

Forests4Future Cameroon

Giving forests a future



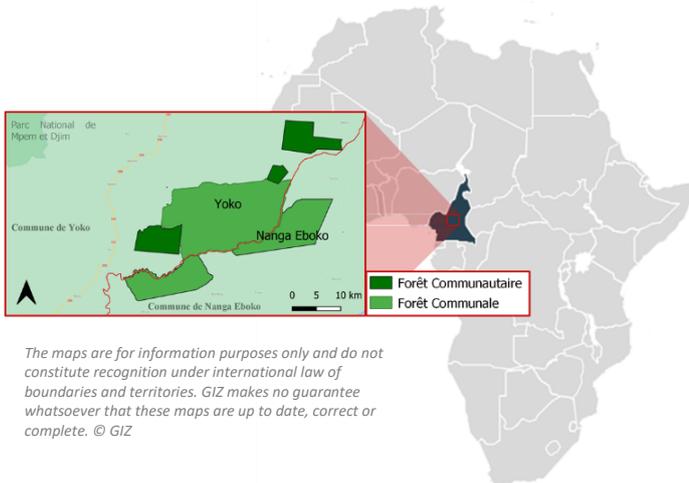
The objective of the project is for local, national and international stakeholders to contribute to the forest landscape restoration (FLR) of the peripheral zone of Yoko and Nanga-Eboko community forests (Central Region) in accordance with the AFR100 initiative in order to improve the living standards of the population in adjacent villages.

Context

With a share of around 6% of GDP, forestry is Cameroon's third largest economic sector. The country lost 2% of its rainforest between 2001 and 2015 (about 440,000 ha). Smallholder agricultural expansion, but also a growing agro-industry (including cocoa and palm oil) pose a threat to the remaining forests. Deforestation and degradation of forest landscapes and savannahs are also consequences of illegal logging and forest fires. Fires commonly used by nomadic livestock herders in particular as a means of renewing their pastures.



Description	Global project on forest landscape restoration and good governance in the forest sector in Cameroon
Commissioning party	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Implementing organisation	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Region	Centre Region, Yoko and Nanga-Eboko municipalities, Cameroon
Lead executing agencies	Ministry of Forestry (MINFOF) and Ministry of Environment (MINEPDED)
Further implementation partner	Ministry of Planning (MINEPAT)
Term	2022 – 2026



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Aside from direct pressure as a result of use by the local population, there are several other reasons that prevent the restoration of forest landscapes:

- Weak governance structures and the lack of sustainable use concepts
- Inadequate enforcement of existing laws, lack of local land use planning, lack of access to secure land tenure and land use rights



Left: Forest landscape in Mankim, Centre Region, © Malin Elsen, GIZ

Right: Forest landscape degraded by deforestation and erosion, Centre Region, © Malin Elsen GIZ



Left: Nomadic livestock herding, Mekoassim, Centre Region, © Malin Elsen, GIZ

Right: Workshop with local people in Mbeimbeing, Centre Region, as part of the Restoration Opportunity Assessment ProFE, © Malin Elsen, GIZ

- Insufficient control and monitoring of timber exploitation in the forest

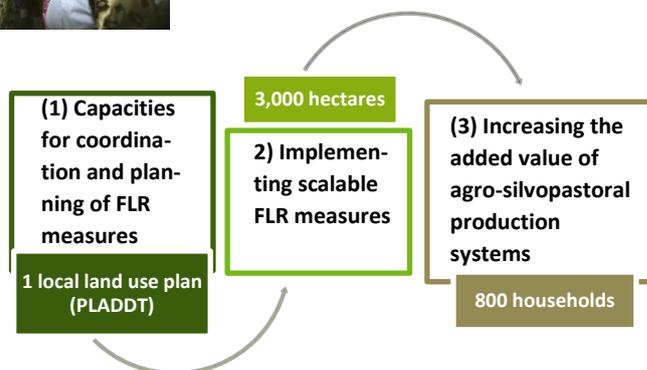
Project goals and approaches

The institutional framework for the implementation of forest landscape restoration (FLR) strategies is largely in place in Cameroon's environmental sector. However, capacity and financial resources for implementing forest conservation and restoration measures are limited at the community and private levels.

This is where GIZ's global project on forest landscape restoration and good governance in the forest sector (Forests4Future, F4F) comes in. The Cameroon country package combines landscape and forest approaches, thus highlighting the special role of forests in rural development in the context of food security. It contributes directly to the fulfilment of Cameroon's commitment under the AFR100 initiative and is aligned with the country's National Development Strategy (SND 30) and the national FLR Strategic Framework.

The FLR measures and the suitable sites for implementation are selected on the basis of a participatory land use planning. The measures to protect and rehabilitate the peripheric zone of Yoko and Nanga-Eboko community forests are planned to complement community forest management. Measures can range from plantations for energy wood, to the promotion of agroforestry systems and other tree-based value chains, to the creation of grazing areas, firebreak protection and fodder production. The aim is to achieve indirect positive scale effects (of around 40,000 hectares) through, among others, the reduction of the pressure on the forest's natural resources.

The concrete outputs of the project in Cameroon cover the following thematic areas:



In addition to the FLR activities, a component of the project, co-financed by the FCDO, supports the process of accompanying actors involved in the timber value chain to improve their legal compliance. The component aims to strengthen the capacities of actors in charge of forestry, environment, labour and customs to improve the verification of the legality of timber.

Expected results of the measures...

To improve the general conditions for implementing the FLR strategy, the project adopts a number of approaches, including:

- Strengthening the planning and coordination capacities of partners and actors
- Preserving the exceptional biodiversity of the Yoko communal forest by protecting and regenerating its forest and savannah ecosystems
- Promoting women and disadvantaged groups and creating long-term opportunities for income generation
- Developing land use plans to make an important contribution to securing the land rights of users and towards reducing use conflicts

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