



Acting for nature and mankind

2010 Annual report





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Acronyms and abbreviations

NBA	: Niger Basin Authority
VBA	: Volta Basin Authority
ACMAD	: African Centre of Meteorological Application for Development
AFD	: French Development Agency
AFED	: Amis de la Forêt et de l'Environnement pour le Développement
IGA	: Income generating activities
AMCFE	: Association Malienne pour la Conservation de la Faune et de l'Environnement
MPA	: Marines Protected Areas
ABS	: Sharing of benefits arising from the exploitation of genetic resources
APPEL	: Alliance of parliamentarians and elected local officials for the protection of the environment in the littoral countries of West Africa
VPA	: Voluntary Partnership Agreement
ARECO	: Association Rwandaise des Ecologistes
SIDA	: Swedish International development Agency
AWF	: African Wildlife Foundation
BIRA	: Inter-African office for Animal Resources
BMZ	: German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development
CANPE	: Club des Amis de la Nature et de la Protection de l'Environnement
CARPE	: Central African Regional Program for the Environment
CBD	: Convention on Biological Diversity
CBFF	: Congo Basin Forest Fund
CC	: Climate change
CCRE	: Centre de Coordination des Ressources en Eau
CCSPM	: Cercle de Concertation de la Société civile Partenaire du MINFOF/MINEP
ECOWAS	: Economic Community of West African States
CEESP	: Commission on Environmental Economic and Social Policy
CEFDHAC	: Conference on Central African Moist Forest Ecosystems
CEIE	: Cellule d'Evaluation des Impacts Environnementaux
CEW	: Cameroon Environmental Watch
CICOS	: Commission Internationale du Bassin du Congo-Oubangui-Sangha
CILSS	: Permanent Inter-State Committee for drought control in the Sahel
CIMM	: Conseil International sur les Minéraux et les Métaux
CLE	: Comité Local de l'Eau (Local Water Committee)
CMB	: World Dam Commission
CNRS	: Centre National de Recherche Scientifique
COMIFAC	: Central African Forest Commission
CoP	: Conference of Parties
CRGE	: Concertation Régionale pour la Gestion de l'Environnement
CRCEM	: Cadre Régional de Concertation sur l'Environnement de Matam
CREE	: Collectif Régional des Elus en Environnement
CREMACO	: Regional Committee of IUCN Members in West and Central Africa
CREPA	: Centre Régional pour l'Eau Potable et l'Assainissement
CRiSTAL	: Community Based Risk Screening Tool - Adaptation and Livelihoods
CRS	: Catholic Relief Service
CSE	: Centre de Suivi Ecologique
SSC	: Species Survival Commission

CSR	: Sub-Regional Commission of Fisheries
VDC	: Village Development Committee
CWCS	: Cameroon Wildlife Conservation Society
FAO	: Food and Agriculture Organization
FCPF	: Forest Carbon Partnership Facility
FIBA	: Fondation Internationale du Banc d'Arguin
FLEGT	: Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade
GEF	: Global Environment Facility
GHG	: Greenhouse gases
CIG	: Common Initiative Group
IWRM	: Integrated Water Resource Management
GRAMUE	: Groupe des Amis de l'Unesco et de l'Environnement
GWI	: Global Water Initiative
IBAP	: Institut pour la Biodiversité et les Aires Protégées
ICRAF	: International Centre for Research in Agroforestry
IIED	: International Institute for Environment and Development
IMAO	: Mangrove Initiative of West Africa
IRScNB	: Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique
LCR	: Les Compagnons Ruraux
LLS	: Livelihoods and Landscape Strategy
MACO	: Marine and Coastal Programme
MINATD	: Ministry of Territorial Administration and Decentralisation
MINEP	: Ministry of the Environment and Protection of Nature
MINFI	: Ministry of Finance
MINFOF	: Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife
MRU	: Mano River Union
NEF	: Near East Foundation
OIF	: Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie
OMVG	: Gambia River Basin Authority
OMVS	: Senegal River Basin Authority
NGO	: Non-Governmental Organisation
OPED	: Organisation pour l'Environnement et le Développement Durable
PACO	: Central and West Africa Programme
PAGEV	: Project for the improvement of water governance in the Volta River Basin
PAGIRE	: Action Plan for the Integrated Management of Water Resources
PANA	: National Action Programme for Adaptation to Climate Variability and Climate Change
PAP	: Support to pilot actions
PARTAGE	: Support project for the Transboundary Management for Artisanal Fisheries
PASOC	: Support Programme for the Structuring of Civil Society
NTPP	: Non-Timber Forest Products
GDP	: Gross Domestic Product
PNDS	: Saloum Delta National Park
PNE	: National Water Partnership
FNP	: Faro National Park
NNP	: Niimi National Park

UNDP	: United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	: United Nations Environment Programme
PRCM	: Programme régional de conservation de la zone côtière et marine en Afrique de l'ouest (Regional Programme for the Conservation of the Coastal and Marine Zone of West Africa)
PREE	: Programme Régional pour l'Education à l'Environnement (Regional Environmental Education Programme)
PREMI	: Poverty Reduction and Environmental Management Initiative
RTP	: Regional Thematic Programme
RAMPAO	: Réseau Régional des Aires Marines Protégées d'Afrique de l'Ouest (Regional Network of Marine Protected Areas in West Africa)
RAPAC	: Network of Central African Protected Areas
RBD	: Dja Biosphere Reserve
RBDS	: Réserve Biosphère du Delta du Saloum (Saloum Delta Biosphere Reserve)
RBT	: Réserve de Biosphère Transfrontalière (Transboundary Biosphere Reserve)
RBTDs	: Réserve de Biosphère Transfrontalière du Delta du fleuve Sénégal (Transboundary Biosphere Reserve of the Senegal River Delta)
DRC	: Democratic Republic of Congo
RECARGAO	: Projet Renforcement des capacités régionales de gestion des pêches en Afrique de l'Ouest (Regional Capacity Building Project on Fisheries Management in West Africa)
RECOPA	: Réseau de Communication sur le Pastoralisme
REDD	: Reducing Emissions from deforestation and forest degradation
REDDIN	: Projet de réhabilitation des écosystèmes dégradés du Delta Intérieur du Niger (Project for the rehabilitation of degraded ecosystems of the Inner Niger Delta)
SBFR	: South Bakundu Forest Reserve
ANR	: Assisted Natural Regeneration
RRI	: Rights and Resources Initiative
SAED	: Société Nationale d'Aménagement et d'Exploitation des Terres du Delta du fleuve Sénégal
SDE	: Sénégalaise des Eaux
SEFAC	: Société d'Exploitation Forestière et Agricole du Cameroun
SENELEC	: Société National d'Electricité du Sénégal
AIDS	: Acquired Immune Déficiciency Syndrome
MIS	: Market Information System
SONATEL	: Société Nationale de Téléphonie du Sénégal
SP/CONEDD	: Secrétaire Permanent du Conseil National pour l'Environnement et le Développement Durable
SMC	: IUCN Species Monitoring Commission
TMGP	: Team Moteur Gouvernance Partagée
TNS	: Tri National of Sangha
TRAFFIC	: Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network
AU	: African Union
EU	: European Union
UEMOA	: West African Economic and Monetary Union
IUCN	: International Union for Conservation of Nature
UNESCO	: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
HIV	: Human Immunodeficiency Virus
VSF	: Vétérinaire sans frontière Belgique
WWF	: World Wide Fund for Nature
ZIC	: Hunting Zones

Foreword of the Regional Director

Internationally, the year 2010 was marked by the Conference of Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Nagoya, Japan and that of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Cancun, Mexico.

2010 having been declared International Year of Biodiversity, Nagoya had a special glow, with an agreement on a 2011-2020 strategic plan to reduce pressure on biodiversity. This conference was another opportunity for IUCN to play its influencing role while promoting some of the flagship processes, such as the *Red List of Threatened Species*, and the *Save our Species (SoS)* campaign.

For its part, Cancun made it possible to arrive at agreements that will serve as the basis for efforts to address climate change after the Kyoto Protocol; these agreements envisage funding for both adaptation and mitigation.

As for the regional context, it was marked by the holding in June of the 5th Regional Forum of the Programme for the Conservation of the Coastal Zone of West Africa (PRCM) in Nouakchott on the theme "*Biodiversity, our security in a changing world. Let us save it!*" The PRCM forum was effectively attended by ministers and representatives of seven states concerned and the Directors General of FIBA, Wetlands International and IUCN; within the same period, the seven countries involved in the PRCM signed the West Africa *Mangrove Charter*.

This report presents actions and outputs in the five areas and the four-year programme 2009-2012:

- *Conserving biodiversity for life;*
- *Changing the climate forecast;*
- *Naturally energizing the future;*
- *Improving life in healthy ecosystems;*
- *Greening the world Economy.*

For a marked strengthening of ties and synergies between the various components



Mr Aimé Joseph Nianogo, Regional Director IUCN-PACO

of IUCN, it takes into consideration the outputs proposed by the Commissions and IUCN members. The report also discusses the evolution of the institutional arrangement of the secretariat in Central and West Africa.

IUCN

- Created in 1948, it is the pioneer and largest environmental network in the world.
- Vision: A just world that values and conserves nature.
- Mission: To influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that the use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable.
- More than 1 000 Members, 11 000 scientists and 1 000 members from each of the 160 countries working to overcome the most serious challenges of the world.
- Managed by an elected Council.
- Programme approved by Members, made up of policy recommendations, field work in sustainable development and conservation areas, research and publications.
- Funded by Members, governments, foundations, multilateral institutions and big businesses.
- The only environmental organisation with official observer status at the United Nations General Assembly.

IUCN-PACO

Four regional thematic programmes (RTP) that develop a regional vision and execute their programmes and projects:

- Forest Conservation;
- Water Resources and Wetlands;
- Marine and coastal ecosystems;
- Protected Areas and Biodiversity;

The RTP Law, Policy and Governance is under development.

- Programme offices (Burkina Faso, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo)
- Project offices (Ghana, Nigeria, Liberia, Congo)
- Cross-cutting units strengthened (Human Resources, Communication, Finance, Information and Communication Technology, Institutional Support and Development)

Principal priority domains for the period 2009-2012 :

- *Conserving biodiversity for life;*
- *Changing the climate forecast;*
- *Naturally energizing the future;*
- *Improving life in healthy ecosystems;*
- *Greening the world Economy.*

2010 Highlights

Custodian communities of biodiversity

On the occasion of the International Year of Biodiversity (IYB), IUCN intended to expose the extraordinary biodiversity that is useful to communities living in the protected areas of Guinea Bissau. The photographer and cameraman, Nedjma Berder took photographs of more than 180 flora and fauna species. Fifty of these photographs make up the exhibition mounted for the Institute of Biodiversity and Protected Areas (IBAP) of Guinea-Bissau, and which has been presented around the world: the opening of the IYB at the Palais de l'UNESCO in Paris, the Regional Forum of the Regional Programme for the conservation of the coastal and marine zone of West Africa (PRCM) in Nouakchott, the Shanghai World Exhibition, the Convention on Biological Diversity in Nagoya and the celebration of the IYB in Bissau.

VPA/FLEGT:

Cameroon and the European Union sign agreement

On 6 May 2010, the Government of Cameroon and the European Union signed a Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) to reduce illegal logging and improve on weak governance that undermines the forestry sector. This agreement is a step towards improving the process of enforcing regulations and forest governance and trade between the EU and Cameroon. IUCN played a crucial role in the negotiation process of the Agreement by building multi-stakeholder dialogue between government ministries, the private sector, NGOs and local people on forest issues. The achievements of the negotiations are today valued in the process of reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) in Cameroon.

Guinea Bissau:

Environmental education officially enters schools

In order to promote biodiversity conservation, sustainable management of natural resources and enhance the skills of local communities, a law formalizing the integration of environmental education into school curricula was adopted in Guinea Bissau in May 2010. This political will defended by the Minister of Education, Mr Artur Silva, strengthens the many initiatives undertaken in this area by members of IUCN (Palmeirinha, AD and Tiniguena NGOs) at national level and the Regional Environmental Education Programme (PREE) of the PRCM across the seven coastal countries of West Africa coordinated by IUCN in Guinea Bissau. In this favourable context, all IUCN partners in Guinea Bissau are mobilizing to support the Ministry of Education in this formidable challenge.



A young girl holding an environmental education manual

Forest royalties in Cameroon: A new order signed

The joint order on forest royalties was signed on 3 June 2010 by the Minister of State, Minister of Territorial Administration and Decentralization (MINATD), the Minister of Finance (MINFI) and the Minister of Forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF) of Cameroon. This order which is the outcome of very active collaboration between civil society organizations and the government with financial support from IUCN-CARPE outlines terms of using and monitoring the management of revenues arising from exploitation of forest and wildlife resources destined for councils and riparian village communities.

The Regional Members Committee set up

The Regional Committee of IUCN Members in Central and West Africa (CREMACO) was established on 16 June 2010 following a consultation and discussion meeting organized with members and partners in Saly, Senegal. A protem bureau of seven members was elected.

Members

- 75 Members including 11 States, 9 governmental agencies and 52 national NGOs and 3 international NGOs working in various areas of activity, related to the thematic programme of PACO.
- 1 Regional Members Committee
- 5 National Members Committees (Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Guinea Bissau, Mali and Senegal).



Bureau members of CREMACO

5th PRCM Regional Forum

About 250 participants from national institutions, civil society and international organizations met in Nouakchott, Mauritania from 28 June to 1 July 2010 on the occasion of the 5th Coastal and Marine Regional Forum on the theme "*Biodiversity, our security in a changing world. Let us save it!*". Environment ministers of PRCM countries, the Directors General of IUCN, Wetlands International and FIBA, the High Commissioner of OMVS and other dignitaries joined to support recommendations formulated for integrated management of the coastal and marine zone of the seven countries of the PRCM.

Policy-makers committed to the management of the West African coast

The first consultation meeting of Ministers of the environment of the PRCM area took place on 1 July 2010 in Nouakchott, on the sidelines of the PRCM regional forum. This consultation marks the commitment of policy-makers in the sustainable management of the West African coast. Ministers from seven countries in the sub-region signed the "*Nouakchott Declaration*" which aims to: support the development of a new phase of the PRCM, set up a mechanism for joint programming,

monitoring and coordination between ministries of the environment and ministries of fisheries; institutionalize a sub-regional coordination and cooperation mechanism in the field of coastal and marine environment, strengthening the positive role of the Regional Marine and Coastal Forum in West Africa, initiated by PRCM.

A charter for transboundary sustainable management of mangroves

On 1 July 2010 in Nouakchott, Mauritania, six West African governments (Mauritania, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Sierra Leone and Senegal) signed *the charter for the conservation and sustainable management of mangroves*. By this act, the countries are committed to promote sustainable use and exploitation of mangroves, to adopt the principles of restoration of degraded ecosystems and to regulate the market of mangrove by-products. This signing is the outcome of three years of studies on national policies on mangrove management and conducting consultations in the six countries concerned, led by IUCN and Wetlands International. The Charter is subject to a national action plan for each country to facilitate its implementation.

CoP 16 on climate

With the support of IUCN, civil society in Burkina Faso and Senegal contributed to the preparation of the 16th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Climate Change held from 29 November to 10 December 2010 in Cancun, Mexico. In Burkina Faso, with support from the Danish International Development Agency (Danida), the national coalition of civil society on climate change, and some members of parliament took part in the conference. In Senegal, IUCN and the Department of Environment and Classified Establishments of the Ministry of Environment convened a preparatory workshop for the official delegation from Senegal to Cancun. Members of the National Climate Change Committee developed the national position of Senegal which was later validated by the Government, Parliament, local elected officials and the Economic and Social Council. This position recommended negotiating in full solidarity with countries belonging to the group of least developed countries and the African Group.



Ministers in full discussions



Participants at the 5th Regional Forum of PRCM

Members in action

Club des Amis de la Nature et de la Protection de l'Environnement (CANPE) : Promoter of "Biodiversity Village" in Mauritania

The NGO CANPE and the Art industry supported by the Ministry in charge of the Environment, IUCN, PRCM and the Council of Nouakchott, have endowed Nouakchott with a "Biodiversity Village". Inaugurated by the IUCN Director General, Julia Marton-Lefevre, on the sidelines of the 5th Regional Forum of the PRCM, the village contributed to the celebration of the International Year of Biodiversity. The site promotes the local artistic potential and serves as a pole of attraction and mobilization of the public around conservation issues in West Africa, including Mauritania. As a permanent tool for raising awareness, promoting environmental education and more, the village is part of the national strategy for promotion and eco-citizenship training in Mauritania. j.taya@mr.refer.org - mabdallahi@yahoo.fr

Les Amis de la Terre-Togo (ADT-Togo): Adaptation to climate change

Thanks to financial support from UNEP, the NGO Les Amies de la Terre – Togo (or Friends of the Earth-Togo) (ADT-TOGO) has helped to build the technical capacity of civil society organizations and the private sector of Togo on the phenomena of risks and climate change adaptation measures. Initially, actors already involved in adapting to climate change were identified. Together, they called on the Togolese government to fully play its part in safeguarding and protecting the environment. mtodzro@yahoo.fr

Groupe des Amis de l'UNESCO et de l'Environnement (GRAMUE): Fight against poaching

GRAMUE is a Cameroonian NGO that is fighting against poaching by promoting innovative alternatives. The creation of a pilot farm for breeding cane rats can now serve as a small business model for economic growth in rural areas. Started in 2003 with a set of four animals

(one male and three females) with support from IUCN-CEFDHAC, the farm currently has over one hundred heads thereby reducing pressure on wildlife in the Zoetele area in Southern Cameroon. In addition, the sale of cane rats for food, livestock rearing, the creation of the corn and fodder farms, and training sessions for trainers, all contribute towards poverty reduction. mindja73@yahoo.fr

Central Africa Network of Protected Areas (RAPAC): Support to pilot actions (PAP)

As part of the programme to support pilot projects (PAP) from 2008 to 2010, RAPAC has funded fifteen projects in eight countries and twenty protected areas. These micro-projects have supported education, training and communication on protected areas, income-generating activities, and management of protected areas and protection of sea turtles. The PAP experience suggests better enhancement of the project's experience through a database to disseminate the outcome of projects.

It also promotes exchanges between sub-regional project managers and makes available PAP products and outputs while carrying out training before and during project execution.



Entrance of Biodiversity village in Mauritania



Gateway of acclimatization enclosure for red-necked ostriches, in the Senaoura Park in Chad

Association Rwandaise des Ecologistes (ARECO): Support to forest conservation

Thanks to a collaboration agreement with the National Forest Agency signed in partnership with the Ministry of Lands, Environment, Forestry, Water and Natural Resources of Rwanda, ARECO is executing the project on forest conservation in Rwanda in general and in the Mukura Reserve in particular. The Mukura Reserve is a learning site for landscape restoration in the Great Lakes region. Key activities in 2010 include among other things, monitoring and supervision of the activities of women groups (1600 women) for the domestication of fruits, the creation of alternatives and the development of beekeeping around Mukura. These activities were launched in 2007 and 2008 with the support of UNEP and CARPE for women. Thus, advocacy for the establishment of a security system to guard the Mukura Reserve in a bid to fight against human activities (mineral extraction, agriculture, etc...) increased throughout the year. arecorwa@yahoo.fr



Women in a fruit trees farm in Rwanda

Amis de la Forêt et de l'Environnement pour le Développement (AFED): Promotion of improved stoves

Based in Goma in the Democratic Republic of Congo, AFED initiated in 2008 a project for the "Production and distribution of improved stoves for households on the outskirts of the Virunga National Park" in the North Kivu Province. The project aims to contribute to reducing human pressure on natural forests by reducing wood consumption in households. In 2010, more than 500 stoves were produced and distributed free to households in Rutshuru and its surrounding areas. Four seed-nurseries were established with a capacity of 3,500 seedlings per site. Furthermore, more than 8 ha of community woodlots were established to help preserve the natural ecosystems of Virunga. In addition to the support of AFED, the communities involved have received financial support from the IUCN / LLS and the proposed Nile Basin Initiative. The NGO now has a production facility for iron work, sheet metal and pottery and a shed for raising community awareness. mtangala@yahoo.fr

SOS Sahel International - Burkina Faso: Reforestation initiatives through contracts

Micro-projects on reforestation in the Sahel zone generally have little success. On this basis, the NGO SOS Sahel International-Burkina Faso has proposed an approach to compensate reforestation on the basis of the number of viable trees two years after reforestation. Beneficiaries support all the costs of production and planting, and the NGO undertakes to pay the members of a group of producers for every tree that survived after two years. The amount of the compensation depends on the species planted (from 0.15 USD to 0.9 USD). The compensation packages are negotiated by the NGO with the producers on the basis of charges related to the production of each species. A contract is signed between the NGO and the beneficiaries to secure the investment for producers, with the choice of species replanted vested on the contracting parties. This operation has made it possible to have a recovery rate of about 70% after two years. An output that is technically satisfactory. sossibf@fasonet.bf



Women involved in the production of portable pottery stoves and construction of fixed stoves in DRC

Organisation pour l'environnement et le développement durable (OPED): Reducing poverty and the degradation rate of mangroves

OPED works with coastal communities in the area of Kribi in Cameroon, to facilitate the adoption of profitable aquaculture and fish smoking technologies by women, who are heavily dependent on mangroves for their livelihood. Support for shrimp farming has a positive impact on the environment because it helps reduce post-harvest losses and pressure on stocks. The adoption of improved smoking rooms reduced more than 40% of the consumption of mangrove wood as an energy source for fish smoking even as more than 80% of the loss of mangrove forests in southern Cameroon is due to logging. Socio-economically, these adopted technologies have made it possible to increase incomes and the supply of shrimp and fish in markets. This initiative is supported by the GEF-UNDP and the Congo Basin Forest Fund (CBFF) in the context of the emergence of strong and competitive small and medium local businesses. Women are thus engaged in an eco-business that creates added value while ensuring the conservation of mangroves. jksyapze@yahoo.com - oped_cam@yahoo.fr - j.h.brown@stir.ac.uk

Les Compagnons Ruraux (LCR): Contribution towards improved water governance

Commissioned as part of the project to improve water governance in the Volta Basin (PAGEV), an environmental study was conducted by *Les Compagnons Ruraux* with the aim of gaining better understanding of the current situation of the people of five Togolese villages bordering River Oti and Kara (*Namoukou, Nambossi, Djabignon, and Sekou Kouliékou*) and their living environment. Plans to fight against ecosystem degradation and against poverty and the perception of communities about their commitment and adherence to the completion of interventions shall make it possible to adjust project activities to the needs of the people who are project partners. compagnonsruraux@yahoo.fr

Cameroon Environmental Watch (CEW): Improving the legal framework for wildlife resource management

ICEW has published the study "Improving the legal framework for wildlife resource management in Cameroon: Achievements and constraints, challenges and prospects" produced with funding from the European Union under the Support Programme for the Structuring of Civil Society (PASOC) and IUCN-PACO as part of the LLS (Livelihoods and Landscape Strategy) initiative. Building on historical capital and on many practical experiences, this book includes a diagnostic and prospective evaluation of the legal framework for wildlife management in Cameroon. Beyond a review of major texts in force, the book connects the legal framework to technical aspects of forest management, and the political, socio-economic and the social environment. It ends with concrete proposals for the attention of decision-makers that can be exploited for a possible overhaul of the standards system. cewaie@yahoo.ca - ngoufocew08@yahoo.fr



Improved fish smoking room in Kribi, Cameroon



The Minister of Forestry and Wildlife of Cameroon receiving a copy of the study

IUCN –Mali Members and Programme: An example of the One Programme implementation

In 2010, the contribution of five members of IUCN in Mali was rewarding in the fields of environmental education, capacity building of local actors including women to improve their incomes and the mobilization of local actors in favour of good practices in the management of natural resources. The NGOs WALIA, AMCFE and DONKO are all contributing their expertise to the successful implementation of IUCN projects in Mali.

As concerns awareness of environmental issues of the Inner Niger Delta, WALIA has identified 24 local timber species used by humans and animals, extinct or endangered, with communities and actors of the schools of eleven villages. Schools of Diambacourou and Sampara respectively in the rural councils of Borondougou and Bassiro, were selected for the setting up of school

arboretums, necessary for the regeneration of these species. This choice is backed by the availability of permanent water points, the extent of degradation of natural resources in these villages, and especially the motivation of school actors to ensure the maintenance and management of arboretums.

AMCFE has trained thirty women from the villages of Amba, Batoma, Tibouki, Tete Ompto and Bore on techniques of processing, preserving and marketing NTFPs. This training was enhanced with the creation of a new women micro enterprise in Boré. Support to women's groups in Youwarou and Akka has enabled women to generate an income of 244,000 CFA Francs (600 USD), from the production of 150 litres of *Hibiscus sabdariffa*-based syrup, 190 kg of jam and 372 bars of soap made from *Balanites aegyptiaca* seeds. The products were sold on the local markets of Youwarou, Gath and Sah. The processing of agricultural and forest products help to improve the living conditions of members of associations. The NGO DONKO has mobilised Kelka communities within the framework of demarcating 4 ha of degraded sites in order to restore them.

Naturama: Nature conservation ideal in three stages

In 2010, Friends of Nature Foundation, Naturama, focused its nature conservation interventions around three main areas: protection of areas of importance to bird conservation, improving the living conditions of riparian population to protected areas and promotion of eco-citizen values through communication. This had the effect of developing a critical mass of nature conservation actors within local populations and developing national and trans-national partnerships for the environment. The management of the Kaboré Tambi National Park between Ghana and Burkina Faso is a showcase of these efforts at national and regional levels. webmaster@naturama.bf



Malian women in training session



Learners after a training session

Commissions in Action

Species Survival Commission (SSC)

Gems hidden in fresh waters

Fresh waters of Central and West Africa contain exceptional and largely unique biodiversity. Whether through fishing, farming, agriculture or water purification, these many species are the basis for a large share of the economy and the welfare of the people of the region. Whereas, several hundred species of fish, shellfish, crabs, odonata (the family to which dragonflies belong) and aquatic plants are threatened with extinction if these resources are not better considered in development processes and if nothing is done to ensure their survival.

This is shown in two studies carried out by the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) in collaboration with Wetlands International, an IUCN member. Based on the analysis of the situation of 2,260 species and subspecies in Central Africa and nearly 1,400 species in West Africa, the study highlights the extraordinary diversity of freshwater species in Central Africa, the second in the world after the Amazon. West Africa is not left with many areas of great diversity: Lower Guinea, downstream of the River Jong in Sierra Leone, the Ébrié Lagoon in the Ivory Coast, downstream of the Ogun and Oueme Rivers and their coastal lagoons in Benin, Western Nigeria and the Niger Delta to downstream of the Cross River in southern Nigeria. In Central Africa the richest area in terms of species is clearly the Congo River and its tributaries, Ubangi and Kasai. The highlands of south-western Cameroon, the rapids of Upper Congo and Malebo Pool, as well as on the main Congo River are other areas of extreme diversity.

In Central Africa, half of all species, two-thirds of fish species are unique to the region. But studies also conclude that nearly 15% of species in each region are threatened with extinction, according to the IUCN Red List criteria.

These studies and information on each species that are now available online are crucial data in development and infrastructure planning, in regional planning in general. It is no longer

possible to cite lack of knowledge. The development should ensure that there is connectivity between the upstream and downstream of rivers, protection of upstream watersheds, and maintaining environmental flows, that is to say sufficient water flow to support the health of freshwater ecosystems. Protected areas should include rivers and lakes and make them specific conservation targets, rather than use them as limitations. The study recommends Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), as well as the establishment of new authorities in river and lake basins, and capacity building for protected area management.

Such measures would be obvious contributions to food security for the local populations, and more broadly to national economies. They would help in development without depleting biodiversity wealth, or undermining long or short term future. To gain access to studies and data on species: www.iucnredlist.org and http://www.iucn.org/knowledge/publications_doc/publications/



Hydrocynus vittatus, least concern



Cadiscus aquaticus, critically endangered



Tomichia cawstoni, critically endangered

Commission on Economic, Environmental and Social Policies (CEESP)

Support to the shared governance process in West Africa

IUCN and the CEESP have, under the Regional Programme for the conservation of the coastal and marine zone (PRCM), produced a book entitled "... *In shared governance: A practical guide for MPA of West Africa*". The outcome of a long process undertaken within the framework of the GP Sirens Project and PRCM, it is in line with "Power Sharing" published by the IUCN / CEESP and IIED and enhances the rich experience of field practitioners in West Africa. It presents the main steps of a process of shared governance, specifically targeting marine protected areas (MPAs) and makes it possible to assimilate or revise the concepts, principles and tools used to implement them effectively on the ground. The public launching of this guide took place at the "Biodiversity Village", on the sidelines of the Regional Coastal and Marine Forum last July in Nouakchott, Mauritania. It is widely disseminated among MPA managers and facilitation and development NGOs, and is used during training, but also daily by field practitioners.

Thus, this guide has served as a support for two capacity building training events in Senegal in 2010, organized by the GP Sirènes project, with the support of experts from the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policies - CEESP: the first training organized at regional level was conducted in February in the Transboundary Biosphere Reserve of the Senegal River Delta - RBTDS, and the second one, at national level, held in Popenguine on the Petite Côte in Senegal in July 2010. Over forty people from institutions in charge of MPAs, local management committees and support NGOs were involved. The trainings have made it possible to finalize the forming of a group of six regional trainers, now grouped in a Shared Governance Team Engine - TMGP which puts itself at the disposal of members and partners of the Regional Network of MPAs in West Africa - RAMPAO.





Shaping a sustainable future in Central and West Africa

Conserving the diversity of life

Ensuring sustainable and equitable biodiversity management for balanced economic growth and poverty alleviation.

Execution of conservation projects: Financial support to NGOs and associations

Local initiatives developed by NGOs of the sub-region, received strong support from the Conservation Programme of the coastal and marine zone of West Africa (PRCM) in 2010, as part of its cross-cutting component on capacity building of local actors. A total of eight local NGOs, that received small grants in late 2009 for a total of two hundred and forty thousand (240,000) Euros, implemented several conservation activities in 2010 in six countries of the region. Key initiatives implemented concern the launching of studies to characterize the ecosystem of Suro in Guinea Bissau and the underwater reserve of Ponta Preta, Maio Island (Cape Verde) in a bid to classify them as areas with conservation status; development and management of three nesting sites for

Spoonbills in the Banc d'Arguin National Park in Mauritania; support to the promotion of community-based ecotourism in the Joal-Fadiouth Marine Protected Area in Senegal; strengthening the protection of the Marine Protected Area of Santa Luzia in Cape Verde and mangrove ecosystems of Rio Pongo in Guinea through raising awareness and training of actors and residents of these two sites; the development of 'income-generating activities for the benefit of youth and women in the MPA of Tristao Islands in Guinea; and the restoration of a wetland and a mangrove ecosystem in the Gambia through the building of networking capacities.

These actions helped generate significant outcomes and impacts, including:

awareness of the various categories of actors intervention sites (populations, researchers, local governments, NGOs ...) on conservation challenges; their involvement in the implementation of conservation actions; and strengthening synergies between actors. The implementation of these projects also helped to strengthen the technical and management capacities of promoter NGOs and their credibility with communities and local administrations.

Under the same funding, six new projects received support in late 2010 for the benefit of NGOs of the sub-region for a total of 150 000 (One hundred and fifty) Euros.



Rio Pongo reforested mangrove area in Guinea



NGO-local authorities' cooperation in the context of PRCM small grants

Members of Parliament and local elected officials in a coalition for environmental conservation

In Senegal, IUCN and the Centre for Ecological Monitoring (CSE) have provided scientific and technical support to the network of parliamentarians, for the establishment of a regional coalition between national and local elected officials, through a discussion and reflection forum on environmental issues. This should encourage a good dissemination of environmental information to the population and also influence decision making by executives.

The initiative of the Regional Group of elected officials on the environment (CREE), already experimented in the southern region

of Ziguinchor in southern Senegal, was to be replicated in the Louga¹ Region, in the north of the country, which faces numerous environmental problems (especially desertification, deforestation), jeopardizing its economic and social development. Nearly 70 parliamentarians and local elected officials attended the installation meeting of CREE after which the elected representatives of the Louga region adopted a joint statement that "*challenges all users of the resource of Lake Guiers², with no exception, to respect the principle of precaution in all their activities on the lake and in its relevant space and appropriate to meet their obligations to restore and conserve the*

ecosystem of this lake". A proposed protem bureau of the regional group of elected officials for the environment was endorsed by the constituent General Assembly.

In addition to the objectives of consultation and synergy at regional level, it should be noted that setting up CREE ties with principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development which states that "The best way to deal with environmental issues is to ensure the participation of all concerned citizens, at the relevant level."

Sourou Sub-Basin: Partnership for integrated water resource management

Access to safe drinking water and sanitation, as well as the protection and management of ecosystem services and watersheds for the benefit of the poorest and most vulnerable, are challenges in the Malian Sourou Sub-Basin. Moreover, Articles 67 and 70 of the Law on the Water Code in Mali provides at watershed level, the establishment of management structures whose missions and functions are related to the management of water. To this end, the Local Water Committee (CLE) is the closest forum of users at local level and responds to the principle of subsidiarity. However, this measure is not present at the level of the Sourou basin.

To overcome this situation, a participatory approach was applied to enable effective participation and empowerment of actors in the definition of reasonable surface areas

(from 2000 to 2500 km² on average) that can ensure the viability of CLE. Thus, the IUCN Programme in Mali, through the project GWI has developed a draft plan for spatial coverage of these committees involving all stakeholders at local and national levels according to the following steps:

- The preparation of the preliminary draft spatial plan of CLE based on hydrological criteria with the support of regional technical services of the National Directorate of Water and the National Water Partnership has resulted in the identification of seven spaces of CLE.
- Revision and validation of the plan by more than a hundred actors from various socio-professional strata of the basin during consultations held in Bankass and Koro in the Mopti region in central north Mali.

A joint diagnosis (national and regional directorates of water supply, the unit Action Plan for integrated water resource management and the National Water Partnership in Mali) has resulted in the production of a draft map for field work which served as basis for the creation process of the CLEs of the Sourou basin.

Executed by the consortium IUCN-CRS-CARE for a period of three years (2010-2012), this initiative has the financial support of the Howard G. Buffett Foundation and covers twenty-four councils on a surface area of more than 15 000 km².

¹The region covers a surface area of 24 847 km² being 12.6 % of the national territory.

²Lake Guiers: it is situated in the North of Senegal. Of tectonic origin, it occupies a depression along the north-south axis. It is 50 km long and 7 km wide and has a surface area of about 250 km² and contains 400 millions m³ when the water body is at average level of 1.25 m IGN (www.environnement.gouv.sn, 2005).

Change of attitude and behaviour for the benefit of the coastal and marine environment

IUCN and its PRCM partners have been committed for many years in the conservation of marine and coastal resources in countries across from Mauritania to Sierra Leone. These efforts have resulted in particular in the creation of several marine protected areas, better protection of certain endangered species (monk seal, manatee, and sea turtles), the development of initiatives for participatory management of fisheries resources, the adoption of best environmental practices.

This is a first step to collect and disseminate information needed to understand how the coastline functions and the consequences of daily activities on natural balance. Local actors should also increase talks with

children to help them discover natural sites, enjoy their wealth, their beauty but also their fragility.

In order to meet this challenge, education associations and professionals met in an informal network, allowing them to share their views and learn from each other's experiences. Member associations of the network have received training in capacity building on environmental education organised by the IUCN Programme in Guinea Bissau. They are encouraged to execute education projects, recreate the link between schools and coastal communities living near marine protected areas to achieve their will. In this way, the school can resume its role as an initiator of change and help improve living conditions in villages.

The knowledge book "*Discovering the coastal and marine environment in West Africa*" was written in 2010. This first regional educational tool incorporates the biological characteristics of the coast (habitats, fauna and flora) and the main impacts of human activities on the environment (fishing, urbanisation, pollution, industry, tourism ...). This 84 page book, profusely illustrated, is available in English, French, Portuguese, and soon in Arabic and will be distributed in the seven countries of the region. The next step is to support the Ministries to integrate environmental education into school curricula.

Discovering the Coastal and Marine Environment in West Africa

Knowledge Handbook



Regional Environmental Education Programme
Regional Coastal and Marine Conservation
Programme for West Africa



Tri-National of Sangha: Elites and elected officials network to manage natural resources

IUCN is executing a project geared towards capacity building of stakeholders involved in the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in Central Africa and particularly in the Tri National of Sangha (TNS), a transboundary complex between Cameroon, the CAR and Congo.

Aware of the threats to sustainable management in the TNS, a platform for local elected officials and traditional leaders (RET-TNS) has been established through the support of the Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC), of IUCN and its partners. This allowed for the structuring of this network through the organization of the elective general assembly elections, the development of a roadmap and support for the organization of awareness meetings at the level of the Cameroonian, Congolese and Central African actors of the TNS.

The TNS is functional with a regional office and national focal points that carry out outreach, advocacy and monitoring activities of conservation actions around the TNS. In order to better involve communities in sustainable management of biodiversity, emerging themes such as reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) and the Access and Benefit Sharing from the use of genetic resources (ABS) are discussed.

COMIFAC has received support from the Royal Institute of Natural Sciences of Belgium (RBINS), in collaboration with the Directorate General for Development Cooperation.

Tools for fisheries management

The possibility to use the Red List as a tool to illustrate the risk of marine biodiversity loss associated with the exploitation of fisheries resources was tested in 2010 during a consultation sponsored by the Marine and Coastal Programme (MACO) of IUCN. The resulting report shows that the fisheries monitoring data provide information about the Red List.

A bigger project in preparation, will update the Red List for marine fish of West Africa and train researchers of the region to use this tool that is still little known to the fisheries sector.

In connection with the permanent secretariat of the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC), the Regional Convention on the minimum conditions of access to fishing zones of Member States of the SRFC has been revised. The adoption of the new text is slated for 2011. Studies have also demonstrated the importance of small-scale migrant fisheries and the opportunity to develop tools to regulate, monitor and control small-scale fisheries throughout the region.

Furthermore, the draft document on the trans-national development plan for the mules' fishery was validated during a scientific council in Nouakchott, Mauritania.

Sustainability and contribution of marine protected areas to sustainable development

In support of the work plan of the Network of Marine Protected Areas of West Africa (RAMPAO), a study of the mode of existing and potential funding for marine protected areas (MPAs) in West Africa was conducted with the support of the firm Environmental Development Group-EDG. A review of mechanisms for sustainable funding of MPAs in the world and a diagnosis of current funding mechanisms in each MPA of RAMPAO was made. The findings were presented and approved at the general meeting of RAMPAO in July 2010 in Nouakchott. This work will be completed in 2011 with individualized analysis and proposals to managers of various MPAs in the region to strengthen their financial sustainability.

Putting water governance at the centre of government policies and actions in Togo

Encouraged by the Volta Basin Authority (ABV), IUCN-PACO began to gradually extend the activities of the Project for the Improvement of Water Governance in the Volta Basin (PAGEV) to other basins of the Volta with priority on the Oti sub-basin situated mainly in the Republic of Togo. To this end, intensive awareness, capacity building and ecosystems restoration activities, including the protection of river banks have mobilized state structures, technical partners, NGOs and beneficiary communities.

At state level: prior to its involvement in the implementation of this pilot transboundary IWRM, authorities in Togo developed and approved various laws and regulations such

as the water code, the national water policy, the national IWRM action plan, etc... Also, to encourage the start of project activities, the ministry responsible for water and sanitation has for the first time, fostered the direct signing of a memorandum of partnership with IUCN-PACO on 5 May 2010.

At the level of Regional Directorates: hitherto oriented towards water, sanitation and rural water supply, they now position themselves as the guardians and masters of the restoration and conservation of ecosystems in pilot sites. A functional link is now established between NGOs and Regional Departments for better coordination of all activities related to conservation, mobilization and water supply.

At local level: in addition to the effective mobilization of leaders and local chiefs, Village Development Committees (VDC) were enrolled and had their structure modified to incorporate the "bank protection specialized commissions," that are all functional.

All of these changes have contributed to the enthused start of the project in Togo and is already producing significant results including the organization of the first Joint Forum of communities of the Oti sub-basin, the involvement of political leaders of the Kara and Savannah regions, reforestation and an inauguration of 4.5 km of shoreline and the adoption of an action plan for 2011 by all actors.



Reforestation session on a pilot site

Changing climate forecasts

Reducing carbon emissions due to deforestation and ecosystem degradation, particularly forests and support to adaptation to climate change.

Adaptation to climate change: Highlighting good practices

Good practice is individual or collective. Its implementation in a given context allows for better agronomic, forestry, water, livestock, energy and organizational performances for adaptation to climate change.

In order to support national efforts of adaptation of the people of Burkina Faso to climate change, IUCN on the one hand prepared civil society actors to contribute in developing the national climate change programme, and on the other hand built the capacity of some communities to adapt to climate change and support the resilience of ecosystems around developed forests.

This work led to the development of a catalog of best practices to adapt to climate change. The practices were selected based on criteria such as value-added technology, the benefits and various constraints of its implementation, its contribution to climate change adaptation, ease of dissemination and exploitation of its practice, the possible role of various actors and finally the production cost. Such practices were very numerous and cover various areas: soil development and management, forestry and agro-forestry, water management, farming techniques and agricultural inputs, management of pastoral resources, husbandry techniques and the energy sector.

Good practices: Many in various areas

- **Soil development and management** : small dams of stony cordons, zai, half-moons, dune fixation, improved fallow, enclosures and development of slums.
- **Forestry and Agroforestry** : controlled clearing, assisted natural regeneration (ANR), reforestation, windbreaks, alley cropping, fight against bushfires, fixing of banks, forest management, arboreta and botanical conservatories.
- **Water management** : "Koglogo" micro-irrigation basins, surface water saving irrigation system, micro-drip irrigation systems, construction of water reservoirs (dams and balls), construction of impluviums, mobilization of water pipe wells, artificial rain and fish holes.
- **Inputs and farming techniques** : flat or partitioned labouring, scarification, improved seeds, restoration of degraded lands by the technique of sub soiling, mixed-cropping, counter season cropping and vegetable gardening, practices on pastoral water, protection of water points against sand encroachment, building high-speed drill equipped with solar pumps, construction of pastoral dams, building of pastoral wells, deepening of natural ponds.
- **Management of pastoral resources**: traditional livestock mobility practices and transhumance, demarcation of pastoral zones and special grazing land management, demarcation and beaconing of livestock and transhumance trails.
- **Animal feed** : pipe feeder and organic manure production barns, hay and fodder conservation, fodder farming and burgoo culture.
- **Energy sector** : solar water heater, solar drying of foodstuff, solar refrigerators, improved stoves, solar wax melter.

Techniques of water retention

Balls are artificial ponds developed in flood areas to capture excess runoff. These water bodies with multiple functions can break floods and mitigate the effects of floods. As main sources of livestock watering during the dry season, the balls are involved in reversing trends of wetlands and biodiversity degradation.

Aware therefore of the importance of these developments for the livelihoods of

communities, IUCN in Burkina Faso and its partners Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Network Communication on Pastoralism (RECOPE) and TIN-TUA worked to establish a good framework for the sustainable management of two constructed balls. Communities have set up inter-community bodies and internal management rules. In contrast to drilling, the ball is of interest to more than one surrounding village.

Climate change challenge: A coalition of civil society organisations operational

The effective execution of actions outlined in the National Action Programme for Adaptation to Climate Variability and Climate Change (NAPA) in Burkina Faso requires the participation of all segments of society. In order to ensure the effectiveness of this process, IUCN supported and advised, for eight months, the setting up of consultation forum.

At the end of the process, some forty organisations created the National Coalition of Civil Society Organizations on Climate

Change. The Constituent General Assembly was opened by the Minister of Environment and Quality of Life alongside the Regional Director of IUCN and the Permanent Secretary of the National Council for Environment and Sustainable Development (SP/CONEDD).

The Coalition is made up of the following organizations: SOS Sahel International Burkina Faso; Confédération Paysanne du Faso, Coalition des organisations de la société civile pour un développement

équitable et durable; SOS Santé Développement; Association nationale d'action rurale; Fondation des amis de la nature; Association féminine pour le développement/TIN Naabl Ki Hambi/Kari Force. Through this coalition, civil society has obtained a seat in the organs developing and monitoring the implementation of the National Action Plan for Adaptation and it was assigned a national role in the development and communication process on climate change.

IUCN popularises the CRISTAL tool

The CRISTAL tool (see box) was designed for two main reasons: to promote understanding of the changes that climate change have on economic activities, on the livelihoods of actors and on biodiversity; and the potential consequences of proposed projects on the ability of actors to adapt to change. It therefore gives the opportunity to anticipate, prepare, and even build on climate-related changes in their environment.

In Burkina Faso and Mali, IUCN, with its experience during the phases of testing and validation of the tool, has worked to popularize it for systematic use with various types of users.

In Burkina Faso, series of training made it possible to initiate a first pool of 27 trainers. They have provided training to 61 additional people from support structures and civil society organizations.

In Mali, the training involved over 20 managers from the Mopti region, officers of technical services, NGO representatives, staff and partners of IUCN, who have practiced their new knowledge by identifying climate risks, impacts related to risks and adaptation strategies in 16 councils and 7 villages around Mopti, Youwarou, Bankass and Koro.



Producers during a training on the CRISTAL tool in Burkina Faso

Tool to identify risks at community level - adaptation and livelihoods: CRISTAL is a support tool for decision-making that aims to:

- put in place a logically suitable process to assist a user community to better understand the links between the risks it faces and the effects of the climate at local level;
- assess the impact of a project on livelihoods that is indispensable for adaptation; and
- develop adjustments to improve on the impact of livelihoods project activities on climate change adaptation.

IUCN, REDD actor in Cameroon

Cameroon is developing its national REDD (Reducing Emission of Greenhouse Gas due to Deforestation and forest Degradation) readiness phase project. IUCN will submit contribution to the national REDD strategy development process learned from the implementation of its Pro Poor REDD project.

As a result of its efforts to establishing links between local and national levels and through awareness raising on pro poor REDD issues, IUCN has been appointed as Focal Point and Facilitator of the REDD partners platforms. Indeed, key analysis and studies have contributed to better understanding of key pro poor issues to be considered in the national level decision making and of the REDD framework conditions for the participation and contribution to the national REDD Committee and REDD strategy development process of vulnerable groups such as indigenous peoples, forest communities, women, and others. Thanks to a participatory assessment, stakeholders have a common understanding of the drivers of deforestation. At the same time, promotion of multi-stakeholder dialogue and involvement in the readiness process has been done through the training on REDD related issues of the representatives of 40 Civil society organizations (CSOs), representing the platform of CSO organizations that participated in the VPA/FLEGT negotiations. At last, technical support has been provided for the conception of the National REDD Committee, which is waiting for a publication decree of the Prime Minister to become operational.

To raise awareness and get the general and rural audiences to understand challenges and opportunities of REDD, IUCN has also produced and broadcasted audio documentaries and radio spots on REDD at the national and local levels, through a strategic partnership with "Radio Environnement" and the network of community radios of Tri-National Sangha landscape. Finally university audiences have been targeted to ensure understanding of REDD concepts and mechanisms by academics, in the vision of encouraging more youth to specialize in REDD related thematic.

World Bank: Introducing African indigenous peoples and Forest communities' to the Forest Investment Programme

As the World Bank is developing its Forest Investment Programme (FIP) fund, dedicated to supporting developing countries' REDD efforts and providing up-front bridge financing for readiness reforms, IUCN facilitated the first regional consultations on the processes and defining modalities for the implementation of the World Bank FIP devoted grant for indigenous peoples and local communities. Thirty six participants from 11 countries of Africa attended a meeting in Accra, Ghana for this purpose, three of them (Burkina Faso, DRC, and Ghana) being already designated as pilot countries.

Most of the consultation was devoted to the definition of the processes and modalities for the FIP dedicated grant, especially in defining the scope, objectives, overarching principles and governance of the grant, as regards the African indigenous peoples and local communities. In the Accra Declaration made by the 36 participants, the African indigenous peoples and local communities' representatives stated their expectations and opinions on how the Forest Investment Programme (FIP) grant should be disbursed.

Burkina Faso: Partners equipped to engage the REDD+

The REDD+ mechanism is an opportunity for the countries of the Sahel to strengthen good governance in their forests, reduce the vulnerability of communities, improve the resilience of ecosystems and contribute to reducing greenhouse gas (GHGs) emissions. To increase national capacity for REDD and help identify a roadmap for the preparation of the national strategy on REDD+ for Burkina Faso, IUCN organized a training seminar for actors: Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development, NGOs, Inter State Committee for the Fight against Drought in the Sahel (CILSS), representation of the European Union, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

With the expertise and practical experience of the team of facilitators, Burkinabe actors were informed of the concepts, collection, analysis and interpretation of data to assess the contribution of forests to GHG reduction. They have deepened the framework for preparation, formulation and implementation of a national strategy on REDD+, and received updated information on international opportunities related to REDD+, the links between this mechanism and other initiatives on adaptation to climate change.

The Bali Action Plan adopted by the 13th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in December 2007 has mainstreamed the reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from deforestation and forest degradation through conservation, sustainable forest management and improving their ability to store carbon 'REDD+'.

Natural energies for tomorrow

Ensuring that energy policies and strategies of governments, businesses and communities are less harmful to biodiversity.

Management of forests for sustainable revenues

In Burkina Faso, actors have adopted a collaborative approach to and participatory forest development and management by drawing inspiration on the one hand from lessons learned from forest management projects in Central West Region of the country and, on the other hand, previous interventions in the region. This approach initially led to consultations with local authorities, traditional authorities, the people, mayors of councils and decentralized field technical service providers. Then, exchange and awareness visits undertaken have resulted in the definition of a common vision for the forest: "A forest for local development through land use organization" in a consultation forum and sustained social mobilization. This is how the inter-council forest of Sablogo was created, with the support and guidance of IUCN. Since then, more than 30,000 people have spontaneously left the forest to settle in villages, where they were welcomed by residents. In common agreement, all three councils (Bissiga, Lalgaye and Tenkodogo) leased forest portions meant to be a production forest with an area of 10,000 ha and an agro-pastoral production area of 17,000 ha. These areas have been materialized by tracing the perimeter track and marking the various areas identified according to their purposes.

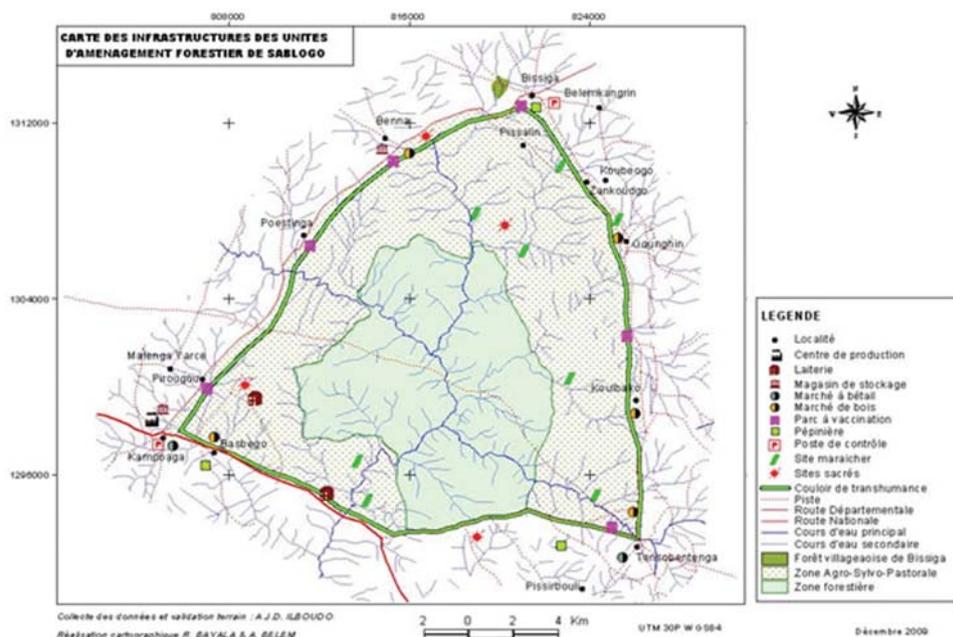
These councils have a development and management plan (PAG) up to 2025, which takes into account all the opportunities for recovery and conservation of forest resources. Thus, for the case of wood energy, projections indicate an annual production of 2000 to 7000 cubic meters per year depending on the potential of each

plot that is 63,000 cubic meters on a rotation. This projection is based on the logging of green timber on a rotation of 15 years, with a logging rate of about 50% by standing volume of 10 to 25cm in diameter. This production generates potential annual revenue of 6,000 to 24,000 Euros, of which 63.6% will be used to pay loggers (local populations), 18.2% to support forest management, 4.5% for council development initiatives and 13.7% for taxes. Added to this are revenues for the exploitation of non-timber forest products, other goods and services provided by forests to local communities, and job creation.

In order to facilitate the joint management of generated resources for the benefit of the people, the PAG is accompanied by local agreements and an administrative manual, financial and accounting procedures adopted by stakeholders. These tools have enabled administrative authorities to initiate

the process of registering forests and transferring of certain necessary powers to councils for their implementation. The experiment was later used with the help of the IUCN Commissions on Protected Areas and Environmental Law, to draw up an information and orientation guide on various procedures for forest law enforcement conferring responsibility for the management of natural resources to local governments. A total of 34 mayors and 108 municipal councilors and 34 presidents of commissions on the environment and local development in the region have been trained to use the guide.

Through this approach the actors acquired better understanding of the relevance of development based on the enhancement of natural resources, the need to structure land and organize agricultural and forestry sectors such as fuel wood and non-timber forest products at national and subregional levels.



Managing ecosystems for wellbeing of mankind

Encourage dialogue to reduce conflicts related to natural resources, help to restore nature after conflicts, and ensure that environmental concerns are taken into consideration in emergency relief operations.

Wetlands: Invaluable economic value

Wetlands are more than ever necessary for economic development in a context of climate change that contributes to the vulnerability of West Africa and by extension increased poverty.

IUCN has launched a series of economic assessments of natural resources in the Sourou Valley in Burkina Faso and Mali, in the parks of Lower Casamance in Senegal and mangroves in Guinea Bissau. In these sites, rivers, lakes, ponds, mangroves and other wetlands provide natural goods and services that are the basis of activities and the well-being of local communities. These sites are also coveted by the authorities who intend to develop irrigation agriculture on them, or might let them disappear in favour of industrial activities that contribute to short-term national economic development.

These studies, funded by the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), are intended to explain their economic importance and distribute the benefits of wetlands for various socioeconomic local community groups and the local economy.

The findings show that these wetlands are the bedrock of the economy of the communities that live therein and value them. For example, the study conducted by IUCN in Burkina Faso estimates that annual contribution to the economy of the Sourou Valley in terms of goods and services included in the study, accounted for about 15 million Euros in 2009. Timber forest products for energy and poles contributed 37% of the total estimated value, other forest products such as game, fruit and medicinal plants to the tune of 21%, pastoral

resources to the tune of 18%, fishery resources and river transport to the tune of 10% each; the contribution of wetlands to soil fertility for crop production accounts for 3% of economic calculation and safari tourism accounts for 1%. Other non-tradable goods and services have been identified which, if evaluated in monetary terms will increase this value. The economic significance of these findings shows that the multiple functions and services of wetlands contribute significantly to economic development and should be better acknowledged and supported in national and regional development and in the fight against poverty. IUCN will continue in its efforts to disseminate the methodology across the sub-region and help raise the economic profile of areas often regarded as unproductive.



Trade on non-timber forest products for pharmacopoeia



River transportation of goods and persons on the Sourou

Large dams in West Africa: Dialogue, key for better governance

Large dams have brought about significant benefits in West Africa and may provide more in future, especially for electricity, water supply for urban and rural populations, and for agriculture. But this should not be at the detriment of ecosystems and future generations. The process of developing large hydraulic structures requires consultation with stakeholders, under integrated water resource management (IWRM).

The Coordination Centre for Water Resources (CCWR) of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) launched in late 2008 a regional consultation on major water infrastructure projects in West Africa. Its purpose is to contribute to a harmonious development of West African and regional integration through the development of consultation mechanisms for actors. The stakeholders of this project are organizations of basins (OMVS, OMVG, ABN, ABV, MRU), States and civil society.

IUCN supported the consultation by fitting it in the vision of the World Commission on Dams (WCD), and in order to promote environmentally sustainable and socially equitable water resources management in a context of climate change specific to West Africa. Its role was to open up discussions with civil society actors, especially representatives of local populations and resource users, who are often left out during consultations and decision-making.

An analysis, by a panel of independent experts set up by ECOWAS, of decision-making processes of three dams notably Manantali in Mali, Kandadji in Niger and Bui in Ghana have made it possible to uphold best practices and make recommendations that have been adjusted and shared with the States, river basin organizations and civil society. IUCN has completed this process through:

- A website (www.dialoguebarrages.org) widely visited, that shares information on the dialogue process and makes

accessible many documents on dams ;

- An electronic forum leading to brainstorming avenues and recommendations on four themes on the issue of large dams in West Africa;
- Recommendations of civil societies of the basins of the Senegal, Niger, Volta and Gambia Rivers as well as the Mano River addresses to agencies of the basin and to States, with the aim of protecting the interests of users in multi-actor landscapes opened for them;
- A documentary movie to illustrate the dialogue experiment and disseminate as wide as possible the recommendations.

Dialogue must continue through the various fields ventured. Civil society should ensure that the recommendations are implemented, first by the ECOWAS Framework Directive at regional level. It should strive to continue discussions around the main topics of the discussions.

Themes of recommendations

- Recognize the key role to be played by agencies of the basin in the development and implementation of transboundary dam projects;
- Pay special attention to benefits drawn from the dams by the local populations affected by their construction;
- Accept that all problems are not resolved at the outset of a project and thus anticipate the risk factors for the future;
- Support actors so that all stakeholders have the capacity to play their role;
- Optimize profitability of large hydraulic structures in West Africa;
- Collect and share lessons learned on existing dams in West Africa;
- Adopt a regional reference framework for the conduct of environmental and social assessments of future transboundary projects.

Mali: NTFPs, new impetus for the local economy

The inventory of non-timber forest products (NTFPs) exploited by the population in the four councils of Kelka and their characteristics, shows enormous economic potential. They are used by the people as food supplements and substitutes during the lean season, to replace some rare and expensive foodstuffs (sugar, protein, various vitamins, etc.), and to earn some income by selling them. The economic potentials of NTFPs were evaluated according to their food, commercial, medicinal importance and their use as fodder. Five priority species have been identified on the list of 36 plant species used by Kelka communities: *Boscia senegalensis*, *Adansonia digitata*, *Nymphaea lotus*, *Tamarindus indica*, *Ziziphus maurithiana*.

In order to add value to NTFPs from the Kelka forest in Mali, IUCN has encouraged the emergence in 2010 of a small business for their enhancement and improving the well-being of communities. Thus, some thirty women from women's groups in five villages (Amba, Boré, Batoma, Tete Ompto, Tibouki) received training on the processing, storage and marketing, facilitated by the national NGO AMCFE, an IUCN Member. After training in modern beekeeping by the beekeeping training centre in Bamako, Mali, about 125 beekeepers were equipped with modern Kenyan hives. This enabled them to increase their production from 2 litres with the traditional hives to 4 and then to 10 litres with modern hives.

The Kelka forest landscape in northern Mali covers an area of 158,430 ha. It has 15 villages with a total population estimate of 59,720 inhabitants (51.2% women) exposed to food insecurity resulting from the fragility and vulnerability of the area due to human pressures and the vagaries of the climate (shortage of rainfall). The dominant productive activities are agriculture, livestock, logging and fishing (generally practiced in the lowlands).

A study of the NTFP sector in December 2009, gave a better appreciation of the contribution of these products to the Kelka local economy. For example, an annual return of 25 million CFA Francs (38,112 Euros) was reported for *Boscia senegalensis*.



Boscia sénégaleensis seeds



Balanites aegyptiaca fruits



Boscia sénégaleensis

Congo Basin: Civil society organizations and natural resource management

During 2010, the CARPE carried out various actions to achieve the following main results:

- Through a participatory selection process, 25 civil society organizations benefited from the CARPE/IUCN Small Grants Program in all 9 countries covered by the Program (Cameroon, Republic of Congo, DRC, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Burundi, Rwanda, Sao Tomé and Príncipe and Central African Republic) to the tune of 244 053 000 F CFA (USD 488 106). Through this channel, civil society organizations conceived and implemented their own conservation and development activities in the following domains : environmental governance, capacity building, advocacy, institutional development, alternative livelihoods to support conservation efforts, landscape restoration, multi-resources inventory in Protected Areas, illegal logging and poaching, etc. The Projects will be implemented for one year.
- An important regional small grants conference has been organised in Kigali, Rwanda, for beneficiaries of the CARPE/IUCN small grants program, to exchange their experiences and lessons

learned on the implementation of small grants projects by civil society organizations. The conference also facilitated the launching of a regional network of civil society organizations for climate change; promoted lessons learned among civil society organizations; and gave future orientations of the CARPE small grants program (climate change, Payment for Environmental Services, selection, etc.).

- The publication of the CARPE lessons learned book in both english and french. These lessons learned publication highlights different innovative approaches that civil society organizations are taking to apply conservation in the Congo Basin. It also made CARPE partners to engage in an analytical reflection concerning their own activities, and thus ensure a process of learning and adaptation during the implementation of the program.
- The holding of country team meetings in all countries, helped civil society organizations to identify and implement pertinent advocacy activities. They pushed for and facilitated the signing of

the Lake Télé - Lake Toumba trans-boundary Agreement between the governments of the Republic of Congo and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). They have engaged forestry actors in Rwanda and Cameroon, to discuss the revision of their forestry code. In Cameroon, they initiated and facilitated the validation and signing of a joint Ministerial order N°00122/MINEFI /MINAT/MINFOF (Ministries of Finance, Territorial Administration and Forestry and Wildlife), related to the management of incomes derived from timber and hunting activities allocated to the communities living adjacent to exploited forests. In Rwanda, the draft forestry code that is facilitated by NGO ACNR (a civil society organization) was validated during a validation workshop and discussed during the Rwandan council of ministers forum that was held in June 2010. In Congo, a draft text to create a National Wildlife and Protected area agency is currently being discussed by civil society organizations, while a Ministerial order defining contract rules and regulations for forest concessions was signed in the DRC by the Ministers in charge of forestry.

A “greener” world economy

Considering the impacts of economic, trade and investment decisions on biodiversity.

Mainstreaming the environment in Senegalese positive law on public contracts

In Senegal, public procurement accounts for a sizeable part of economic activity. 2008 and 2009 statistics respectively show the sums of 700 thousand million CFA Francs (15% of Gross Domestic Product) and 450 thousand million CFA Francs (about 11% of GDP). Public procurement is therefore a key public policy instrument and it can be used strategically to promote respect for the environment in Senegal.

IUCN supported the Senegalese government to include the environment in the public contract process. A diagnostic study revealed the almost total lack of environmental considerations into the public contracts procurement procedures. Actors consulted especially, the Authority and the Regulatory Board for Public Procurement, the Central Public Contracts Department in charge of the environment, civil society and the private sector have all recognized and praised the relevance of the initiative and invited IUCN to deepen its proposals, by looking at other specific actors in order to enrich the findings.

The Government welcomed the recommendations made in the study report and revised the public contracts code by including environmental considerations in Decree No. 2011-04 of 6 January 2011 to amend and supplement Decree No. 2007-545 of 25 April 2007.

The introduction of the environment in Senegalese positive law on public contracts strengthens the legal framework for the preservation of natural resources. Senegal has thus joined the very small circle of countries that have expressed support for sustainable public procurement after Burkina Faso, Mali and Togo. Discussions have been held with the European Union and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) to extend the experience to other countries of the sub-region.

Excerpts of Decree No. 2011-04 of 6 January 2011

According to Article 45 new "Subject to compliance with its rights on the protection of intellectual or industrial property and confidentiality of information concerning its activities, any candidate for a public contract must prove that it has the legal, technical, financial and environmental capacity required to execute a contract with all relevant documents and certificates listed in the invitation to tender, including especially: ... information on the candidate's expertise in environmental protection ... "

Its Article 59 new, paragraph 1 reinforces the environmental provision in these terms "determining the lowest bid is made either on the basis of the lowest price or on the basis of the price and other criteria such as use cost, technical performance, environmental protection measures... ".

Mining projects: Considering the population and biodiversity better

Untapped mineral resources are coveted by many foreign investors looking to ways of establishing in countries such as Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Guinea or Sierra Leone. In many cases, countries are open to those foreign companies, supposedly capable of developing their national economies and enhance their underground wealth.

IUCN and its partners see this as legitimate, but are however concerned about the consequences of the development of these industries on biodiversity and on local communities. For this reason, it has committed itself at different levels:

- At international level in a dialogue with the International Council on Minerals and

Metals (ICMM), in a bid to improve on social and environmental practices of mining companies.

- At sub-regional level, the Union's Office in Guinea Bissau has coordinated a project to strengthen the advocacy capacity of civil society organizations in four West African countries: Senegal, Guinea Bissau, Guinea and Sierra Leone. Associations of these four countries (ASAN, AD, Guinée Ecologie and EFA) conducted case studies to better understand public perceptions on the impacts of mining on their lives and their environment. A synthesis of these case studies was produced in English, French and Portuguese. In addition, platforms for dialogue between authorities, businesses, local populations and associations were

set up around the four mining sites. In Guinea Bissau, the coalition around the Working Group on Petroleum and Extractive Industries GTP-IE, received official recognition as a facilitator and mediator between stakeholders, with the signing of a memorandum of understanding with the ministry in charge of mines.

Dialogue between various actors involved in a mining project is the only guarantee for legal and regulatory frameworks to be complied with, for the best technologies to be used and for mitigation and compensation for social and environmental impacts to be effectively negotiated and implemented.

Women entrepreneurship at the service of conservation

In sub-Saharan Africa, women are the primary users of natural resources on which almost all households depend. IUCN has decided to make them the engine of local development in the rural councils of the centre and central west of Burkina Faso.

Rural women excel in the enhancement of natural resources, particularly non-timber forest products. Meanwhile, this activity is not understood at the local economic scene, where these products are mistakenly seen as secondary products and/or valueless. These products are often not competitive because of their exploitation is unstructured and is done without appropriate technology, but also because of poor quality and lack of a marketing strategy. This makes them to be confined to the local market only.

With the support of women, IUCN has studied their aspirations to well-being and

established on this basis, their theories of change by 2015. A process of professionalisation was started, with their collaboration, and it resulted in the creation of 40 small rural businesses organized for the enhancement of six non-timber forest products (detarium powder, shea butter, honey, locust bean seeds (soubala), balanites oil and soap). In 2010, the main visible outputs were:

- Organization into a production sector, the establishment of business

partnerships for the marketing of the products;

- Creation of eight forest parks for resource providers of non-timber forest products (NTFPs) to secure raw material and perpetuate production;
- Better organization of women to harvest NTFPs;
- The creation of joint vigilante brigades to secure forest parks.



Publications

Somda J., Zonon A., Ouadba J.-M., Huberman D., Valeur économique de la vallée du Sourou : Etude préliminaire, UICN, Ouagadougou, 65p. ISBN : 978-2-8317-1268-0



Parks and reserves of Ghana - Management effectiveness Assessment of Protected Areas, UICN-PAPACO, 54p. ISBN: 978-2-8317-1277-2



Parcs et réserves du Niger : Evaluation de l'efficacité de la gestion des aires protégées (PAPACO) ; ISBN : 978-2-8317-1314-4



David Yanggen, Kenneth Angu, Nicodème Tchamou, Conservation à l'échelle du paysage dans le Bassin du Congo : Leçons tirées du Programme régional pour l'environnement en Afrique centrale (CARPE), UICN-CARPE, 303. ISBN : French version: 978-2-8317-1287-1 ; English version: 978-2-8317-1288-8



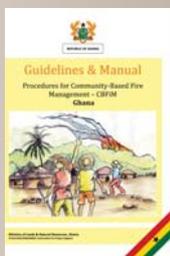
Grazia Borri-Fereyabend, Christian Châtelain, Gilles Hosch, « ... En gouvernance partagée : un guide pratique pour les AMP d'Afrique de l'Ouest », Un guide pratique pour les Aires Marines Protégées d'Afrique de l'Ouest, UICN, CEESP, 88p. ISBN : 978-2-8317-1288-8



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P., Campedron, Hellio J.F, Vanigen N. "Mami Wata, mère des eaux - Nature et Communautés du littoral ouest-africain", Guinée Bissau, Actes Sud, 224 pages, ISBN : 978 2-7427-9328-0



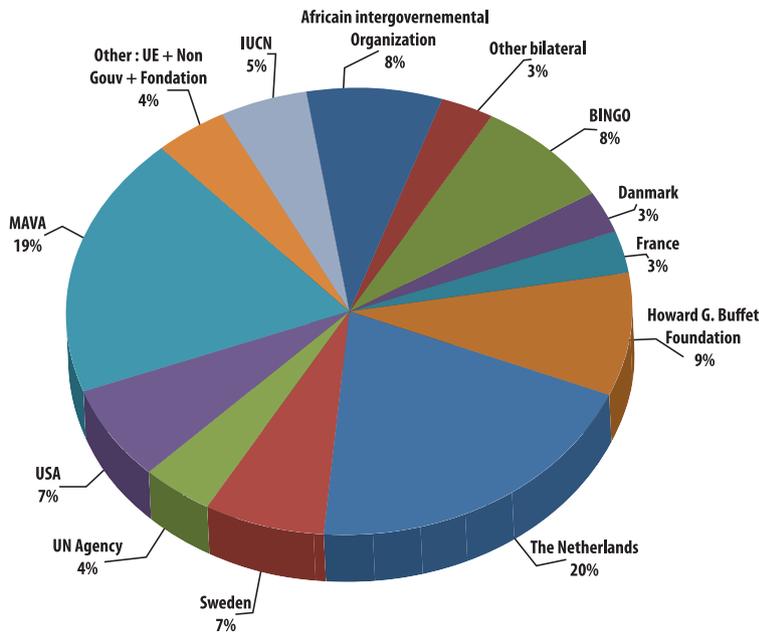
Mamadou Saliou Diallo, Pratiques du secteur minier en Afrique de l'Ouest. Synthèse comparative de quatre études de cas (Sénégal, Guinée Bissau, Guinée et Sierra Leone), Guinée Bissau, 36 pages, ISBN : 978-2-8317-1331-1



Finances

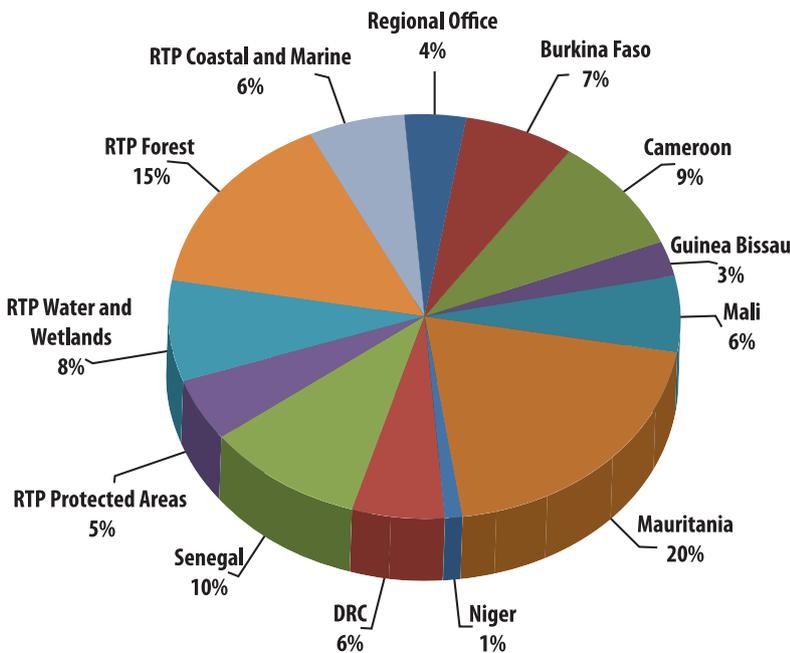
The year 2010 is the third year since PACO was created. The volume of activities has been growing steadily since its inception in 2008. The two figures below (State of funds received per donor, expenditures per country programme and regional thematic programme) present an overview and better appreciation of the 2010 financial year.

Figure 1: State of funds received per donor in 2010



All the funds received by PACO in 2010 stands at 16,347,353 EUR of which 853,000 is from IUCN. The Netherlands and MAVA are the highest donors of IUCN in Central and West Africa. Howard G. Buffet Foundation (HGBF) support to IUCN is also considerable.

Figure 2: Breakdown of expenditures per country programme and thematic programme in 2010



The third financial year can confirm that PACO has achieved one of the fundamental goals IUCN set for it at its creation. That is to develop Regional Thematic Programmes (RTPs). The first four RTPs that were started are being consolidated and their accomplishments are being improved. RTPs administered 35% of PACO's budget for the year 2010. The Mauritania Country Programme alone used more than 20% of the PACO budget because of the impact of PRCM projects.

Human Resources

As at 31 December 2010, PACO had 212 permanent workers including 20% expatriates and 25% women. This personnel is spread over some 15 countries, with the staff size varying according to the size of the programme; the highest numbers are found in Burkina Faso (59 persons), Cameroon (41), Senegal (25 persons) and Mauritania (24 persons).

Figure 1 : Statistics of staff per office and project office

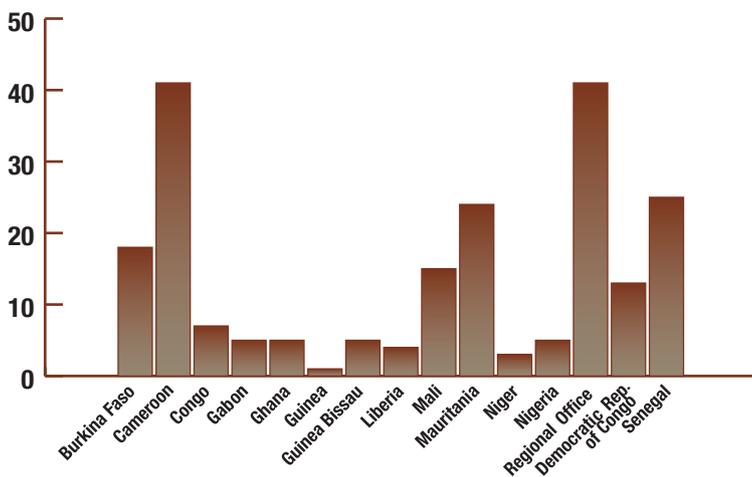


Figure 3 : Statistics of staff according to sexe

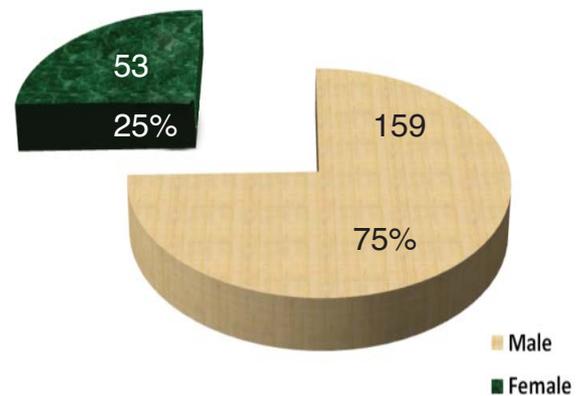


Figure 2 : Statistics of staff according to age

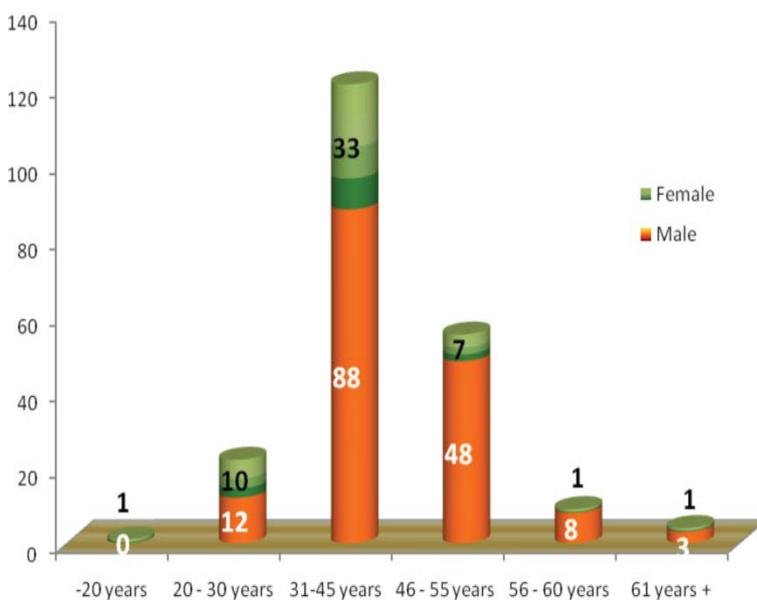
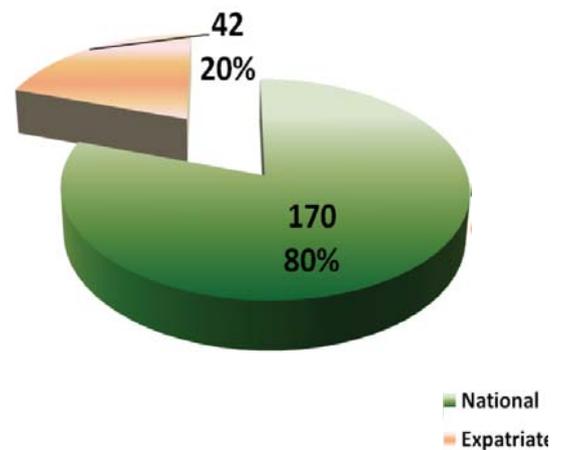


Figure 4 : Statistics of staff National / Expatriate



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