

Survival



United Nations Development Programme
Office of Audit and Investigations
5500 Meadows Road
Suite 500
Lake Oswego, OR 97035
United States

Sent by email to reportmisconduct@undp.org

1 August 2018

Dear Sir or Madam,

Complaints regarding UNDP projects in Republic of Congo and Cameroon

We enclose seven complaints from indigenous community members from the Baka tribe in the Republic of Congo and Cameroon against UNDP-implemented projects, which describe how their rights are being violated in the name of conservation. The footnotes to the complaints have been added by Survival International for the sake of clarity.

All seven communities are being illegally evicted from their forest lands, both inside and outside formally “protected areas.” Concerning the first complaint, the Nki National Park in Cameroon is a target site for the UNDP-implemented Global Environment Facility Project #9155. Survival first wrote to the UNDP about conservation-related human rights abuses in Cameroon in 2014.

The next six complaints relate to the UNDP-implemented Global Environment Facility project #9159, which supports the creation of a new protected area – Messok Dja – on Baka land in Congo. When we raised these and other human rights violations with UNDP staff – Jean Félix Issang and Bourges Djoni Djimbi – in Brazzaville on 3 July our concerns were met with a round of laughter. They showed no intention of investigating the matter further.

You might be interested to read [the report we published last year](#) about conservation and human rights abuses in the Congo Basin.

Yours faithfully,

Fiona Watson
Advocacy & Research Director

**For tribes, for nature,
for all humanity**

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**We are Survival International, the
global movement for tribal peoples.
We're fighting for their survival
around the world.**



Since 1969

Offices in Berlin, London, Madrid,
Milan, Paris, and San Francisco

Survival International Charitable Trust
Registered charity number 267444

Company registered in England no.
1056317. Registered office as above

Zoulabot Ancien
Yokadouma Arrondissement
Boumba-et-Ngoko Department
East Region
Cameroon

24 May 2018

Dear OAI,

We, the undersigned Baka from the village of Zoulabot Ancien, would like to explain to you the suffering we are going through because of conservation.

Nki National Park was created in 2005 and ever since we have lost the forest that our ancestors left us. We cannot go hunting safely, or climb trees to gather honey, or dig for wild yams or collect our medicinal plants.

The wildlife guards have abused us, beaten us and tortured us for more than 10 years. We are told that international law and the OECD guidelines say that our free, prior and informed consent is required for these projects. We have not accepted these projects that are ruining our lives.

We ask all those who are funding these projects to come and hear our suffering and seek our consent.

Yours faithfully,

