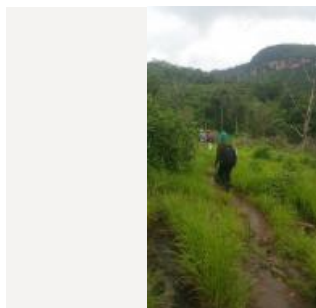
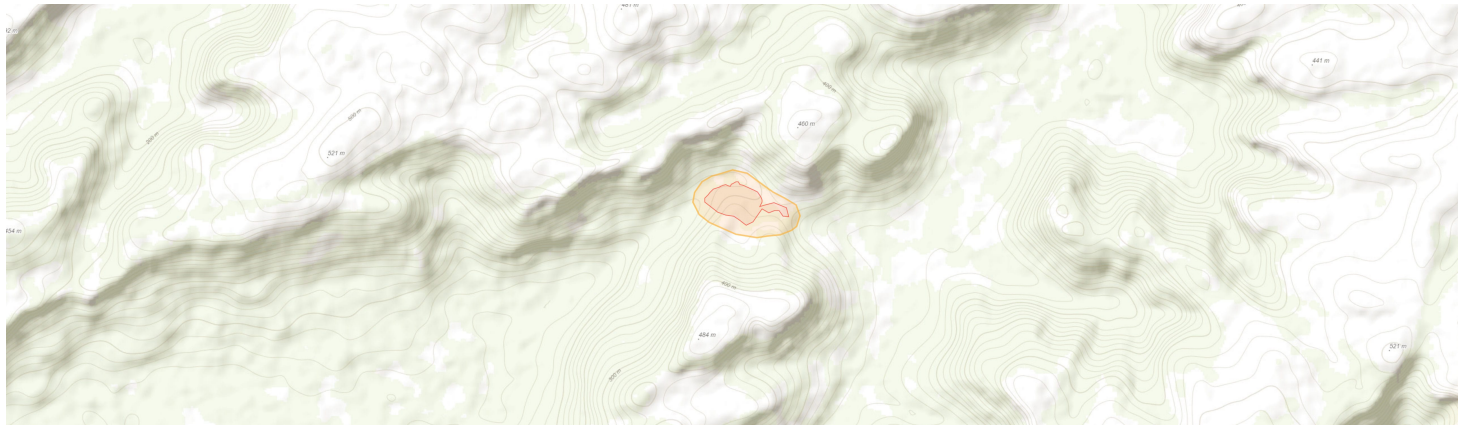


Kakiwondi Forest Patch

Kakiwondi Forêt Sacrée

GUITIPA006



Country: **Guinea**

Administrative region: **Coyah (Prefecture)**

Central co-ordinates: **9.72972 N, -13.29000 E**

Area: **0.1km²**

Qualifying IPA criteria

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

IPA assessment rationale

This remnant of lowland forest is a significant habitat for many threatened species and is a very good, possibly the best, representative of the forest patches of the Coyah hills with likely the second highest species diversity so far recorded for this forest type after the Kounounkan Forest in Forécariah Prefecture. The population of *Tarenna hutchinsonii* is the second largest in Guinée Maritime as well as significant populations of *Diospyros felicianae*, *Baphia heudelotiana* (largest population known globally), *Stylochaeton pilosus* and the newly described *Talbotiella cheekii*. The forest patches of Coyah are under threat from cultivation and Kakiwondi is a good representation. Although it is a sacred forest, it has been impacted by the slash and burn practice.

Site description

Kakiwondi near the village of Tomboya in central hills of Coyah prefecture is a small sacred forest patch protected by the village. This forest is a remnant of the lowland forest that would have covered this area in the past, and is recognised as one of the national threatened vegetation types. The area is on the side of the Wélé Wélé river valley and quite rocky. The dominant tree, *Guibourtia copallifera*, gives its name to forest – Kaki – from the Susu language). The area is small, only 100m², but significant given the pressures of cultivation in surrounding area.

Botanical significance

Kakiwondi is one of the last refuges for some of the rare lowland forest species in the Guinée Maritime region. The region's second largest population of *Tarenna hutchinsonii*, and significant populations of *Diospyros felicianae*, *Baphia heudelotiana* and *Stylochaeton pilosus* and the newly described *Talbotiella cheekii* are all found in this small forest patch. Of several small remnants of lowland forest in the Coyah hills, is it one of the richest in threatened species. It is likely that additional species will be found in future surveys.

Habitat and geology

Small lowland forest patch on the side of a sandstone hill with exposed rocks and boulders of dolerite. It is part of the same Ordovician sandstone ridge that goes northeast through Kindia, up to Pita in the Fouta Djallon. The forest patch is partly sloped and partly plateau with the Wélé Wélé River adjacent.

Conservation issues

Nearby cultivation of land on the slopes using slash and burn clearance methods has led to fire invading the forest patch. Some plants of *Tarenna hutchinsonii* were lost in 2016. The path through the forest is used to reach neighbouring villages of Kaporo, Yataraya and Saliya by foot; currently this does not seem to have a detrimental effect.

Site assessor(s)

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Xander van der Burgt, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

IPA criterion A qualifying 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>Diospyros feliciana</i> Letouzey & F.White	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Scarce
<i>Cryptosepalum tetraphyllum</i> (Hook.f.) Benth.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Scarce
<i>Tessmannia baikieoides</i> Hutch. & Dalziel	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Scarce
<i>Baphia heudelotiana</i> Baill.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	✓	Common
<i>Keetia susu</i> Cheek	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Frequent
<i>Talbotiella cheekii</i> Burgt	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Abundant
<i>Apodiscus chevalieri</i> Hutch.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Scarce
<i>Tarenna hutchinsonii</i> Bremek.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Scarce
<i>Stylochaeton pilosus</i> Bogner	A(i)	—	—	—	—	—	Scarce
<i>Homalium smythei</i> Hutch. & Dalziel	A(i)	—	—	—	—	—	Occasional

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)	—	—	—	—

General site habitats

GENERAL SITE HABITAT	PERCENT COVERAGE	IMPORTANCE
Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Moist Lowland Forest	100	Major

Land use types

LAND USE TYPE	PERCENT COVERAGE	IMPORTANCE
Nature conservation	100	Unknown

Threats

THREAT	SEVERITY	TIMING
Agriculture & aquaculture - Annual & perennial non-timber crops - Shifting agriculture	High	Ongoing - increasing

Protected areas

PROTECTED AREA NAME	PROTECTED AREA TYPE	RELATIONSHIP WITH IPA	AREAL OVERLAP
Kakiwondi	Community conservation area	protected/conservation area matches IPA	—

Management type

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

Bibliography

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