



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



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WELCOME

The SWM Programme is now in its second year of testing innovative approaches to achieve both human development goals and wildlife conservation. We are generating a lot of valuable data, knowledge and experiences from our field projects in the twelve participating African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States countries. How will we share this knowledge and the lessons learned?

The success of the SWM Programme will depend on the preparation of evidence-based knowledge products, and their effective dissemination and use by a wide variety of audiences. The aim is to promote sustainable change and expand the impact of this European Union-funded initiative.

These knowledge products will build on our four main objectives to achieve sustainable levels of hunting, increase the supply of sustainably produced meat products and farmed fish, reduce consumption of wild meat in urban areas and strengthen hunting legislation and its enforcement. They will also be based on the comprehensive site-specific Theories of Change, which underpin the robust monitoring, evaluation and learning systems now in place at each site.

The four SWM Programme partners are currently working together to define a comprehensive suite of SWM knowledge products. In addition, we will soon be launching a joint public knowledge management portal to ensure that SWM knowledge is widely and easily accessible. Watch this space!

Hubert Boulet
SWM Programme Coordinator

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HIGHLIGHTS

Summarised below are the highlights from each SWM site for the period November 2019 to February 2020. They build on the highlights in the first, second and third SWM Newsletters.

Congo - Ouessou basin

Ten local men and women from the Ouesso basin received a three-week-long SWM training in value chain analysis data collection. This survey team was then deployed to three forest camps, which include eight villages, where they were able to carry out 2 648 individual surveys and 76 group interviews.

Democratic Republic of the Congo - Ituri landscape

Socio-economic surveys were finalised and consumption surveys are progressing well (921 individuals surveyed in Mambasa, Niania and Wamba and 1 400 household surveys in 13 rural villages). The SWM team was trained in the use of camera traps for wildlife monitoring. The FPIC protocol was completed with support from Forest Peoples Programme.

Gabon - Mulundu Department

Information dashboards for 3 hunting areas have been presented to stakeholders to assist in the establishment of hunting management committees. With support from the Gabon SWM Project, a working group on hunting and trade is being created at the national level.

Guyana - Rupununi Savannahs

The SWM team raised awareness about the fisheries management plan in 20 communities and collected data on fish consumption in 345 households. The second environmental education module has been rolled out in four communities. The new livestock team has started to provide capacity building and awareness raising for chicken producers.

Papua New Guinea - Bismarck Forest Corridor

Efforts focused on establishing project activities in the remote Kwiop community, which joined the SWM programme in Year 2. These included strengthening the capacity of the community-based organization, establishing a community nursery, training in GIS and tree nurseries and updating the community land-use plan.

Madagascar - Makira landscape

An SWM survey of 300 household showed that 90 percent of the population prefer meat from domestic animals or fish to wild meat. This is an encouraging result for households that have been supported by SWM in poultry and fish farming development. Fish ponds were rehabilitated and stocked with 680 endemic paratilapia fry.

Sahelian Wetlands Site - RESSOURCE Project

Chad, Egypt, Mali, Senegal and Sudan

The peak period for field project activities is midwinter when migratory waterbirds congregate in the Sahelian wetlands. Censuses of waterbird populations are being undertaken simultaneously with local partners in five countries. Value chain studies (meat consumption, monitoring of hunting records) are also a major focus.

Zambia and Zimbabwe - KaZa Transfrontier Conservation Area

In Zimbabwe, three community centres and key water points were rehabilitated, ten mobile bomas against carnivore intrusion were deployed, the baseline survey was completed, and an exchange visit was organized in Namibia. In Zambia, the focus was on strengthening partnerships with local communities and chiefs and collaborations with Panthera and the Peace Parks Foundation.

SPECIAL FOCUS - MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING

The SWM Programme has put in place a comprehensive Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) system. It is based on a Theory of Change (ToC), which explains how and why a desired change is expected to happen in a particular context.

The SWM programme-level ToC builds on the four major interconnected results. At each of the eight pilot sites, this ToC has been adapted to create site-level ToCs that reflect the local context, issues and the different wildlife management models to be tested and then replicated.

By tracking and reporting on selected ToC-based indicators, we can monitor progress and refine the wildlife management models as we acquire new knowledge, experience and insights. This adaptive management approach is also being used to engage communities in the design of activities in line with the SWM community-rights-based approach.



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COUNTRY STORY - REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

"Northern Congo has one of the most ecologically intact rainforest ecosystems and diverse fauna in the whole of Africa," explains Dr Germain Mavah, the SWM Site Coordinator in the Republic of the Congo. However, this rich biodiversity is under threat from the over-exploitation of ungulates, primates and fish to feed a rapidly growing population. At the same time, the depletion of wildlife is undermining the livelihoods of people who rely heavily on hunting and fishing for food, income and cultural identity. At the Ouesso market, wild meat is openly sold (see photo) and remains one of the most affordable sources of protein.

To tackle this challenge, the SWM Congo Project sets out to implement participatory sustainable wildlife management models in Forest Managements Units, to increase the supply of cheap protein from domestic animals in secondary towns and logging camps and to reduce wild meat consumption in main urban centres. These activities are coordinated by the Wildlife Conservation Society and implemented by Dr Mavah and his field team through a collaborative partnership approach. "All the SWM Congo Project activities are developed and carried out in close collaboration with the local communities, and are supported by the CIB (Congolaise Industrielle des Bois), which manages forest concessions, and the Ministry of Forest Economy," emphasises Dr Mavah.



EVENTS CORNER

SWM Programme Second Six-Month Implementation Workshop

28 – 31 January 2020
Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo.

This technical SWM workshop brought together approximately 40 participants to review progress in site implementation since August 2019, to address specific issues and ensure that plans for the next six months are aligned and on track.



Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

24 – 29 February 2020
FAO Headquarters, Rome, Italy

This meeting brought together delegates from over 140 nations to further develop the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The SWM Programme booth generated considerable interest, as did a lunchtime side event. [Tweet](#)



FACTS AND FIGURES

SWM Theories of Change (ToCs) created.

- **8 site ToCs** conceptualizing wildlife management models
- **1 programme ToC** displaying the priority threats to wildlife

Now implementing **Year 2** of this **seven-year ACP** initiative

FROM THE FIELD



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One of the smallest chameleons in the world at the SWM Madagascar site.

NEWSROOM

Recent SWM Programme news items include:

- Fourth RESSOURCE Newsletter (July – December 2019) published in [French](#), [English](#) and [Arabic](#).
- Three videos on the SWM Madagascar project were launched on the [SWM YouTube playlist](#)
- FAO homepage story – Counting for better conservation – Building capacity in local communities in Senegal. [click here](#)
- CIFOR Forest News – Sustainable wildlife management key as Guyana faces rapid economic change story. [click here](#)

WHAT'S COMING UP?

- International Day for Biological Diversity
22 May 2020
<https://www.cbd.int/ldb/2020>
- Fourth RESSOURCE Project Steering Committee
2-4 June 2020 (AEWA Secretariat, Bonn, Germany)
- European Development Days
9 – 10 June 2020 (Brussels, Belgium)
<https://www.eudevdays.eu/>

SWM TALKS

Dr. David S. Wilkie, Executive Director,
Conservation Measures and Communities, Wildlife
Conservation Society (WCS)



People have hunted and fished wild animals for food since we evolved from our great ape ancestors. For most of human history, our small global population and simple technology ensured that hunting and fishing was sustainable.

Today, there are over seven billion people on Earth, and the human population continues to grow by over 80 million people each year. In many places, and particularly in African countries, production of animal-source foods is not keeping pace with growing demand, and hunting and fishing of wild animals has increased to unsustainable levels to feed hungry families with few alternative options.

Today 78 percent of the 600 marine fish stocks monitored by FAO are fully exploited or over-exploited. Habitat loss and over-harvesting mean that the biomass of wild mammals, birds, reptiles, and fish produced each year on Earth can now only provide a tiny percentage of the human population with the food they need.

Indigenous Peoples and traditional communities are still dependent on wildlife for food and cultural identity. To ensure that these vulnerable families continue to have access to wildlife the SWM Programme is helping them to secure and exercise their territorial rights, and is promoting the sustainable production of livestock and fish needed to feed our growing human population.



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