

CRITICAL ECOSYSTEM
PARTNERSHIP FUND



CEPF GUINEAN FORESTS OF WEST AFRICA

PROJECTS PORTFOLIO | 2016 - 2021

This portfolio brochure was developed by the CEPF Regional Implementation Team of the Guinean Forests of West Africa Biodiversity Hotspot, composed of:

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This publication will be made available online in English and French on the Website.



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CEPF is a joint initiative of l'Agence Française de Développement, Conservation International, the European Union, the Global Environment Facility, the Government of Japan and the World Bank. A fundamental goal is to ensure civil society is engaged in biodiversity conservation.

In the Guinean Forests of West Africa Biodiversity Hotspot, CEPF has entrusted BirdLife International to be the dedicated regional implementation team (RIT) to provide strategic leadership for the CEPF investment in the hotspot.

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INTRODUCTION

Founded in 2000, the **Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF)** is a joint initiative of l'Agence Française de Développement, Conservation International, the European Union, the Global Environment Facility, the Government of Japan and the World Bank. A fundamental goal is to ensure civil society is engaged in biodiversity conservation.

The **Guinean Forests of West Africa Biodiversity Hotspot** extends across the southern part of West Africa and into Central Africa, north of the Congo Wilderness Area. The Guinean Forests support impressive levels of biodiversity, with high levels of species richness and endemism. But the hotspot is also facing multiple threats, including agricultural expansion; unsustainable logging and fishing; hunting and the trade of bushmeat; industrial and artisanal mining; industrial development; climate change; and pollution. Many of the threats to biodiversity occurring in the region are linked, either directly or indirectly, to a high incidence of poverty, political instability and/or civil conflict, which are underlying challenges to civil society subsistence itself, not to mention its mobilization.

CEPF enables communities to take charge of protecting their own ecosystems, giving them the resources and skills they need to take on the challenge of conserving their natural heritage and finding ways of sustainably benefiting from it.

This is CEPF's second phase of investment in the Guinean Forests region, and it is the first time its funding has extended into the Lower Guinea Forests and the Gulf of Guinea Islands. This is also the first time that CEPF has engaged a Regional Implementation Team (RIT), led by BirdLife International, to help support grantees, build local capacity and implement CEPF's conservation strategy.

Having reached the mid-term of the current five-year investment, this document serves to summarize the portfolio of projects supported thus far and to guide the investment's second half, and beyond.

The following pages not only showcase how civil society across the 11 countries is addressing the major threats to local biodiversity, but they also provide an opportunity to examine challenges and address gaps.

Coordinated efforts among multiple institutions are required to confront the challenges facing biodiversity, ecosystem services and communities in the hotspot today. CEPF and the RIT are committed to supporting civil society in protecting this wonderful and extensive region, and invite all to know more about the amazing work CEPF grantees are doing for this common cause.

Mariana Carvalho
Team Leader for the Regional Implementation Team

FACTSHEET

Protecting the Guinean Forest of West Africa Biodiversity Hotspot

The Guinean Forests of West Africa Biodiversity Hotspot is one of eight biodiversity hotspots in Africa and Madagascar and covers 621,705 km² divided into two sub-regions:

- The 'Upper Guinean Forests' stretching from Guinea, through Sierra Leone, Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo and, marginally, into Benin.
- The 'Lower Guinean Forests' covering much of southern Nigeria, extends into Cameroon, and also includes São Tomé and Príncipe and the offshore islands of Equatorial Guinea.

Duration - 2016 – 2021 (5 years)

Donor - Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF)

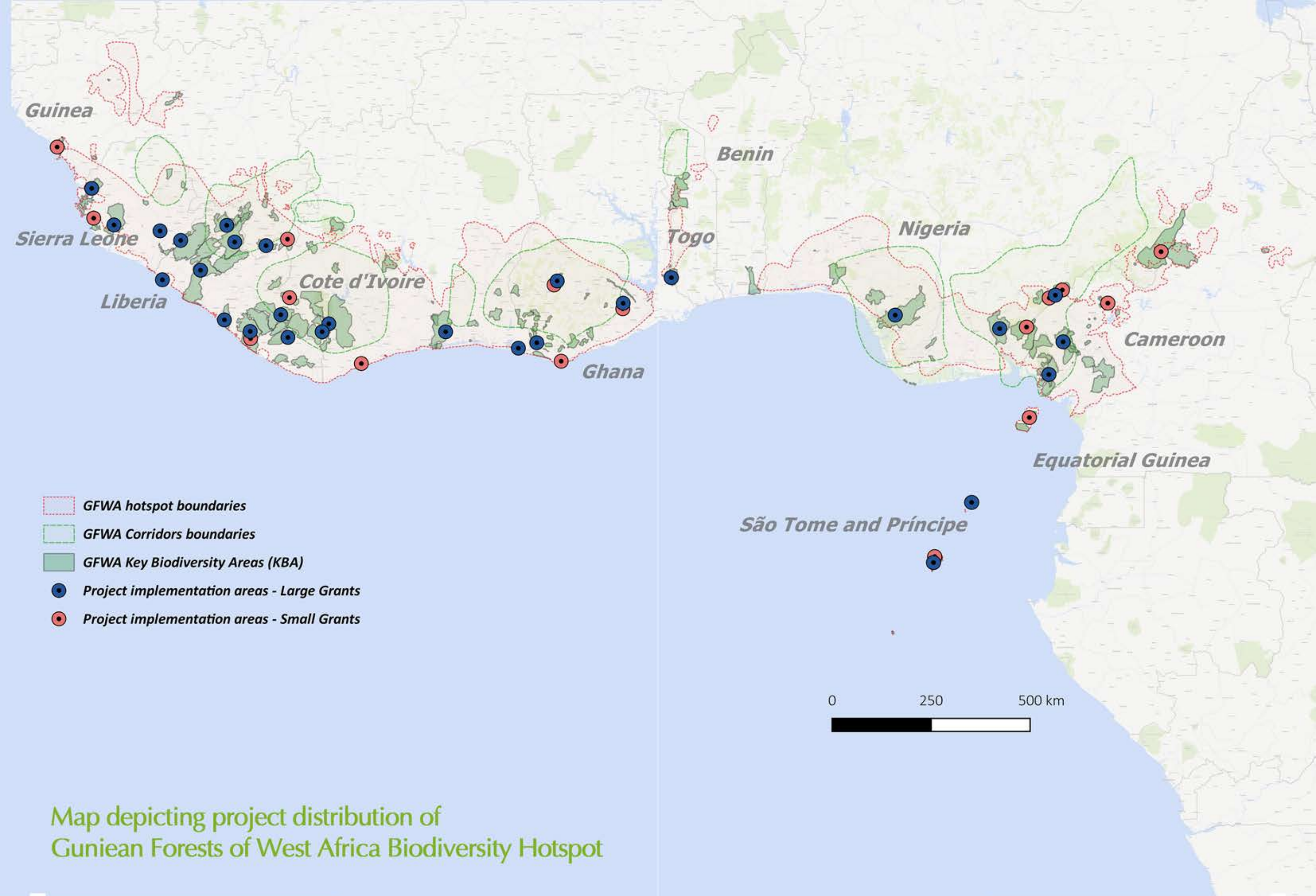
Implementer - BirdLife International Africa Secretariat – Regional Implementation Team (RIT)

Budgets and Funding - \$10.1 million

CEPF's investment niche in the Guinean Forests is therefore to provide civil society organizations at grassroots, national and international levels with the capacity and resources to establish and sustain multi-stakeholder partnerships that demonstrate models for sustainable growth, target the poorest populations and achieve priority conservation outcomes.

Strategic directions (SD) for CEPF investment in the hotspot

- 1 Empower local communities to engage in sustainable management of 40 priority sites and consolidate ecological connectivity at the landscape scale
- 2 Mainstream biodiversity conservation into public policy and private sector practice in the nine conservation corridors, at local, sub-national and national levels
- 3 Safeguard priority globally threatened species by identifying and addressing major threats and information gaps
- 4 Build the capacity of local civil society organizations, including Indigenous People's, women's and youth groups, to conserve and manage globally important biodiversity
- 5 Provide strategic leadership and effective coordination of conservation investment through a Regional Implementation Team





LARGE GRANTS

LARGE GRANTS

SUSTAINABLE ACTIONS FOR CONSERVATION OF OBUDU PLATEAU (SACOP), NIGERIA



ORGANIZATION
African Research Association Ltd by Guarantee

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-103792

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD1

AWARD DATE
6/1/2019

DURATION
19 months

AMOUNT
\$208,174.21

COUNTRY(IES)
Nigeria

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Obudu Plateau (NGA9)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Organization for Positive Sustainability Culture in Nigeria (OPSCN), Ministry of Climate Change & Forestry and the 15 local communities on around the Obudu Plateau



DESCRIPTION

Obudu Plateau, covering an area of about 70,743 hectares of montane forest, is a unique habitat, widely recognised for its high level of endemic plant and animal species. It plays important watershed protection functions, providing good quality water with less sediment and pollutants, being the source of Afundu and Magbe Rivers supplying most part of the northern extension of the Okwangwo Division of the Cross River National Park(CRNP). Economic opportunities in this area are very limited and this increases the poverty level, which has resulted to increased pressure on the ecosystem and unsustainable environmental practices; massive fire wood extraction for domestic use and for income generation by youth and women. This project will support 12 communities of Obudu Plateau (Cross River State, Nigeria), to carry out integrated sustainable forest management, build community-driven commitments through increased awareness, fire management incentive and adapted alternative livelihood initiatives. It will also support two pilot communities regenerating degraded forests and establishing woodlots for sustainable firewood extraction, and build capacity of community rulers for collective actions with government, NGOs and private sector.



PROJECT IMPACTS

- Women and men across 8 communities on and around the Obudu Plateau provided with improved skills in agroforestry enabling them to establish ecological friendly agric. micro enterprises in temperate vegetable production (cabbage, carrots, Irish potatoes, green pepper and beans) as incentive to improve their income level and support sustainable natural resource management.
- 5 hectares of degraded forest replanted with viable native species and 3 hectare of woodlot established to provide alternative to forest wood for firewood.
- 400 households in 4 communities provided with firewood economy cook stoves resulting in the reduction of about 6 tons of household firewood consumption per day, while improving the indoor air quality for women and youth exposed to smoke inhalation.
- Natural Resource Management plan elaborated and implemented in 15 communities and capacity of community institutions(Forest Management Committee, Community Town Council and Youth/Women solidarity groups) strengthened to implement this plan. These activities contribute toward effort in the sustainable management and biodiversity conservation of the 70,743 hectares of the montane forest of Obudu Plateau the montane forest of Obudu Plateau.



ORGANIZATION
Centre d'Etudes,
Formation, Conseils et Audits

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-100814

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD2

AWARD DATE
6/27/2018

DURATION
24 months

AMOUNT
\$154,036.04

COUNTRY(IES)
Cote d'Ivoire

KBAs / CORRIDORS
outside a KBA but between
CIV11 and CIV3

PROJECT PARTNERS
Rainforest Alliance, Société de
Développement des Forêts
(SODEFOR), Office Ivoirien
des Parcs et Réserves (OIPR)

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DESCRIPTION

The Taï-Cavally corridor, which also includes the nearby binational protected areas Taï-Cestos-Sapo-Grebo rainforest of Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia, represent the most important tropical forests of the Upper Guinean Forest hotspot. This forest is threatened mainly by land conversion into agriculture causing soil degradation and illegal hunting of wildlife. This project seeks to support mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and deforestation-free agricultural economy through Public Private Partnership in the cocoa sector in the Cavally region of Cote d'Ivoire, and train cocoa farmers from Taï communities in biodiversity conservation friendly practices to empower these communities to adopt best practices toward conservation.



PROJECT IMPACTS

- Reduced deforestation in six communities in Ziriglo, Pauleoula, Port Gentille, Daoubli, Tai and Zaikobly adjacent to Cavally and wider Taï though the introduction of sustainable land use management and planning, and reforestation.
- Reduced encroachment of cocoa farmers into protected area as a result of a better understanding and involvement of local communities in determining the land-use practices in their communities through the creation of a local Landscape Management Board (LMB).
- Improved resilience of local communities to the impacts of climate changes through diversification of livelihood sources, the application of biodiversity friendly practices and land restoration.



ORGANIZATION
Fauna & Flora International

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-103778

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD3

AWARD DATE
26/06/2018

DURATION
30 months

AMOUNT
\$99,999.09

COUNTRY(IES)
Sao Tome and Principe

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Parque Natural Obô do
Príncipe (STP2)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Fundação Príncipe Trust
(FPT); Príncipe Natural Park
(PNP)

DESCRIPTION

The forests of São Tomé and Príncipe (STP) are ranked as the second most important in terms of biological interest of the 75 forests of Africa, have been included among the Important Bird Area (IBAs) of Africa for their species richness, and are home to more endemic species in an area that is eight times smaller than the Galápagos. Principe has at least 33 known terrestrial bird species of which more than 50% are endemic including the Príncipe Thrush, *Turdus xanthorhynchus* (CR), the focus of this project. The Príncipe Thrush was recorded in lowland primary forest, listed within the National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plan (2015-2020) as a key endemic species and is the only species of the Island with a dedicated Conservation Action Plan, but in reality no priority actions have been yet implemented. This project gives the opportunity to: 1) work towards implementing key activities from the existing action plan and to undertake a review process with relevant stakeholder; 2) train and support capacity of local people to address knowledge gaps identified in the Action Plan for the Príncipe Thrush (*Turdus xanthorhynchus*); 3) understand social context and human pressures on the bird; 4) support the government in implementing and reviewing existing legislations regarding forest use, the Principe Thrush Conservation Action Plan as well as the Management Plan of Ôbo National Park.



PROJECT IMPACTS

- Expected impacts for the Principe Thrush
 - Stabilization at current numbers of the Principe Thrush population;
 - Illegal hunting of the thrush reduced by half;
 - Updated Principe Thrush Conservation Action Plan.
- Broader impacts for other species and biodiversity on Principe in general
 - Data on at least known species submitted to the Red List;
 - FPT, PNP staff and students trained in field and data collecting methods;
 - Updated PNP management plan.



ORGANIZATION
Fauna & Flora International

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-100798

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD1

AWARD DATE
29/06/17

DURATION
27 months

AMOUNT
\$ 199,248.81

COUNTRY(IES)
Sao Tome and Principe

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Parque Natural Obô do
Príncipe and buffer Area
(STP2)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Fundação Príncipe Trust
(FPT), COOPAPIP, Príncipe
Regional Government

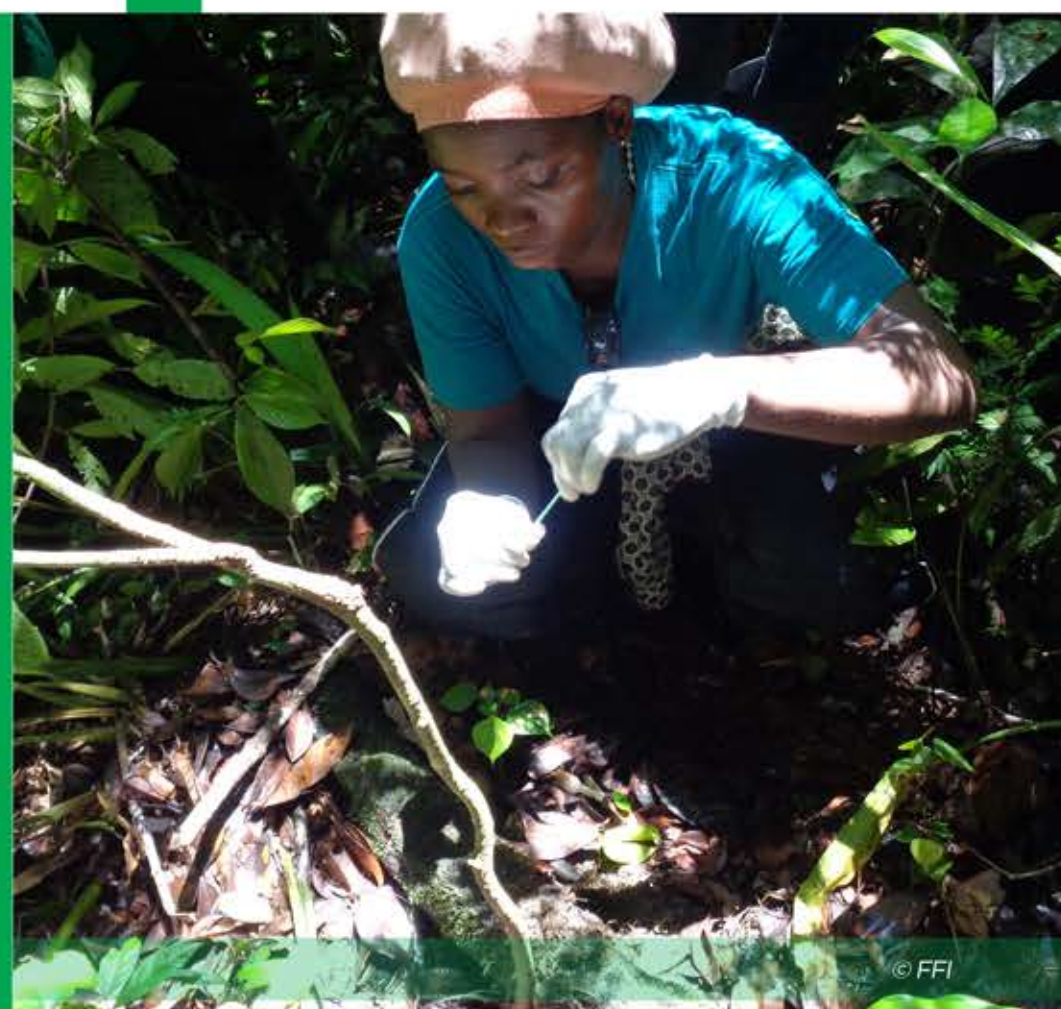
DESCRIPTION

Príncipe's forests are among the most biodiverse in Africa, and contain a level of endemism comparable to other oceanic islands such as the Galapagos. This is centered on the island's extensive primary and secondary forests, much of which are contained within the Natural Park, Parque Natural do Príncipe (PNP). All of the island's forests, including those within PNP, are used by the island's citizens for hunting, timber and foraging for non-timber forest products, which can cause substantial damage to wildlife and threaten species. At the same time, Príncipe has very few civil society organizations or formal businesses with a stake in conserving the island's wildlife. Local communities are poor and have few opportunities to engage with conservation, or to diversify their livelihoods away from potentially damaging activities. This project will build islanders' capacity to engage in sustainable management of their forests, establish beekeeping and agroforestry as sustainable livelihood options on Príncipe Island, in and around the Obô Natural Park (Parque Natural Obô do Príncipe) to incentivize better management of forest habitat, threat reduction to the western honey bee and restoration of degraded areas. The long-term contribution of this project will be to help improve the conservation status of the Parque Natural do Príncipe.



PROJECT IMPACTS

- Reduction in the incidence of burning and incidental damage in the PNOB due to honey collection activities
- Increased presence of native species in degraded clearances within the buffer zone (by increasing the coverage and diversity of plant species of agroforestry plots)
- Strengthened livelihoods in 9 communities adjacent to PNP, in terms of both income and sustainability
- The population levels of bees in and around the park are stable or increasing, ensuring their role as pollinators
- Local civil society capacity to manage and deliver activities in support of conservation is significantly boosted



ORGANIZATION
Fauna & Flora International

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-100793

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD3

AWARD DATE
7/5/2017

DURATION
39 months

AMOUNT
\$259,906.66

COUNTRY(IES)
Liberia

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Sapo National Park (LR14),
Cestos – Senkwen (LBR1),
Cestos/Gbi Area (LBR2),
Wonegizi Mountains (LBR17),
Lofa-Mano Complex (LBR11),
Grebo (LBR7).

PROJECT PARTNERS
Wild Chimpanzee Foundation
(WCF-Liberia), The Society for
the Conservation of Nature in
Liberia (SCNL), FACE and Forest
Cry Liberia (FCL), Forestry
Development Authority (FDA)

DESCRIPTION

Widely recognized as a global biodiversity hotspot and home to more than a quarter of Africa's mammal species, Liberia's forests display exceptionally high rates of endemism and provide a stronghold for several species that are almost extinct outside the country, including the pygmy hippopotamus (*Choeropsis liberiensis*). Endemic to the forests of West Africa, pygmy hippopotamus (PH) range is now restricted to within transboundary Upper Guinea rainforests spanning Côte D'Ivoire, Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone (Ransom et al. 2015). Liberia holds approximately 40% of the last remaining Upper Guinea Rainforests found to the east and west of the country and as such is a stronghold for PH populations. This project aims to develop applied training to build Liberian capacity for the implementation of the Regional Conservation Strategy and the National Action Plan for Pygmy Hippopotamus in the Cestos-Sapo-Grebo-Taï-Cavally and Lofa-Mano-Gola Corridor areas in Liberia, implement a national and trans-boundary Pygmy Hippo survey and reassess the national and regional status and increase governmental and public awareness of this flagship species.



PROJECT IMPACTS

- Improved capacity for 35 NGO staff and community auxiliaries, 40 park staff in research, monitoring and effective protection of the populations of Pygmy hippopotamus (PH) across its range,
- A standardized data collection protocol, developed and implemented for the PH range countries.
- Improved knowledge of PH population and threats in Liberia and the other three range countries.
- Trans-boundary coordination strengthened at national and site levels driving forward momentum for range wide increased protection of the PH
- Increased awareness of the PH status and threats, and awareness of wildlife legislation protecting PHs and other key threatened species at local, national and regional level
- Capacity of the Rangers and community auxiliaries strengthened to conduct effective patrols of the Protected Areas.



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ORGANIZATION
Ghana Wildlife Society

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-100805

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD2

AWARD DATE
6/29/2017

DURATION
18 months

AMOUNT
\$93,663.71

COUNTRY(IES)
Ghana

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Tano-Offin Forest Reserve (GHA29), Cape Three Points Forest Reserve (GHA9), and Atiwa Range Forest Reserve (GHA3)

PROJECT PARTNERS
National Development Planning Commission, Resource Trust (RT), Ghana Rubber Estates Limited (GREL), Working Group on Forest Certification.

DESCRIPTION

The total economic cost of degradation of natural resource and poor environmental management (including poor sanitation) has been estimated to be at least 10% of Ghana's GDP but there is insufficient site-specific information on the economic cost of loss of forest ecosystem services to know the true cost of forest loss/degradation. In addition, The Medium-Term National Development Policy Framework of Ghana, cites one of the current challenges for the effective maintenance of Ghana's permanent forest estate and biodiversity as lack of integration of biodiversity issues into development planning and weak institutional coordination and capacity. This project assessed the ecosystem values of Cape Three Points Forest Reserve and Tano-Offin Forest Reserve in Ghana through the use of the Toolkit for Ecosystem Site Ecosystem Services Assessment (TESSA), to make a case for mainstreaming biodiversity into District Assembly planning and private sector business practices for these two sites and Atewa Range Forest Reserve, all priority Key Biodiversity Areas.



PROJECT IMPACTS

- One private business, the Ghana Rubber Estates Limited (GREL) was formally engaged to upgrade their conservation practices through capacity building of rubber out growers in Ahanta West (Cape Three Points Forest Reserve), East Akyem/Abuakwa South (Atewa Forest Reserve), and Atwima Mponua (Tano-Offin Forest Reserve) District Assemblies.
- The project has contributed the most recent data on the ecosystem values of the two project KBAs (Cape Three Points Forest Reserve and Tano-Offin Forest Reserve), making a case for local government to mainstream ecosystem services and biodiversity into district medium-term development plans.
- Ghana Integrated Aluminium Development Corporation (GIADEC) Act has been passed by parliament. This Act is supposed to facilitate the establishment of a corporation to manage the extraction of bauxite and any related activities.
- Information and capacity on ecosystem services was generated for 2 KBAs (Cape Three Points Forest Reserve and Tano-Offin Forest Reserve) for mainstreaming into 3 local District Assembly Medium-Term Development planning and policy through the production and dissemination of 500 copies of Ecosystem services assessment report.



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ORGANIZATION
International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-104060

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD3

AWARD DATE
6/29/2018

DURATION
30 months

AMOUNT
\$219,702.3

COUNTRY(IES)
Benin; Cameroon; Cote d'Ivoire; Equatorial Guinea; Ghana; Guinea; Liberia; Nigeria; Sao Tome and Principe; Sierra Leone; Togo

KBAs / CORRIDORS
All Freshwater KBAs identified in the ecosystem profile. Additional Freshwater KBAs will also be identified as appropriate

PROJECT PARTNERS
IUCN PACO

DESCRIPTION

It is becoming more widely recognized that freshwater species and habitats lack profile among the public, conservation community, development community and policy makers and rank very low in general conservation and development priorities despite the high levels of threat they face and the wide ranging benefits they provide through associated ecosystem services. KBAs provide one of the most powerful tools to conserve these sites for freshwater species not least through their recognition within the environmental safeguards of many donors and private sector developers, but also as an important first step towards creating an effective representation of freshwater species and habitats within the hotspots protected areas networks which at present poorly represent this component of biodiversity. The aim of this project is to improve the conservation of freshwater biodiversity throughout all of the Guinean Forests of West Africa Hotspot. KBAs can then, among other things, be used to inform development of more representative protected areas network for freshwater biodiversity in each of the countries of the hotspot. Project outputs will additionally be made available to government officials to assist them in meeting international commitments to multilateral agreements, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity.



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PROJECT IMPACTS

- The new data on Freshwater KBAs will assist the 11 governments across the hotspot to expand the existing protected areas network and the Ramsar network of internationally important wetlands;
- The identification and validation of the 13+ freshwater KBAs within the hotspot will help towards enabling a more coordinated management across all sectors at the landscape scale of entire river catchments;
- Improved awareness of the impacts of water resource planning and development to freshwater biodiversity throughout the region will incorporate a better balance between the use of water by people and the water requirements of healthy functioning wetland ecosystems;
- Cross-sectoral application of the results to national development strategies and legislation (e.g. National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans) will be facilitated to better represent freshwater species and sites;
- The project will strengthen capacity of Government, Civil Society, IUCN, its members, and national conservation NGOs throughout the hotspot, in development of policies for natural resource management for human well-being, by integrating both terrestrial and freshwater approaches.

UPDATING KBAS WITHIN THE LOFA-GOLA-MANO AND NIMBA COMPLEXES

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN



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ORGANIZATION
Missouri Botanical Garden

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-104022

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD3

AWARD DATE
5/1/2019

DURATION
20 months

AMOUNT
\$244,458.24

COUNTRY(IES)
Cote d'Ivoire; Guinea; Liberia; Sierra Leone

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Kpelle Forest (LBR8), Lake Piso (LBR10), Lofa-Mano Complex (LBR11), Wologizi Mountains (LBR16), Wonegizi Mountains (LBR17), St Paul River (fw4, fw7, fw11), Massif du Ziama (GIN8), Pic de Fon (GIN10), Forêt Classée de Mont Bero (GIN4), Gola Forest Reserve (SLE1), Kambui Hills Forest Reserve (SLE2), Tiwai Island Game Sanctuary / Non-hunting Forest Reserve (SLE7), Mount Nimba (CIV8, CIV14, GIN9, LBR12), Diéké (GIN2), Forêt Classée des Monts Guéoulé et Mont Glo (CIV7), West Nimba (LBR15)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Herbier SERG de l'Institut de Recherche Agronomique de Guinée de Sérédoug, Jardin Botanique "Portères", Fauna & Flora International, La Société des Mines de Fer de Guinée, Centre de Gestion de l'Environnement des Monts Nimba-Simandou (CEGENS), Centre Forestier de Nzérékoré - CFN, Parc National de Gola Rainforest (GRNP), The Conservation Society of Sierra Leone (CSSL)

DESCRIPTION

Since the work of Mittermeier (2004), West Africa has been identified as one of the main African hotspots, and it is now estimated that more than 70% of its flora is threatened or expected to become so in the near future. Within the Guinean Forest Hotspot of West Africa, the Lofa-Gola-Mano and Nimba Mountains complexes contain some of the last remaining elements of Guinean montane and lowland forests in western Guinea, two habitats that are critically threatened and identified as priorities by the CEPF ecosystem profile. Nevertheless, knowledge of the flora and vegetation of these two complexes remains very fragmented, and presents strong local disparities, accentuated by the transboundary nature of these complexes. It is therefore urgent to identify the threatened components of flora and vegetation, a prerequisite for effective conservation measures to be put in place. This project will identify the threatened components of the flora and habitats of the two cross-border complexes Lofa-Gola-Mano and Mounts Nimba to update the analysis of Key Biodiversity Areas. It also aims to foster regional collaboration between several key actors in Guinea, Sierra Leone and Liberia, to harmonize inventory and conservation practices, and by disseminating project results at regional scale.

PROJECT IMPACTS

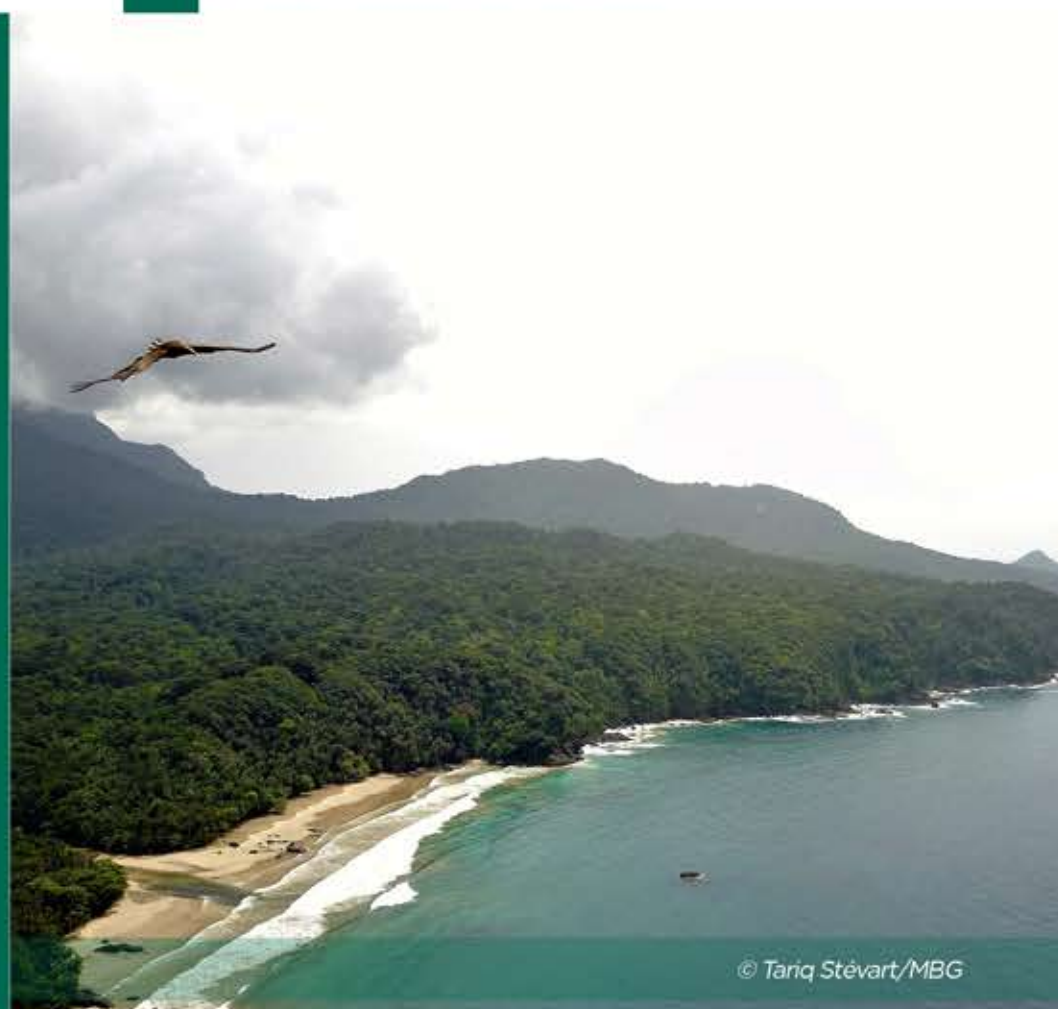
- More systematic use of flora and habitat data in the analysis of KBAs in West Africa
- Knowledge established or strengthened of at least 1000 plant species and 15 habitats in the 21 ZCBs of the Lofa-Gola-Mano and Nimba Mountains complexes;
- A strong collaborative relationship established between the MBG and local stakeholders in the management of KBAs covered by protected areas,
- Reliable flora and habitat data generated and compiled for the KBAs not currently covered by a protected area;
- Better understanding and appreciation of access to information and expertise by key actors in the financing and implementation of conservation in both complexes;
- Strengthened capacities and level of expertise of three herbaria in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone involved in the project on a sustainable basis, through the enhancement of their databases and collections, and the training of technicians;
- Inventory practices harmonized at the regional level, and collaboration between botanical teams and stakeholders from the three countries involved in the two complexes strengthened;
- Strengthened the exchange of information on KBAs between the three countries concerned by the establishment of the website based on the TROPICOS database;
- Awareness of conservation issues among local partners, decision-makers, funders, and the local population facilitated by the presence of an orchid shadehouse in Sérédoug



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CHARACTERIZATION OF THE THREATENED FLORA OF SÃO TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN



© Tariq Stévant/MBG

ORGANIZATION
Missouri Botanical Garden

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-104130

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD3

DURATION
20 months

AMOUNT
\$227,643.39

COUNTRY(IES)
Sao Tome and Principe

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Parque Natural Obô de São Tomé e Zona Tampão (STP1), Parque Natural Obô do Príncipe (STP2), Zona Ecológica da Praia das Conchas (STP3), Zona Ecológica dos Mangais do Rio Malanza (STP4)

PROJECT PARTNERS
University of Brussels; University of Coimbra; Sao Tome Obo Natural Park (PNOST); Centre Agronomic Research (CIAT); Directorate of Forests (DF); Directorate of Environment (DA); Fundacao Principe Trust (FPT); Fauna and Flora International (FFI); HBD Tourism Investments

DESCRIPTION

According to recent results, 931 plant species have been identified in São Tomé and Príncipe (STP), 809 of these considered native and 100 are endemic to the archipelago. The same study estimates, however, that about 200 additional species should be present but have not yet been identified. In addition, these data have never been used to assess its conservation status. In fact, only 90 plant species present at STP have a conservation status available on the IUCN Red List. Documenting the risk of extinction of STP plant species is all the more urgent because we have witnessed for some years now an uncontrolled boom in tourism development in the archipelago causing a probably massive impact on wildlife and the native flora. In this context, this project focus on identifying endangered plant species of STP, and on the rigorous assessment of their conservation status according to IUCN criteria and categories and the use of these data to document, and if necessary improve, the network of Key Biodiversity Areas in the archipelago. It will rely on the dissemination of relevant information to stakeholders involved in biodiversity management and capacity building by training a new generation of botanists, in species identification capabilities, monitoring of plant populations and maintenance of plant distribution data.



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PROJECT IMPACTS

- Critical information on plant biodiversity in the 4 KBAs of the archipelago is filled, the KBAs re-delineated and a prioritization of conservation measures proposed for each KBA;
- Potentially important areas for biodiversity conservation inventoried and mapped;
- Conservation statuses of 150 rare or endemic species assessed and submitted to the IUCN Red List;
- CR or EN species will be subjected to ex situ conservation measures at Bom Successo or Príncipe;
- Two botanists and two Saotomean parataxonomists trained in methods of collecting and managing botanical data;
- A collaborative network is established between: 1) other active conservation projects at STP, 2) local and international institutions involved in biodiversity conservation at STP;
- South-south relations between STP and the continent in the field of botany are strengthened.



ORGANIZATION
Noé

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-100792

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD2

DURATION
35 months

AWARD DATE
8/21/2017

AMOUNT
\$327,999.68

COUNTRY(IES)
Cote d'Ivoire; Ghana

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Forest Reserves of Southeastern
Côte d'Ivoire and Southwestern
Ghana (GFWA 6 corridor)

PROJECT PARTNERS
West African Primate
Conservation Action (WAPCA),
Centre Suisse de Recherches
Scientifiques en Côte d'Ivoire
(CSRS)



ORGANIZATION
Oikos - Cooperação e
Desenvolvimento

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-103972

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD1

AWARD DATE
5/1/2019

DURATION
20 months

AMOUNT
\$206,906.06

COUNTRY(IES)
Sao Tome and Principe

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Zona Ecológica dos Mangais
do Rio Malanza (STP3), Zona
Ecológica dos Mangais da
Praia das Conchas (STP4)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Sao Tome Obo Natural
Park (PNOST);
Local authorities and
communities

DESCRIPTION

Kwabre and Tanoé forests form one of the largest intact block of swamp forest in the Upper Guinea global biodiversity hotspot. This area of high endemism harbors a host of endangered species - out of which many only occur in this region, including four Critically Endangered primate species. These exceptional natural areas are endangered by illegal logging and poaching, driven in large part by the demand for protein among expanding rural communities and urban populations with increasing purchasing power, and deforestation for agriculture. This project aims to demonstrate the efficiency of the community-based conservation model and illustrate that synergies can be, and need to be, created between conservation and economic development of communities in the Tanoé and Kwabre swamp forests of Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana. Develop green value chains that adapt global best practices to the local context in partnership with private companies, local communities and government bodies.



DESCRIPTION

In Sao Tome and Principe the importance of mangroves is acknowledged, but the shortcomings in human and financial resources that characterize the country mean that these areas are often considered marginal in the management of the Natural Park. Such is the case of the Management Plans for the mangroves of Malanza and Praia das Conchas, which were jointly developed by the NGO Alisei and two research groups from the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Lisbon (CE3C and MARE, partners of the current project). These two documents are of recognized quality but need updating. On the other hand, it is of paramount importance to develop local competences and to create mechanisms for the participation of local populations, ensuring the appropriation and internalization of sustainable management measures and practices by those who live and habitually use mangroves and their surrounding areas. This requires not only raising awareness and creating spaces for population involvement, but also developing forms of income generation that, being involved with the environment, reduce the current negative impacts of human action. This project aims to promote the updating and implementation of participatory management plans for the Malanza and Praia das Conchas Mangroves, in order to conserve the last São Tomé mangrove forests.



PROJECT IMPACTS

- Improved livelihoods of local community and forest and biodiversity conservation through the development of Green Value Chains (GVC's) from production or harvest to markets developed with the support of private companies;
- Maintenance of ecological services and functions of a community- managed peat-swamp rainforest (at least 12,000 hectares of forest in Cote d'Ivoire and 2,500 hectares in Ghana);
- New management practices consistent with biodiversity on the outskirts of the forest through training of farmers in "best environmental and agricultural practices and agroforestry."

PROJECT IMPACTS

- The Participatory Management Plans for Malanza and Praia das Conchas Mangroves are updated with the involvement of local communities;
- There is an improvement of scientific knowledge and conservation status of the species composition and dynamics of the mangroves;
- The threats to the conservation of the mangroves are reduced and the ecosystem is valued;
- The monitoring and inspection mechanisms of the Malanza and Praia das Conchas Mangrove Management Plans are capacitated and implemented.



ORGANIZATION
Rainforest Alliance, Inc

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-104314

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD2

AWARD DATE
6/29/2018

DURATION
24 months

AMOUNT
\$55,006.09

COUNTRY(IES)
Cote d'Ivoire

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Cestos-Sapo-Grebo-Taï-Cavally
Corridor (GFWA 4)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Centre d'Etudes, Formation,
Conseils et Audits (CEFCA)

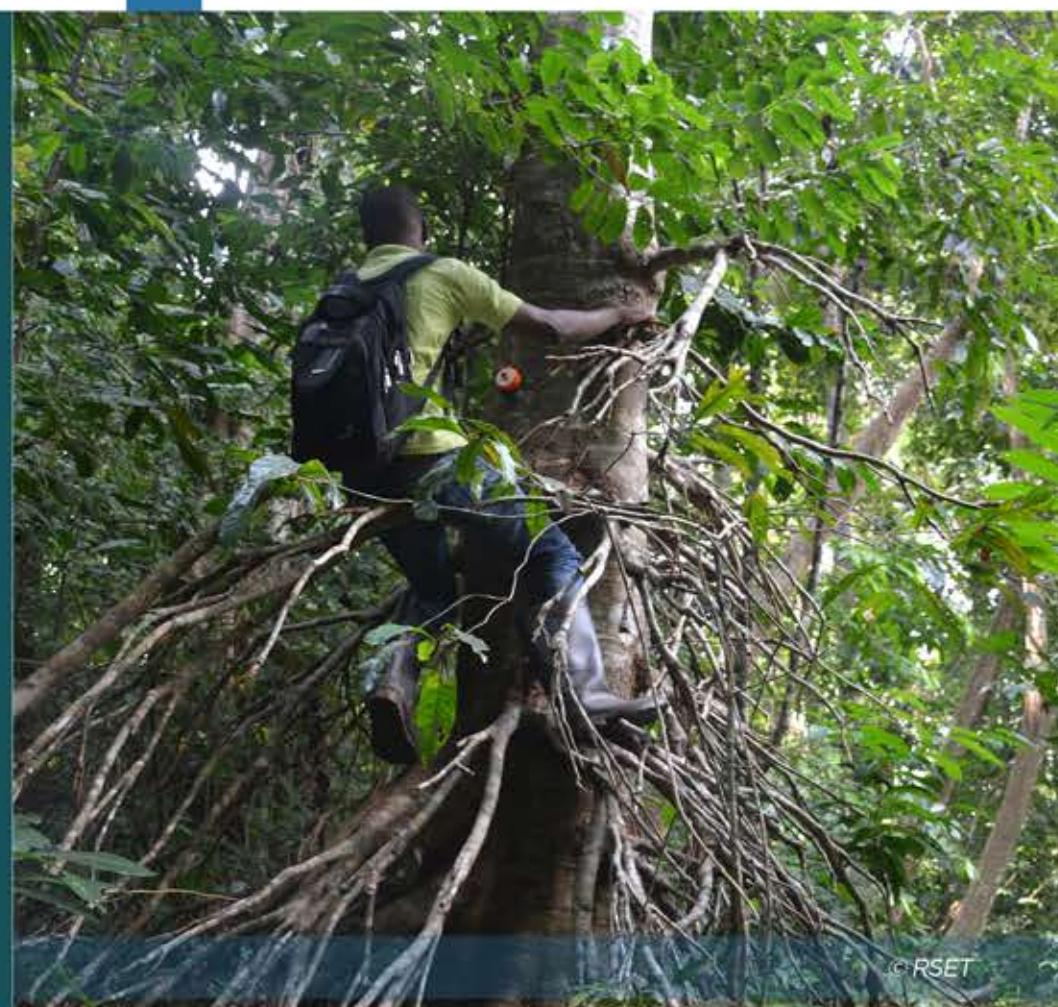
DESCRIPTION

Maintaining landscape connectivity and ecosystem function and services of the Taï-Cavally corridor, is critical to long-term species survival and the conservation of biodiversity in the region. There is an opportunity to develop a market-based approach for sustainable management of the landscape, incorporating all the relevant cocoa stakeholders, with concrete involvement of the concerned communities, with establishment of a Landscape Management Board to address the key biodiversity threats. This project provides technical assistance to the Centre d'Etudes, Formation, Conseils et Audits (CEFCA) to support mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and deforestation-free agricultural economy through Public Private Partnership in the cocoa sector in the Cavally region of Cote d'Ivoire.



PROJECT IMPACTS

- Improved capacity of CEFCA in project management and Monitoring and Evaluation to produce quality and timely reports for CEPF and other project stakeholders through technical assistance, training, and sporadic third-party data quality assessments.



ORGANIZATION
RSET - Associação
Técnico-Científica para
Desenvolvimento

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-104174

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD1

AWARD DATE
6/18/2018

DURATION
30 months

AMOUNT
\$296,000

COUNTRY(IES)
Sao Tome and Principe

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Parque Natural Obô de São
Tomé e Zona Tampão (STP1)

PROJECT PARTNERS
WayCarbon, Directorate of
Forests (DF); Sao Tome Obo
Natural Park (PNOST);
ADAPPA

DESCRIPTION

Strengthening participatory community-based management in the protected areas of the Obô Natural Park in Sao Tome is the general focus of this project proposal, where we aim to strengthen governance through stakeholder integration, management information and data production, and improvement of access to financial resources for sustainability interventions. Based on the design of a REDD + pilot project, which can provide a robust framework for the management and planning of long-term interventions, this project aims to contribute to the stabilization of conservation efforts in STP. Stakeholder and community involvement in this pilot project (consultation, sensitization, capacity building, and prior and informed consent required by REDD +) will create knowledge by installing the necessary incentives for the adoption and maintenance of sustainable lifestyles for the conservation of priority areas. In this context, local communities will become aware of the direct economic value obtainable by standing trees (as opposed to cutting them for wood or fuel) and will be able, through monitoring, to demand the return due to them for forest conservation. Under the REDD + requirements, once traded, conservation carbon credits should be distributed according to participatory built-up sharing mechanisms.



PROJECT IMPACTS

- Estimate Greenhouse Gas Emissions avoided in the project area;
- Estimate the number of hectares of deforestation reduction in the project area;
- Increase the number of communities eligible to intervene in sustainable management of PNOST;
- Train and employ local people in project activities;
- Design at least one participatory benefit-sharing mechanism;
- Implement at least one Participatory Management Plan.



ORGANIZATION
Society for the
Conservation of Nature
of Liberia

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-100786

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD1

AWARD DATE
12/15/2017

DURATION
32 months

AMOUNT
\$329,553.6

COUNTRY(IES)
Liberia

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Lofa-Mano complex (LBR11)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Forestry Development
Authority (FDA), the
traditional authorities and
local communities

DESCRIPTION

The proposed project area is of uniquely high biodiversity value with 60 globally threatened species and is also a critical wildlife corridor linking the Gola Forest National Park, the proposed Foya Nature Reserve, and the Gola Rainforest National Park in Sierra Leone. Together these form the Greater Gola Landscape which represents the largest single block of remaining Upper Guinea Forest. The GolaMA project is focused on the designation and operationalisation of the community forests, actively engaging local communities in the process but falling short of ensuring the communities receive direct social benefits from the conservation of the forest, and ensuring their livelihoods are rainforest-friendly as well as climate-smart. It supports 15 communities in the Gola Forest area in Liberia to become active stewards of the natural resources through well-managed community forests, with strong governance structures, sustainable financing and rainforest-friendly and climate-smart income generating activities.



PROJECT IMPACTS

- Community forest zoning incorporated into the Community Forest Management Agreement and all new income generating activities respect the zoning.
- The nine steps of the formal process to establish a community forest completed by the Normon & Tonglay Clans and Community Forest Management Agreement (CFMA) signed with the Forestry Development Authority (FDA)
- Capacity of the Community Forest Management Bodies (CFMBs) strengthened in financial management and administration to properly manage the small loan scheme.
- Increased production in cocoa, oil palm, groundnuts, swamp rice and honey through lessons learnt from the Farmer Field Schools and agricultural extension work
- 80% of households reported increased wellbeing as a result of improved communities' skills to carry out rainforest-friendly and climate-smart activities.
- Capacity of SCNL and FDA staff working in the Gola Forest strengthened to support community members on livelihoods activities and forest monitoring
- A gender policy developed for SCNL to guide project activities in the Gola Rainforest National Park in Sierra Leone.



ORGANIZATION
United Purpose

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-103913

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD1

AWARD DATE
6/27/2018

DURATION
30 months

AMOUNT
\$260,005.46

COUNTRY(IES)
Nigeria

KBAs / CORRIDORS
South East Niger Delta – near
Calabar (fw10)

PROJECT PARTNERS
NGO Coalition for
Environment(NGOCE),
Mangrove Action Watch, Cross
River State Ministry of
Environment, Ministry of Climate
Change & Forestry, Ministry of
Agriculture, Local Government
Council, Traditional Rulers
Council, Cross River State
Cooperatives Society.

DESCRIPTION

The Lower Guinean Forest Ecosystem of which the Niger Delta forms part has high levels of species richness and endemism. The Niger Delta is the world's second largest swamp forest in Africa, but this mangrove ecosystem has not experienced the same level of attention and support as the Cross River rainforest. However, it is a valuable, fragile and increasingly endangered ecosystem. The mangrove forests in the project area have the status of 'Community Forest' defined by the Cross River State Forestry Law (2010) as a forest area on community land in which the communities have traditionally and on the basis of customary law exercised Exclusive User Rights. This project will support 15 communities in Cross River State, South East Niger Delta region of Nigeria, to carry out sustainable forest management and livelihoods practices by increasing awareness on mangrove, supporting Sustainable Community Forest Management Plans, building the capacity of a Community-Based Organization dedicated to mangrove conservation, increasing profitability and sustainability of agricultural livelihood activities as viable alternatives to ecosystem depletion, regenerating depleted forests, and establishing woodlots for sustainable firewood harvesting.



PROJECT IMPACTS

- Sustainable Mangrove Forest Management Plans developed for a 48 hectares mangrove area across 15 communities.
- Capacity of Mangrove Action Watch – a community based organization, traditional leaders, state and local government institutions strengthened to implement and enforce the management plans and community by-laws on mangrove utilization.
- Increased mangrove forest cover through regeneration of 50 hectares of mangrove across 3 of the 15 sites.
- Woodlots established to meet the demand for firewood and 1,500 men, women, youth and children with increased awareness on mangrove ecosystem conservation who are better equipped to manage the mangrove.
- 150 households in 15 communities established as cooperatives and businesses, with 40% increase in household income, through the improvement in value chain and marketing of palm oil, pigs and poultry products.

CREATING LIBERIA'S LARGEST PROTECTED AREA FOR CRITICALLY ENDANGERED CHIMPANZEES



© Wild Chimpanzee Foundation

ORGANIZATION
Wild Chimpanzee Foundation

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-104076

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD3

AWARD DATE
3/21/2019

DURATION
21 months

AMOUNT
\$270,000.64

COUNTRY(IES)
Liberia

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Cestos/Gbi Area (LBR1),
Cestos-Senkwen (LBR2)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Universal Outreach Foundation,
Forestry Development
Authority, Eddie Theater
Production, the Ivorian company
Alma Production, Royal Society for
the Protection of Birds,
Gola Rainforest Conservation LG,
Society for the Conservation of
Nature of Liberia, Fauna & Flora
International and Conservation
International.

DESCRIPTION

Liberia holds the largest forest dwelling population of the now critically endangered West African chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes verus*) in all of West Africa, estimated at >7,000 individuals (Tweh et al, 2014) with the greatest numbers residing in the southeastern forest block of Liberia. This project shall protect the Critically Endangered West African Chimpanzee through consultation with communities in and around the Cestos – Senkwen and Cestos/Gbi area, creation of green jobs as alternatives for local hunters and bush meat traders, capacity building of the Forestry Development Authority in protected area management, creation of livelihood alternatives for local communities through a beekeeping project, and awareness raising of communities through theater outreach.

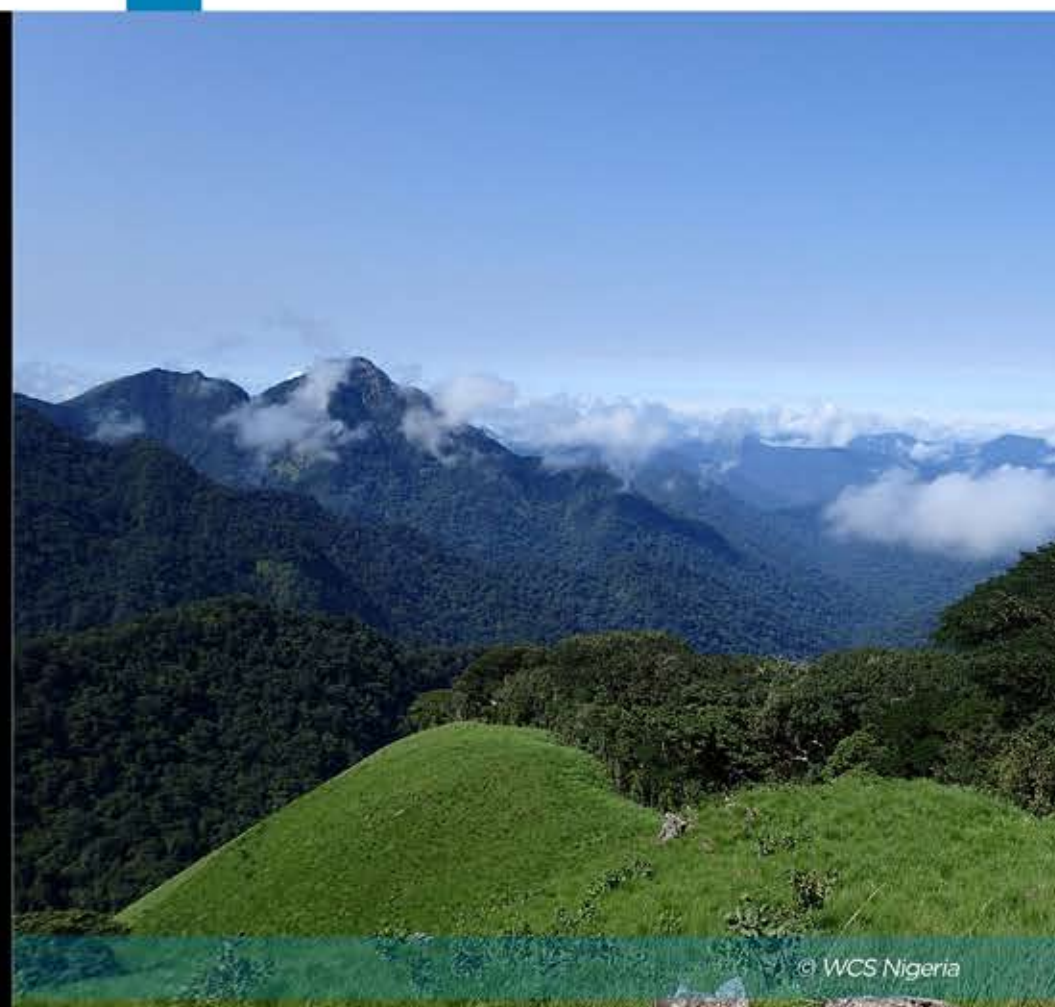


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PROJECT IMPACTS

- Strengthened protection and management for Cestos – Senkwen and Cestos/Gbi Key biodiversity area, with reduced number of illegal activities and with increased law enforcement quantified by SMART and annual Community Ecoguard reports.
- Beekeepers in 8 communities are generating income through bee-keeping measured through pre and post project cash income assessment
- Green Jobs for local communities created through the establishment of a Community Eco-guard program.
- Gazettment process for the Krahn-Bassa Proposed Protected Area (KBPPA) completed and submitted to the Board of the Forestry Development Authority.
- Capacity building in Protected Area Management provided to 4 Forestry Development Authority staff members
- Theater play created and performed to raise awareness about the creation of a protected area at KBPPA,

SAVING CROSS RIVER GORILLAS FROM EXTINCTION IN NIGERIA



© WCS Nigeria

ORGANIZATION
Wildlife Conservation Society

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-100813

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD3

AWARD DATE
7/20/2017

DURATION
36 months

AMOUNT
\$349,997.16

COUNTRY(IES)
Nigeria

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Mbe Mountains and Cross
River National Park:
Okwangwo Division (NGA7))

PROJECT PARTNERS
Conservation Association of
the Mbe Mountains (Camm),
local communities in Mbe,
Okwangwo & Afi, National
Park Service, Cocoa Research
Institute of Nigeria (CRIN),
Cross River Broadcasting
Corporation (CRBC), National
Commission of Museums and
Monuments

DESCRIPTION

The Cross River gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla diehli*) is the most endangered ape in Africa and is classified by IUCN as Critically Endangered (CR). In Nigeria the species is restricted to three contiguous sites in northern Cross River State: Afi Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary, the Mbe Mountains and the Okwangwo Division of Cross River National Park (CRNP). As a result of past hunting pressure fewer than 100 Cross River gorillas survive in Nigeria today. The main threat to Cross River gorillas and other endangered (EN) species in the Afi-Mbe-Okwangwo region is widespread hunting. This project aims to reduce immediate threats to five globally threatened species: the Cross River gorilla (*Gorilla gorilla diehli*) Slender-snouted crocodile - *Mecistops cataphractus* (CR), Preuss's monkey - *Allochrocebus preussi* (EN), drill - *Mandrillus leucophaeus* (EN) and the Nigeria-Cameroon chimpanzee - *Pan troglodytes ellioti* (EN), and in addition, the remnant forest elephant - *Loxodonta cyclotis* in the Afi-Mbe-Okwangwo forest region of Cross River State, Nigeria, by enabling rangers to sustain longer and more frequent patrols and generate data for strategic decisions on future patrols. Also by supporting an outreach program to change local attitudes and practices for the conservation of watersheds and the sustainability of non-timber forest products important for local women.



© arendolchaas

PROJECT IMPACTS

- Reduced level of hunting of five globally threatened species and the IUCN Red List updated with data assessment of the five globally threatened species, through the use of SMART-based patrols by rangers at all three sites.
- Reduced deforestation in Afi-Mbe-Okwangwo and critical corridors through increased uptake of shade cocoa by 1,500 cocoa farmers.
- Afi-Mbe-Okwangwo declared as part of a trans-boundary World Heritage Site together with contiguous sites in Cameroon.
- Household level income increased by 10% through support for improved cocoa production and sustainable bush mango harvesting, processing, storage and marketing.
- Improved level of conservation awareness, attitudes and behaviors through a schools-based education and awareness program and a weekly radio-drama entertainment-education program.



SMALL GRANTS

SMALL GRANTS

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FOREST FRAGMENTATION: CAUSES, ECOLOGICAL IMPLICATION, AND IMPACT ON THREATENED SPECIES



ORGANIZATION
A. P. Leventis Ornithological
Research Institute

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-109610

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD3

AWARD DATE
8/14/2018

DURATION
27 months

AMOUNT
\$35,000

COUNTRY(IES)
Nigeria

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Gashaka-Gumti National
Park (NGA5)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Nigerian Conservation
Foundation, National Centre
for Remote Sensing,
National Park Service,
Gashaka Youth Association
and local community



DESCRIPTION

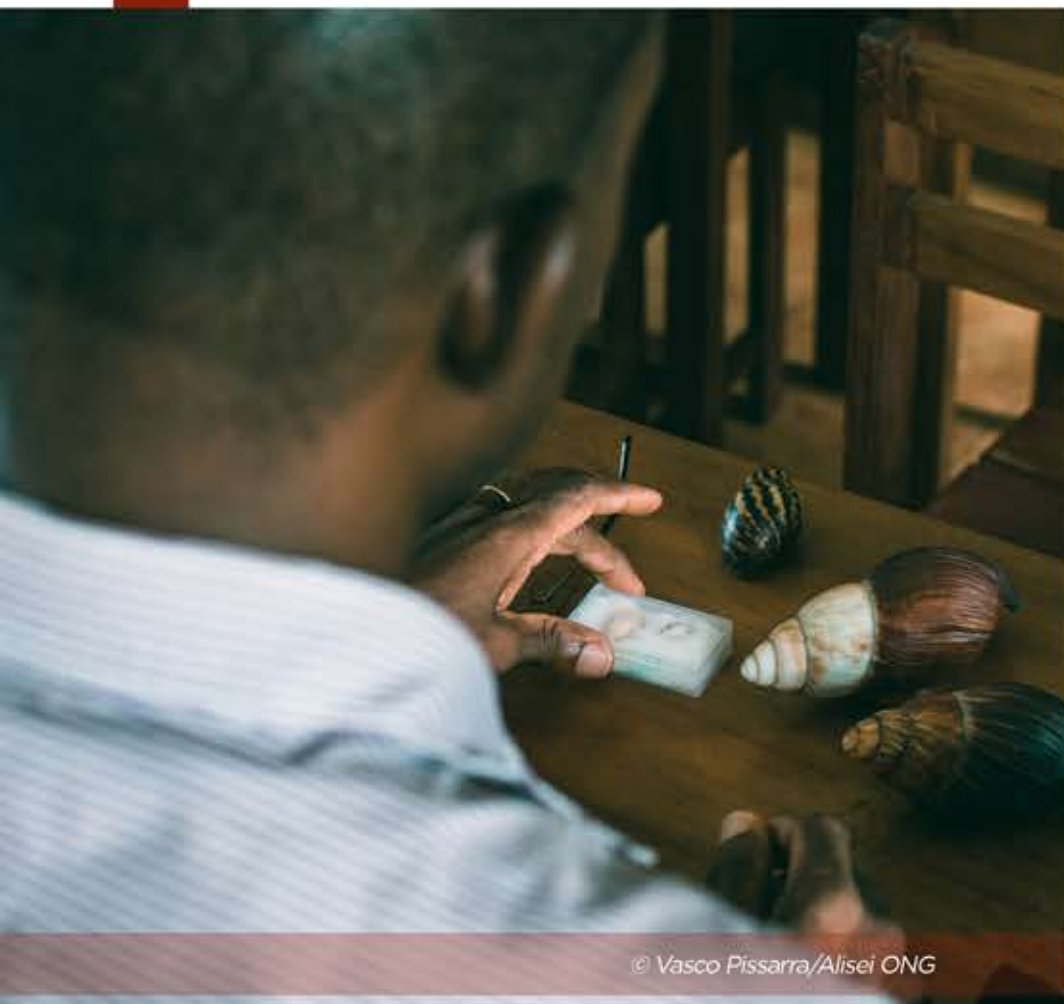
In order to protect endemic and vulnerable species, it is necessary to understand species-specific habitat requirement, a proper estimate of population size, structure and dynamics, and threats. This project will provide up-to-date population status, structure, and trends of five globally threatened bird species (*Kupeornis gilberti* - White-throated Mountain-babbler, *Andropadus montanus* - Cameroon Montane Greenbul, *Bradypterus bangwaensis* - Bangwa Forest Warbler, *Malaconotus gladiator* - Green-breasted Bush-shrike; *Ploceus bannermani* - Bannerman's Weaver) found in the Gashaka-Gumti National Park (NGA5) Key Biodiversity Area. This information will be used to revise the global conservation status of these species. It will also provide for the first time, baseline information on the population size, status and distribution of five plants species, three of which are of global conservation concern; and collate information to fill in the knowledge gap on two other plant species, *Boswellia dalzielii* and *Sterculia setigera* that are poorly assessed and appear threatened from field observations in north eastern Nigeria. This will guide the development of recovery strategies and conservation action plans at the Key Biodiversity Areas.



PROJECT IMPACTS

- Distribution and population estimate for the species of focus within Gashaka/Gumti National Park and adjacent parts of the Korupmba-Obachap biodiversity corridor determined and documented.
- Approximately 1,009 Sq.Km of the total KBA assessed for anthropogenic activities with a map of anthropogenic activities developed providing information for future conservation interventions
- Information on the focal species updated on the IUCN Red list
- 2 Park Rangers and 2 community members trained in research methodology & bird/plant Identification to support future monitoring of focal species.

SAVE THE SÃO TOMÉ GIANT SNAIL: LEARNING AND TEACHING TO PRESERVE



© Vasco Pissarra/Alisei ONG

ORGANIZATION
Alisei ONG

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-109607

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD3

AWARD DATE
8/14/2018

DURATION
17 months

AMOUNT
\$24,840

COUNTRY(IES)
Sao Tome and Principe

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Parque Naturel Obo do
Principe(STP2)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Associacao Monte
Pico (AMP); Sao Tome
Obo Natural Park (PNOST)

DESCRIPTION

The São Tomé Obô Natural Park (STONP), home to a remarkable unique biodiversity, hosts at least 30 species of endemic molluscs, including the iconic Giant Land Snail, *Archachatina bicarinata*. This species is herbivorous and substrate decomposer, indicator of well-preserved native and secondary forest, widely known by local inhabitants for its medicinal and food uses. This species, endemic to São Tomé and Príncipe, has suffered a rapid decline in the last decades, due to a combination of habitat loss and indirect competition with the introduced West African Giant Snail, *Archachatina marginata*, an invasive species in many countries outside the native distribution range in West continental Africa. The project aims creating a São Tomé Giant Snail conservation breeding Centre as a tool to involve, aware and educate local communities about the conservation of the Obô Natural Park. It will also update the IUCN Red List status by obtaining fundamental knowledge about the ecology and biology of the endemic threatened São Tomé Giant Snail, through the breeding Centre, but also by investigating the major threats affecting the species. Specifically, it will investigate the factors that influence and/or favour the entrance of the invasive species inside the limits of the Natural Park and its interaction with the endemic species.



© Vasco Pissarra/Alisei ONG

PROJECT IMPACTS

- Obtain fundamental knowledge about the ecology, biology and current threats of this threatened species as a tool for its management and conservation and IUCN Red List updates;
- Create locals' connectivity and awareness within the Natural Park and the protection of its resources;
- Contribute to the conservation of the species through the realization of ex-situ measures;
- Highlight to communities and visitors the Natural Park its role and importance.

DETERMINING DISTRIBUTION, DENSITY AND CONNECTIVITY OF THREATENED TORTOISES IN NIGERIA



© BPC

ORGANIZATION
Biodiversity Preservation
Centre

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-102089

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD3

AWARD DATE
5/19/2017

DURATION
15 months

AMOUNT
\$32,362

COUNTRY(IES)
Nigeria

KBAs / CORRIDORS
South East Niger
Delta - near Calabar (Fw10)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Mbiakong Uruan and Esuk
Mbat communities,
Organization for Positive
Sustainability Culture in
Nigeria (OPSCN)

DESCRIPTION

This project focuses on two threatened species of hinged tortoises of the genus *Kinixys* (*Testudinidae*), the only endemic genus of chelonians within the Guinean forests block. It aims to implement the conservation action plans (Research on population size, distribution and trend, Habitat restoration, awareness raising and education) for the threatened species of tortoises, Home's hinge-back tortoise - *K. homeana* and forest-hinged tortoise - *K. erosa* in southeastern Nigeria. The project will analyze the impact of forest habitat loss, fragmentation and hunting to provide useful data for prioritizing and recommending effective conservation and livelihood actions for its range.



© BPC

PROJECT IMPACTS

- Population size, threats, ecology and demographic connectivity of threatened tortoise species in Cross River and Akwa Ibom State evaluated through population and bush meat surveys.
- A species action plan developed for threatened tortoise, detailing the conservation status as well as prescribed actions to enhance their conservation status.
- Habitat quality for threatened tortoises improved by the establishment of two Community Conserved areas (Wildlife Sanctuaries) to promote regeneration, both in Cross River and Akwa Ibom State and the establishment of nurseries and replanting of degraded area with indigenous multipurpose tree species across its range.
- The creation of BPC Conservation Education Center as a functional business outlook that serve as conservation education center and rehabilitation center for rescued tortoises.

APICULTURE FOR MOUNT OKU BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND LIVELIHOOD IMPROVEMENT



DESCRIPTION

The Apiculture for Mount Oku Biodiversity Conservation and Livelihood Improvement project, seeks to protect habitat of many plants and animals, re-organize and build capacity of community based forest groups and develop a strong sustainable market for forest products to reduce pressure on forest resources and biodiversity. This will be achieved through, strengthening the Oku White Honey value chain by improving the quality of the finished products and developing robust markets and regenerate degraded forest biodiversity with native bee loving and economic trees, which will help increase the quantity of honey produced. This program will help organize bee farmers, lead to job creation and increase the revenue of the local population. The development of this green value chain will reduce pressure on natural resources, encourage communities to support conservation effort, build capacity among community leaders including women and improve the livelihood of the population.

PROJECT IMPACTS

- Men and women of local communities around Kilum Ijim forest involved in the forest restauration and planting of over 4000 bee loving and economic trees such as the prunus africana;
- At least 150 bee farmers and cooperatives executives from the local community around Mont Oku received training on honey and wax production and production material to increase their livelihood;
- Improved the value chain of Oku white honey by increasing the added value of the finished production and marketing strategy through training in decreasing the use of smoke in honey harvesting and bee wax production, and distribution of storage buckets and nice labels for various honey products;
- The market for the finished bee farming products (honey and bee wax) is developed and strengthened through developing and implementing a business strategy for local market in North West Region and other parts of Cameroon, and exploring new market possibilities in Nigeria.

ORGANIZATION
Cameroon Gender and Environment Watch

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-109612

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD1

AWARD DATE
8/10/2018

DURATION
21 months

AMOUNT
\$47,250

COUNTRY(IES)
Cameroon

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Mount Oku (CMR15)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife - Cameroon, Oku Honey Cooperative Society Limited - Oku



CREATION OF THE FIRST MARINE PROTECTED AREA IN IVORY COAST IN THE AREA BORDERING THE MOUTH OF THE DODO RIVER



ORGANIZATION
Conservation des Espèces Marines

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-102092

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD3

AWARD DATE
6/1/2017

DURATION
24 months

AMOUNT
\$44,819

COUNTRY(IES)
Cote d'Ivoire

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Zone near the Tai National Park and La Forêt classée de la Haut Dodo

PROJECT PARTNERS
US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Action pour le Développement.

DESCRIPTION

The zone near the Tai National Park and La Forêt classée de la Haut Dodo in Côte d'Ivoire is of high value, for spawning and growth of several species of marine turtles such as hawksbills, leatherback turtle, green turtle and olive turtles. However, uncontrolled exploitation of natural resources, deforestation, poaching and illegal fishing are putting pressure on these species and their habitat. Through this project, the local NGO, Conservation des Espèces Marines, will work closely with local and national stakeholders to create a Marine Protected Area in the area, which will be the first to exist in the country. It will target mainly villages located on the riverside such as Mani, Pitiké and Kablake, and is expected to lead to an increased population of marine turtles and other water species.



PROJECT IMPACTS

- Increased level of protection of more than 10.000 ha area of high conservation value including mangrove, forest and coastal water from land clearing for agriculture, illegal and unsustainable logging, hunting and fishing through the establishment of the first marine protected area in Cote d'Ivoire;
- Improved level of knowledge on biodiversity including chimpanzees and 4 other species of primates, 4 species of marine turtles, fresh water turtles and reptiles in the study area;
- Increased survival rate of 650 nest of olive redly turtle, 280 nest of leatherback turtles and 60 nest of green turtles within the newly establish marine protected area through regular beach patrolling and involvement of local community;
- Reduced level of poverty in the communities living in and around the newly establish marine protected area by providing potable water, distributing solar lamps, training and engaging with 15 young people in eco-tourism and beach patrolling and 6 in anti-poaching and law enforcement.



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ORGANIZATION
Conservation Society of Sierra Leone

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-103713

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD4

AWARD DATE
8/23/2017

DURATION
3 months

AMOUNT
\$4,500

COUNTRY(IES)
Sierra Leone

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Western Area
Peninsula Non-hunting
Forest National Park (SLE8)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Responsible Community Tourism
Organization (RECTOUR),
Environmental Foundation for
Africa (EFA), National Protected
Area Authority (NPAA)

DESCRIPTION

The Western Area Peninsula National Park (WAP-NP) is one of the biodiversity hotspots in Sierra Leone that hosts a significant proportion of the country's biodiversity. The forest reserve protects the watershed of the Guma Valley Dam and Congo Dam which supply water to the entire population of Freetown (ca. 2 million people). This planning grant aimed to conduct a stakeholder analysis and partnership consolidation for the conservation of biodiversity in the Western Area Peninsula National Park. It helped define the actors and stakeholders and identify gaps for more coordinated and sustainable intervention that adds value to the existing efforts for the conservation of the WAPNP; enhance cooperation among communities and other related Community-based and Non-Governmental Organizations, reinforcing synergies and avoiding duplication of efforts and maximizing resource use, while clearly taking into account current roles, impacts and sources of funding. Finally, it aimed to identify gaps and conceive new initiatives to be developed into a proposal to add value to ongoing interventions.



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PROJECT IMPACTS

- A comprehensive stakeholders and actors analysis of the Western Area Peninsula National Park, with clear roles and responsibilities resulting in a more strengthened synergies between stakeholders and actors.



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ORGANIZATION
Cross River State
Environment and Carbon
Emission Board

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-109613

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD1

AWARD DATE
8/14/2018

DURATION
22 months

AMOUNT
\$39,996

COUNTRY(IES)
Nigeria

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Obudu Plateau (NGA9)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Paramount ruler and
council of Obanliku LGA,
Community groups, OPSCN,
Ministry of Climate Change

DESCRIPTION

A major manifestation of climate change is the increased frequency and intensity of heat waves. One of the key impacts of this heat waves is observable in the reduced water availability for rural communities especially those depending on natural water sources. It has also been clearly proven that human activity in the areas of land clearance and forest management as well as use of fuel wood for cooking energy have led to the destruction of forest canopies and water shed. This project will help reclaiming the fast disappearing natural water sources in the Obudu Plateau – communities around the Obudu Plateau and environs - through the restoration of a 10.55km stretch of water shed by planting of trees along both sides of the water course up to a distance of two to three kilometers thereby boosting the ecosystem services provided by the natural course of the streams. It will also empower the women and youths in the selected rural communities through, the formation of 4 community-based women and youth groups, providing training and extension services in the cultivation of economic trees (Cocoa, mango, bush mango, etc.) as a livelihood initiative that will contribute to job creation and income generation.



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PROJECT IMPACTS

- 3.52KM of degraded water catchment area in each of the 3 communities restored through the planting of a total of 10,000 indigenous trees.
- 1500 individuals sensitized on proper watershed management and sustainable forest conservation in Obudu through the use of town hall, meeting, ICT materials and radio talks & jingles.
- Reduction in the use of forest trees for fire wood and improved indoor air quality through the use of Firewood Efficient Cook Stove.
- Income generation for 120 women and 80 youths improved through trainings in horticulture and nursery establishment & management



ORGANIZATION
Development
Concern (DEVCON)

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-109614

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD1

AWARD DATE
8/24/2018

DURATION
15 months

AMOUNT
\$49,995

COUNTRY(IES)
Nigeria

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Cross River National Park:
Oban Division (NGA4),
Gashaka-Gumti
National Park (NGA5),
Mbe Mountains and Cross River
National Park: Okwangwo
Division (NGA7),
Obudu Plateau (NGA9)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Cross River National Park,
Cross River State
Tourism Bureau, CERCOPAN,
Akamkpa Local Government
Council, Ministry of Climate
change and Forestry, Iko-Esai
community

DESCRIPTION

Iko-Esai community is located around the western edge of the Oban corridor of the Cross River National Park Oban Division straddling the border with Cameroon, forming the Eastern end of the Guinean Forests biodiversity hotspot. The 20,000 hectares of pristine forest (designated RHOKO Camp) that the community delineated for Primate rehabilitation and Reintroduction, including serving as area for environmental and ecological studies is at risk as support from civil society and government diminishes due to lack of funds. This project will be strengthening local community's capacity to sustainably manage the 20,000 hectares of the Iko-Esai community forest, which is contiguous with the Cross River National Park Oban Division. This will directly contribute to improving the management and protection of the National Park buffer and transition zones, and will be achieved through: community organizing and strengthening institutional capacity; Forest business development through management planning and implementation, ecotourism, and education; and Sustainable livelihoods development.



PROJECT IMPACTS

- Community land use plan reviewed and implemented resulting in 20,000 hectares of pristine forest protected for conservation by Esai community with improved local institutional capacity.
- A more inclusive community forest governance, representative of community structure, with the rights of various community groups recognized and respected.
- 3 eco-lodges rehabilitated, provision of environmental education materials resulting in multiple benefits from eco-tourism and environmental education, thus providing sustainable incentives for forest management and biodiversity conservation.
- Increased household income and wellbeing of beneficiaries in the target community from developing cassava value chain, bush mango cultivation and bee farming.
- Community members with increased awareness on natural resource management and forest laws through awareness raising and education activities



ORGANIZATION
Développement Pour Tous

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-109615

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD1

AWARD DATE
8/27/2018

DURATION
12 months

AMOUNT
\$20,000

COUNTRY(IES)
Guinea

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Koukouré (GIN6)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Fondation Agir Pour
l'Afrique (FAPA)

DESCRIPTION

The Konkouré River estuary is a key biological area, very rich in wildlife resources and flora, which offers communities their means of subsistence. Following its occupation by the human populations, there has been an increase in the number of human/fauna conflicts, (poaching), the abusive cutting of wood, traditional saliculture, overgrazing, and the development of agro-pastoral activities. These problems are manifested in the destruction of crop fields and vegetation cover at the expense of wildlife increasingly confined to fragmented habitat. To significantly reduce the pace of this rapid degradation of an environment conducive to biodiversity, it is necessary to improve traditional production systems, including that of salt, which has been practiced for several generations in this coastal region of Guinea and which is considered as an income-generating activity mainly for women. This project introduces new technology that will enable the production of salt using sunlight and tarpaulins instead of fuelwood.



PROJECT IMPACTS

- Reduced by up to 75% the unsustainable harvesting of mangroves along the Koukouré River through the introduction of solar salt production technique;
- Improved the livelihood of local communities through training and equipment of 47 women for solar salt production;
- The introduction of solar salt production techniques enhanced the well-being and the health condition of women involved in salt production by reducing the workload.



ORGANIZATION
Environmental
Governance Institute

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-109616

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD2

AWARD DATE
8/24/2018

DURATION
15 months

AMOUNT
\$35,000

COUNTRY(IES)
Cameroon

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Mount Cameroon
and Mokoko-Onge (CMR12)

PROJECT PARTNERS
WWF Cameroon,
Cameroon Development
Cooperation (CDC)



ORGANIZATION
Friends of Ecosystem and
the Environment

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-109617

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD1

AWARD DATE
8/24/2018

DURATION
12 months

AMOUNT
\$44,100

COUNTRY(IES)
Liberia

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Cestos-Senkwen (LBR1)

PROJECT PARTNERS
River Cess Site Support Groups,
Society for the Conservation
of Nature of Liberia (SCNL),
Community groups

DESCRIPTION

The SHARPening Local - Agro-industries Partnerships in the Mount Cameroon and Mokoko-Onge Landscape project focuses on reducing the impacts of the oil palm value chain on high conservation value areas in Mount Cameroon and Mokoko-Onge forest key biodiversity areas and improve oil palm productivity through: technical and organizational capacity building; intensification agriculture based on replanting; improved extraction rates and use of high yield seedlings and farm inputs; and the development of a functional, credible win-win partnership model between the Cameroon Development Corporation (CDC) and oil palm smallholders' cooperatives in Tiko Area Oil Palm Farmers' Cooperative – TAOFF-COOP and Bamusso Mainland. It ultimately aims to maintain the integrity of the Mount Cameroon and Mokoko-Onge Key Biodiversity Area through reduction of impacts of the oil palm value chain on these HCVs.



DESCRIPTION

Liberia has a coastline of 565 km long, and its coastal area consists of swamp-related vegetation, including mangroves forests and reeds that extend up to 25 miles inland. Nearly 58% of Liberia's population lives within 40 miles of the coast which serves many functions and activities such as beach sand mining, transportation, recreation, solid and liquid wastes disposals, supply of fuelwood, charcoal and construction materials, supply of food (fishing, etc.). This project will provide support to the local people's efforts to strengthen the coastal and marine protected area system and conservation of globally significant species and habitats in the Cesto-Senkwen in Liberia. This will be done in the context of ongoing efforts to tackle the national development agenda including those focused on institutional/sectoral coordination, development planning processes and poverty alleviation. It will focus on: deepening the national and regional understanding, and improving the conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine biodiversity, particularly that of global significance; increasing the area of highly vulnerable coastal and marine habitats with effective legal and physical (infrastructure, equipment, manpower) protection; developing and piloting replicable models for participatory conservation and management of biodiversity both within and outside of the protected area network; and increasing the human resource capacity of both government and non-government stakeholders for management of coastal, marine and wetland protected areas and threatened species.



PROJECT IMPACTS

- Enhanced the conservation of forests of the Mount Cameroon and Mokoko-Onge Key Biodiversity Areas through promotion of sustainable land use and reduction of the impact of oil palm farming on the forest;
- The livelihood of local oil palm small holders improved through targeted training, capacity building, and reinforcement of the collaboration with the Cameroon Development Cooperation (CDC);
- Reduced the impact of habitat destruction on the population of Burton's vlei rat (*Otomys burtoni*), Mount Cameroon forest shrew (*Sylvisorex morio*) and Mount Cameroon francolin (*Pternistis camerunensis*).

PROJECT IMPACTS

- Reduced pressure on coastal and marine ecosystems, habitats and threatened species as a result of increased and effective management along the coast.
- Reduction in the use of forest trees for firewood through the training of 6 communities in woodlots establishment to serve as substitute for fire-wood from the mangrove and also to generate long term income.
- A training manual produced to guide woodlots establishment in the project communities
- A position paper drafted and delivered to the Government of Liberia to move Cestos-Senkweh from the Proposed Nature Reserve to National Marine Protected area
- Permanent protection for areas such as key breeding, nursery feeding grounds for globally significant species established.
- 70% of the local people are aware of the human impact on the mangrove which is habitat for high value species through the distribution of ICT materials, radio and TV programs.

MOBILIZATION OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY IN TOUGUISSOURY



ORGANIZATION
Guinée Ecologie

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-102090

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD1

AWARD DATE
6/1/2017

DURATION
18 months

AMOUNT
\$41,800

COUNTRY(IES)
Guinea

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Koukoure (GIN6)

PROJECT PARTNERS
GEF/Small Grant Program,
Guinea - OGUIPAR, UNESCO-IHE
Institute for Water Education

DESCRIPTION

The Island of Touguissoury in Guinea is under serious threat owing to excessive deforestation activities in the mangrove forests, weak enforcement of existing national laws relating to biodiversity preservation and the lack of awareness on the importance of the site to people and nature, among others. Guinée Ecologie's project was implemented with full participation of local communities in Touguissoury to carry out socio-economic studies, identify and build on best practices to conserve the mangroves. The goal is to develop a participatory land use management plan for the Island and empower biodiversity friendly income generating activities.



PROJECT IMPACTS

- Increased level of protection of important habitats around Touguissoury Island through the establishment of a Community Indigenous Heritage Area (APAC).
- Reduced pressure of surrounding communities on natural resources through the adaptation of environmentally friendly practices by training people in solar salt production techniques, in sustainable fishing techniques and loggers in sustainable harvesting and planting of mangroves.
- Improved livelihood of the local community through training and equipment of women in sustainable fish smoking techniques, and sustainable oyster harvesting techniques.

ENHANCING PARTICIPATORY PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF CAPE THREE POINTS KEY BIODIVERSITY AREA

Hen Mpoano

ORGANIZATION
Hen Mpoano

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-109618

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD3

AWARD DATE
8/30/2018

DURATION
27 months

AMOUNT
\$39,977.1

COUNTRY(IES)
Ghana

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Cape Three Points Forest
Reserve (GHA9)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Ghana Wildlife
Division of Forestry
Commission,
Ghana Forest Services
Division of Forestry
Commission



DESCRIPTION

The Cape Three Points Forest Reserve (CTPFR) is the only coastal forest in Ghana and among the few remaining coastal rainforest reserves in West Africa. Since 1999 the forest has been recognized as a Globally Significant Biodiversity Area (GSBA) and an Important Bird Area (IBA) because of its exceptionally high level of biological diversity, but despite this high biological diversity, the ecological integrity of the reserve, including the forest quality and extent is increasingly threatened by human activities. Farming along the fringes of the forest is reducing the size of the forest buffer. Illegal logging, illegal mining, charcoal production and wildlife poaching are also on the rise within the forest and along its boundaries. This project aims to ensure the preparation and implementation of a participatory management plan for coastal wetlands and mangrove forests and the Cape Three Point Forest Reserve (CTPFR), to strengthen capacities of Community Resources Management Area (CREMA) committees and Community Biodiversity Advisory Groups on values and importance of biodiversity to allow informed conservation decision making. It will also support establish a tree nursery and reforest fragmented areas to connect terrestrial forest to coastal wetland, and train local community on honey production and organic vegetable production.



PROJECT IMPACTS

- The ecological connectivity between CTPFR and adjoining coastal wetland and mangrove forests are incorporated into the recognized District level land use policies, planning, and decision making processes.
- Empowered Cape Three Points CREMA and CREMA communities work together to safeguard wildlife and halt further degradation of the CTPFR and adjacent coastal wetlands and mangrove forests.
- Enhanced ecological goods and services from the CTPFR and adjacent coastal wetlands and mangrove forests provide long-term societal benefits for the communities.
- Diversification of income sources of forest and wetland dependent households in the target communities through formation and monitoring of two village savings and loans associations (VSLAs), training and support of 60 (30 women and 30 men) honey production, organic vegetable production and training of at least 30 mangrove harvesters on sustainable mangrove harvesting practices.

STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF THE BOSSOU, N'ZOO AND TOUNKARATA POPULATIONS IN THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE NIMBA MOUNTAINS



ORGANIZATION
Initiative de Base pour la Gestion des Ressources Naturelles

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-102091

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD4

AWARD DATE
6/1/2017

DURATION
9 months

AMOUNT
\$24,968

COUNTRY(IES)
Guinea

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Monts Nimba (GIN9)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Comités Villageois de Surveillances (CVS),
Groupement des chasseurs reconvertis et Guérisseurs traditionnels (GCRGT)

DESCRIPTION

Mount Nimba is a nature reserve and world heritage site that spans Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire. It covers significant portions of the Nimba Range, a rich geographical area with unique flora and fauna, including remarkable populations of single-site endemic species, such as viviparous toads, and horseshoe bats. Population growth and industrial activities on site by locals are putting intense pressure on fauna and flora. The project aims to build a more effective network of community-based and women-led organizations that works to conserve natural resources. In addition, it directly supported the creation and registration of seven local organizations to work around Mount Nimba. IBGRN also conducted a series of trainings in communication, marketing, advocacy, financial management and project management, as well as in market gardening and livestock farming.

PROJECT IMPACTS

- Enhanced involvement of local communities particularly women and youths from Bossou, N'Zoo, and Tounkarata in the preservation of biodiversity and ecosystem service in Monts Nimba through the creation and structuration of 5 civil-society organizations and 2 Networks;
- 5 Civil Society Organizations and 2 Networks functioning autonomously after receiving intensive capacity building modules including internal governance, micro-projects management, financial management, communication and marketing.



TACKLING THREATS TO ENDANGERED SPECIES THROUGH COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT IN KORUP NATIONAL PARK



ORGANIZATION
Korup Rainforest Forest Conservation Society

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-109619

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD3

AWARD DATE
8/30/2018

DURATION
21 months

AMOUNT
\$35,000

COUNTRY(IES)
Cameroon

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Korup National Park (CMR5)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Ministry of forestry and wildlife (Korup National Park service)-Cameroon, Limbe wildlife centre

DESCRIPTION

Korup National Park (KNP) is home to a rich diversity of flora and fauna but is also under high human pressure from the 27 local communities around and 5 communities living inside the park making a total of about 10,000 inhabitants. The human pressure is exacerbated by a porous international border with highly populated Nigeria. The project is aimed at Tackling Threats to Endangered Species through Community Empowerment in KNP. This is envisaged through, support for good local governance of Protected Area in Permanent Use Zone (PUZ) designation and management, Improved livelihood for communities living in the 5 "PUZ" through diversified alternatives and improved literacy, awareness and participation in conservation and climate change related issues.



PROJECT IMPACTS

- Reduced the existing threats of hunting and habitat conversion to the endangered and critically endangered species in Korup National Park (KNP) especially in the core conservation zone of the park due to conservation awareness and diversification of livelihood alternative in the Permanent Use Zone (PUZ).
- Improved local governance of the Protected Area (PA) with communities respecting the zoning plan, roles and responsibilities with no room for resource use and human wildlife conflicts.
- Improvement in the livelihoods of local communities and corresponding reduction in pressure on the forest and wildlife resource in the core conservation zone of the park through specialized training and provision of seed funding for bee farming, handicraft production and livestock's husbandry.
- Increase in literacy and a change of attitude of local communities towards more effective participation in the decision making process regarding management of the PA and especially their PUZ areas.
- Increase in the area of land covered by trees around KNP through domesticating and planting of 5000 key NTFP.



ORGANIZATION
Muloma Women's
Development Association

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-109620

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD1

AWARD DATE
8/24/2018

DURATION
15 months

AMOUNT
\$34,903

COUNTRY(IES)
Sierra Leone

KBA / CORRIDORS
Yawri Bay (SLE9)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Paramount chiefs and
community members.

DESCRIPTION

According to the UN Human Development Index 2016, Sierra Leone is one of the poorest countries in the world. Within this framework of generalized poverty, the Yawri Bay KBA come worse off and communities within this priority ecosystem are characterized by significant levels of vulnerability, marginalization and exclusion from development processes. The local communities depend heavily on natural resources for their livelihoods. This project aims to enhance the capacities of the Yawri Bay community members to effectively engage in livelihood/job creation activities, including NTFPs domestication, transformation, value-addition and marketing e.g. honey farming as well as undertake community savings and loan scheme to address the cash needs of the community members thus reducing connivance with poachers and illegal loggers. It will raise the awareness of community members on environmental issues, providing an in-depth knowledge on ecological issues in an interactive and engaging way. This ensures collective action of community members to prevent unsustainable use of natural resources and promote natural resource management practices.



PROJECT IMPACTS

- 21 Nature Clubs established in local schools to raise environmental awareness inculcating environmental consciousness from a young age.
- Community members enlightened and trained in the rules and regulations governing harvesting of the NTFP product resulting in gaining access to the forests for selective sustainable harvest of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP).
- Communities supported to transform and develop markets for finished NTFPs.
- A participatory benefit sharing mechanisms designed, implemented and monitored supporting all stakeholders to fully participate in and receive benefits from income generated from sales of products.



ORGANIZATION
Organización No
Gubernamental Amigos de la
Naturaleza y del Desarrollo de
Guinea Ecuatorial

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-109609

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD1

AWARD DATE
8/24/2018

DURATION
9 months

AMOUNT
\$40,000

COUNTRY(IES)
Equatorial Guinea

KBA / CORRIDORS
Reserva científica de lo Pico
Basile (GNQ2)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Institute of Forest and
Protected Areas (INDEFOR);
Association EcoGuinea;
University of Equatorial
Guinea (UNGE); Local
communities

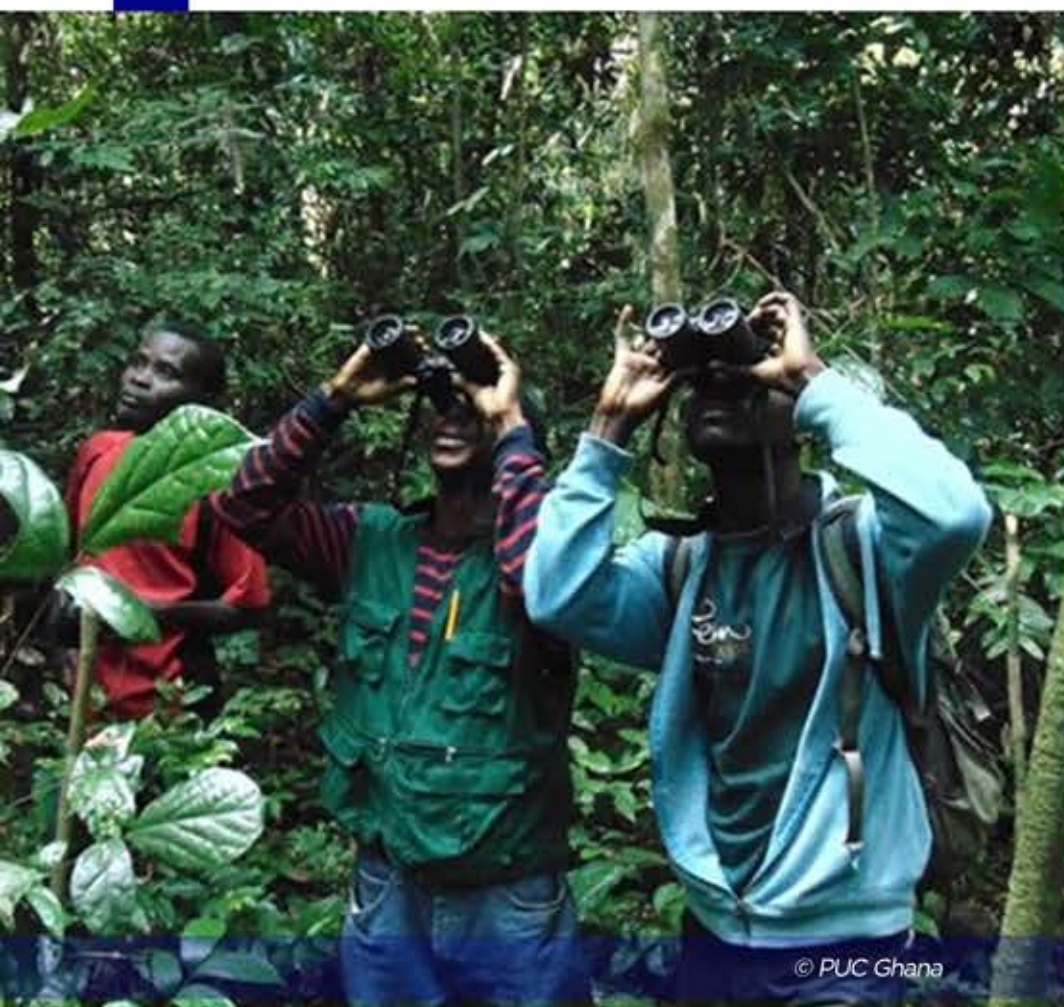
DESCRIPTION

The Pico Basilé National Park (PNPB), with an approximate land area of 32,256 hectares of land area and 3,008 meters of maximum altitude, is part of Equatorial Guinea's Network of Protected Areas. The forests of the Island of Bioko, in general, and of the PNPB, in particular, hold one of the highest densities of primates in Africa, with the confirmed presence of four endemic subspecies, besides one endemic plant species. All species (fauna and flora) of the park live under strong anthropic pressure, represented mainly by illegal hunting (fauna) and indiscriminate and uncontrolled cutting (flora). This tendency of irrational exploitation of resources diagnoses the disappearance, in the short term, of these endemic and unique species of the world, useful for the well-being and development of the human species. This project aims to provide Pico Basilé National Park with a management tool, through the participatory elaboration of its management plan with all the actors involved in its management. Therefore, it comes to contribute to the conservation of natural resources of the PNPB, providing it with an essential tool for its management. Being nevertheless just a tool, the resources that will be allocated for its implementation will determine the future of the PNPB.



PROJECT IMPACTS

- The development of the participatory management plan expects to contribute positively to the ideals of the park included in the framework document on protected areas in the country:
 - Stability or increase of its resources;
 - Application of the rules for space use;
 - Improvement of the ecosystem services of the area, the level of well-being and the development of the human population adjacent to the conservation area.



ORGANIZATION
Presbyterian University College
Ghana

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-102086

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD3

AWARD DATE
6/5/2017

DURATION
16 months

AMOUNT
\$44,259

COUNTRY(IES)
Ghana

KBA / CORRIDORS
Attewa Range Forest
Reserve (GHA3),
Cape Three Points Forest
Reserve (GHA9),
Tano-Offin Forest
Reserve (GHA29)

PROJECT PARTNERS
West African Primate
Conservation Action (WAPCA)

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DESCRIPTION

This project seeks to implement the IUCN Regional Action Plan for the Conservation of Chimpanzees in West Africa targeting three priority Key Biodiversity Areas in Ghana; the Attewa Range, Cape Three Points and Tano-offin Forest reserves. Within the project framework, Presbyterian University College Ghana should contribute to the long-term survival and conservation of endangered primates in Ghana by carrying out ecological surveys, conservation education and awareness campaigns, bio-monitoring and capacity building of Wildlife Division eco-guards. The main project result is the ascertainment of approximate populations and distribution of the five primate species under study to inform the design of conservation programs in Ghana and update information on the four poorly assessed species.



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PROJECT IMPACTS

- Field surveys investigating the species diversity, number and distribution pattern of diurnal primates that existed in the study areas indicated that the following species of primates are still present in Ghana: *Cercopithecus lowei*, *Cercopithecus petaurista*, *Procolobus verus*, *Colobus vellerosus* and *Cercocebus lunulatus* but, none of the forest reserves recorded *Procolobus waldroni*, *Pan troglodytes verus* or *Cercopithecus roloway*;
- Field investigations showed that the anthropogenic activities that are affecting the populations of primates in the surveyed forest reserves include presence of hunters, chainsaw lumbering, farms, snares, empty shot-gun cartridges, miningholes, and hunting camps;
- Sensitization meetings, workshops, road marching show and erection of billboards contributed to increase the awareness and educate about 45 law enforcement agencies, 33 leaders of school clubs, 200 community-based organizations, 120 people in villages and 20 bush meat dealers about endangered primate ecology and conservation.



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ORGANIZATION
Resource Trust Network

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-109621

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD2

AWARD DATE
8/24/2018

DURATION
18 months

AMOUNT
\$34,975

COUNTRY(IES)
Liberia

KBA / CORRIDORS
Cape Three Points Forest
Reserve (GHA9)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Ghana Wildlife Society,
Ghana Rubber Estates Limited,
NORPALM Ghana Limited

DESCRIPTION

The surrounding landscape of Cape Three Points Forest Reserve (a Key Biodiversity Area), within the Forest Reserves of South-eastern Côte d'Ivoire and South-western Ghana (SW CDI SE GH) conservation corridor – has been converted largely to agriculture. This project aims to stimulate and catalyze a process for key actors of smallholder plantations within the Forest Reserves of SW CDI SE GH conservation corridor around Cape Three Points to work together towards achieving agricultural sustainability by incorporating biodiversity conservation in their management practices. The project will use a Smallholder-Private-Public Joint Participation, Collaboration and Contribution (PCC) Biodiversity Conservation Project model. This model will bring together related government agencies in the Ahanta West District Assembly namely: Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Environmental Protection Agency; the two large rubber and oil palm companies NORPALM and GREL respectively and at least 10 of their smallholder out-grower plantation farmers. These key actors will work together to support smallholder out-growers to implement best management practices which avoid or minimise negative impacts on biodiversity and restores damaged ecosystems in their plantations. The results of the project are expected to inspire and inform smallholder out-grower practices and out-grower policies of these two companies and to inform local government bye-laws at least related to smallholder plantations and biodiversity conservation.



© RTN

PROJECT IMPACTS

- Strengthened biodiversity Conservation capacity among 30 key Oil Palm and Rubber plantation actors comprising smallholder plantation owners in at least 5 communities and their large private sector companies and relevant government agencies in the Ahanta West District Assembly;
- About 100 ha for at least 10 smallholder Oil Palm and Rubber out growers Plantation farmers of two private companies benefited from the best management practices which avoid or minimize negative impacts on biodiversity and restore damaged ecosystems.

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY CAPACITY FOR SUSTAINABLE LAND-USE PLAN IN ZWEDRU/CAVALLY/(LBR18)



ORGANIZATION
Society for Environmental Conservation

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-109687

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD1

AWARD DATE
9/1/2018

DURATION
15 months

AMOUNT
\$45,570

COUNTRY(IES)
Liberia

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Zwedru (LBR 18)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Land Authority, Land Authority Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA), Grand Geddeh Community College (Department of Agriculture/Forestry), Farmers Associated to Conserve the Environment (FACE)

DESCRIPTION

The Proposed Zwedru National Forest (64,458ha) about 600 kilometers from Monrovia is a fragmented forest belt located in east central Liberia, north-west of the town of Zwedru, Grand Geddeh County -Liberia. It forms part of one of the world's priority biodiversity hotspots (Upper Guinea Forest) and holds exceptionally diverse ecological communities, distinctive flora and fauna, and a variety of forest types providing refuge to a number of endemic and endangers species and home to many species of global conservation concern. Like many sites in Liberia, this region biodiversity and tropical forests is threaten by anthropogenic factors including overexploitation of natural resources and Ecosystem degradation (degradation from unsustainable agricultural practices, fuel wood and charcoal demands, mining, and pollutions). This project will empower and strengthen local communities' capacities to promote biodiversity conservation through integrated landscape/community forest management within the buffer zone of Proposed Zwedru National Forest (PZNF) in Liberia, and promote sustainable and climate smart agriculture practices, lessening the need for farmers to undertake slash and burn agriculture— which is both labor and natural resource intensive. It also aims to develop sustainable livelihoods initiatives based upon non-timber forest products (NTFP) including spices, medicinal plants and cola-nut.

PROJECT IMPACTS

- 4 participatory management plans for sustainable community-driven forest and landscape management developed, adopted and implemented in target communities to support stakeholder collaboration in Protected Area management.
- 70% up take by community members in climate smart agriculture practices through the training provided to 100 individual in non-timber forest products (NTFP), resulting in enhanced and diversified agricultural production
- Information on biodiversity, land use and forest management, climate change and environmental issue broadcasted on radio call-in talk shows in local languages resulting in by-in by local community members to support the implementation of the land use plan.



UKPOM-OKOM COMMUNITY MANGROVE RESTORATION AND TREE PLANTING PROJECT, NIGERIA.



ORGANIZATION
Society for Women and Vulnerable Groups Empowerment

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-102088

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD1

AWARD DATE
5/19/2017

DURATION
24 months

AMOUNT
\$24,630

COUNTRY(IES)
Nigeria

KBAs / CORRIDORS
South East Niger Delta - near Calabar (Fw10)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Akwa Ibom River Basin Authority, Akwa Ibom State Forestry Department, Ukpom Okom community

DESCRIPTION

There is high level of hunger/poverty among the dwellers of Ukpom Okom district (comprising five villages) in Nigeria. This is mostly due to poor knowledge on sustainable natural resources management; the Mangrove forests and local terrestrial forests are beginning to exhibit signs of terminal exhaustion. This project aims to restore degraded mangrove area and protect a stretch of intact community mangrove in Ukpom-Okom community in Akwa Ibom State, Nigeria, through reforestation and forest management activities. It should also improve the mangrove vegetation and habitat for coastal species, in the process, protecting and sustaining an important source of food for coastal communities. Finally, it will improve community income level with alternative initiatives in bee farming, poultry and snail farming.



PROJECT IMPACTS

- 10 hectares of degraded mangrove area replanted and 50 hectares stretch of intact area set aside by communities for regeneration.
- Carried out a community wide awareness raising on importance of mangrove and the need to conserve
- A 5 year community mangrove management plan developed through a participatory approach.
- Established a local conservation group with individuals drawn from each of the 5 village, constituted as community scouts and rangers to manage and protect the reserved area.
- A 10-day training workshop organized for these groups and other community members
- Training and provided start-up equipment and materials in bee farming, poultry, snail farming, fruit tree cultivation and adoption of conservation practices for youths and women.
- Economic tree seedlings distributed to schools and individuals.



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ORGANIZATION
University of Coimbra

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-102087

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD3

AWARD DATE
6/5/2017

DURATION
12 months

AMOUNT
\$45,460

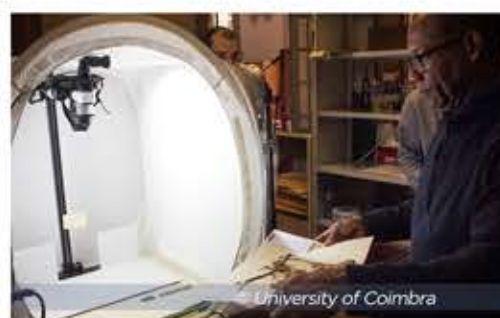
COUNTRY(IES)
Sao Tome and Principe

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Parque Naturale Obo do
Principe(STP2), Zona
Ecologica da Praia das
Conchas (STP3), and Zona
Ecologica dos Mangais do Rio
Malanza (STP4)

PROJECT PARTNERS
Botanical Garden University
of Coimbra; Centre for
Agronomic Research (CIAT)

DESCRIPTION

The latest flowering plant checklist for the island country of Sao Tome and Principe lists over 1100 species, of which about 120 are endemic. A herbarium focused on national and regional flora becomes an essential institution for consolidating background information on STP flora and continuing the systematic study of the archipelago's vegetation that follows international guidelines for harvesting, preservation and computerization, supporting other projects to assess the conservation status of plant diversity. This project supports the structure and technical capacities of the National Herbarium in São Tomé, and ultimately safeguards the unique and still poorly assessed botanical knowledge of the Island. Activities include the capacitation of local human resources in herbarium techniques and identification at the University of Coimbra, and the granting of specific equipment to the ST Herbarium to follow up with cataloging activities. Botanical collecting missions for the herbarium were conducted with experts from UC in the three Key Biodiversity Areas of São Tomé Island, gathering data to fill gaps for poorly assessed plants. Mentoring is to be provided for the duration and beyond the extent of the project. It also aims to involve and the local users (traditional healers, field guides), and to promote botanical knowledge and biodiversity awareness.



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PROJECT IMPACTS

- Document and conserve the flora diversity of São Tomé and Príncipe, constituting itself as a reference collection for future projects;
- Fill gaps in the taxonomy of the flora of the archipelago, as well as their distribution, ecology and uses;
- Support management measures and design strategies for the conservation of endangered habitats and species;
- Act as a center of science education and communication.



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ORGANIZATION
World Parrot Trust

OPPORTUNITY NAME
CEPF-109686

STRATEGIC DIRECTION
SD3

AWARD DATE
8/17/2018

DURATION
24 months

AMOUNT
\$18,945

COUNTRY(IES)
Nigeria

KBAs / CORRIDORS
Cross River National Park:
Oban Division (NGA4)

PROJECT PARTNERS
A.P Leventis Ornithological
Research Institute, Jos,
University of Nigeria Nsukka,
Local community leaders and
members, Nigerian
Conservation Foundation,
Boki Birds, Federal Ministry
of Environment-Wildlife
and CITES Management
Division

DESCRIPTION

Parrots belonging to the genus *Psittacus* (Grey and Timneh Parrots; *Psittacus erithacus* and *P. timneh* respectively) have been among the most traded of all birds listed on the appendices of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). Overexploitation of wild populations, in combination with forest loss, has led to rapid population declines. This project will establish a foundation for actions to address the overexploitation of Grey parrots through dismantling trade networks and addressing threats to key populations in Nigeria. It aims to identify priority sites for Grey parrot conservation and threats to key populations and provide up-to-date information for the analysis of Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), species Red List Assessments and strategy for species Red List Assessments and strategy for species conservation, but also identify and document the socio-economic dimensions of trade in Grey parrots, with particular emphasis on informing actions to disrupt illegal trade to remove threat of exploitation. Complementarily, it will build capacity for the implementation of a conservation strategy for Grey parrots within conservation corridors and KBAs of the Lower Guinean Forests and a knowledge base and establish capacity for the implementation and monitoring of conservation actions for this globally threatened species. Finally, it should provide an early career conservationist from the region with an opportunity to gain field experience and work with conservation organizations.



WPT

PROJECT IMPACTS

- Population abundance and priority sites for Grey parrot conservation and threats to key populations identified within the Lower Niger Delta and Korupmba-Obachap corridors.
- Up-to-date information for the analysis of KBAs, species Red List Assessments and strategy for species conservation generated.
- Early career conservationist provided with training on research methods and report writing for monitoring of Grey parrot populations
- Database of focal persons for future community-based conservation initiative for Grey parrots at key sites developed
- Knowledge of population trend and priority sites disseminated to key stakeholder to facilitate the development of a





**GUINEAN FORESTS
OF WEST AFRICA**