

GEF Impact Zones Report

Objective

This project aims to identify where deforestation is happening close to or within Kenya's protected natural areas. This helps conservationists and decision-makers understand where urgent action may be needed to protect biodiversity and prevent environmental degradation.

Areas Analyzed

- Protected Areas:

- Nairobi National Park
- Ngong Forest

- Deforestation Points:

Two areas showing signs of deforestation were analyzed for their proximity to protected areas.

Method Used

We used digital mapping (GIS) tools to:

1. Mark the locations of protected areas and deforestation.
2. Create a surrounding 'zone of influence' around protected areas.
3. Check if deforestation points fall within or near these protected zones.

This helped us see where protected ecosystems may be at risk.

Findings

- Overlap Found: Some deforestation is happening within or very close to protected areas.
- These are classified as impact zones, where immediate attention may be needed to stop further damage.

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Output

- A map showing:
 - Protected areas (in outline)
 - Deforestation points (in red)
 - Impact zones (in green)
- A shapefile ('gef_impact_zones.shp') that can be opened in mapping software like QGIS for further analysis or reporting.

Why This Matters

Identifying these zones helps:

- Focus conservation resources.
- Monitor illegal land use or encroachment.
- Protect Kenya's valuable ecosystems for future generations.