



Action for Chimpanzees Conference on Strategic Management and Conservation Status Conservation of Western Chimpanzees



29 – 31 January 2020, Noom Hotel, Conakry, Guinea



*Hosts by:
Pan African Sanctuary Alliance
(PASA), West African
Biodiversity and Climate
Change Program (WA BiCC), and
their partners*

*January
2020*

*I. Executive
Summary*

The objective of this conference was: « To reduce and prevent with the view of minimizing the illegal exploitation and trade in wild fauna and flora in West Africa through the domestication and implementation of this sub-regional strategic framework, endorsed and acted upon by the ECOWAS and its Member States». This is aligned with the vision of « Wildlife crime and other related threats are significantly reduced in ECOWAS member States to improve the conservation of biodiversity for the welfare and the socio-economic development of populations».

This should help in facilitating the implementation in West Africa of the 2015 African Union Strategy on Combatting Illegal Exploitation and Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora. It brings a common, coordinated response by countries in West Africa to combat the illegal trade in wild fauna and flora. The WASCWC promotes a strong national, regional and international response towards safeguarding all wild fauna and flora in West Africa.

After two days of intensive work, it has been recognized that the critical issues to be addressed for CWT in West Africa as follow:

- 1. Weak or outdated policy frameworks*
- 2. Insufficient data and coordination*
- 3. Limited enforcement capacity*
- 4. Inadequate tools and resources*

With regard to the situation it appear that combatting wildlife crime have to be national and trans-boundary initiatives.

Therefore, in addition to the African Union strategy, each Region is expected to develop its own sub regional strategy based on their specificities and in alignment to the AU Strategy while at same time member States expected to develop their own National Strategies.

For the ECOWAS countries, the is the West African Forest Convergence Plan, as a milestone of the dialogue on forests started in 2006 was endorsed by the ECOWAS Council of Ministers in December 2013 in West Africa with 07 priority intervention field to be taking into consideration:

- ✓ PIF 1: Harmonization of legislative and regulatory frameworks and forest policies*
- ✓ PIF 2: Knowledge on the state and dynamics of forest ecosystems*
- ✓ PIF 3: Development of forest ecosystems and reforestation*
- ✓ PIF 4: Conservation of Biodiversity*
- ✓ PIF 5: Enhancement of ecosystems goods and services*

for food security, economic stability and environmental sustainability

✓ *PIF 6: Forest research and development*

✓ *PIF 7: Information, education and communication*

In addition, ECOWAS is also developing currently a WA strategy for combatting

wildlife crime in the region and the species targeted by Trafficking in West Africa are among other: Chimpanzees primates, live animals, and Bush meat, Skulls, Hands and Skin.

This strategy under development have 6 priorities areas: training, coordination, political commitment, disposal of confiscated specimens, equipment and human resources, awareness and 47 priority recommendations.

Some progress are been made in developing the new strategy with the adoption of the framework by the first Steering Committee meeting.

They have also agree on the vision, scope, core objective and 09 strategic areas of interventions.

1. To strengthen institutional responses to combat wildlife crime through training, capacity building and law enforcement
2. To ensure a coordinated regional and inter-regional cooperation to combat wildlife crime
3. To strengthen political commitment towards the eradication of illegal exploitation and illegal trade in wild fauna and flora
4. To ensure adequate national and regional capacities for the disposal of confiscated specimens;
5. To increase the capacity of source and transit States in the detection of illegally traded fauna and flora;
6. To increase public awareness and community participation and involvement in tackling wildlife crime;
7. To ensure that national and regional laws and policies are harmonized and strengthen for effective CITES
8. To ensure adequate technical support and financial resources for effective implementation of the WASCWC.
9. To promote partnerships with relevant institutions to strengthen research, monitoring and information sharing

Next steps

- Adoption of the Regional Strategy for combating Wildlife Illegal exploitation and Trafficking and its Action Plan by ECOWAS Executive Council of Ministers;
- Once adopted by the Council of Ministers, the strategy and its action plan will be presented to the Head of States and Government for information;
- Establish a Regional Funding Mechanisms and Wildlife Law Enforcement Coordination Mechanisms
- Develop partnerships and cooperation with the other Wildlife Enforcement Networks of the other regions
- Finalize the 2020 annual work plan and implement it
- Facilitate the endorsement per country
- Facilitate development of communication system
- Share information with networks, institutions and relevant stakeholders
- Monitoring of progress with indicators

II. Introduction:

*The first IUCN action plan specifically for a great ape, the western chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes verus*), resulted from a 2002 workshop of scientists, government officials, resource managers, NGOs and representatives of private industry from the countries in West Africa in which chimpanzees (*P. t. verus* and *P. t. ellioti*) range. The goals that plan were: to (1) serve as a synthesis of available information on chimpanzees in West Africa, (2) review of threats to chimpanzees as well as their current status, and (3) to offer a prioritized list of sites and necessary conservation actions.*

At the time of publication, the majority of information on chimpanzees in the region originated from long-term research sites and a handful of ‘one-off’ surveys. Since then, an abundance of new long-term research stations (e.g., Comoé, Dindefelo, Fongoli, Niokolo Koba National Park), and temporary research or survey sites (e.g., Kanoumering, Sobeya, Sangaredi, Mt. Sangabé, Diaguiri, Saraya), as well as large-scale survey campaigns (e.g., Campbell et al. 2008, Brncic et al. 2010, Tweh et al. 2015) have contributed to a broader base of information on the current status of chimpanzees in West Africa and the threats which they face. Additionally, most of our current knowledge on western chimpanzee abundance is derived from surveys conducted since 2002 (A.P.E.S. database), which give a fuller understanding of chimpanzee distribution patterns and the factors which influence them at local (e.g., Fitzgerald et al. 2018; Garriga et al. 2019), sub-regional (e.g., Boesch et al. 2017), and regional (e.g., Heinicke et al. 2019a,b) scales.

More importantly, threats to chimpanzee populations have intensified over the past 16 years resulting in the up listing of the subspecies to Critically Endangered (Humble et al. 2016).

Expansion of commercial agriculture, mining, and energy projects have led to increased habitat loss and degradation bringing with it infrastructure development and a larger human footprint. Encounter rates have therefore increased between people and chimpanzees leading to increased pressure from hunting, capture and greater risk of disease transmission. In light of these changes, there is great need to maintain an action plan that reflects the current threats to western chimpanzee conservation.

Over half of donors surveyed in a review of the previous action plan (Kormos 2008) stated they were influenced by prioritized actions in the 2003 plan signifying its utility, and therefore a new document reflecting current needs of the western chimpanzee

will best inform national governments, conservation practitioners, the private sector, and donors alike as to the next steps forward.

The previous plan was most effective in areas with pre-existing and active research and conservation presence: most of the funding detailed by Kormos (2008) went to Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea, two countries which already had significant research and conservation infrastructure in place.

Nonetheless, the plan did not slow chimpanzee losses regionally or mitigate the threats imperiling these populations (Kormos 2008). Further yet, given the inertia of bureaucratic policies in this domain, it is unlikely that the 2003 plan was effective in influencing in a meaningful way policies related to chimpanzee conservation in the region.

In addition, it is important to notice that despite apparent increases in funding directed to chimpanzee conservation in West Africa following the publication of the 2003 Action Plan (Kormos 2008), the majority of actions outlined in the plan remained underfunded by the 5-year mark, with only 38% of actions detailed in the plan securing funding for their implementation.

This discrepancy reflects the limited nature of conservation funding at large, and highlights that actions identified as priorities in a plan may not be achievable solely due to resource constraint. As such, there is an additional need to ensure that actions outlined in a plan have proven, evidenced-based track records for success, so that limited resources can be funneled to interventions which have demonstrated merit in achieving their intended outcomes.

Those actions which are demonstrated to be effective should therefore be prioritized until sufficient evidence indicates additional strategies to be equally effective (Junker et al. 2017; Petrovan et al. 2018), and concerted effort should be expended to evaluate action efficiency in the meanwhile and to disseminate this information across relevant platforms. This is why this conference was organized in order contribute to the preparation of a new revised plan that:

- *Promote strong collaboration and coordination between conservation practitioners, governments and the private sector*
- *Influence governments for policy development or strengthening and/or harmonization of legal texts and policies pertinent to chimpanzees*
- *Integrate consideration of private and public development sectors*
- *Encourage strong regional leadership so that the action plan is a tool for change and not just academic in nature (Kormos 2008).*

III. Conference Mission Statement:

The impetus of this conference is the urgent need to reduce trafficking of western chimpanzees, because sanctuaries have seen a significant increase in confiscations in recent years and are close to capacity. Without sanctuaries that have space to accept confiscated chimps, a key component of wildlife law enforcement is missing. The main intent of this conference is to create a road map for producing concrete actions in the near future.

IV. Conference

Objectives: The objective

of this conference are:

Objective 1: Understand the status of policy and enforcement action plans, strategies, and other approaches for combatting trafficking of chimpanzees and other wildlife, such as the draft Western Chimpanzee Action Plan (WCAP) and the draft West Africa Strategy for Combatting Wildlife Crime (WASCWC)

Objective 2: Develop a clear and common understanding of the problems facing western chimpanzees, their scale, and the gaps in available data, and agree on how to address gaps in knowledge and management and work collaboratively to reduce chimpanzee trafficking

Objective 3: Identify viable models from around the world for partnerships, fundraising and effective enforcement of anti-IWT interventions that can be applied in West Africa, including through the draft WCAP and the draft WASCWC

Objective 4: Develop an awareness-raising and communication protocol to increase knowledge, understanding, collaboration and coordination among government agencies, NGOs, and local communities to fight wildlife trafficking

Objective 5: Develop a work plan to combat chimpanzee trafficking in the region through implementation of the WCAP, including priorities and indicators for monitoring and reporting (e.g. on enforcement, awareness, capacity-building, and chimpanzee welfare), and commitments from government officials and NGO representatives to conduct it.

V. Participants

During this 02 days conference, 64 representatives from Guinea, Senegal, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea Bissau, Sierra Leone and Liberia, the British Embassy in Guinea, technical and financial partners participated. In addition, representatives of the following organization: USAID, WABICC, PASA, GALF, CCC, UNDP, EU, UNOPS, WCF, PALF-EAGLE, Tchimpounga in Congo Republic, Fauna & Flora International, Tacugama Sanctuary, ChimpFace, Mano River Union, USFW, Chimbo, national parks, University of Kent, Porto and Cardiff also participated to the conference.

VI. Conduct of the
conference Days 1:

Thursday, 29 January 2020

A. Opening ceremony: Welcome and opening remarks



Photo of the high table during the opening ceremony and statements

1. Welcome statement from the Executive Director of PASA

The executive Director of the Pan African Sanctuary Alliance (PASA) was very happy to express in the name of his organization, his thankfulness to all participants for joining them at this conference.

He indicated that PASA is the largest association of wildlife centers and sanctuaries in Africa with 23 organizations in 13 African countries that are giving a future to Africa's great apes and monkeys. PASA members have many more activities including the following:

- ✓ Rescue victims of wildlife trafficking and orphans of the bush meat trade*
- ✓ Rehabilitate them*
- ✓ Reintroduce them to the wild when possible*
- ✓ Stop the illegal trade in wildlife*
- ✓ Protect wild primate populations and their habitats, and*
- ✓ Educate and support communities.*

With our member wildlife centers, PASA is building a global movement to save Africa's great apes and monkeys by combining PASA's network and our members' local expertise. He indicated that Sanctuaries have an essential role in fighting wildlife trafficking because they work closely with government authorities and they accept live animals who were confiscated from traffickers. They have seen that having a wildlife Sanctuary in a country tends to enable stronger law enforcement protecting wildlife.

Also, he also raised the issue of urgent problem that sanctuaries are facing, which is the main reason for this conference. The problem is that some sanctuaries have seen a significant increase in confiscations in recent years and have almost no space to accept more chimpanzees. Without sanctuaries that have space

to accept confiscated chimps, a nec component of wildlife law enforcement will be missing.

Thus, it will be more difficult for law authorities to arrest traffickers because they

don't have resources for taking care of confiscated animals. Then the chimpanzee trade can increase even more. Therefore, solving this problem requires the cooperation of everyone participating to the conference.

*At the end, he explain that the main reason that they invited each participant at this conference was to work together **to create a road map for producing practical actions in the near future, and reduce chimp trafficking** before sanctuaries are full.*

2. Statement of the USAID Director in Guinea

The Director of USAID was very happy to announce that the United States, through the WA BiCC Programme is pleased to be an organizing partner of this conference with PASA and its partners and members. He indicated that over the years, WABiCC have remained committed to the protection of the west African Chimpanzees in the wild. However, absent the end of wildlife trafficking overall, and the trafficking of chimpanzees, the focus of this conference, it appear important to understand and strengthen the role that sanctuaries must play in a holistic approach to chimpanzee conservation.

He reminded that Guinea is blessed among its regional neighbors as the home to the largest number of western Chimpanzees living in the wild, although the overall numbers across the region have been and continue to be in steep decline due to habitat loss, the bush meat trade and the trafficking of live chimps and or their body parts, mainly to markets in Asia. Listed in the appendix I of the CITES and on the IUCN Red list as critically endangered, they are the most severe listing for species threatened with extinction in the wild.

He also indicated that the Chimpanzees Conservation Centre based in the Haut Niger National Park in Guinea have an estimated number of at least 150 live baby chimps that was captured and sent to China between 2009 and 2011 according to INTERPOL data. The more deeply troubling about this trade is that the mothers of the baby chimps are often killed in order to steal the young inflicting trauma on the whole troop.

The incidence of chimps trafficking and young chimps being orphaned is on the rise in Guinea with increasing links to mining sector, which leads to habitat destruction, poaching for food and for trafficking. Enforcement authorities acting on the right side of the law, and partners such as GALF, Guinea NGO working to ensure the application and enforcement of wildlife law have help to make some progress through 40% increase of confiscation in the CCC over the last 5 years.

He also raised the issues of challenges that need to be addressed by all countries in all levels with support of donors in the West Africa region and emulate Rwanda and draw tourist

with generation of economic benefit for many more people.

At the end of his statement he invited all participants to make collective efforts to address the challenges and reduce the illegal hunting, killing of our Western Chimpanzees and the iconic biodiversity of our region.

3. Statement of the British Ambassador in Guinea

The British Ambassador begun his statement by thanks to PASA, WABiCC and their partner for their invitation to address this conference on the Strategic Management and Conservation Status of Western Chimpanzees. He announced that Guinea and other countries in the region suffer enormously from illegal wildlife trade including Chimpanzees sadly, along with deforestation and climate change, this illegal trade appear to be the major cause of biodiversity decline, and we all suffer from the effect of these crimes.

Therefore, this conference is an important part of the international community's efforts across the world to protect the magnificence of the environment from these criminal gangs. Because the same criminal network that smuggle animals also traffic guns, drugs and people. They launder money, engage in modern slavery, fund conflict and thrive on corruption.

If anyone asks why we devote effort and resources to combatting the illegal wildlife trade when millions of human being still endure war, hunger and disease, it is because of this trade threatens some of the poorest people in the world, destroying livelihoods, empowering criminals, and depriving governments to the means to provide essential services. He reminded that the interest of humanity cannot be separated from the interest of the natural world as the one depends on the other. This is why we are all here today because of our common resolve to combat this trade by looking for the most effective methods.

For the British Ambassador, we must ensure our laws are strong enough to deter the criminals and rigorously enforce those laws because criminals don't respect borders. They move from one country to another and if we improve the protection of one endangered wildlife population, they will target another species or the same species in a different country. This is why he invited all participant to international cooperation as the governments and international organization can't address this alone.

*He indicated that the United Kingdom is at the forefront of international efforts to protect endangered species from unsustainable and illegal trade. And the UK convened the largest ever-global IWT conference where 65 countries and number of multinational organizations signed up the **London 2018 Declaration**, including some of the West African countries.*

This declaration contains a series of political commitment and calls upon the international community to act together to support and build urgent collective action to tackle the illegal wildlife trade as a serious crime carried out by organized criminals, and to close markets for illegally traded wildlife.



Photo of the British ambassador with some guest participants after the opening ceremony

It clearly appear in his statement that:

The illegal wildlife trade remains an urgent global issue, a great threat to national and regional security resulting in cross border incursions and fuels corruption which create insecurity and undermines the rules of laws in addition to taking away resources from government revenues.

This is why the UK government is working to tackle the illegal wildlife trade from every aspect since the signature of the London declaration using public and private tools, legal frameworks and response developed to tackle other international organized crimes as well as developing sustainable livelihoods.

He invited all participants to work together to ensure that laws which deter illegal wildlife traffickers, with strict penalties, and strictly enforced as this trade has large impact on a country's social and political capital. So this conference was a unique opportunity to expand our networks, learn from each other's experiences and work together to agree actions that will have a lasting effect.

He ended his statement by thanks to all for their commitment to making progress and wishing success in discussion and actions.

4. Statement from the Mano River Union Representative

The representative from Mano River Union begun here statement by a briefing on this intergovernmental institution created in 1973 for the economic integration process of the region in West

Africa. She indicated that the large natural, cultural and economic

resources shared by the states members constitute a strong link among them to allow the establishment of collaborative development of politics for integrated economic development with the union's space for the benefit of each state member.

The second part of the statement was about the situation of ecosystem and biodiversity within the Mano River Union (MRU) space. She indicated that this space have the remaining species of the Upper Guinea Forest with 06 trans-boundary forest reserve and national parks between Guinea, Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia and Sierra Leone. The Union has the 3rd biodiversity reserve in the world behind the Amazonie basin in South America and Congo basin in Central Africa.

The Union have over 9000 flora species with 25% of endemism and many fauna species including the vivipatory toads of Mounts Nimba, the Chimpanzees of Bossou and Tai, etc. as well as an important reserve of water. If the quantity of these resources can be an opportunity for the region it is also very challenging as facing illegal use and trafficking specifically for wildlife including chimpanzees.

She reminded the fact that the MRU does not have the proper strategy to fight illegal trafficking of wildlife but has set up in the Union's 15th Protocol a Peace and Security architecture to create synergy for actions between security forces, immigration and Customs at the borders, political actors and local communities in a trans-boundary level. The main focus for this is sharing of information, jointly and mixed Patrols to fight trafficking and trans-boundary crimes.

The MRU have a project that is working to strengthen capacities of actors in the management of natural resources for ecological benefit taking into consideration the improvement of socioeconomic situation of local communities. She reminded about support from the ended STEWARD project that was funded by USAID for the sustainable management of ecosystem and improving livelihood of local communities in addition to the current WABiCC Programme going to its end. WABiCC helped to fight trafficking of wildlife, deforestation, climate change and protection of the mangrove in the coastal areas in the region.

It is clear that Chimpanzees appear to be one the most endangered species and efforts from all countries are needed to tackle this illegal trafficking and strengthen capacities of states members and security agencies. She reminded that all the 04 members states signed the CITES convention and are working to integrate it in their national legislation.

In conclusion, she indicated that the protection of ecosystems and biodiversity of our region is in the Centre of the institutional actions for the MRU. Therefore, with support from our partners, the MRU will most focus on specific questions

which can justify our presence to this meeting.

***5. Opening statement by the Secretary General
representing the Minister of the Environment, Water
and Forests of the Republic of Guinea***

*The statement for the Minister of State, Minister of Environment,
Water and Forests was made by the Secretary General
representing the Minister for the opening*

ceremony of this conference. He indicated that it was an honor for him, on behalf of the Minister, to wish in the name of the Government a warmly welcome to this important conference that focus on the strategic management and the conservation of the Western African Chimpanzees and particularly on the illegal trade of this species in the region.

He clearly indicated that, illegal trade of fauna and flora species is a huge threat to peace, security, stability, economy, natural resources and cultural heritage of many countries in the Africa continent. It is about organized trans-boundary crimes in the 4th place of illegal trade in the world after drugs, guns and humans and generate illegal overall benefits for about 20 billion of USD every year in the world.

The killing and illegal trafficking of protected species remains as consequences of illegal professional trade organized by criminal networks that generate illegal important profits linked to corruption, drugs and guns.

With regard to the increasing of chimps trafficking in West Africa with respect to the significant number of confiscated chimpanzees and their transfer to CCC in the region, it appear clearly that this time is opportune for this meeting to be held. By hosting this conference, the Republic of Guinea would like to share with the region, its experiences of fighting organized wildlife crimes.

We cannot hide the fact that Guinea, over the past years, has been used as running place of species trafficking by different network including traffickers, hunters and even governmental workers. For this reason, important decisions has been made by the government to fight trafficking of wildlife in the country. He also indicated that since 2012, through smooth collaboration and synergy between public services in charge of environment, security, customs, and justice and NGO such as WARA – GALF, Guinea is engaged in law enforcement in wildlife traffic specifically for chimps. The national task force led to excellent results with arrests and prosecution of networks involved in trafficking chimpanzees in the world.

He also announced that, over 250 major Traficant was arrested in Guinea, 2 000 ivory items, 200 animals' skins, over 1 000 life wild animals confiscated including chimpanzees. Over 1 000 government workers was trained in order to increase national capacities to face this traffic.

The Secretary General was also pleased to announce that, since 2019 the Ministry of Environment has establish a new national brigade in fighting wildlife crimes with 185 paramilitary from the troops of nature conservator of the Ministry. In addition, he reminded that Guinea have a new revised law for wildlife protection to adapt answers to organized crimes according to

international convention that the country has signed.

But the challenges still remains due to increase of illegal trafficking, development of illegal networks, limited collaboration between countries with lack of infrastructures for the Chimpanzees Conservation Centre to receive the confiscated chimpanzees.

He invited all participants to jointly efforts as criminal networks are under

development and there is a need for collaboration and international cooperation with neighboring countries.

This was an opportunity given to him as he said to thanks technical and financial partners and those who organized this conference to support efforts of fighting illegal trade of wildlife in the region. With this, he declared OPEN the conference on the strategic management of western chimpanzees.

B. Overview of objectives and agenda

After the opening ceremony, the participants' introduction was realized by the moderator and followed by the presentation of the agenda of the conference for comment and suggestions from participants. The agenda was therefore adopted by all participants. At same time, we proceed to the overview of the objectives of the conference followed by presentations as planed in the agenda.

C. Introductory presentation: Wildlife crime in West Africa and the ECOWAS Strategy

This presentation was an overview of the situation of Wildlife crime in the 15 members' states of the ECOWAS. This region of 327 million habitants on 5.2 million sq. km with 725.978 billion USD have a forest areas of 73.3 million ha. The presentation highlighted critical issues to be addressed for CWT in West Africa as follow:

- 5. Weak or outdated policy frameworks*
- 6. Insufficient data and coordination*
- 7. Limited enforcement capacity*
- 8. Inadequate tools and resources*

With regard to the situation he indicated that combatting wildlife crime have to be national and trans-boundary initiatives. In addition to the African Union strategy:

- Each Region is expected to develop its own sub regional strategy based on their specificities and in alignment to the AU Strategy*
- Member States expected to develop National Strategies*

He reminded that, the West African Forest Convergence Plan, as a milestone of the dialogue on forests started in 2006 was endorsed by the ECOWAS Council of Ministers in December 2013 in West Africa with 07 priority intervention field indicated as follow:

- ✓ PIF 1: Harmonization of legislative and regulatory frameworks and forest policies*
- ✓ PIF 2: Knowledge on the state and dynamics of forest*

ecosystems

- ✓ *PIF 3: Development of forest ecosystems and reforestation*
- ✓ *PIF 4: Conservation of Biodiversity*
- ✓ *PIF 5: Enhancement of ecosystems goods and services for food security, economic stability and environmental sustainability*

- ✓ PIF 6: Forest research and development
- ✓ PIF 7: Information, education and communication

He indicated that ECOWAS is developing a WA strategy for combatting wildlife crime in the region and the species targeted by Trafficking in West Africa are among other:

- Chimpanzees primates
- Live animals
- Bush meat
- Skulls
- Hands
- Skin

This has 6 priorities: training, coordination, political commitment, disposal of confiscated specimens, equipment and human resources, awareness and 47 priority recommendations

During the presentation, participants were informed on the progress made in developing the new strategy, the adoption of the Strategic Framework by the first Steering Committee meeting. They have also agree on the vision, scope, core objective and 09 strategic areas of interventions.

Vision: « Wildlife crime and other related threats are significantly reduced in ECOWAS member States to improve the conservation of biodiversity for the welfare and the socio-economic development of populations».

Scope: facilitate the implementation in West Africa of the 2015 African Union Strategy on Combatting Illegal Exploitation and Illegal Trade in Wild Fauna and Flora. It brings a common, coordinated response by countries in West Africa to combat the illegal trade in wild fauna and flora. The WASCWC promotes a strong national, regional and international response towards safeguarding all wild fauna and flora in West Africa. .

Objective : « To reduce and prevent with the view of minimizing the illegal exploitation and trade in wild fauna and flora in West Africa through the domestication and implementation of this sub-regional strategic framework, endorsed and acted upon by the ECOWAS and its Member States.»

The Nine core objectives (Strategic areas of Intervention) are indicated as follow:

- *To strengthen institutional responses to combat wildlife crime through training, capacity building and law enforcement*
- *To ensure a coordinated regional and inter-regional cooperation to combat wildlife crime*
- *To strengthen political commitment towards the eradication of illegal exploitation and illegal trade in wild*

fauna and flora

- *To ensure adequate national and regional capacities for the disposal of confiscated specimens;*

- *To increase the capacity of source and transit States in the detection of illegally traded fauna and flora;*
- *To increase public awareness and community participation and involvement in tackling wildlife crime;*
- *To ensure that national and regional laws and policies are harmonized and strengthen for effective CITES*
- *To ensure adequate technical support and financial resources for effective implementation of the WASCWC.*
- *To promote partnerships with relevant institutions to strengthen research, monitoring and information sharing*

Next steps

- *Adoption of the Regional Strategy for combating Wildlife Illegal exploitation and Trafficking and its Action Plan by ECOWAS Executive Council of Ministers;*
- *Once adopted by the Council of Ministers, the strategy and its action plan will be presented to the Head of States and Government for information;*
- *Establish a Regional Funding Mechanisms and Wildlife Law Enforcement Coordination Mechanisms*
- *Develop partnerships and cooperation with the other Wildlife Enforcement Networks of the other regions*

D. Session I: Defining the scale of the chimpanzee trafficking problem

During this first session, representative from university of Kent presented an overview of international chimpanzee trade with the status of Western Chimpanzee Action Plan.

Overview of the international chimpanzee trade in West Africa.

This first part of the conference was directly followed by presentation from panelists from Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Sierra Leone, Liberia and WARA Eagle.

a. Status of the Western Chimpanzee Action Plan

This presentation was made by Tatyana Humle (T.Humle@kent.ac.uk), DICE, School of Anthropology and Conservation, University of Kent, United Kingdom.

At the beginning of the presentation, she indicated that Wild chimpanzees face numerous threats, including habitat loss and fragmentation, hunting and capture, and disease, especially zoonosis, responsible for concerning declines in populations across much of their range. Albeit variable across subspecies, these main threats resonate across Africa in terms of trends and patterns.

She indicated that this talk aims to contextualise our understanding of the differing challenges and opportunities facing chimpanzee conservation today. Drawing from various case studies and publications, especially focused on Guinea and Sierra Leone

in West Africa, address questions about the relationship between conservation and large-scale development, especially extractive industries and commercial agriculture, in the context of avoidance, mitigation and offset strategies, between landscape changes and people-chimpanzee co-existence, and between the conservation of populations and the preservation of individuals in the context of law enforcement and in situ education efforts.

Opportunities are highlighted in terms of the necessity for interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary and multi-scale approaches and methodologies, a better understanding of conflicting values and perceptions, and more research focused around chimpanzee adaptations and responses to the dynamic socio-ecological landscapes in which they occur both inside and outside protected areas. This overview aims to highlight gaps and prospects for future research and conservation efforts, while also stressing the influence of human-human conflicts in hampering current initiatives and the urgent need for disseminating research findings, conservation successes and failures, and methodologies in range countries

The catastrophic decline of chimpanzees in Côte d'Ivoire (90% decline) has been attributed to both poaching pressure and a higher deforestation rate, probably as a result of the 50% human population increase from 1990 to 2008 and civil conflict in the country since 2002 (Campbell et al. 2008). However, the main threats are: habitat loss & fragmentation; poaching & illegal trade & disease. The most fact that was highlighted is that 83% live outside protected areas

This presentation focused mainly on:

- 1. Status and threats to the western chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes verus*)*
- 2. The international chimpanzee trade in West Africa*
- 3. The Western Chimpanzee Conservation Action Plan (WACAP) and the Illegal Wildlife Trade*
- 4. National Action Plan for the Conservation of Chimpanzees in Guinea and the Illegal Wildlife Trade*

During the presentation, she indicated the recognition of the urgency to address trade within the region:

- Trade is a law enforcement/security issue as recognized by Manon River Union - Freetown declaration*
- ECOWAS adoption of the 2019 Abuja Declaration: 'stronger monitoring of international trade is necessary and additional support must be provided for national and regional efforts to protect threatened species [...]'*
- Regional Action Plan for the Conservation of Western Chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes verus*) 2019–2029*
- National Action Plan for the Conservation of Chimpanzees (*Pan troglodytes verus*) in Guinea 2020 - 2030*

Also, the nine strategies of the western chimpanzee conservation action plan was reminded:

- 1. Defining norms and best practices*
- 2. Eliminating research and data gaps*
- 3. Developing and reviewing policy:*

5. *Monitoring and managing disease outbreaks*
6. *Land-use planning*
7. *Maintaining, strengthening and establishing protected areas*
8. *Raising awareness:*
9. *Financing conservation:*

And, in a national level in Guinea, the chimpanzee action plan indicate clearly the objective of ending the poaching and capturing of chimpanzees.

Objective 3.1: By 2022, the new wildlife law and/or enforcement legislation include set sanctions that provide sufficient deterrence against poaching and the capture of chimpanzees.

Objective 3.2: By 2023, the chapters of the law on the capture and poaching of chimpanzees are translated into local languages, and disseminated through various channels to local authorities and communities.

Objective 3.3: By 2022, the capacity of live chimpanzees at the CCC Sanctuary is strengthened

Objective 3.4: By 2028, activities to combat the meat trade in live chimpanzees and chimpanzees are being monitored on a regular basis.



In conclusion, in the presentation, it appear clearly that the trade in chimpanzees urgently requires:

- ✓ *our concerted attention*
- ✓ *coordination among partners*
- ✓ *capacity building*
- ✓ *data sharing and analysis*
- ✓ *political commitment & good governance,*
- ✓ *awareness raising*
- ✓ *Legislative reform...*

b. Summary of laws protecting chimpanzees and chimpanzee trafficking in each country

➤ The Republic of Guinea:

The new Law L 2018/0049/AN adopted and promulgated in June 2018, is more repressive and dissuasive penalties, the maximum penalty is 5 years' imprisonment and increased fines from FG 5,000,000 to FG 75,000,000 compared to the former law L / 99/038/1999 which provided for a maximum penalty of one (1) year imprisonment and a maximum fine of 150,000 GNF.

The main objectives of this new law are:

- To ensure the protection and effective management of wildlife Conservation;*
- To increase the value of animal species and their habitats and regulate hunting activities;*
- To reduce the phenomenon of wildlife crime through the strict and rigorous application of law.*

In this law there are Wildlife Classification indicating that Chimpanzee is fully protected. These classification are indicated in the following articles:

- Fully protected species: particularly rare or endangered animals; articles: 56; 57 58*
- Article 56: All wild animals, particularly rare or threatened with extinction, are fully protected throughout the national territory.*
- Article 57: The list of fully protected species is adopted by the Minister responsible for wildlife and protected areas. The list of fully protected species also includes:*
 - species in Appendix I of the CITES Convention;*
 - species listed as Critically Endangered (CR) and Endangered (EN) by the IUCN Red List;*
 - species classified as endangered migratory species in Annex I to the International Convention on Migratory Species (CMS);*
 - the species listed in column A of Table I of the Africa-Eurasia Migratory Bird Agreement (AEWA)*
- Article 58: It is strictly forbidden to hunt, capture, keep and sell wild animals on the list of fully protected species*

➤ The Republic of Cote d'Ivoire

The panelist from Cote D'Ivoire highlighted Laws, Decree and Order protecting wildlife and specifically the chimpanzees, as below:

- Law n° 94-442 of August 16, 1994 amending Law No. 65-255 of August 4, 1965 relating to the protection of wildlife and the practice of hunting*

- *Law n ° 65-255 of August 4, 1965 relating to the protection of fauna and the practice of hunting (articles not modified in 1994)*

- Decree n ° 66-425 of September 15, 1966 regulating the traffic, circulation, import, exploitation of trophies of protected and spectacular animals and their bodies
- Order No. 621 AGRI / EFC of May 29, 1967 regulating the destination of game products
- Order No. 1069 of September 29, 1967 regulating the keeping of live animals by individuals
- Order No. 003 / SEPN / CAB of February 20, 1974 closing the hunt.

She indicated that according to these laws, Chimpanzees are listed in Appendix 1 "Fully protected species": Wild animals whose capture and hunting (including those of their young or their eggs) are prohibited except to holders of scientific permits within the limits and with the means listed in the permit (Law 94-442 of 1994);

Also, the circulation of the remains of fully protected animals (except for holders of a scientific permit specifically mentioning these animals) is strictly prohibited and gives rise to seizure (decree 66-425 of 1966);

At same time, the trade in bush meat is prohibited "The purchase, sale, transfer or exchange of any game meat or any game is prohibited on the markets, in trade as well as in favour or for the benefit of 'Administration (decree 621 of 1967)';

She clearly indicated that, according to Decree 1069 of 1967, the keeping, trade and export of fully protected animals is strictly prohibited except by holders of scientific or capture permits who have received authorization.

For these reason, many agencies are involved in the fighting against chimpanzee traffic and the conservation of chimpanzees and their habitats, including the Ministry of Wildlife and Forestry, the Directorate in charge of wildlife, forest resources in local, regional and national level, the special brigade for monitoring and intervention, the Office Ivoirien Des Parcs Et Reserves (OIPR), the Forest Development Society (SODEFOR).

Collaboration from all these organisations has led to some recorded successful result in fighting the wildlife traffic of chimpanzees in the Cote d'Ivoire. However the main problem is think about the case of captives' chimpanzees on private propriety as these is NO Sanctuary and we need to work forward the decision of the creation of private zoos. In addition consider the aspect of sensitization as there are NO information on the extent.

➤ The Republic of Sierra Leone

The panelist from Sierra Leone begun his statement with an

overview on the current status in the Law where it appear that:

- *Wildlife Conservation Act 1972 does not adequately protect wildlife in Sierra Leone.*
- *Chimpanzee declared national animal and new face of tourism, but still hunters of chimps liable to a fine of less than a dollar.*
- *Sierra Leone became a party to CITES in 1995 BUT the CITES is still not yet*

- implemented into national law
- In term of track record, Extensive work was conducted for previous attempts at wildlife law reform, but ultimately unsuccessful.

From the above, it appear that **the 1972 act does not adequately protect Chimpanzees** in Sierra Leone.

In term of National Legislation

- **1972- Sierra Leone Wildlife Conservation Act:**
Statute relating to conservation and legal protection of flora and fauna.
- **1985 – Presidential declaration:** Sierra Leone banned the Capture of chimps for National or International trade.
- Amended in Sierra Leone Conservation Act: Section 32 & 33 - Subsection 1&3

Law reform (2019-2020)

- Ministerial commitment – Mano River Union -Freetown Declaration on Countering the Illegal Wildlife Trade within the Sub-region, June 2019: MRU States agreed to harmonize legislation, and MRU agreed to encourage MRU States to implement CITES.
- NPAA is working with other SL governmental bodies, Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary, UK Sierra Leone Pro Bono Network, British High Commission and British International Security Advisory Team to:
 - implement CITES into SL national law, and
 - Strengthen protections relating to hunting, possession and destruction (and related offences) of endangered species.
- Comprehensive overhaul of Wildlife Conservation Act 1972.

➤ **The Republic of Guinea Bissau**

Concerning the Republic of Guinea Bissau, the panelist said that the chimpanzees has a limited distribution area and are known to be in the East and southern part of the country only.

Their area of distribution are around the national protected area and with a population estimated to be between **1000 and 6000 individuals**.

Some survey has been done on the behavior for more protection and the Institute for Biodiversity and Protected Areas (IBAP) has set up a monitoring system with clear indicator the include population these species from the indicated areas. This institute work directly in collaboration with the national directorate in charge of fauna & flora, the CITES authority, the Brigade for Nature protection and Environment, NGOs and the IUCN.

The country is Party of the CITES convention with laws on forest product, protected areas but does not have any

indication about penalties concerning the trade of chimpanzees.

Thus, there are some threat specifically for chimpanzees:

- *Fragmentation of the habitats (agriculture, farming, bush fire, creation of*

- villages)
- Demographic pressure
- Increase in the NTFP exploitation and reduce in wild fruits
- Increasing Human-Chimpanzees contacts
- Capture and trade of chimpanzees.
- Disease (zoonosis)

At the end the panellist from Guinea Bissau expressed that with regard to the above they face some big challenges to transfer two chimpanzees from the country to a sanctuary in Kenya. Therefore, the current challenges that they are facing include:

- *Actualize the National Action Plan for Chimpanzees*
- *Knowledge about the population of chimpanzees in the protected areas and in the country*
- *Improve the people perception on wildlife and these species*
- *Improve the behave and understanding of human-wildlife emerging conflicts*
- *Inventory of captive chimpanzees in the national territory.*

➤ *The Republic of Liberia*

As well as its neighboring Mano River Union's countries, the Republic of Liberia is party to the CITES and CBD convention in order to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.

And the national law focus on conserving the country's unique biodiversity and ecosystems services through stakeholder, especially community, involvement and participation in management in ways that ensure sustainable benefits, cultural values, and abiding by the rule of law, for now and generations to come, following the principle of the integration of community, conservation and commercial forest management. The objective of the national law in Liberia was indicated as follow:

Objectives

- *Provide, within the framework of national legislation, including the National Environmental Protection and Management Act and the Forestry Reform Law 2006, for the establishment of conservation areas and the management of wildlife.*
- *Provide for the protection of wildlife and wildlife management throughout the Republic.*
- *Provide for co-operative governance in the establishment of conservation areas and management of wildlife.*
- *Effect a national system of conservation areas in Liberia as part of a strategy to manage and conserve its biological diversity.*
- *Provide for a representative network of conservation areas on state land, private land and community lands.*
- *Promote sustainable utilization of conservation areas for the benefit of people, in a manner that would preserve the ecological character of such areas.*

- *Promote participation of local communities in the management of conservation areas and wildlife.*
- *Facilitate an integrated management of conservation and wildlife.*
- *Prohibit unlawful domestic trade in specimens, trophies, bush meat, or other*

derivatives of species subject to regulation under this Title.

For the implementation of the law, good collaboration between all related governmental agencies and ministries was indicated necessary in the country.

The panellist from Liberia indicted also that there are some key changes in the law for the following objectives:

- ✓ *Greatly Strengthened Wildlife Law*
- ✓ *Much Stricter Penalties*
- ✓ *Comprehensive Collaboration*
- ✓ *Utilisation of Joint Security*
- ✓ *Increased Clarity and Efficiency*
- ✓ *More Effective Enforcement*
- ✓ *CITES Compliant and Approved*

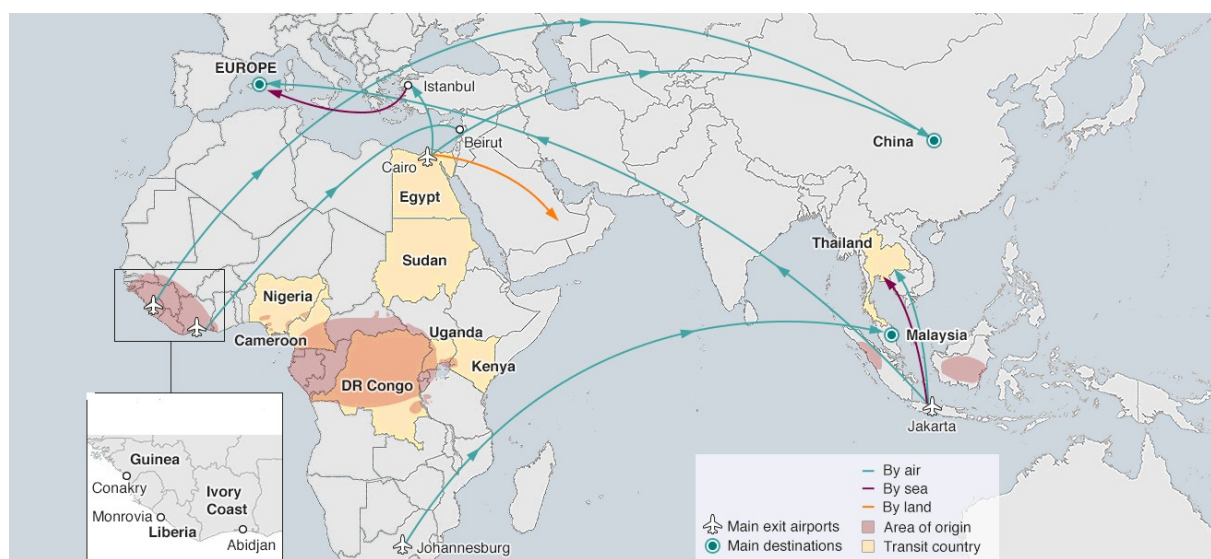
At the end of his communication, the Liberia panellist said: “Together We Can” therefore,

“For the sake of our future generations and the world we live in, it is vital that we stop criminals from putting livelihoods, security, economies and the sustainability of our planet at risk by illegally exploiting wild flora and fauna”, Ivonne Higuero, CITES Secretary General.

After representative from the above countries, the honour was to the Director of WARA GALF in Guinea to present the overview of the situation of wildlife trafficking in the Western African countries and their destination and market.

➤ **Presentation from the WARA Conservation, NGO**

This presentation begun with a maps indicating main international routes of illegal wildlife trafficking (maps below) and continue to explanation about the scope, networks and their mode of operation (modus operandi). Reference was also given about new prospective and operations.



Source: UNEP/UNESCO Stolen Apes report, BBC

BBC

The presentation highlighted there was a massive international trade organized as since 2007, over 130 chimpanzees et 10 gorillas has been illegally traded from Guinea to CHINA with false CITES permits signed by Guinea and at least 6 bonobos from Guinea to Armenia between 2011 and 2013.

This trafficking in an international level was huge with killing of over 1 300 Chimpanzees because to steal 01 live chimps, other 10 are killed.

The price for 01 chimpanzee is USD 20 000 and for 1 gorilla is USD 40 000 on international market and this trafficking can generate overall USD 3 000 000 of benefit.

An information was given about one of the traffickers called Ousmane Diallo, Guinea who declared to having illegally traded for over 500 chimpanzees since 1994.

The case of Ansoumane Doumbouya who was arrested & Sidibé Syndicate, Balla Doumbouya & Thierno Barry provide a clear and new lighting about this international trafficking of western chimpanzee. The following was highlighted:

- *Identification of two majors syndicate and networks for chimpanzee traffickers*
- *Guinea & Guinean's dealers are in the centre of this illegal trade*
- *Many African countries was identified*
- *China known as the important destination with over 100 of chimpanzees*
- *High level corruption of the CITES in many countries*
- *Complex organisation*

During this presentation lot of information was given concerning wildlife dealers, their networks, the complexity of their organisation (case of family business), the aspect of CORRUPTION, how they stock animals and their mode of operation.



GUINEA: *Stock of chimpanzees in one village – 2009 /2012 (GALF)*



IVORY COAST: Stock of chimpanzees in the « The blue room » of the Traoré - Abidjan

It appear clearly that these traffickers are very sophisticated for this business and they are connected with over 08 countries in the globe.

Some example was given concerning the Sidibe family and their network, the Traore family and their network and their organisation in the business through Africa (Guinea, Cote d'ivoire, Liberia, DR Congo, Togo, Mali, etc.)

The detail are in the PowerPoint presentation in the annex of this report.

- c. Discussion: Develop a plan to collect, manage, and share data from stakeholders including researchers, government, and NGOs*

For this discussion, three (03) groups was established where we manage to having at least one bilingual person in the groups in addition to interpreter's.

*The objective of this working group was: to establish a **system** for collection, management and sharing of data.*

The following questions was used per category:

Data collection and sharing:

- *What are the different types of data that need to be collected?*
- *Are there specific standards to be respected or that are recommended/acceptable for the data collection, management and sharing?*
- *How will the data management and sharing be organized ?*
- *What kinds of agreements/protocols/MOUs need to be*

considered for the system to work?



Photo of working groups in the conference hall

d. Sharing results in plenary

The result from each of the working group was presented and commented by participants in plenary session. Proposed answer were given by each group according to each question and results from all the groups were shared and summarized.

The results of working groups are presented in a table in the annex.

E. Session II: Successful models of fighting wildlife trafficking and protecting chimpanzees

a. Wild Chimpanzee Foundation

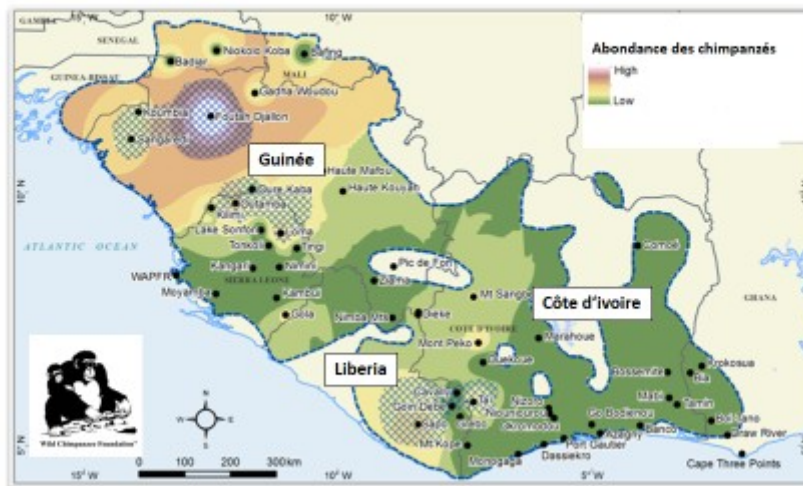
*The presentation from WCF begun by bringing the participants' attention to the **Conservation Paradox** by explaining the fact that:*

- Human activities are the main source of threats for animals and the flora BUT at the same time, humans are the most important ally to protect animals and the flora.*

Because, due to the climate change effects, communities see the impacts and start to think more in the middle term, and this is a great chance for conservation!

He indicated that since September 2016, the Western chimpanzee is listed as “critically endangered” on the IUCN red list of threatened species!

Distribution et densité des chimpanzés en Afrique de l'Ouest



From this presentation, it is clearly indicated that the habitat destruction are due to many factors including clear-cut for farming, logging, mining (artisanal or industrial) as well as charcoal and woody material and illegal hunting on chimpanzees are due to meat consumption, local and commercial, space and food competition mainly with farmers and wildlife trade. Also, other factors to be considered are the cases of disease for both endemic and transmissible (eg. Ebola) with negative impact on ecotourism.

During the presentation, some solution to the above were highlighted such as:

- ✓ *Local community awareness about the benefit of nature and biodiversity (addressing climate change issue, sustainable access to water and ecosystems services), co-management with local communities as well as their benefit from nature conservation.*
- ✓ *Work with local communities (as Eco guards) around national protected areas for training and monitoring activities in direct collaboration with park authorities.*
- ✓ *Mandate local communities to monitor the implementation of management plans as an Observers Independent Monitoring (OIM) with PA by a private partners (e.g. Logging companies) reporting to the national authorities that delivered the mandate to the private partner and confirm the respect of management plans*
- ✓ *Develop Ecotourism project to local benefits and develop the notion of the value of the PA in the local communities*

- ✓ *Develop and implement an environmental awareness for communities (Pan Club in school, theatre, round table, radio programmes, etc.)*

- ✓ *Community sustainable livelihood*
- ✓ *Support local communities to develop sustainable activities that improve their livelihood and at the same time reduce the pressure on the PA (sustainable livelihood programmes for communities)*

The presenter indicated that decreasing poaching in PAs has always been one of the main objectives of WVF for wildlife population thriving. This is why WCF is always working with national protected areas authorities to fight habitat destruction as one of the main threat. In addition, as National Parks are legally protected from illegal human activities, including poaching and wildlife trade (Campbell et al. 2008, Tranquilli et al. 2012, 2014), WCF as the project leader of the EU-funded project „Strengthening Local Communities and the Law Enforcement Network to combat Wildlife and Forest Crime in Liberia” is working to:

- ✓ *Coordinate with LCRP the „Law Enforcement Sub-Committee „(LESC) of the Liberian Species Working Group*
- ✓ *Create the Wildlife Crime Task Force (WCTF) under FDA.*
- ✓ *Initiated the creation of the trans-boundary „Trans-boundary Law Enforcement Technical Committee“ (TLETC)*
- ✓ *Setup phase for the creation of the Moyon-Bafing National Park*
- ✓ *Control wildlife trade in and around the park we collaborate with GALF.*

b. Chimbo Foundation

This presentation was made by Joris Pinkster, Board Member of the Chimbo Foundation focusing on how they stopped the hunting of Chimpanzees for the pet market in Boé in Guinea Bissau. He introduced by indication of the region in the country's map as below.



*He explained that their mission is Safeguarding the Western Chimpanzee population through community based conservation. To ensure the accomplishment of this, they work directly with a local NGO called **Daridibó**.*

*He indicated during the presentation that the good news with the people of Boé in Guinea Bissau is that: **“the population of Boé consider Chimpanzees as human beings that are punished by God and therefore have to live in the forest”**. So, the culture with respect for chimpanzees in Boé independence has been declared and they are supporting legislation and cooperative with of authorities.*

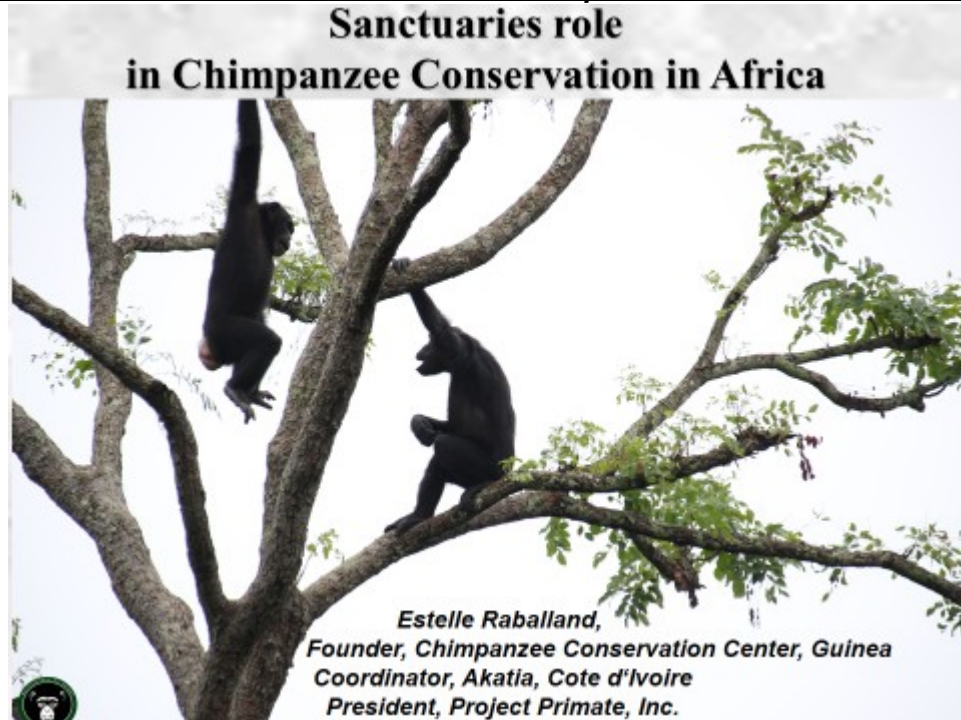
In addition to the above, he highlighted some of the strong point as below to be a Remote area rich in Biodiversity with large number of chimpanzee population (1,000 – 1,500) and small human population (about 12,000). However, there are some challenges which include:

- *High birth rates*
- *Immigration from Guinea*
- *Soldiers from different ethnic groups*
- *Small government presence*
- *Hunting for the market*
- *Increasing number of motorbikes*
- *2010 Concession for bauxite mining*

Therefore, the organizational strategy is to create commitment in the local communities (Village chiefs, Teachers, Imams, Regulo, Local radio, Local NGO's) and ask government to support Administrators, IBAP, DGFF, Police and security officials, Local army commander and soldiers.

In addition establish and implement a successful early fire programme as well as supporting the 41 fire brigades. This presentation was followed by the one on the roles of sanctuaries in the conservation of chimpanzees.

c. The roles of sanctuaries in chimpanzee conservation



At the beginning of this presentation, she indicated the statistic of chimpanzee since 2010. From 750 chimps living in 11 sanctuaries, the number increased by almost 50% in 9 years with 1.115 chimpanzees living in 15 sanctuaries in 2019.

She indicated that with Pan African Sanctuary Alliance (PASA) in 2000 23 member's sanctuaries were created with 15 care for chimpanzees including 3 in West Africa (Gambia, Guinea and Sierra Leone). Also, one is in creation in Liberia and another one planed for Cote d'Ivoire. According to Butynski in 2001, 7-20% of wild chimpanzee population live in the sanctuaries assuming the total wild chimpanzee population to be 150 000.

The PASA member's sanctuaries work with governments, NGO and local law enforcement authorities to support the wildlife Law Enforcement. Their roles include:

➤ PROSECUTION

In January 2018, the court sentenced the hunters to one year (1) of imprisonment with a fine of 100,000 GNF each. In terms of damages, the two traffickers are ordered to pay a sum of 150 million GNF to the State via its Ministry of the Environment, Water and Forestry, and 250 million GNF to the CCC, who filed as civil party. Collaboration between the GALF and the body of Conservationists and the CCC

➤ ANIMAL RESCUE AND CARE

- ✓ *Law enforcement officials do not confiscate animals*

*unless there is a sanctuary to receive and care for them
(Teleki 2001).*

- ✓ *From July 2018 to June 2019, Pan African Sanctuary Alliance member*

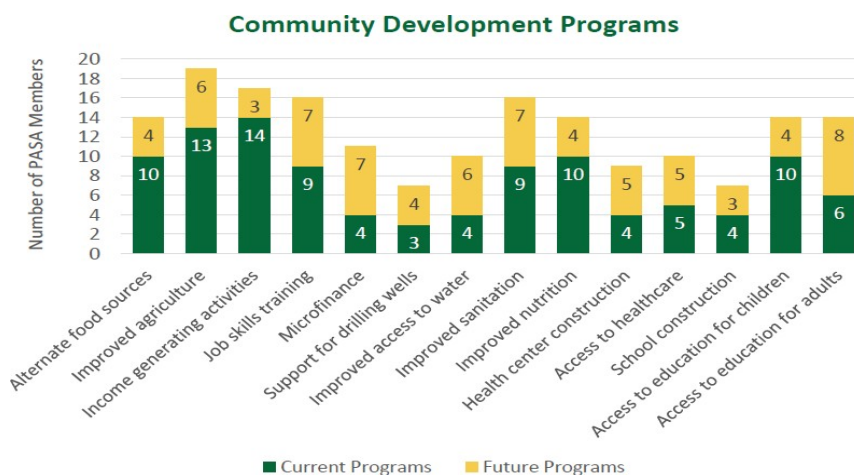
organizations rescued 1,156 animals, including 333 primates, from wildlife trafficking, the illegal bush meat trade and other threats.

- ✓ Emergency and lifelong healthcare, housing, rehabilitation and where possible reintroduction for primates and other wildlife confiscated by authorities, abandoned or injured through human-wildlife conflicts or habitat destruction.

➤ **PROTECTING CHIMPANZEES AND HABITAT**

- ✓ Nearly three-quarters of PASA sanctuaries conduct anti-poaching patrols and against illegal logging and illegal fishing in chimpanzees habitats.
- ✓ Sanctuaries support anti-logging and habitat protection campaigns.
- ✓ Reintroduction, surveys and monitoring have secured protection for Plateaux Batéké National Park (Gabon), The National Park of High Niger (Guinea), Conkouati-Douli National Park (Republic of Congo) for example.
- ✓ Successful model of chimpanzees, gorillas and bonobo reintroductions.

➤ **LONG TERM ENGAGEMENT TOWARDS LOCAL COMMUNITIES**



Almost all sanctuaries are supporting and/or the sole leader in community development programs

- ✓ Sanctuaries are permanent facilities in their communities and employ 880 people, of whom 791 are African nationals (786 full-time and 94 part-time)
- ✓ 90% of people employed by PASA members live in communities around the sanctuaries
- ✓ PASA sanctuaries contribute more than \$ 3 million annually to local economies

➤ **EDUCATION AND SENSITIZATION**

- ✓ Over 500,000 people educated each year.
- ✓ Interpersonal education and mass media
- ✓ Poverty reduction and Livelihood training
- ✓ Reforestation programs
- ✓ Improved hearth to reduce wood for cooking
- ✓ Mitigation of human-wildlife conflicts

➤ ***SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH***

- ✓ *83% of PASA members host researchers.*
- ✓ *Collaboration with Universities, articles publication*
- ✓ *Cam trap projects and Chimpanzee census - Tacugama*
- ✓ *Monitoring and assessment of wild chimpanzee population via Camtrap projects*

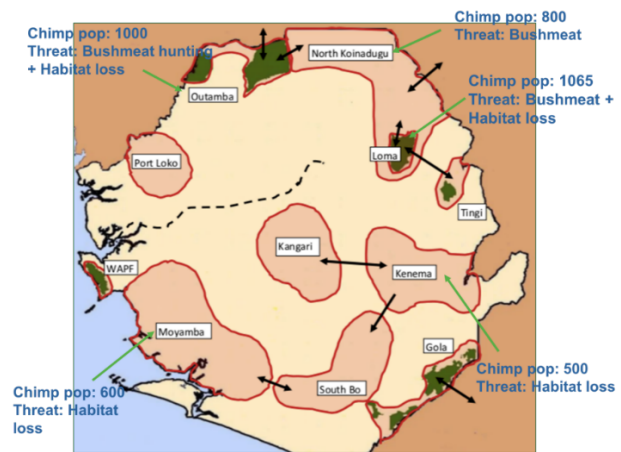
➤ **VOLUNTEERS OPPORTUNITIES**

- ✓ *Over 60% of Sanctuaries offer regular volunteer opportunities at their wildlife centers. In addition to their staff, volunteers participate in animal care, facilities upkeep, administration and communications, education and community projects, fundraising, research and monitoring, bio monitoring and veterinary care.*
- ✓ *Volunteers spread the word internationally and are sensitized to the cause. They are the next generation of conservationists.*
- ✓ *They also are a source of unattached funds.*
- ✓ *Sanctuaries are leaders in the conservation and welfare*
- ✓ *of Chimpanzees and primates in Africa*

Sanctuaries profound impact on communities, wild chimpanzee's populations, and government agencies, and the life-long care they provide to hundreds of animals, is critical to save West African chimpanzees from extinction.

As the bush meat trade and illegal wildlife trade rapidly expand and the chimpanzees and many other primate species approach the brink of extinction, sanctuaries and collaboration among them, with government agencies and NGOs are needed now more than ever.

d. Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary



....*Estimated remaining population in Sierra Leone: 5,500 individuals (2010)... Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary is the ONLY chimpanzee Rescue Centre in Sierra Leone and they work in direct collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) and the National Protected Areas Authority (NPAA). They have created in 1995 the Sierra Leone Chimpanzee Rehabilitation Programme and have almost 25 years of rescue and rehabilitation of Western Chimpanzees in Sierra Leone.*

With Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary, every chimpanzee reported has been rescued. In Sierra Leone, the following Entities are mandated to tackle Wildlife Crime in the country.

- ✓ Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary
- ✓ Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF)
- ✓ National Protected Areas Authority (NPAA)
- ✓ Interpol
- ✓ Police
- ✓ Military
- ✓ Transnational Organized Crime Unit (TOCU)
- ✓ Others: ISAT –MRU

With 07 ongoing projects in the country, Tacugama is more than a simple Chimpanzee Sanctuary. From the past 5 years 31 of the rescues at TCS has been due to information provided by the community members, and 70% come from the districts were TCS has project.



Currently TCS is active in 4 districts and 60 communities working on Education, Research, Alternative Livelihood support, Public Awareness, Advocacy, Law Enforcement and Information gathering.

Current Status

- *Wildlife Conservation Act 1972 does not adequately protect wildlife in Sierra Leone. Chimpanzee declared national animal and new face of tourism, but still hunters of chimps liable to a fine of less than a dollar.*
- *CITES implementation – Sierra Leone became a party to*

CITES in 1995, not yet implemented into national law.

- *Track record - Extensive work conducted for previous attempts at wildlife law reform, but ultimately unsuccessful.*

National Legislation

- *1972- Sierra Leone Wildlife Conservation Act: Statute relating to conservation and legal protection of flora and fauna.*
- *1985 - Presidential declaration: Sierra Leone banned the Capture of chimps for National or International trade.*
- *Amended in Sierra Leone Conservation Act: Section 32 & 33 - Subsection 1&3*

Law reform (2019-2020)

- *Ministerial commitment - Mano River Union -Freetown Declaration on Countering the Illegal Wildlife Trade within the Sub region, June 2019: MRU States agreed to harmonize legislation, and MRU agreed to encourage MRU States to implement CITES.*

Initial Working Group - NPAA, Tacugama, UK Sierra Leone Pro Bono Network, British High Commission and British International Security Advisory Team - conducted initial scoping exercise.

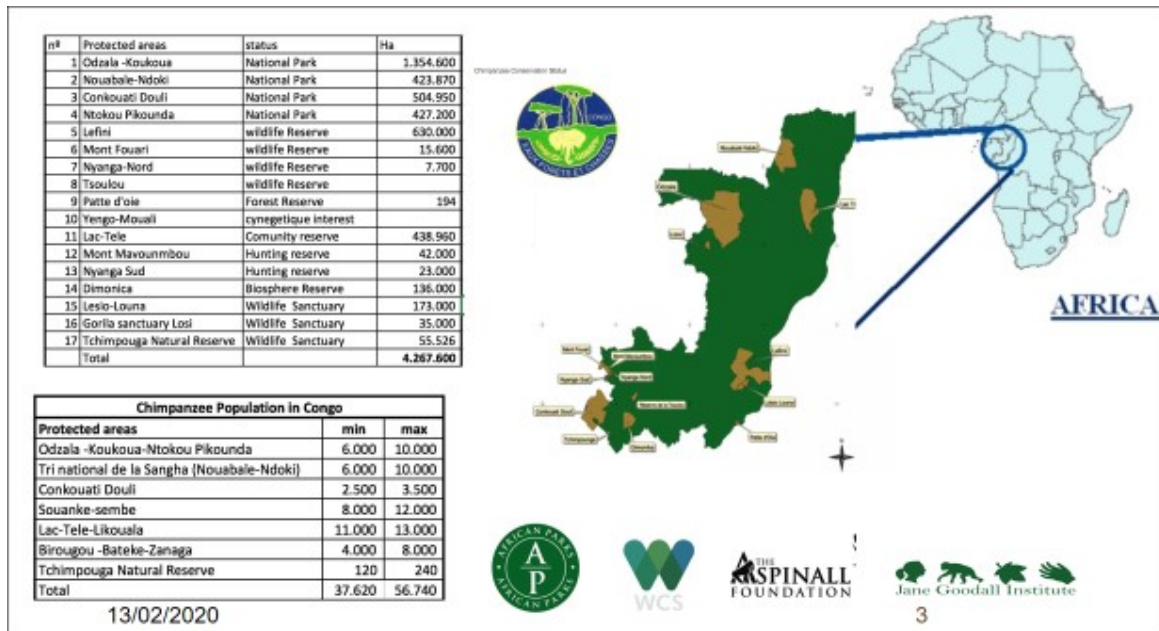
Now at the stage of bringing in key partners incl. Ministry of Justice, EPA, other Ministries and civil society.

With regards to the above, TCS is working with NPAA and other SL governmental bodies, UK Sierra Leone Pro Bono Network, British High Commission and British International Security Advisory Team to propose new amendment to the Law to:

- i. Implement CITES into SL national law, and*
- ii. Strengthen protections relating to hunting, possession and destruction (and related offences) of endangered species.*

e. Jane Goodall Institute - Congo / PALF

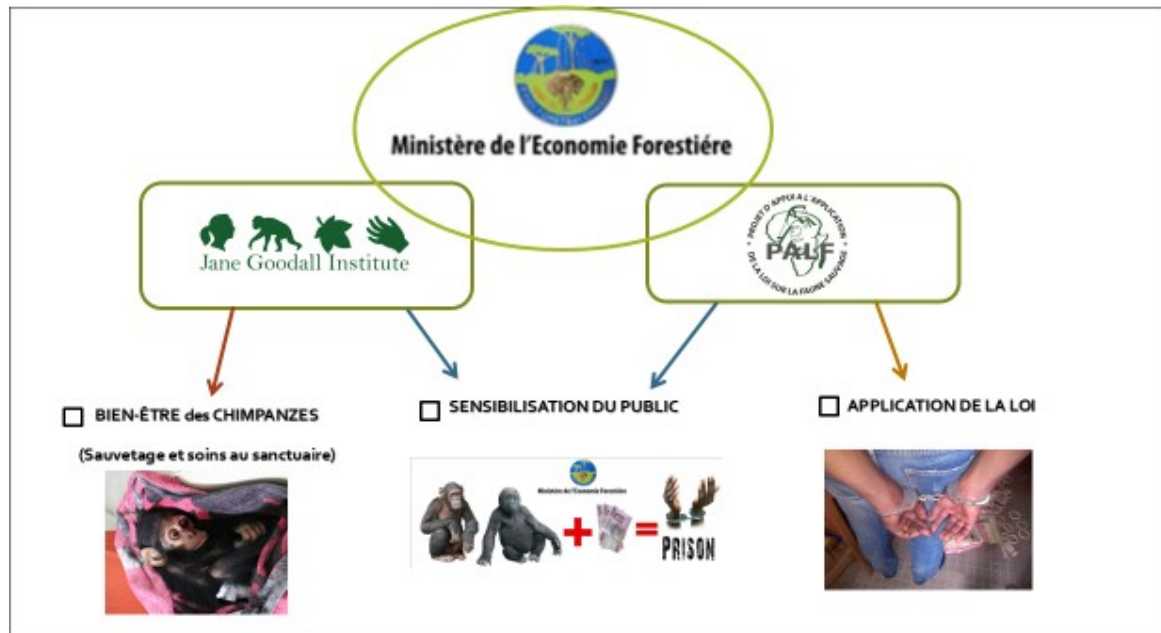
This presentation was made by Jack-Benisson MALONGA MERSY, Perrine ODIER and Rebeca Atencia from their activities in the Republic of Congo in Central Africa. In that country, the situation of chimpanzees is presented as below:



In the Republic of Congo, the rehabilitation Centre for chimpanzees “Tchimpounga” was established in 1992. At this time the main problem of the Centre is the increased number of chimpanzees as indicated below.



The work for the institute include the well-being of the Chimpnazees (save their life, sanitation & clinical treatment), the Enforcement of Laws and Public Awareness programme. And these works are done in directe collaboration with PALF (Projet d’Appui à l’Application de la Loi sur la Faune) and the Ministry of Forest Economy.



The protection of wildlife in the Congo Brazzaville and their management are guaranteed by number of laws which clearly explain penalties as indicated below:

- *Law n°37-2008 of 28 November 2008 on wildlife and protected areas*
- *Article 27 of the Law 37/2008, on 28 November 2008 indicate that:*
« importation, exportation, keep and transit in the national territory of strict protected species as well as their trophies are strictly prohibited ». The penalties for these can be jail for 5 years and from 100 000 CFA to 5 million FCFA
- *The institution involved in the law enforcement are mainly the Ministry of Forest Economy, Justice, Defence and Internal Affairs.*
- *It is noticed that support fighting wildlife crime is done by Non-Governmental organisation like PALF.*

For going forward, the expectation are:

- *A wildlife without crime ;*
- *A Congo effectively engaged to fight wildlife trafficking*
- *Effective Law Enforcement on the entire national territory of Congo*

Therefore, we must:

- ✓ *Encourage transparency and effective collaboration between the Forest and water Department and the prosecution services (Gendarmerie et Police);*
- ✓ *Make progress the understanding and the consideration of judge in dealing with wildlife crime and apply the same justice for all.*
- ✓ *Increase the effective collaboration and transparency with courts of justice*
- ✓ *Apply penalties for corrupted government employees*
- ✓ *Improve collaboration with and between NGO.*

f. GALF / WARA, model of law enforcement support

This presentation was made by the CITES Focal Point in Guinea and focused on

collaboration and combatting wildlife crimes specifically in the Republic of Guinea. The collaborative approach Government & NGO to ensure good governance in the implementation and enforcement of wildlife Law to monitor the following at end:

- ✓ Investigations*
- ✓ Operations / arresting traffickers*
- ✓ Justice Assistance*
- ✓ Media*
- ✓ Training*

Regular collaboration between Focal Points and the State in charge of prosecution of illegal wildlife trade and the GALF/NGO WARA, meaning the national unit in charge of combatting wildlife trafficking Focal Point at :

- CITES*
- Ministry of Environment*
- Ministry of Justice*
- Ministry of Security*
- GALF / WARA NGO*

The CITES Focal person indicated that the Ministry of Environment in the Republic of Guinea have established a new “National Brigade” of 185 paramilitaries to fight wildlife crimes. He also indicated that Guinea made some progress as it came from ZERO punishment 2012 to prosecution and regular condemnation with the rate of 01 trafficker arrested per week and overall 250 major traffickers arrested and send to the court.

Some statistic from 2012 were highlighted as bellow:

- Over 100 operations of people arrested by the State and GALF on the national territory*
- 220 traffickers were arrested and et condemned*
- Over 2 000 ivory items*
- Over 200 skins of animals*
- Over 1 000 animals in live taken from traffickers and free in the wild including mammals, chimps, snakes and birds*

Capacity building

- Overall 500 government employees trained including staff from the sector of Justice, environment, police, customs on combatting wildlife crimes and law enforcement aspects as well as writing minutes, CITES Convention, checking luggage at international borders, etc.*

Model of Law enforcement and experiences in the combatting organised wildlife crimes in Guinea

The crisis: organised crimes in link to species

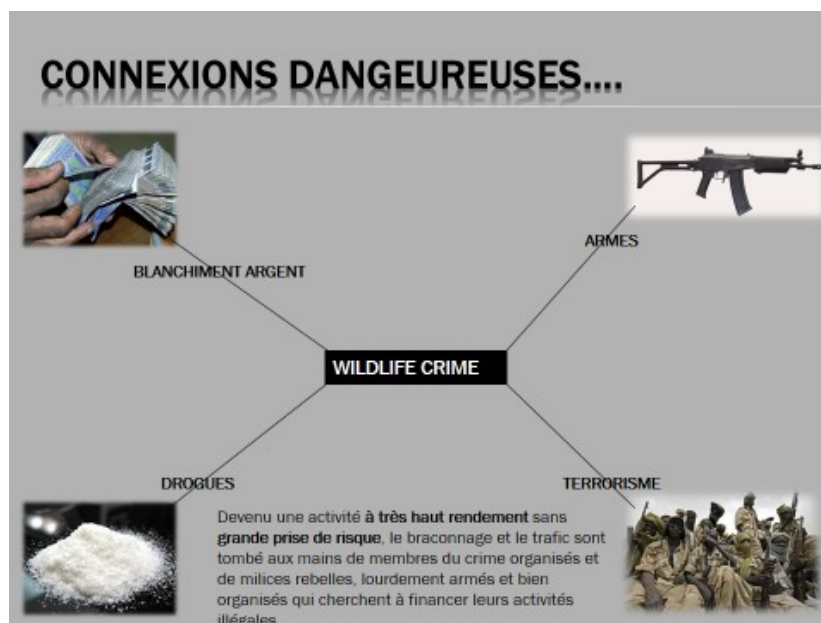
The illegal trade of wildlife species is a transnational organised crime. It is the 4th illegal trade in the world behind drugs, human trade generating overall 23 billions of dollars every year.

*This illegal trade is linked to corruption and other traffics
such as drugs and*

guns. It create unsustainability and support terrorism in Africa. Environmental, economic and security crisis ...

The Secretary General of UN Ban Ki-moon describe this wildlife crime as huge threat for security; stability, economy, natural resources and cultural heritage in many countries. It is about conservation problems but an organised criminal problem.

The only difference with traditional organised crime is the basic product. It is not about simple localised hunting. It is organised between powered criminal networks that generate illegal important profits. The criminal organisation uses sophisticated methods of traffics and corruption and influence to keep their system well protected. It is a very profitable activities with huge risk taking and dangerous connexion.



Links: *Dugs and Chimps operation in Cameroon in January 2006*

- ✓ *1 chimpanzee with 4 bags of marijuana (50kg each) + cocaine*
- ✓ *The trafficker was working with 04 hunters and was arrested and send to jail in LAGA.*

Emergency and importance of the problem with no previous rhythms

- ✓ *We estimate that 3000 chimps (orangs-outans, gorillas et chimpanzees) are loss in the nature every year*
- ✓ *35 000 elephants are killed each year, overall 100 per day*
- ✓ *90% the world requins population are destroyed in 10 years.*

g. Representatives from University of Porto and Cardiff

This presentation was focused on the Conservation of des chimpanzees in Guinea – Bissau with emblematic and flagship population facing threats; habitat fragmentation and loss

creating diseases transmission and crop foraging mortality as well as poaching, pet trade, skins and body part for traditional medicine. It was also about other challenging aspect of lessons learned from the transference of the chimpanzee

Bo and Bella from Guinea Bissau to the Sweet waters Sanctuary in Kenya.

The population is estimated to be over 3 437 with high genetically level and the traffics of chimps concern mainly private residency Hotels (poor welfare), Anecdotal export by pharmaceutical companies. The Hunters state capturing infants involve, killing adults (Ferreira da Silva 2012) as the said:

“It is not easy to catch a chimp baby; you have to kill his mother”

This is about a highly profitable business involving Costumers - foreigners (white people) supporting poaching. However the other main problem is that there is NO rescue centre for chimps in Guinea Bissau.

This is how Bo – the chimps seized in 2014 Cantanhez NP by IBAP became the most famous chimpanzee of Guinea-Bissau. As there is no rescue centre, they fail to reintroduce in the forest and he was habituate to live close-by to village in Cantanhez NP. Send to Cufada NP’s headquarter in 2015, he started to damage neighbouring houses and was accommodated in a vertical cage. He was 4 years old, 12 Kg.

Rescuing seized chimpanzees to an international sanctuary - the last step of law enforcement. To avoid the seized chimpanzees to probably die, decision was made to move seized chimpanzees to an international sanctuary. The transference was successful due to collaborative work between many institutions and people. But was very costly with 5 steps as indicated below.

Our steps, timeline and costs of the transference to an international sanctuary



What do we need to start a transference?

Updated information on procedures and legislation	Perseverance
Complete list of main tasks	Hope and good luck
Team-work	Optimism
Funding	Endless Patience
Good communication channels	



With this long, complex and expensive transference operation for only ONE chimpanzee for a total of 20,134 €, it appear to be very

expensive to repeat for many individuals

Therefore, the best course of action in Guinea-Bissau should be:

- *Increasing knowledge and improve working conditions of law enforcers and staff*
- *Reinforcing connection and communication between neighbouring countries facing similar difficulties to align strategies and share successful actions*
- *Improving environmental education and empower communities living in Protected Areas*
- *Building a rescuing centre to allow seizing other captive chimpanzees?*

Days 2: Friday, 31 January 2020

After a brief introduction of the first days, we begun this second days with Panel discussion before session III focused on the aspect of improving communication. What method and tools to use for good communication between partners and government as highlighted below.

h. Panel Discussion: Effective partnerships in West African countries (Liberia Wildlife Crime Task Force, transboundary agreements, Mano River Union)

The Panelists were Blamah Goll (FDA Liberia), Jenny Desmond (LCRP Liberia), Nouhou Ndam (WABICC-Accra, Ghana), and Jacqueline Konan (MRU representative) and Salimata Tondossama Née Koné (Director Wildlife Cote d'ivoire).

The discussion begun with Liberia and the Director of FDA explained how they have been successful in combatting wildlife trafficking. Liberia established the Species working Group (SWG) and for effective partnership, they signed a MoU and requested support from partners. They work with WABICC, collaborate with local communities, international NGO. They regularly organize coordination meeting (once a month).

In addition to the SWG of Liberia, Jenny Desmond (LCRP) indicated that they also developed a Wildlife Crime Protocol with FDA and other countries can learn from this success story of Liberia.

For Cote d'ivoire, the Director of Wildlife Directorate indicated that over the last year, they established a National Committee for collaboration in the Tai-Grebo Park between SODEFOR, Forest Department, OIPR (the protected Areas Manager) and Liberia. There are many mixed units including Police, Gendarme, Forest Rangers, Customs and the coordination is well ensured at national level with the mixed Unit.

Information about interventions and patrols are shared and collaboration on the top with support from WARA Eagle. To fight Wildlife Crimes, a Committee was established and thanks WABICC for their support for our CITES Master students. We also received support the USA Embassy for training programme in Ghana as well as another support from INTERPOOL for a training programme in Cameroon. We have very good collaboration with

all these organization.

However, there are some challenges that we face specifically about information gathering and prosecution process in a regional level with traffickers networks.

For the representative from the Mano River Union (MRU), the main problem is how to establish Policies and integrated management methods in a regional level. She indicated that the 15th Protocol of the MRU has is clear about a Jointly Unit with

specific case of trafficking Chimpanzees there possibility of mixed Patrols including local communities and jointly Patrols between militaries. In addition, the Declaration of Freetown invite to more collaboration for more actions in the field. Therefore, she expressed the willingness from MRU to be part of all discussion committees.

Before the end of the panel discussion, an opportunity was given to each panelist for final statement on the discussion. The Director of FDA (Blamah Goll) took this opportunity to thanks everybody and ask for more collaboration with all partners to be stronger with high capacities of interventions in combatting wildlife trafficking in the region. In addition, Jenny from LCRP suggested that an Action Plan per Species and per country should be good but it will be better to work together in a regional level therefore with a Regional Work Plan per Species

Also, the Cote d'ivoire panelist (Mme Konan) requested more financial supports from partners for the countries in this area. And Dr Nouhou from WABiCC focused on developing livelihood for local communities as an alternative.

For the MRU representative, she suggested an idea of establishing a coordination framework at the MRU level with support from donors.

With thanks to all the panelist, we then started the following session III as below.

***F. Session III: Improving communication and
collaboration within and
between governments and partners***

a. Methods and tools for communication about wildlife trafficking

This presentation begun with an overview of data collected on mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish and insects highlighted in a table. In the table, it was found that in some countries there is a gap for some categories of data as below.

EXAMPLE I

Country	Mammals	Birds	Reptiles and Amphibians	Fish	Insects
Benin	160	570	144	221	5500
Burkina Faso	28	516	60	121	1515
Cape Verde	5	239	5	273	GAP
Cote d'Ivoire	GAP	666	GAP	671	GAP
Gambia	126	566	77	627	784
Ghana	225	728	221	687	GAP
Guinea	GAP	629	GAP	798	GAP
Guinea Bissau	132	456	GAP	GAP	GAP
Liberia	150	600	114	606	1000
Mali	156	640	GAP	142	10
Niger	GAP	433	GAP	105	GAP
Nigeria	274	941	244	772	GAP
Senegal	192	623	102	799	GAP
Sierra Leone	170	274	122	685	GAP
Togo	GAP	GAP	GAP	GAP	GAP

The question with regard to this was that why these GAPS of information as it does not means there are no species in the country or no data in the country concerning each species and specifically wildlife trafficking. But only because of lack of right information at right moment in a right place.

Therefore the presentation clarify the fact that it is important to find out the problem. This is why the presenter highlighted the problem to be overall:

1. Language Barriers
2. Cultural & Institutional style of interaction?
3. Awareness of existing frameworks and options
4. Resources (human, technological, financial) for facilitating communication
5. Others...

So, to address these problem, we have to think about what type of question to ask in order to obtain the right data needed. The guiding question can be:

1. Why do we want to communicate?
2. Who needs to communicate?
3. What do we want to communicate?
4. How do we want to communicate?

As they said “because one hand cannot tie a bundle” according to the presenter, it appear important to ask our self the following question:

1. Why do we want to communicate?
 - Trafficking is transnational crime which requires regional/global coordination
 - We have scarce resources
 - We can be more efficient/effective if we work together
 - We can learn from each other

2. *Who wants to communicate?*

- *Enforcement agents*
- *Researchers*
- *Managers*
- *Media*

So, proper data communication should be amongst organisations' themselves and with other agencies as well as within and across countries.

3. *What do we want to communicate?*

- *Intelligence*
- *Data*
- *Best practices/norms/protocols*
- *New issues or ideas*
- *Achievements / challenges*
- *Lessons learnt*
- *Decisions*

4. *How could we communicate?*

Concerning the way to communicate, it was highlighted that, it should be good to use good networks and platforms such as:

- ✓ *Interpol*
- ✓ *TWIX*
- ✓ *MIKE*
- ✓ *ETIS*
- ✓ *SWGs*
- ✓ *National Task Forces or IWT Units*
- ✓ *MRU Border Units*
- ✓ *Transnational /bilateral committees or working groups*

5. *How do we want to communicate?*

Some tools and Technologies for communication were indicated as below:

- *For Enforcement Gap Interface (EGIS)*
<https://news.mongabay.com/2016/10/egi-filling-in-the-gaps-in-law-enforcement-for-the-online-wildlife-trade/>

- *For WildScan*
https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=org.freeland.wildscanapp&hl=en_US

- *For Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART)*
<https://forestcompass.org/how/digital-technologies/smart-spatial-monitoring-and-reporting-tool>

In addition to the above, we can communicate using other tools and technologies such as Mailing Lists, Applications (e.g. WhatsApp, Telegram, and Facebook groups), Meetings and conferences, Newsletters. When thinking about all these, it is

important

to consider some criteria such as the cost, Ease of access (how many people can access, e.g. WhatsApp/Telegram), Permanence access, Ease of management (location, who manages, protocols, etc.), Frequency of use (e.g. meetings) and Security



requirements (vetting, encryption, etc.).

At the end it was clearly appeared that it is good to have a vision and objective for group like species working group concept which have the following:

Vision:

Improved coordination, collaboration and access to current scientifically collected data on priority threatened species, contributes to better management of biodiversity, and thus to mitigating all threats to these same priority species especially habitat loss, habitat degradation and wildlife trafficking.

Objective

1. Strengthen systems for data collection and sharing on priority threatened species of birds, mammals, reptiles or other biodiversity at national level
2. Strengthen communication, collaboration and coordination between species data owners and biodiversity management authorities within each country.
3. Facilitate sharing of data and coordination on design and implementation of Regional species management strategies, action plans biodiversity conservation models.

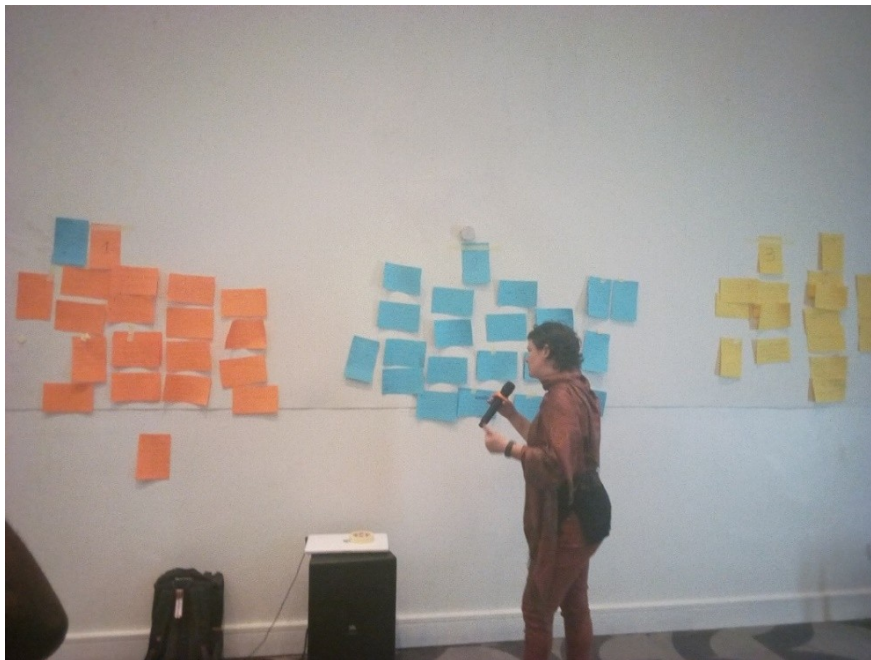
After this presentation, we divided participant into groups for working on the following question concerning communication improvement.

1. What are the challenges or constraints to Communication and collaboration between CWT institutions?
2. What methods / models / approaches would you

suggest to address these challenges?

3. Who should be responsible for making this happen?

The results from this brainstorming workings groups are presented in a table in the annex. During the discussions, the IWT units was given to be an example of effective communication. The results were shared and presented in plenary as we can see on the photo below.



For the above three questions, the answers were categorized by color as in the above photo. The most answers that came up for each question in the group are indicated are follow:

1. What are the challenges or constraints to Communication and collaboration between CWT institutions?

Lack of data, diversity of language, absence of collaborative framework, lack of platform (national and regional), lack of inventory for some species, multisectorial Units for combatting wildlife trafficking inexistent, fight against Corruption, No protocol on sharing information, sensitive information (no agreements / Protocols to share), organisational structure, priorities between organisations, harmonisation of Laws and Policies, languages barriers, No willingness to share information, bureaucracy in national and regional level, insufficient Coordination mechanism, Weakness in technical capacities, insufficient communication in local level, competence conflicts and Leadership, lack of focal point in institutions, little knowledge of the different competencies of each entity, collaboration meetings, knowledge of power, tradition and culture, lack of standardized protocol of communication, lack of institutional organisation, the final use and destination of data not well know

2. What methods / models / approaches would you suggest to address these challenges?

Regular meeting between institutions, sharing information and data, avoid unilateral

declaration, open call to engage those who are really serious, establish data on all concerned institutions, agencies in national and regional level, establish platform in national and regional level, involve media groups, establish wildlife crime combatting units, review wildlife code in some counties, validate actions plan, create an official international Network, partnership between countries, sign MoU, organise single plan group to centralise information, definition of institutional contacts, network of sharing information, education and awareness, organise platform for sharing data, establish focal points for easy communication at national and regional level, create a Bureau for Coordination with representative from each stakeholder, assigned management, clearly defined and funded joint project with clearly identified point of contact and information managers, clarity on expectations, goals and purpose, technical financial support from donors, building and strengthen relationship between institutions, improve, encourage and ensure good governance, establish an exchange programme, sign MoU and harmonised terminology and instant translate capabilities, consistency.

3. Who should be responsible for making this happen?

The Government of each country, Ministries and institutions in charge of wildlife, local and international NGOs, local communities, CITES Focal Points, organization and partners, Donors or Funders, independent international bodies (IUCN, ECOWAS, MRU, etc.), Regional working groups, all stakeholders, etc.

Establishing a communication protocol and effective communication tools

For establishing effective communication, the WARA GALF presented an example of regular collaboration between the NGO, the CITES Focal Point and the country Ministry of Environment, Security and Ministry of Justice about illegal trafficking of wildlife.

As indicated previously, they reminded about the fact that Guinea passed from Zero to more and regular arrest and judgement of wildlife criminals. They indicated that, the success of these depend to good and effective communications between actors. Beginning from investigation, arresting traffickers, their judgement to sending them to jail, effective and efficient communication appear to be keys. And collaboration between services, NGO and all stake holders are important part of the process.

After this, it is important to monitor and support authorities during the process and support fighting corruption and communicate through media such as highlighting in newspapers as below:

MEDIA



The main objective is to inform the public about Law enforcement and discourage others potentials traffickers. This can also be done through Radio, TV, and Newspapers and online. It can also be used to help people to change their behaviour and attitude.

Training



For better understanding of the legislation, justice procedure and wildlife traffics by security forces, customs, justice people, environmental workers and increase collaboration and good communication, it is important to proceed to training of each of them.

This help to improve knowledge for Justice Workers, paramilitary agents of the Ministry of environment for treating wildlife crimes cases and increase collaboration between services.

The main question about WHY the Law is not applied? The fact is that there are

some obstacles:

- Corruption
- Lack of professionalism of some State workers
- No monitoring of cases from beginning to end
- Ignorance of Law for some judges
- Weakness of decision made by the courts
- Lack of inter-agency collaboration

It appear clearly that if we cannot stop corruption then we will not be able to stop illegal wildlife trafficking in Africa. Therefore, some authorities involvement were about: guns, tolerating and participating in the trade, using power influence, ordering poaching and no consideration for the law.

A typically example for this was the case of A. Doumbouya in Guinea, a former CITES Focal Point involved in wildlife trafficking who two year later after he is removed from the CITES position in 2013, was signing authorisation to deliver CITES permit for chimps in 2015.

Some results from law enforcement in 2012 were highlighted by the presentation with over 100 of operations by GALF and the State, 220 traffickers arrested in Guinea, 2 000 ivory items, 200 skin of animals and overall 1 000 live animal including 20 chimpanzees, reptiles and birds.

This should not happen if there was no good collaboration with all stakeholders.

In addition, through a capacity building programme, as indicated previously, overall 500 Governmental employees were trained including Judges, agent from the Ministry of Environment, the Police, and Customs on fighting the wildlife organised crimes on wild species. The training topics include the establishment of minutes, knowledge about CITES convention, border control, the Law and other methods use by traffickers.

At the end it appear that Law enforcement and effective application of law remain the only way to discourage traffickers.

G. Session IV: Developing a work plan to combat chimpanzee trafficking, including priorities and indicators for monitoring and reporting

This was the last session of the conference and was mainly done through break-out groups. The focus of the groups were developing recommended action, indicators for monitoring and reporting. The question used for this working group session were the following:

1. *Developing a work plan to combat chimpanzee trafficking*
 - *Drivers of chimpanzee trafficking*
 - *Recommended solutions*

2. In top order of priority, list the most important

drivers/solutions to be addressed in 2020

3. *Based on the prioritized list in "2" above, list the strategic objectives to be considered for 2020*

4. *Propose indicators for the strategic objectives defined above*
5. *For each strategic objective, list the interventions that are required for its achievement*
6. *Please provide your views on the implementation mechanisms or processes that would be required*
 - a. *Partnerships*
 - b. *Resources*

The results from each aspect and each question were presented and shared in plenary.

After these, each group continued to work on prioritizing actions for 2020 and coordination issues. Also, a road map was created and next step to complete a work plan that uses prioritized action and indicators. All results from group work are joined in the annex.

Before the end of the conference, a declaration was presented, reviewed and commented by all participants. This declaration was approved by all participants as Declaration of Conakry. In addition, a working group was established with representative from participating countries and institutions for ensuring the next step work to complete the work plan

VII. Conference closing ceremony

For the closing Ceremony, the Ministry of Environment was represented by the National Director of Forest and Water resources. Before his statement, the Director of WABiCC took this opportunity to thank all participants and express his willingness to be at this conference on chimpanzee conservation. He indicated that during his first period in Guinea in 90', he could not believe if we will be having this kind of conference as at that time, those illegal trade were happening publically (at Novotel Hotel) and nobody was acting to stop it.

After him, the Director of WARA GALF was pleased to express her willingness to be part of those who supported this conference for chimpanzee conservation. She expressed her thankfulness to organizers, Sanctuaries, USAID, WABiCC, and the Government of Guinea and was very happy to share their experiences with all participants. They will always be available to share their experiences with Guinea and all the other countries.

For the closing statement, the Director of Forest and Water Resources began by thanks to all the partners. After two days of exchange on the illegal wildlife trafficking, it is important to notice that those who are involved in this kind of business change their operational method from time to time and we need

to be aware of it. Therefore, we need more effective collaboration to succeed in this action. Finally, in the name of the Minister of Environment, his declared close the conference Conservation of Western Chimpanzees in Conakry, Republic of Guinea.

VIII. ANNEXES

1. List of participants

*2. Terms of reference for the groups discussion
(questionnaire)*

3. Results from working groups per category

4. PowerPoint presentations during the conference

5. Questionnaire for the evaluation of the conference

6. Conakry Resolution on Combating illegal Trade in Western Chimpanzees

7. Planning for the Next Step

8. Terms of reference of the conference and the Agenda

***Action for Chimpanzees
Conference on
Conservation of
Western Chimpanzees
Conakry, Guinea***

Terms of Reference

Dates: 29 – 31 January 2020

Location: Noom Hotel, Conakry, Guinea

Subject: A Conference about the Strategic Management and Conservation Status of Western Chimpanzees

Hosts: Pan African Sanctuary Alliance (PASA), West African Biodiversity and Climate Change Program, and their partners

Conference Mission Statement: The impetus of this conference is the urgent need to reduce trafficking of western chimpanzees, because sanctuaries have seen a significant increase in confiscations in recent years and are close to capacity. Without sanctuaries that have space to accept confiscated chimps, a key component of wildlife law enforcement is missing. The main intent of this

conference is to create a road map for producing

concrete actions in the near future. **Conference**

Objectives:

Objective 1: Understand the status of policy and enforcement action plans, strategies, and other approaches for combatting trafficking of chimpanzees and other wildlife, such as the draft Western Chimpanzee Action Plan (WCAP) and the draft West Africa Strategy for Combatting Wildlife Crime (WASCWC)

Objective 2: Develop a clear and common understanding of the problems facing western chimpanzees, their scale, and the gaps in available data, and agree on how to address gaps in knowledge and management and work collaboratively to reduce chimpanzee trafficking

Objective 3: Identify viable models from around the world for partnerships, fundraising and effective enforcement of anti-IWT interventions that can be applied in West Africa, including through the draft WCAP and the draft WASCWC

Objective 4: Develop an awareness-raising and communication protocol to increase knowledge, understanding, collaboration and coordination among government agencies, NGOs, and local communities to fight wildlife trafficking

Objective 5: Develop a work plan to combat chimpanzee trafficking in the region through implementation of the WCAP, including priorities and indicators for monitoring and reporting (e.g. on enforcement, awareness, capacity-building, and chimpanzee welfare), and commitments from government officials and NGO representatives to conduct it.

Wednesday, 29 January 2020

Time	Description	Notes
Variable Arrival of delegates		
20:00	Guests are free to socialize at the terrace of the Hotel restaurant	Noom

Thursday, 30 January 2020

Time	Description	Speaker / Notes
8:00	Conference registration	Bel Air conference room

9:00	<i>Welcome and opening remarks Overview of objectives and agenda</i>	<i>Minister of the Environment, Water and Forests of the Republic of Guinea; U.S Embassy in Guinea; government and donor representatives and organizers</i>
9:30	<i>Participant introductions</i>	<i>All participants</i>

9:45	<i>Introductory presentation: Wildlife crime in West Africa and the ECOWAS Strategy</i>	ECOWAS
10:15	Coffee & tea break / Group photo	
10:30 – 13:00	Session I: Defining the scale of the chimpanzee trafficking problem	
10:30	<i>Overview of the international chimpanzee trade in West Africa Status of the Western Chimpanzee Action Plan</i>	Tatyana Humle
11:10	<i>Summary of laws protecting chimpanzees and chimpanzee trafficking in each country</i>	Panelists from Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, and Guinea
11:25	<i>Summary of laws protecting chimpanzees and chimpanzee trafficking in each country</i>	Panelists from Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Charlotte Houpline
11:45	<i>Discussion: Develop a plan to collect, manage, and share data from stakeholders including researchers, government, and NGOs</i>	Three break-out groups
12:30	<i>Sharing results in plenary</i>	Group secretaries report
13:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 17:20	Session II: Successful models of fighting wildlife trafficking and protecting chimpanzees (15-minute presentations with 5 minutes of questions)	
14:00	<i>Wild Chimpanzee Foundation</i>	Christophe Boesch
14:20	<i>Chimbo Foundation</i>	Joris Pinkster
14:40	<i>Freeland</i>	Sean O'Reagan
15:00	Coffee & tea break	
15:15	<i>The roles of sanctuaries in chimpanzee conservation</i>	Estelle Raballand
15:30	<i>Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary</i>	Bala Amarasekaran
15:50	<i>Jane Goodall Institute - Congo / PALF</i>	Rebeca Atencia & Perrine Odier
16:10	<i>GALF / WARA, model of law enforcement support</i>	Charlotte Houpline
16:30	<i>University of Porto; Cardiff University</i>	Maria Joana Ferreira Da Silva
16:50	<i>Panel Discussion: Effective partnerships in West African countries (Liberia Wildlife Crime Task Force, transboundary agreements, Mano River Union)</i>	Blamah Goll, Abednego Gbarway, and Jenny Desmond; Tondo Sama; Jacqueline Konan
17:20 – 17:30	Day 1 Evaluation and Closure	

Friday, 31 January 2020

Time	Description	Speaker / Notes
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<i>8:30</i>	<i>Introducing Day 2</i>	<i>Gregg Tully</i>
<i>8:30 – 11:00</i>	<i>Session III: Improving communication and collaboration within and between</i>	

	<i>governments and partners</i>	
8:30	<i>Methods and tools for communication about wildlife trafficking</i>	<i>TBD, Michael Balinga</i>
8:45	<i>IWT units as examples of effective communication</i>	<i>Bora Diallo and Charlotte Houpline</i>
9:00	<i>Brainstorm: Improving communication</i>	<i>Work at tables</i>
	<i>Sharing results in plenary</i>	<i>Tables report</i>
9:35	<i>Establishing a communication protocol and effective communication tools</i>	<i>Facilitated discussion</i>
	<i>Coffee & tea break (a working break)</i>	
<i>10:30 – 18:00</i>	<i>Session IV: Developing a work plan to combat chimpanzee trafficking, including priorities and indicators for monitoring and reporting</i>	
10:30	<i>Explanation of break-out group tasks</i>	<i>In plenary</i>
10:45	<i>Developing recommended actions</i>	<i>Break-out groups by country</i>
<i>12:00</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	
13:00	<i>Sharing results in plenary</i>	<i>Group secretaries report</i>
13:30	<i>Indicators for monitoring and reporting</i>	<i>Break-out groups by country</i>
14:15	<i>Sharing results in plenary</i>	<i>Group secretaries report</i>
<i>14:45</i>	<i>Coffee & tea break</i>	
15:00	<i>Prioritizing actions and coordinating them throughout the region</i>	<i>Facilitated discussion</i>
15:45	<i>Adopting recommendations for monitoring and reporting</i>	<i>Facilitated discussion</i>
16:30	<i>Create a “road map” and next steps to complete a work plan that uses prioritized actions and indicators</i>	<i>Facilitated discussion</i>
<i>17:30 – 17:45</i>	<i>Conference closing ceremony</i>	