WHV - All, to safeguard National Park of Comoé

Comoé National Park, Côte d'Ivoire

Natural property inscribed on the List of World Heritage in danger since 2003 18/08/2016 – 28/08/2016

Comoé National Park, situated in the north-east of Ivory Coast, with the surface of 1149450 ha, is one of the largest protected areas in West Africa. It is characterized by its great plant diversity. The Comoé River, which runs through the Park, explains the presence of group of plants that are usually found further south, such as the shrub savannas and patches of thick rainforest. The property thus constitutes an outstanding example of transitional habitat between the forest and the savanna. The variety of the habitats engenders a wide diversity of wildlife species.

Project objectives: The site has been facing the challenges during the last several decades due to a number of reasons such as the river running across the park and the war in 2002. The main objective of the project is to involve the youth in the continuous preservation and sustainable development of the site. It targets in particular to involve young women and local communities in the conservation of the site.

Project activities: The volunteers will mainly be involved in reforestation and cleaning/maintenance work of the site including the villages around the park. They will also make improved stoves with local women which can contribute to reduce the quantity of firewood used which has causing the deforestation in the park. On the other hand, the volunteers will also run awareness raising activities such as sensitizing local population about the importance of preservation of the site; raising awareness towards the site managers and park's officers about the corrupted poachers; and sharing in-depth understanding about the site with local youth, women, and hunters.

Partners: Ministry of Water and forest and the Ministry for the Environment and Sustainable Develop.