Valuing and protecting irreplacable ecosystem services in Europe’s Amazonian rainforest

Ecosystem profile for French Guiana

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WWF
Context

A positive economic trend: GDP +4%/yr
Population growth: +3.7%/yr

Human Development Index: low for the EU, high for the Americas.

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Context

1 Region - many landscapes

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Biological importance of the Guiana Shield

A True Amazonian Island: 35% of the vascular plants are endemic.

Forest coverage > 90%. Greenest countries on Earth
Biological importance of French Guiana

1-2 billion tons of carbon, 50% of the French global account

The EU largest Protected Area (PA) - connected with largest PA in South America

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Biological importance of French Guiana

Freshwater: 400,000m³/yr/inhabitant, 23% of fish only found in this region

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Biological importance of French Guiana

A world major marine turtle nesting site

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Existing biodiversity

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Red List ~ 3% of the species known
Existing biodiversity

Still a lot to discover!
Existing biodiversity

1 Forest?
Many different habitats!
Threats and pressures on biodiversity

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An endangered endemic species in town!

Cornutia pubescens

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Key biodiversity areas (KBAs)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Identified KBAs</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Terrestrial</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>36</td>
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Current conservation activities

Marine conservation

30+ years of marine turtle protection

Innovative fisheries approach through the Regional Fisheries Council

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Current conservation activities

Terrestrial conservation
ecosystem-based protected areas

BEST project SOPPAG:
Monitoring of white-lipped peccaries (skunk pigs)

LIFE+ CAP DOM
Bird conservation

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Current investments in conservation

**EU level:** ca. 1.5 million €/year
Specific FEDER budget
+ contributions from FEAMP, FEADER

**National level:** ca. 10.5 million €/year
National Nature Reserves
National park of French Guiana
National Action Plans

**Local level:** ca. 1.5 million €/year
Private support
NGOs
Regional & Departmental Councils

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Critical areas for action & investment needs

Management of coastal savannas as conservation and agricultural area

Sustainable use of endemic freshwater fishes in the KBAs

Development of ecosystem service model for sustainable use of Regina St George forest

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KBA
White sand forests
Savannas
Priorities & investment niches

Protection of upper Maroni river

Source: CNRS

Protection of coastal savannas as habitat for locally important "picolette" bird

Source: GEPOG association

Development of by-catch mitigation measures for the coastal gill-netters

Source: CNRS

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