



**Programme de Gouvernance Environnementale en
Guinée pour le
Renforcement des Capacités et la Conservation de la
Biodiversité**



Ministère Délégué à l'Environnement,
aux Eaux et Forêts

**Report on STEWARD/PEGG FORUM initiative at the National Direction
of Water and Forests (DNEF) and the Center for the Observation and
Monitoring of Environmental Information (COSIE)**

Period from 26 April to 3 September 2012

Introduction

Through the Program in Environmental Governance in Guinea for Capacity Building and Biodiversity Conservation (PGEG), the USFS/USAID FORUM continues to pursue its goal of promoting the sharing of information on sustainable and participatory management of natural resources and biodiversity conservation.

Thirty (30) executives, researchers, and interns from different ministries, departments, and the stakeholder community have presented diverse themes framed and focused on capacity building and obtaining a positive net gain for biodiversity conservation. They include:

1. Ministry of Environment, Water and Forests (MDEEF)
2. The National Directorate of Water and Forests (DNEF)
3. Ministry of Industry
4. Lawyers
5. Mining engineers
6. Miss Guinea-France
7. The National Directorate of Sanitation and Quality of Life (DNACV)
8. The National Directorate of Environment (DNE)
9. The Guinean Office Biological Diversity and Protected Areas (OGUIDAP)
10. The Guinean Office of Timber (OGUIB)
11. The Guinean Office of Environmental Study and Assessment (BGEEEE)
12. Centre of Observation, Monitoring of Environmental Information (COSIE)
13. The Centre for the Protection of Marine and Coastal Environment
14. Wild Chimpanzee Foundation (WCF)

Over the next few months, the FORUM is working to ensure that there will be presentations by all of the Focal Points of the various UN Conventions, which exist in Guinea, such as CITES, the Abidjan Convention, the Convention on Biodiversity, the Ramsar Convention, UNFCCC, the Rotterdam Convention, and the Stockholm Convention. In addition, PEGG is in coordinating with the Director of the University of Sonfonia (Liberal Arts) to develop an initial monthly FORUM program for students and faculty during the 2012-2013 academic year, set to begin in October 2012.

The effort continues to ensure that documentary films on the environment are a frequent component of the FORUM. Such films are always welcome by the growing audience here in Conakry. The projection of documentary films is strategic in that it keeps the audience consistently engaged in the FORUM's weekly basis during sessions when there is not a presenter.

To ensure that the rate of two FORUM presentations per week is maintained, the PEGG Coordination Team is working to develop co-financing for the FORUM.

History

The history of the FORUM in Guinea dates back to 2008 when the Institutional Support Program of the DNEF, USAID/Guinea and USFSIP had established the FORUM to promote the sharing of experiences and expertise of Guinea government staff. The first FORUM was a presentation by the Coordinator of the Institutional Support Program and STEWARD on the theme of trans-boundary biodiversity conservation in the Upper Guinea Forest ecosystem (Phase I of the STEWARD program).

Since STEWARD departed from Conakry in December 2010, there was a significant slowdown of the FORUM's frequency in Guinea. Apart from a few FORUM presentations held in the priority areas of the Nimba Mountains and Madina Oula/Ouré Kaba/Soya, there were only three or four FORUM presentations in Conakry as a result of the support of Mr. Ali Mohamed Camara from the BGEED and Mr. Mohamed Alhass Sylla of COSIE. With the arrival of PEGG and the commitment of an intern Focal Point for the FORUM in March 2012, the FORUM has taken on a new rhythm of two sessions per week, every Tuesday morning at 11:00 am at COSIE, and every Thursday morning at 11:00 am at the DNEF. Such FORUM coverage in Conakry promotes public participation from two distinct geographic locations, those from the major government administrative block downtown, and those from the mid-town administration and *Gamal Abdel Nasser University* (Conakry's largest, centrally located faculty).

Objectives of the FORUM

Promote transparent communication and information sharing concerning natural resources management, environmental governance, and biodiversity conservation.

Implementation of the FORUM

Through an ongoing commitment, the PEGG coordination team is always looking for FORUM presenters willing and able to reinforce the FORUM program. On a daily basis, the team contacts partners and stakeholders to invite them to submit potential themes to be selected. Once the person is committed, he/she prepares a Power Point presentation along with the FORUM announcement. Once these products are finalized, the public is invited to the FORUM via email and posting of the announcement in Conakry. When feasible, the FORUM Focal Point uploads the presentation on PEGG's FRAMEweb.org site: www.frameweb.org/pegg.htm.

Results and Impacts: FORUM Overview, April-August 2012

Since the beginning of operations, the STEWARD and PEGG FORUM in Conakry has recorded just over 600 participants. Thanks to the efforts of STEWARD and PEGG, there exists today a genuine effort in sharing and dissemination of experiences and information on biodiversity, natural resources management, and environmental governance. The FORUM thus currently supports the Guinean government in promoting its staffs' public speaking, public debating, and presentation skills, and their efforts and initiatives related to the environment.

Similarly, the FORUM assists interns and young professionals from various Ministry of Environment divisions to present their research topics to the public receive constructive criticism from senior government officials and participants specialized in environment-related topics, which all contribute to strengthening their academic dissertations.

Over the next 12 months of PEGG, through August 2013, the coordination team will work to expand the FORUM's public audience, ensure that members of the private sector actively participate, and that universities are involved as much as possible. In addition, an effort will be made to improve on the publication of FORUM articles in newspapers and on radio and television stations.

Table 1. FORUM Statistics, April – August 2012

# OF PARTICIPANTS	TITLE	SPEAKER
26-04-2012 20 participants	Improve Forest Management and Environmental Governance: The Inventory of Balayan Souroumba Classified Forest For Developing a Management Plan (2002)	M. Mamadou Bhoie SOUARE , Researcher at BGEEE, MDEEF
17-05-2012 37 participants	Integrated and Participatory Management of Natural Resources: The Case of the Nimba Mountains' Biodiversity Conservation Program in the Republic of Guinea	Presented by: Mr. Kaba Salimou , Head of Section for the Planning, and Management Division (DAG) at the Guinean Office of Biological Biodiversity and Protected Areas (OGUIDAP)
24 -05-2012 27 participants	Plan for Integrated Management of Village Land Ecosystems in Guinea Case Study: Developing a Natural Resources Management Plan for Dragbè Village, Dabola Prefecture	Presented by M. Sidiki Kourouma , Researcher at the Division of Fauna and Nature Protection at the National Directorate of Water and Forests (DNEF)
31-05-2012 28 participants	Problematic of Natural Resources Management in Guinea: A documentary film realized by Radio-Television-Guinea	Presented by Nènè Maladow Sow , Specialists in Life Sciences and FORUM Focal Point at the Program in Environmental Governance in Guinea (PEGG); Intern with OGUIDAP
07-06-2012 31 participants	The importance of STEWARD/PEGG FORUM, and How to become member of frameweb.org	Presented by Nènè Maladow Sow, Specialists in Life Sciences and FORUM Focal Point at the Program in Environmental Governance in Guinea (PEGG); Intern with OGUIDAP
14-06-2012 29 participants	Reinforcing Environmental Governance in Guinea : Support to the Decentralized Technical Services to Reinforce the Application of Laws Related to the Protection Fauna and the Regulation of Hunting: Case of a joint mission OGUIDAP-DNEF-PGEG-Environnement Info Newspaper	Presented by Mr. CONDE Saidou , Curator of the National Park of Upper Niger, Official at the Guinea Office of Biological Diversity and Protected Areas (OGUIDAP), and Mr. MARA Djomba , Natural Resources and Biodiversity Management Policy Specialist at (PEGG) Program Environmental Governance in Guinea
21-06-2012 21 PARTICIPANTS	Presentation of the results of the survey data collection sheets on Environmental Crimes led by Interpol and the needs assessment in term of application of laws and the protection of Fauna and Wildlife of the US State Department	Presented by: Doussou Kaba . Water and Forest Environment engineer from ISAV/VGE of Faranah 42 nd promotion; Intern at PEGG
26-06-2012 STEWARD FORUM in the conference room of the Ministry of Environment; conference room of	The importance of STEWARD/PEGG FORUM, and How to become member of frameweb.org	Presented by Nènè Maladow Sow, Specialists in Life Sciences and FORUM Focal Point at the Program in Environmental Governance in Guinea (PEGG); Intern with OGUIDAP

COSIE CNLS building Kaloum, Conakry 38 participants		
28-07-2012 33 participants	Highlights of an extensive study on Wildlife, Fouta Djallon, especially chimpanzees. Case of Biodiversity Conservation of the region, which is under increasing anthropogenic pressure	Dr. Sebastian REGNAULT , Scientist and Coordinator of activities at the Foundation for Wild Chimpanzees in Guinea (WCF)
05-07-2012 Presenter and PGE TEAM in mourning	Presentation of the PEGG Work Plan on Natural Resources Management and Biodiversity Conservation in Khorira sub-prefecture, Dubreka prefecture	Presented by: Sira Aissatou Diallo , Agronomist, Specialist in Natural Resource Management and Rural Development, and Popka Noramou Technical Assistant of Water and Forests, Specialist in NRM
Tuesday 10-July-2012 FORUM 51 participants STEWARD IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT COSIE CONFERENCE ROOM CNLS BUILDING KALOUM CONAKRY	Household Waste Management: Case of Conakry	Mamadou Diallo Alpha 2 Researcher with the National Directorate of Sanitation and Living conditions
12-07-2012 33 participants	Agro Forestry Study to Improve Fertility and Productivity of Farmland	M. Mamadou Ciré BALDE and Ms. Kadiatou Oumou Diallo, Agroforestry Engineers, interns at DNEF
17-07-2012 FORUM STEWARD 40 participants	Integrated System for Recycling and Waste Incineration Combined with a Cement Factory: SATAREM Technology	Presented by: Mr. Balla DOPAVOGUI , International Consultant, Head of Cabinet of the Ministry of Industry and Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)
19-07-2012 32 participants	STEWARD documentary film "Without Borders"	MARA Djomba , Specialist in Environmental Policy at the Program in Environmental Governance in Guinea (PGE) for Capacity Building and Biodiversity Conservation
24-07-2012 STEWARD 56 participants	Project of a Water Supply System of Coleah's City Police, Commune of Matam	Diallo Mamadou Gando , Intern at the National Directorate of Sanitation and the Quality of Life (DNACV)
24-07- 2012 STEWARD 63 participants	Impact of Poor Waste Management on the Environment, Health and Quality of Life of the Conakry population	Miss Tiguidanké Toure , Miss Guinea France 2012, high school student
26-07-2012 36 PARTICIPANTS	Introduction to Advocacy	Ms. SOW Nènè Malado , Specialist in Life Sciences and Environment, Intern FORUM Focal Point at Program in Environmental Governance in Guinea (PGE) for Capacity Building and the Conservation of Biodiversity
31-07-2012 STEWARD	STEWARD documentary film "Without Borders"	Ms. SOW Nènè Malado , Specialist in Life Sciences and Environment, Intern forum

34 participants		Focal Point at Environmental Governance Program in Guinea (PGEG) for Capacity Building and the Conservation of Biodiversity
02-08-2012 30 participants	Integrated and Participatory Issues link to Access to Drinking Water. Film Title: "The Earth seen from the sky, Protect Water "	Ms. SOW Nènè Malado , Specialist in Life Sciences and Environment, Intern forum Focal Point at Environmental Governance Program in Guinea (PGEG) for Capacity Building and the Conservation of Biodiversity
07-08-2012 FORUM STEWARD 44 participants	Water Conflicts	Saa Koundouno Edward Geographer, Intern at the National Directorate of Environment (DNE), Touré Helen Specialist in Environmental Physics Intern at DNE
09-08-2012 18 participants	Biodiversity is Life. Film Title: "The Earth seen from the sky, biodiversity "	Ms. SOW Nènè Malado , Specialist in Life Sciences and Environment, Intern, forum Focal Point at Program in Environmental Governance in Guinea (PGEG) for Capacity Building and the Biodiversity Conservation
14-08-2012 FORUM STEWARD 49 participants	Impact of Mining on Environment	Presented by: BANGOURA Mamadou and CONTE Abdoulaye
16-08-2012 30 participants	Presentation of Natural Resources Management and Biodiversity Conservation Intervention Plan Development of the Strategic Work Plan on Natural resource management and rural development in Dubréka area case of pilot site of Khorira	Presented by: Aissatou Sira Diallo , Agronomist Management Specialist resources Natural and rural Development Poke Noramou and Technical Assistant Water and Forests
21-08-2012 FORUM STEWARD 40 participants	Biodiversity is Life Film Title: "The Earth seen from the sky, biodiversity"	Ms. SOW Nènè Malado , Specialist in Life Sciences and Environment, Intern, forum Focal Point at Program in Environmental Governance in Guinea (PGEG) for Capacity Building and the Conservation of Biodiversity
23-8-2012 The room was not available due to the training in entrepreneurship	"Biodiversity is Life" Film Title: "The Earth seen from the sky, biodiversity "	Ms. SOW Nènè Malado , Specialist in Life Sciences and Environment, Intern, forum Focal Point at Program in Environmental Governance in Guinea (PGEG) for Capacity Building and the Conservation of Biodiversity
28-08-2012 FORUM STEWARD 50 participants	History of the Rotterdam Convention	M. DJOUMESSI Bangaly Assistant Director of Environment, Rotterdam Convention Point Focal
30-08-2012 Postponed to September	Security and Biodiversity	M. KEITA Abou Researcher at the Center for Environmental Studies and Research (CERE), University Gamal Abdul Nasser, Conakry

CONCLUSION

From September 2012 until the end of February 2013, the PEGG coordination team will seek to establish collaborations with the private sector, universities, donors (USAID/Guinea, UNDP, the European Union, the Embassy of China, the Embassy of Germany, others), and various ministries of the Government of Guinea. At the same time, the team will improve efforts to be consistent with media publications.

Due in large part to the STEWARD budget for the FORUM in Guinea, the FORUM is developing a growing audience of participants that consists mostly of Government personnel and interns and university students. This audience is committed to the objective of PEGG - capacity building opportunities in action while capitalizing on existing knowledge-based resources and experiences of government personnel and future government personnel. The support of the STEWARD FORUM is currently strengthening the links between the various structures of the environment (inter-agency dialogue) and engages the active and growing journalists who are interested in the environment and its conservation. Continuing to promote access to the knowledge related to the environment and governance, Guinean citizens and their government representatives are debating and learning about climate change, biodiversity, urban sanitation, pollution, agroforestry, and many other urgent topics that are at the forefront of the environmental debate in Guinea, the region, and the world. Continuing until the end of PEGG, scheduled for late August 2013, the coordination team wants to continue to collaborate with STEWARD on the development of the FORUM in Guinea in order to promote environmental governance and access to the information that all citizens of the country need to know to protect their human rights and assume their responsibilities for environmental rights.