volet Cameroun	3 607 763 500	953 163 202	2 654 600 298
CAWHFI	98 393 550	78 455 725	19 937 825
Projet K	120 000 000	33 256 495	86 743 505
Total	9 073 813 050	5 586 646 011	3 487 167 039

In the coming years, FTNS will still be able to finance activities (subsidy, technical assistance and management costs of the BE) via its sinking accounts worth around 3.48 billion FCFA.

Operating cost of the Executive Office(EO)

In the course of 2017, FTNS' EO spent 197 674 702 FCFA (€ 301 353) on its day-to-day management. Compared to the year 2016, expenses were reduced by 11% without having a negative impact on the FTNS' performance.

Expenses are structured as follows:

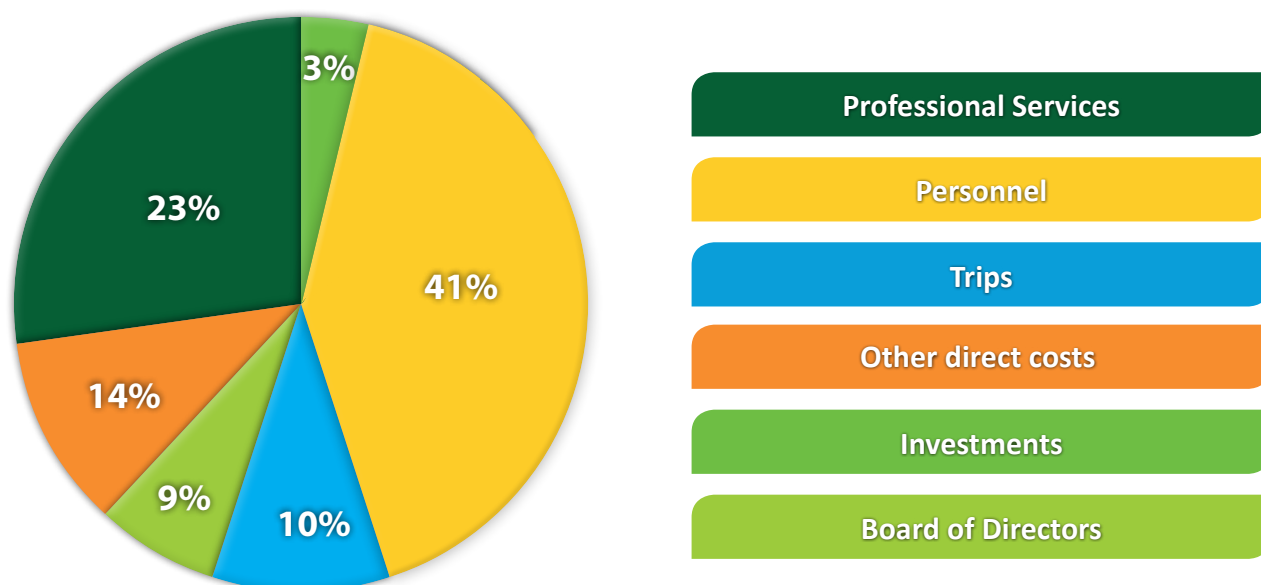


Figure 6: Structure of the cost of the Executive Office in 2017



FINDINGS AND PERSPECTIVES

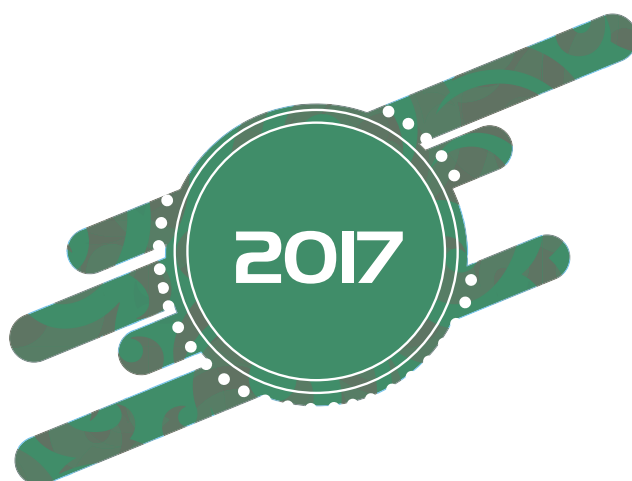
The year 2017 was an opportunity for FTNS to strengthen its institutional relations with the various governments of the three TNS countries, COMIFAC and its many partners in the region and internationally. With the support of COMIFAC, it organized the third regular session of the TNS' Tri-national Supervision and Arbitration Committee and signed a new financing agreement with KfW. The partnership with UNESCO to support the management of the TNS Property as required by the World Heritage Committee has continued under the CAWHFI project. That with the Consortium of African Funds for the Environmental Funds has materialized on the field with the ongoing testing of a mechanism for funding conservation activities through voluntary environmental service payment markets.

About 1.9 billion CFA francs (about € 2.9 million) were used to implement the activities of the three parks and the Tri-national cooperation activities in 2017. This funding has also significantly improved patrol efforts in the face of an ever-increasing threat of cross-border poaching. Capital income was mobilized for the financing of activities in the Central African segment with regard to the exhaustion of the dedicated budget lines in the sinking funds.

The capital of FTNS doubled at the end of the year to around 53.9 million euros, thanks in particular to an additional contribution by KfW of 25 million euros and the income generated by the investment of FTNS' assets. On this last aspect, FTNS recorded its greatest performance since its creation with a rate of return of nearly 8% during the course of 2017. This performance is the result of several parameters including the good financial markets and better management of FTNS investment policy.

The evolution of the overall situation in the TNS at the end of 2017 is generally satisfactory with significant results recorded at the institutional, financial and park conservation levels. Several projects have been implemented to improve the living conditions of local populations. There is a resumption of tourism activity and a greater mobilization of several administrations and community organizations for the conservation of the exceptional biodiversity of TNS. The landscape has been enriched with the arrival of new operators in the mining and hunting sector. These latter ones must quickly enter the dynamics initiated in order to limit the impact of their activities on the deterioration of the TNS Property. Wildlife resources, particularly elephants, are attracting more and more poachers who are supported by networks of influence to thwart the efforts of FTNS and its partners on the field. As such, political support, a reform of national laws to make them more dissuasive as well as increased international cooperation to combat the illegal trade in endangered species are more than ever desired.

The positioning of FTNS as an essential tool for funding parks and cooperation in the tri-national Sangha has strengthened further in 2017. Although the capital was doubled during the year, the objective to mobilize at least € 100 million of capital is still far from being achieved.



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