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The Landscape Approach: a model for integrated development adopted by the EUD in DRC

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EU cooperation in DRC (2021-2027)

➤ 3 main priority areas

- Governance, peace and security
- Human development

➤ Alliance for sustainable development

- Valorisation of natural resources (biodiversity & forests of the Congo basin)
 - Reduction of inequality causes: economic diversification
 - Mitigation & adaptation to climate change

Alliance for sustainable development

- **Vision: Impactful intervention**
- **Geographic concentration around EU priority sites**
 - Long terms investments
- **Priority sites: landscape of conservation areas**
 - 5 protected areas: Virunga, Upemba, Garamba, Salonga and Yangambi
- **Strategy: Landscape approach**

The Green Deal approach for EU support to biodiversity conservation in Africa: DRC landscapes



“The EU will launch a “NaturAfrica” initiative to tackle biodiversity loss by creating a network of protected areas to protect wildlife and offer opportunities in green sectors for local populations.”

The European Green Deal (2019). European Commission, COM(2019)

Today the DRC landscape programme implements the NaturAfrica initiative that has so become a reality in the field

EU strategy in DRC: a landscape approach for a solution country

GOVERNANCE

- Law application, political framework
- Inclusive identification and implementation
- Sustainable funding

CONSERVATION

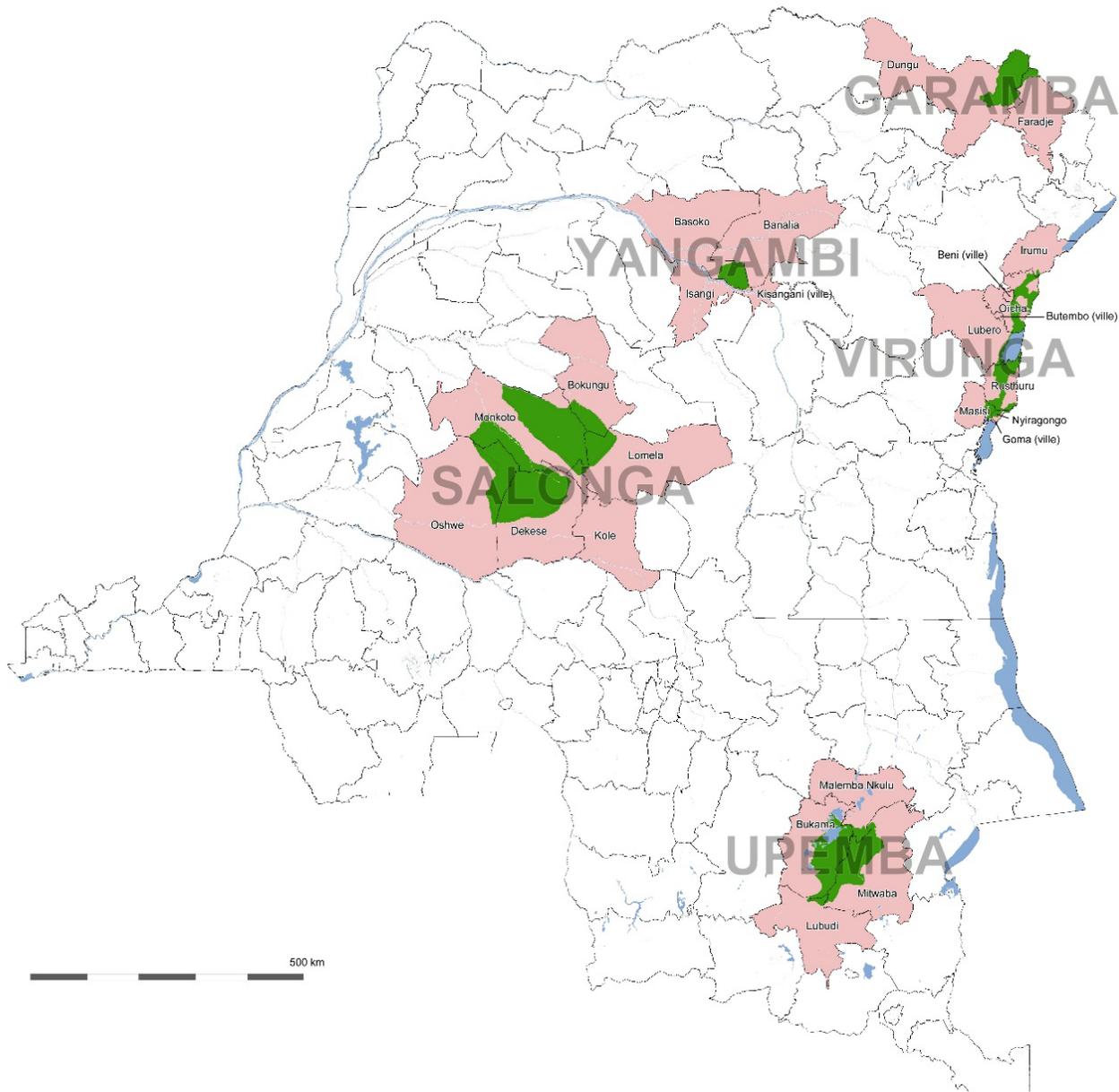
- Capacity building
- Anti poaching fight
- Ecosystem restoration
- Ecological monitoring-
- Research

DEVELOPMENT

- Green economy
- Sustainable agriculture– inclusive value chains
- Forestry, fishing, tourism
- Renewable energy, infrastructures



The landscape approach in DRC



Multisectorial approach

- Governance
- Conservation
- Development

Concentration of effort and critical mass

Long term investment

Potential impact = 20 millions people

Landscape Approach in DRC

- **Implemented in each of the 5 landscapes/territories**
- **Focus on specificities of each landscape**
 - Status of conservation and interactions with communities
 - Potential for various green economy
- **Progress differs between landscapes**
 - Virunga and Yangambi: the most advanced
 - Garamba, Upemba & Salonga: in progress towards Virunga and/or Yangambi level

Landscape Approach in DRC

➤ Biodiversity

➤ Conservation

- Law application-function of ecoguards
- Education-environmental sensitization

➤ Sustainable valorisation

- Legal exploitation
- Ecosystem restoration (e.g. reforestation)

➤ Renewable energy: based on the site specific potential

➤ Based on available resources

- Hydropower generation (Virunga)
- Biomass based cogeneration (Yangambi)
- Solar central (Garamba)

➤ Sustainable agriculture

- Agroecological transition
- Inclusive value chains development

Landscape approach: Virunga case

Biodiversity conservation



Mountain gorillas



Lowland gorillas



Elephants



Hippopotamus



Lions



Herbivores

Renewable energy (32 Mw + 15 + 60)



Agriculture/value chains



Landscape approach: Yangambi case

Value chain development: case of coffee Robusta



Coffee VC benefiting of conservation efforts

Diverse benefits:

- Conservation - restoration
- Sustainable agriculture



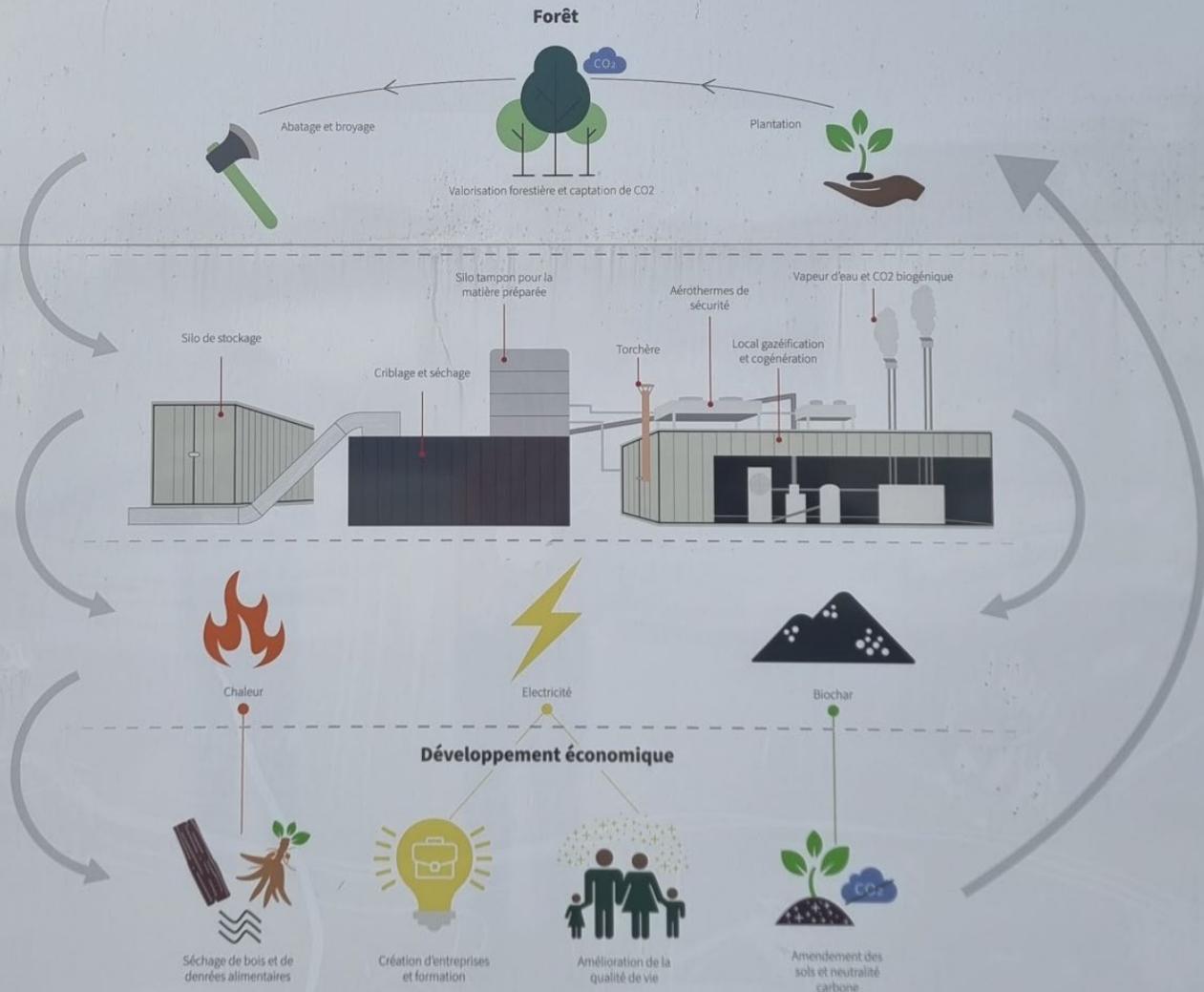
Sustainable energy generation from local wood

Currently:

- 136 KW electricity
- 136 KW heat

Target: 5 MW

Production d'électricité à partir des ressources de bois locales



The landscape Approach

- **Platform for integrated development**
- **Concentration of interventions**
 - Critical mass of financial support
 - Critical mass of target population (20 millions)
- **Synergies between the various areas**
 - Positive complementarity: conservation-agric/VC-energy

Positive synergies



1. Better protection of maize against FAW
2. Access to new coffee genotypes from conserved forests
3. Agroforestry: reduction of deforestation



The landscape approach: space for agroecological transition

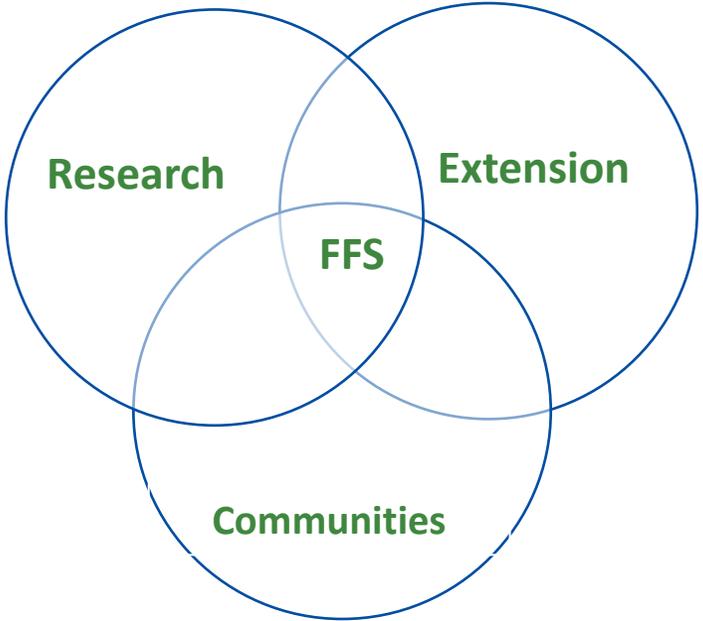
- **Agroecological practices**
 - Higher & sustainable productivity + food security
 - Value chain development
- **Identification/understanding of constraints**
- **Design of adapted solutions**
- **Integration of diverse solutions to varying & diverse constraints**
 - Integrated soil fertility management
 - Aiming to end the shifting agriculture
 - IPM for controlling pests & diseases
 - Development of inclusive VCs
 - Facilitated by access to renewable energy
- **Profitable use of DRC genetic resources**
 - Linked with conservation efforts



Reaching out to critical masses: use of Farmer Field School (FFS)



FFS: participatory



Technologies adapted to local context

Accessible & transformative



Conclusion

➤ EU actions in DRC through a **landscape approach**

- Concentration in key areas with EU support for long duration
- Synergies conservation, access to green energy, sustainable VC
- Decreased pressure on natural resources = better conservation

➤ **Support to agri-food transformation**

- Agroecological transition
- Diversification in view of better food security + VC development
- Ecosystem restoration through CSA practices

➤ **Human dimension in the center of the game**

- Capacity building at various levels including young scientist + communities themselves
- Service delivery at proximity local level
- Provision of social services



Adduction d'eau pour déplacés/Virunga



Thank you



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