



# Dzanga Sangha Protected Areas

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



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## Newsletter August 2024



## DSPA receives funds from



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# K Lisa Yang



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## DSPA collaborates with



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## Wildlife

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The habituation of the Limo group is progressing rapidly, with increasingly longer observation times and less aggression. Two more individuals are being observed from time to time and the females from the Mata group (Payo, Wusa, Indolia and Mpokapoka) are getting used to our presence again day by day.

You can see the progress here [https://youtu.be/\\_2JseKO80r8?feature=shared](https://youtu.be/_2JseKO80r8?feature=shared)

We are also following two other groups with potential for habituation. One group seems to have a former female of Makumba (Mabo), and the other group is responding favorably to the habituation process.



Exchange of regard between the PHP team and Limo ©Antoine Edé



Payo a daughter of Mata is in the group with her mother Indolia, thus facilitating the habituation process. ©Antoine Edé



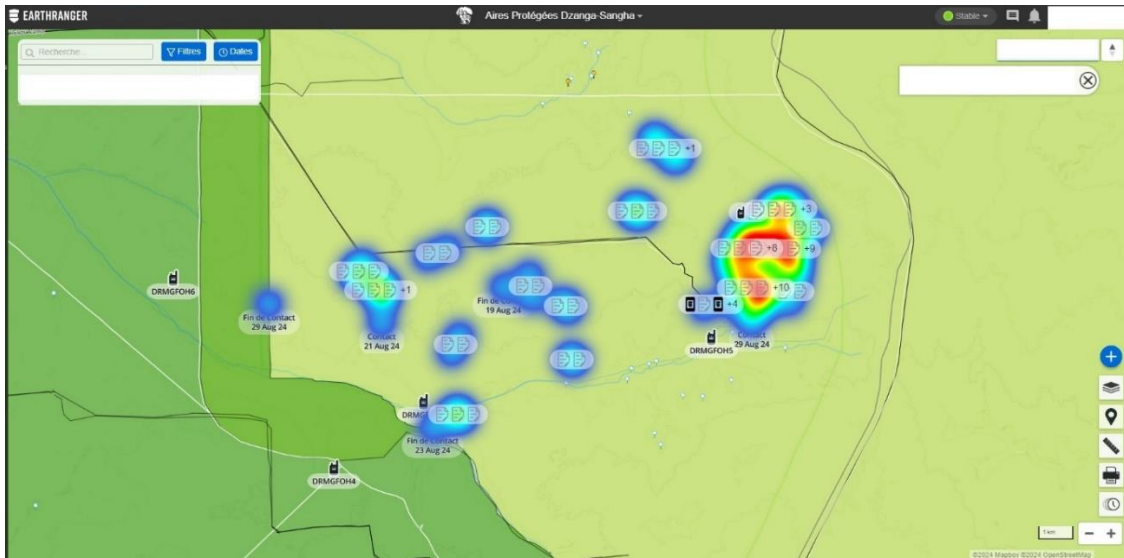
During the month of August, at least 5 elephants were born in DSPA.



*From left to right and top to bottom. (1) Female offspring of Kairos, 3 to 4 weeks old. (2) An unknown female with her offspring born on that same day. Residue of the umbilical cord can still be seen on the little female. (3) Morna III's little daughter, only a few days old. (4) Male offspring of Bona IV. (5) Ariel IV with her one-week-old female offspring. ©ELP for the Yang Center/WWF.*



The training of the PHP assistants on the use of the EarthRanger software is ongoing and improvements have been already observed. Automatic alerts are now sent to the relevant departments when we find animal carcasses or traces of poaching in the forest, thus facilitating communication and cooperation between the APDS departments. A map with the routes of each team is available on the software for daily debriefings and we can even follow the teams in real time, which provides greater security.






Example of using Earthranger: Visualization of all contacts with gorilla groups for the month of August (red color indicates a significant number of contacts in a given area)

Denis Lambert, head of the forestry department of the DSPA has successfully defended his PhD thesis on the topic “Land control as a territorial management tool. Case of Dzanga Sangha in the Central African Republic”.

A monitoring mission of the STBCA logging company located in the northwestern part of the APDS took place. The main objective of these missions is to verify the monitoring of the management plan by forestry companies and to support them towards more sustainable practices. Certain activities of the forest exploitation are verified, in particular the cutting method. Indeed, the orientation of the fall of the trunk makes it possible to minimize the impact on the forest and is therefore important for improving forest management practices.

Dzanga Bai data collected in collaboration with the Elephant Listening Project: presence of mammals at the clearing based on the number of individuals counted every 30 minutes from 11:00 to 16:30 each day of the month.

<i>Species</i>	<i>Minimum</i>	<i>Average</i>	<i>Maximum</i>
	25	51	135
	0	7	35
	0	4	11





## Antipoaching

*August was a bad month for us, as we lost three elephants that were killed by poachers. The poachers were caught and condoned to 10 years of jail by the central African judicial system.*



*Rangers in Patrol © Miguel Bellosta*

39 regular patrols were conducted involving 81 rangers. In total 1.583 rangers/days. 2.144 km were traveled on foot.

This resulted in the seizure of 1 manufactured 12-gauge firearms, and 2 homemade firearms.

10 kg of illegal wild meat were seized, and 4.237 metal snares were dismantled.

Three elephants were poached.



## Community Conservation

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This year, the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples was celebrated under the theme: "Protecting the rights of indigenous peoples in situations of voluntary isolation and initial contact." It was organized in synergy by the Maison de l'Enfant et de la Femme Pygmée (MEFP), the Union des Communautés Ba'aka (UCB) and Ndimakali, under the coordination of the APDS Community Development and Rights Department.

The festivities began outdoors in Kanza, and ended the next day at the large football stadium in Bayanga. In total, more than 500 people representing all the villages participated.

On the program were several Ba'aka cultural activities such as dance, presentation of stands with exhibition and sales of Ba'aka art objects and traditional medicine, screening of documentaries and awareness-raising on issues of human rights and responsibilities, as well as on zoonoses. The vigil lasted until dawn with traditional dances around the fire.



© Amandine Toubou





© Amandine Toumbou



Exhibition stands sales of traditional Ba'aka objects and products © Amandine Toumbou





Participants of the dance contest © Amandine Toumbou



© Amandine Toumbou





The 5 young girls who won the APDS “youth useful vacations” project competition opened their restaurant in early August 2024. The restaurant is located in Bayanga, on the market square, at the place called “la cave Loisirs”. The girls have an agreement with the owner to use the space for free and store some of their goods there.



*A new restaurant in Bayanga trying to get a Michelin Star © Amandine Toumbou*

This August, the APDS welcomed a post-doctoral volunteer from the University of Brussels, whose expertise in climate change governance policies and the prospects for mitigation and adaptation, will support the Development and Community Law department in the implementation of the various development projects allocated to it.

<i>Main DSPA Health Data Number of patients</i>	
<b>Structure</b>	<b>Number of patients</b>
Monasao Health Post	805
Belemboke Health Post	671
<b>Total</b>	<b>1476</b>



## Park Administration

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The condition of the main road that goes to Bangui was very poor and we have begun its rehabilitation with the help of the local population. We have commissioned a piece to each town, which equaly to more than 25 kilometers of road and more than 500 people working on it.



© Amandine Toumbou



The local communities, in collaboration with DSPA, have rehabilitated the main road to Bangui © Amandine Toumbou





## Tourism and Marketing

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Despite the start of the rainy season tourists continue coming. This month we have received three new tour operators: Chalo Africa (Indian tour operator), Lernidee (from Germany), and Diamir (also from Germany).

For the months of January and February 2025, the lodge is already fully booked.



© Ducrec Expeditions





## Arrivals and departures

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Jana Gheuens, from the University of Brussels, expert in climate change governance policies and the prospects for mitigation and adaptation.

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