



SUPPORT PROGRAMME FOR THE PRESERVATION OF FOREST ECOSYSTEMS IN WEST AFRICA

Programme newsletter

May 2023

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PROGRAMME NEWS

PAPFor and WABiLED team up to establish a framework for sustainable forests and cocoa production in West Africa

On 16-17 May 2023, a workshop was organised by EU-PAPFor and USAID-WABiLED in Monrovia, Liberia, to explore initiatives and tools to promote the coexistence of forest conservation and the environmentally friendly development of cocoa in West Africa. The participants discussed and developed recommendations to develop this important agricultural sector sustainably, without contributing further to forest destruction in the region.



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LANDSCAPE NEWS



TGKS

Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire reaffirm commitment to jointly protect transboundary landscape

Stakeholders from Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire pledged to implement initiatives to protect the Tai-Grebo-Krahn-Sapo landscape and its endangered species at 7th bilateral steering committee meeting. They finalised a Memorandum of Understanding and a joint action plan for ongoing and new activities on both sides of the border.

[See more](#)



OKKPS

Introducing farmer-managed natural regeneration technique for resilience and productivity

In March, Wild Chimpanzee Foundation introduced the FMNR technique to a number of communities in the sub-prefecture of Ouré Kaba and Madina Oula. They secured fields, selected tree stumps for regeneration and cleared and prepared the land ready for later planting of crops, promoting a model of ecological agriculture resilient to climate change.

[See more](#)



Cross River

Using radio storytelling to address environmental attitudes and behaviours

Radio drama *My Gorilla My Community* leverages the power of media and storytelling to inspire positive change in attitudes and behaviour towards Cross River gorillas and their habitat. Recorded in a village, the storyline draws on daily life in the target communities, reflecting the culture, conservation realities and challenges in the area, with character stories intermingled with the issues to ensure it stays entertaining.

[See more](#)



WWZ

Field mission observes natural pest management techniques being tested by cocoa farmers

FFI partner Skills and Agricultural Development Services is working with communities in the landscape to test locally sourced alternatives to chemical pesticides. Communities provide the plots, make the pesticides, participate in weekly data collection and maintain the sites. In return, the project provides technical advice and safety materials and equipment for the tests.

[See more](#)



Mount Nimba

Six villages join workshop to discuss Local Development Plans and community measures

Meeting took place to draw up local development plans for six-targeted villages that border the Mount Nimba Integral Nature Reserve (RNIMN). The LDPs will promote data collection using different tools and provide an in-depth understanding of the various socio-economic factors that determine the implementation of more environmentally friendly daily practices.

[See more](#)



Gola-Foya

Pupils and teachers review new teachers' guide for nature clubs in the Gola landscape, Liberia and Sierra Leone

A validation workshop took place in Monrovia for the final review and validation of the Teachers Guide for Nature Clubs. The guide is designed to increase school teachers' knowledge of the topics and provide them with ideas and activities to assist them in developing environmental education lessons.

[See more](#)

BIODIVERSITY FOCUS



Damselflies and dragonflies

There are more than 300 species of Odonata (damselflies and dragonflies) in Upper and Lower Guinea. These large groups of flying insects are excellent indicators of the quality of the environment: their eggs and larvae can only survive in clean water; the adults need prey which in turn depend on many plants.

Although, after butterflies, dragonflies are among the best known insects, there are still many species to be discovered, including in Guinean forests. Several species have been discovered recently and others are still awaiting scientific description.

[See the complete article](#)

ZOOM ON A PROTECTED AREA

Pinselli and Soyah Classified Forests (OKKPS)

The Pinselli and Soyah forests in Guinea are close to each other and to the border with Sierra Leone and Outamba National Park. They consist of dry forests on hilly, rocky terrain at higher elevations, with denser forests forming cooler, wetter environments along rivers. Inventories have confirmed the presence of critically endangered species, including forest elephants, West African chimpanzees, various monkey species, giant pangolins and various species of bovids. There are also some leopards and lions left. The OKKPS landscape is unique among the landscapes supported by PAPFor for hosting species typical of forests, savannahs and transition zones, one of its main conservation values.



[See the complete article](#)



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