Available from https://tipas.kew.org/site/dieke-classified-forest/
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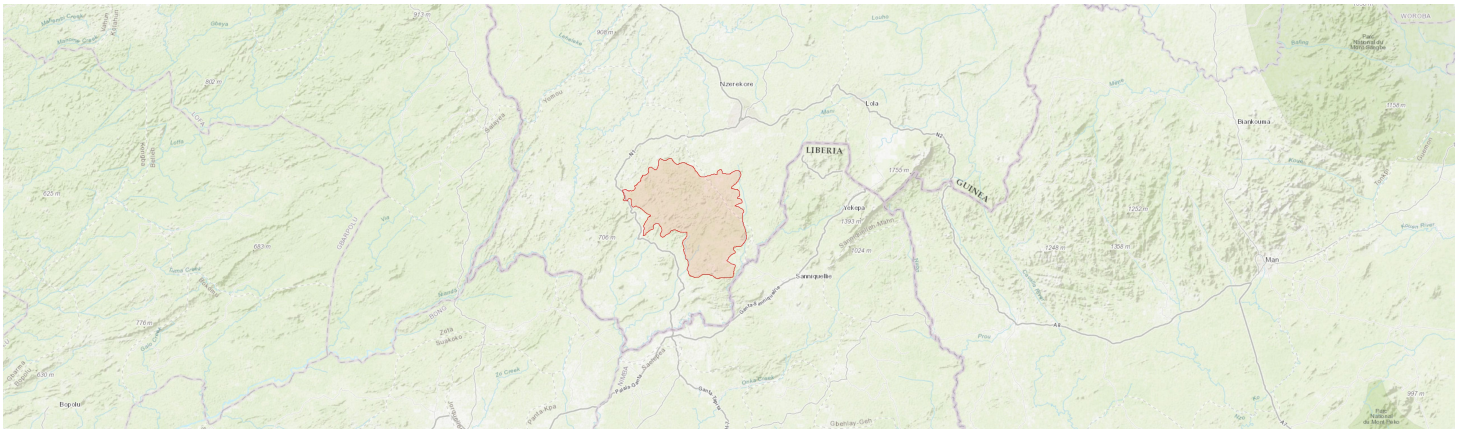
Diéké Classified Forest

Forêt Classée de Diéké (Test version)

GUITIPA002



Country: **Guinea**
Administrative region: **Yomou (Prefecture)**
Central co-ordinates: **7.21000 N, -8.94528 E**
Area: **640km²**

Qualifying IPA criteria

A(i), B(i), C(iii)

IPA assessment rationale

Dièké Classified Forest is the largest intact area of lowland forest remaining in Guinée
Forestière and potentially Guinea as a whole. It has a high diversity of species including 29 threatened species especially timber trees. Many West African trees have their only Guinean location in this forest. Dièké remains to be comprehensively surveyed for its plant species.

Site description

Lowland evergreen forest situated in the south east of Guinée Forestière in Yomou prefecture, close to the border of Liberia. This has been a Classified Forest since 1945. It was previously logged in certain areas leaving an open canopy, but most of the site is still relatively intact forest with an open understory. The forest is bordered by villages and cultivation has encroached on some of the boundaries.

Botanical significance

Dièké is the largest surviving near pristine lowland evergreen forest area in Guinée Forestière. It has many rivers running through it and has a high diversity of plant species including some threatened species e.g. Allophylus samouritourei (Haba, 2018). Large girth trees of timber species are still present forming a dense canopy (Haba, 2016 and 2018).

Habitat and geology

The area is gently undulating with hills reaching 550m, with forested slopes and riverine forest in the valleys. It sits on the late Archean period Mani series of biotite gneiss with localized magnetite. It is part of the Leonean-Liberian crystalline massif.

Conservation issues

Part of the classified forest of Dièké was exploited by the Forët Forte

Company between 2003- 2004, but fortunately they did not do much damage in this brief period. However their activities are thought to have caused the presence of invasive species in the forest.
Areas in the river valleys (Bas-fonds) have been authorized for rice cultivation in recent years, which has led to the encroachment of fields from the surrounding area. The areas closest to Kéréma, Ouéta, Kilikpala, Nonah and Gboimou are especially threatened by encroachment of fields and by the illegal hunting of the neighboring population. In March 2022, areas were observed that had been cleared clandestinely for farming on the edge of the classified forest at Lowi and Saoro.
Towards the East, in the zone of Yonsono, Guêpa and Diécké, hunting dominates and so the forest has remained intact, though small areas are routinely cleared to make camps for the hunters. Eco-guards are present, but they do not regularly patrol the forest. Hunting and harvesting of non-timber forest products are increasing and need to be monitored to ensure sustainable practices are being used. Some species have been observed with bark stripped effectively ring-barking the tree which kill the tree.

Site assessor(s)

Charlotte Couch, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew

Pépé Haba, Guinée Biodiversité

Faya Julien Simbiano, Herbier National de Guinee

IPA criterion A species

SPECIES	QUALIFYING SUB-CRITERION	≥ 1% OF GLOBAL POPULATION	≥ 5% OF NATIONAL POPULATION	1 OF 5 BEST SITES NATIONALLY	ENTIRE GLOBAL POPULATION	SOCIO-ECONOMICALLY IMPORTANT	ABUNDANCE AT SITE
Allophylus samoritourei Cheek	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce
Cola attiensis Aubrév. & Pellegr.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	–	Unknown
Neolemonniera clitandrifolia A.Chev.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	–	Scarce
Tieghemella heckelii (A.Chev.) Pierre ex Dubard	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce
Albizia ferruginea (Guill. & Perr.) Benth.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce
Amanoa bracteosa Planch.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Unknown
Cryptosepalum tetraphyllum (Hook.f.) Benth.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	–	Abundant
Drypetes afzelii (Pax) Hutch.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	–	Scarce
Entandrophragma cylindricum (Sprague) Sprague	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce
Entandrophragma candollei Harms	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce
Entandrophragma utile (Dawe & Sprague) Sprague	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce
Garcinia afzelii Engl.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce
Garcinia epunctata Stapf	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Unknown
Leplaea cedrata (A.Chev.) E.J.M.Koenen & J.J.F.E.de Wilde	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce
Khaya anthotheca C.DC.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce
Khaya ivorensis A.Chev.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce
Khaya grandifoliola C.DC.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce

SPECIES	QUALIFYING SUB-CRITERION	≥ 1% OF GLOBAL POPULATION	≥ 5% OF NATIONAL POPULATION	1 OF 5 BEST SITES NATIONALLY	ENTIRE GLOBAL POPULATION	SOCIO-ECONOMICALLY IMPORTANT	ABUNDANCE AT SITE
Lophira alata Banks ex Gaertn.f.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Abundant
Nauclea diderrichii (De Wild. & T.Durand) Merrill	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Abundant
Pericopsis elata (Harms) Meeuwen	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Unknown
Terminalia ivorensis A.Chev.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce
Cassia fikifiki Aubrev. & Pellegr.	A(i)	✓	–	–	–	✓	Scarce
Copaifera salikounda Heckel	A(i)	✓	–	–	–	✓	Scarce
Tessmannia baikieaoides Hutch. & Dalziel	A(i)	✓	–	–	–	✓	Scarce
Anopyxis klaineana (Pierre) Engl.	A(i)	✓	–	–	–	✓	Scarce
Garcinia kola Heckel	A(i)	✓	–	–	–	✓	Scarce
Guibourtia leonensis J. Lï¿½onard	A(i)	✓	–	✓	–	–	Scarce

IPA criterion C qualifying habitats

HABITAT	QUALIFYING SUB-CRITERION	≥ 5% OF NATIONAL RESOURCE	≥ 10% OF NATIONAL RESOURCE	1 OF 5 BEST SITES NATIONALLY	AREAL COVERAGE AT SITE
West African Lowland Evergreen Forest	C(iii)	–	✓	✓	600

General site habitats

GENERAL SITE HABITAT	PERCENT COVERAGE	IMPORTANCE
Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Moist Lowland Forest	–	Major

Land use types

LAND USE TYPE	PERCENT COVERAGE	IMPORTANCE
Nature conservation	–	Unknown

LAND USE TYPE	PERCENT COVERAGE	IMPORTANCE
Forestry	–	Unknown
Agriculture (arable)	–	Minor

Threats

THREAT	SEVERITY	TIMING
Agriculture & aquaculture - Annual & perennial non-timber crops - Shifting agriculture	Medium	Ongoing - increasing
Biological resource use - Logging & wood harvesting	Low	Past, not likely to return
Biological resource use - Logging & wood harvesting - Intentional use: subsistence/small scale (species being assessed is the target) [harvest]	Medium	Ongoing - increasing
Biological resource use - Gathering terrestrial plants - Intentional use (species being assessed is the target)	Low	Ongoing - trend unknown

Protected areas

PROTECTED AREA NAME	PROTECTED AREA TYPE	RELATIONSHIP WITH IPA	AREAL OVERLAP
Diéké Classified Forest	Classified Forest	protected/conservation area matches IPA	–

Management type

MANAGEMENT TYPE	DESCRIPTION	YEAR STARTED	YEAR FINISHED
No management plan in place		–	–

Bibliography

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