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MESSAGE FROM THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR

In 2021, the alleviation of health constraints related to the COVID-19 epidemic, the momentum of the World Conservation Congress and the strengthening of our programme team, have allowed us to return to a satisfactory level of implementation. IUCN-PACO is pleased with the resilience of the communities and partners involved in our projects. Their commitment has contributed greatly to the achievement of results in this key year.

Specifically, during this period, efforts for the conservation and restoration of terrestrial and marine ecosystems, governance of natural resources, fight against climate change and degradation of means of production have put focus on 1 habitat rehabilitation, 2 mangroves restoration, 3 capacity building of local populations, 4 capacity building of stakeholders and involvement of decision makers in the governance of natural resources and 5 formulation of new projects.

PACO has focused on stakeholders’ capacity building in terms of improving knowledge and procedures for taking environmental issues into account in local development. The themes promoted during these trainings include integrated water resources management, land degradation neutrality, plant production and maintenance and climate change:

IUCN has also been working to develop the PACO portfolio through the signing (effective or ongoing) of several strategic projects.

IUCN continues to advocate for rights, roles, obligations and responsibilities in view to ensure equitable and inclusive conservation as well as sustainable use of nature through awareness raising campaigns for resource users in the Union’s areas of operation.

Aliou FAYE
Regional Director
IUCN-PACO
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACRONYMS</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>APEF:</td>
<td>Protected Areas and Fragile Ecosystems of Chad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BACoMaB:</td>
<td>Fonds Fiduciaire du Banc d’Arguin et de la Biodiversité Côtière et Marine (Banc d’Arguin, and Coastal and Marine Biodiversity Trust Fund)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAD:</td>
<td>African Development Bank</td>
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<tr>
<td>BBP:</td>
<td>Business and Biodiversity Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>BCB:</td>
<td>Bonn Challenge Barometer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIODEV2030:</td>
<td>A participatory and inclusive science-based approach to halt the decline of biodiversity by 2030</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOPAMA:</td>
<td>Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>BRIDGE:</td>
<td>Building River Dialogue and Governance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEC:</td>
<td>Commission on Education and Communication</td>
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<tr>
<td>CEESP:</td>
<td>Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy of IUCN</td>
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<tr>
<td>CEM:</td>
<td>Commission on Ecosystem Management</td>
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<td>CEW:</td>
<td>Cameroon Environmental Watch</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHF:</td>
<td>Swiss Franc</td>
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<tr>
<td>COMIFAC:</td>
<td>Central African Forest Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>COP:</td>
<td>Conference of the Parties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CREMA:</td>
<td>Community Resource Management Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>CREMACO:</td>
<td>Regional Committee of IUCN Members in Central and West Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSE:</td>
<td>Centre for Ecological Monitoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRC:</td>
<td>Democratic Republic of the Congo</td>
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<tr>
<td>DU-GAP:</td>
<td>University Diploma in Protected Areas Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>ECOWAS:</td>
<td>Economic Community of West African States</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESARO:</td>
<td>Eastern and Southern Africa Office</td>
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<td>FAO:</td>
<td>Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations</td>
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<td>FGF:</td>
<td>French Global Environment Facility</td>
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<td>GEF:</td>
<td>Global Environment Facility</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEFZ:</td>
<td>Greater Zakouma Functional Ecosystem</td>
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<tr>
<td>GEMP:</td>
<td>Global Ecosystem Management Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIZ:</td>
<td>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (German Agency for International Cooperation)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ha:</td>
<td>Hectare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IBAP:</td>
<td>Institute for Biodiversity and Protected Areas</td>
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<td>IGA:</td>
<td>Income Generating Activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>IMET:</td>
<td>Integrated Management Effectiveness Tool</td>
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<td>INBAR:</td>
<td>International Organisation for Bamboo and Rattan</td>
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<td>ISEC:</td>
<td>Information System on Environmental Crime</td>
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<td>IUCN:</td>
<td>International Union for Conservation of Nature</td>
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<tr>
<td>KBA:</td>
<td>Key Biodiversity Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>LCBC:</td>
<td>Lake Chad Basin Commission</td>
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<td>MACO:</td>
<td>IUCN Regional Marine and Coastal Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>MINEPDED:</td>
<td>Ministry of the Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>MPA:</td>
<td>Marine Protected Area</td>
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<td>MRU:</td>
<td>Mano River Union</td>
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<tr>
<td>MRV:</td>
<td>Measurement, Reporting, Verification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAGGW:</td>
<td>National Agency for the Great Green Wall</td>
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<tr>
<td>NbS:</td>
<td>Nature-based Solutions</td>
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<tr>
<td>NDC:</td>
<td>National Determined Contribution</td>
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<tr>
<td>NGO:</td>
<td>Non-Governmental Organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTFP:</td>
<td>Non-Timber Forest Products</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBAPAO:</td>
<td>Observatoire pour la biodiversité et les aires protégées d’Afrique de l’Ouest (Observatory for Biodiversity and Protected Areas in West Africa)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acronym</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>OFAC:</td>
<td>Central African Forest Observatory</td>
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<td>ONAC:</td>
<td>National Observatory on Climate Change</td>
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<td>PAC:</td>
<td>Provincial Action Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>PACO:</td>
<td>Central and West Africa Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAPBio:</td>
<td>Support programme for the preservation of biodiversity and fragile ecosystems, regional governance and climate change in West Africa</td>
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<tr>
<td>PCL:</td>
<td>Priority conservation landscapes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PoMoCo:</td>
<td>Ponasi Complex - Mole Park - Comoé Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRCM:</td>
<td>Regional Partnership for Coastal and Marine Conservation in West Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PREE:</td>
<td>Regional Partnership on Water and Environment in Central and West Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PZ:</td>
<td>Peripheral zone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RACEGAP:</td>
<td>African Network of Coaches for the Effective Management of Protected Areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAMPAO:</td>
<td>Réseau Régional d’Aires Marines Protégées en Afrique de l’Ouest (West African Marine Protected Areas Network)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAPAO:</td>
<td>Réseau des aires protégées d’Afrique de l’Ouest (West African Protected Areas Network)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REDD+:</td>
<td>Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RLE:</td>
<td>Red List of Ecosystems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROAM:</td>
<td>Restoration Opportunity Assessment Methodology</td>
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<td>RTP:</td>
<td>Regional Thematic Programme</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAP:</td>
<td>Strategic Action Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>SSC:</td>
<td>Species Survival Commission</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNCDD:</td>
<td>United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNDP:</td>
<td>United Nations Development Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNEP-WCMC:</td>
<td>United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USFS:</td>
<td>United States Forest Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WACA ResIP:</td>
<td>Projet d’investissement pour la résilience des zones côtières de l’Afrique de l’Ouest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAEMU:</td>
<td>West African Economic and Monetary Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WAP:</td>
<td>W-Arly-Pendjari Parks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCEL:</td>
<td>World Commission on Environmental Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCPA:</td>
<td>World Commission on Protected Areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WRC:</td>
<td>Water Resources Commission of Ghana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WWF:</td>
<td>World Wide Fund for Nature</td>
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<tr>
<td>ZNP:</td>
<td>Zakouma National Park</td>
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</table>
IUCN AT A GLANCE

IUCN is a membership Union uniquely composed of both government and civil society organisations. It provides public, private and non-governmental organisations with the knowledge and tools that enable human progress, economic development and nature conservation to take place together.

Created in 1948, IUCN is now the world’s largest and most diverse environmental network, harnessing the knowledge, resources and reach of more than 1,400 Member organisations and some 18,000 experts. It is a leading provider of conservation data, assessments and analysis. Its broad membership enables IUCN to fill the role of incubator and trusted repository of best practices, tools and international standards.

IUCN provides a neutral space in which diverse stakeholders including governments, NGOs, scientists, businesses, local communities, indigenous peoples organisations and others can work together to forge and implement solutions to environmental challenges and achieve sustainable development. Working with many partners and supporters, IUCN implements a large and diverse portfolio of conservation projects worldwide. Combining the latest science with the traditional knowledge of local communities, these projects work to reverse habitat loss, restore ecosystems and improve people’s well-being.

www.iucn.org
https://twitter.com/IUCN/
IUCN is one of the organisations that, among other things, supports the scaling up of conservation. The IUCN Central and West Africa Programme (PACO) contributes to the mission and vision of IUCN at the regional level through its thematic programmes, country programmes and multi-country initiatives. It operates in 21 out of 25 countries in Central and West Africa in the following configuration:

### 7 Country programmes
Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal, which implement their programmes and projects and ensure a better linkage with the global programmes and the 6 Commissions.

### 6 IUCN Commissions
(CEC, CEM, CEESP, SSC, WCEL and WCPA)

### 4 Regional thematic programmes (RTPs)
- Protected areas and biodiversity, based in Dakar;
- Forestry Conservation, based in Yaoundé;
- Marine and Coastal, based in Dakar; and
- Water and Wetlands, based in Dakar.

### 3 Project offices
Ghana, Guinea and Chad.

The year 2021 marks the beginning of the implementation of the IUCN Programme 2021–2024 approved by IUCN Member organisations and institutions through electronic voting in February 2021.

In addition to providing a more inclusive and expansive vision, the new programme defines broad areas of work and sets ambitious targets with indicators to measure success. This document will help the Union achieve concrete and tangible positive impacts on people, land, water, oceans and climate, through five pathways to transformative change: RECOGNISE, RETAIN, RESTORE, RESOURCE and RECONNECT.

This new 4-year programme cycle is built on 5 pillars: People, Land, Water, Oceans and Climate.
IUCN’s actions in the region extent almost over all themes and different landscapes, covering both marine and coastal areas, inland wetlands as well as drylands. In 2021, interventions were specifically focused on:

- restoration of forest landscapes and ecosystems, wetlands and coastal areas;
- natural resource governance, citizen participation and species conservation;
- integrated Water Resources Management in transboundary basins;
- integrating biodiversity into the private sector in Central and West Africa.

IUCN’s intervention has also made it possible to support partners in the implementation of their Strategic Action Plans.

The results and achievements presented in this report provide a snapshot of the dynamics of IUCN in the region and its contribution to conservation, sustainable management of natural capital and sustainable development goals.
Local expertise / Foreign expertise per gender

IUCN has a large number of local staff compared to expatriate staff. There are therefore local skills capable of meeting the needs of the institution. This is a good sign that one of the fundamental principles of the institution is being met.

Recruitment between 2020 and 2021 per gender

There has been a significant increase in the number of new employees. This has an important impact on the visibility of the institution in the arena of organisations. This increase is due to the effective start of new projects in Chad, and calls on us as far as Human Resources are concerned, to focus on skills that have flexibility in the drafting of development projects and programmes.

It is also important to note that among the newly recruited staff there are six (6) that were former collaborators of IUCN. This means that, with certain reservations, people value IUCN’s actions.

Number of departures in 2021 per gender

There have been fourteen (14) departures during the 2021 financial year, which represents 15% of the total workforce as of December 31, 2021.
CONVENTIONS HAVE BEEN SIGNED IN THE 3 TARGET COUNTRIES OF THE WACA FGEF PROJECT (Benin, Senegal, Togo) FOR THE INVOLVEMENT OF STAKEHOLDERS AT DIFFERENT LEVELS (LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL) IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS.

REGионаL INTEGRаTION WаS PROMOTED WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF RAMPAO, WHICH SUPPORTED THE CHARACTERISATION OF THE SECTOR OF MONO RIVER’S MOUTH (BOUCHE DU ROY) IN BENIN. THIS CHARACTERISATION ALLOWED THE ELABORATION OF THE ACTION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN OF THE BOUCHE DU ROY MPA UNDER CREATION, AND OF A DRAFT DECREED THAT SHOULD CONSACRATE THIS CREATION.

IN GUINEA BISSAU, 33 GOVERNMENT AND CIVIL SOCIETY ACTORS (13 WOMEN AND 20 MEN) RECEIVED TRAINING ON THE LEGAL, JURIDICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL INSTRUMENTS OF GOOD MINING AND EXTRACTIVE GOVERNANCE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PROJECT “CAPACITY BUILDING OF ACTORS AND THE LEGAL-INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR TRANSPARENT, EQUITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE MINING”.

Through the APEF Zakouma project implemented in Chad, IUCN supported the process of elaboration and revision of two provincial plans and supported the process of participatory zoning of the peripheral zone (PZ) of the Zakouma National Park (PNZ). With APEF Nord, IUCN facilitated the development of a strategic plan for the conservation and sustainable management of the oasis ecosystems of Borkou in Chad.

The capacity of farmers and partners of 7 communities in the Koya and Barri chiefdoms of Sierra Leone was strengthened. A total of 249 farmers (101 women/girls, 148 men/young boys) were trained on tree species selection, nursery establishment, best conditions for purchasing and transporting plants, transplanting and co-management of plantations.

Capacity building on ROAM IN 3 COUNTRIES (Cameroon, Ghana and Burkina Faso) HAS ENABLED IUCN TO CONTINUE ADVOCATING FOR THE RIGHTS, ROLES, OBLIGATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIFFERENT SOCIAL GROUPS THAT SUPPORT ITS VISION. THIS IS TO ENSURE EQUITABLE AND INCLUSIVE CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF NATURE.

IUCN HAS FACILITATED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENTS TO STRENGTHEN LOCAL GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES AND TECHNICAL INPUTS OF THE UNION ON NATIONAL PLATFORMS SUCH AS THE CREMA TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP AND THE REDD+ SAFEGUARDS SUB-WORKING GROUP IN GHANA.

In Guinea, IUCN initiated the setting up of experimental plots for testing restoration interventions in the buffer zone of the Ziama forest reserve for the benefit of all the local communities. This action was supported by the reception of 5 CERTIFICATES OF PLOTS DONATION CO-SIGNED BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF 15 COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES (MAYORS, DISTRICT HEADS).
The capacities of the region’s stakeholders have been strengthened under the Regional Governance project at various levels for increased contribution to conservation efforts:

- **awarding** of **25 Master's scholarships** to students (20 men and 5 women) from **8 countries** (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Guinea, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Togo) and enrolment in various master’s programmes in protected area management and/or climate change;

- **training of**:
  - **19 actors** from **7 countries** (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Guinea, Mauritania, Niger and Togo) on the management of protected areas during the 17th edition of the University Diploma in Protected Areas Management (DU-GAP);
  - **18 actors** from **5 countries** (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Guinea and Togo) on the domain of “Fight against environmental crime” during the 18th edition of the DU-GAP;
  - **28 people**, members of the national task forces in charge of fighting wildlife crime in ECOWAS countries, from **4 countries** (Benin, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana and Togo).
1.2. Equitable and effective governance of natural resources at all levels for the benefit of human beings and nature

IUCN has supported the strengthening of different types, levels and dimensions of sustainable natural resource governance.

In Guinea Bissau, 125 people from mining sites received specific training on the socio-economic, health and environmental impacts of natural resource exploitation and the application of mitigation measures.

In addition, 330 people from villages impacted by mining projects were trained on citizen watch in terms of transparency, sustainability, environmental protection and sustainable development. This action follows the 4 public hearings organised in the phosphate mining sites of Farim-Salequenhi, Bauxite of Boé, dolerite of Cuntabane-Xitole, construction sand of Caio. The skills acquired are expected to facilitate the effective involvement of communities in the governance of mining and extractive resources.

The regional mechanism for coordination, management and monitoring of protected areas in West Africa (RAPAO) was finalised following a participatory and inclusive process and focused on the choice of the associative model. Also, the actors of the region defined the statutes of the said regional mechanism and established a restricted committee of coordination of the network to conduct the preparatory stage that should lead to the formalisation and the official recognition of the network during a formal constitutive GA.

Actors involved in the fight against environmental crime in the WAP (W-Arly-Pendjari Parks) and PoMoCo (Ponasi Complex - Mole Park - Comoé Park) landscapes have been networked. The aim is to facilitate information sharing and synergies of intervention in the chain of control and monitoring of the fight against environmental crime in the landscapes concerned. At the same time as the actors are being networked, an Information System on Environmental Crime (ISEC) has been developed and integrated into the Observatory for Biodiversity and Protected Areas in West Africa (OBAPAO).
It should progressively receive data made available by field actors involved in the fight against wildlife crime, in order to allow regular characterisation of pressures and threats on biodiversity.

The African Network of Coaches for Protected Area Management Effectiveness (RACEGAP) was established, with the support of BIOPAMA, by protected area management professionals from **26 West and Central African countries**. The mission of this network is to create and promote a framework for certified intervention of coaches in management effectiveness at national, sub-regional and regional levels in partnership with regional observatories (OBAPAO & OFAC) and institutions in each country. It also aims to build the capacity of professionals in the sector in order to improve the management of parks and reserves on the African continent; strengthen the protection of biodiversity and enhance the role of local communities in sustainable development. The network, whose headquarters are in Abidjan, is available to support the various public and private actors, technical and financial partners in making concerted decisions for greater efficiency.

A West African Reference Information System ([https://www.obapao.org/en](https://www.obapao.org/en)) has been launched with the support of the European Commission's Joint Research Centre. Together with the COMIFAC Central African Forest Observatory ([https://www.observatoire-comifac.net/analytical_platform](https://www.observatoire-comifac.net/analytical_platform)), this system constitutes one of the most important databases for the management and governance of biodiversity and protected areas in the region. These platforms will link producers and users of conservation data and ensure the availability of reliable and relevant information for decision-making.

In West Africa, IUCN ensured the transfer of competences between UNEP-WCMC and OBAPAO for the collection of data with the aim of feeding the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA). In this context, **11 countries** (Burkina Faso, Guinea Bissau, Mali, Niger, Togo, Gambia, Cape Verde, Côte d’Ivoire, Guinea, Nigeria and Ghana) have fully updated their data in the WDPA.

IUCN has worked in West Africa, together with the Regional Observatory for Biodiversity and Protected Areas (OBAPAO), on the appropriation by countries of the tool for evaluating the effectiveness of protected areas (IMET). It is within this framework that IMET campaigns for the evaluation of protected areas management effectiveness have been carried out in **4 countries**: Senegal (Joal and Abéné MPAs), Guinea (Tristao and Kapatchez MPAs), Guinea Bissau (Orgango and Cacheu MPAs), and Gambia (Tanbi and Niumi MPAs).

In the same vein, in Central Africa and in collaboration with the Central African Forest Observatory (OFAC), the Union has carried out IMET campaigns to evaluate the effectiveness of protected area management in **6 countries**: **Cameroon** (Dja and Mbankomo Wildlife Reserve), **Equatorial Guinea** (Monte Alen National Park), **Rwanda** (Gishwati-Mukura National Park), **Central African Republic** (Bamingui-Bangoran and Mbaéré-Bodingué National Parks), **Congo** (Ntokou-Pikounda National Park) and **Chad** (Ennedi Cultural and Natural Reserve, Manda National Park, Zakouma National Park, Binder Léré Wildlife Reserve and Ouadi Rimé-Ouadi Achim Wildlife Reserve).

A total of **127 people** (113 men and 14 women) members of the Provincial Action Committee (PAC) and the Departmental Action Committee (CDA) in **3 provinces** of Chad (Salamat, Guéra and Moyen Chari) were trained on the following themes: biodiversity, territorial development, concerted and integrated management of the Greater Zakouma Functional Ecosystem (GEFZ). The beneficiaries will contribute to the conservation of natural resources in the project area and to the integrated and concerted management of its natural resources.

Also, **43 grassroots organisations**, including 16 women’s and 27 mixed organisations, received funding to develop income-generating activities related to the conservation and development of natural resources in the GEFZ.
1.3. Improved implementation and enforcement of the environmental rule of law

IUCN has contributed to the implementation of the additional protocols of the Abidjan Convention and the establishment of legal and legislative frameworks adapted to coastal zone management. These contributions concerned:

- **the amendment** of 16 draft decisions to be submitted to the COP Bureau for validation by the Abidjan Convention’s Committee on Science and Technology (CST) for the technical adoption of the additional protocols action plans;

- **the establishment** of the reference situation of the protocols implementation in 5 countries of the WACA ResIP project (Côte d’Ivoire, Senegal, Benin, Togo and Mauritania);

- **the quality review** of the preliminary drafts of the laws on the coastline of Benin and Togo.

An analysis of the relevant national legal frameworks likely to contribute to the reduction of extinction risks was carried out within the framework of the Regional Governance of Protected Areas project in the 6 countries most affected by extinction problems or which constitute important relays in the trafficking of live protected animals (Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Guinea, Niger and Senegal). Proposals for the improvement and harmonisation of legal frameworks were formulated and made available to the administrations in charge of protected areas in the countries concerned.

In collaboration with IUCN Member CEW, the Union has developed a policy influence plan. This document defines the different actions that will be implemented to improve policies on forest landscape restoration and sustainable forest management.

Aluminium canoe provided by the TRI project in the village of Bolol, Guinea Bissau, © IUCN
IUCN has supported actions to restore ecosystems and degraded lands. A variety of results have been achieved, including:

- the restoration of:
  - 308,64 ha of mangroves in Guinea Bissau, using a mixed approach of manual planting and assisted natural regeneration through breaches opening;
  - 287,20 ha rice fields in Guinea Bissau;
  - 110,46 ha (including 67,3 ha of degraded farmland) in Cameroon;
  - 5 ha of land with 5,000 plants in the village of Gbapleu, Department of Danane in Côte d’Ivoire;
  - 67,3 ha of degraded agricultural land, 39,16 ha of forest land and 4 ha of degraded wetlands (including estuaries and mangroves);
  - 1,261,31 ha of agro-sylvo-pastoral land in 3 countries (Burkina Faso, Ghana and Niger);
  - 135,3 ha of degraded banks of the Black Volta were reforested in Burkina Faso and Ghana;
- the creation of more than 249,75 ha of bamboo and NTFP plantations in Cameroon. This has resulted in the production of over 105,042 plants (46,982 bamboo, 54,060 NTFPs and 4,000 mangroves);
- Training on the application of the Restoration Opportunity Assessment Methodology (ROAM) of:
  - 22 agro-sylvo-pastoral practitioners in 4 countries (Cameroon, Burkina Faso, Ghana and Niger); for advocating for the rights, roles, obligations and responsibilities of the different social groups that support its vision to ensure equitable and inclusive conservation and sustainable use of nature;
  - 151 people from ministries, universities, local and indigenous communities, civil society organisations and decentralised authorities on the KBA approach in Cameroon (24), Nigeria (13), Ghana (38), Côte d’Ivoire (30), Liberia (20) and Sierra Leone (25).

IUCN has developed guidelines for restoration interventions for the integration of agroforestry trees in Gola, Sierra Leone. These guidelines focused on the suitability of endogenous species for community fuelwood, planting of small convenience trees, application of agroforestry techniques, and opportunities for assisted natural regeneration.

In total, 287 ha, i.e. 79,5% of the total mangrove area of the sites of Bolol, Caboxanque, Cadique Nalu, Cadique Maila, Djabada Porto, Djobel and Elia, were restored, with the participation of 449 people from these sites. This brings to 20,5% of the total mangrove area to be restored. As a prelude to the restoration of rice fields, 17 people (NGO animators and producers) were trained in rice field rehabilitation techniques, hydraulic management of rice fields, and the installation of hydraulic works.
IUCN supported the publication of the Atlas of Forest Cover Losses in Cameroon from 2000 to 2017, in collaboration with the Government of Cameroon, the National Observatory on Climate Change (ONAC) and United States Forest Services (USFS).

In addition, IUCN has obtained formal agreement in principle signed by the Ministers of 2 countries (Cameroon and Ghana) to be among the countries worldwide implementing the Bonn Challenge Barometer (BCB) (https://infoflr.org/bonn-challenge-barometer). The BCB tracks the stakeholders involved in forest landscape restoration, the location and quantity of ha of land under restoration, the policies, laws and strategies that support restoration, the financial means available, the planning framework.

Also, 6,000 tree seedlings of various species were delivered to the communities of Boma and Baoma respectively in the chiefdoms of Barri and Koya in Sierra Leone. Practical training in tree planting was provided in the two chiefdoms, and a central location was chosen for the delivery of seedlings to the communities (epicenters of Boma and Baoma).

The management plans of 3 communal forests (Yokadouma, Gari Gombo and Dimako) in eastern Cameroon have been updated to integrate aspects related to biodiversity conservation, carbon stock management, climate change and sustainable forest management. This action is part of the sustainable forest management project under the authority of Cameroonian communes.

Thanks to the BRIDGE project, the following actions have been carried out:

- **5,000 trees planted** on an area of 5 ha, in the village of Gbapleu, sub-prefecture of Kouan Houle in Côte d’Ivoire, on the occasion of the International Environment Day under the theme “Restoration of ecosystems”;
- **2,300 people** on the banks of the Cavally River (Côte d’Ivoire and Liberia) sensitized on deforestation and water degradation due to mining activities;
- **2,340 people** informed and sensitized on water pollution and its impact on the natural ecosystems of the Cavally and Nuon rivers (Côte d’Ivoire);
• 2,675 people (gold miners, fishermen and farmers) living in the Moa/Makona river basin informed and sensitized on water pollution and land and water degradation in Jendema, Koindu and Kabba Ferry districts, Sierra Leone.

Through the BIOPAMA Action Fund Programme, 18 grants were awarded to 8 West African countries (Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo, Côte d’Ivoire, Cape Verde, Benin, Nigeria and Burkina Faso). Similarly, 13 grants were distributed among 5 Central African countries (Burundi, DRC, Congo, Cameroon and Gabon). This makes a total of 31 grants, 15 of which concern the evaluation of 44 protected areas. The BIOPAMA Action Fund supports priority actions in the field of protected and conserved areas, sustainable use of biodiversity, and natural resources.

In West Africa, IUCN awarded four grants to centers and NGOs involved in the translocation and ex-situ conservation of critically endangered species seized in the fight against environmental crime. Eight endangered animal species (Cercopithecus, marine turtles, ostrich, dwarf crocodile and West African crocodile) are benefiting from actions aimed at improving their conservation status. In addition, two doctoral research grants were awarded to strengthen the conservation status of two additional animal species (lion and dama gazelle).

In Ghana, 3,600 kg of improved seeds (maize and soybean) were provided to 1,080 beneficiaries in 36 communities to improve the productivity of agrarian landscapes and provide land-based opportunities. A total of 320 ha of land was planted by the producers.

Furthermore, IUCN is a member of the science-policy platform for biodiversity and ecosystem services in Cameroon. Within this framework, the Union participated in the review and validation of the report of the sectoral footprint study on biodiversity in Cameroon.
2.2. Successful productive landscapes are sustainable and the value and benefits of nature are safeguarded in the long term

In Burkina Faso, **7,56 mt** of improved seeds were provided to **112 households** and **35 organisations** to improve the productivity of agrarian landscapes and provide land-based opportunities. Approximately **300 ha** of land were sown by producers in the Centre-East and Centre-South regions of the country.

In Niger, **8,89 mt of improved seeds** were acquired for the benefit of small producers. A total of **272 producers**, including **51 young people** and **68 women**, benefited from these improved seeds. With a view to improving the productivity of agrarian landscapes, **20 producers**, including **13 women**, were trained in plant production and maintenance techniques.

In an effort to reverse degradation, **540 people** from **12 communities** along the Mouhoun River in Ghana were provided with improved seeds to plant **198 ha** of maize and **120 ha** of soybeans.

Also, **924 producers** and **35 producers’ associations** have been supported with improved agricultural seeds to be planted on an estimated area of **618 ha**, to improve the productivity of agrarian landscapes in Burkina Faso, Ghana and Niger.

A collaboration has been developed between the BBP and BIODEV2030 programmes to enhance soil biodiversity and strategies for its conservation, restoration and management. This collaboration has led to the establishment of a working group including governments and the private sector. This working group produced a work plan to restore and maintain ecosystem services without compromising biodiversity.

In Ghana, the Sahel Opportunities Regional Project enabled IUCN to donate **5,000 fruit tree seedlings** worth **USD 3,359** for planting in communities of the Upper East Region, one of the project’s target areas.

With the GEF/IUCN/MRU project, IUCN facilitated the planting of **5,000 trees** over an area of **5 ha** in the village of Gbapleu in Côte d’Ivoire, on the occasion of the International Environment Day under the theme “Ecosystem Restoration”. The action mobilized **200 people**, including 120 men and 80 women.

In the Gola Landscape of Sierra Leone, the implementing partner of the GEF-IUCN Mano River project has added **700 new farmers** to the planting cycle. These were provided with materials for cocoa nursery development. Some of the cocoa pods were purchased from the communities.

In Burkina Faso, **102 beneficiaries** including **66 women** (65%) and **53 youth** (52%) were trained on the use of best practices in the use of plant protection products and promotion of bio-pesticides. The same applies to **221 farmers** on best agricultural practices in the Districts around the Ziama, Diecké and Nimba massifs in the Mano River Union (MRU).
3. WATER

3.1. The loss of freshwater species and the decline in freshwater ecosystem health ends and restoration begins

IUCN initiated to build the Red List of Ecosystems (RLE) by carrying out a study on endangered ecosystems mainly those relating to the hydrographic basins of the interior delta of Niger, the Lake Chad basin, the Fouta-Djalon massif, the Chari Logone and the Mono.

In collaboration with the Freshwater Biodiversity Unit of the IUCN Global Species Programme, PACO promoted knowledge sharing through the training of 151 people from 6 countries (Cameroon, Nigeria, Ghana, Côte d’Ivoire, Liberia and Sierra Leone). The beneficiaries were drawn from government ministries, universities, local and indigenous communities, civil society organisations and decentralised authorities. Through this training, the IUCN Global Species Programme is ensuring that this knowledge is available to mobilise decision-makers on the implementation of protection, sustainable water management, and restoration of wetlands and rivers.

In Chad, IUCN is accompanying the implementation of the strategic action plan (SAP) of the LCBC through the setting up of income generating activities (IGA) and the fight against invasive plants through the elaboration of a cartography of invasive plants around the Lake Chad basin. Invasive plants have been identified as a major threat to the integrity of the basin by the LCBC in its strategy document.
IUCN has contributed to a better understanding of the challenges of access to water and ecosystem services through a study on "Analysis of vulnerability to climate change and environmental risks, and of the sensitivity of populations and ecosystems to natural resource use conflicts".

The setting up of Local Water Committees (LWCs) has enabled communities to become more involved in the management of the resource. In Ghana, 3 local water committees in the Black Volta have been inaugurated in partnership with the Water Resources Commission (WRC). These are the Kamba 1, Kamba 2 and Sentu-Buli local water committees.

In collaboration with the ORYX network, IUCN Cameroon, through the BRIDGE 4 project, supported the restructuring and revitalisation of the network of water, security and peace actors in the Lake Chad basin.

Through the PREE project, IUCN supported a reflection on the mechanisms for strengthening transboundary cooperation instruments for the management of conflicts related to the exploitation of resources in the Logone sub-basin. The exchanges focused on various points: the promotion and appropriation of best practices, the dissemination and implementation of existing texts and the strengthening of quality data collection systems on fishing practices, the strengthening and expansion of consultation, cooperation and communication frameworks, the diversification of activities to reduce pressure on the Logone River, as well as the harmonisation of administrative and regulatory frameworks and fundraising.

IUCN has also helped protect, restore and promote freshwater systems and habitats by sensitizing 2,640,300 people on the banks of the Cavally River in Côte d’Ivoire and the Nuon River in Liberia on deforestation and water degradation due to mining activities.

Children returning to the village after collecting water for the household, Burkina Faso, © IUCN

3.2. Equitable access to water resources and all related ecosystem services is ensured
4. OCEANS

4.1. The loss of marine species and the decline in the integrity of marine ecosystems is halted and restoration is initiated

A guide for the implementation of soft solutions in particular for MPA practitioners has been developed under the coordination of RAMPAO, within the framework of the WACA FGEF project. This document helps to guide practitioners in reducing the decline of marine and coastal ecosystems.

IUCN carried out prospective diagnoses of the environmental, socio-economic and cultural situation in the priority conservation landscapes - PCL (Southern Rivers: Casamance, Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Grand Mano Grand Saloum). The diagnostic reports have been validated in order to deepen the identified priorities, the establishment and operation of platforms, as well as the activities to be carried out in the marine protected areas.

In addition, four platforms for consultation, exchange and transboundary cooperation have been set up in the four PCLs, with the support of IUCN.

In the Mono Volta Landscape, in view of the size and fragmentation of the mangrove landscapes, two management plans have been carried out on the identified areas, including one in Ghana, with the updating of the management plan for the Anlon Keta Ramsar site.

The PAPBio C1 Mangrove project has established and implemented grant programmes to support local biodiversity conservation and sustainable natural resource development initiatives at the scale of priority conservation landscapes.

4.2. The various uses of natural marine resources have overall positive outcomes for biodiversity and generate benefits that support the livelihoods of coastal communities

Small grants projects have been selected under the mangrove project. National and regional mangrove platforms have been established. They will work together to design and implement strategies that will contribute to the sustainable management and restoration of marine and coastal areas and the livelihoods of marginal communities.
5. CLIMATE

5.1. Countries apply Nature-based Solutions to accelerate effective adaptation to the impacts of climate change

Faced with the drastic reduction in rainfall and the progressive salinization of rice fields, Guinea Bissau, with the support of the Rice and Mangrove project, initiated the distribution of improved rice seeds to producers in Bolol, Caboxanque, Cadique Nalu, Cadique Maila, Djabada Porto, Djobel and Elia. A total of 20,400 mt of KABLAC (15,400 mt) and YAKA SOW (5,000 mt) seeds were distributed. The distributed seeds will contribute to the farmers’ adaptability to the decrease in water volume in the rice fields and to salinization.

In Ghana, IUCN joined representatives from Olam Cocoa, Touton Ghana and the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology to initiate a dialogue and highlight key challenges, existing efforts and opportunities to improve adaptation and resilience in the cocoa sector. IUCN highlighted the key role of Nature-based Solutions to improve adaptation and resilience.

In Cameroon, IUCN assisted MINEPDED in the revision of the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC). This document was capitalised by the Cameroonian delegation during the COP 26 in Glasgow, Scotland.

The Union has also contributed to the planning and mobilization of funds for the development and finalisation of tools (MRV-Measurement, Reporting, Verification, Registry, Safeguards Information System, Emissions Reference Level) in the context of the implementation of the REDD+ process and the Warsaw Framework.
5.2. Countries improve their Nature-based Solutions to meet climate change mitigation targets

Following the launch of the IUCN Global Standard for Nature-based Solutions™ (NbS) in July 2020, in collaboration with the Global Ecosystem Management Programme (GEMP), PACO initiated a capacity building process on NbS in the region, coupled with the implementation of the Standard. IUCN’s support has enabled the self-assessment of the NbS implemented in three pilot sites (Benin, Côte d’Ivoire and Senegal). The results of the self-assessment made it possible to formulate recommendations for improving the processes and ensuring that the NbS deployed benefit both human well-being and nature.

To improve the implementation of Nature-based Solutions in the Volta Basin, 52 executives (including 13 women) from public administrations and civil society in two countries (Côte d’Ivoire and Togo) were trained in the application of the global standards of Nature-based Solutions. These trainings were conducted by IUCN in collaboration with the World Meteorological Organisation, the Volta Basin Authority and the Global Water Partnership for West Africa.

In Mauritania, a database has been set up at the level of the National Agency of the Great Green Wall to centralise all the information on continental wetlands related to the "Adaptation and Resilience to Climate Change" project. The information that will be produced and centralised will contribute significantly to the popularisation of scientific knowledge on Biodiversity. This database will also be available at the level of the Directorate for the Protection and Restoration of Species and Environments at the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, to which the whole wetlands’ theme is attached.
ININVOLVEMENT OF MEMBERS AND COMMISSIONS IN THE PROGRAMME’S IMPLEMENTATION

The Secretariat, the Members and the experts of the Union’s Commissions have been actively involved in the implementation of the IUCN regional programme, taking into account the Union’s “One Programme” approach:

- **9 IUCN Members** (were involved in the implementation of the project “Managing mangroves and production landscapes for climate change mitigation” and contributed to the achievement of encouraging results;
- Participation of **9 IUCN Members** in the regional workshop with OBAPAO National Focal Points where BIOPAMA collaborated with the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA), through its member Harry Jonas, to facilitate a session on other effective area-based conservation measures;
- Initiated collaboration with members of the Species Survival Commission (SSC) including experts from the Translocation Conservation Working Group to provide technical and scientific advice during the selection process for doctoral research grants and grants to ex situ conservation centers;
- Signing of a Memorandum of Collaboration between IUCN-PACO and the Organisation for the Development of the Gambia River (OMVG) for monitoring/advising regarding the environmental impact studies associated with the Sambangalou Hydroelectric Dam.

In Guinea Bissau, IUCN and the National Committee have consolidated regional and national partnerships for better governance of the environment and natural resources. The partnership actions concerned:

- Partnership with the United Nations Forum on Forests: It aims at capacity building of national stakeholders and portfolio development, in particular funding for forest restoration and forest resource governance activities.
- Establishment of a national network of mangrove stakeholders: the initiative brings together 17 NGOs, institutions, stakeholders, projects and programmes working on the mangrove ecosystem. The objective is to exchange and build synergies in order to protect, restore and enhance the mangrove ecosystem, and especially to set up a national platform with a strategy and common action plans.

Consultations were initiated for the inclusion of experts from the IUCN Secretariat and its bodies in the identification, design and programming of activities on the following themes: Nature-based Solutions (NbS); Sustainable Mangrove Management; Monitoring and Treatment of Plastic Waste in Coastal Areas; Green List of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs); Red List of Ecosystems Study.

IUCN Members in Mauritania were involved in the formulation of the projects, notably:

- The formulation of the GCF project “Strengthening Resilience to Climate Change for Communities, Ecosystems and Agro-Sylvo-pastoral Systems in the Brakna Region, Mauritania”;
- The GEF7 Drylands project “Development of an Integrated System to Promote Land Degradation Neutrality in Three Arid Regions of Mauritania”, formulated by BAWA (NAFORE’s consultancy firm);
- Development of the project “Restoring former floodplains for the reinforcement of the resilience to climate change of communities and ecosystems in Mauritania” in partnership with the NGO NAFORE to answer the call of the Innovation Fund for Development.
MAJOR EVENTS

PACO at the World Conservation Congress, Marseille, France

From 3 to 11 September 2021, the Parc Chanot in Marseille hosted the latest IUCN World Conservation Congress. Central and West Africa were strongly represented by their secretariat, members, technical and financial partners and various civil society organisations.

With nearly 6,000 registered participants on site and over 3,500 online, the hybrid event brought together senior officials from government, civil society, indigenous communities, the private sector and higher education and research to collectively decide on actions to address the most pressing conservation and sustainable development challenges. In addition, more than 25,000 people visited the "Pavilions and Exhibition" and the Nature Generations Areas.

A total of a hundred participants from Central and West Africa representing States (4 Ministers), NGOs (54 NGO Members), IUCN partner institutions and resource persons took part. These experts were able to follow presentations and take part in exchanges with the following objectives: to identify and raise awareness on the main challenges of conservation and sustainable use of natural resources in the world as well as in our region, in order to foster a common vision, to share successful experiences in responding to environmental challenges, to ensure effective and equitable governance of its use, and to develop Nature-based Solutions to global climate challenges.

The opening ceremony was presided over by the French President himself, Mr. Emmanuel Macron, who recalled being "very proud that we (France) have, during this year, had to organise the IUCN Congress in Marseille, which creates alliances and where commitments are made. And so, the more we have elements of mobilisation such as the Congress, the more we accelerate, in a way, the march of our action, the capacity to move forward and to keep the pace because the urgency is there. These moments allow us to renew our commitments (...)".

In addition to all the exhibition events, the World Congress was also the occasion to renew the Council of the Union which allowed Mrs. Razan Al Mubarak, from the United Arab Emirates, to become the new President of the Union and Mrs. Gloria Ujor to be one of the 4 Councilors for Africa, Council members 2021–2025. We recall here that the Council is under the authority and direction of the IUCN World Conservation Congress. The role of the IUCN Council is to provide strategic and policy direction for the work of the Union, in accordance with the decisions of the World Congress; to provide oversight and control of the performance of the Union as a whole and of the Director General, seeking to improve coherence between its different components; to discharge its statutory responsibilities to the members of the Union and to report to them on the achievement of the objectives of the Union; to develop policies and guidelines; and to develop statements on important issues and communicate them to IUCN as well as to the world community.

The regional office of IUCN was also strongly attended by several ministers and influential personalities of the region, including the Minister of Environment of Burkina Faso, the Minister of Environment of Mauritania, the Minister of Environment of Niger, the President of ECOWAS, the President of the AfDB.

As a platform for exchange, the Congress created an opportunity to share knowledge and recent experiences on scientific developments, policies and practices in terms of conservation and sustainable use of natural resources in their respective areas. The participants discussed extensively the current environmental problems and especially the opportunities for synergies of actions in the perspective of the post COVID-19 pandemic, which has fundamentally shifted the ontological paradigms of conservation.
In terms of challenges, the participants recognised, for example, the need to develop conservation policies and actions on the ground, based on the most reliable knowledge of biodiversity. For this, it would be necessary to take stock of the development of the Red List of ecosystems and their effective and urgent implementation in the PACO region.

IUCN has also called for a moratorium on seabed mining and taken a neutral position on all aspects of synthetic biology, based on the precautionary principle, until such time as an IUCN policy on the subject is formally adopted. The active participation of indigenous peoples’ organisations, Members of IUCN, has led to the emphasis in many resolutions on the rights of indigenous peoples and their role in conservation.

9 new and urgent motions were adopted, including one proposed by French IUCN Members on the links between pandemics and biodiversity to support the “One Health” approach. Others support the protection of the Amazon by defending the role of indigenous peoples (Avoiding the point of no return in the Amazon by protecting 80% by 2025) and positions to avoid the degradation of emblematic natural sites in the face of major projects (Call for the withdrawal of a proposed fossil fuel exploration permit in the Wadden Sea, a UNESCO World Heritage Site); Protecting the Lower Congo from the construction of large hydroelectric dams; Protecting the Okavango from oil and gas exploitation.

The Congress and beyond, the Marseille Manifesto

The Marseille Congress ended with the elaboration of the Marseille Manifesto which aims, among other things, at:  
1. Respecting and building on the perspectives and capacities of all citizens;  
2. Pursuing collaborations and partnerships;  
3. Countering the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic;  
4. Promoting investment in nature;  
5. Working for a transition to a nature-friendly economy;  
6. Prioritising nature investments that advance social justice and social inclusion.  
Ultimately, the Marseille Manifesto calls for halting biodiversity loss by committing to a transformative, effective and ambitious post-2020 global biodiversity framework.
World Wetlands Day 2021

The day was celebrated under the theme "Wetlands and Water", chosen to recall the importance of these environments in ensuring that humanity has access to sufficient quantity and quality of water for its well-being and that of the planet. In Mauritania, the commemoration by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development and IUCN, in collaboration with its partners and Members, took place thanks to the GEF/NAGGW/IUCN project "Adaptation and resilience of wetlands to climate change". Under the aegis of the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Tamourt En Naaj, one of the project sites classified as Ramsar site in the Tagant region, hosted the event. Several stands and exhibitions had been set up for the occasion, sketches by schoolchildren and songs by the population had also given rhythm to the event. Nearly 400 people took part, including several technical and financial partners (GIZ, BACoMaB, French Development Agency, FAO, Diawling National Park, etc.).

World Environment Day 2021

The commemoration took place in several countries of the region under the theme of landscape restoration. In Guinea, the day was organised under the aegis of five ministers (Environment and Biodiversity, Health, Women and Family, Territorial Administration and Fisheries) and international institutions (UNDP, FAO and World Bank). In Cameroon, in collaboration with IUCN, the Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development and INBAR organised a round table on the use of bamboo and other non-timber forest products for the restoration of degraded landscapes and ecosystems. The event informed policy makers and civil society organisations on the need to harness the potential of bamboo in forest landscape restoration activities.

"Central African Protected Areas: Status 2020"

The event took place online, on 29 June 2021 with over 200 participants. This multi-author document developed under the coordination of the Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC), with funding from BIOPAMA aims to provide relevant knowledge to improve the effectiveness of the management and governance of Protected Areas in the region. The document is available online at: https://www.observatoire-comifac.net/publications/edap

Press caravan in Burkina Faso

it was organised from 10 to 13 February 2021 to disseminate the achievements of the support project for forest-dependent populations in Burkina Faso. Composed of about fifteen journalists from the print, audiovisual and online media, it travelled through three of the 5 regions of intervention of the programme to discuss with the actors the achievements during the 5 years of intervention of the Union.
FINANCIAL SITUATION

The annual budget of the project portfolio of PACO for 2021 was about 20.5 millions CHF of which 62% for the regional programmes and 38% for the country programmes.

To implement the project activities, in addition to the balance of funds from previous year, our region received in 2021 some funds totalling CHF 11.4 million, either directly from our donors or via our Headquarters. Compared to previous year, it is worth noting an important increase of funds from multilateral donors from 56% to 75%. This was indeed related to projects funded by the GEF, European Union and the World Bank via UEMOA.

The sources of funding remain relatively large with about twenty donors. A important increase of the GEF funds was noted due to some newly signed GEF projects which are in addition to those already under implementation.
IUCN PACO continues to work with financial and technical partners for the implementation of its programme. Our main top 5 donors for PACO for the achievement of our objectives are the World Bank for WACA-ResIP, the European Union for PAPBio C1-Mangroves, the Swedish Cooperation for the PREE project, the GEF and the Green Climate Fund for several projects as well as the UNCDD.

Partnership is the main approach that PACO has adopted for the implementation of our programmes:

- The partnership with Wetlands International and Eclosio in the framework of the PAPBio C1-Mangroves project is established and functional. The coordination of the project is effective, even if some concerns of the partners on the governance and the management of the project budgets still need to be addressed for it to be optimal.

- The Ecological Monitoring Centre: this is the main partner in the WACA-WAEMU and WACA-World Bank project.

- The Abidjan Convention is also an implementing partner in the WACA ResIP project on regulatory aspects of West African coastal zone management. Through the PAPBio C1-Mangroves project, MACO is also collaborating with ABC for the drafting and implementation of the protocol on mangrove management and protection.

- PRCM and RAMPAO, which have historical links with IUCN, are privileged partners. This is evidenced by the two memoranda of understanding signed between these NGOs and IUCN and the development of numerous joint projects.

- The Ghana Development Institute is also heavily involved in the implementation of the mangrove project and is partnering with IUCN to organise activities for World Mangrove Day on 26 July 2021.
COMMUNICATION AND PUBLICATIONS

  - French: https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/49538
  - English: https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/49537

  - French: https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/49702
  - English: https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/49701

- The publication *State of protected areas in Central Africa 2020* follows a first edition published in 2015, which has now become the flagship publication on protected areas in the region. 402 p. Written by a group of experts specializing in conservation in Central Africa, with financial support from the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States and the EU, through the BIOPAMA and RIOFAC projects, as well as GIZ.

- Policy Brief: *Saving grazing and rangelands in Burkina Faso* 6p

- Policy Brief: *Preserving grazing and rangelands in Niger* 6p
  - French: https://bit.ly/3ueyZ1A


### Videos

- Cooperation for sustainable management of the transboundary basins of the Mano River Union.
  - French: https://youtu.be/cuyTMpOPYsk
  - English: https://youtu.be/rYs1afHI0VY

- Youth engagement in ecosystem restoration in the Republic of Guinea.
  - French: https://youtu.be/_oH55e3P9nc
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