



ERAIFT trains ICCN managers in management plan and budgeting of terrestrial and aquatic protected areas.

From September 20 to 30, 2023, in the coastal town of Moanda and at the Parc Marin des Mangroves (PMM), ERAIFT trains ICCN (Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature) Managers in management plan and budgeting of terrestrial and aquatic protected areas.

Under the facilitation of Professor **Cédric VERMEULEN**, Professor at the University of Liège, Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech campus and ERAIFT Chairholder, assisted by Mr **Timothée BESISA**, Research Assistant at ERAIFT, this training session, which drew on the collective intelligence of 19 students from the fourth cohort of ERAIFT's Master 2 Professional program in Protected Area Management and Biosphere Reserve Management, 9 agents and executives from ICCN's General Management and local PMM staff, and 3 representatives from ULB-Coopération, enabled ERAIFT to launch the process of drawing up the management plan.

Based on the values (marine turtles, manatees, Mangrove forests, etc.) and threats (carbonization, urbanization, poaching, Banana deepwater port construction project, etc.) identified in the PMM, discussions in thematic groups enabled the formulation of a **Priority Action Plan (PAP)**.) presenting the long-term and short-term objectives, including the threats and activities to be envisaged for the PMM, in particular, on Zoning, boundaries, integrity; the periphery; ecotourism; monitoring, research, evaluation; surveying; infrastructure, logistics and human resources; partnership, communication, marketing and finance. For sustainable management and to ensure the continuity of activities to be supported by various technical and financial partners, the finalization of an official management plan validated by all PMM stakeholders is highly recommended.



As a reminder, this work is part of the "Capacity-building for biodiversity practitioners, scientists and policy-makers for the sustainable management of protected areas and forest ecosystems in Africa" project, implemented by the AGRINATURA-ERAIFT consortium, and funded by the European Union and ERAIFT, to whom we would like to express our sincere thanks.