

# Le droit des aires protégées en Côte d'Ivoire

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## SUMMARY OF THE DISSERTATION

*(According to Article 24 § 3 of the Regulation Governing the Attainment of Doctoral Degrees – Maastricht University 2013)*

### **DOES PROTECTED AREAS LAW PROVIDE SUSTAINABLE PROTECTION TO THESE FORESTS?**

Republic of Côte d'Ivoire endeavours to achieve the sustainable management of its protected areas. This means that the management approach of protected areas aims at conciliating ecology and economy and the needs of present generations and also those of the future one.

For this purpose, in one hand, Ivorian authorities have developed different legal instruments that establish an institutional and legal framework for protected areas management. In other hand, Ivorian authorities adhered to international legal instruments related to the preservation of biodiversity.

A close analysis of the rules into force reveals that protected areas law ensures sustainable protection of protected areas. But these rules cannot effectively apply because of the protected areas' management realities. These are adjacent areas of protected areas deficit of development and inadequate financial resources for their management.

Therefore, the sustainable management of protected areas in Republic of Côte d'Ivoire requires conciliating the conservation of these forests and the development of local communities. Then, the Ivorian National Parks and Reserves Office have to promote tourism development in and around protected areas. We suggest involving effectively local communities in conservation projects by promoting community-based natural resources management and also recognizing their property rights over lands and natural resources subject of these conservation projects

The application of the above mentioned propositions by Ivorian authorities will probably contribute to facilitate protected areas law enforcement and consequently ensure their sustainable management.