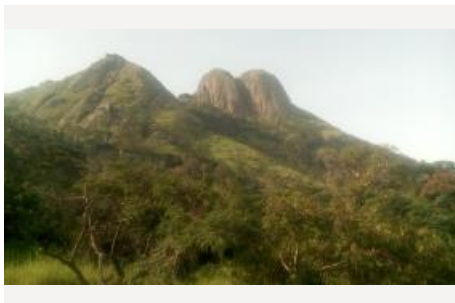
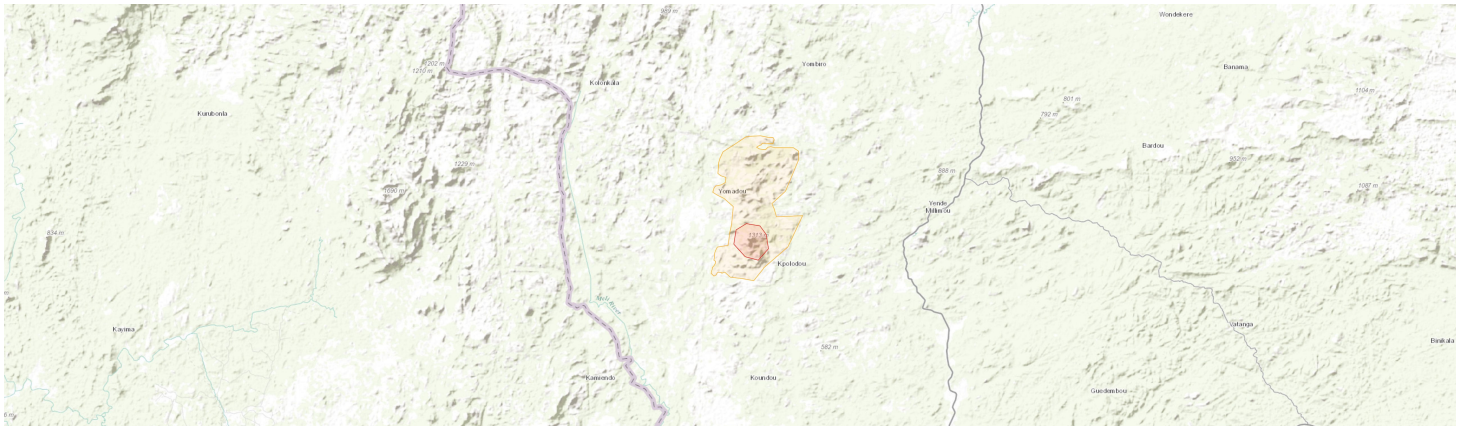


Mt Konossou

GUITIPA009



Country: **Guinea**

Administrative region: **Guéckédou (Prefecture)**

Central co-ordinates: **8.88028 N, -10.36833 E**

Area: **16km²**

main peak is at 1350 m, with several smaller peaks between 900m and 1300m over a core area of 16km², with a buffer zone of 136km².

Qualifying IPA criteria

A(i), C(iii)

Botanical significance

This is only known site for the Guinean endemic *Feliciadamia stenocarpa*, rediscovered in 2017. This species of Melastomataceae is a monospecific genus and is only known to grow in the moist shaded overhangs in the granite between 900m and 1350m.

IPA assessment rationale

Mt Konossou is the only known global location for the endemic monospecific genus *Feliciadamia stenocarpa*. Its habitat is threatened by uncontrolled burning for agriculture and hunting and needs to be better protected, otherwise this species will become extinct. Granite inselbergs are a threatened habitat in Guinea as they are often quarried.

Habitat and geology

Granitic outcrop belonging to the Leonean-Liberian massif, from the late Archean period. It forms part of the chain of inselbergs and granite outcrops extending northeast-southwest from Kissidougou prefecture into Sierra Leone, and east in Guinea to Macenta prefecture. The vegetation ranges from grassland, with small marsh areas, to shaded cliffs, and wooded grassland at the base of the mountain, with gallery forest along the base and small pockets of forest at the summit.

Site description

Mt Konossou is a small chain of granitic mountains in the Guéckédou prefecture situated between the sub-prefectures of Kassadou and Gbolodou in Guinée Forestière. It is locally called Konsou in the local Lélé dialect which means 'mountain of rock'. The

Conservation issues

The main threats to this area are from the neighbouring populations at Yogboma, Gbodou, and Songbo. Hunters and farmers set fires for field clearance and hunting. This uncontrolled burning may be a real threat to the population of *Feliciadamia stenocarpa*, if seed heads are burnt in the dry season. There are also some rice fields that have been made on the plateaus at 600-700m altitude. There are forest guards present in the area, but due to the size of their area for patrol, little protection is provided. Granite inselbergs are a threatened habitat in Guinea, as they are often quarried for building materials. However, this site's remote location is currently protecting it from quarrying.

Site assessor(s)

Pépé Haba, Guinée Biodiversité

Charlotte Couch, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew

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>Feliciadamia stenocarpa</i> (Jacq.-Fél.) Bullock	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	✓	—	Scarce
<i>Dissotis leonensis</i> Hutch. & Dalziel	A(i)	✓	—	—	—	—	Scarce
<i>Gladiolus praecostatus</i> Marais	A(i)	✓	—	—	—	—	Scarce
<i>Loudetiopsis baldwinii</i> C.E.Hubb.	A(i)	✓	✓	✓	—	—	Frequent

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
Granite Inselbergs	C(iii)	—	—	—	—

General site habitats

GENERAL SITE HABITAT	PERCENT COVERAGE	IMPORTANCE
Rocky Areas - Rocky Areas [e.g. inland cliffs, mountain peaks]	—	Major
Grassland - Subtropical/Tropical High Altitude Grassland	—	Major

Land use types

LAND USE TYPE	PERCENT COVERAGE	IMPORTANCE
Agriculture (pastoral)	—	Major

Threats

THREAT	SEVERITY	TIMING
Agriculture & aquaculture - Livestock farming & ranching - Small-holder grazing, ranching or farming	Medium	Ongoing - stable
Natural system modifications - Fire & fire suppression - Increase in fire frequency/intensity	High	Ongoing - stable

Protected areas

PROTECTED AREA NAME	PROTECTED AREA TYPE	RELATIONSHIP WITH IPA	AREAL OVERLAP
Mt Konossou	Classified Forest	IPA encompasses protected/conservation area	—

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