

Protection and Enhancement of the Dibamba River in Douala (Cameroon)

Dibamba Ecological Corridor



The Dibamba River is a crucial natural resource for Douala, providing water supply and supporting local ecosystems. However, rapid urban growth has resulted in pollution, habitat destruction, and inadequate infrastructure management. Protecting and enhancing the Dibamba River is essential for sustainable urban development, public health, and environmental conservation in Douala.



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project of protection and enhancement of the Dibamba river in Douala is important for the Urban Community of Douala and especially for the population of the economic capital of Cameroon. It raises several issues such as securing the supply of quality water to the population and the preservation of the ecosystem of the Dibamba river watershed. The project also poses challenges that should be addressed.

The City of Douala is subject to rapid urban growth and ever-increasing sprawl. This situation leads to strong pressure on ecologically sensitive and essentially non-constructible areas bordering the natural drains, the Wouri and Dibamba rivers that structure its territory. These areas are currently facing major drainage and pollution problems coupled with the spread of a spontaneous habitat. Aware of this situation and the risks involved, the Douala Urban Community and the Dibamba Commune have committed themselves to mobilizing the best national and international skills to put them at the service of the sustainable planning of its territory.



OBJECTIVE

The objective of this project is the study and implementation of the programme for the safeguard and enhancement of the Dibamba River in Cameroon, and the elaboration and management of the urban observatory of the Douala council and of a municipal observatory unit in Dibamba.



FINDINGS

Current State

- Rapid and uncontrolled urban expansion
- Anarchic land occupation
- Poor water management and pollution
- Lack of cohesive urban planning

Desired State

- Controlled and sustainable urban growth
- Regulated land use and improved tenure
- Enhanced infrastructure and water quality
- Comprehensive urban planning frameworks

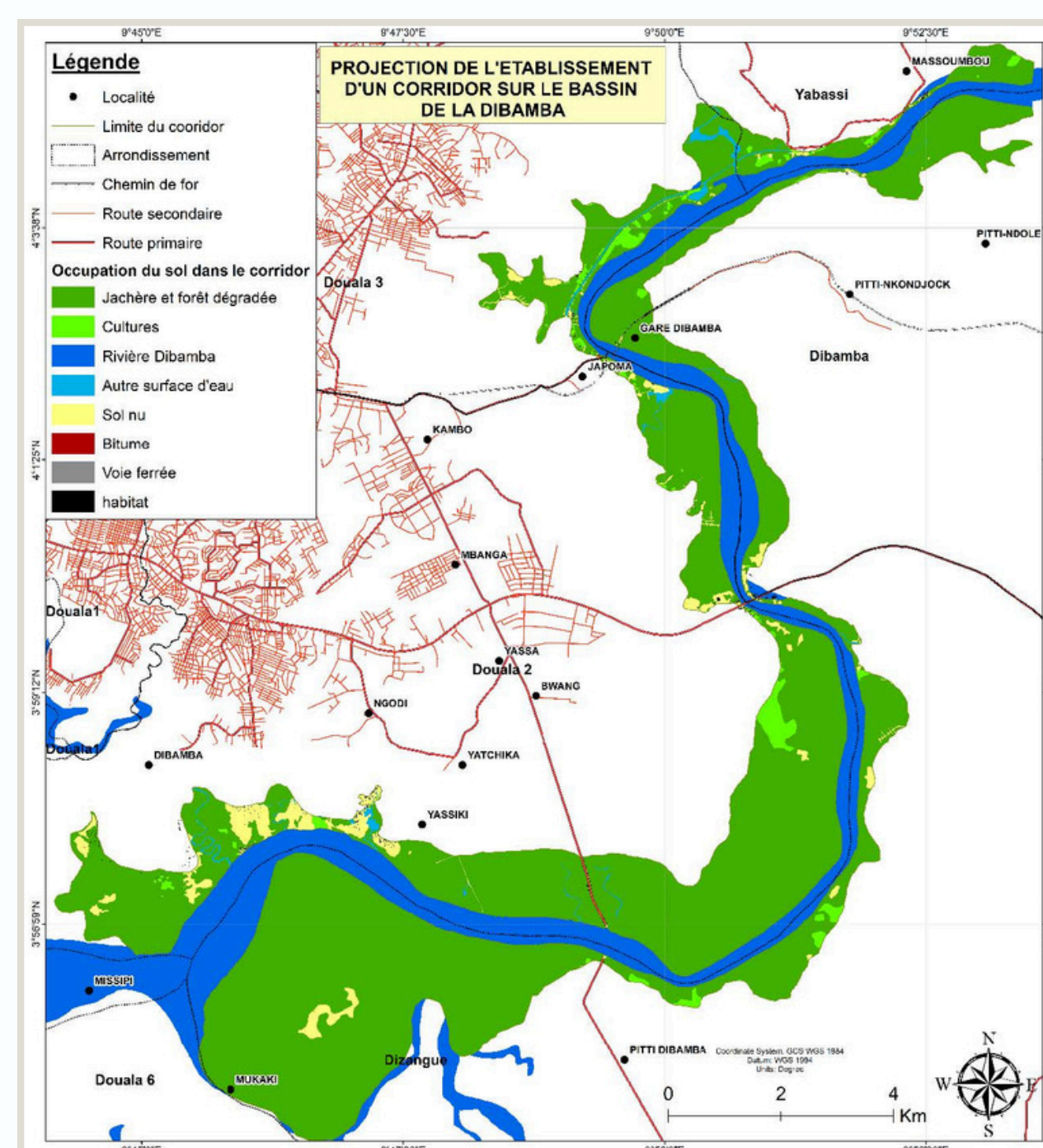
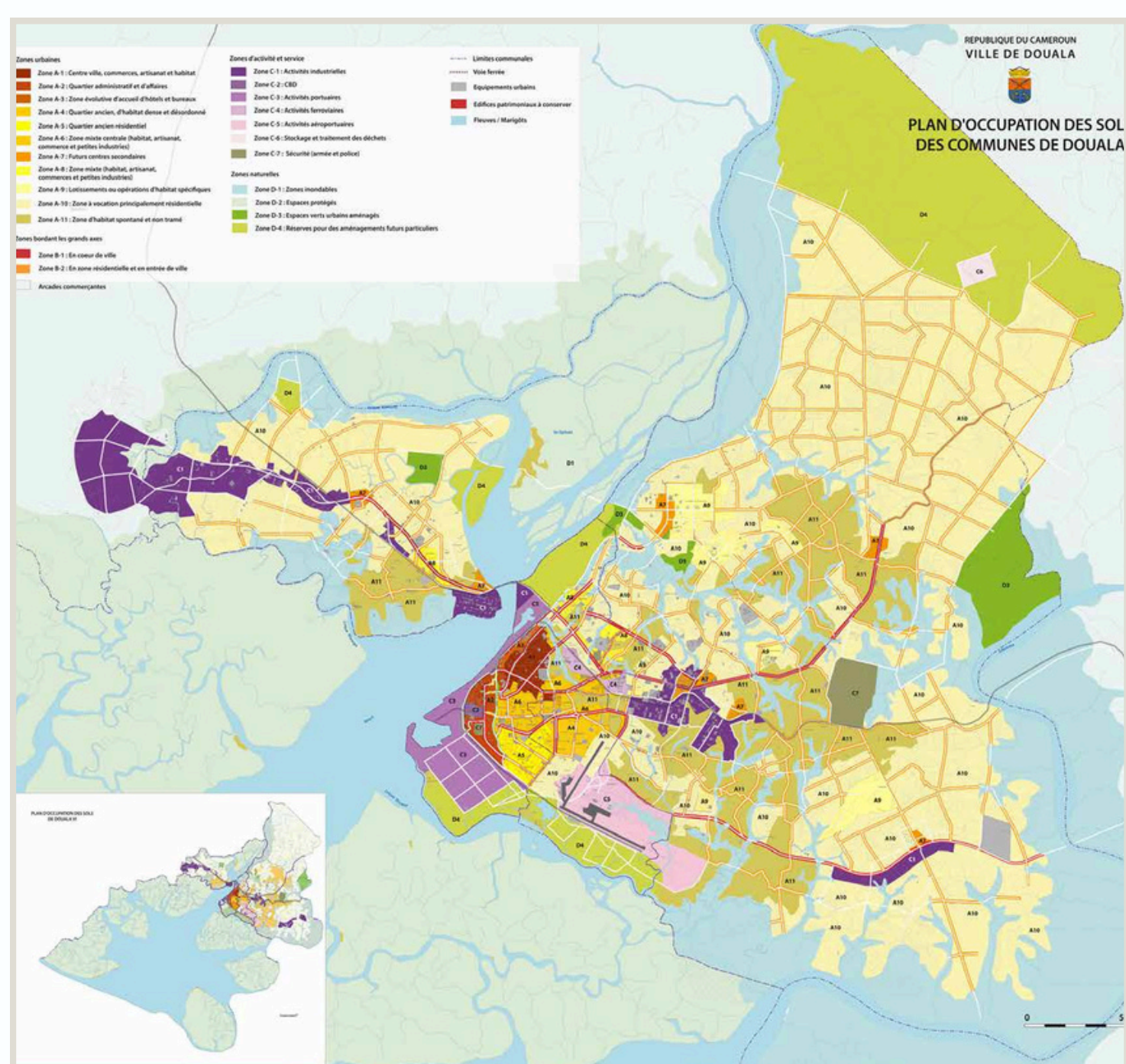


WHAT NEXT?

Having conducted a thorough study, the project is now poised to seek necessary funding.

The next steps are to:

- Engage with Donors (reaching out to national and international funding bodies).
- Launch fundraising Campaigns.
- Strengthen Partnerships through collaboration with key stakeholders to support funding initiatives.
- Implement Pilot Projects (starting with high-impact areas to demonstrate the project efficacy and attract further investment).



Current Challenges:

- Significant pollution levels, habitat destruction, and unregulated land use.

Infrastructure Needs:

- Improved drainage systems, wastewater treatment facilities, and green spaces.

Targeted beneficiaries

- Population along the Dibamba river
- Population of the city Douala
- Academia



Contacts

- City of Douala (CUD): cudcabmaire.ps@douala.cm / cudcabmaire.ps@douala.cm
- Urban and Rural Land Development Equipment Authority (MAETUR): contact@maetur.net
- UN-Habitat: unhabitat-urban-policy@un.org