



ECOmakala

Meeting energy needs, fighting poverty and protecting the forests of Virunga National Park, eastern Democratic Republic of Congo

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Localization















- Forest degradation mainly due to charcoal production
- Deforestation due to encroachment
- Poaching
- Oil concessions

Threats Virunga NP



Contextual and underlying causes of the threat linked to charcoal production

| High population number, density and growth | High poverty rate | Poor access to electricty and lack of alternatives for energy, with energy wood as the basic fuel | Politically unstable region with weak and pluralistic government systems |
|---|---|--|--|
| Decades of conflict, presence of armed groups and ethnical tensions | Unequal land use rights and a high competition for land | ViNP as the major reservoir for the supply of energy wood | Illegal charcaol business managed by & financing armed groups |
| | Unfavorable policy environment for stimulating the forestry sector and the production of sustainable charcoal | | |





















Some results & figures

Since 2008:

- Approx. **11.000ha** of tree plantations
- Approx. 70.000 efficient wood stoves were sold (of which approx. 40.000 in Goma (today approx. 140.000 households living in Goma))
- Creation of GomaStove LLC
- **Objectives by 2021 (DGD):**
- 12.000ha
- Approx. 80.000 stoves





Some results & figures Since 2015:

• Approx. 1600 tonnes of charcoal produced (of which 1100t in 2017)

Objective by 2021 (DGD):

- 21.600t of « écomakala » or 4.000t/y
- Actual annual demand of Goma city:

100.000t of charcoal



What about impact?

- Decrease of the quantity of charcoal coming from ViNP penetrating the market in Goma (2008: 80% > 2015: 56%)
- 2016: 86% of Goma households use an improved stove
- By 2020, 15-20% of the demand for charcoal by the city of Goma could be covered by ECOmakala (charcoal & improved stoves combined)
- > Need for alternatives for charcoal
- Huge scaling-up potential for improved stoves in North-Kivu (approx. 6M inhab)



Challenges

Producers cooperatives

Engagment local associations & farmerplanters

8 months

Plantations growth cycle 5-10 years Production of "ecomakala" 4 months

Sales "ecomakala"



- Too less planters wanting to « cooperate » => too less ecomakala production => need to increase & accelerate production
- Unfair competition with the makala coming from ViNP
- Lack of working capital & sufficient knowh-how by the cooperatives
- \Rightarrow Need of financial as well as technical capacity

Perspectives

- Environmental & socioeconomic impact assessment
- Green Economy Program
- Energy analysis North-Kivu