



### CSRS SCIENTIFIC SEMINAR N°14

Thursday, the 25<sup>th</sup> November 2010 (Norbert Béhi Lecture Hall, CSRS, Km17 Adiopodoumé) 01:00 pm

**Theme:** Representation of the Tanoé-Ehy Forest for the local communities, south-eastern Côte d'Ivoire.

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**Abstract:**

The Tanoé-Ehy Forest (TEF) has been identified by the Program of Research and Actions for the Safeguard of Primates in Côte d'Ivoire (RASAP-CI) as a priority site for conservation. However, this important forest is subject to strong anthropogenic pressures resulting in poaching, uncontrolled harvesting of natural resources and occasional attempts at clearing. Given the importance of this forest and given the intensity of the threats to it, a pilot program for community management has been initiated by the RASAP-CI Program with the people along the TEF for sustainable conservation. Since the usual methods for forest management by the government have not often privileged the aspirations of the people, and given the importance of the relic forest in the live of local communities, the main concern is to what extent the institution of community management could it lead smoothly into this area? This contribution aims to call the exogenous actors of this experience, what is for local communities, this forest destined for the new approach for sustainable management of forests. This study has been conducted in a qualitative method of investigation for the data production, which have been subject of comprehensive, functionalist and interactionist analysis. The study allowed us to understand how the existence of TEF still involved in the maintenance of cultural references in this area. It also allowed us to see in this locality, the uses and users of the derivatives of this forest. In sum, we can say that community management for sustainable conservation of TEF is beneficial for the autochthons, the allochthons and the foreigners too. It is a vital heritage for local communities dependent on natural resources for subsistence. Taking into account their interests in the conservation program of this forest is crucial and decisive.

**Keywords:** Representation - Tanoé-Ehy Forest (TEF) - Local communities  
Community management - Cultural value.



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