



## GREENPEACE: Africa plantations of oil palm and rubber threaten the habitat of the great apes.

in Greenpeace news, Address book /

On the eve of the International Day of Forests - promoted for 21 March by the United Nations - Greenpeace returns to denounce the dangers in Central Africa run habitats of very rare species of primates, threatened by the expansion of industrial plantations.



Some satellite images, possess Greenpeace Africa, show that more than 3000 hectares of rainforest bordering the Dja Faunal Reserve, in the South region of Cameroon, have already been destroyed to make way for crops of rubber and palm oil concession to the Chinese company Hevea South. The reserve is UNESCO World Heritage Site and home to gorillas, chimpanzees and mandrills.

A survey conducted last December just from Greenpeace Africa has also revealed that the Cameroonian society Azur is aiming to convert to oil palm plantation a large area of dense forest in the region of Littoral C

amerun. Much of this is adjacent you to the forest of Ebo, where there should be a national park and home to many mammals, such as forest elephants, and several primate species at risk of extinction.



Among these, il Drillo - a specimen of a very rare monkey, which can be found mainly in Cameroon - and subspecies of chimpanzee "Nigeria-Cameroon", one of the most endangered primates in the world due to the destruction of its habitat by illegal logging, poaching, trade of bushmeat and the effects of climate change.



The concessions to food companies on an industrial scale, often foreign-owned, are assigned in West and Central without a proper planning. This can cause social conflicts - when deforestation occurs without the consent of local communities - and can have significant negative impacts on endangered species belonging to that ecosystem, since many concessions are to overlap in forest areas with high biodiversity value.



The Congo Basin is the second area of rainforest the world's largest. Its rich and diverse ecosystem provides food, drinking water, shelter and medicine for tens of millions of people. The conservation of these forests is vital in the fight against climate change. But the area at risk is



increasing, threatened the growing global demand for resources, by

corruption and weak law enforcement.

View satellite images gathered by Greenpeace Africa:

<http://www.greenpeace.org/international/Global/international/documents/forests/2015/Cameroon-Hevea-Sud.pdf>



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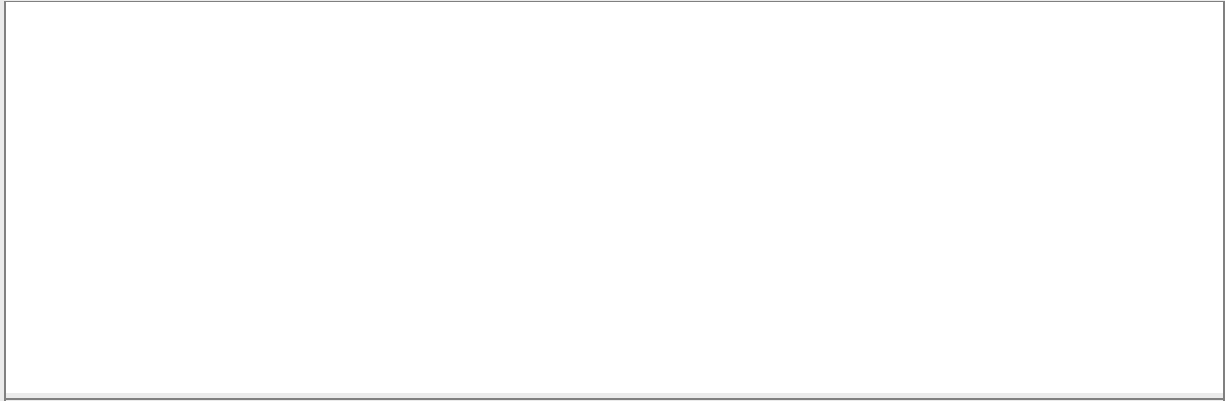
**Tags:** illegal logging, Drillo, Greenpeace, Greenpeace Africa, Dja Faunal Reserve

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Black Sheep ADV s.a.s. | Via Aquileia n. 9 - 20063 Cernusco sul Naviglio (MY) | P.IVA 05980930969 | [redazione@ilportaledeibambini.net](mailto:redazione@ilportaledeibambini.net)