Public Summary of Management Plan
GWI 3
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General Presentation

Gabon Wood Industries

We are a Malaysian Company who has been investing in Gabon since 25 years ago. Gabon Wood Industries (GWI) was established in 2012 in the Gabon Special Economic Zone (GSEZ). We own 12 ha of industrial land and approximately 400,000 ha of forest mainly in the southern part of Gabon with an annual production of approximately 400,000 m$^3$ of round logs. We operate our forest under Sustainable Forest Management practices ensuring the products you buy from us are of quality, reliable and most importantly, sustainable and environmentally friendly.

A CPAET for GWI 3 was signed on June 10, 2015, between the Minister of Forestry and GWI. GWI 3 consists of 4 PFAs (PFA 11/10, PFA 12/10, PFA 13/10 and PFA 14/10), for a total area of 160,000 ha.

Environment

Climate

GWI 3 CFAD (Forest Concession under Sustainable Management) is under a transitional tropical rainfall pattern with a short dry season of three months (June, July and August) followed by a long wet season of nine months, characterized by a more or less significant rainfall decrease (usually during three months). It rains from 2,000 to 2,800 mm per year.
Topography

Elevations range from 320 m in the southern part of PFA 13/10 to 900 m in the northern part of PFA 11/10. The relief is formed mainly by convex hills with medium to steep slopes, with 62% of the area on slopes between 16% and 50%. Operating conditions are conditions are moderate to difficult.

Fauna

Most of the fauna species present within GWI 1 are medium and large mammals. Some characteristic reptiles were also searched. In total, 66 species such as gorilla, elephant, buffalo, chimpanzee and many duikers were surveyed.

Vegetation

There are three types of vegetation formations on this CFAD:

1. Old and recent village crops occupy a very large area (over 18,000 ha) on both sides of the Mbigou-Malinga road;
2. There are a few swamps along the Louetsi, Louambitsi, and especially the Loumbi rivers, covering about 1,000 ha;
3. The remainder of the CFAD is covered by dense terra firma forest on approximately 145,300 ha.

Socio-Economic Analysis

A socio-economic study was conducted during 2017 by CURFOD in the villages located in and near the CFAD. We summarize the main points here.

The information collected shows the cohabitation of three (3) ethnic groups in the GWI zone: the Nzebi, the Wumbu and the Akele, whose dominant group is the Nzebi.

An examination of the geographic and spatial distribution shows that:

1. The Nzébi are present in all the villages of the GWI 3 concession, whether in Mbigou or Malinga.
2. As for the Akele, they are found in GWI Concession 3 of the Boumi Louetsi in Mbigou.
3. The Wumbu ethnolinguistic group is found in certain villages of Malinga.

Information of the Concession

Management Inventory

The results of the management inventories are detailed in the management inventory reports.

The management inventory is the major tool for the rational and planned management of the forest concession. It allows an evaluation of the timber resource, in quality and quantity, a
better knowledge of the dynamics of the populations, of the wildlife resource and of the use of the products of the forest by the local populations.

We wanted to have inventory results with a minimum accuracy of 10% for the main species at the CFAD level. In accordance with the inventory protocol, 285 plots were therefore installed in GWI 3.

With this arrangement, the sampling rate obtained is approximately 0.9% for the main species that can be harvested, with an average spacing between plots of 3,500 m.

**Objective Species**

Twenty-five objective species are defined for CFAD GWI 3:

Group P1: 1. Okoumé; 2. Ozigo;


**Forest Management Measures**

**Forest Management Objectives**

**Sustainable Timber Production and Processing**

GWI is in the business of logging and processing timber into finished products.

The main objective of the operation is therefore to harvest okoumé logs and other species for local processing.

**Socio-Economic Objective**

The CFAD is mainly inhabited along the main roads. The population lives mainly from agriculture and harvesting.

In view of the discontinuous nature of the village boundaries and given the human density in certain areas, it is proposed to set up areas for the use of the populations.

**Environmental Objective**

The forest that covers GWI 3 is a forest of Burseraceae, Euphorbiaceae, Caesalpiniaceae and Myristicaceae, mostly of medium altitude.

Remarkable forest formations, notably the forest in the altitude zone above 700 m, are present in the north of the CFAD. This justifies the creation of a conservation series.
Some species that are very rare in CFAD (less than 5 trees/100 ha of more than 17.5 cm in diameter) and that are listed as "Vulnerable" on the IUCN list are excluded from exploitation in certain UFG.

Protection of environment will be carried out throughout the CFAD, and especially in the production areas through low-impact logging, particularly in the hilly, steeply sloping areas, located in the Ramsar zone.

The impact of the operation on wildlife will be reduced primarily by the control of hunting by company personnel and its contractors.

**Series of Production, Conservation, Usage of Population and UFG**

![Map of CFAD with UFG regions](image)

**Rules of Operation**

**Sustainable Forest Management**

The inventory of exploitation is carried out by systematic grid of east-west and north-south.

The list of species to be inventoried corresponds to the objective species. The minimum diameters of inventory will be the diameter in the Management Plan.

All qualities are inventoried, and labeled with a plastic tag with a number, nailed to the tree.
Future trees and seedlings will be identified at the time of tracking. Species prohibited from harvesting will be visibly marked.

**Reduced Impact Logging**

All recommendations and guidelines contained in the FAO Regional Code for Low Impact Logging in the Dense Tropical Rainforests of West and Central Africa shall be applied, including recommendations for road construction, felling, trimming in the forest, skidding, trimming in log yards, etc.

**Social Measures**

**Internal Social**

Continuous effort by the Company will be made to improve on these areas which concern the staff: security, health, hygiene, training (first aid, directional felling and so on) etc.

**External Social**

Contribution to local development will be managed in accordance with article 251 of the Forestry Code

**Environmental Measures**

Measures will be taken by the Company to protect the environment and biodiversity including proper planning of road, maintenance of watercourse etc.