



# Dzanga Sangha Protected Areas

[www.dzanga-sangha.org](http://www.dzanga-sangha.org)



*A new gorilla in DSPA © Stef de Betune*

## Newsletter January 2023







## Wildlife

Following a series of sad events in the gorilla families these last months, we finally have some good news. We welcomed a newborn baby into the Makumba group from the female Mabor. This is Mabor's second offspring in the group since she joined in 2016 and born when her older offspring Mbindjio (born in 2019) just moved from infant to juvenile stage. More updates on the newborn will follow soon.



*Mabor with her new offspring © Ayuk Emmanuel*

In relation to elephants, a 39-year-old female nicknamed Kinktail II (first daughter of Kinktail mother) was identified at Dzanga bai in February 2022 accompanied by two juveniles, both estimated to be over five years old. Since this first observation, they have continuously visited the Dzanga clearing. Kinktail II was pregnant, but since there is no detailed information on the advanced stages of gestation for forest elephants, prediction of a calving date was not possible. Gestation in elephants lasts 22 months, and gestation data on Kinktail II was collected for just the last 10 months. She was last seen in her pregnant state on November 19, 2022, and she visited the bai on January 22, 2023, with her newborn calf, which is a female.



*Adult female Kinktail II at Dzanga Bai with her two juveniles seen in February 2022. Photo showing her small family. I.Kienast for the Yang Center/WWF*



*Adult female Kinktail II at Dzanga Bai with her pregnancy seen in October 2022. Photo showing her belly swelling on the right side. I.Yankoisie for the Yang Center/WWF*





*Adult female Kinktail II at Dzanga Bai in January 2023 with her newborn. I.Yankoisie for the Yang Center/WWF*



*The observation platform at Dzanga bai © David Santiago*



We held a vaccination campaign against rabies for dogs and cats in Bayanga. During this 3-day campaign, 141 dogs and cats received a dose of vaccine and vaccination cards were provided to the owners.






© Frederick Singa



© Frederick Singa

Dzanga bai data: based on the number counted every 30 minutes between 11:00 to 16:30 each day of the month.

Species	Minimum	Average	Maximum
	15	110	183
	0	5	34
	0	2	8



## Discover the Biodiversity of the DSPA



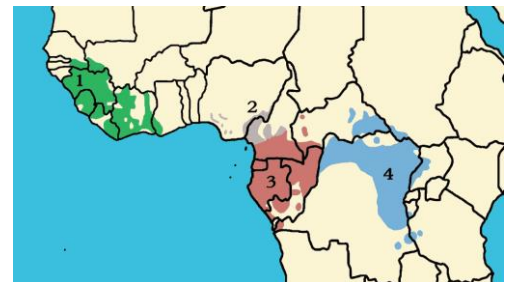
Photo camera trap © WWF / Dzanga Sangha

**Scientific name** Pan troglodytes

**English name:** chimpanzee

**Taxonomy:**

- Class : mammalia
- Order : primates
- Family : hominidae
- Genus : pan
- Specie : P. troglodytes



The **chimpanzee** is a species of great ape native to the forest and savannah of tropical Africa.

The chimpanzee lives in groups that range in size from 15 to 150 members, although individuals travel and forage in much smaller groups during the day.

Although they normally walk on all fours, supporting themselves on their knuckles, chimpanzees can also walk upright. Swinging from branch to branch, they move quite efficiently through the trees, where they feed and sleep, using leaf nests.

Chimpanzees generally feed on fruits and other plant parts, but they also consume insects, eggs, and meat, including carrion. They also hunt and eat monkeys.

Chimpanzees are one of the few animal species that use tools. They use and shape the sticks to reach insects or larvae. They also use stones to crack nuts and use leaves as small sponges to absorb drinking water.



## Antipoaching

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The rangers carried out regular patrols throughout the entire month. They arrested 27 alleged poachers inside the park but these were sensitized and subsequently released



© Mark Garrigues

38 regular patrols and 3 patrols from the tri-national anti-poaching brigade were conducted. In total 1.798 ranger/days, 2.006 km traveled on foot to cover an area of 2.307 km<sup>2</sup>. This resulted in the seizure of 9 manufactured 12-gauge shotguns, 42-gauge cartridges, 199 kg of meat and 1 kg of pangolin scales. In addition, 761 metal snares were dismantled. 27 people were arrested, no poached elephant carcass was found in the Park.



## Community Development

The communication unit and the community development department have relaunched the environmental education program called "Friends of Nature". Community representatives in the villages of Bomandjoku and Babongo were consulted in January on the importance of environmental education for children, and the interest of the communities for this activity. The feedback was very positive, and 282 children (144 boys and 138 girls) were engaged, who will now have monthly environmental education activities in their villages.

We supported the capacity building of over 100 basic education teachers in the region during an educational event during which they also received new teaching manuals.



*Teachers at the school © Christian Bassoum*

We started the training of 10 young people, including 4 girls and 6 boys in sewing and 5 boys in carpentry, within the professional training program for the community.



*© Christian Bassoum*



*© Christian Bassoum*

Vocational training is an important aspect of the community development strategy. It contributes to the diversification of monetary income and to the reduction of pressure on forest resources.



We organized a 5-day learning workshop for young people (23 girls and 35 boys) from the Ndima-Kali association based in Bomandjokou and Lindjombo on the weaving of traditional mats as well as reciting tales and stories.



© Martial Betoulet



© Martial Betoulet

We continue monitoring school attendance of students from indigenous communities through the Permanent Support System for Indigenous Peoples. Over 1,600 indigenous students attend school as of the end of January 2023

**Main DSPA Health Data Number of patients**

Structure	Number of patients
Monasao Health Post	427
Belemboke Health Post	442
<b>Total</b>	<b>869</b>





## Park Administration

This month we have received a donation from Explorers Against Extinction, for the elephant collaring program.  
<https://explorersagainstextinction.co.uk/project/keeping-watch-over-the-forest-elephants-of-dzanga-sangha/>



***“Continuous collaring efforts are needed to better understand the life of forest elephants in Dzanga Sangha, and to protect them. The funds raised by Explorers Against Extinction will help us achieve that goal. Thank you.”***

**Luis Arranz**

Dzanga Sangha Project Director

We started the rehabilitation of the 42 km stretch of road leading to the Kongana ranger training center



## Tourism and Marketing

The year 2023 has started off very well, with a lot of interest from tourists and again from film crews to come and film at Dzanga Sangha.



© Rostand Mbolobe

A new story has been published in Dzanga Sangha website. It is about an interview with Terence Fuh Neba who worked for 11 years in the primate habituation program . <https://dzanga-sangha.org/stories/the-interview-terence/>

