THE MAYOMBE TRANSFRONTIER INITIATIVE

Presentation:
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Maps:
Lilian Pintea, Jane Goodall Institute
1st phase: southern part: DRC, Angola, R Congo

2nd phase: northern part: R Congo, Gabon

3rd phase: southern coastal context
Ecological importance
Sensitive and rich ecosystems with global biodiversity importance and species of outstanding global interest
Southern-western margin of the Congo Basin tropical rainforest and of distribution of lowland gorillas, chimpanzees, among other species
Center of endemism
Intact Forest Landscapes in the Proposed Mayombe TPA

Classification simplifiée
- Intact Forest Landscape
- Dense Humid Forest
- Proposed TPA area: Phase 1
- Proposed TPA area: Phase 2

Data sources: Greenpeace, World Resources Institute, Global Forest Watch, Biodiversity Conservation Center, International Socio-Ecological Union, and Transparent World; Esri ArcGIS Online

IUCN the Jane Goodall Institute
Socio-economic and Political importance - and challenges...

Relatively large population
Remote communities, extreme poverty
National priority
Impacts of prolonged armed conflicts and unrest
Potential to promote a culture of peace, regional cooperation and exchange
MAIN IDENTIFIED THREATS:

Deforestation
Poaching
Unsustainable development works
Mining interests
Invasive species (*Chromolaena*)
Human-Wildlife Conflict
Impacts of armed conflict and poverty
Encroachment; unsustainable land use
Anarchic logging; weak control and enforcement of both anarchic and certified logging
Destructive development works; lack of multi-sectorial coordination
Subsistence poaching - significant livelihood in parts of the area
Cross border traffic (bushmeat, pet trade, timber, other); weak law enforcement; weak cross-border cooperation; International criminal networks
Unequal biodiversity degradation within the Mayombe complex, resulting with cross border illegal traffic of wild fauna and flora: increases importance of cooperation and joint protection and enforcement measures.
Cabinda, Angola

Niari, Congo
Cabinda, 2010

Cabinda, 2020?
The Mayombe Transfrontier Initiative
- Some milestones:

2000: Maiombe Forest conservation project in Angola initiated; the trasfrontier initiative conceptualized (Ron, 2000); adopted by the Angolan Government;
2002: the initiative adopted by RCongo, (UNDP mission to RCongo prompted by the Angolan Environment Minister, Ron, 2002);
Maiombe Forest TFCA listed among potential SADC TFCAs (Hall-Martin & Modise, 2002);
2003: The Maiombe transfrontier conservation initiative presented at the World Parks Congress, Durban, and proposal distributed to potential partners (Ron, 2003);
2004: The transfrontier initiative adopted by DRC
The Mayombe Transfrontier Initiative
- Some milestones (cont.):

July 2009: Cabinda Accord and MoU signed between Congo, Angola and DRC;
2009-2011: UNEP-IUCN lead Mayombe Transfrontier Project with Norwegian Government support: several studies, grant proposals and a Strategic Plan elaborated (JGI, 2011; Ecosphere, 2011; Ron, 2010, 2011)
February 2013: The Strategic Plan Adopted;
Gabon joined the Mayombe Transfrontier Initiative
STRATEGIC PLAN

Vision
Sustainable management of the Mayombe forest ecosystems, for protecting biodiversity of global importance, and for enhancing socio-economic development, a culture of peace and cooperation in a trans-boundary and post-conflict zone, and beyond.
STRATEGIC PLAN
Key Result Areas
Legal and policy frameworks
Institutional frameworks and a participatory approach
Spatial/land-use planning and sustainable management of the Mayombe forest TFCA
Sustainable economic development
Law enforcement (and cooperation)
Awareness; education; technical capacity building
Baseline surveys and bio-monitoring
Financial sustainability
Local stakeholders consultation
The Club of Friends of Nature
Some good news:

Congo: JGI study: Dimonika; South-north connectivity;
Angola: Maiombe National Park (Dec 2011); first rangers trained
DRC: WWF study Tshela – chimpanzee presence Confirmed
Gabon: joined the initiative (Feb 2013)
For our future generations
And for our relatives

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and the small things too