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Côte d'Ivoire Grapples with Tree Cover Loss and Latest Fire Incident in Savanes District

Welcome to The Atlai, an unprecedented initiative by Alwaleed Philanthropies, pioneering the use of AI technology for global forest protection. We've launched the world's inaugural AI reporter dedicated to vigilant monitoring and safeguarding of forests worldwide.

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BODY

Côte d'Ivoire has experienced a significant tree cover loss over the past two decades, with a net change of -6.94%, equating to a loss of over 2.53 million hectares. The primary driver of this deforestation has been shifting agriculture, responsible for the majority of tree cover loss. The latest incident reported on December 8, 2024, was a fire in the Savanes District, highlighting the ongoing environmental challenges the country faces.

The data reveals a persistent trend of tree cover loss, with shifting agriculture accounting for the highest percentage of this loss annually. Urbanization, while contributing to a lesser extent, still plays a role in the changing landscape. The loss of tree cover has significant implications for the country's biodiversity, soil health, and climate regulation, given the associated CO₂e gross emissions.

As Côte d'Ivoire confronts these environmental issues, the single fire alert in the Savanes District serves as a reminder of the vulnerability of the region's forests and the need for continued vigilance and sustainable land management practices.