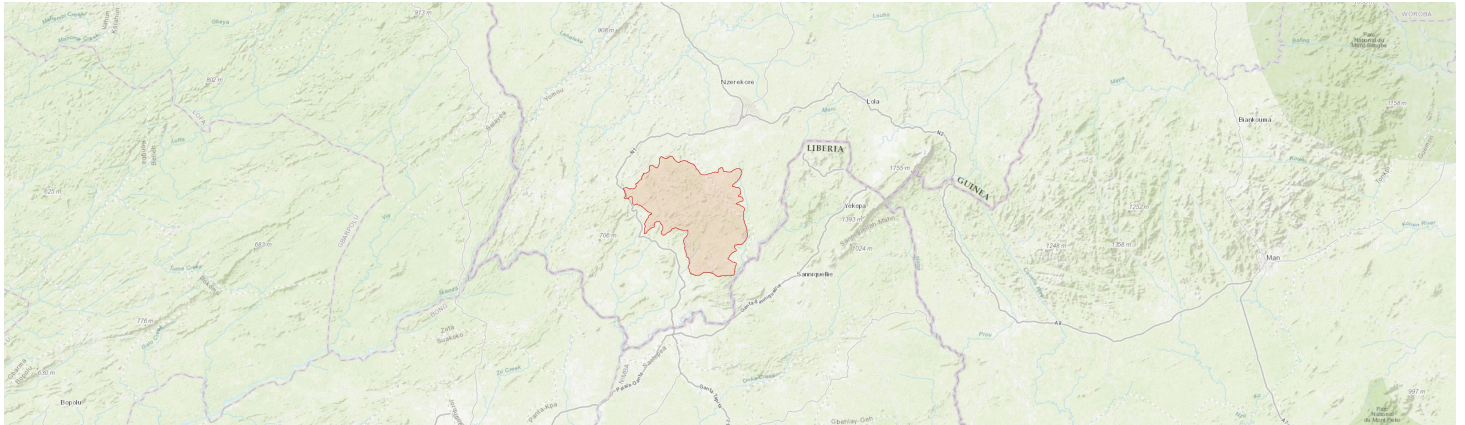


Diéké Classified Forest

Forêt Classée de Diéké (Test version)

GUITIPA002



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

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.

Qualifying IPA criteria

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

Botanical significance

Diéké 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 samouritouri* (Haba, 2018). Large girth trees of timber species are still present forming a dense canopy (Haba, 2016 and 2018).

IPA assessment rationale

Diéké 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. Diéké remains to be comprehensively surveyed for its plant species.

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.

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

Conservation issues

Part of the classified forest of Diéké was exploited by the Forêt 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, Herbar 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
<i>Allophylus samoritourei</i> Cheek	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce
<i>Cola attiensis</i> Aubrév. & Pellegr.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	–	Unknown
<i>Neolemonniera clitandrifolia</i> A.Chev.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	–	Scarce
<i>Tieghemella heckelii</i> (A.Chev.) Pierre ex Dubard	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce
<i>Albizia ferruginea</i> (Guill. & Perr.) Benth.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce
<i>Amanoa bracteosa</i> Planch.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Unknown
<i>Cryptosepalum tetraphyllum</i> (Hook.f.) Benth.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	–	Abundant
<i>Drypetes afzelii</i> (Pax) Hutch.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	–	Scarce
<i>Entandrophragma cylindricum</i> (Sprague) Sprague	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce
<i>Entandrophragma candollei</i> Harms	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce
<i>Entandrophragma utile</i> (Dawe & Sprague) Sprague	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce
<i>Garcinia afzelii</i> Engl.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce
<i>Garcinia epunctata</i> Stapf	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Unknown
<i>Lepalaea cedrata</i> (A.Chev.) E.J.M.Koenen & J.J.F.E.de Wilde	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce
<i>Khaya anthotheca</i> C.DC.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce
<i>Khaya ivorensis</i> A.Chev.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce
<i>Khaya grandifoliola</i> 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
<i>Lophira alata</i> <i>Banks ex Gaertn.f.</i>	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Abundant
<i>Nauclea diderrichii</i> (De Wild. & T.Durand) Merrill	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Abundant
<i>Pericopsis elata</i> (Harms) Meeuwen	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Unknown
<i>Terminalia ivorensis</i> A.Chev.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	–	✓	Scarce
<i>Cassia fikifiki</i> Aubrev. & Pellegr.	A(i)	✓	–	–	–	✓	Scarce
<i>Copaifera salikounda</i> Heckel	A(i)	✓	–	–	–	✓	Scarce
<i>Tessmannia baikieoides</i> Hutch. & Dalziel	A(i)	✓	–	–	–	✓	Scarce
<i>Anopyxis klaineana</i> (Pierre) Engl.	A(i)	✓	–	–	–	✓	Scarce
<i>Garcinia kola</i> Heckel	A(i)	✓	–	–	–	✓	Scarce
<i>Guibourtia leonensis</i> J. Léonard	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
Biological resource use - Logging & wood harvesting	Low	Past, not likely to return
Agriculture & aquaculture - Annual & perennial non-timber crops - Shifting agriculture	Medium	Ongoing - increasing
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		–	–

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