

**Project description: Biodiversity and sustainable forest management (2020-2023)**

**Description de projet: Biodiversité et gestion durable des forêts (2020-2023)**

**Core Issue:** The population in the peripheral areas of the national parks of Kahuzi-Biega and Lomami is currently not sufficiently profiting from local structures and the potential added value through the sustainable usage of the local ecosystem.

**Objective of the project:** As part of the DC programme “Environmental policy, conservation, and sustainable use of natural resources in the Democratic Republic of the Congo”, the project aims to improve the human rights-based valorisation of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the peripheral areas of the two national parks. The target group of the implemented measures is the low-income, rural population in the peripheral areas of Kahuzi-Biega and Lomami.

**Methodology and implementation:** The project aims to extend and consolidate the human-rights-based approach for the sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services, and to anchor the approach in the local system. 17 national and 5 international specialists are overseeing the long-term implementation of the project, together with two development aid workers and various short-term experts. A cooperation with local NGOs is in place.