

CEPF Final Completion and Impact Report

Organization’s Legal Name:	Re:wild
Project Title:	West Africa Team for Critical Habitat Protection (WATCH) of Primates
Grant Number:	CEPF-111730
Hotspot:	Guinean Forests of West Africa
Strategic Direction:	2 Mainstream biodiversity conservation into public policy and private sector practice in the nine conservation corridors, at local, sub-national and national levels
Grant Amount:	\$65,483.00
Project Dates:	April 01, 2021 - March 31, 2022
Date of Report:	January 18, 2023

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNERS

The Primate WATCH program has had three implementation partners over its one-year course:

- 1) Re:wild - had been involved as the grant manager for this project.
- 2) The Arcus Foundation - had covered the costs of the first workshop in Guinea, including travel for the participants.
- 3) WABiLED (West Africa Biodiversity and Low Emissions Development) - had awarded a grant late in 2021 to help organize and cover the costs of the second workshop in Sierra Leone.

CONSERVATION IMPACTS

Planned Long-Term Impacts: 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
Strengthened capacity of eight primatologists (with at least three women) to provide advice on EEIA projects and to private companies.	Eight primatologists (three women and five men) from West Africa have been trained over the course of a year to provide better advice to industrial development projects. Here is one of the quote from one of the participant, Dr. Simone Ban from Cote d’Ivoire: “This training has helped me improve and strengthen my skills regarding how impact assessments are conducted, including tackling impacts on primates and more specifically chimpanzees. This will help me better interact with

Impact Description	Impact Summary
	the private sector to minimize impacts on these species.”
At least two lending banks improve avoidance of threatened primate's habitat from the onset of projects through a collaboration and better exchange of information with the ARRC task force and the primate WATCH team.	We provided advice to two banks, the EIB (European Investment Bank) and the IFC (International Finance Corporation), which led to the EIB not funding a sensitive project in Guinea to avoid impacts to chimpanzee habitat. The ARRC Task Force has built a strong relationship with the IFC, who were invited as a guest speaker during one of the lecture, and also asked the ARRC Task Force to present to their Environmental and Social consultants in September 2022, with the participation of one of the Primate WATCH participant so they can share their experience.

Planned Short-Term Impacts: 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal)

Impact Description	Impact Summary
At the end of this one-year grant, the advice of WATCH team members have been integrated in at least four EEIA projects and led to better outcomes for primates.	Primate WATCH team members have provided advice on four projects so far: 1) Betmai Hydropower project in Sierra Leone; 2) Bon Ami Bauxite Mining project in Guinea; 3) Bel Air Bauxite Mining project in Guinea; 4) Bumbuna II hydropower project in Sierra Leone. Two participants will also provide advice to the Sougueta Cement project in Guinea, but the panel has not yet been established.
At the end of the one-year grant, the partnership between the WATCH Team and the IUCN ARRC Task Force is established.	This has been a successful first year of implementation of the Primate WATCH program under the IUCN SCC PSG ARRC Task Force umbrella. Participants in this program have remained connected through the WhatsApp group, and will continue to contribute on the ARRC Task Force panel for projects we advise in their region. Given the success of this program, we received funding to implement a similar program in Central Africa, and we hope we will be able to develop the program further. We also hope that some participants in this first round of the Primate WATCH program will be able to present and interact with participants in the upcoming programs.

Unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

Unexpected impacts were mainly positive. Given the knowledge gaps and breadth of topics that still need to be studied to better understand impacts of industrial development on primates, one participant decided to start a Master's program to study the indirect impacts of the mining sector on chimpanzees in Guinea. Another participant who is a professor at a University in Guinea also decided to propose topics related to the training program to his Masters and PhD's students. At least four new students are expected to start shortly. Another participant was appointed as the Primatologist for the West Africa Biodiversity and Low Emission Development (WABiLED) Program, based on our recommendations, where she

will be able to apply the knowledge and experience gained from the program, and use the network of primatologists we have created. We have also created a WhatsApp group for the program that is continuing to be used even after the program ended to exchange knowledge and information, and coordinate activities amongst themselves.

PROJECT RESULTS/DELIVERABLES

Overall results of the project:

As industrial development projects are one of the main threats to the survival of primates in West Africa and globally, it is imperative to find ways to better mitigate their impacts. The ARRC Task Force identified the need to strengthen the capacity of primatologists to be better equipped to advise such projects, but also be able to guide governmental policies and influence the financing of these projects. The ARRC Task Force thus created the Primate WATCH (West Africa Team for Critical Habitat Protection) program to fill these gaps. The aim of this program was to train eight primatologists on this topic, so that they can participate in the independent ARRC Task Force panels that advise industrial development projects and banks, but that they can also be hired as consultants, and provide advice at more strategic levels. We feel that this inception year of the program was successful, and all participants enjoyed the program and its content. This was provided as feedback in the post-training questionnaire but was also corroborated with the near 100% attendance for all the remote lessons and for the two in-person workshops (one in Guinea and one in Sierra Leone).

The pre and post-training questionnaire allowed us to assess the gain in knowledge of the participants. All participants showed improved topical understanding from the start to the finish of the training program. On average, participants showed a 30% improvement in their understanding of the topics covered during the training and addressed in the questionnaires. Because participants have an improved understanding of the types of industrial development projects and their impacts, the application of the mitigation hierarchy, international standards, and how to best plan a primate survey, participants have indicated that they feel more confident to undertake consultations for the private sector and to be independent reviewers for impact assessments, for example. These skills are needed across West Africa, and we hope the participants can also share their knowledge further with their peers.

Participants in the program are currently writing a short communication for a peer-reviewed journal that summarizes the challenges of working with companies and governments to implement best practices for industrial development projects, as well as possible solutions. This is based on their personal experience, the knowledge gained from the program, and the brainstorming sessions that took place during both workshops. All participants were highly motivated and we believe they will continue to exchange information through our WhatsApp group and continue to work together to reduce the impacts of these projects on primates.

Results for each deliverable:

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
1.0	Capacity strengthening of eight West African primatologists on 'Best practice guidelines for mitigating impacts of industries on primates' through exchange with their peers and industry professionals, teaching and sharing of curriculum materials.	1.1	List of eight primatologists selected with their qualifications.	The eight primatologists undertook the program as planned. A list of the participants and their qualifications has been uploaded separately.
1.0	Capacity strengthening of eight West African primatologists on 'Best practice guidelines for mitigating impacts of industries on primates' through exchange with their peers and industry professionals, teaching and sharing of curriculum materials.	1.2	Pre and post training evaluation of the eight primatologists to assess their gain in knowledge on primate mitigation.	A pre and post training questionnaire was given to the eight participants, with results provided separately for each participant.
2.0	Raise awareness within industries and governments on best practice standards for mitigating impacts to primates during two	2.1	Responses to a questionnaire to identify gaps in knowledge on primate mitigation and what are the immediate needs of industries for support with these issues.	We haven't sent an official questionnaire to industries, but we have gathered feedback informally through discussions with different companies and banks. Here are the main feedback: - Lack of knowledge from industries about which primate mitigation measures are

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
	workshops in Conakry and Freetown.			successful and how to implement them (they feel this information is not easily accessible); - The IFC would like to have a document (Terms of Reference) which indicates what is required from their consultants to conduct a chimpanzee baseline survey that aligns with best practices (e.g. how to define the survey area, which methods to use, timing and length of surveys); - They would like to have a list of 'endorsed' experts to reach out to when they need advice regarding primate mitigation, and to conduct baseline surveys; - They would like to have examples of chimpanzee monitoring plans and chimpanzee offsets.
3.0	Improve industries' practices by providing advices to projects on primate mitigation through the IUCN ARRC Task Force.	3.1	List of EEIA projects on which the eight primatologists have provided advice through the ARRC task force.	Bon Ami bauxite mining project in Guinea; Bel Air mining project in Guinea; Betmai hydropower project in Sierra Leone; Bumbuna phase II hydropower project in Sierra Leone.
4.0	Identify options for securing sustainable funding to continue this program over the long-term and to expand to other regions.	4.1	Proposal for sustainable funding of the WATCH program and the ARRC task force.	A proposal for sustainable funding of the ARRC Task Force has been developed, but not yet implemented. It is aimed to create a trust fund with a significant endowment from end users (e.g. Apple, BMW) of various minerals that have impacts on apes.
5.0	CEPF project management and monitoring for compliance	5.1	Gender Tracking Tools showing understanding of gender issues within GWS	The GTT has been completed.

Component		Deliverable		
#	Description	#	Description	Results for Deliverable
5.0	CEPF project management and monitoring for compliance	5.2	Stakeholder Engagement Plan effectively implemented and monitored as evidenced by the programmatic report	The Stakeholder Engagement Plan was implemented.
5.0	CEPF project management and monitoring for compliance	5.3	Project impacts monitored and reported online at project end as evidenced by the Final Completion and Impact Reports	Projects impacts have reported here, and comments that are given to industrial development projects are also uploaded on to the ARRC Task Force's website (https://www.arrctaskforce.org/).
5.0	CEPF project management and monitoring for compliance	5.4	Communication materials are shared with the RIT per email or other online data transfer software	Communication materials have been in the other information section.

Tools, products or methodologies that resulted from the project or contributed to the results:

N/A

PORTFOLIO INDICATORS

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
2a	Number of hectares within production landscapes are managed for biodiversity conservation or sustainable use (target: At least 100,000).	100,000	It is expected that during this one-year grant, at least two EEIA projects with an average concession/permit size of 50,000 ha will improve their mitigation strategy for primates which	60,000	More projects benefited from the ARRC Task Force's advice, but these four projects were smaller in size, so in total the area that saw improved mitigation for primates was actually smaller than anticipated.

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
			will support more sustainable management of these areas.		
2b	Number of conservation corridors with public policies and/or private sector business practices incorporating provisions for biodiversity conservation (target: at least 6).	1	At least one of the EEIA project with which the primate WATCH team and the ARRC task force will engage is located in a conservation corridor, possibly in the Mount Nimba complex.	1	The contribution is actually that the ARRC Task Force declined to engage on the SFMG iron mining project which will have negative impacts on the Mount Nimba World Heritage Site (WHS). The ARRC Task Force sets limits to projects with which it engages, and does not engage with projects impacting WHS. The ARRC Task Force is independently assessing potential impacts of this project on primates, with support from Primate WATCH members from Liberia and Guinea, and is preparing to comment on the ESIA for this project once it will be made public for comments.
2.3	Number of partnerships are formed or strengthened among civil society, government, private sector and communities to	5	The WATCH team through the ARRC Task Force is expected to provide advice to at least five private companies on best practice standards for	2	The Primate WATCH participants have provided advice to industrial development projects through ARRC's independent panels. The four companies that have benefitted from their advice

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
	promote best practices in mining, sustainable forestry and agriculture by private companies (target: At least 20).		mitigating impacts to primates.		is captured under another indicator. Here instead, two partnerships should be highlighted: - the Primate WATCH network which was created by the project - the collaboration with the WABiLED program.
2.4	Number of private companies adopt new management practices consistent with biodiversity conservation at operations in the conservation corridors (target: At least 5).	1	The advice from the WATCH-Team and the ARRC Task Force will improve biodiversity conservation management practices of private companies, by a better application of the mitigation hierarchy for threatened primate species	4	Ongoing impact since advices given by the ARRC Task Force's panels on which Primate WATCH participants were included helped guide the application of the mitigation hierarchy, for a better outcome for threatened primates in the long run. This first step started by asking companies to conduct complementary surveys to better understand where threatened primates range and how many are present within the Project area. This is crucial information for being able to apply the mitigation hierarchy and avoid important primate habitats from the onset. The panel also proposed to companies additional minimization and restoration measures to

Portfolio Indicator Number	Portfolio Indicator Description	Expected Numerical Contribution	Expected Contribution Description	Actual Numerical Contribution	Actual Contribution Description
					reduce further impacts on primates.

GLOBAL INDICATORS

Protected Areas

Protected areas that have been created and/or expanded as a result of the project. Protected areas may include private or community reserves, municipal or provincial parks, or other designations where biodiversity conservation is an official management goal.

Name of Protected Area	WDPA ID*	Latitude	Longitude	Country	Original Total Size (Hectares) **	New Protected Hectares ***	Year of Legal Declaration or Expansion
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*World Database of Protected Areas

**If this is a new protected area, 0 should appear in this column

*** This column excludes the original total size of the protected area.

Key Biodiversity Area Management

Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) under improved management—where tangible results have been achieved to support conservation—as a result of the project.

KBA Name	KBA Code	Size of KBA	Number of Hectares with Improved Management
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Production Landscapes

Production landscapes with strengthened management of biodiversity as a result of the project.

A production landscape is defined as a site outside a protected area where commercial agriculture, forestry or natural product exploitation occurs.

Name of Production Landscape	Latitude	Longitude	Hectares Strengthened	Intervention
Primate WATCH Team	0	0	60,000	More projects benefited from the ARRC Task Force's advice, but these four projects were smaller in size, so in total the area that saw improved mitigation for primates was actually smaller than anticipated.

Benefits to Individuals

- **Structured Training:**

Number of Men Trained	Number of Women Trained	Topics of Training
5	3	Types of industrial development projects; Impacts of industrial development projects; Lending banks requirements; Cumulative impacts; International best practice standards; Environmental and Social Impact Assessment & Strategic Environmental Assessment processes; Baseline surveys and monitoring; Mitigation strategies; Rehabilitation and restoration; Ecosystem services and social aspects; Residual Impact Assessment and

Number of Men Trained	Number of Women Trained	Topics of Training
		estimating offset requirements; Offset selection and planning; Trust Funds; Practical applications. Guest speakers also were invited to give lectures, these included Conrad Savy from the IFC, Ray Victurine from WCS and Josephine Bracewell from TBC.

- **Cash Benefits:**

Number of Men – Cash Benefits	Number of Women – Cash Benefits	Description of Benefits

Benefits to Communities

View the characteristics column below with the following corresponding codes:	View the benefits column below with the following corresponding codes:
1- Small Landowners	a. Increased Access to Clean Water
2- Subsistence Economy	b. Increased Food Security
3- Indigenous/ Ethnic Peoples	c. Increased Access to Energy
4- Pastoralists / Nomadic Peoples	d. Increased Access to Public Services
5- Recent Migrants	e. Increased Resilience to Climate Change
6- Urban Communities	f. Improved Land Tenure
7- Other	g. Improved Use of Traditional Knowledge
	h. Improved Decision-Making
	i. Improved Access to Ecosystem Services

Community Name	Community Characteristics							Type of Benefit									Country	Number of Males Benefitting	Number of Females Benefitting
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i			

Characteristics of "Other" Communities:

Policies, Laws and Regulations

View the topics column below with the following corresponding codes:			
A- Agriculture	E- Energy	I- Planning/Zoning	M- Tourism
B- Climate	F- Fisheries	J- Pollution	N- Transportation
C- Ecosystem Management	G- Forestry	K- Protected Areas	O- Wildlife Trade
D- Education	H- Mining and Quarrying	L- Species Protection	P- Other

No.	Name of Law	Scope	Topics															
			A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P

“Other” Topics Addressed by the Policy, Law or Regulation:

No.	Country/ Countries	Date Enacted/ Amended	Expected impact	Action Performed to Achieve the Enactment/ Amendment
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Companies Adopting Biodiversity-friendly Practices

A company is defined as a for-profit business entity. A biodiversity-friendly practice is one that conserves or uses natural resources in a sustainable manner.

Name of Company	Description of Biodiversity-Friendly Practice	Country/Countries where Practice was Adopted
Dynamic Mining	This mining company is looking to develop a bauxite mine in Guinea in chimpanzee habitat. They have reached out to the ARRC Task Force during their impact assessment process to receive advise to improve chimpanzee baseline surveys, and in order to align with the requirements of IFC PS6. One participant of the Primate WATCH program took part in the independent advisory panel set up by the task force.	Guinea
Diamond Cement	This company was looking for an IFC loan and to expand its activities in chimpanzee habitat. They have reached out to the ARRC Task Force to review chimpanzee survey data, the mitigation and offset proposed for chimpanzees. Two participants of the Primate WATCH program took part in the independent advisory panel set up by the task force.	Guinea

Name of Company	Description of Biodiversity-Friendly Practice	Country/Countries where Practice was Adopted
Seli Hydropower	This hydroelectric company is looking to develop the second Bumbuna dam on the Seli River. This will impact chimpanzees, and they have reached out to the ARRC Task Force to receive advise to review their chimpanzee baseline surveys, mitigation strategy and proposed offset in order to align with the requirements of IFC PS6. One participant of the Primate WATCH program took part in the independent advisory panel set up by the task force.	Sierra Leone
Betmai project	This is a run-of-river hydroelectric project planned in chimpanzee habitat in Sierra Leone. They have reached out to the ARRC Task Force during their impact assessment process to receive advise to improve chimpanzee baseline surveys, and in order to align with the requirements of IFC PS6. One participant of the Primate WATCH program took part in the independent advisory panel set up by the task force.	Sierra Leone

Networks and Partnerships

Networks/partnerships should have some lasting benefit beyond immediate project implementation. Informal networks/partnerships are acceptable.

Name of Network/Partnership	Year Established	Country/Countries	Established by Project?	Purpose
Primate WATCH network	2021	Cote d'Ivoire; Guinea; Liberia; Sierra Leone	Yes	The participants are in regular contact through the WhatsApp group and by emails to share information relevant to industrial development projects and their impacts on chimpanzees in West Africa. They also have reinforce the collaboration with their different organizations, for example one of the participants in Guinea is a professor and is

Name of Network/Partnership	Year Established	Country/Countries	Established by Project?	Purpose
				now mentoring the second Guinean participants to obtain a Masters.
WABILED	2022	Cote d'Ivoire; Guinea; Liberia; Sierra Leone	No	<p>West Africa Biodiversity and Low Emissions Development (WABILED) program, funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen the capacity of national and regional networks and institutions to enforce and prosecute wildlife trafficking laws and enhance great ape conservation; - Implement regional and transboundary cooperation and biodiversity conservation strategies to reduce deforestation, forest degradation, and biodiversity loss in Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Liberia, and Sierra Leone; and - Reduce West Africa's greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon sequestration from land use through low emissions development strategies. <p>The WABILED program funded the second in-country workshop of the Primate WATCH program and promote its awareness through its channels. They subsequently hired one of the participants from the program to be their in-house primatologist.</p>

Sustainable Financing

Sustainable financing mechanisms generate funding for the long-term (generally five or more years). These include, but are not limited to, conservation trust funds, debt-for-nature swaps, payment for ecosystem services (PES) schemes, and other revenue, fee or tax schemes that generate long-term funding for conservation.

Name of Mechanism	Purpose	Date Established	Description	Country/Countries	Project Intervention	Delivery of Funds?
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Globally Threatened Species

Globally threatened species (CR, EN, VU) on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, benefitting from the project.

Genus	Species	Common Name (English)	Status	Intervention	Population Trend at Site
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LESSONS LEARNED

- During in-country workshops we were able to interact with the private sector when conducting the site visits, but it would have been good to also dedicate one of the day of the workshop (or add a day) to have more time to exchange with the private sector.
- During the program's evaluation, a few participants highlighted their preference for having more frequent written tests to assess their knowledge (i.e. after each lesson). We did that informally through discussions, but they feel like we could have identified better things that were not understood by the majority of participants more accurately.

SUSTAINABILITY/REPLICATION

All participants provided positive feedback about the training, and the program was also well received by our colleagues and the private sector. Given the success of this first round of the Primate WATCH program, we have secured funds through GRASP and GEF to undertake the same program in Central Africa. This will start in July 2022. The content for the lessons, as well as the pre and post training questionnaire have already been developed, therefore this will make it easier to replicate the program.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS/STANDARDS

The selection of the eight participants was made amongst the 30 applications received by a selection committee composed of two woman and one men. The selection was made based on six pre-determined criteria that aimed to evaluate previous knowledge and experience, and based on the results of the interview. Twelve applicants were short-listed and interviewed, and then eight people were retained to take part in the program. The selection also included a gender-balanced criterion.

A Stakeholder Engagement Plan was prepared when being awarded this grant. This document was mainly aimed at preparing our engagement with civil society, banks and companies when approaching guest speakers, or for visiting different sites during the two in-country workshops. It was also aimed to provide a mechanism by which to resolve any grievances that could have arisen during the time of the Primate WATCH program.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS

ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Total Amount of Additional Funding Actually Secured (USD)	\$675,000.00
Breakdown of Additional Funding	There was two sources of additional funding: 1) 660,000 USD from The Arcus Foundation to support the activities of the ARRC Task Force for 2020-2023;

	2) 15,000 USD from WABiLED to pay for the second workshop that was held in Sierra Leone in March 2022.
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INFORMATION SHARING AND CEPF POLICY

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned and results. For more information about this project, you may contact the organization and/or individual listed below.

For further information on this project, please contact sga@rewild.org