

Strengthening the capacity of great ape conservation organisation in Cameroon

Mapping great ape conservation institutions and policies in Cameroon

Workshop report, Yaoundé, Cameroon
24 April 2014



Group picture of the workshop

creating a synergy between the preservation of wildlife species and local community's livelihoods. For him, the key issue is to know how conservation can contribute to emerging African societies. How to integrate the nature in development projects? How to socialize conservation areas so as to render local communities responsible of their conservation? Some actions like the African Model Forests Network's project of construction of the Tree Museum in the National Park of Campo-Ma'an are implemented by partners that allow local communities to become the main actors of a good management of protected areas. In simple terms, he recognized that there is need to socialize conservation areas, including national parks, sanctuaries, etc. The first part of the exposé situated the context of the study, presented the

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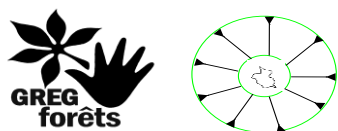
Author information

This report was compiled by Stanley Dinsi.

About the event

For more information about this event and the project: “Great ape conservation and poverty reduction: PCLG Cameroon 2013-2015”, visit <http://povertyandconservation.info/en/pages/cameroon-pclg>, or contact Stanley Dinsi (dinsistanley@yahoo.fr) or Angeline Ndo (ndoa03@yahoo.fr).

This meeting was organised by



Groupe de Réflexion et d’Echange sur la Gouvernance des Forêts, with the support of the Network for Environment and Sustainable Development in Central Africa (NESDA-CA).

GREG-Forêts is an independent network that brings together experts from various organisations working in the sectors of forest and environmental governance in Cameroon. Founded in Yaoundé in May 2006, GREG-Forêts’ main goal is to reflect on relevant issues (nationally and internationally) with regards to forest governance. Its mission is to contribute to the improvement of the range of social, economic and environmental benefits derived from the management of forestry resources. This is done through a participatory approach, improved governance, exchange of experiences at national and international levels, and capacity building.

GREG-Forêts consists of about 20 members coming from key segments of the forestry and environment sectors in Cameroon, including members from ministries in charge of forestry and wildlife (MINFOF) and environment, protection of nature and sustainable development (MINEPDED), the National Assembly, international NGOs, research institutes, bilateral and multilateral organisations, private sector and civil society.

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“Great ape conservation and poverty reduction” (April 2013 to March 2016) is a project that brings together conservation and development practitioners to share their experiences and to work together to better inform development and conservation policy and practice, particularly in great ape range states. In Cameroon, this work is convened by GREG-Forêts - an alliance of independent organisations with a shared interest in forest governance. In April 2014, GREG-Forêts organised a workshop to present and validate the results of a study carried out to map great ape conservation institutions and policies in Cameroon. Presentations of the results of the initial study, were followed by discussions in plenary and in groups. The goal was to propose concrete actions to improve great ape conservation in Cameroon. This report outlines the workshop’s proceedings.

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Acronyms

AMFN	African Model Forest Network
CARPE	Central Africa Regional Programme for the Environment
CEW	Cameroon Environmental Watch
CIFOR	Centre for International Forestry Research
CVUC	Communes et Villes Unies du Cameroun
DSCE	Growth and Employment Strategy Paper
ENEF	Ecole National des eaux et Forêts
FGLG	Forest Governance Learning Group
GDA	Green Development Advocates
GIS	Geographic Information System
GREG-Forêts	Groupe de Réflexion et d'Etudes sur la Gouvernance Forestière
HWC	Human Wildlife Conflict
IIED	International Institute for Environment and Development
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of nature
MINADER	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
MINEPDED	Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development
MINEPIA	Ministry of Livestock, Fishing and Animal Industries
MINFOF	Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife
MINMIDT	Ministry of Mines and Technological Development
MINTOUL	Ministry of Tourism and Leisure
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NESDA-CA	Network for Environment and Sustainable Development in Central Africa
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NTFP	Non Timber forest Product
PCLG	Poverty and Conservation Learning Group
PP	Power Point
RAFM	Réseau Africain de Forêts Modèles
REPAR	Réseau des Parlementaires pour la gestion durable des Ecosystèmes forestiers d'Afrique Centrale
ToR	Terms of Reference
USA	United States of America
UY1	University of Yaoundé 1

1. Introduction

1.1 Context and justification

GREG-Forêts organised on Thursday 24th April, 2014 a wide consultation workshop to share and enrich the results of a research study carried out to map great ape conservation institutions and policies in Cameroon.

1.2 Attendance

The meeting was attended by representatives of many ministries, civil society organisations, conservationists, international organisations and GREG-Forêts members (see attendance list as annex 1 for details).

The following key ministerial departments were represented:

- Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF): 2 representatives, amongst those the Director of Water & Forestry School of Mbalmayo;
- Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection and Sustainable Development (MINEPDED): 2 representatives;
- Ministry of Agriculture and Rural development (MINADER): 1 representative;
- Ministry of Livestock, Fishing and Animal Industries (MINEPIA): 1 representative;
- Ministry of Tourism and Leisure (MINTOUL): 1 representative;
- Ministry of Mines, Industries and Technological Development (MINMIDT).

Conservationists included:

- 1 representative of Ape Action Africa;
- 1 representative of Mvog Beti zoo;
- 1 former conservator of the Dja protected area;

MP's structure REPAR:

- 1 Senator represented REPAR

Councils' organisation:

- 3 representatives

The workshop began at 09:00 am with a welcome statement from the coordinator of NESDA-CA and GREG-Forêts, Ms Angeline Ndo, and was moderated by Dominique Endamana of GREG- Forêts. The agenda was presented and adopted by participants. The seminar workshop ended at 1:00 pm after exhausting the agenda to the satisfaction of all participants and GREG- Forêts' team particularly. The event was videotaped, with pictures of the meeting available.

1.3 Methodology applied

A presentation was given by the researchers who carried out the initial study, and participants were invited to make observations, contributions and remarks for improvement during a general discussion that followed the presentations. After a rich debate, participants were grouped in two working teams in a bid to brainstorm and come out with recommendations taking into account the context and objectives of the workshop. The two teams then presented their conclusions in plenary.

2. Workshop activities

2.1 Welcome statement of the coordinator of NESDA-CA

In her words of welcome, Ms Angeline Ndo welcome participants on behalf of the GREG- Forêts team. She thanked them all for having honoured GREG-Forêts invitation despite their very busy agendas. She particularly recognised the substantial presence of ministries' representatives, which was the proof of the interest Government shows in this domain. Ms Angeline Ndo went ahead to briefly present GREG-Forêts to participants and enumerated a number of actions taken by the group in collaboration with national and international organisations in programmes geared towards strengthening environmental governance in Cameroon, in order to improve forest and environment contribution to social and economic development and poverty reduction in local communities. The group, she said, has worked with IIED firstly under the "Forest Governance Learning Group (FGLG) in a 4-year programme entitled "Social Justice in Forestry"; and now under the "Poverty & Conservation Learning Group" in a 2-year programme concerning the conservation of great apes in Cameroon. She informed participants that the workshop is the second step of the first activity of the work plan agreed in the current collaboration programme with IIED on the conservation of great apes, and invited participants to contribute at their best in this important workshop so as to strengthen and validate the research undertaken by GREG-Forêts, results of which are expected to help better understand the link between conservation and poverty alleviation. (See welcome speech as annex 2).

2.2 Keynote address from convener

After having thanked all the participants for their attendance and particularly the representatives of ministries, the Convener of GREG-Forêts, Dr Chimere Diaw recalled the context in which GREG-Forêts was created in Cameroon, as a reflection & discussing mechanism on forest & environmental governance, in support of the national policies in this domain. GREG-Forêts' aim is to draw lessons on governance and share them between its diverse members and the Government. Many studies have been undertaken by GREG-Forêts related to diverse thematic areas, including land tenure, legitimate forest products, climate change and its impact. Results of these are available. This is the first time since its creation, that GREG-Forêts targets the issue of conservation as such.

In fact, conservation establishes the link between problems of species in protected areas and policies of ecosystems management. Historically, protected areas in the USA aimed at protecting the human action on nature; in other words that conservation approach excluded the interests of indigenous people's leaving within and around areas designated as protected.

In Africa, the same approach was adopted in colonial times, without really taking into consideration local communities' rights, despite studies undertaken, like the one carried out in Korup (South West region of Cameroon); no link was also established with tourism, let alone the issue of social organisation. For Dr Chimere Diaw, one of the main goal of this workshop is to discuss the best ways of creating a synergy between the preservation of wildlife species and local communities' livelihoods. How can conservation contribute to emerging African societies? How can we integrate nature conservation in development projects? How can we make local communities responsible for conservation areas? Some activities, like AMFN's project of the construction of the Tree Museum in the National Park of Campo-Ma'an, are implemented by partners that allow local communities to become the main actors of a good management of protected areas. However, many efforts still need to be made in other policy processes on the environment and ecosystems management in Cameroon. In simple terms, Chimere Diaw recognized that there is need to socialize conservation areas, including national parks, sanctuaries, etc.

2.3 Presentation of workshop objectives

The main objective of this workshop was to present to participants the report of a study carried out by GREG-Forêts to map great ape conservation institutions and policies in Cameroon, so as to have it enriched and validated. For a better understanding of participants on the specific aim targeted by GREG-Forêts, Ms Prudence Galega, Technical Adviser No.1 in the MINEPDED and founding member of GREG-Forêts and NESDA-CA, was given the floor.

After thanking the Coordinator for having mobilised diverse participants, Ms Prudence Galega stressed the interest that the Government of Cameroon has in preserving fauna and flora. She said that the speech delivered by Dr Chimere Diaw informed participants of the important issues the government of Cameroon has to deal with, i.e. biodiversity conservation. Great apes, according to statistics, are on the verge of extinction and their conservation is a priority for the Government of Cameroon who acknowledges the importance of connecting stakeholders to any genuine/organised conservation programmes and projects. That engagement of the State is visible with the promulgation of laws at national level and the ratification of many international conventions; and the national biodiversity strategy that has just been adopted addresses the challenge of the preservation of great apes as endangered species. Ms Prudence Galega also thanked GREG-Forêts who participated in the conception of this national strategy and action plan.

Recognising that this research is in line with Government's priorities in terms of its ecosystem preservation/and or conservation, she presented the workshop specific objectives as follows:

- Present the results of the research done by the consultant, ensuring that all participants have the same understanding of these;
- Detailed the role of various ministries represented at the workshop in great ape conservation;
- Capitalise proposals and recommendations of participants in relation with the workshop goals;
- Create a forum or platform for participants to carry out convergent action for holistic analysis of the issue.

2.4 Presentation of report of study by consultants

The two consultants subsequently presented the results of their work which consisted in mapping the institutions dealing with the conservation of great apes and analysing conservation policies in Cameroon, and also their impact. The full power point presentations can be accessed on the PCLG website:

<http://povertyandconservation.info/en/pages/workshop-share-and-enrich-results-study-map-great-apes>

In the first part of the presentation, Dr Stanley Dinsi outlines the context of the study, presenting the threats faced by great apes. He did a review of organisations in charge of great ape conservation, and the legal texts at national, regional and international levels, dealing with this problematic; he stressed the overall engagement of the Government to find solutions to this problem. He also explained the methodological approach adopted in collecting data during the research. As first results to consider, there is essentially an obvious evolution in great ape conservation policies' reforms in Cameroon. The conservation of great apes does not concern only MINFOF, but also the other sectorial ministries and the private and economic sectors. He presented the existing legal framework at national, regional and international levels, as well as regional initiatives of great ape conservation. He demonstrated that conservation of great apes is in line with the Government national priorities of fighting against poverty, as laid down in the Growth and Employment Strategy Paper (DSCE 2020), and according to the NBSAP adopted in 2012. He presented the strengths and weaknesses of the conservation of great apes, the main strength being the mobilisation of both the public and the private sectors; while the major weakness is the insufficiency of synergy between the sectorial ministries.

The second part of the exposé was done by Mr. Siméon Abé Eyebe. He continued with the presentation of the results of the research and specifically the strengths and weaknesses of the conservation of great apes in Cameroon; the mobilisation of the civil society at national and international levels, with various sources of funding; the challenges facing the institutions in charge of this conservation, and the reconciliation of the conservation of great apes and local development; impact of conservation on local communities livelihoods; outcomes of the conservation, especially the creation of protected areas, wild fauna sustainable management, public-private partnership building, participative management of the wild fauna with the involvement of organized local communities; trans-boundary management; sub-regional cooperation; lessons learnt on Government engagement; increasing need of great ape meat for consumption; decrease of ecotourism activities around great

apes. Finally, he presented some key recommendations that could possibly improve on great ape conservation.

2.5 Discussion

An intense discussion and exchange session was opened following the presentation during which all participants contributed. Generally, participants' interventions were more of suggestions and recommendations intended not only to enrich the work presented by the consultants but also to orientate the next stage of the work undertaken. Some of the preoccupations raised by participants were already addressed in the study's general report produced by the consultants. Here are a few key points that emerged from the discussion:

Study's added value:

This study, according to the Technical Adviser No.1 in the ministry of environment, proves to be important for the MINEPDED who encourages this kind of initiatives.

Some comments/suggestions

Concerning the current study:

- To re-focus the study on great ape conservation and make specific recommendations about the issue of great apes in Cameroon;
- Establish clearly the linkage between conservation and ecosystem, taking into consideration the fact that protected areas have doubled since the 1994 Law (around 30% today), this being an evidence of the engagement of the Government in the national ecosystems preservation;
- Re-precise suggestions/recommendations per sector ministry;
- Capitalise national strategy's data in terms of concrete actions of the Government for the conservation of great apes;
- Integrate in the study, the cartography of great ape habitats in Cameroon (see document available at MINFOF, direction of fauna);
- Precise what great apes really mean in view to harmonize the understanding of readers.

Concerning phase 2 forthcoming field study:

- Analyse the document of the national strategy on biodiversity (NBSAP) wherein 3 articles out of 20 are specific to endangered species, including articles 7, 8 and 9, related to the preservation of fauna and make suggestions on the particular case of great apes;
- Put an emphasis on the synergy between conservation and its socio-economic added value for local communities;
- Establish the link between illegal hunting and subsistence needs for communities;
- With the increase of Cameroonian population, any policy of protected areas increase must clearly take into account people's needs in animal and vegetal proteins and consequently the availability of agricultural space;
- Analyse existing classifications of protected areas according to IUCN categorization and suggest their compatibility with human life so as to put mankind at the centre of any conservation process;
- Make alternative propositions against poaching.

Concerning both Phases 1 and 2

- Exploit and capitalise studies done in the Ebo Parc where there is still a big population of great apes;
- Exploit and capitalise existing data at MINTOUL on great ape conservation;
- Suggest animal husbandry and agriculture reinforcement in target zones as alternative activities to hunting, promote and develop people's capacities on these alternative activities with adapted material and technology;

- Integrate existing data of studies on great apes outside protected areas (e.g. zones where apes are considered sacred), that contribute in species preservation.

To policy makers

- Create a platform of performance between GREG-Forêts and focal points of the various sector ministries on the conservation of great apes and training of youth on breeding ;
- Organize an annual forum for exchanging and sharing experiences between conservation actors in Cameroon;
- Reinforce the capacities of eco guards and provide them with adapted equipments for fauna preservation;
- Define a multi sector framework for this issue with a clear roadmap and synergy for the various sector ministries;
- Ensure there is compliance between conservation and social policies which is often incoherent because of external funding that is not always adapted to local socio-cultural realities of target communities;
- Ensure synergy in efforts between various actors (mines, tourism, forestry, etc) and put in place a communication model for conservation;
- Involve elites in the search of pertinent and adapted conservation solutions;
- Adopt the Model Forest approach that allows all stakeholders of an area (administrations, local and international NGOs, local communities, etc) to collaborate in a participatory process for discussion and reflection on common issues.

Complementary studies

- Carry out a study to establish the link between the geographical habitat of endangered species, local communities feeding habits and the kind of training to give to eco guards;
- Carry out a study on perceptions of poaching by different actors; feeding challenges, culture and rites, etc. in view of facilitating conservation policies and species preservation; carry out a study on the real added value of conservation for the country and local actors;
- Carry out interdisciplinary studies to harmonize the understanding of this issue.

3. Recommendations from the working groups

In view to capture all the contributions, participants were divided into two working groups in a bid to summarise and propose recommendations that will help through the next steps of the process. Three main questions were communicated to them to orientate their proposals. The table below gives the final result of each reflection group.

Questions	Group 1	Group 2
What specific law reforms do you think are necessary if great ape conservation and management in Cameroon could be improved upon?	<p>Updating of the national strategy for territorial management ;</p> <p>Putting in place of an inter-sectorial coordination platform;</p> <p>Harmonization of sectoral texts (review article 82 of Mining code) ;</p> <p>Creation of a special protected areas' fund, concerning wild life and specifically great apes. In fact the big poaching needs mass means. Great ape protection and conservation actions should not be limited to sectoral ministries only, but rather should be extended to the defence ministry.</p>	<p>Review article 101 of the 1994 forestry Law that provides same penalties for all contraveners by breaking down fines according to various actors responsibilities (poacher, buyer of bush meat, etc.), so as to harmonize penalties to infringements.</p>
What do you think about wildlife and great apes policies in Cameroon; sufficient or insufficient, its implementation? What proposals or suggestions for improvement do you have?	<p>The current law is insufficient ;</p> <p>Adapt laws related to the existing social dynamics ;</p>	<p>Vulgarisation of the law ;</p> <p>Sensitise people on forestry law ;</p> <p>Make the law accessible by all,</p> <p>Introduce the law in school programmes ;</p> <p>Encourage the putting in place of an inter-ministerial platform in order to make a synergy between various ministries working on Great apes preservation. In fact, financial and technical partners' coordination is limited and this is problematic in a low resources environment.</p>
What would you recommend so that conservation of fauna in general and which of great apes in particular, can have an impact on local communities' livelihood in Cameroon?	<p>Ensure synergy between all actors of the wildlife and great ape conservation.</p>	<p>Put in place alternative measures to hunting around parks (non-conventional animal breeding, technics, NTFP);</p> <p>Create buffer zones in conservation areas.</p> <p>Transform parks to recreational centers where local actors recognize themselves as owners and guardians of the preservation.</p>

Special contribution from Doyen Parfait Mimbimi Esono

A special contribution was made by Doyen Parfait Mimbimi Esono, who told a story about chimpanzees helping orientate people in the forests of the South region (as a meteorologist and a geographic information system (GIS)); and because of this role great apes play in society in that part of the country, they are “preserved” and not hunted by local communities as a very old tradition of that place.

Some examples as follows:

- If you are in the forest with no food to eat, you can eat anything that great apes eat (fruits, herbs, barks, leaves, roots, tubercles, etc), they usually leave traces after eating, that people easily recognize;
- If you are lost in the forest, i.e. you can't find your way back to the village, a chimpanzee's noise can orientate you to find your way back;
- Great apes make different noises to announce hurricanes, etc. thus warning people about these.

To conclude, he said the conservation of great apes is important for it contributes in keeping the ecosystem's stability that serves mankind.

4. Workshop evaluation

Twenty one participants completed their evaluation sheet by answering the seven questions below. The overall feedback shows that the workshop was a success with an average of 72% positive comments. Hereafter is the list of questions:

- 1) What is your overall assessment of the workshop?
- 2) Did you find the topic of the workshop interesting or useful?
- 3) Did the workshop achieve the programme objectives (Why)?
- 4) Knowledge and information gained from participation at this workshop (met your expectations, will be useful/applicable in your work)?
- 5) How do you think the workshop could have been more effective?
- 6) Please comment on the organization of the workshop ;
- 7) Comments and suggestions (including topics or issues on great ape conservation you think would be useful for the future).

5. Closing remarks from the Coordinator

In her closing remarks, Ms Angeline Ndo, Coordinator once again thanked all participants for their relevant contributions, recommendations and their evaluation of the workshop; she congratulated the presenters for their presentations and the study that they carried out that led to this workshop. Then, she thanked sincerely the Convener and the technical Council No.1 of MINEPDED (both founding members of GREG-Forêts), for their support to the group and mostly for the clear direction that they constantly give to GREG-Forêts. She then thanked Doyen Mimbimi who always does every effort to be with the group at all circumstances, lauding his constant lucidity in his contributions. Finally, she warmly thanked the moderator for having kept the time.

She stressed the necessity of putting in place in Cameroon, a platform for conservation as raised during the workshop. She ended her speech by announcing the next steps of this work, starting from the forthcoming field study that will aim to find the impact of private sector activities on conservation and local livelihoods in Cameroon. She called on participants to be available when this study becomes available so that they can contribute to it. (See closing remarks as annex 3).

Annex 1. Welcome speech

MOT DE BIENVENUE

Par

Mme Angeline NDO

Coordinatrice de GREG-Forêts & NESDA

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Chers Invités,

Chers participants,

Au nom de GREG-Forêts et de NESDA-CA, j'ai l'immense plaisir de vous souhaiter une chaleureuse bienvenue dans cette coquette salle de réunion de l'Hôtel des députés.

Je vous remercie infiniment pour votre sollicitude, parce que vous avez pu honorer notre invitation, en abandonnant vos multiples responsabilités.

Le sujet du jour touche plusieurs acteurs et partenaires, dont des organisations de conservateurs de la faune, des organisations de la société civile dans ce domaine et les administrations sectorielles.

En vous invitant à cet Atelier, nous voulions bénéficier de votre expertise avérée ; c'est dire combien nous comptons sur vous pour le succès de cet atelier.

Nous voulons reconnaître avec force la présence des représentants du MINFOF, du MINEPDED, du MINADER, du MINEPIA et du MINTOUR. Ceci prouve, s'il en était encore besoin, que le Gouvernement du Cameroun accorde une attention réelle au problème qui nous réunit ce jour. Merci à vous tous.

Je voudrais d'entrée de jeu vous présenter brièvement le GREG-Forêts. Il s'agit du Groupe de Réflexion et d'Etude sur la Gouvernance des Forêts, en abrégé GREG-Forêts. C'est une alliance indépendante d'experts affiliés à divers organismes en activité au Cameroun dans le secteur forêts et environnement, qui a été créée à Yaoundé en Mai 2006. Le GREG-Forêts s'est donné pour mission de contribuer à l'amélioration des bénéfices sociaux, économiques et environnementaux de la gestion des ressources forestières à travers une gouvernance participative et renforcée, par la réflexion, l'échange d'expériences, la capitalisation des connaissances acquises sur le sujet et leur mise en œuvre, à travers diverses activités et événements aux plans national et international (études, ateliers, séminaires, publications, etc.) en appui aux politiques nationales.

C'est dans cette optique que le GREG-Forêts, entre autres activités et programmes, s'est affilié à de réseaux internationaux coordonnés par l'Institut International pour l'Environnement et le Développement (IIED) basé à Londres au Royaume Uni, dont notamment deux réseaux :

1. Le 1^{er}, le « Forest Governance Learning Group » (FGLG), qui regroupe onze pays dans le monde (Ghana, Cameroun, Ouganda, Tanzanie, Malawi, Mozambique, Afrique du Sud, Inde, Vietnam, Indonésie et Chine) et qui a réalisé un projet sur quatre ans intitulé : « Social Justice in Forestry » avec quatre thématiques développées (Droits forestiers et petites entreprises forestières ; Produits forestiers légitimes ; Changements climatiques : atténuation et adaptation en relation avec les forêts et la pauvreté ; Echanges et préparations transnationales – visant à partager, à échanger avec les autres, les expériences et les bonnes pratiques. Dans le cadre de ce projet qui a duré de Mai 2010 à Octobre 2013, GREG-Forêts a pu réaliser 4 études, 2 articles, 6 séminaires et ateliers et 2 policy briefs.
2. Quant au 2^{ème} réseau, le « Poverty & Conservation Learning Group » (PCLG), il regroupe aussi plusieurs pays dont le Cameroun et l'Ouganda en Afrique. Depuis Décembre 2013 et jusqu'en Mai 2015, le GREG-Forêts va travailler sur la thématique : « contribution à l'amélioration des politiques et de l'application de la loi en vue de renforcer le rapport entre la conservation de la biodiversité et le bien-être des communautés locales (pour ne pas parler de la réduction de la pauvreté), en

collaboration/partenariat bien entendu avec les ministères clé du secteur (MINFOF, MINEPDED, MINMIDT, MINADER, MINEPIA, MINTOUR) ».

Le GREG-Forêts est administré et coordonné au Cameroun par l'ONG NESDA-CA (Network for Environment and Sustainable Development in Central Africa) et son responsable scientifique (Convener) est le Dr Chimère Maritew DIAW, Directeur Général du Secrétariat du Réseau Africain de Forêts Modèles (SRAFM).

Depuis quelques années, le GREG-Forêts a entrepris la mise en place de partenariats avec certains départements ministériels en vue d'une collaboration formelle dans les thématiques suscitées (ceci a déjà été initié avec le MINFOF, les autres sont encore à venir. Le GREG-Forêt entretient par ailleurs des relations d'échange d'informations avec les services du Premier Ministre.

Le présente Atelier marque le début des activités de GREG-Forêts dans le cadre de sa collaboration avec le réseau PCLG.

En organisant cet atelier, GREG-Forêts vise un objectif précis : à savoir vous présenter et partager avec vous (c'est-à-dire les parties prenantes), les résultats d'une étude et une analyse que nous avons menées sur le cadre institutionnel et juridique de la conservation des grands singes au Cameroun.

Nous attendons donc de vous d'enrichir notre rapport d'étude, en vue de sa proposition aux décideurs politiques et conservateurs des primates.

En vous remerciant une fois encore, Mesdames et Messieurs, Chers participants, nous savons que vous allez donner le meilleur de vous-mêmes pour faire de notre atelier un succès et ainsi, ensemble, nous apporterons notre modeste contribution à l'amélioration de la conservation des grands singes et du bien-être des communautés locales.

Un rapport sera élaboré par GREG-Forêts dont copie vous sera transmise au plus tôt.

Nous aurons un vidéogramme de l'atelier ainsi qu'un album photos en souvenir de l'atelier.

Nous aurons aussi du café en continu et un cocktail à la fin des travaux.

Sur ce, je vous souhaite un très bon Atelier que je déclare ouvert.

Je vous remercie pour votre bienveillante attention.

Angeline NDO

Coordinatrice de GREG-Forêts.

Annex 2. Closing remarks

MOT DE CLOTURE

Par
Mme Angeline NDO
Coordinatrice de GREG-Forêts & NESDA

Mesdames et Messieurs,
Chers participants,

Nous sommes arrivés à la fin de notre atelier. Nous tenons à remercier sincèrement tout le monde :
Représentants des Ministères ;

- ONG ;
- Conservateurs ;
- Membres de GREG-Forêts ;

Pour :

1. Nous avoir accordé votre temps,
2. Vos contributions pertinentes,
3. Vos recommandations qui vont à coup sûr valoriser le travail que l'équipe de GREG-Forêts a initié sur le sujet,
4. Pour l'évaluation de l'atelier que vous avez consenti à faire, celle-ci nous permettra de nous améliorer lors des prochaines séances.

Nous voulons reconnaître et saluer le travail, certes perfectible, que nos collègues Stanley Dinsi et Siméon Abe ont abattu et dont ils nous ont donné la quintessence à travers la présentation de ce matin ; acceptez nos félicitations et encouragements.

Un grand merci à notre Convener, Dr Chimere Diaw et à Mme Prudence Galega, CT1 au MINEPDED, pour leur soutien et leur engagement, et surtout pour la clarté de la direction qu'ils donnent de manière constante au groupe GREG-Forêts.

Que dire, et comment remercier le Doyen Mimbimi Esono, qui s'efforce toujours, malgré son état de santé précaire, d'être avec le groupe GREG-Forêts dont il est un des membres fondateurs.

Je remercie enfin le Modérateur de l'atelier, Dominique Endamana, pour la maestria avec laquelle il a modéré cet important atelier, et pour avoir su respecter le timing imparti.

Nous avons noté un besoin pressant de plateforme ou forum pour la conservation au Cameroun, qui permettrait à toutes les parties prenantes de parler le même langage. Nous devons tous y réfléchir très vite.

Après cette étape d'aujourd'hui, GREG-Forêts aimerait mener une étude sur l'impact des activités de la conservation des grands singes au Cameroun, sur les moyens d'existence des communautés locales. Nous aimerions avoir votre participation dans cette recherche.

Comme annoncé au départ, un rapport sera rédigé dont copie vous sera transmise dans les meilleurs délais. Vous recevrez aussi une copie du vidéogramme de l'atelier, ainsi qu'un album photos.

Merci encore une fois à toutes et à tous. Bon retour après le cocktail qui a est déjà prêt pour vous.
Angeline NDO
Coordinatrice de GREG-Forêts.

Biodiversity, Poverty

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Global Learning Network

The Poverty and Conservation Learning Group (PCLG) is an international network of organisations and individuals that promotes learning on the linkages between biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction, in order to improve policy and practice.

The PCLG is coordinated by the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), one of the world's most influential policy research organisations working at the interface between development and environment.



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