

# THE VALUE OF PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP IN PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT - A CASE OF ISE FOREST CONSERVATION AREA

Rachel Ashegbofe Ikemeh<sup>1</sup>, Oluwasegun Sunday<sup>1</sup>, Seun Adejuwon<sup>1</sup>, Adeola Adebayo<sup>1</sup>, Bamidele Olajuyigbe<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Yemi Akinyugha<sup>2</sup>, Felix Akinluyi<sup>2</sup>, Tunji Falana<sup>3</sup>, Oloruntola Ebenezer<sup>1</sup> and Ogunleye Vincent<sup>1</sup>  
<sup>1</sup>SW/ Niger Delta Forest Project, P.O. Box 3565, Garki, Abuja, Nigeria [info@swnigerdeltaforestproject.org.ng](mailto:info@swnigerdeltaforestproject.org.ng)  
<sup>2</sup>Ekiti State Ministry of Environment, Ado-Ekiti, Ekiti State, <sup>3</sup>Ise Development Council, Ise-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria.



## INTRODUCTION

The rippling consequences of the last global pandemic on protected area management has forced many to rethink conservation models practiced across Africa, especially to look beyond National Parks and other conventional protected areas for the conservation of biodiversity. In Nigeria, where governmental responsibility for forests and much wildlife policy is set at State rather than national level, innovative approaches are especially necessary. Most of these landscapes require a multi-layered or interlayered and multi-stakeholder collaboration effort involving every relevant actor with various interests in the forests/lands or in the broader environment. This poster highlights the public-private partnership involved in the conservation management of Ise Forest Conservation Area and the tripartite relationship between Government, NGO and Indigenous Community that conserves a remnant patch of the fragile Nigerian lowland rainforest ecoregion.

## PROJECT AREA

Ise Forest Conservation Area (IFCA) is a recently established protected area covering 8,230 acres located in Ise-Ekiti, Ekiti State, SW, Nigeria.



**References:**  
1. OATES J.F., WOODMAN N., GAUBERT P., SARGIS E.J., WIAFE E.D., LECOMPTE E., DOWSETT-LEMAIRE F., DOWSETT R.J., GONDELE S., IKEMEH R.A., DJAGOUN CHABI, TOMSETT L., AND BEARDER S.K.  
A new species of tree hyrax (Procaviidae: Dendrohyrax) from West Africa and the significance of the Niger-Volta interfluvium in mammalian biogeography *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society*, 2021, XX, 1–26.

**Photos, Maps & Graphics :** © SW/Niger Delta Forest Project  
Top Signing of MoU with State Government; Bottom from left to right: Satellite image and administrative map of the project area; Drone shot of the forest and bottom right: Rangers sensitizing their community on world rangers day



## METHODOLOGY

- **Identified** the scales, sectors and actors in the landscape
- **Built** credibility and trust.
- **Established** permanent presence through research.
- **Utilized** social and professional networks.
- **Pursued** inclusivity
- **Tailored** solutions/plan to local context.
- **Incorporated** public policy and social enterprise into conservation plan.
- **Established** a consultative forum that strengthens collaborations, knowledge sharing and participation.



## RESULTS

### IMPACT IN 12 CALENDER MONTHS:

1. Level of threat reduction: **95%**
2. No. of Patrol Efforts: **315**
3. No. of policies and/ or laws developed: **Published Gazette legalizing PA**
4. No. of threatened species: **≥12**
5. No. of new species (re)discoveries: **1 i.e. Benin Tree hyrax<sup>1</sup>**
6. No. of communities involved: **13**
7. No. of people trained: **524**
8. No. of alternative livelihood beneficiaries: **612**
9. No of children benefiting from conservation education: **≥5,000**
10. No. of people to reached through the media outreach (Billboard, Radio, TV, Community Outreach): **≥5 million**

## CONCLUSIONS

Recognizing that landscapes have very complex systems and requires multiple interactions across scales – spatial, temporal and organizational – and sectors such as political, social and economic processes/groups involving diverse actors is a precursor to designing conservation solutions.



## PROJECT FUNDED BY:

