



**Great Apes Survival Project
Projet pour la survie des grands singes
GRASP**



**Preservation of forest resources and improved livelihoods of forest peoples
through conservation of great apes as flagship species**

**INTERIM NARRATIVE
and
FINANCIAL REPORT**

**Period
01 August 2005
to
31 July 2006**

**Contract EuropAid/ENV/2004-82076
with the European Commission**



October 5, 2006

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INTERIM NARRATIVE REPORT

1. Description

1.1. Name of beneficiary of grant contract

United Nations Environment Programme/Great Ape Survival Project (GRASP) Partnership

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1.4. Title of the Action

Preservation of forest resources and improved livelihoods of forest peoples through conservation of great apes as flagship species

1.5. Contract number

EUROPAID/ENV/2004-82076

1.6. Start date and end date of the reporting period

01 August 2005 –31 July 2006

1.7. Target country(ies) or region(s)

Countries:

23 great ape range states: Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Indonesia, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Malaysia, Mali, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda.

Regions:

Specific activities have been undertaken in the following protected areas:

- Areas of critical orangutan habitat, Central Kalimantan, Indonesia.
- Mount Tshiaberimu, Virunga National Park, Democratic Republic of Congo.
- Dja Biosphere Reserve, Cameroon
- Taï National Park, Marahoué National Park, Banco National Park, Cote d' Ivoire

The project also contains a global and interregional component through holding an intergovernmental meeting on great apes (IGM) in Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and technical assistance activities in the great ape range States as specified.

1.8. Final beneficiaries and/or target groups

The target groups for the IGM were ministers and senior government ministers in range and donor States, decision makers in other agencies, and international NGOs. Over 200 international delegates, as well as more than 300 participants from DRC attended the IGM. However, if the messages that were promoted at the IGM are heeded, the indirect beneficiaries will be all those implementing and benefiting from pro-poor conservation strategies and sustainable forest management policies within the range of the great apes – a number in the 100,000s.

Similarly the work of the Technical Support Team (TST) is targeted towards the forest and wildlife management departments in the great ape range States – around 150-200 people in the 23 countries concerned. However, the benefits of improved forest management and community sensitive conservation activities will be felt by forest-dependent people themselves (as well as by the developers and implementers of relevant activities), a group that could number in the 100,000s.

With respect to the flagship projects, the Indonesian project targets local communities living in and around areas of critical orang-utan habitat in Central Kalimantan, amounting to approximately 1500 people. The project in the Democratic Republic of Congo similarly targets communities around Mount Tshiaberimu, Virunga National Park, totalling around 3,000 people, with indirect benefits from local sustainable development activities being felt by a wider group of perhaps 5,000 people. The project in Cameroon covers a large area surrounding the forests in the South, Central and East Provinces, and will directly affect around 10,000 people. The project in the Ivory Coast will initially target national parks staff – up to 100 individuals – but the benefits could be felt by any Ivorian living near to the country's forests, a group numbering 25,000 or more.

1.9. Country (ies) in which the activities take place

See 1.7.

2. Assessment of implementation of Action activities

2.1. Activities and results

Activity 1: All major stakeholders brought together at an intergovernmental meeting (IGM) to agree on a global strategy, propose suitable projects and allocate funding.¹

The first IGM on Great Apes and the Great Apes Survival Project (GRASP) was convened from 5-9 September 2005 in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), under the high patronage of His Excellency the President of the Republic, Mr. Joseph Kabila.

The meeting saw the participation of over 200 international delegates, as well as more than 300 participants from the DRC. 19 of the 23 great ape range States from Africa and Southeast Asia were represented, nine of these by ministerial-level delegations. 29 GRASP non-governmental organization partners attended the meeting, as well as seven donor countries, the European Commission, the Central Africa Forest Commission (COMIFAC), three GRASP patrons, three of the biodiversity-related conventions, and representatives of the scientific community, indigenous groups and the private sector.

At the IGM, ministers, heads of delegations, representatives of the biodiversity-related conventions, the European Commission, COMIFAC, UNEP, UNESCO, GRASP non-governmental organization partners and other civil society and private sector representatives signed the Kinshasa Declaration, affirming political will at the highest level for the first time in the history of the great apes. Participants also adopted the Global Strategy for the Survival of Great Apes and their Habitat, a set of rules to govern the organization of the GRASP Partnership and a revised workplan. Following the IGM, a final report was produced and the "Programme of Action 2006-2007" was developed by the GRASP Secretariat and approved by the Executive Committee.

The next IGM will be convened in 2008.

¹ Also see ANNEX 1 : UNEP and GRASP component

INFORMATION ON THE DELIVERY OF THE PROJECT – ACTIVITY 1		
Activities / Outputs	Status	Results / Impact
<p>ii Arrange intergovernmental meeting facilities, programme, invitations, support for range State attendance.</p>	Completed	<p>The IGM was held from 5 to 9 Sep 2005 in Kinshasa, DRC. More than 200 international delegates, as well as 300 participants from DRC attended the IGM. 19 of 23 great ape range States were represented, 9 of these by a ministerial-level delegation.</p>
<p>iii Draft relevant documents (including global great ape conservation strategy and declaration on great apes), discuss, edit and approve.</p> <p>Outputs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kinshasa Declaration on Great Apes • Global Strategy for the Survival of Great Apes and their Habitat • Rules for organisation and management of GRASP Partnership • GRASP Partnership outline work plan 2003-2007 • A Distinctive Approach: Current Priorities • Programme of Action 2006 – 2007 • Final report on the IGM 	Completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Kinshasa Declaration on Great Apes has been signed by 21 of the 23 great ape range States, 6 donor countries, UNEP and UNESCO, the GRASP Scientific Commission, 2 intergovernmental organizations, 3 GRASP patrons, 2 Multilateral Environmental Agreements, 26 GRASP NGO partners, 2 GRASP supporting partners, and 26 other organisations. All partners approved the Global Strategy for the Survival of Great Apes and their Habitat, Rules for the organisation and management of the GRASP Partnership, the partnership outline workplan 2003-2007, and A Distinctive Approach: Current Priorities. • The “Programme of Action” was finalised and approved by the GRASP Executive Committee in December 2005. • The final report of the IGM was published in English and French • The IGM was covered in more than a dozen newspapers <p>As a result of the IGM, governments and donors show more interest and willingness to contribute to great ape conservation and take action. GRASP visibility has been increased at the international level. A governance structure is now in place within the GRASP Partnership. Since the IGM, the GRASP Scientific Commission has met once and the Executive Committee met three times in order to guide the GRASP Partnership.</p>

1iii Provide portfolio of suitable pro-poor great ape conservation projects, based on national planning activities.	Ongoing	A preliminary list of pro-poor great ape conservation projects has been compiled; this list will be completed and reviewed by the GRASP Scientific Commission over the next year.
1iv Bring about increased financial support for approved projects from donor governments, donor agencies, NGOs and the private sector	Ongoing	Grasp has secured <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • annual contribution of GBP50,000 from the UK government (DEFRA) • contribution of USD 2,25 million to the GRASP Japan Committee from the Japanese Ministry for Environment from a fund which has never been used for great ape conservation. • contribution of EUR100,000 from the French government for the translation of the Great Ape Atlas • USD30,000 from Development Cooperation Ireland for pro-poor field projects in DRC and Rwanda • EUR 30,000 from the German government for the IGM • USD50,000 from the UK government for general GRASP activities New project manager hired to manage this EC grant and develop new project proposals
Reasons and details of remedial action to be taken if the project activities and outputs listed in the Project Document for the reporting period have not been completed and/or changes/delays.		
The implementation of sub-component 1 of the action has not been delayed and the foreseen activities 1i and 1ii have already been completed.		

Activity 2: Government departments in relevant countries encourage and support the development and implementation of appropriate national strategies. Project implemented by the Born Free Foundation (BFF).²

The sub-project in West and Central Africa and Southeast Asia aims to promote national plans for great ape conservation (NGASPs) in a variety of ways during the 3 years of the project, primarily through the Technical Support Team (TST), which is based in the UK and administered by the Born Free Foundation.

The Technical Support Team has promoted GRASP and national great ape conservation policy development through attendance at and organization of GRASP-specific events at the 8th Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Curitiba in March 2006 and at the Meeting of African Ministers of Environment (AMCEN) in Brazzaville in May 2006. The TST also attended the meetings of the Congo Basin Forest Partnership (CBFP) in June 2006 in Paris and of the International Primatological Society in July 2006 in Entebbe, Uganda. In addition, funds were used to support the attendance of the GRASP Scientific Commission at a GRASP NGO briefing in Washington, a workshop in Nigeria on the conservation of the Cross River Gorilla and a UNESCO meeting in Paris on biocarbon initiatives. The task of providing IT equipment to range State NGOs was also initiated and selected partners contacted to determine needs.

Since the original submission of the project proposal to the EC, there has been a gradual shift in the strategic emphasis of GRASP's mission to develop a global plan for great ape conservation. This has NOT changed the overall goal of the EC/GRASP project but has been a natural and unavoidable consequence of functioning as a dynamic Partnership in which policy and focus is determined in collaboration with the partners. The primary consequence of this is that the activities of the Technical Support Team (TST), whilst still fulfilling the same key objectives, have shifted their scope in some respects in order to reflect the priorities expressed by the Partnership.

Proposed changes of the activities

In order to better reflect the current work of the TST it is suggested that the activities in the Project Document are adapted as indicated below:

Activity	Current description of the activity	Proposed changes
2i	Provide 'Technical Support Team' to advise on and assist with development and implementation of national plans for pro-poor great ape conservation	To become Provide 'Technical Support Team' to advise on and assist with development and implementation of strategic plans and policy mechanisms for pro-poor great ape conservation at national, regional and taxonomic level
2ii	Schedule and conduct visits to relevant countries by Technical Support Team to support national planning activities	To become Schedule and conduct visits to relevant countries by Technical Support Team to support strategic planning and prioritization activities and development of policy mechanisms for pro-poor great ape conservation at national, regional and taxonomic level
2iii	International awareness raising and network building through meetings with key decision makers and opinion formers in conservation, development policy making and funding	To remain unchanged

² Also see ANNEX 2: The Born Free Foundation component

2iv	Provide financial support for national and regional stakeholder planning workshops to be implemented by national governments	To become Provide financial support for national, regional and taxon-specific stakeholder planning workshops to be implemented by GRASP, GRASP Partners (including national governments, NGOs and IGOs), and other competent third parties (e.g. IUCN Specialist Groups, industry groups, etc)
2v	Provision of essential IT and office equipment for use by GRASP Focal Points and others	To remain unchanged

The rationale behind these changes is as follows:

2i – The previous emphasis on developing plans for great ape conservation at the national government level has been reassessed, and a broader range of planning activities are now considered within the GRASP operational scope. These include scientific prioritization activities, taxonomic conservation plans, and regional conservation planning exercises as well as processes working towards the development of policy mechanisms which achieve or enable pro-poor great ape conservation.

2ii – This activity is inherently linked with 2i (above) in that it directs the deployment of personnel in support of the planning mechanisms previously specified. The change of wording here therefore echoes that of the previous activity, reflecting the same shift in strategic focus within GRASP’s operations.

2iv – In line with the issues explained in 2i and 2ii (above) the criteria for workshops that GRASP considers appropriate for its support have been broadened to include prioritization, planning at the taxonomic level, and development of appropriate policy mechanisms. As this scope has changed, so the range of appropriate implementation organizations has expanded to include those which are responsible for taxonomic conservation planning, international policy development and other relevant activities.

These changes do not affect the objectives of the project, any of the other components, or the outputs of the TST component (except to expand the range of workshops for which reports will be produced). It is our belief that, as well as reflecting the views of the Partnership, the revised activities represent a more practical and effective methodology for delivering the project goals

INFORMATION ON THE DELIVERY OF THE PROJECT – ACTIVITY 2

Activities / Outputs	Status	Results / Impact
<p>2i Provide ‘Technical Support Team’ to advise on and assist with development and implementation of national plans for pro-poor great ape conservation.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Communication undertaken and ongoing with several range State stakeholders on issues relevant to great ape conservation. Issues which have been addressed by the TST in collaboration with UNEP/GRASP at the national level include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indonesia, Malaysia - conversion of forest for palm oil plantations and possibilities to minimize negative conservation impacts of this growing industry (discussions ongoing) • Cameroon - land use planning around the Ebo forest where important gorilla habitat is under threat from logging (part of this forest has since been allocated as a protected area) and potential for ape-based ecotourism activities (a committee has been formed, including the TST, and discussions are ongoing) • Mali, Senegal - infrastructure development and the impact of proposed road-building project on Bafing Reserve and Niokola-Koba National Park and World Heritage Site (discussions ongoing) • Guinea – implementation of existing national plan and possible opportunities for collaboration with neighbouring countries to produce an integrated regional plan (discussions ongoing)
<p>2ii Schedule and conduct visits to relevant countries by Technical Support Team to support national planning activities.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>The TST was represented at a workshop on the conservation of the Cross River Gorilla held in Nigeria from April 25 to 29, 2006. A presentation was given on the work of GRASP and the activities of the Scientific Commission regarding the identification and protection of priority populations of great apes. Government representatives from Cameroon and Nigeria attended the workshop.</p>

<p>2iii International awareness raising and network building through meetings with decision makers and opinion formers in conservation and development policy making and funding.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>This activity was primarily undertaken through attendance at international meetings which provided opportunities to meet with several key individuals at one event, as well as providing general information to a wide range of GRASP stakeholders and interested parties.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Convention on Biological Diversity, Curitiba, Brazil, March 2006 – GRASP side event held with presentations given by the governments of Uganda and Cameroon and the Global Environment Facility, and positive involvement from the governments of Germany and Republic of Ireland. Attendance also provided an opportunity for meetings with other decision makers in the conservation community. 2. Bio-Carbon Forum, Paris, France, March 13-15,2006 – Two presentations given by TST / Scientific Commission representative, one concerning the value of High Conservation Value Forest assessments for government land use planning, focused on Indonesia’s orangutan priority populations and the palm oil threat, the second being a case study of Sabah focusing on certified forestry that included an introduction to the GRASP initiative. This provided an opportunity to establish contact with potential funders of “avoided deforestation” projects that sequester carbon, to encourage them to exploit the added value of saving great ape populations while protecting forest biomass. 3. African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, May 2006 –Side event held with speeches from the Republic of Congo GRASP Focal Point, the Democratic Republic of Congo GRASP Focal Point, the acting Executive Director of UNEP and the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Migratory Species. During the closing ceremony of the meeting GRASP was mentioned prominently by the UNEP ED and ministers from two great ape range States signed the Kinshasa Declaration on Great Apes (as launched at the GRASP Inter-Governmental Meeting in September 2005). The meeting also provided the opportunity to meet with many African environment ministers, conservation finance experts and representatives of extractive industries potentially working in great ape habitat.
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		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. GRASP Briefing Meeting, Washington DC, USA, May 15-17, 2006 – An informal meeting was held in Washington in order to update and maintain communication with key organizations based in the city. This was supplemented by individual meetings with specific government and NGO representatives in order to discuss future activities and increase commitment to GRASP objectives. 5. Congo Basin Forest Partnership, Paris, France, June 22-23, 2006 – attendance at this meeting of governmental and NGO representatives provided opportunities to meet with many GRASP partners and other organizations with interests complementary to great ape conservation. A presentation was given introducing participants to GRASP and updating them on GRASP activities. 6. International Primatological Society, Entebbe, Uganda, June 25-31, 2006 – several presentations given to international primate conservation experts on GRASP activities including priority population analysis, forest conversion to palm oil plantations, bonobo conservation planning and general discussion of GRASP issues. Opportunities taken to meet with influential individuals and groups, including the IUCN (World Conservation Union) Primate Specialist Group’s Section on Great Apes, to discuss global great ape conservation planning.
<p>2iv Provide financial support for national and regional stakeholder planning workshops to be implemented by national governments.</p> <p>This activity is ongoing, as appropriate meetings need to be identified and planned before TST funding can be allocated to them. Working within the GRASP Strategy and the priorities of the Scientific Commission, opportunities have been identified to support such activities; however the lead-time for these opportunities has placed the actual disbursement of funds outside of this timescale.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>A workshop in the Democratic Republic of Congo on strategies for conserving the bonobo has been discussed by a range of stakeholders and is likely to be planned for 2007. Meetings in Malaysia on the issue of forest conversion for palm oil plantations are also in the process of development but have yet to make any proposals for funding.</p>

<p>2v Provision of essential information technology and office equipment to national wildlife departments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment of a staff member 	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>A staff member was recruited and the infrastructure is now in place enabling the activities to proceed at a fast pace and the provision of the equipment to start.</p> <p>The work began in June 2006 and a significant amount of progress has been made in contacting potential recipients in several range States to discuss their needs and the logistics of providing such equipment. By the end of July, twelve countries had been contacted and positive responses had been received by nine of these and pursued as appropriate.</p>
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Reasons and details of remedial action to be taken if the project activities and outputs listed in the Project Document for the reporting period have not been completed and/or changes/delays.

Due to a change in strategic focus, limited activity has been undertaken on Activity 2ii in favour of Activity 2iii which was considered to provide better opportunities to work towards the same goals over the project period.

As explained above, progress on Activity 2iv has taken longer to initiate than anticipated due to lengthy discussions between stakeholders prior to the development of activities that would present suitable opportunities for funding. The TST has maintained regular contact with the interested parties in order to advance these discussions, however, due to the collaborative nature of the activities being pursued it has been considered more important to reach consensus between stakeholders than to advance the schedule at the risk of reducing buy-in. The preparations for such activities are on-going and it is anticipated that this activity will be fully underway over the next six months.

Activity 2v was delayed due to the negotiation of arrangements for providing the human resource capacity necessary to carry this out. As of the start of June 2006, however, the capacity has been in place and the work has progressed at a high speed and quality, indicating that the results of this process will be worth the wait in the long term.

Activity 3: Flagship projects implemented to present positive examples of innovative, effective pro-poor conservation activities in great apes range, with potential for replication.

3a) Local community empowerment for prevention of illegal logging, Central Kalimantan, Indonesia. Project implemented by the Orangutan Foundation (OF).³

The sub-project in Indonesia aims to support the communities in areas of critical orangutan habitat whose lives are affected by unsustainable practices through provision of information and economic opportunities, whilst also assisting with the prevention of illegal activities. The objective is to empower the community to prevent and combat the threat of illegal logging.

The Indonesian component of the grant began with preparatory activities, including leasing an office, staff selection and recruitment, and clarifying reporting procedures. Concurrently, work continued on prioritizing regional areas of critical orangutan habitat. These activities were completed in January 2006, when the Orangutan Foundation's Director, Ashley Leiman and programme director, Mark Attwater visited the project area. The Belantikan region of Central Kalimantan was chosen as the first target area because it contains the largest orangutan population outside of any protected area in Indonesia. From January onwards, a community liaison team was deployed full time to the field. In accordance with the agreed work plan, initial research work focused on identifying a suitable pilot project.

The key issue in Belantikan is the relationship between the four focal communities and logging concessionaires. Currently, each village receives a payment for allowing logging operations in their area. However, once the logging companies move on the payments will stop, causing a corresponding fall in village and household incomes. This may tempt the communities to either further log their forests or, worse, agree to the establishment of a palm oil plantation. Both would irreparably damage the forest, which retains high conservation value due to the set limits on timber extraction. The community liaison team believes that improving and developing rattan harvesting as part of an overall sustainable agricultural system will boost household incomes. These activities are likely to become the first pilot project of the second year. They are attractive as agriculture is inherently understood and appreciated by the communities, and a local rattan trade already exists, but is sub-optimal. Meetings have been held with all key stakeholders, including the primary logging concessionaire and local government.

³ Also see ANNEX 3: Orangutan Foundation - Indonesia component

INFORMATION ON THE DELIVERY OF THE PROJECT – ACTIVITY 3A

Activities / Outputs	Status	Results/Impact
<p>3ai Expand network of guard posts /conservation liaison centres and patrols to detect and prevent illegal logging within protected areas.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Office rented for lifetime of project, staff hired including qualified accountant and two agriculture/rural development experts, and community liaison team formed.</p> <p>Infrastructure and human resources in place to provide a firm basis for all subsequent activities under this component.</p>
<p>3aii Establish community liaison teams to advocate for and empower communities to prevent destructive land use practices affecting the communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multi-stakeholder meeting • Research on biodiversity • Encourage support amongst local communities for the sustainable management of Belantikan Forest • Dissemination of information regarding Belantikan Forest and activities pertinent to its management • Construction of training/information centre & demonstration plot 	<p>Complete</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Complete</p>	<p>Project introduced to local government and all other stakeholders Work plan developed in conjunction with stakeholders Firm contact made with local government. They are more transparent with their management plans – willingness to share and make their meeting available to more people.</p> <p>Calculated density of 2.3 orangutans/km² creating invaluable baseline data (data on population densities is important for the selection of community projects).</p> <p>Have established good relationships with the four focal communities but it is hard to judge the impact at this early stage. However, there has been no evidence of any orangutan hunting in the four target villages over the last 12 months. This is a lifetime goal of the project.</p> <p>As above, this activity will always be ongoing.</p> <p>Communities are learning farming techniques from the demonstration plot. Another village has formed their own vegetable patch. (This is a good example of replication of ideas)</p>

3aiii Work with local communities to identify and implement projects for community development through sustainable forest management.	Complete	Liaison teams have identified weaknesses in current local rattan production practices and in the village's farming system (especially in the management of fallow land). Bases on these weaknesses, the teams, in collaboration with local communities, identified opportunities/potential for other crops, which will strengthen the household incomes. All possible strategic and high impact intervention points (for pilot project) have been assessed.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organisation training 	Ongoing	After training, one village has formed a farming group (and planted a vegetable patch), thus reducing their reliance on the forest.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Agriculture training 	Ongoing	(See Below)

If the project activities and outputs listed in the Project Document for the reporting period have not been completed and/or changes/delays, please provide reasons and details of remedial action to be taken

Sustainable Agriculture Training: The stated objective of this activity was “Community understands the aim of village stakeholder groups and in the end of the year such a group exists”. In part, this has been achieved, as a farming group has formed in the village of Kahingai, but this is only one village out of four. Evaluation of the project's first year suggests too much emphasis was placed on the technical aspects of sustainable farming, even though this was the expressed wish of the village stakeholders at the multi-stakeholder meeting. To be truly effective however, farming will be a cooperative activity. Therefore self-supporting groups have to be formed. In Year 2 more effort will be put into group organization but with continued work on the explanation and demonstration of appropriate techniques.

Work in Tanjung Puting National Park This has been shifted to Year 2 because of the late start of the project.

3b) Development of local communities through gorilla conservation, Mount Tshiaberimu, DRC. Project implemented by The Gorilla Organisation⁴ (GO)⁵

The sub-project in the Democratic Republic of Congo aims to contribute to the development of local communities through gorilla conservation. The objective is to provide sustainable livelihood opportunities for communities around the boundaries of the Mount Tshiaberimu annex of Virunga National Park, whilst raising awareness and understanding of conservation issues and supporting park protection activities.

The population of twenty gorillas on Mount Tshiaberimu have remained well protected since the beginning of the project, and the project's monitoring agents have been collecting substantial data on their ecology. The data is being progressively harmonised with that being collected by ICCN (*Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature*) elsewhere in the national park, while the monitoring agents are also building up a comprehensive map of the region using Geographical Information Systems (GIS) software. Furthermore, a survey of the area's large mammals has been carried out.

Illegal activity within the park has been kept to a minimum, although pledges to redistribute parkland for farms, made by local politicians in the run-up to the elections, caused confrontations between the project and local residents in one of the park's sectors. Diplomacy won out in the end in this sector, and elsewhere relations between the project and the surrounding population are particularly good at the moment. This is thanks to the education campaign that has included weekly radio broadcasts covering the project's news, as well as awareness-raising talks that have been delivered in schools and community halls. In addition, the pig breeding and distribution scheme was launched towards the end of 2005 to prevent poaching within the forest, by providing an alternative source of protein. Piggeries have been established in two villages with a breeding stock of ten sows and one boar in each, and these have just produced piglets that will be distributed to beneficiaries towards the end of 2006.

Security

While many of the GO projects have suffered directly due to the political situation, Mount Tshiaberimu is generally so remote that it has remained relatively unaffected over the past decade of working there. Nevertheless, should political instability increase once again following the second ballot between the presidential candidates Joseph Kabila and Jean-Pierre Bemba in October 2006, it could, at the very least, compromise the ability to access Mount Tshiaberimu, certainly from Goma, which could delay the supply of funds and resource materials, thus delaying activities.

In July 2006 the Vihyo Ranger Post was attacked twice by local farmers who are maintaining farms inside the national park and are afraid of being relocated. The park authorities have to address these problems; however we do NOT see a link to the general security situation in DRC.

⁴ The Gorilla Organization is the former Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund-Europe

⁵ Also see ANNEX 5: the Gorilla Organisation – DRC component

INFORMATION ON THE DELIVERY OF THE PROJECT – ACTIVITY 3B

Activities / Outputs	Status	Results / Impact
<p>3bi Patrols for monitoring of gorillas and other park fauna, and park patrols for detection and prevention of illegal human activity.</p> <p>Outputs 3bi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 article in <i>Kivu Safari</i> (No. 87-88; Jan-Mar 2006), on general news of the project and programme managers' visit. • 1 press release submitted to local journalist of <i>Les Coulisses</i>, but not yet published. • 1 further article submitted to <i>Kivu Safari</i>, but not yet published. • 1 article in <i>Gorilla Journal</i> (No. 32; June 2006) – reporting progress of 2005. • 30 broadcasts aired in total: 28 on Radio Moto (Butembo-Beni), 1 on Radio Tele-Graben Butembo (RTGB), 1 on Radio Television Nationale-Congolaise (RTNC). Broadcasts in French, Kiswahili and Kinande. These include 10 interviews and 4 news pieces. Within the broadcasts 14 different environmental topics were developed. 	<p>Ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 large mammal survey conducted; report expected September 2006 • 5 daily patrols conducted from the 5 different patrol posts, by a total of 20 ICCN rangers; one team of 5 rangers added this year. • 2 daily gorilla-monitoring patrols conducted by a total of 12 Gorilla Organization monitoring agents. • Behavioural and ecological data on gorillas collected daily on 2 gorilla groups and 2 solitary males. Traces of other gorillas also recorded ad libitum. • Approximately 50 snares recovered. • Incipient farming encroachment recorded in southeast sector and prevented. • GIS map in the process of being developed for Mount Tshiaberimu.

3bii Conduct local awareness and education campaign to inform local communities on forest management issues.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 33 schools (primary & secondary) visited. • 44 talks delivered and 1 film presentation to 150 participants. • 8,781 schoolchildren addressed and 376 teachers. • 11 schools participated in a local competition with 1,294 student participants, of which 250 were ‘winners’ and received prizes. • 2 meetings with a total of 22 customary chiefs from 11 villages. (2 chiefs’ sons have become trackers on the project.) • 4 meetings with a total of 61 local community based organizations (CBOs) involved in agriculture, livestock rearing etc. • 99 calendars distributed • Conference on Great Apes held at Butembo University, with 250 students in attendance. <p>These activities have lead to a significant increase in awareness and understanding of conservation issues, particularly the importance of forest management.</p>
3biii Establish livestock distribution scheme to provide opportunities for local people other than forest exploitation.	Established and ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 piggeries constructed (in Ngitse and Burusi). • 20 sows and 2 boars purchased for initial breeding stock. • 44 piglets born so far; first distribution to take place after weaning in September 2006.
3biv Provide support for local facilities such as schools and road networks.	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 120 roofing sheets provided for 2 schools (Kisanga Secondary School & Visusuti Primary School); 60 sheets delivered to 2 community halls (Ngitse & Burusi). • 30 mattresses delivered to 3 health centres (Burusi, Kitolu & Ngitse) • 22km of road maintained (12km from Buswagha to Burusi; 10km from Siswari to Ngitse-Kaliro)
Reasons and details of remedial action to be taken if the project activities and outputs listed in the Project Document for the reporting period have not been completed and/or changes/delays.		
3bi Patrols for monitoring of gorillas and other park fauna, and park patrols for detection and prevention of illegal human activity: Trail maintenance for the patrols is being progressively reduced, as improved GIS data is negating the need to plot locations against trails and landmarks. Trails are now just maintained between the various patrol posts.		

3c) Community engagement and support for sustainable use of forest resources, East Cameroon. Project implemented by Bristol Zoological Gardens. ⁶

The sub-project in Cameroon is working in the areas surrounding the Dja Biosphere reserve to promote community engagement and support for sustainable use of forest resources. “Knowledge, Attitude and Practices” (KAP) surveys among local people are conducted to identify local people’s relationship with natural resources use, wildlife law and conservation principles.

The Community Engagement and Support Programme (CESP) is now an integral part of the management plan for the Dja, with the CESP team working closely with the Ministry of the Environment and Protected Areas (MINEP). In February 2006, a project manager was recruited, Dr Germaine Ngandjui and the first part of the year was spent developing the Yaoundé office. Adverts for community facilitators were placed in February and May of 2006. In June 2006, the first training and induction of community facilitators took place in Sangmelia; team members included people from Bantu, Baka and Kaka tribes. The induction was followed by the first of what will become ongoing in-depth discussions with villagers living around the Dja Biosphere reserve. In addition, discussions have also taken place with “Send a Cow” and “Heifer International” (HI), and it has been agreed that HI will look into developing a cane rat breeding programme with villages around the reserve that are interested in the use of cane rats as an alternative to bushmeat hunting.

The importance of the UNEP-GRASP sub project to the protection of the great apes around the Dja Biosphere Reserve (DBR) has increased for two reasons:

1. The cessation of the Projet Management d'Accompagnement (PMdA), which was designed to support people living in poverty around the DBR,
2. The continuing delay in implementing phase 4 of the ECOFAC (*Conservation et utilisation rationnelle des ECOSystèmes Forestiers d' Afrique Centrale*) programme.

⁶ Also see ANNEX 4: Bristol Zoological Gardens – Cameroon component

INFORMATION ON THE DELIVERY OF THE PROJECT – ACTIVITY 3C

Activities / Outputs	Status	Results / Impact
<p>3ci Conduct “Knowledge, Attitude and Practices” (KAPs) surveys among local communities to identify local people’s relationship with natural resource use, wildlife law and conservation principles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment of a project manager • Recruitment of community facilitators • Training workshop on participatory learning and action (PLA) methodology 	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p>	<p>Baseline KAPs conducted in three villages south and west of the Dja Biosphere Reserve. Three village maps were produced.</p> <p>Project manager secured</p> <p>Community facilitators were recruited in consultation with local NGOs that are working in the region with particular tribes e.g. Cameroon Environmental Development (CED) working with the Baka in south Dja</p> <p>Training workshop arranged and held between 30 June – 5 July; two days of this workshop included utilizing participatory learning and action (PLA) methodologies in three villages around the Dja (full days in each villages). Training enabled project to gain an insight into the capabilities of the people attending. Following the training (which included an assessment element) three people were recruited – two Bantu, one Baka.</p>
<p>3cii Identify positive, community owned attitudes to sustainable use of wildlife resources and disseminate through local media, existing community networks, and local visitor attractions.</p> <p>This activity will follow the information gathering phase in 3ci. As part of the strategy to utilize the visitor centres at Mvog Betsi Zoo and Mefou National Park, however, an assessment of the current education programmes taking place at each of the centres was carried out.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Data not analysed yet.</p>

<p>3ciii Provide national wildlife department with positive model of local community engagement and hold training workshops, materials development workshops and skills workshops</p> <p>Outputs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community-driven interpretation materials • Species interpretation and educational materials for Mvog Betsi Zoo and Mefou National Park visitor centres • Report of the educational work at Mvog Betsi Zoo and Mefou National Park • Teachers' booklet to facilitate teaching sustainable wildlife management as part of the school curriculum • Support materials for local NGOs • Course reader and training materials for use in MINEP (Ministry for Environment and Protected Areas) game guard teaching • Three case studies/publications for academic and professional journals 	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Dialogue with the MINEP game guard training college at Mbalmayo has commenced. When appropriate, information from the KAP surveys will be used in PLA workshops with MINEP guards.</p> <p>Increased environmental awareness</p>
<p>Reasons and details of remedial action to be taken if the project activities and outputs listed in the Project Document for the reporting period have not been completed and/or changes/delays.</p>		
<p>There are no significant delays which put the delivery of the project at risk.</p>		

3d) Development of national capacity for wildlife monitoring and integration of socio-economic issues into forest conservation decision making, Ivory Coast. Project implemented by the *Centre Suisse de Recherches Scientifiques in Côte d'Ivoire* (CSRS).⁷

The sub-project in Côte d'Ivoire aims to help the development of national capacity for wildlife monitoring along with the integration of socio-economic issues into forest conservation and decision-making. This is done through the establishment of a bio-monitoring unit within the wildlife department, which collects ecological and socio-economic data for policy development in the national government.

During the year 2005 and 2006, the *Centre Suisse* in Côte d'Ivoire in collaboration with the Wild Chimpanzee Foundation succeeded in initiating a bio-monitoring programme in three out of the seven national parks in Côte d'Ivoire harbouring chimpanzees. During this process, capacity was built within the national park services and in the local communities. In addition, survey methodologies have been developed, compiled into specific guides and implemented. Preliminary results have already helped to guide conservation strategies. In the Taï, Marahoué and Banco National Park, park staff and field assistants have been trained to conduct surveys covering the whole park area and collect data on flora, fauna and anthropogenic as well as natural factors. In the Taï National Park, a total of over 350 km of transects have been sampled and after completion of this first survey, the data is currently being analyzed. At the end of this first phase a meeting with all the park staff and ecologists has been organized to learn about successes, mistakes and implications for the park management and to prepare for the second survey. In the Marahoué National Park, after the formation of field teams in March and April 2006, the first survey missions have been undertaken. Sensitization campaigns have been carried out around the park to inform the neighbouring population about this new activity in the region. In the Banco National Park, Abidjan, regular surveys identified a chimpanzee population of at least 12 individuals. A study examining the threats to Banco National Park has been conducted with the help of over 70 km of transects as well as a sociological survey (the data is currently being analyzed). The project could so far be carried out without any major constraints or difficulties.

Security and political situation

The peace process in Côte d'Ivoire is ongoing and has not hindered any work related to the programme in the last year. Elections originally foreseen for October 2006 are unlikely to be held before the next year. The three national parks in which the programme is actually working on are not expected to be affected by security issues in the coming year.

However, work in the Marahoué has to be carefully planned because a) the national park is close to the '*Zone Confidentielle*' which separates the government-controlled area and the territory of the "*Forces Nouvelles*" and b) there are illegal plantations and villages inside the park. Therefore a sensitization campaign was conducted before the actual start of the monitoring programme. 443 representatives from 76 villages attended the meeting.

⁷ Also see ANNEX 6 : *Centre Suisse de Recherches Scientifiques* - Ivory Coast component

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of first Tai survey 	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>methods. In the Marahoué NP the training course was held in March 2006 (12 days) with the participation of 12 villagers (8 recruited as survey team, 4 recruited as porters) and 5 park rangers. A second training course in Marahoué was organized in April 2006 and focussed on the identification of animals.</p> <p>First survey conducted in Tai National Park from August 2005 – April 2006 (5 teams collected data on a regular basis for two weeks per month). The Marahoué survey started in May 2006.</p> <p>To guarantee the comparability, accuracy and quality of the data collected, all field teams of the Tai NP were tested in July 2006, where all teams carried out survey work on the same transects. Results from this test indicated that 6 of the 20 field assistants need to be changed for the second phase.</p> <p>It is foreseen to integrate monkeys and duikers and other endemic species into the survey work.</p> <p>Preliminary analyses indicated a higher density of animals in the western side of the park (especially for chimpanzees and elephants); elephants avoiding the north and the east of the park; a higher density of poacher trails and hunting signs in the north and south of the park compared to the middle. Direct and indirect signs of chimpanzees have been recorded 144 times, of elephants 166 times, of monkeys 2349 times, of duikers 1220 times, of hornbills 2128 times and of anthropogenic factors 563 times.</p> <p>In May 2006, for the Tai NP, a meeting with the field survey teams, the park rangers, the OIPR (<i>Office Ivoirien des Parcs et Réserves</i>) and partner organisations was held to discuss preliminary results and objectives for the next phase.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement a monitoring programme for chimpanzees in the Banco National park 	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>The chimpanzee population of the Banco National Park near Abidjan has been observed since 2004. In 2005, 25 fresh nests were found along transects, 4 off the transects. Single nests and groups of 2 up to a maximum</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental study on Banco National Park <p>Outputs 3di</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed guides including maps, methods and data sheets were developed and handed out to field teams, protected area authorities, the OIPR (<i>Office Ivoirien des Parcs et Réserves</i>) and partners. 	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>of 6 nests have been found together. The updated density estimation with 0.19 chimpanzees per km² is slightly lower than in the year 2004 (0.24 chimpanzees per km²). The total number of weaned chimpanzees is estimated to be 6 chimpanzees, varying from 3 to 14 (on average 8 chimpanzees (3 to 19) in 2004). Considering hunting pressure in Banco NP, about 35 wire traps and less than 10 cartridges have been found in 2005 compared to over 100 traps and a slightly higher number of cartridges in 2004. This is a clear indicator that illegal activities are decreasing.</p> <p>The Banco NP is highly polluted by trash that is brought in by waste water and people illegally entering the park. The sociological study has been undertaken to try to find out the reasons why people illegally enter the park and what relation people living in the vicinity of the park have with the forest. Detailed results from this work are currently being analysed.</p>
<p>3dii Establish a bio-monitoring unit, train national parks staff and deploy them to conduct monitoring.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>In the Tai and the Marahoué National Park, a senior park ranger was selected to coordinate all bio-monitoring activities. At the OIPR (<i>Office Ivoirien des Parcs et Réserves</i>), a person for the coordination of the biomonitoring activities stills needs to be selected.</p> <p>Training of the two coordinators, as well as other park staff, has been achieved during the various formations (see above). Further training on data analysis and Geographical Information Systems (GIS) will be needed. During the previous survey, the field assistants were partly accompanied by park rangers but more reliable participation of park rangers is needed. Due to the new structure of the national park services since the creation of the OIPR (national parks divided into sectors, new surveillance techniques etc.), the park staff was often occupied with other duties. An improved</p>

		integration of rangers in the bio-monitoring programme should be achieved in the coming year.
3diii Integrate the results of bio-monitoring into national conservation planning and decision making.	Ongoing	Throughout the surveys in the Tai, Marahoué and Banco National Park, the bio-monitoring team contributed significantly to the surveillance of the parks. Each time illegal activities such as poaching camps, gunshots, plantations, charcoal sites etc. were noted by the field teams, they were immediately communicated to the mobile surveillance teams and the sector chiefs to guide and plan future patrols. Several poachers were arrested due to the combined efforts of the bio-monitoring and the surveillance teams. In the Marahoué National Park, newly collected GIS data of illegal camps was used in the planning of ranger patrols and helped the OIPR monitor illegal infiltrations within the park. Complete analysis of the data for the Tai and the Banco National Park will be achieved in the coming months and workshops will be organized with the OIPR, the national park staff and partner organizations to integrate the results into conservation planning by the end of 2006. For the Marahoué National Park complete data collection of the first full survey will only be achieved by the end of this year. Analysis of the data and a consecutive workshop will only take place beginning of 2007.
Reasons and details of remedial action to be taken if the project activities and outputs listed in the Project Document for the reporting period have not been completed and/or changes/delays.		
Activities listed in the Project Document are all initiated within time schedule and are ongoing.		

2.2. Contracts above 5000€ awarded for the implementation of the action during the reporting period, giving for each the contract amount, the award procedure followed and the name of the contractor.

UNEP/GRASP and its partners contracted a number of organisations; however, all contracts are related to activities and NOT to procurement. The table below indicates the nature of the contract.

Contracting agency	Third party	Type of contract
UNEP/ GRASP	UNESCO	Memorandum of Understanding
UNEP/ GRASP	International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)	Memorandum of Understanding
UNEP/ GRASP	Born Free Foundation	Memorandum of Understanding
Bristol Zoological Gardens	Living Earth Foundation	Informal agreement
The Gorilla Organization	Mouvement et Action Intellectuels pour le Développement Ecologique de Naturalistes Intégrés (MAIDENI)	Memorandum of Understanding

2.3. Updated action plan ⁸

Activity / Month	Semester 3 August 2006- January 2007						Semester 4 February 2007-July 2007						Implementing body
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Execution 1i													UNEP
Execution 1ii													UNEP
Execution 1iii													UNEP
Execution 1iv													UNEP
Execution 2i													Born Free Foundation
Execution 2ii													Born Free Foundation
Execution 2iii													Born Free Foundation
Execution 2iv													Born Free Foundation
Execution 2v													Born Free Foundation
Execution 3ai													Orangutan Foundation
Execution 3aii													Orangutan Foundation

⁸ This plan will cover the financial period between the interim report and the next report.

3.2. Assessment of the relationship between UNEP/GRASP and State authorities in the Action countries. How has this relationship affected the Action?

UNEP and Born Free Foundation work very closely together in managing the work of the Technical Support Team (TST). The TST has a positive relationship with many of the State authorities in the relevant countries. GRASP has a Focal Point in each range State government. We have regular correspondence with the GRASP Focal Points in many countries – communications from these countries are polite, helpful and prompt. The positive involvement of Focal Points is very important for the effective running of the Technical Support Team and the capacity provided by this project has improved these relationships. In no cases does GRASP have confrontational or disagreeable relationships with the Focal Point or other government representatives. In some countries, such as Cameroon, Republic of Congo and Democratic Republic of the Congo, the positive relationship extends to the ministerial level and the access to relevant ministers, and even more valuably their public commitment to GRASP and its objectives, has clearly benefited from this work. The DRC hosted the first IGM and the DRC GRASP Focal Point is on the Executive Committee as is the Indonesian Focal Point. The Government of Cameroon is chair of the GRASP Council. Uganda is chair of the Executive Committee and actively stimulates the discussion on strategies and further development of the GRASP Partnership.

In **Indonesia** the Orangutan Foundation has good relationships with the local government. After the multi-stakeholder meeting (September 2005), which was the introduction to the project, a series of individual and group meetings were held with all departments of the district (Kabupaten) government. The result was widespread expressions and signs of support. One meeting was even considered significant enough to warrant coverage in the provincial newspaper. Four signs in particular are very promising:

- 1) The local government is in the process of developing local forest conservation laws (Perda) one of which would specifically protect Belantikan
- 2) The capital of Lamandau Kabupaten, Nanga Bulik, has expressed a desire to become the centre of the local rattan processing industry and three machines were offered to the project to help with the development of rattan production in the Belantikan area.
- 3) The threat of iron-ore mining remains large, but having heard the project's presentation and outline of activities, the local government promised the project the opportunity to contribute to the environmental impact assessment of any proposed mining operation.
- 4) The local government, having learnt from experiences in other areas of Indonesia, are taking watershed protection very seriously. The Perda mentioned in point 1 above are an example of this.

In **DRC** the sub-project remains a collaborative venture between the Gorilla Organization and the Congolese Wildlife Authority, ICCN (*Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature*), and thus the relationship remains very strong, and has indeed been strengthened by the grant. The collection of data is being modified and is now following the same format of that being collected by ICCN (*Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature*) elsewhere in the *Parc National des Virungas*, with particular regard to the gorilla monitoring data.

The sub-project in **Cameroon** is integrated into the management planning for the Dja Biosphere Reserve and there are regular meetings of the stakeholders involved in this management plan, including representatives from this project. The project works under an agreement with the Ministry of the Environment and Protected Areas (MINEP). The relationship has been very positive.

The *Centre Suisse* plays a central role in the reconciliation process in **Côte d'Ivoire** and is respected by the different political forces. The *Centre Suisse* received funding from the Swiss Development Organization DEZA for the implementation of a peace-building programme “*Action à haute valeur symbolique*”. Components of this programme are implemented by the Wild Chimpanzee Foundation. Furthermore the *Centre Suisse* is accommodating the Secretariat for the Scientific Committee of the Taï National Park, where Ivorian authorities, WWF, GTZ (German Technical Cooperation), and KfW (German Development Bank) coordinate conservation activities. It is hoped that this example of joint conservation activities can be extended to other parks in Côte d'Ivoire. This network is important for the sub-project in Côte d'Ivoire since all partners contribute to monitoring activities through either financial support or provision of staff.

The biomonitoring activities are closely coordinated with the *Office des Parcs et Réserves* (OIPR). The cooperation with OIPR has been positive throughout the year. Regular consultations permitted fruitful exchange and productive advice between parties.

3.3. Relationship with any other organisations involved in implementing the Action

- Associate(s) (if any) - none
- Sub-contractor(s) (if any) - none
- Final Beneficiaries and Target groups
- Other third parties involved

Third parties involved

As UNESCO is the co-secretariat of the GRASP Partnership, UNEP contracted them thru a MoU to arrange the travel and per diems for participants to the IGM in Kinshasa, DRC. This relationship is ongoing and harmonious. UNEP contracted the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) to provide reporting services for the IGM.

In **Indonesia**, the Orangutan Foundation tries to improve conservation in the Belatikan region where a significant proportion of the orangutan population is found in non-protected forests and face serious threats by logging companies. Though NOT strictly involved in implementing the project, special attention is drawn to P.T. Karda Traders, the logging concessionaire active in the project area. PT Karda is the only commercial stakeholder but a crucial one. Because of the nature of their work, they have huge potential to impact on the success of the project. If Karda log irresponsibly they will significantly degrade the critical orangutan habitat which is the project's focus. A balance must therefore be struck between working alongside the company, so they do not become obstructive, but at the same time trying to limit ecological damage.

The project team have met PT Karda's managers at both headquarter and field levels. All initial signs point to a positive reception. PT Karda has given permission for the project to conduct orangutan surveys anywhere in their concession, has invited the project to verify that they are obeying all regulations limiting the size of the trees that can be harvested, and has provided the project with maps. However, ultimately, PT Karda's business is to extract timber and it is hard to judge how they would respond to any pressure to limit their activities. Furthermore, applying such pressure may itself be hard, because over 90% of the timber that Karda Traders produce is sold directly to a local plywood factory. Thus, there is no commercial incentive to be gained through a certification/sustainable management programme.

The implementing partner for the livestock-rearing project in **DRC**, MAIDENI (*Mouvement et Action Intellectuels pour le Développement Ecologique des Naturalistes Intégrés*), has been recruited as a partner organization to the Gorilla Organization. The Mount Tshiaberimu Conservation Project Manager is overseeing MAIDENI's activities, while the coordinator of

MAIDENI reports directly to the Gorilla Organization's DRC Programme Manager on a monthly basis and receives funds on a monthly basis from him.

In **Cameroon**, the project is implemented in close collaboration with the Living Earth Foundation (LEF). Bristol Zoo and LEF have a very good working relationship for implementing this (and other) project. Regular meetings are held between the organizations to ensure transparency and effectiveness.

In the Tai National Park, **Côte d'Ivoire**, other partner organizations like the GTZ, the WWF, Conservation International and the KfW are also involved in supporting the Protected Area Authority in park management. The bio-monitoring programme benefits directly and indirectly from the combined conservation efforts of all these organizations. The application of the new survey methodology in the Tai NP was supported by all these partners. During meetings, partners have been invited to give their advice on the programme. The WWF financed the data analysis of the survey data collected from 1999-2004 in the Tai NP, the training of field assistants and park rangers in May 2005 and the acquisition of the bio-monitoring equipment. Some of the equipment was likewise co-financed by the KfW. Moreover, the salaries of the ecologists have been co-financed by the KfW and the WWF. Conservation International provided logistic, financial and personal assistance during training of field assistants and park rangers in the Tai NP.

3.4. Links developed with other actions

Indonesia

In Indonesia GRASP collaborates via the Orangutan Foundation with a number of projects:

1. The Rattan Project (www.rattanproject.org), a project of the SHK Kaltim Foundation. They provided advice and information on rattan growing, harvesting, quality control and marketing. Initial meetings were held in Surabaya and a follow up visit to their project base in East Kalimantan is planned for the coming year.
2. The Non Timber Forest Products Exchange Programme (www.ntfp.org), a network of non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations throughout Southeast Asia, who specialize in community development and the marketing of sustainably harvested forest products.
3. World Wide Fund for Nature Indonesia (WWF Indonesia) thru its 'Heart of Borneo' project which covers the Belantikan region. WWF have supplied maps and other data from aerial surveys of the region. To support this Project's work, WWF were urged to focus their efforts on the contiguous orangutan population in neighboring West Kalimantan.
4. World Education (WE) who shared their experiences with agroforestry, and voluntarily provided facilitators for the multi-stakeholder meeting.
5. Flora and Fauna International (FFI) have initiated a series of discussions regarding a proposed joint activities programme. FFI are currently planning to work in an adjoining, contiguous forest in the Belantikan region and we are discussing the possibility of collaborative activities and information sharing.
6. In addition, the Orangutan Foundation has recently been awarded a separate EC grant. This activity will build on the current action but will not overlap in any way (see 3.5).

DRC

The Mount Tshiaberimu Conservation Project has been collaborating directly with the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF-PEVi Kacheche) to produce a vegetation GIS map of Mount Tshiabeimu, as well as jointly organizing meetings with local authorities and communities within the awareness-raising campaign.

The Zoological Society of London (ZSL) has been collaborating with the project by way of funding English training for the rangers, monitoring agents and other personnel of the Mount Tshiaberimu Conservation Project. Meanwhile, the project has been providing assistance and accommodation for the training of ICCN rangers from other areas of the Virungas National Park on Mount Tshiaberimu, as part of another European Union funded project that is being partly administered by ZSL.

This sub-project has also been exchanging regular information with the Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) and facilitating study trips to the mountain for them.

Cameroon

Discussions are ongoing with “Send a Cow” and “Heifer International” for the provision of alternative sources of protein through the breeding of cane rats.

Discussions are also taking place between the Ministry of Tourism (MINTOUR), UNEP-GRASP, Bristol Zoo and the UK Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) on the potential for developing ecotourism in and around the Dja as a way of generating sustainable income for communities dependent on bushmeat as a source of income.

One area where it will be important to coordinate activities will be with the next phase of the ECOFAC (*Conservation et utilisation rationnelle des ECOSystemes Forestiers d’Afrique Centrale*) project. It is expected that this will start in 2007, although previous experience does indicate that there may well be other delays. The ECOFAC project is concerned with law enforcement in the Dja, and will directly affect some of the stakeholders in the villages covered under the Bristol Zoo Cameroon sub-project.

Côte d’Ivoire

The Conservation International (CI) programme in Liberia asked the *Centre Suisse* to assist in the set up of a similar bio-monitoring programme in the Grebo Forest, Liberia, a forest neighbouring the Tai National Park. One senior park ranger and one student were sent to Abidjan for 10 days and were trained for the bio-monitoring programme in the Banco National Park. CI Liberia is currently applying the programme in Grebo Forest.

The CSRS is currently initiating collaboration with SODEFOR (*Société des forêts*) and the private timber companies “Thanry” and “STBC” to help guide them towards certification of their wood. Monitoring the fauna and flora is an integral part of the certification process. Through the application of a bio-monitoring programme the CSRS tries to study and mitigate the negative effects of forest exploitation.

SOS Forêt, a local NGO in Abidjan, trained park rangers for the recognition of bird species in the Marahoué National Park. This newly acquired knowledge by the park rangers will directly benefit the bio-monitoring programme. Currently, discussions for future collaboration between *SOS Forêt* and the CSRS are ongoing.

3.5. Previous relevant EC grants. If your organisation has received previous EC grants in view of strengthening the same target group, in how far has this Action been able to build upon/complement the previous one(s)?

Previous EC grants to UNEP have been for entirely different target groups while the Orangutan Foundation is in the process of finalising the contract for an EC grant “Programme on Environment in Developing Countries Programme on Tropical Forests and other Forests in Developing Countries - Promoting the conservation and sustainable management of the lowland forests of South Central Kalimantan”.

4. Visibility

4.1. Visibility of the EU contribution in the Action

Notification of EC grant has been sent to all GRASP partners and is well known to internal beneficiaries (e.g. Scientific Commission). Source of funds is made known to partners in IT provision project. The contribution of the EC and UNEP/GRASP is mentioned in every public talk, all official documents and articles published, if possible in written and by displaying the logo.

The EC and UNEP/GRASP logos are placed on all project documents – the EC logo is displayed on a Toyota Hilux, bought for the DRC sub-project, and on project buildings.

The European Commission may wish to publicise the results of Actions. Do you have any objection to this report being published on EuropeAid Co-operation Office website? If so, please state your objections here.

No.

Name of the contact person for the Action: Melanie Virtue

Signature:



Location: Nairobi, Kenya

Date report due: N/a

Date report sent: 5 October, 2006