

KORUP National Park

A **national park** is a reserve of natural or semi natural land,declared or owned by a government,set aside for animal safety and or human recreation and enjoyment,and protected from most development

Korup national park was created in **1986** and it was the first and foremost N.P. of Cameroon.Initially the Korup N.P. was designated as a forest reserve.Korup N.P. is located in south west region of Cameroon and lies against the Nigerian border.The Korup N.P. always top the lists of tourists attraction of Cameroon due to its splendid collection of flora and fauna(plants and animals)among other national parks of Cameroon.This park is also known for the fact that it contains the largest number of species of trees in any rainforest in Africa,it also recored over 400birds,140fish species and various mammals and primates.other N.Ps. of Cameroon are the **WAZA,DJA,BENOUE,BOUBANDJIDDA.**

N.B. The Korup N.P. is the largest and most famous project undertaken by the **World Wide FUND(WWF),ODA,GTZ,EV.**its purpose is to maintain the park as well as intergrating it into regional evelopment plans.

SOME IMPACTS OF THE KORUP N.P.

POSITIVE IMPACTS

- 1.**Employment.it provides job to many Cameroonians and other nationalities.it's estimated that more than 500 people are currently deriving their livelihood from this park.
- 2.**Infrastructuredevelopment.this park has helped in the development of social facilities suc as roads.
- 3.**Source of revenue.the park(korup) is a source of revenue to the government since each tourist or visitor visiting this park has to pay something before entring the park and this money is like a revenue to the government.
- 4.**Source of regional development.the establishment of the korup N.P. in the S.W. region of the country has also encouraged the establishment of other N.Ps. in other regions like the waza,benoue,etc which have led to balance regional development put in place.

NEGATIVE IMPACTS

The korup national park usually suffers with problems such as illegal hunting,inadequate logistic,insufficient human material,financial resources,etc.BUT nowadays,the cameroonian's government had put in place very street sanctions concerning the korup N.P. and other parks especially to hunters who are sentenced to prison or pay an amount that varies from 500,.000 to 20,000,0000FCFA.