



Summary

The FFI/ Darwin Initiative Project aims to reduce threats to biodiversity in the Nimba Mountains, by seeking a united view of the biodiversity governance required for sustainable development, sustainable livelihoods and conservation of biodiversity.

The main output is intended to be a Collaborative Management Framework (CMF) endorsed by stakeholders in Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea and Liberia and based on agreed principles and objectives.

The project has three main “pillars”:

1. Sharing of data, information and experience to support effective collaboration.
2. Stakeholder inclusion –understanding who to involve and how to work with them.
3. Governance - developing a common approach to planning for biodiversity that can be endorsed by the 3 participating countries.

This report relates to the second of these: stakeholder inclusion. It presents the results of a stakeholder mapping process carried out for the project and makes recommendations concerning engagement with stakeholders. This includes efforts to:

- Develop stakeholder networks, including representatives from *inter alia* ministries, mining companies, local and international NGOs and the communities concerned.
- Create a ‘safe space’ in which stakeholders feel able to discuss potentially conflicting objectives and reach agreement concerning priorities, possibly through thematic working groups.
- Carry out a participatory Strategic Environmental Assessment to provide understanding of management objectives against a background of cumulative threats and pressures;
- Engage in capacity building and technical underpinning and provide assistance in developing practical and regulatory EIA capacity.

The report outlines key issues relating to stakeholder identification and engagement in each country. Guinea and Cote d'Ivoire are considered together.

Stakeholder engagement and Community Issues

During this process, the following issues were identified as key to the conservation of Nimba:

- the problem of demarcation of the limits or boundaries of protected areas (including the World Heritage Site);
- challenges of achieving sustainable management with community involvement due to the large number of communities involved;
- coordinating actions at tri-national level;
- respect for tradition as it plays an important role in cross border conflict resolution;
- achieving more sustainable projects and conservation action;
- reaching consensus about conservation management in a tight timeframe, before biodiversity values are lost or damaged.

CONTENTS

Summary 1
Stakeholder engagement and Community Issues..... 2

Part 1 Liberia 4
Background 4
Summary of approach to stakeholder mapping..... 4
Government..... 5
Communities 8
NGOs 12
Companies 12
Other stakeholders 13

Part 2 Guinea and Côte d’Ivoire 14
Overview and key challenges 14
Summary of approach to stakeholder mapping..... 15
Government..... 15
Communities 19
NGOs 20
Companies 22

Appendix A 23
Appendix B 27
Appendix C: results of selected community meetings in Liberia 30

Part 1 Liberia

Overview and key challenges

The main protected area on the Liberian side of the Nimba Massif is the East Nimba National Nature Reserve (ENNR), one of the two formally protected areas in Liberia¹.

The law designating the reserve² was signed by outgoing President Moses Blah three days before the transitional government of Gyude Bryant took office in October 2003. The area was not clearly demarcated at the time and there remains uncertainty about some of the proposed coordinates (one of those included in the Act is actually over the border in Guinea). The degree of stakeholder consultation prior to the creation of this park is not known but was probably limited given the end of war circumstances.

Summary of approach to stakeholder mapping

During January and February 2010, the Liberian Darwin team undertook an additional stakeholder mapping exercise in Monrovia and Nimba County. The activities were centred around three key groups: Government, Civil Society (including NGOs) and Private sector stakeholders.

For the purposes of the Darwin Nimba project, meeting with *government* institutions at County and local level is important because of their key role in decisions about development and land use. Meetings were therefore held to introduce the project to the County authorities in Sanniquellie.

The government institutions were engaged through group discussion under the umbrella of the superintendent's office. In the meeting, the representatives of each of the government institutions present were given the opportunity to briefly talk about their mandate within the county after the mission team gave an overview of the Darwin project.

Initial meetings were held with representatives from the Zortapa, Geipa, Dulay and Lugbeyee communities to introduce the project. Some meetings were also held with selected NGOs which are active in Nimba (the meeting with the STEWARD contact person was held in Lola (Guinea) with a joint team comprised with Gondo Gbanyangbe and the Liberian team). Achieving effective coordination of NGO and community-based initiatives was highlighted as a key challenge. The need to respect tradition is another key consideration as it plays a role in cross border conflict resolution.

Several meetings have been held with private sector stakeholders in Liberia and in the UK to discuss scope for sharing data and to initiate discussion about management planning.

¹ A Nature Reserve is defined in the Act for the Establishment of a Protected Forest Area Network (2003) as "an area that does not represent a complete ecological unit, legally set-aside for the preservation and enjoyment of features that have outstanding natural beauty, cultural or biological significance, which may require some management intervention"

² An Act for the Establishment of the East Nimba Nature Reserve, published by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Monrovia, November 4, 2003.

Government

Liberia's national government comprises popularly-elected executive and legislative branches, the latter composed of a bicameral National Assembly consisting of the Senate (30 seats with members elected by popular vote to serve nine-year terms) and the House of Representatives (64 seats; members elected by popular vote to serve six-year terms). The country operates a dual system of statutory law based on Anglo-American common law for the modern sector and customary law based on unwritten tribal practices for the indigenous sector.

In terms of local government, Liberia comprises 15 administrative counties, each headed by a Superintendent and further divided into Districts, each under a District Commissioner. Each District is sub-divided into Chiefdoms headed by a Paramount Chief, and each Chiefdom is divided into Clans headed by Clan Chiefs and sub-Clan Chiefs, with urban Clans headed by Town Chiefs. The clan areas were originally related to tribal sub-groupings and whilst this still largely applies, increasing urbanisation and civil war has disrupted this pattern and Clans are now defined as administrative units.

There are several ministries and agencies making up the Liberian government. At national level the main relevant ministries are:

- Ministries of Lands, Mines and Energy.
- Ministry of Agriculture.
- Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs (MPEA).
- Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA).
- Ministry of Education (MOE).
- Gender Ministry (MoG).
- Labour Ministry (MoL).

Key departments and agencies are:

- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- The Forest Development Agency (FDA).
- Land Commission.

Other important departments include:

- General Service Agency (GSA).
- Liberia Institute of Statistical Geographical Information System (LISGIS).

Other governmental institutions with environment-related responsibilities include the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Public Works, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Liberia Water and Sewer Corporation and the Liberia Electricity Corporation.

The relevant interests of some of these ministries, departments and agencies are described in more detail below.

Ministry of Agriculture

The Ministry of Agriculture regulates the forestry, fishery and agriculture sectors and has specific responsibilities for soil conservation. Some water resource matters used to be managed by the National Water Resources and Sanitation Board prior to the civil war, and proposals have recently been made for its re-establishment. It plans, executes, administers, manages and supervises agriculture programmes and provides extension services, trains

local farmers in improved cultural practices, and supplies farm inputs to enhance food security.

 Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs (MPEA)

The Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs (MPEA) coordinates the development of policies, plans and programmes for the economic, financial, social, cultural and physical development of Liberia. In fulfilling its various duties it serves as the direct link between implementing Ministries/Agencies, NGOs, private voluntary organisations, and the international community. Coordination occurs at the national, sectoral and regional planning levels and also involves the implementation of cross-cutting initiatives.

 Ministry of Rural Development

The Ministry of Rural Development integrates developmental activities with rural activities. It is in charge of the development of farm to market and feeder roads, provides safe drinking water to rural communities and is involved in rural planning and low-cost housing projects for the acceleration of rural development, including rural energy generating activities.

 Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA)

The MIA is the chief overseer of all administrative activities of the County and has initiated a coordination meeting with all the institutions working within Nimba County. They make sure all developmental activities are carried out in line with the PRS and are appropriately managed within the administrative chain of command. Information is disseminated down through administrative levels as follows: paramount chief, clan chief, general town chief, town chief, headman/youth and women. A regular concessional meeting has been held since 2009 based on information sharing among companies and the county authorities. The members are MIA, BHP Billiton, Mittal and Cocopa (LIBCO). In the development planning meetings, there is participation of all relevant county stakeholders and everybody discusses the needs and priorities as they relate to the 17 districts, 5 statutory districts, 6 cities and 6 townships. The County Development Steering committee (CDSC) is built on four pillars: Security (chaired by the Superintendent of the county), Infrastructure and Basic services (chaired by ministry of public works), Economic revitalization (MoA and Labour), Governance and rule of Law (County Attorney).

 GSA

Responsible for the management of all Government assets in the county and monitoring their usage. Coordinates and acts on the leasing of government properties in the county. Undertakes periodic audits of stock/supplies on GoL assets and ensures that nothing is taken out of the country illegally.

 MoG

Monitoring and coordinating the welfare of women, men and children development. Following up on Gender Base Violence (GBV) and child abuse cases and reporting to relevant institutions within the county.

 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

The EPA is an autonomous statutory body, established under the Act Creating the Environmental Protection Agency of the Republic of Liberia 2003, hereafter referred to as

the EPA Act, to address the country's environmental problems. The EPA is an autonomous agency under the President with a Policy Committee chaired by the minister for Lands Mines and Energy. Its mandate was subsequently confirmed when the EPA became a fully functioning entity in 2006, with the appointment of a board of directors and establishment of a Policy Council.

The EPA was established to "coordinate, monitor, supervise and consult with relevant stakeholders on all activities in the protection of the environment and sustainable use of natural resources" and as the lead national environmental agency is charged with executive authority for all environmental activities and programmes relating to environmental management in Liberia (GoL, 2003a, s. 5).

The EPA works in line with the new mining and the new forestry reform laws. It also has a key responsibility for matters relating to the issuing of an environmental impact assessment license and for compliance monitoring relating to environmental regulations and standards.

County and district level committees

In support of the establishment of the EPA, the EPA Act (GoL, 2003a) also established County and District Level environmental committees, responsible for the local delivery of national environmental policy and priorities. In a move towards a more bottom up approach, a key function of the committees is to articulate local level environmental issues to the EPA who in turn are charged with formulating and passing on a relevant response for local level implementation.

In addition, under Section 20 and 21 of the EPA Act (GoL, 2003a), the EPA is mandated to appoint environmental inspectors within districts to monitor the implementation of environmental standards as established under the EPML (GoL, 2003b). The power of these inspectors is wide ranging and includes the provision to close "any manufacturing plant, establishment or other activity which pollutes or is likely to pollute the environment, contrary to the provisions of the Act" (GoL, 2003a).

The Forestry Development Authority (FDA)

The FDA was established in 1976 and was historically the government agency with primary responsibility for environmental management in Liberia. Now an autonomous body, the FDA has responsibility for the protection, management and conservation of government-owned forests and wildlife on a sustainable basis. It provides long- and middle-range planning in the forestry sector as well as preparing forestry policy, law and administration. It exercises control of the commercial use of state-owned forests through the granting of concessions, supervises adherence to forest legislation and concession agreements, calculates and determines forestry fees, evaluates investment proposals, executes reforestation and forest research and training and monitors activities of timber companies. Specific responsibility for development and management of protected areas and wildlife lies with the Division of Wildlife and National Parks, a section of the FDA created in 1988 (GoL, 1988).

LISGIS

Provides information on the population to support decision making. The Poverty Participatory Assessment (PPA) 2007 helps to solicit views on poverty, conditions perceived as poverty. It targeted Women, Men, Children and Elderly. As result, the country came up with the Poverty Reduction Strategy- "Lift Liberia High".

 Land Commission

Supervision of all public lands with no deal signed in the county. Sense then work with tribal and city authorities. They deal with the superintendent office directly. Responsible to prepare public land documents. Certificate purchase order to the revenue. Work with the county surveyor and Attorney.

 MoL

Inspectors of the county work force. Ensuring cordial relationship between employees and employers As a result of the survey conducted by LISGIS on Unemployment rate within the county, employed/hired 40 able men to clean Sanniquellie city (Dec 2009-June 2010).

 MOE

Provides education for the youth of the county and expertise in capacity building. In partnership with LISGIS conducted the county survey that gave 12 educational districts. Since 2009, a quarterly meeting with all districts Educational officers (DEO) was initiated. The county is planning to build 12 junior colleges; therefore the county needs qualified teachers.

Communities

It is essential to gain a good understanding of community concerns and interests in the management of the Nimba Mountains. If the communities involved with the Massif are not involved in the process from the beginning, it will be difficult to gain their commitment or achieve active engagement in the management framework. It is important that any management framework or governance platform should reflect the need to integrate traditions and culture. There is already a connection between communities on the Liberian side of the Nimba Massif with communities in the other two countries and this connection can play an important part in building collaboration.

Communities have a very active and important role in local level resource management through traditional systems and practices. At the lowest level of local administration, power and decision-making is in the hands of traditional tribal authorities. The highest rank is that of Paramount Chief who is responsible for the actions of a number of Clan Chiefs. The Paramount Chief is elected by the chiefs and elders but serves at the discretion of the President, who may veto the election. The Council of Elders (elderly, respected community members) must be consulted on important matters. The Paramount Chief has responsibility for enforcement of tribal customs, aspects of law and order, collection of taxes by lower rank chiefs, and promotion of agriculture, industries, trade and welfare.

It is difficult to judge the power of the chiefs, who remain strongly influenced by the secret societies (Poro/Sande) in relation to observance of tribal customs. Chiefs are not government employees, but retain a portion of taxes for their services and for local projects. Traditionally, their power is largely determined by their control (not ownership) of land. The interactions between the State and its institutions with the traditional tribal institutions and practices are regulated by the *Hinterland Laws 1949* (GoL, 1949).

There are approximately³ 57 settlements within the project's area of interest though only about 13 of these (see Table 1 below) are situated beside the Nimba Massif. For the most part these are traditional rural settlements with village-level governance embodied in the position of the town⁴ chief. Two notable exceptions beside the Massif are the modern settlements of Yekepa and Camp 4, which were established as part of previous mining operations of LAMCO. Because of their history of attracting immigrants from across Liberia, these two settlements are much more ethnically diverse than the rural communities. Most rural communities are either Mano or Gio though some may have 'outsider' inhabitants from other ethnic backgrounds. The Mano settlements are numerically more important in the area of interest. The Gio (also known as Dan or Yacouba) communities are clustered around the southeast section of the Nimba massif around the Ivoiran-Liberian border. Historically relations between the Gio and Mano are very close.

Most rural livelihoods within the project area are based around upland rice swidden farming typically including some tree crops (such as rubber, cocoa and palm oil) and sometimes lowland swamp rice farming. Incomes from locally practised non-farm activities such as food processing or artisanal mining and in some cases remittances from household members living away are also essential components of local livelihoods. The number and internal diversity of communities in terms of their histories and degrees of engagement with the natural resources of Nimba poses a challenge in terms of gaining a generic overview of key issues.

It is not possible within the remit of this project to engage in detailed discussion with each community. The Darwin Nimba project is currently evaluating the suitability of using existing community engagement forums within the area of interest. The focal communities most directly implicated in the platform will initially be those immediately around the Massif plus those around an area under consideration for a potential mining biodiversity offset. Both the ENNR and ArcelorMittal have established dialogue forums with these communities that may be appropriate entry points. It is however anticipated that some biodiversity management subjects will require initiating specific forums that are more conducive to bringing together key stakeholders, e.g. to address chain-sawing and artisanal mining issues.

The number and variety of communities represented creates a challenge in terms of gaining a generic overview of key issues. It is not possible within the remit of this project to engage in detailed discussion with each community. We have therefore attempted to identify key groups or organisations which might be able to represent communities' interests within the project.

³ This figure is approximate because of on-going processes of settlement fission (and sometimes fusion) of former hamlets with an accompanying unclear process of official recognition.

⁴ In Liberian English, a town is the equivalent to a village.

Table 1 List of Focal Communities within the Liberian Project Area

Mountainside Towns (in clockwise order around Liberian sector)	
Setontuo	1
Dulay	2
Geipa	3
Yolowee	4
Zortapa	5
Zolowee	6
Gbapa	7
Bassa-village	8
Grass-field	9
Cassava-farm	10
Leagbala	11
Camp 4	12
Yekepa	13
Potential Communities where a biodiversity offset might be considered	
Bolo	
Lugbeye	
Bonlah	
Bentor	
Vanyanpa	
Gbapa	

Recent History of Community Engagement

Due to a civil crisis along the Liberian-Ivorian border in the period leading up to the creation of the ENNR, only minimal fieldwork was possible to determine the most appropriate area to gazette in terms of biodiversity value. There was also relatively little consultation with local communities. A simple line around the Massif appears to have been used as the basis for the Meets and Bounds enshrined in the ENNR Act, and there are several incongruities in the area defined:

- it incorporates the old LAMCO Nimba mine workings as well as a degraded Gmelina, teak and pine plantation;
- it does not appear to be contiguous with the East Nimba National Forest, thereby leaving an unclear narrow strip of land between them; and
- it includes some farmed areas and habitations.

At the same time as the ENNR was signed, another piece of legislation, the Act for the Establishment of a Protected Forest Area Network was also signed. This requires (under Section 9.3) prior biological assessment and consultation of the views of local communities before the creation of a protected area. This has never been completed.

The legacy of the hasty approach taken in the establishment of ENNR is still felt today. In February 2008 a conflict occurred between members of Zor clan and FDA employees attempting to demarcate the ENNR. Demarcation activities were subsequently stopped and the Land Rights and Community Forestry Program (LRCFP), a USAID funded project implemented by Associates for Rural Development (ARD) was invited to focus their activities in the surrounding area.

Since June 2008 the LRCFP has been working with communities around ENNR at the natural resource (NR) governance level, stimulating partnership formalisation between community-based organisations (CBOs) and various NR and economic actors such as the FDA and county officials.

Through this initiative LRCFP has worked to gain the trust of the communities affected by the status and management of the ENNR with a view to becoming “honest brokers” between the communities and the FDA. During this time, the ENNR boundaries have not been resolved, though an important landmark was reached in November 2009, when the communities of Geipa, Yolowee and Zortapa wrote to the FDA asking them to restart the reserve delimitation exercise under certain conditions. Important conceptual differences however appear to exist as to the future status of the park boundary: there is no official buffer zone, but farming occurs within the original boundaries and the notion of any co-management seems contentious in some FDA circles.

The LRCFP project is due to end in May 2010 and unless an extension is granted, demarcation is unlikely to be completed with their involvement. It should however be noted that this demarcation issue concerns only the eastern side of the reserve. Latent unresolved issues along the western side, where for example a hamlet was quietly abandoned as a result of the FDA’s original demarcation attempts, are however thought likely by LRCFP staff to emerge in the near future.

The LRCFP have invested in the necessary slow and patient stakeholder engagement process that is a pre-requisite for building sustainable resource management around ENNR. Hopefully the solid platform they have built will be secured through continuation funding and the Darwin Initiative team were lead to believe that the project donors are trying to achieve this. As part of their work, the LRCFP have undertaken a biodiversity threat analysis with local communities⁵.

The ENNR incorporates the former LAMCO Nimba mine road infrastructure, which is still in good repair and makes access by foot across the Nimba ridge to and from Yekepa, the former mining town, particularly easy. Yekepa is slowly returning to its former economic vibrancy as ArcelorMittal’s activities gear up. Its large population (5,149⁶) is made up primarily of former mine workers and others who moved in during the 20 years since LAMCO left. Three kilometres down the road, Yekepa has a spillover settlement for those who didn’t work directly for LAMCO, known as Camp 4 (population 729).

Some of the population from Yekepa and Camp 4 farm the surrounding area, including land that falls within ENNR boundaries e.g. at Gornokollie (which means ‘in search of food’ in Kpelle). Land governance around these Yekepa and Camp 4 is not known, but is potentially more amorphous than in the established local villages given the unique history of a small village (the original Yekepa (Yeki’s Town)) being displaced by a large planned mining town

⁵ The report was not yet available as of January 2010.

⁶ This and the following population figure for Camp 4 originate from the AML socio-economic baseline report (May, 2009) which was written before the 2008 census figures were available.

which boomed, overspilled and busted with accompanying population flows. The boundaries of this sector of the ENNR have yet to be demarcated and are probably of low priority given the visible mining legacy. However, farming and use of these nearby forests will probably increase when mining starts and this may put pressure on the core biodiversity areas of the reserve.

ArcelorMittal's community development team has been working in and around their planned mine sites on Mounts Tokadeh, Gangra and Yuelliton as well as in Yekepa town since mid 2008. The team based in Yekepa is however small (three people) in relation to their area of responsibility and the size of the population within it (their area also includes the rail side communities within Nimba County). Though they have achieved a lot, biodiversity concerns are understandably of low priority to them (except in understanding potential losses of natural resources used by communities through mine development activities). The ArcelorMittal environment team is even smaller (1 person at Yekepa) and is charged primarily with environmental monitoring. Unlike LRCFP however, AML is expected to be working with local communities adjacent to Mount Nimba for a much longer period: the duration of its mining license is 25 years from 2007.

In addition to LRCFP and AML, a number of smaller scale community engagement activities have occurred over the last few years around Liberian Nimba, sometimes implemented by local NGOs such as ARS (Agricultural Relief Services) or by larger programmes, e.g. the Sustainable Tree Crops Programme. Given the scale and often narrow focus of their activities, these projects have not so far been considered in this review. It is important to note that both AML and LRCFP are or will implement some of their activities in conjunction with sub-contracted local NGOs.

NGOs

The main NGOs active in the area are identified in Appendix B. They include:

International NGOs:

- Conservation International (a partner in the project)
- Fauna and Flora International (the main implementing body for the project)
- Land Rights and Community Forestry Program (LRCFP), a USAID funded project implemented by Associates for Rural Development (ARD)

National NGOs and CBOs

- Liberia Democratic Institute (was part of the process of designing the project)
- Society for the Conservation of Nature of Liberia (First national environmental NGO in Liberia)
- Rural Integrated Centre for Community Empowerment (is implementing an UNDP funded project in communities adjacent to ENNR)
- Society for Environmental Conservation (is replicating a keystone project implemented at Sapu to ENNR called "Revamping Traditional Conservation")
- Site Support Group (was established by SCNL in Zortapa to continue the monitoring of ENNR alongside with FDA)

Companies

Arcelor Mittal and BHP Billiton are major stakeholders for this initiative due to their impact on Nimba's biodiversity and through the roles they play in the region and in the communities where they are based through developing the economy and employment and capacity building.

Arcelor Mittal, Iron ore mining.

ArcelorMittal is one of the three main private sector companies operating in Nimba County. Arcelor Mittal is contributing to the county development fund that is given to Nimba County every year. Arcelor Mittal has also undertaken comprehensive biodiversity surveys and is now engaged in additional ecological surveys through Conservation International. This includes a study on bushmeat hunting. The recommendations resulting from these studies will outline mitigation measures which are intended to form part of action plans which will feed into an overall Environmental Management Plan (EMP). Arcelor Mittal is an active member of the concessional meeting initiated by the office of the superintendent. The monthly concessional meeting is rotational and helps to share information so as to promote transparency and accountability.

BHP Billiton, Mining of Iron ore, Exploration and extraction.

BHP is also one of the active members of the monthly concessional meeting which is held every first Friday of each month. In order to prevent illegal extraction of timber in its operation areas, BHP is actively collaborating with the FDA in reinforcing the law. The company has submitted a briefing note on its Environmental Management Plan to the Ministry of Lands, mines and Energy (MLME). Negotiation is ongoing for signing a contract with an institution that has expertise in ecological studies. The Darwin team will participate in the coming concessional meeting scheduled for May 7, 2010.

Cocopa (LIBCO)

Cocopa is the biggest rubber company of Nimba County. LIBCO is the buyer of all rubber produced by the small and large holders (plantations) of the region. The increase in the price of rubber on the market is raising the need of creating more plantations in the County.

Other stakeholders **United Nations Development Program**

UNDP is a supporting arm to the Environmental Protection Agency and the Forestry Development Authority when it comes to government agencies capacity building and the sponsoring of national events such as world environmental day and National Tree Planting Day. Through its small grant program (SGP) lot of national NGOs are given funding to implement biodiversity related projects in communities adjacent to East Nimba Nature Reserve (ENNR).

 **World Bank**

In Liberia, the WB is recognized through its enormous effort in providing funding to government agencies of the forest sector and International NGOs for the creation and the management of protected areas (PAs). As one of the recent role WB is playing in Liberia is its active implication in the REDD process as member of the Carbon working group.

Part 2 Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire

Overview and key challenges

Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire have the majority of the land area of the Nimba Mountains and also have some of this area included in the UNESCO World Heritage Site designated in 1991.

Since the 1st February 2010 CEGENS & the Ivoirian Office of Park and Reserves (OIPR), have taken actions to identify the main stakeholders in Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire, focusing on three main groups: governmental actors, civil society (local communities and NGOs) and the private sector.

During this process, the following issues were identified as key to the conservation of the entire Reserve of Nimba:

- the problem of demarcation of the limits or boundaries of the reserve (a particular issue for Bossou);
 - challenges of achieving sustainable management of the Dere Forest (Guinea);
 - challenges of managing the Bossou Hill Chimpanzee population (Guinea),
 - Some management difficulties of Nimba for OIPR (Côte d'Ivoire).
1. The failure to demarcate clearly the limits of the Biosphere Reserve has created problems of conflict with communities, particularly with respect to preservation of habitat for the Bossou chimpanzees.
 2. The Dere Forest (Guinea)
Dere Forest is a large area of forest between Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire, called Tiapleu Forest in Côte d'Ivoire and managed by the Forest Development Company (SODEFOR). This forest is being seriously degraded as a result of recent influx of people from Côte d'Ivoire who are living around the site. Rapid deforestation is taking place and if nothing is done, there will be no forest remaining within the next ten years. This is of critical importance as this is a strict conservation area, part of the Nimba Biosphere reserve and including the Bossou Hill. There are two main problems:
 - i) While the Dere Forest is strictly protected in Guinea, this is not the case in Côte d'Ivoire, where SODEFOR is able to extract timber for commercial use;
 - ii) Border conflicts between Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire, both of which already have internal difficulties in the region;
 3. Bossou Hill of Chimpanzees (Guinea)
The issues of Bossou Hill are centred on the survival of the Chimpanzees, the protection of their habitat, and some assistance to the local communities. According to the head of IREB (the national Institute in charge of the management of the area) at least 6 of the chimps are now over 50 years old, about the maximum of age for these species. Therefore, it becomes necessary to build the corridor between Bossou and Mount Nimba as soon as possible. The development of this corridor in addition to the land taken off from communities has added to conflict with the conservation bodies. Therefore, actions such as those in favour of local communities specifically those cleared off from the hills,

tree nursery for the corridor, and support for more research on the chimps, assistance for eco-tourism.

4. Management difficulties of Nimba for OIPR (Côte d'Ivoire)

In Côte d'Ivoire, one of the main management challenges is the fact that the Western part of the country is under control of a rebel group. There is considerable current opposition to conservation as a result of the pressure that made Tata Steel retire from Côte d'Ivoire.

Summary of approach to stakeholder mapping

In order to obtain confidence of stakeholders and achieve ownership and engagement in the project, a series of meetings were held, following initial contact by phone or e-mail. For organisations based in the field, initial contacts were made with the formal division or National Director or with the relevant county authority before meeting.

During each meeting, we started by introducing the team, explaining the purpose of the Darwin project and then gave an opportunity for other participants to talk about their organisation, mission, objectives and any work plan.

We discussed opportunities for further engagement and collaboration. Where possible, one person has been identified as a future contact person/ point of contact to facilitate future discussions and meetings.

Government

Who are the stakeholders?

In Guinea, several ministries and agencies are active in the area of interest. The following have been identified as key stakeholders:

- 🚧 Environmental Management Authority for Mounts Nimba and Simandou (CEGENS).
- 🚧 The Scientific Station of Mounts Nimba (SSMN).
- 🚧 The Environmental Research Institute of Bossou (IREB).
- 🚧 The Fauna & Forest Development authority (DNFF).
- 🚧 The University of N'Zerekore (CUZ).
- 🚧 The Biodiversity and Protected Areas Authority.
- 🚧 The Bureau of Strategy.
- 🚧 The National Committee for MAB Unesco.
- 🚧 The Agriculture, animal breeding and local development county authority.

In **Cote d'Ivoire**, there are four main government institutions that work directly or indirectly at Mounts Nimba and the Dere-Tiapleu Forest:

- 🚧 The Ivoirian Office of Parks and Reserves – OIPR.
- 🚧 The Fauna and Cynegetics Resources Management Authority.
- 🚧 The Nature Protection Authority.
- 🚧 SODEFOR.

Interests and relevant activities: possible contributions or roles

- 🚧 Environmental Management Authority for Mounts Nimba and Simandou (CEGENS);

This is a government institution and is responsible for the environmental planning and management of the mineral-rich Nimba Mountains and Simandou in Guinea. CEGENS is a key partner of the project in Guinea.

Recently the government decided that CEGENS' mandate should be further expanded to include that of the mountain ecosystems nationwide. This unique position makes CEGENS a particularly interesting partner for the project and for the mining companies in Guinea. In addition to its coordination role, CEGENS is specifically required to establish and maintain an ecological monitoring network to track and report on the impacts of anthropogenic factors (and also climate change) on the physical environment at Nimba and elsewhere. Since 2004 and with support from various donors, CEGENS and FFI have been collaborating to tackle hunting and trade in bushmeat around Nimba through direct engagement with stakeholders. CEGENS played a central role in the organisation of the second trans-boundary meeting held in NZerekore in Southern Guinea in 2002 and which brought together stakeholders from Guinea, Cote d'Ivoire and Liberia.

Currently, CEGENS is working in partnership with OIPR (the Ivoirian Office of Parks and Reserves) to continue this tri-national initiative. Also, CEGENS is working towards the protection and reforestation of the Dere forest in partnership with the protected area authorities in Cote d'Ivoire.

- 🚧 The Scientific Station of Mounts Nimba (SSMN);

This is the second government institution working at Nimba and under the responsibility of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research. Its main areas of responsibility are:

- research and study on the climate, the Fauna & Flora and the soils of Nimba;
- scientific surveillance;
- ecological monitoring ;
- socio-economic study;
- ethno botanic research; and
- community engagement.

This institution, with its core technical unit, has been working for a very long period of time doing research at Nimba and many of documents published on Nimba since 1944 relate to research carried out there. The Station is currently researching possible community-based solutions to problems such as bush meat hunting, for example snail farming. The Station works in partnership with different scientific institutions like the University of Faranah (Forestry Department) and brings students to carry out research projects based at Nimba. Topical subjects are chosen and groups of about 10 students are accepted to carry out the research. The Station has a key capacity building role and also holds a lot of data.

 The Environmental Research Institute of Bossou (IREB);

This is the third government institution working at Nimba, under the responsibility of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research. It is based at Bossou and is responsible for:

- safeguarding the World Heritage Site of Nimba;
- establishing a maintenance and protection strategy for the Chimpanzees of Bossou;
- developing a research project on tropical ecology and the ecotourism for a sustainable development at Nimba; and
- ecological monitoring and scientific surveillance at Nimba.

This institution is working specifically on protection of the Chimpanzees of Bossou and their habitat. IREB works in collaboration with the University of Kyoto (KUPRI) in Japan doing research on the chimpanzees and they celebrated their 30 year anniversary (in 2006).

Due to the limited number and recent reduction of the number of the chimpanzees, IREB is currently working to establish a corridor between the Bossou Hills and Central Nimba in order to facilitate communication and movement between the populations. However there is resistance from local communities who are not willing to quit their land without having an alternative and there is already strong competition for limited land in the area.

 The Fauna & Forest Development authority (DNFF);

The DNFF is a government institution that is in charge of the implementation of government policy concerning forest, water and fauna. Specifically, they are responsible for:

- planning and implementing strategies and the national fauna and forestry resources management programme ;
- establishing the national programme for defense, restoration, conservation of water and soil and prevent bush fire;
- implementing partnerships with NGOs, CBOs and other associations interested in forestry development and monitoring the implementation of international conventions;
- coordinating the national desertification mitigation programme;
- coordinating the establishment and implementation of laws concerning the fauna and flora in the country; and
- co-ordinating the process of community forest, protected area establishment and tree nursery for restoration of forest.

This institution is the much biggest in the country and is represented all over the country at a village level. It has many technical staff and is the main qualified governmental institution in forestry that can help in activities such as demarcation of limits for the Nimba reserve and most of the forestry specialist work that might be required.

 The University of N'Zerekore (CUZ)

This is a public university established by the Government in this county specifically as support to scientific activities at Mounts Nimba and Ziama Biosphere Reserve. The university is more focused on Environment and Natural Resources Management and is currently preparing to start a Master's Programme in this field of study.

They were very pleased to hear about the Darwin Initiative and are keen to establish and sign a partnership agreement with CEGENS to support the initiative and participate in the platform. They offered services of their researchers and students for the implementation of some specific research and assessment on any aspect of biodiversity at Nimba.

 The Biodiversity and Protected Areas Authority;

This government institution is the one that is responsible for the management of the entire protected areas and biodiversity over the country. Like the OIPR in Cote d'Ivoire their work is to maintain, restore the integrity of biodiversity within all the National Park. They are also responsible for managing the fauna and flora species in the country, fire illegal logging, monitor the application of law of biodiversity conservation in the park. The difference with OIPR is they do not manage the Biosphere Reserve.

 The Bureau of Strategy:

The Bureau of Strategy is one of the new institutions created by the previous Ministry of Environment to coordinate the establishment, monitoring of the implement of strategies, policies, programmes and projects concerning sustainable development and environmental protection.

In particular the Bureau is responsible for:

- supporting the establishment and the implementation of political tools concerning sustainable development et environmental protection;
- analyzing the feasibility of projects concerning Social and Environmental Impact Assessment;
- implementing environmental external audits for companies, public and private projects;
- assessing any direct or indirect incidences of any project on the ecological balance, life quality of the population and environmental protection; and
- establishing in partnership with other divisions the procedure of EIE (EIA) and monitoring its application by companies.

This institution is working closely with mining companies operating in the country on their day to day activities in order to ensure that the work complies with laws and regulations for sustainability. For the Nimba Mountains, any Environment and Social Impact Assessment procedure needs to be approved by them before any field work is undertaken. The Bureau of Strategy can therefore have an important part to play in the Darwin Initiative by giving advice on impact assessment requirements and suggesting suitable frameworks.

 The National Committee for MAB UNESCO

This is the national committee of Man and Biosphere of UNESCO based at the Scientific Research Department. The Committee works closely with the UNESCO headquarters team for the assessment of the biosphere reserve and its state of conservation. Their point of view is largely taken into consideration by UNESCO on the impact of any activity specifically for decision during their session concerning the status of the reserve.

 The Agriculture, animal breeding and local development county authority;

This other government institution is responsible in a county level of all aspect related to rural development, agriculture and related activities. They work with their representatives based in villages to control any illegal logging in protected forests and monitor compliance with the law within their territory and deal with conflict within communities. Every single action is reported to the county superintendant and to the national level if necessary.

The Ivoirian Office of Parks and Reserves – OIPR

The OIPR is a government institution in Cote d'Ivoire that plays a similar role to that of CEGENS in Guinea for the Nimba Mountains. Their role is to coordinate activities in the entire national park network and all the natural reserves in the whole country. Their portfolio includes a network of 8 national parks, 3 partial reserves, 1 scientific reserve and 1 natural reserve that is Mount Nimba. They have representation all over the country and their field office for Nimba is based at Duékoué (Danané district) due to the conflict in the north and western of part of the country. They possess a lot of experience, and have facilities and necessary equipment for the work, but the current security situation means that they are not able to be very active in Nimba which is under the control of the rebel group.

The Fauna and Cynegetics Resources Management Authority

Established by the Government of Cote d'Ivoire, this institution is responsible for:

- Ensure the conservation of fauna species ;
- Establish and organize a reasonable practice of hunting, publish the regulation and monitor its implementation ;
- Initiate and conduct development of actions to promote wildlife farming
- Manage international convention related to fauna and wet areas ;
- Management plan for Zoological parks and Botanic gardens.

The Nature Protection Authority

This government institution is responsible of monitoring conservation policy implementation for the parks and natural reserves and for establishing strategies for sustainable management.

They are also responsible for wildlife management policy monitoring, monitoring of the implementation of international conventions related to national parks and natural reserves, the assessment of OIPR activities, managing Zoo parks and Botanic gardens. This institution is more focused on monitoring the activities of OIPR activities and establishing policies related to them. Their activity is vital at a policy level to ensure that OIPR does not exceed its roles and is working with respect to its terms of reference.

SODEFOR

This government institution is the one that is responsible for managing the Dere forest (called Tiapleu forest in Cote d'Ivoire). This is not really a conservation institution and has a commercial objective. SODEFOR authorizes private forestry companies to exploit the forest for commercial purposes. This explains why we have seen companies operating in this forest, opening roads used by local people to enter the forest from the Cote d'Ivoire side.

Engagement and collaboration is required with this institution to secure the future of this forest.

Communities

Who are the stakeholders?

There are about 100 of villages around the Nimba Mountain on the **Guinean side**. The immediate villages are divided between three mains sub-district: Bossou, N'Zoo and Tounkarata. All the rest come through these three as no contact can be made directly with

any community without authorities and leaders of these sub-districts. During the mapping exercise we met with the head of all these three sub-district and some representative from villages and local leaders were also present.

In the **Côte d'Ivoire** side of the mountains, we have only four villages, but we couldn't meet them due to the limited time we had and the distance between Nimba and Abidjan, the capital city of Cote d'Ivoire.

Interests and relevant activities: key contributions or roles

Communities are the first conservator of the reserve as they live in the areas immediately around the Massif. It is important to involve them in the process from the beginning of the initiative. They are the first and direct beneficiaries of the project. Their participation on the platform would help to facilitate the rapid integration the conservation of the Nimba Massif into their tradition and culture. The connections that already exist between these communities with neighbours of the other two (2) countries need to be utilised.

NGOs

Who are the stakeholders?

In **Guinea** there are several NGOs with great potential for involvement in the Darwin Nimba project and which have diversified fields of activity. Key NGOs active at Nimba include:

- UVODIZ
- AUDER
- PROTECOM
- STEWARD

In **Cote d'Ivoire** there is no national NGO working at Nimba and specialised in environment, but there are some international NGOs which have relevant experience and have been active in the region. These include:

- Afrique Nature
- WCF – the Wild Chimpanzee Foundation

Interests and relevant activities: key contributions or roles

🇳🇮 Union des Volontaires pour le Développement Intégré de Zontompiézo - UVODIZ:

UVODIZ is one of the few effective development NGOs which operates locally around the Bossou hills, one of the three core protected areas of the Nimba Biosphere Reserve. Together with a group of women around this critical site, UVODIZ is currently working to establish fish farms in support of the regional and global fight against hunting and trade in bushmeat.

UVODIZ is also involved in other community development activities including rice farming in floodplains, the rehabilitation of degraded slopes and recently, in the creation of the forested corridor linking the Bossou hills to the main Nimba mountain chain.

UVODIZ is also working for to maintain Peace and Security in the Mano River region specifically between the indigenous population of Nimba Mountains across the border in Guinea and Liberia. This governance programme is supported by the Embassy of United Kingdom in Guinea and Sierra Leone. As it is important to notice here that the people living all over Nimba in Guinea and Liberia are Mano and have some family links with the other

communities behind the mountains in Cote d'Ivoire. The role played by the Mano people has been very crucial for maintaining Peace in the region during the war in Liberia.

FFI is already working with UVODIZ to build their capacity so that they can provide better and appropriate technical support to the nascent community based organizations working on alternatives to hunting and trade in bushmeat around Nimba.

 **PROTECON** (Protection de l'Ecosystème du Nimba) – Guinea:

This local NGO based at Ziela work closely with the Scientific Research Station to support their effort in term of research at Nimba. They are focus on the protection of the entire ecosystem of Nimba, food security, poverty allegation through an establishment of alternative on bushmeat hunting, illegal logging to cut some specific medicinal plant in the reserve.

 **AUDER**

This local NGO is more focused on Food security and is currently working with some financial support from STEWARD, to implement a fish farming project in 6 villages across the border (3 in Guinea and 3 in Liberia). The selected villages in Liberia are Yolowee, Sehtontuo, Geipa and in Guinea they are Tuo, Nion and Seringbara. Their activities can be helpful in bringing communities to a development of alternative livelihoods.

 **STEWARD**

- Biodiversity conservation, natural resource Management
- Provision of food security, capacity building
- Everything started with Mano River Union (MRU) action plan that had three (3) themes: Nature, Wealth and Power
- Operations are based on priority zones (trans-boundaries) of upper Guinean hotspot.
- In June 2009, a project was initiated between Guinea and Sierra Leone (Outamba-Kilimi) on food security with the establishment of nursery
- In November 2009, a Food security project was approved for Nimba by USAID. In January 2010, consultation meetings were held in Liberia (CI, FFI, FDA, and EPA); in Guinea (DPDRE, IREB, etc.)

Contact Person:

Yomba Mara, Nimba zone coordinator. Cell: +22465759315. E-mail: stewardpriorizass@gmail.com. Partners: AUDER and IREB (Guinea), LRCFP (Liberia), WCF (Cote d'Ivoire), NCRC (Ghana).

 **The WCF – The Wild Chimpanzees Foundation – Cote d'Ivoire**

This international NGO is specialised in research on Chimpanzees and has been working since 2008 at Nimba for the mining company in the both site of Nimba (Guinea and Cote d'Ivoire). They are also working on communities' awareness and environmental education specifically for the conservation of Chimpanzees.

 **Afrique Nature International – Cote d'Ivoire**

This international NGO was established in 1987 and represented in Cote d'Ivoire in 2003. Their objectives are to contribute to the protection and sustainable development of fauna,

flora and natural resources in Africa. They focus more on National parks and natural reserves network reinforcement, protection of specific species and their habitat, sustainable management of natural resources and development of global vision for the biodiversity conservation in the region. This NGO has been involved in BIOPA in the Guinean site of Nimba for the mining company.

Companies

Who are the stakeholders?

The main stakeholder within the private sector in Guinea is the Société des Mines de Fer de Guinée (SMFG), a joint venture between the Euronimba consortium (composed of BHP Billiton, Newmont LaSource and Areva-Cogema) and Mifergui-Nimba. SMFG has an interest in developing mining operations in the Nimba Mountains and adjacent areas. It has established connections with CEGENS and along with Rio Tinto, which operates in the Simandou Mountains 180km away, has previously given support to conservation project in Nimba through Fauna & Flora International (FFI).

Through Euronimba, SMFG is linked to the Guinean government via a mining convention which includes the obligation to contribute US\$500,000 per year to sustainable development and environmental conservation when extraction commences.

SMFG has expressed willingness to support the initiative but given the early stage of development of its project, is hesitant to share potentially sensitive data. BHP Billiton has an exploration licence called Kitoma, south of Saniquellie and the Nimba range, where it is undertaking initial drilling.

Darwin Nimba Project

Liberia | Guinea | Ivory Coast
www.nimbadarwin.org

Stakeholder Engagement

Results of the Stakeholder Mapping Process and
Recommendations for Engagement

Appendix A

Organisations	Role or interest in Nimba	Current/ relevant Activities	Contact person	Position	Contact details
LIBERIA					
Government					
FDA	Overseeing sustainable management of Nimba forest	Advising Arcelor Mittal on EMP	James Kpadeyea	FDA focal person for this initiative	kpadehyejames@yahoo.com
		Participating in Darwin Project	Roger Luke	Chief Park Warden of East Nimba Nature Reserve	rogerluke742003@yahoo.com
		Protected area management	Morris Kamara	PA division manager, FDA conservation dept.	morrisb.kamara@yahoo.com
Ministry of Lands, Mines and Energy	Iron mining, gold mining	Interested in sectoral SEA			
EPA	EIA regulation. Monitoring environmental impact of different activities	Interested in EIA capacity building	Varney Conneh	EIA coordinator	
			Ben. S. Karmoh	Manager for Monitoring, Assessment and EIA Department	
Superintendent of Nimba County		Coordination and concessional meetings at which Darwin may attend as observer	Isaac Tonwa,		Cell# +231 (0)6215750
Communities					
Via LCRFP					

Darwin Nimba Project

Liberia | Guinea | Ivory Coast
www.nimbadarwin.org

Stakeholder Engagement

Results of the Stakeholder Mapping Process and
Recommendations for Engagement

Organisations	Role or interest in Nimba	Current/ relevant Activities	Contact person	Position	Contact details
Companies					
ArcelorMittal Liberia Ltd.	Concessionaire mining iron ore		John Howell	Environmental Manager	john.howell@arcelormittal.com
BHP Billiton	Mining Iron Ore		Tim Sewell		Tim.R.Sewell@bhpbilliton.com
SMFG	Mining Iron Ore		Jamison Suter		Jamison.D.Suter@bhpbilliton.com
NGOs					
FFI Liberia			Dr Nouhou Ndam Dr Letla Mosenene	FFI Liberia focal person for this initiative	Letla.mosenene@fauna-floa.org
Conservation International	Have built FDA structures		Joel Gamys	Conservation coordinator	j.gamys@conservation.org
Birdlife International	BirdLife International is involved in Mt. Peko National Park and has been active designing initiatives on the Côte d'Ivoire side of Mt. Nimba and participating in the Projet Cadre de Gestion des Aires Protégées (PCGAP) consortium.		Dr. Roger Safford	Project Manager BirdLife International/Mount Nimba Reserve	roger.safford@birdlife.org
LDI			Dan Saryee	Executive Director.	Cell# 06514348. E-mail: dsaryee@ldi-lbr.org
SEC	Biodiversity	Implemented energy	Henry B. Smith	Executive Director.	Cell# +2316938813,

Darwin Nimba Project

Liberia | Guinea | Ivory Coast
www.nimbadarwin.org

Stakeholder Engagement

Results of the Stakeholder Mapping Process and
Recommendations for Engagement

Organisations	Role or interest in Nimba	Current/ relevant Activities	Contact person	Position	Contact details
	conservation and development	conservation project in Yekepa, Yolowee and Zortapa through Awareness, training of locals, production of eco-stoves, and formation of nature clubs in schools and establishment of community woodlots for fuel wood			E-mail: society_conservation@yahoo.com
SCNL	Biodiversity conservation, Environmental Management, Biological Research, Capacity building, Advocacy and Education+ Awareness-raising	Establishment of Site Support Groups (SSG) in Nimba and Cape Mount. Radio station promoting protected areas.	Joseph Fully	Executive Director	Cell# 06512506.
			Michael Gabo	National Program Coordinator	Cell# 06573612
STEWARD	Biodiversity conservation, natural resource management. MRU.	Partners: AUDER and IREB (Guinea), LRCFP (Liberia), WCF (Cote d'Ivoire), NCRC (Ghana).	Jordan Kimball	STEWARD Coordinator	stewardispguinea@gmail.com
			Yomba Mara	Nimba zone coordinator	Cell# +22465759315. E-mail: stewardpriorizass@gmail.com
CBD Focal Point	Links with CBD		Mr Maadjou Bah, (was the Coordinator of the UNDP Biodiversity project in Guinea).	Currently working under the Protected Areas Authority Director in the same building as the Director of CEGENS in Conakry.	Contact via CEGENS
Other					
Atkins consultants			Ruth Golombok		Ruth.golombok@atkinglobal.com

Darwin Nimba Project

Liberia | Guinea | Ivory Coast
www.nimbadarwin.org

Stakeholder Engagement

Results of the Stakeholder Mapping Process and
Recommendations for Engagement

Organisations	Role or interest in Nimba	Current/ relevant Activities	Contact person	Position	Contact details
Golder Associates			Derek Molton		dmelton@golder.com
Biodiversity Consultancy			Helen Temple		helen@thebiodiversityconsultancy.com
Biodiversity Consultancy			Jonathan Ekstrom		jon@thebiodiversityconsultancy.com
IIED			Maryanne Grigg-Gran		maryanne@iied.org
Guinea Ecology			Kobole KEITA		kobele@gmail.com
Afrique Nature International			Francis Lauginie		f.lauginie@afnature.org

Appendix B

<p>SCNL</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity conservation, Environmental Management • Biological Research, Capacity building, Advocacy and Education+Awareness • Data Collection (IBAs): ENNR, Wonegizi, Cape Mount and Sapo national Park. • Darwin initiative project based on capacity building of local community dwellers (ENNR, SNP, Cape Mount). Training in survey methodology, identification of plants, mammals and birds. Thirty (30) persons were trained. • Training of ten (10) persons in the construction of institutional eco-stoves in Cape mount. Additional capacity building (CEPF funds) for previous local community dwellers (Nimba only) trained under the Darwin project. University students formed part of this second training. With the same CEPF funds, training is planned for Gola/Cape Mount. • Establishment of Site Support Groups (SSG) in Nimba and Cape Mount. They are structures established around IBAs. • Initiated a newsletter called Pepper Bird. • Radio Talk show for the creation of Protected Areas.
<p>SSG</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Community Based Organization (CBO) established by SCNL to monitor ENNR which is one of the IBAs of the Country. • SSG has a well defined and structured leadership headed by a chairman • It takes into account gender impartiality • As main objectives for its functionality, SSG planned to undertake self help project in Zortapa, Ensure sustainability of conservation initiative in the area, work alongside with the FDA to reduce pressure on the ENNR, Raise awareness in the community about the importance and the benefit of conservation, • Presently, SSG is undertaken a fish pond project in Zortapa as part of the self help initiatives (individual contributions) • Zortapa community is elated with such initiative, therefore the often come and help the team when at work • In addition to the knowledge acquired from the training provided by SCNL, one of the team members called “Luogon” has benefited agriculture training at a vocational level, and that is of great help for the fish pond project • As part of the expansion strategy, SSG is planning to expand its activities beyond the Zor chiefdom. <p>Contact: ENNR Chief Park warden</p>

<p>LDI</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expertise in Local Governance and advocacy across the county. Structuring of local communities • Engaging communities and helping them to know their right to participate in programs with the other actors. • Development of by-laws and constitution for local governing structure across the country • Citizen report cards for health and development • Facilitation of social agreement development. • Documentary on the illegal activities ongoing in the Sapo National Park. • Information on all the past projects is available.
<p>CI</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Both CI-HQ through CELB, the Africa and Madagascar Division and CI Liberia are all fully committed to this project. It will be a collaborative effort in line with the recently signed country MOU, demonstrating the mutual expertise our team has in engaging private sector in conservation. • CI-Liberia has engaged in working a relationship with the mining corporation Arcelor Mittal, receiving conceptual support for the initiative, and indicating financial support would be forthcoming
<p>FFI and FFI Liberia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advisors to FDA • Advisors to EPA • REDD specialists • Conservation Management planning • www.fauna-flora.org • Corporate partnerships programme
<p>RICCE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empowering rural communities to become proactive in addressing issues that impact their life. • Highly involve in peace building and conflict resolution processes in Nimba County. • Human right advocacy for victims of human right abuse. • RICCE is member of the Millennium Development Goal for Nimba County. • Established community conservation action groups to raise awareness on the importance of biodiversity with the provision of alternative livelihood to communities adjacent to ENNR, under an UNDP funded project.
<p>LRCFP</p>	<p>Will meet with Aboubacar today (april 15, 2010)</p>
<p>SEC</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity conservation and development • Biophysical and socio economic surveys, Awareness raising on threatened species and provision of sustainable livelihood options to communities. • Implemented energy conservation project in Yekepa, Yolowee and Zortapa through

	<p>Awareness, training of locals, production of eco-stoves, and formation of nature clubs in schools and establishment of community woodlots for fuel wood. (2006-2007). Impacts: the usage of eco-stoves has reduced the demand for fuel wood.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2009, Implemented a keystone project in Grand Gedeh, around the Sapo national park, called Revamping traditional conservation in Liberia. The project resulted to the production of cartoon journal on totem species "Forest Freedom". • The conservation key stone project has been replicated to Nimba (ENNR) in Zor clan. The project has been funded by UNDP and started in January 2010. The beneficiaries are: Zortapa, Yolowee and Geipa. Its implementation will base on baseline information gathering on totem species, Production of credible cartoon journal "Forest Freedom" provision of alternative livelihood options of communities' choices.
<p>STEWARD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity conservation, natural resource Management • Provision of food security, capacity building • Everything started with Mano River Union (MRU) action plan that had three (3) themes: Nature, Wealth and Power. • Operations are based on priority zones (trans-boundaries) of upper Guinean hotspot. • In June 2009, a project was initiated between Guinea and Sierra Leone (Outamba-Kilimi) on food security with the establishment of nursery. • In November 2009, a Food security project was approved for Nimba by USAID. In January 2010, consultation meetings were held in Liberia (CI, FFI, FDA, EPA); in Guinea (DPDRE, IREB, etc.). • Selected communities: Liberia (Yolowee, Sehtontuo, Geipa), Guinea (Tuo, Nion and Seringbara). • Contact Person: Yomba Mara, Nimba zone coordinator. Cell# +22465759315. E-mail: stewardpriorizass@gmail.com. Partners: AUDER and IREB (Guinea), LRCFP (Liberia), WCF (Cote d'Ivoire), NCRC (Ghana).

Appendix C: results of selected community meetings in Liberia

<p>Zortapa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting was held with Acting town chief (Osaka Dolo), Youth chairman and Women head • Groups (cooperatives) are been establish for self help projects • Site Support Group formed by locals that are been trained by SCNL under previous Darwin project • Main farming: Rice, Coffee, cassava and vegetables • Issues of Gender Base violence are resolve traditionally
<p>Dulay</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A relocated community due to the previous mining operations (LAMCO) • Inhabitants are farmers and hunters • They are appealing to FDA to have a ranger post in the area • Ivorians are making farms and palm wine on our land. More some of the time they can come and make farm unknowing to us. • One man called Gogo, crossed into Liberia and made farm at the same time planted Ivorian flag in the farm. • Three meeting have been held between the Ivorians and us to discuss border issues. • Town chief is called: Wean Gaye • The commander of immigration called Major Wapoe Francis, earmarked lot of security issues and difficulties in exercising his duty.
<p>Geipa</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fringe community involve into general Agriculture such as rice, sugar cane, swamp, mixed cropping, etc • Group has been established within the township called “kolakeh” and is engaged in swamp farming. The group is headed by Mr. Peter Slekpoh. • Kolakeh been a self help organization would like to engage in the following activities: Fish pond, Poultry, Animal husbandry. • Several NGO have been having activities in the town: ARS, EU, ZOA, SADS, and STEWARD. • The above institutions are been engaged in swamp rice production, installation of hand pumps, fish pond, etc. • Cross border conflict are resolved through traditional means as they are all inter-related. • Contacts: Peter Mehn, Town chief Desmond Gbala, youth chairman, Rosaline Lah, Women leader
<p>Lugbeye</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training on conflict resolution was provided by NRC • Cross border conflicts are resolved traditionally • Appealing for Arcelor Mittal to relocate the farmers • There is interrelationship between towns of guinea along the border and us.