



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



**SWM SUSTAINABLE
WILDLIFE
MANAGEMENT
PROGRAMME**

newsletter

Issue 2 - April to June 2019

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WELCOME

In the first issue of the SWM Newsletter, I emphasised that the SWM Programme is both exciting and innovative. Having seen first-hand our projects in many of the thirteen African, Caribbean and Pacific pilot sites, I feel even more strongly that these adjectives correctly describe our work.

However, I would now like to add "collaborative" to this list. The SWM Programme goes from strength to strength where we collaborate and draw on the wealth of expertise within the four partner organisations (FAO, CIRAD, CIFOR and WCS). This second edition of the SWM Newsletter emphasises this need to develop solutions together, and in particular, our commitment to working together with indigenous peoples and rural communities.

Effectively communicating our progress is part of this collective effort. Since April, we have launched six SWM videos, which include films on our project activities in [Guyana](#) and [Senegal](#) and short stories on the people with whom we work - meet [Vivian](#), [Astou](#), [Asaph](#) and [Assane](#)! We will be producing similar videos at every site. Please take a look, like and share!

Hubert Boulet
SWM Programme Coordinator

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L'ENVIRONNEMENT MONDIAL

HIGHLIGHTS

Summarised below are the highlights from each SWM site for the period April to June 2019. They build on the highlights in the first [SWM Newsletter](#).

Democratic Republic of the Congo - Ituri landscape

The SWM Free, Prior and Informed Consent protocol has been tailored to the local context. The value chain analysis on fish, beef, chicken and wildmeat is now complete, and KoBoCollect questionnaires for protein consumption studies have been developed. The team has been trained in designing camera trap protocols and analysing data for wildlife monitoring.

Gabon - Mulundu Department

Stakeholder analysis and participatory mapping of communities were completed. Monitoring of hunting and fishing is underway and a preliminary report on the supply of alternative proteins is being prepared. Over 100 camera traps have been used to assess the status of hunted wildlife species and the data is now being analysed.

Guyana - Rupununi Savannahs

A road impact assessment study, livestock development feasibility report and dry season camera trapping exercise were completed. In the North Rupununi, we started implementing the fisheries management plan and community environmental education programme. Local institutions were trained in data collection using KoBo Toolbox, smartphone video production and project finance.

Madagascar - Makira landscape

The Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development officially launched the SWM Project on 6 May. A joint WCS and CIRAD team completed the participatory mapping and assessment of fish resources to design locally appropriate fish farms. A review of national legislation on hunting and protected areas is underway.

Papua New Guinea - Bismarck Forest Corridor

More than 30 meetings took place with over 1000 people in three communities to discuss the project. Community-led natural resource management activities and monitoring of wildlife and household wild meat consumption occurred. Assessing poultry, small mammal and aquaculture to identify alternative sources of protein to wild meat is underway.

Congo - Ouessou basin

The implementation of activities began in May. The focus has been on recruiting project staff and a consultant to review national hunting and wild meat legislation. The team has been trained in the SWM Community Rights-Based Approach and the use of camera traps. A value chains analysis is underway.

Sahelian Wetlands Site - RESSOURCE Project

Senegal, Mali, Chad, Sudan and Egypt

The third RESSOURCE Project Steering Committee took place on 12-13 June. Field surveys are being carried out on water bird use in the Senegal River Delta. The third [RESSOURCE Newsletter](#) was published and [videos](#) on conserving wetlands and migratory birds in Senegal were launched.

Zambia and Zimbabwe - KaZa Transfrontier Conservation Area

In Simalaha Conservancy (Zambia), the focus has been on building project awareness and support, planning with CIFOR and the Peace Parks Foundation and game count preparations. In Mucheni Conservancy (Zimbabwe), baseline studies (hydrology, ornithology, non-timber forest products, livestock development) and data collection (food and wild meat consumption) have been finalised.



SPECIAL FOCUS - SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS

The SWM Programme emphasises the need to respect the human rights of everyone and particularly the indigenous peoples and local communities with whom we work. In the first [SWM Newsletter](#), we outlined our Community Rights-Based Approach (CRBA), which includes a Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) process. To support this approach:

1. The annual work plan at each site will actively involve local communities and institutional representatives in the project and ensure human rights are respected and supported;
2. Research protocols for surveys and information gathering will adhere to ethical standards and consider cultural norms; and
3. Grievance mechanisms will allow any complaints about our environmental and/or social standards to be addressed in an effective, timely and transparent way.

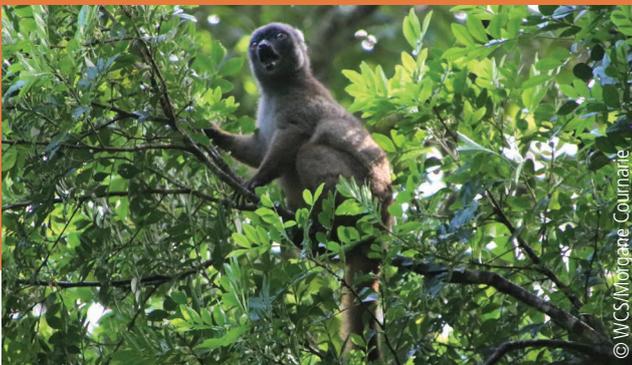
COUNTRY STORY - MADAGASCAR

“Madagascar is a truly unique biodiversity hotspot. More than 80% of the flora and fauna can only be found on the island. However, this unique mosaic of life is under threat from deforestation, hunting and illegal trade in wildlife,” explains Morgane Cournaire, the SWM Madagascar Site Coordinator.

Rural communities in Madagascar rely heavily on hunting and fishing for food and subsistence. For many species, hunting is ecologically unsustainable, and a decline in wildlife populations means a decline in food for poor people who have few alternative sources of protein.

The SWM Programme is working in and around the Makira Natural Park, which is Madagascar’s largest protected area. “We are promoting alternative sources of meat, such as backyard poultry and fish farming using endemic species, improving understanding of wild meat consumption to be able to encourage behaviour changes, and strengthening protection and management of the natural resources,” explains Morgane Cournaire.

Lantoniaina Andriamampianina, the WCS Terrestrial Conservation Director, is optimistic, “the SWM approach is supported by all the communities with whom we work and our field activities are now well-underway. The initiative has a unique role to play in conserving the Makira landscape and the endemic species it supports, whilst at the same time improving the well-being of local populations.”



FACTS AND FIGURES

An estimated **285 mammal species** are threatened with extinction due to hunting for wild meat

Twelve months implementing field activities at project sites

Six SWM videos produced so far

EVENTS CORNER

European Development Days (EDD#19)

18-19 June 2019
Brussels, Belgium

The FAO Director of Forestry Policy and Resources Division, Mette Wilkie, presented the SWM Programme in a debate on “how can nature reduce inequalities and increase resilience”. SWM videos and brochures were also on show at the [ACP booth](#).



ACP Ambassadorial Subcommittee on Sustainable Development

15 April 2019
Brussels, Belgium

Philippe Mayaux, Team Leader for Biodiversity and Ecosystem services at DG DEVCO, European Union, and Rodrigo de Lapuerta, Director of the FAO Liaison Office in Brussels, presented an overview of the SWM Programme.



FROM THE FIELD



Women in traditional attire from Jiwaka province in Papua New Guinea, celebrating the launch of a community conservation organisation.

NEWSROOM

Recent SWM Programme news items include:

- Gestion durable de la faune sauvage: Hubert Boulet présente le programme en République du Congo, Groupe Congo Medias [click here](#)
- Bulletin d'information du Projet Ressource - numéro 3 (SWM Sahelian Wetlands Site) [click here](#)
- What Migratory Birds Tell Us About Sustainability, IISD Commentary [click here](#)
- Gestion durable de la faune. Interview avec Hubert Boulet, Madagascar, La Vérité [click here](#)

WHAT'S COMING UP?

- International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples
9 August
<https://www.un.org/en/events/indigenousday/>
- CITES 18th Conference of the Parties
17-28 August
Geneva, Switzerland
<https://www.cites.org/eng/cop/index.php>
- World Food Day
16 October
<http://www.fao.org/world-food-day>
- Convention on Biological Diversity – 23rd SBSTTA meeting
25-29 November
<https://www.cbd.int/meetings/>

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SWM TALKS

Philippe Mayaux, Team Leader for Biodiversity and Ecosystem services, DG-DEVCO, European Union. §

We have an urgent task. The UN Global Assessment on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) report, launched in May, was a stark read. Biodiversity is being lost, and ecosystems are deteriorating, at unprecedented rates. We are undermining the foundations for human existence. However, there is hope. Nature can be conserved, restored and used sustainably while other global societal goals, such as feeding humanity, are simultaneously met.



The SWM Programme was established specifically to work on this interface between food and wildlife. We need transformative solutions that will reduce hunting to sustainable levels and offer attractive and viable alternatives to consuming wild meat. Empowering indigenous peoples and rural communities is at the heart of this work and essential for its success. However, this is also an urban issue. We urgently need to focus our efforts on reducing the growing demand and trade in wild meat in many towns and cities.

Given the importance of this issue, the SWM Programme is now one of the largest EU funded biodiversity initiatives. Developing projects and new approaches in thirteen African, Caribbean and Pacific countries is no small undertaking. It requires considerable coordination and alignment between the implementing partners, national governments and local stakeholders. I am glad to see that during the first year of implementation, we have made much progress in this respect. It is becoming a truly focused, collaborative and innovative effort.



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