

Kinshasa, DR Congo, April 7 (Infosplusgabon) - DR Congo media professionals have been urged to contribute to efforts toward the preservation of the ecosystem of the national Virunga Park (PNVi) threatened by insecurity, invasions of populations, and poaching, a communiqué said.

Joël Wengamulay, director of Communications and Public Relations Office of the National Virunga Park, made the appeal Saturday during a workshop in Goma for media practitioners.

He listed several challenges related to preservation of that protected area whose creation dates back to the year 1925 and currently with a population estimated at four million animals.

“The treatment of information related to the park should take into account the challenges to take up and the current context by strengthening the efforts made to face those challenges,” said Wengamulayi.

He emphasized that responsible communication was essential to give the true image of the national Virunga park established over 800,000 hectares with a diversity of fauna and flora.

The operations director, Tuvé Wundi, journalist and expert in nature preservation, spoke on issues related to “the responsibility of the journalist with regard to nature preservation, the case of PNVi”.

He particularly insisted on the rigour, balance and precision in the treatment of information with particular accent on sources.

The media professionals made recommendations aimed at establishing a link between the national Virunga park and the media.

The national Virunga park is classified as a world heritage site for endangered since 1992, two years before the registration of four other Congolese sites (national parks of Kahuzi-Biega, Garamba, Salonga and the fauna reserve of Okapi), following the series of wars that affected their universal biological value, as well as the poaching and invasion of neighbouring populations.

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