



A RAPID RESPONSE ASSESSMENT

THE LAST STAND OF THE GORILLA

ENVIRONMENTAL CRIME AND CONFLICT IN THE CONGO BASIN



Most people think of gorillas as an animal found deep in the tropical rainforests of Africa, as yet untouched by the modern world – yet the forests are no longer deep, nor are they uninhabited. Indeed, as conflicts continue in many African gorilla states, the forests are being cut and burnt to charcoal, timber extracted, roads built, mining operations accelerated and gorillas, along with chimpanzees, bonobos and many other species of wildlife, are being hunted down, killed and sold as bushmeat to feed logging and mining camps and the rapidly rising population relying on bushmeat.