

## **Process Framework for Involuntary Restrictions**

**Date:** 02<sup>nd</sup> of May 2017

**CEPF Grant:** CEPF-100792

**Grantee:** Man and Nature

*Demonstrate how Economic Development can boost  
Community-based Trans-border Conservation*

### **Project Location**

*Trans-boundary forest: the Kwabre Forest in Southwestern Ghana and the Tanoé forest  
in Southeastern Côte d'Ivoire.*

## **Grant Summary**

### **1. Grantee organization**

Man and Nature

### **2. Grant title**

Demonstrate how Economic Development can boost Community-based Trans-border Conservation

### **3. Grant number**

CEPF-100792

### **4. Grant amount (US dollars)**

USD 218,000.00

### **5. Proposed dates of grant**

Start: 1st of August 2017

End: 31st of July 2019

### **6. Countries or territories where project will be undertaken**

The Kwabre Forest in Southwestern Ghana and the Tanoé forest in Southeastern Côte d'Ivoire.

### **7. Date of preparation of this document.**

20th March 2017

*The Process Framework will describe the project and how restrictions of access to natural resources and measures to assist affected communities. Affected communities should have the opportunity to participate in the drafting of the Process Framework. Typically, the Applicant will prepare a draft Framework that will then be shared and discussed with local communities and other relevant stakeholders. Based on the consultations, a final Framework will be prepared. CEPF may provide guidance on development of the Framework and will review and approve the final Framework prior to approving the final project proposal application. The Process Framework should include the following elements:*

#### **A. Project background**

The project aims to protect the biodiversity in Kwabre forest in Ghana and Tanoé forest in Côte d'Ivoire through the development of Green Value Chains (GVC) that adapt global best practices in the local context in partnership with private companies, local communities and government bodies. It takes advantage of Ghana and Ivorian laws allowing communities to manage and protect themselves specific areas and focuses on community-managed Kwabre and Tanoé emblematic forests and their contiguous agricultural areas. This project will illustrate that synergies can, and need to be created between conservation and economic development of local communities – which is key to ensure a broad support from the population to the forest conservation by improving livelihoods.

Kwabre and Tanoé forests form one of the largest intact block of swamp forest in the Upper Guinea global biodiversity hotspot. This area of high endemism harbors a host of endangered species - out of which many only occur in this region, including four Critically Endangered primate species: the Roloway

Monkey (*Cercopithecus roloway*) one of the World's 25 most endangered primates (Schwitzer et al., 2015), the White-naped Mangabey (*Cercocebus lunulatus*), the White-thighed Colobus (*Colobus vellerosus*), and possibly Miss Waldron's Red Colobus (*Piliocolobus waldroneae*) which may already be extinct (Mittermeier et al., 2009), as well as the Critically Endangered Slender-snouted Crocodile (*Mecistops cataphractus*). One of the objectives of the project is to elaborate in discussion with local authorities and communities in both countries, a draft trans-boundary management plan including the next steps towards the creation of the reserve. This formal agreement between the Kwabre and Tanoé forests and its enforcement will help decrease poaching from both countries and conserve this important corridor.

**The draft trans-boundary management plan will be elaborated by incorporating the existing Community Organizations' management plan of both countries, the federal association (FAIVG) in Côte d'Ivoire and the CREMA in Ghana.**

#### In Côte d'Ivoire

Since 2006, the local CSO in Côte d'Ivoire engaged discussions with local authorities and communities to define steps to give an official protection status to Tanoé Forest. 10 years later, on the 7<sup>th</sup> September 2016, the federal association (FAIVG) was constituted. The FAIVG and its technical partners worked for four months on the delimitation of the forest. This activity entailed the discussion with local communities and with landowners farming at the fringe of the forest. At the end of 2016, the forest was officially delimited and recognized by the local population. The roles and responsibilities of the FAIVG members were determined and rules and regulations to protect the resources including penalties for poachers and illegal wood loggers were decided with the communities. The Ministère des Eaux et Forêts (Forest and Water Ministry) was involved in the process and is now supporting community patrols to enforce these rules.

In conclusion, thanks to the work of the CSRS and ACB-CI (the local CSO), 9 neighboring communities currently manage the forest: Kadjakro, Kongodjan, Ehania, Saykro, YaoAkakro, Nouamou, Atchimanou, Dohouan, Kotoagnuan. Management committees (Associations Villageoises de Conservation et de Développement (AVCD)) were formed in the nine communities with their bylaws officially registered by the national administration. In each of the two districts of the project area, an association comprising the different management committees was officially established (Associations Inter-villageoises de Gestion (AIVG)). The federal association (FAIVG) comprising both umbrella associations is the main interlocutor of the government and, while the two associations play a coordinating role for the field-based activities carried out by the nine management committees.

#### In Ghana

A similar process was followed in Ghana to constitute in 2016 the CREMA with the support of the communities and the Wildlife Division under the supervision of the Ministry of Forestry. Kwabre forest is a community land. Each individual Stool (Community) owns an area of the forest. In order to manage the land, 14 communities (Kwabre, Edu, Eleana, Takinta, Nawule, MansahNkwanta, Anwiafutu, Mediewie, Nzeleunu, Allowuley, Edobo, New Edobo, Epunsa, and Atwebaso), have created the Ankasa-Tano Community Resource Management Area (CREMA). The CREMA management structure is composed of a CREMA Executive Committee (CEC) and of Community Resource Management Committees (CRMCs). The CRMCs are formed at the level of each community, while the Executive Committee formed out of the CRMCs acts to oversee the organization.

It is the role of the CREMA to govern and manage the community forest areas through the elected committee who liaise with the government, local CSOs and traditional authorities. The CRMCs receive a 'Certificate of Devolution', which give them the authority to sustainably manage their land and to apprehend illegal miners, bush meat hunters and chainsaw operators with rangers of the Wildlife Division. Their main objective is:

- To conserve wildlife for the future generation
- To conserve wetland areas for sustainable ecological, social and economic benefits
- To protect all natural resources in general
- To generate income for community development
- To improve the livelihood of people in the community
- To provide employment for people in the community
- To promote ecotourism

The creation of both CREMA and FAIVG were requested and desired by the communities so that they can manage their resource better. Indeed, creating a trans-boundary management plan will strengthen these Organizations. Illegal activities will be punishable by law in both countries, even if the felony is committed in one country and the felon caught in the other one.

## **B. Participatory implementation**

As explained above, the creation of the Community Organizations was desired by the communities and supported by local CSOs Man and Nature is partnering with.

The Small-Scale Initiatives Program of the FFEM (SSIP) and Man and Nature share a similar approach on environmental conservation. So in July 2013, Man and Nature decided to partner with SSIP to support Civil Society Organizations (CSO) in Africa. Following this alliance, Man and Nature and SSIP supported technically and financially ABC-CI and WAPCA, the two local CSOs engaged in the program. Man and Nature has been working closely with them for the past three years but on two separate projects. CEPF will give Man and Nature the opportunity to develop a global trans-border project and improve the conservation of the forest. Over these three years program, SSIP and Man and Nature consulted regularly with local NGOs, evaluated the progress on the ground and met with the Community Organizations and its Members.

Under this previous program, **in Ghana**, CREMA sensitization campaign was carried out in 12 communities with a total of approximately 2400 people attending (approximately 200 people per community). CRMC elections were conducted in early 2014 in 13 communities and eight CRMC's were formed. CEC elections were conducted on March 11th, 2014 and a CREMA Executive Committee was established to oversee the eight CRMC's. 36 individuals participated in a three-day community patrol team-training workshop in 2015. Since then, twelve community patrol teams conduct twice weekly patrols in the rainforest. Workshops are held regularly to monitor and review the CREMA and the effectiveness of the Monitoring Teams.

**In Côte d'Ivoire**, as mentioned above, Village Conservation and Development Management committees (Associations Villageoises de Conservation et de Développement (AVCD)) were formed in the nine communities with their bylaws officially registered by the national administration. In each of the two districts of the project area an umbrella association (Associations Inter-villageoises de Gestion (AIVG))

comprising the different management committees was officially established as well. This participatory process prepared the implementation process of the proposed project.

Thus, under the SSIP and Man and Nature Program, discussions around the creation of a trans-boundary forest started. It is a natural continuation of the past projects.

More recently, in May 2016, SSIP and Man and Nature organized in Accra a workshop on the construction of a collaborative project on GVCs to design with other key stakeholders (public and private sectors) the strategy of the proposed project. This workshop gave the opportunity to SSIP and Man and Nature to travel to the project site to meet again with local stakeholders and disclose the exchange of the workshop with the communities.

The latest face-to-face consultations of Man and Nature with local and national partners in Ghana and Ivory Coast were done in January 2017. This three weeks trip was the opportunity to meet with key stakeholders such as local CSOs, Community Organizations in both countries, the Environmental Protection Agency in Ghana, key consultants on the projects (Yayra Glover Ltd), Local Representative (Sous-Préfet of Noé in Côte d'Ivoire), the Wildlife Division, etc.

At the end of the field mission, a two days workshop was organized in Accra to work on detailed activities of the project. In February and March 2017, while local CSOs were disclosing those exchanges on the field with the communities, Man and Nature contacted several private companies including Savannah Fruits Company and Feanza Industries Limited to seek their interest in supporting the development of the project.

#### **C. Criteria for eligibility of affected persons**

Both forestlands are already prohibited to settlement and other human activities. Thus no person will be adversely affected by the project. Only those undergoing illegal activities (such as poaching) will be indirectly affected. The project aims at controlling better this forest area, while providing alternatives to surrounding rural villages.

#### **D. Measures to assist the affected persons**

Communities will be trained in best farming practices and agroforestry, with the support of private actors in the supply chain, so that all individuals have the opportunity to make better livelihoods, without undergoing illegal activities.

#### **E. Conflict resolution and complaint mechanism.**

Prior to the implementation of the project, a steering committee meeting will be organized to disclose once again the objectives and detailed activities of the project to the local communities. The communities already have the contacts of the coordinator and local CSOs involved in the project in the area. During the steering committee, contact information of Man and Nature, the local CSOs (WAPCA and CSRS/ACB-CI), the Regional Implementation Team for CEPF (Birdlife International) and the CEPF Grant Director will be provided to the local population. Signboards in all communities in the implementation areas will be disposed. The dedicated email account for CEPF ([cepfexecutive@conservation.org](mailto:cepfexecutive@conservation.org)) will be mentioned, for grievances sent by email. Grievances raised by the grantees will be communicated to the Regional Implementation Team for CEPF (Birdlife International) and the CEPF Grant Director within 15 days, together with a proposed response.

This project aims at developing GVC and economic value added for communities. Hence very few grievances should be observed.

## **F. Implementation Arrangements**

Implementation of the project and its safeguard mechanisms will be done by the project's regional partners, WAPCA for Ghana and ACB-CI for Côte d'Ivoire. Man and Nature will inform these partners of the obligations under the conflict resolution and complaint mechanism, and discuss with them the practical implementation mechanisms suggested, before actual implementation. These discussions will be held during the Steering Committee meeting that will be organized before the start of the project.

A robust **Monitoring and Evaluation system** will be put in place by the consortium to track key outcomes, complaints and participatory discussions overtime. For instance, a common monitoring protocol shared by both Community Organizations in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire will be elaborated to ensure a better monitoring of biodiversity and illegal activities. Man and Nature will develop detailed log frames focusing on program inputs, detailed activities and outputs to monitor closely the project. Man and Nature will hire a local coordinator based in Ghana to oversee the project and to keep track on activities. If any issues occur, Man and Nature Program Manager based in Paris will help resolve the problem. This Program Manager will travel at least twice a year to do a global overview of the project.

Additionally, at the end of the project, Man and Nature will provide a final evaluation, analyzing and reporting on each deliverable and key indicator including participatory discussions with local communities.