

## Environmental Foundation

Programs launched earlier this year by FEDEC, the Foundation for Environment and Development in Cameroon, have taken hold in the field. Work has begun on the ecological protection and enhancement programs in two new national parks in Cameroon. In addition, field work has advanced on the four initial programs designed to aid the Bagyeli/Bakola who live in an area of southern Cameroon traversed by the export pipeline.

### **National Parks Mbam and Djérem National Park**

The Wildlife Conservation Society has begun its work as the Implementing Organization for the Foundation's activities in the Mbam and Djérem National Park.

- A team leader has been selected and he has started work on his initial assignment.
- A work plan has been drafted to begin protecting and managing the park. The plan includes some measures aimed at involving residents of the area in the conservation effort by educating them about the stake they have in protecting the area's habitat and wildlife.
- One of the Project's prime contractors, Sogea-Satom, has donated some demobilized construction camp cabins and some other structures to help establish a field operations center in the park.

### **Campo-Ma'an National Park**

The World Wildlife Fund has begun its field work as the Implementing Organization for the Foundation's activities in the Campo-Ma'an National Park.

- A team leader has been appointed along with two staff members. The team has mobilized to the field to work out of a facility that has been established by the Cameroon Ministry of the Environment and Forests.

- A work plan is being prepared. The plan will take into consideration an existing government plan covering the region that includes the park as well as several adjacent forestry concessions.

**Indigenous Peoples Program**

An initial set of four Indigenous Peoples Program initiatives to assist the Bagyeli/Bakola people are underway and have begun achieving their objectives.

- The process of helping the Bagyeli/Bakola take part in the national political process and get national health care has so far arranged for 284 individuals to obtain national identity cards.
- Health care support programs are underway.
  - An NGO, Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus, has been funded to provide help to Bagyeli/Bakola individuals who must enter the hospital at Ngovayang. Traditionally, hospitalized individuals must provide food and other daily living requirements while at the facility. About 30 Bagyeli/Bakola use the service each month.
  - Supplies of medicine have been provided to two centers that provide health care to Bagyeli/Bakola patients, in Bandewori and Nkouambpoer.
- Supplies have been delivered to schools attended by Bagyeli/Bakola children.
- Agricultural support continues, including the distribution of seedlings and other types of assistance.