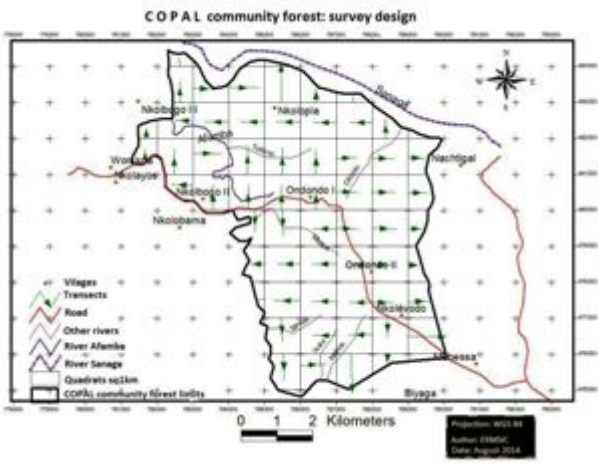
Project Update: January 2015

The present updates have been drafted within the ongoing project on High Conservation Value Forests (HCVF) implemented in the COPAL community forest in Cameroon. From May to July 2014, internal management has been set down consisting of in-depth collection of preliminary data, communication scheme and protocol agreement. From August 2014 to January 2015, data gathering has been ongoing consisting principally of social and biological surveys. Since then, the project team has conducted wildlife survey, strategic botanical survey, social survey (focus-group discussions and structural interviews) with locals in order to identify, characterise, map and monitor relevant HCVF that occur in the project site in view of developing an adaptive management plan. For each HCVF identified, we assessed its values, attributes, location and threats. Till date, eleven HCVF have been mapped and analyses are ongoing.

Photo: ERMSIC-COPAL project team members, © N. Derek

From left to right:
Joseph: Environmentalist (ERMSIC), Ernesto: Agroforestry Engineer (ERMSIC), Eloundou: Field guide (COPAL), Abe: Forest Manager “yellow T-shirt” (COPAL), Patrick: Project Leader “green” (ERMSIC), Guy: Sociologist (ERMSIC), Isiaih: Wildlife Specialist (ERMSIC) & Sango: Field guide (COPAL)



Forest Survey Design