Does biodiversity really matter to benefit from the ecosystem services provided by Central African forests?

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Study area
- Southeastern Cameroon
- Moist semi-deciduous forests (Fayolle et al., 2014)
- High biodiversity levels
- Emblematic animal species (elephant, Western lowland gorilla, chimpanzee, panther)
- Long history of human disturbances (Morin-Rivat et al., 2014)
- Local populations: Bantu and Baka Pygmies, widely dependent on the forest for their daily activities (hunting, fishing, gathering of forest products, extensive agriculture)

Focus on 3 forest land allocation types
- A protected area (Dja Biosphere Reserve) 
  ➔ "Man and Biosphere Reserve", IUCN category VI
  ➔ Agriculture and commercial hunting are forbidden
- A FSC-certified logging concession (Pallisco company) 
  ➔ Selective logging (1 tree/ha, 30-years cycle)
  ➔ FSC certification: ecological, social, economic criteria
- Three community forests (Medjoh, Avilso, Eschiambor) 
  ➔ Participatory & decentralized forest management
  ➔ Max. 5,000 hectares managed by village communities

Biodiversity

Ecosystem services

Provisioning
- Timber
- Firewood
- Meat
- Fish
- NTFP
- Medicines

Regulating
- Water quality
- Climate & air quality regulation
- Soil quality

Cultural
- Heritage, rites & traditions
- Education, science & tourism
- Relaxation

Assessment with biophysical & social approaches

Forest stakeholders

Local populations
Forest managers
Administration

Forest land allocation
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